HELP! I Need A Reference Librarian, An Archivist, And A Website Guru --
And I Found Them All In Belk Library!

By: Andrea Leonard, Paul Orkszewski, and Phoebe Pollitt

Abstract
This presentation demonstrates what happened when a Nursing Professor and a Health Sciences Librarian joined forces to build a nursing history website. At Appalachian State University’s Belk Library it sparked what became an ongoing collaboration with a giant snowball research effect involving website gurus, an archivist, graduate assistants, and more librarians. Five years later, multiple research products contributing to the history of nursing and health sciences have been produced: a successful $12,500 planning grant; statewide travel to repositories, archives, libraries, and museums; an award winning (twice!) nursing history website; video and audio nurses oral history projects; an article on the founding of health institutions submitted for publication; and a nursing history digital collection. As a result of our work, several of us have presented at conferences and meetings such as at the North Carolina Public Health Association Meeting, North Carolina Nurse Association Convention, Western Carolina University, East Tennessee State University VA Medical Museum, Appalachian Studies Association, and the North Carolina Association of Historians. Many of the oral histories on the website were the result of work performed by an ASU history graduate class. The research that went into creating the website was the foundation for a recently published book, “History of professional nursing in NC 1902-2002” by Dr. Phoebe Pollitt. We shared our experiences, the ups and the downs, with project planning, lessons learned, best practices for librarians as partners in the academic research process, and our hopes for further research and collaboration.

Andrea Leonard, Paul Orkszewski, and Dr. Phoebe Pollitt. “HELP! I need a reference librarian, an archivist, and a website guru – and I found them all in Belk Library!,” Library Research VI Conference, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, (Urbana, IL - October 7-9, 2014).
HELP! I need a reference librarian, an archivist, and a website guru - and I found them all in Belk Library!

Andrea Leonard
Paul Orkiszewski
Phoebe Pollitt

October 7, 2014
Library Research Seminar VI
Background

• 2006
  Nursing program established

• 2008
  Program Accredited

• 2010
  College of Health Sciences
Background

- 2008 Digital Initiatives team formed in library
- NC Echo Digitization grants
  - North Carolina Exploring Cultural Heritage Online
- Campus encouragement for cross-disciplinary scholarship
- Drupal content management system
Background

• Scholarship gap in nursing history in general

• And the South in particular

• Inspired by site maintained by the Virginia Commonwealth University School of Nursing (no longer available)
Planning & Implementation

- Initial meeting with Health Sciences librarian
- Team formed:
  - Health Sciences librarian
  - Digital Initiatives coordinator
  - University Archivist
  - Digital archivist from Special Collections
  - Library Specialist
- Meetings, wiki, data collection, ideas
Planning & Implementation

• North Carolina Exploring Cultural Heritage Online (NC ECHO)
• Planning grant funded
• 500k grant
• moving on …
The Website Launch

North Carolina Nursing History
Appalachian State University

Nursing has long been defined as both an art and a science. The untrained nurse is as old as the human race; the educated nurse is a recent phenomenon. The art of nursing has gone through many stages. From the Civil War to the September 11th terrorist attacks, nursing has played a key role in improving people’s health and well-being. This website is dedicated to sharing the history and heritage of organized nursing in North Carolina.

We welcome input from those interested in the history of nursing in North Carolina. Please send information/materials about individual nurses, schools of nursing, nursing organizations and events of significance to North Carolina nursing history that you think would be beneficial additions to this site to Dr. Phoebe Politi, RN, C. politi@appstate.edu for review.
Credits – Development Phase

- Belk Library:
  - Marilia Antunez - Health Sciences Librarian
  - Kevin Clarke - Systems Librarian
  - Pam Mitchem - Digital Archivist
  - Dr. Hal Keiner - University Archivist
  - James Smith - Web Developer
  - Paul Orkiszewski – Technology Services Coordinator

- History and Nursing Departments:
  - Dr. Karl Campbell - History Professor
  - Dr. Lucinda McCrae - History Professor
  - Dr. Phoebe Pollitt - Nursing Professor
  - Graduate assistants
Scholarly Products

- Journal articles published
- Nursing History book published
- Professional presentations given
- Oral history projects developed
- Finding aid created
- North Carolina Nursing History Council established
### Scholarly products inspired: Journal Articles Published in...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Publication</th>
<th>Year</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Advance for NPs and PAs</td>
<td>2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Association for the History of Nursing Bulletin</td>
<td>2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Journal of Nursing (two articles)</td>
<td>2010, 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chattanooga Historical Journal (three articles)</td>
<td>pending publication, 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Journal of the North Carolina Association of Historians</td>
<td>pending publication, 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Journal of Nursing Education and Practice</td>
<td>2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Junior Tar Heel Historian</td>
<td>2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minority Nurse (three articles)</td>
<td>2009, 2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Now and Then</td>
<td>2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tar Heel Nurse</td>
<td>2009</td>
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Scholarly products inspired: Nursing History Book Published

CAROLINA ACADEMIC PRESS

HISTORY

The History of Professional Nursing in North Carolina, 1902–2002
by Phoebe A. Pollitt

2014 • $32.00 • 276 pp • paper • ISBN: 978-1-61163-163-0 • LCCN 2013029720

Tags: History, Nursing, Regional Interest

Order now with 10% Internet Discount

A History of Professional Nursing in North Carolina, 1902–2002 is the first comprehensive exploration of nursing history in the state since 1938. The scholarship on the history of health, illness, medicine, and public health is largely either physician-centered or focuses on specific health care institutions. The history of nursing has been comparatively ignored. Nursing’s emergence as a profession in the early twentieth century and the influence nursing has had on the quality of life of virtually every resident and every health care institution in North Carolina in its first 100 years is a compelling story.

Nursing is an occupation and role that touches everyone. Most people are related to nurses; virtually everyone has received care from nurses. Yet, they tend to be somewhat invisible. The individual experiences of nurses and the unique development of nursing organizations, education, and practice have received scant attention from scholars. This book enhances the historical record by recounting the triumphs of individual nurses and the political and professional successes and failures professional nursing has experienced in its first century.

This book is unique in its inclusion of accounts of and from African American, Cherokee, and male nurses. Readers interested in the histories of North Carolina and its counties, health care, labor, professionalization, education, and the expansion of women’s roles in society should find
### Scholarly products inspired: Professional Presentations given at...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Conference/Meeting</th>
<th>Year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>American Association for the History of Nursing Conference</td>
<td>2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASU Nursing Honor Society induction ceremony</td>
<td>2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appalachian Studies Association Conference</td>
<td>2009, 2013, 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meeting the Challenge: Health and Education in Appalachia and Cherokee Conference</td>
<td>2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Carolina Association of Historians Annual Meeting</td>
<td>2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Carolina Nurse Association convention</td>
<td>2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Carolina Nurse Practitioner Council</td>
<td>2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Watts Hospital Alumna Association 115th Annual Meeting, Durham</td>
<td>2010</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Scholarly Products:
Oral History Project
Broughton Hospital Finding Aid 2010

Broughton Hospital Archives
Office Depot White Box #1 Inventory
By Jeremy Childers

Yellow Folder #1; Title: 1884 Sketch Bylaws.
1. Title: "Bylaws and Regulation of the Western North Carolina Insane Asylum at Morganton, N.C." Raleigh, N.C.: Ashe & Gelling, State Printers and Binders. Steam presses of Ezell & Gelling, 1884.
   - Regular Meeting of Board of Directors shall be held at the Asylum on the first Wed after the first Monday in March, and 2nd Wednesday of June, September, and December.
   - It is paper clipped, 30 pages - typed.
   - There are a few copies of the book in this folder.

2. Title: "Directors and Officers of the Western N.C. Insane Asylum Morganton, N.C. By-Laws Board of Directors."
   - 27 pages - typed.

3. Title: Another Copy of the By-Laws.
   - 7 pages.

4. Title: Regulation to be observed by Employees of the Western N.C. Insane Asylum.
   - 18 pages - typewritten, holes punched.

5. Title: A report of conditions as they exist in the hospital.
   - Staple 3 times at the top.
   - 6 yellow pages.

6. Title: Report to the Superintendent of Repairs needed at State Hospital at Morganton.
   - 6 pages.

7. Title: The tail Wags the Dog (Discusses newspapers reporting of Broughton Hospital).
   - Date January 25, 1949.
   - Two press releases merit our attention.
North Carolina Nursing Association’s North Carolina Nursing History Council

“North Carolina has such a long and proud history of nurses being active, and working to upgrade the profession while providing excellent state of the art patient care,” said Nursing History Council Chair Olivia Jenkins, MSN, RN.

“The nurses whose shoulders we stand on deserve to be recognized, and we can learn so much from what has gone before us.”
Recognition

Paul Green Multimedia Award

From the North Carolina Society of Historians, Inc.
Recognition

Recognition

The links that point to nursinghistory.appstate.edu by age:

52 links have been found in 2014 that link to nursinghistory.appstate.edu.

All of the links have been confirmed during the last 90 days. Click a year to view the backlinks that were added in that year.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year of the backlink</th>
<th>Count</th>
<th>Share</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. 2014</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>94.5%</td>
</tr>
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</table>
Recognition – social media!
Recognition – social media!

Levine Museum of the New South

North Carolina Association of Historians
Community Interaction
Moving from Jackson Pollock to Theo van Doesburg

Theo van Doesburg, Simultaneous Composition, 1929, Yale University Art Gallery, 49581, Artstor
Ongoing development

North Carolina Counties

Quick facts:
- 2010 census population
- Size and people per sq mile
- Link to the county website

People and Biographies
- Interviews
- Articles

Health Care Institutions

Schools of Nursing

Special Topics

More Resources
Ongoing development

North Carolina Nursing History
Appalachian State University

Wilkes County

Learn more about the history of nursing in Wilkes County

Quik Facts
- 0.34% of residents (2010 Census)
- 74.8 square miles; 81.1 people per square mile

People and Biographies
- Biased from "Women in Clinton Hospital School of Nursing, Durham, North Carolina, 1895..." by Dr. Evelyn Wiler, a basis of the history of Durham's African American school of nursing. Biography of Dr. Joan Mattawa, RN.
- History of Reid-Allen Hospital, Wilkes County Nurse from Wilkes County.

Special Topics
- History of East Tennessee State University.

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Ongoing Development
Into the future…
dynamic digital collections

Biography of Nurse Mary Lewis Wyche

Mary Lewis Wyche was born on February 26, 1858 near Henderson in Vance County. As a young woman, she wanted to become a nurse but was thwarted by both family obligations and the absence of any schools of nursing in North Carolina. Her calling to become a nurse was so great that when she was able, she moved to Philadelphia to study nursing and graduated from Philadelphia General Hospital Training School in 1894. Upon graduation, she returned to the Tarheel State and revolutionized the nursing profession (Rogers, 1949). Wyche should be firmly remembered by NC nurses for four primary achievements: the establishment of the first school of nursing in NC, the creation of the first professional nursing organization in the state, the passage of the first nurse registration law in the country and for writing the only book about the history of nursing in North Carolina.

Wyche’s first major accomplishment was the establishment of the first school of nursing in North Carolina. After graduating from nursing school, Wyche became the matron (Chief Nursing Officer) of the newly established Rex Hospital in Raleigh. Understanding the importance of an educated nursing workforce to the health of the state’s citizens, Wyche undertook the major task of creating the first school of nursing in North Carolina - Rex Hospital Training School for Nurses. Wyche recalled the early days of the school this way: “The hospital of only 23 beds was rather small to have a school of nursing, but there were patients who needed care and young women who wanted to be taught the art of nursing” (Wyche, 1938).

Five students were in the first class. They reported to the hospital at 8 in the morning and remained until 6 pm every night. Classes were held four times a week and included anatomy, surgery, maternal and infant hygiene, obstetrics and practical nursing. The classroom was located close enough to the patient care area that students could hear the call bells and leave class to take care of patients when needed. After 2 and 3 years of training, the first class graduated in 1897, becoming the first North Carolina trained graduate nurses (Wyche, 1938).

Wyche’s was responsible for the creation of the North Carolina State Nurses Association. Wyche frequently attended professional gatherings in other states. After meeting with other nurses at the International Council of Nurses in Buffalo, New York in the spring of 1901, she returned to Raleigh determined to form a statewide nursing organization dedicated to using nursing registration and legislative advocacy to improve the profession and patient care. However, her new task was not easily accomplished. Wyche sent postcards to every nurse in Raleigh requesting their presence at a founding meeting of the Raleigh Nurses Association. Unfortunately not a single nurse showed up. However, Wyche was not a quitter. In two weeks she sent a second postcard inviting the same nurses to an important meeting of the newly formed Raleigh Nurses Association. This ignited the nurses’ curiosity and every single graduate nurse in Raleigh attended.
Into the future... implement an interactive map
Present Contributors

Belk Library:

- Andrea Leonard, Electronic Access Librarian
- Paul Orkiszewski, Coordinator of Library Digital Initiatives & Projects
- James Smith, Web Developer

Nursing Department:

- Dr. Phoebe Pollitt, Nursing Professor
- Graduate assistants

Into the future…ensuring the baton is passed:

Nursing: North Carolina Nursing History Council

Library:

- James Smith, Web Developer
- Subject Specialist librarians? Health Sciences? History?
- Digital Projects librarians?
Petite Literature Review

Challenges of Digital Humanities in Libraries


- Insufficient training opportunities
- Lack of support for librarian-conceived digital initiatives
- Too many tasks, too little time
- Lack of authority to marshal the appropriate resources
- Inflexible infrastructure
- Lack of incentive
- Complexity of collaborating with faculty – not always equitable, balanced relationship
- Overcautiousness
- Diffusion of Effort
- Lack of Real Institutional Commitment
Petite Literature Review

Best Practices in Digital Collaboration


- Understanding of the requirements
- Reasonable plan
- Good team with clear leader
- Measuring project status
- Document and communicate everything
- Measures for usage and product quality
- Clear communication and building trust
Early Successes

Lanz et al:

• Understanding the requirements
• Reasonable plan
• Good team with clear leader
• Measuring project status
• Document and communicate everything
• Measures for usage and product quality
• Clear communication and building trust

Challenges & Lessons Learned

• Looking to the future:
  ✓ Leadership
  ✓ New content and projects
  ✓ Workflows

• Harnessing usage statistics
• Static website->dynamic?

Thank you!

Questions, comments, discussion?