

Anniversaries and Commemorations:

Opportunities for Health Sciences Librarians

**Health Science Librarians of Illinois
2018 annual conference, Rockford, IL
September 27, 2018**

**Presented by Ramune K. Kubilius, MALS, AHIP
Galter Health Sciences Library & Learning Center**

Anniversaries and Commemorations

“Librarians are cursed to live in interesting times”

Stephen J. Greenberg

(citing an old proverb)

“The Hunt of the Unicorn” IN

Health Sciences Collection Management for the Twenty-First Century

edited by Susan K. Kendall. Lantham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield (Medical Library Association), 2018.



“Looking back, moving forward”

Diane Sonnenwald

(article title) IN *Journal of Education for Library & Information Science*, Mar2018.

Opportunities for individuals, working groups, libraries, collaborations...

The past

The medical school's sesquicentennial
(2009) timeline: update (2016)

John Benjamin Murphy: portrait
restoration

*"In 2016, the 100th year since the death
of J.B. Murphy, MD, LLD, MSc (1857-
1916), the library began the process for
the care of his portrait..."*

*(Galter Library photo archive. Restored portrait
photo: Kristi Holmes, PhD.)*



1997 & 2017 Harry Potter

- **1997:** *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone* first printing
- **2017:** NLM Traveling Exhibit, "*Harry Potter's World: Renaissance, Science, Magic, and Medicine*" at NU Chicago

Outcomes:

- Series of talks by faculty; event day at Lurie Children's Hospital
- 3 posters: "courses at Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry" (images from Galter Library's 16- 18th century books)

(Galter Library photo archive.)



1818, 1918, and 2018

- 200th anniversary of Illinois
- 100th anniversary of the Lithuania's declaration of independence
- Posting on listserv of research question (influence of immigrant physicians...)

Outcomes:

- 2018 research: Lithuanian immigrant physicians to Chicago (~1865-1920s) - 4 / 42 identified were NU medical school grads (*including 1 female from the NU Woman's Medical School*)
- Presentation: AABS (*Association for the Advancement of Baltic Studies*) conference, Stanford University, June 2018



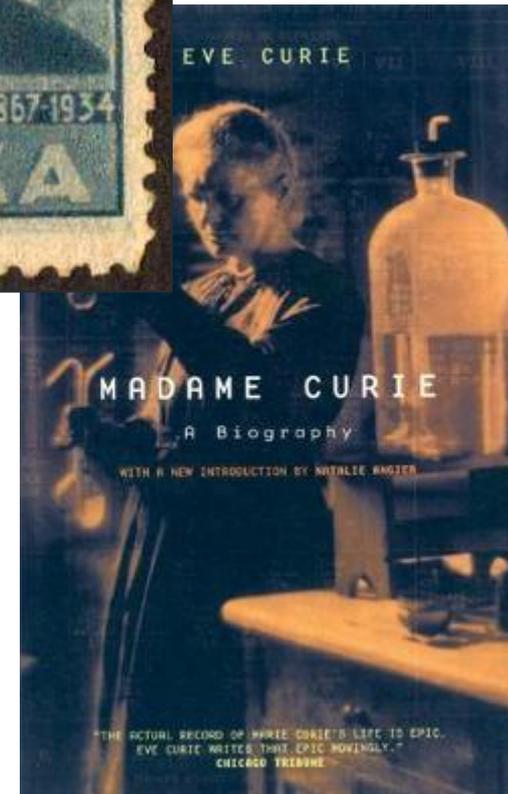
1921 & 2021 Marie Curie in the U.S.

Project still in progress

Outcomes - research, discoveries:

- Galter Library was invited to join Northwestern University planning committee
- Created timeline of Marie Curie's 1921 visit to the United States & Chicago (*incl. Northwestern University campus*)
- Began identifying prominent NU medical and dental women in research
- Incorporated a medical school faculty member stamp collector & his Marie Curie collection

(Stamp: Scott# 410. Book cover: Madame Curie: A Biography / Eve Curie, Da Capo Press, reissue edition, 2001.)



The future

Look for other commemorations, celebrations, anniversaries, opportunities to promote research/ers:

- See what others are doing (exhibits, events)...
eg. *“The Flu Then and Now: 1918 to 2018”* at Eastern Illinois University
- Attend, present, suggest speakers at symposia, conferences...
eg. CAMA (Chicago Area Medical Archivists) annual fall medical history symposium: 2018 presentations on- *Daniel Hale Williams (surgery: 125 years ago)*, *Marie Curie (visit to U.S. anniversary in 2021: 100 years)*, *Chicago medicine (in political landscape of 1968-50 years ago)*...

Projects, activities, networking:

- Galter Library’s Special Collections Working Group
- CAMA (Chicago Area Medical Archivists)
- Medical Library Association- History of the Health Sciences Section

“Participate in your institution’s initiatives...”

“...even when a connection to the archives or library is not immediately clear. Sometimes to see and be seen is a goal in itself. Becoming a familiar face on campus can go a long way toward achieving your department’s future goals. Every time you introduce yourself to another participant at an event, you can create a potential user or donor...”

Heather J. Stecklein & M. Nathalie Wheaton
*“Mutual Advocacy: Developing Shared Outreach Programs with Institutional Partners” IN
Against the Grain 23(6), Dec. 2011/Jan. 2012.*

Collaborate as individuals, working groups, libraries, look for partnerships...

Thank You !

Experiences, comments, or questions?