

Medical Bookplates (Ex Libris) Continue to Fascinate

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Introduction

Bookplates have value and provide:

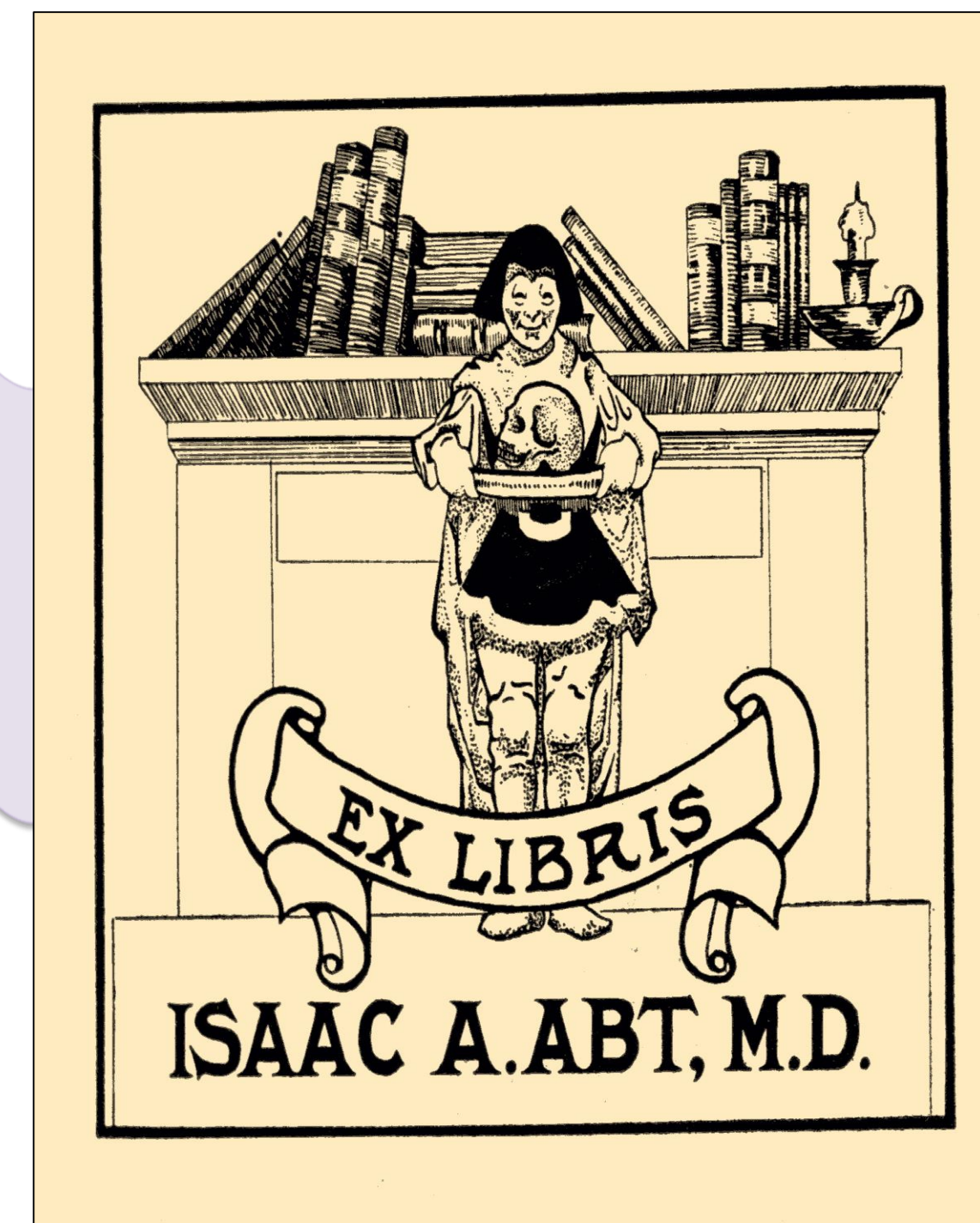
- Clues about a book's provenance
- Personalization: owner's name, profession, interests
- Opportunities for artistic expression (by the artist and for the book owner)
- Opportunities for libraries to acquire, collect, research, feature, and appreciate them

"At its most basic, a bookplate is a slip of paper bearing the name of the book's owner; at its most grand, it may be a veritable work of art as well."

"Books" section, Huffington Post, 4/2/2014

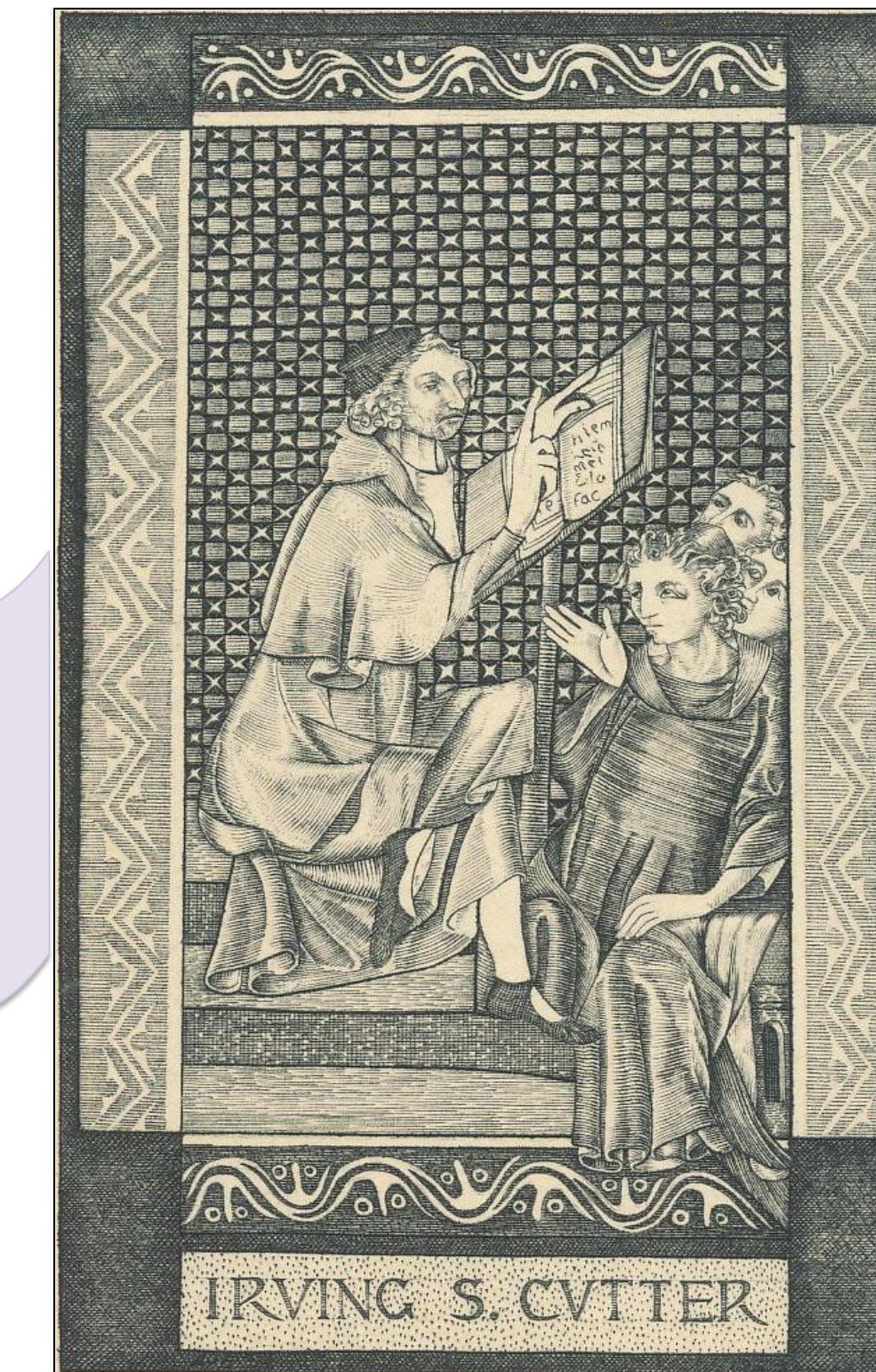
"Each one added has its own especial interest, in history, in artistry, in association, and some through mottos even preach us a sermon."

Ethel A. Washburn, Ex-Libris in a Medical Library, Bulletin of the Medical Library Association 27(4):23-6, 1939



Isaac A. Abt (1867-1955)

- Alumnus (MD- 1891)
- Professor of Pediatrics (Diseases of Children) at NUMS and NU Woman's Medical College
- Created first physiological laboratory
- Author of *Baby's Food*
- Editor of *System of Pediatrics*
- Author of numerous monographs related to diseases of childhood
- Advisory staff, Chicago Health Department
- President of the American Pediatric Society; Chicago Pediatric Society; Children's Hospital Society...
- Conferred the Cross of the Legion of Honor in recognition of distinguished services as a pediatrician
- *Baby Doctor* (autobiography)



Irving Cutter (1875-1945)

- First administrative Dean (1926)
- Shepherded growth of the medical library on the medical school's new Chicago campus
- Re-established *Quarterly Bulletin of Northwestern University Medical School* (1940)
- Medical editor of *The Chicago Tribune*
- Medical director of the Chicago and Northwestern Railway
- President of the AAMC (1923); Chicago Medical Society (1934); Society of Medical History of Chicago (1934)

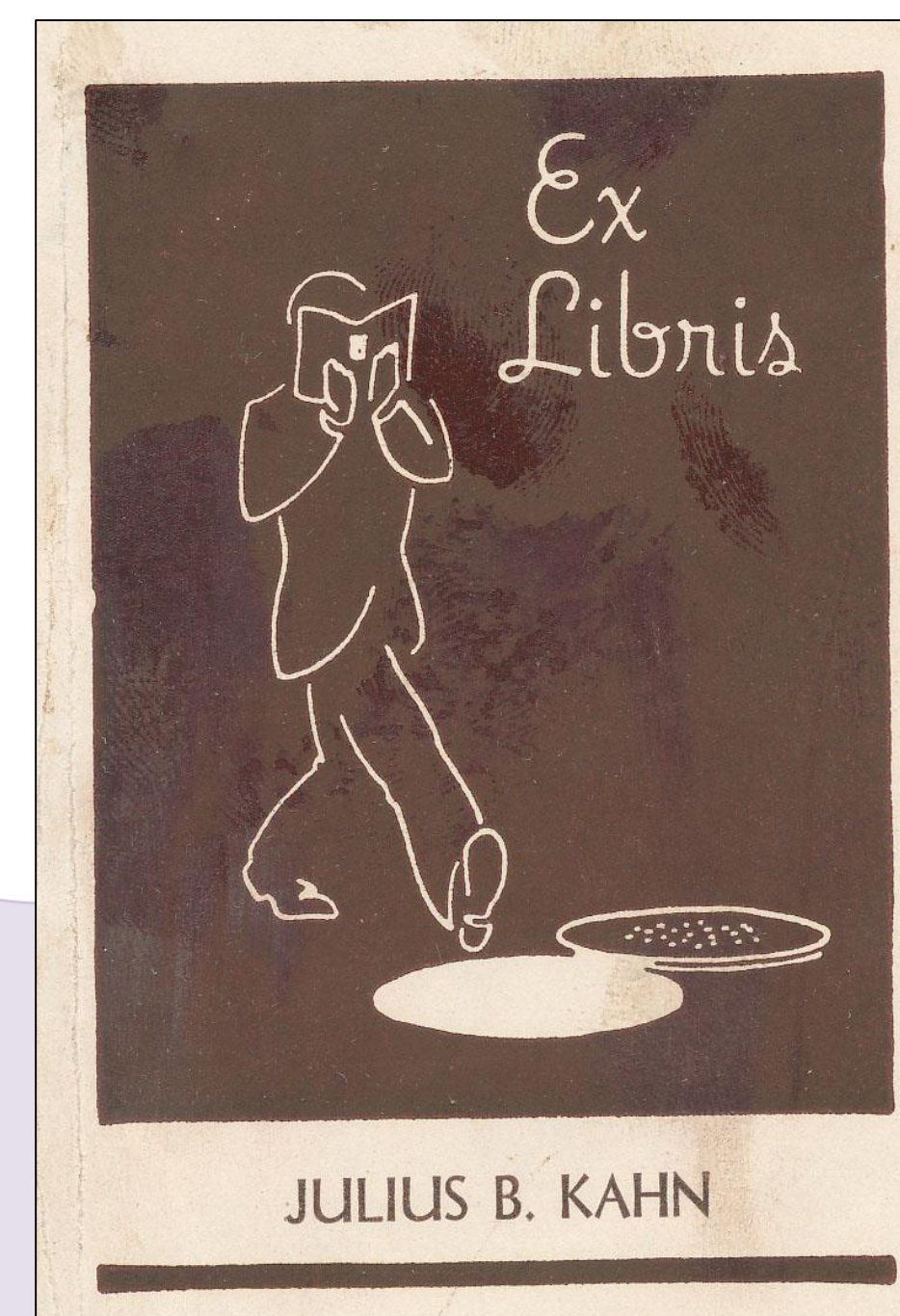
"In the historical side of medicine that he found his greatest source of relaxation and pleasure" (Leslie B. Arey)

Sources

Donated books
General collection
Faculty collection
Special Collections
Old library files

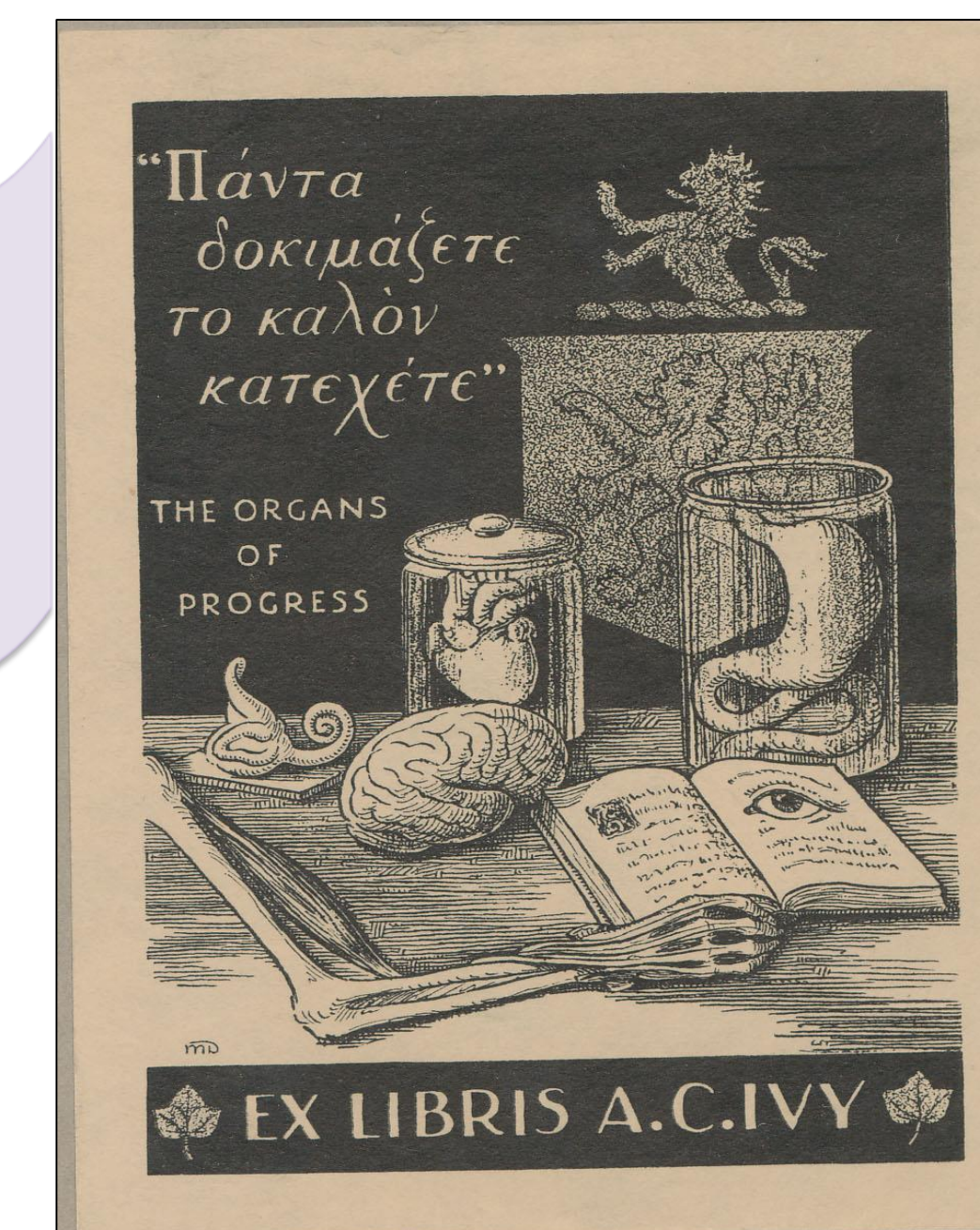
Themes and Symbols

Caduceus
Skeleton
Skull, skeletal arm
Specimen
Book
Pen
Scribe
Reader
Scholar



Julius B. Kahn (1921-1968) *

- Department of Pharmacology: associate professor (1961); professor (1963); chair (1966-68)
- Editor of *The Journal of Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics* (1965-68)
- Special consultant to the office of the Surgeon General
- Fellowship established in his name by his father (*also Julius B. Kahn**)



Andrew C. Ivy (1893-1978)

- Professor, Head, Division of Physiology and Pharmacology (1925-45)
- Twice awarded the AMA's Gold Medal for scientific investigation
- Civilian director of the Naval Medical Research Institute, Bethesda, MD (1942/43); later- a consultant
- President of the American Physiological Society (1939-41); the American Gastroenterological Society (1940/41)
- Executive Director, The National Advisory Cancer Council (1947-51)
- With colleagues, author of >1500 highly cited papers
- Founder of the Ivy Research Foundation

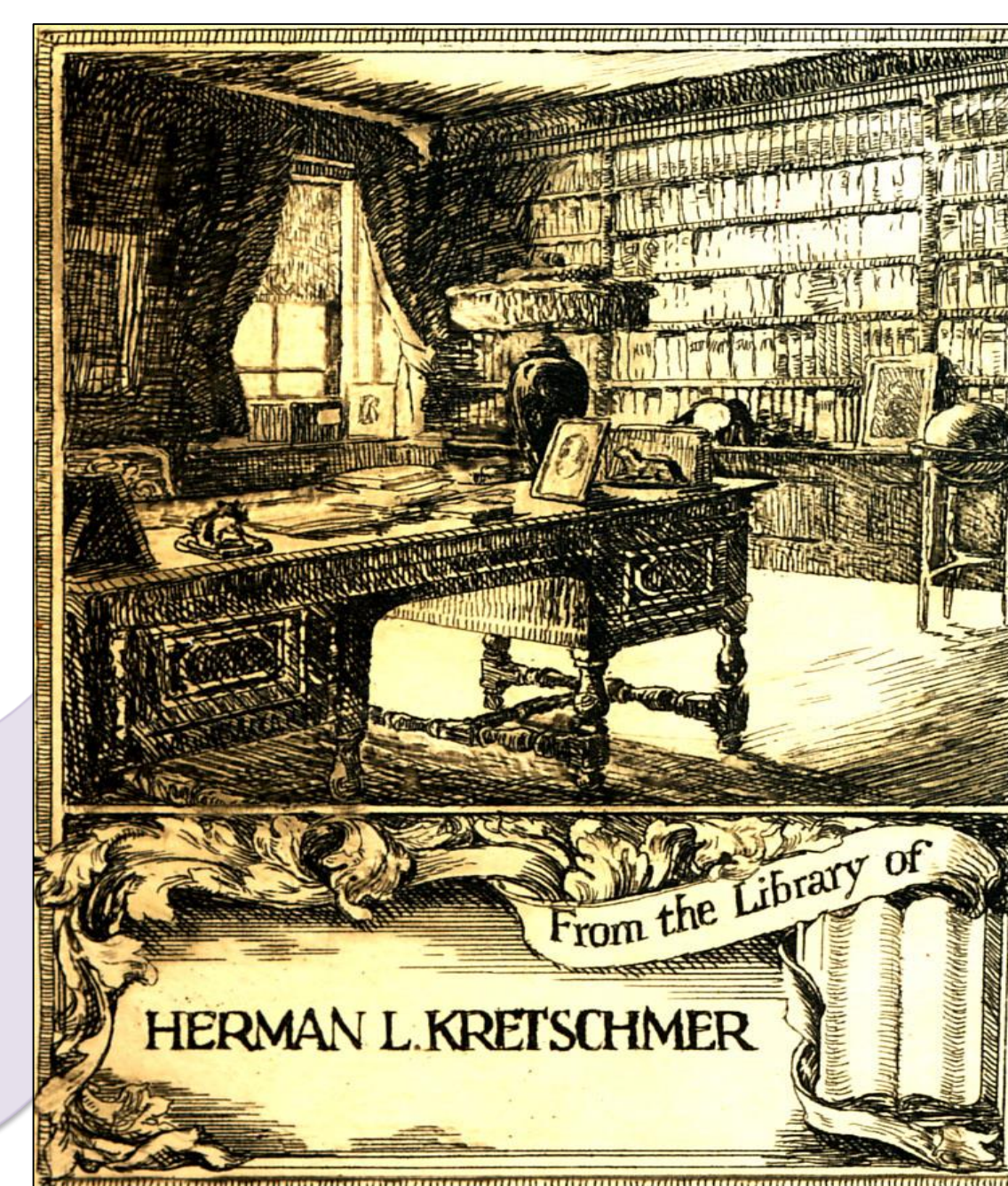
"He has been both a clinician's physiologist and physiologist's clinician" (Carl A. Dragstedt)

Dissemination

Repositories
Displays
Websites
LibGuides
Posters
Articles

Herman L. Kretschmer (1879-1951)

- Alumnus (PhG- 1900; MD- 1904; honorary DSc- 1944)
- Urologist (one of first clinical professors with this focus)
- American Board of Urology founding member and president (1934-45)
- Author of ~300 papers
- Donor and benefactor to the medical library and the medical school's urology department



Bookplates

Personalization
Symbolism
Whimsy
Art

Conclusion

Guidelines for identification, management, and use include:

- Providing specific instructions regarding bookplates to be used in collection review, weeding projects, inventories (*Bookplates featured here were found in books held by the Galter Library*)
- Documenting history, provenance, and other descriptive information (about the books, their owners, and the bookplates)
- Enhancing catalog records for the books to include descriptions
- Scanning and creating a digitized collection
- Depositing images in an institutional repository, adding metadata
- Spotlighting the books or the scanned images in displays and online
- Using to illustrate articles that celebrate people or institution's history
- Focusing on the art (or artist), the subject, the historical period, or the relevance to the institution
- Continuing to seek, collect, research, and spotlight...