University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

CENTER FOR NURSING HISTORY
UWM  Center for Nursing History

Cunningham Building, 1921 E. Hartford Ave. Milwaukee

History of Historical Gallery

1973- Was designed into the Cunningham Building by Inez Hinsvark, nurse historian and first Dean.
1977- Named “Historical Gallery” by the faculty
1980- 20% faculty appt. “Director”, plus 25-35% PA/RA position

Therefore, UWM becomes the 1st school in the country to financially support nursing history. (Deans Conway/Lang)
1992-CON Academic Planning Committee est. Center for Nursing History. “Was more than a museum”.

1993 -Museum is dedicated as the Inez G. Hinzvark Historical Gallery

2016- One of 6 in the country with probably the largest collection

Our collection was built by donations from many individuals, nursing alumni groups, UW Madison School of Nursing
Personnel and space

Director- Laurie K Glass, RN, PhD, FAAN- 20% volunteer (since 2005)
Research Assistant- Anne Molineu, MA – 20% volunteer (since 2014)
Location: Cunningham Hall, UW Milwaukee campus
  Historical Gallery – G75
  Expansion opened January 2018 – G97 “the Local Room”
  Research lab, workroom- B85 Storage – B51
Funding- Donations to UWM Foundation, CON –supplies, computers
Then and Now
Collecting: a 3 pronged approach

1. Papers, records, class photos - UWM Archives

2. Rare, old books – UWM Library Special Collections
   
   1252 titles in the History of American Nursing Collection.
   
   490 titles in the nurse fiction collection (400 received from a former professor in the UWM Department of Art & Design).

3. Artifacts, “stuff” - College of Nursing Historical Gallery
Purpose

The purpose of the Center for Nursing History is to provide an historical view of advances in the art and science of nursing that have had an influence on health care. The Center for Nursing History also aims to:

• instill appreciation of the historical past related to nursing, nursing education and health care.
• increase awareness to the significant role played by nurses in history.
• serve as a learning resource for faculty, staff, students and the community.
• provide a viewing experience of artifacts, mementoes, and photographs which may not be available from other resources.
Collections

Schools (uniforms, photos, pins, some records)

- St Mary’s Hospital School of Nursing, Milwaukee
- Deaconess Hospital School of Nursing, Milwaukee
- Mt. Sinai Hospital School of Nursing, Milwaukee
- Milwaukee Lutheran Hospital School of Nursing, Milwaukee
- Milwaukee County Hospital/ John Doyne Medical Center, Milwaukee (limited amount)
- Milwaukee General Hospital School of Nursing, Milwaukee
- UW-Milwaukee College of Nursing, Milwaukee
- UW Madison School of Nursing (limited amount)
Collections continued

110 Caps, Signe Cooper cap collection
35 bedpans
Other- syringes, BP equipment, tool cases, bed warmers
School pins, capes from 40 schools/hospitals
Scrapbooks, student notebooks, instructor plans,
photographs, posters, brochures, pamphlets
World War I and World War II uniforms, records, photos, posters
Lots of uniforms- 1890 to 1980

Cadet Nurse Corps, WWII

Airline stewardess 1940s

WWI Army nurse uniform and bathing suit
Lots of photograph and slides
110 caps. 45 displayed in 4 places in Cunningham Hall

40 Capes. 10 on display
Milwaukee Lutheran Hospital SoN

Local Room

Mt. Sinai Hospital SoN

St. Mary’s Hospital SoN
We need a Deaconess pin and an older uniform.
ADM Rykowski, UWM Alum

WWII Navy Nursing

2010, 1970, 1943
Who Visits?

CON Faculty and Students- Self guided tour notebook
Other Faculty and students- history, women’s study, Osher LLI
Other university staff/fac- Research librarians
Museum directors/ staff
Nursing school alumni groups
Nurses of all ages
Families who donate items
Our Visitors

Faculty from Turkey

Taiwanese nursing students
Verlee & Agnes (92 yo) with family.
St. Luke’s Racine grads

Reis family, Ada Garvey relatives
Mt. Sinai grads visit the Mt. Sinai exhibit

The Conditt sisters donated their mother’s items.
Things a nursing history scholar (me) does: there aren’t many of us, 6 in Midwest

- Historical research, writing, publications
- Teach classes, give presentations on nursing history
- Review manuscripts, serve on dissertation, thesis, project committees
- Represent the UWM at:
  - the American Association for the History of Nursing and the American Academy of Nursing
- Consultation - local nursing groups, national nursing groups, museums