MESSAGE FROM THE ARCHIVIST

Happy New Year to NEOHC friends and supporters. It is with great pleasure that I am able to report to you the multitude of work we have completed over the past year. We continue to do the fundamental work to preserve and index a variety of materials documenting the history of the osteopathic profession. We provide access to researchers of all levels, including students, academics, genealogists, and those from osteopathic professional organizations.

Perhaps the most exciting development this year has been the move to our new office located in the Jack Ketchum Library. The new space is larger, includes a modern air handling system, and is centrally and prominently located in the Library. The larger size will allow us to host classes, events, and multiple researchers at a time.

2017 has also been a great year for outreach. It was wonderful to see many of you at the Maine Osteopathic Association meeting and the ROME conference. Both events have led to new relationships and new collections for NEOHC. One of the most successful outreach projects this year was our first Osteopathic Heritage Essay Contest. The contest offered a cash prize to the UNECOM student who wrote the best essay describing why they chose to pursue osteopathic medicine. The award this year went to second year UNECOM student Sophia Chan. The project increases awareness of NEOHC among UNECOM students as well as aids us in documenting the experiences of future D.O.s.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who have supported our work over the past year. Many great people have supported us financially, donated collections, participated in our Oral History Project, and offered advice and guidance.

Thank you,
Zachary Enright,
NEOHC archivist

HISTORICAL SPOTLIGHT

1917 was a year of great changes for the United States and the osteopathic profession in particular. The year was bookended by America’s entrance into World War I and the death of the founder of osteopathic medicine, Dr. Andrew Taylor Still. Both events would have profound effects on the osteopathic profession.

Despite a desperate need for doctors, the military, led by Surgeon General William Gorgas, resisted all attempts to allow D.O.s to serve in a professional capacity. The fight to serve led to stronger professional associations and helped to coalesce public support behind the osteopaths.

The images in this newsletter are being used with permission from the Museum of Osteopathic Medicine, Kirksville, Missouri. For more information, come see our exhibit located in the Alfond Center for Health Sciences on the Biddeford Campus of UNE or please feel free to contact the Center at neohc@une.edu.

CONTRIBUTE TO OUR COLLECTIONS

Are you interested in donating to the New England Osteopathic Heritage Center? Do you have papers, photographs, videos, newsletters, or other materials that document the osteopathic profession? Consider donating them to the NEOHC. At the NEOHC we are able to preserve those materials to extend their usable life and make them accessible to researchers all over the world.

If you are interested in contributing to the NEOHC but do not have materials of historical value, consider participating in our oral history project. We are looking for D.O.s and those with experience in the osteopathic field of all ages and experiences, from students to the retired.

If you or anyone you know is interested in contributing materials or participating in the oral history project, please contact archivist Zachary Enright at zenright@une.edu or (207) 602-2131.