



# EAHN

EUROPEAN  
ASSOCIATION  
FOR THE HISTORY  
OF NURSING

Completed by Karen Nolte

## Editorial



School Talitha Kumi in Jerusalem (around 1900)  
Fliehdner Kultur Stiftung Kaiserswerth, Duesseldorf, Germany

It is a pleasure for me to present the seventh edition of the EAHN Bulletin with the nursing history activities in Europe.  
Thank you for the various contributions!  
With best wishes for Christmas from Würzburg in Germany!

*Karen Nolte*

## Germany – German Association for the History of Nursing (GAHN)



German Association for  
the History of Nursing  
Fachgesellschaft Pflegegeschichte e.V.

### A “History of Nursing in Photographs”? – Photography as a Source for the History of Nursing

by Karen Nolte and Susanne Kreutzer

In most studies on the history of nursing photographs serve merely as an illustration of the analysis that the researcher derived from written sources. At the annual GAHN workshop that took place this year on 10 June 2017 at the Fließner Kulturstiftung in Kaiserswerth, the participants discussed the opportunities of photography as a source itself for the history of nursing. Thematically the GAHN thus continued the discussion on “Visual History” from last year but narrowed the angle, focussing now exclusively on the medium of photography.

Photography must be understood as a cultural, political, aesthetic and social phenomenon. Nursing appears in these sources of visual history within the context of institutions where nurses are staged and photographed in a specific setting either as “main actors” or “extras”. Nurses themselves have left traces of themselves in private photos or photo albums that can be read as visual, personal testimonials. Behind the lens nurses also worked as photographers, e.g., during the First and Second World War. Hence the questions as to who were the male and female producers and what was their perspective are also issues for the history of nursing when it analyses the historic photographs of and by nurses.



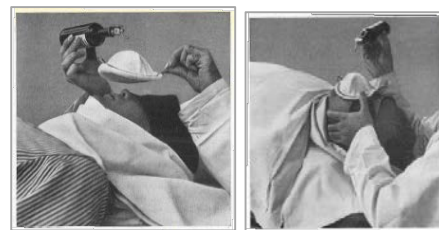
Fronberg Hospital, Men’s Ward 1935, Fließner Kultur Stiftung, Kaiserswerth, Düsseldorf

During the workshop first, presentations on the possible methodology and “history of photography in nursing” were discussed as well as some photographic material itself. As an introduction Annett Büttner (Archive of the Fließner Kulturstiftung, Kaiserswerth) presented the photo collection of the Fließner family and the Department of Public Relations of the Diaconia, the Protestant Order to help the Poor and the

Sick, in Kaiserswerth. While a rich collection, it was not systematically amassed. In the early nineteenth century, the Diaconia in Kaiserswerth used prints and drawings mainly for PR purposes to reach a large audience of donors and sponsors. With the establishment of photography in the second half of the nineteenth century we increasingly find portraits of deaconesses and supervisors yet still no images that reflect the everyday life in nursing.

At the turn of the twentieth century nursing and social work became the subject of photography but these images are very formal and staged. The images speak more to the intentions of the employers than illustrate the actual work of a nurse. Here, the nurses served more as passive “extras” than as “actors” or agents. Only from the 1970s there are some snapshots that illustrate the reality of nursing somewhat more closely.

Birgit Seemann (research project: Jewish history of nursing, University of Applied Sciences Frankfurt) presented photographs from her research project on Jewish nursing in Frankfurt am Main. The focus was on nurses and patients in Jewish institutions in Frankfurt and from the Organisation of Jewish Nurses. Seemann emphasised that within the context of “visual politics of memory” (“visuelle Erinnerungspolitik”, Gerhard Paul), and with respect to research in the history of nursing, these photographs – though often damaged – are often the last traces of Jewish life and survival.



Technique of Dropping, in: Fischer/Gross/Venzmer: Hand- und Lehrbuch der Krankenpflege, Stuttgart 1940, p. 287

In her presentation “Photography and the Search for Traces in the History of Nurse Anesthesia”, Karen Nolte (Institute for the History of Medicine, University of Würzburg) illustrated how photographs can be an important source to reconstruct the practices of nurse anesthetists in Germany until the 1950s. She pointed out that drawings based on previous photographs in text books were used to illustrate some of the techniques. In the German depiction of the history of anesthesia photographs of drip nurses are used to document the backwardness of the inhalation anesthesia that nurses independently performed until the 1950s.

## Germany – The Historical Nursing Section of the German Society for Nursing Science

Hilde Steppe and her influence on nursing – memorial conference for Hilde Steppe (1947-1999) 6th October 2017 in Frankfurt

by Mathilde Hackmann

Hilde Steppe was one of the pioneers in the development of academic nursing in Germany. During the 1990s she worked at the government in Hesse introducing academic programmes for nurses. Her work on nursing in Nazi Germany which she started in the 1980s made her known by the international nursing community, too. Being the founder of the Section historical nursing research in the German Society for Nursing Science she triggered the interest in nursing history in many of her colleagues.

Hilde Steppe would have seen her 70<sup>th</sup> birthday this year had she not died in 1999. The Section historical nursing research in the German Society for Nursing Science and the Society for the Promotion of historical nursing research in Frankfurt took the initiative and arranged a memorial conference hosted by Frankfurt University of Applied Sciences. The organisers welcomed about 40 guests not only from Germany, but Switzerland and even Scotland. Most of the guests had known Hilde Steppe personally.

The morning papers reviewed Hilde Steppe's broadly based work. Besides her activities in the development of academic programmes for nurses she also played an important role by introducing these programmes at Frankfurt University of Applied Sciences. Her former colleague Dieter Kraushaar pointed out that these programmes were not welcomed by all lecturers at the university. Sabine Bartholomeyczik reflected

on the overall situation of academic nursing in Germany in the 1990s. Hilde Steppe's role as a union activist was recalled by Herbert Weisbrod-Frey. All these papers provided evidence of Hilde Steppe's far-sightedness in nursing's development.

Papers in the afternoon addressed two topics important for Hilde Steppe. As one of the first nurses in Germany reflecting on nursing during the Nazi period, she took her research interest further and conducted her doctoral work on Jewish nursing in Germany. This work was a starting point at Frankfurt University of Applied Sciences to develop a Website for Jewish nursing in Frankfurt ([www.juedische-pflegegeschichte.de](http://www.juedische-pflegegeschichte.de)). Edgar Bönisch and Birgit Seemann introduced the modernised version at the conference. Günther Storck reflected on ethic challenges in today's nursing which was another interest in Hilde Steppe's work.

During the breaks participants had enough time to network. Some of them went to the grave of Hilde Steppe at Frankfurt's Central Cemetery which is a five-minute-walk from Frankfurt University of Applied Sciences. Overall the conference provided an excellent opportunity to reflect on advances in nursing over a longer period. In our everyday lives we might be too busy to handle urgent problems. One step back helps to better realise the broader picture. Thanks to the organisers the audience certainly benefitted from the conference.



Photo: © Frankfurt University of Applied Sciences

## Israel – The Israeli Society for the History of Nursing (ISHN)

by Nira Bartal

The Israeli Society for the History of Nursing is celebrating the fourth anniversary of its establishment; it has grown steadily and already numbers 143 registered members. The Society's activities this year included the following: (1) **The promotion of research.** To date, we have advised three groups and various other researchers and colleagues, and we hope to do so for other initiatives; (2) **Documentation and preservation:** this



Dr. Dorit Weiss, Deputy Director General and Head of Nursing Division, Clalit (General Health Services), the fifth conference of the Israeli Society for the History of Nursing, 2017

year we have been the recipients of rare memoirs and photos sent by several nurses. This is authentic, fascinating material that is worthy of preservation and dissemination. The plan is to expand the circle of those creating personal documentation and organizational documentation in workplaces in the health services; (3) **Channels of communication and discourse:** we have turned our attention this year to the dissemination of information and knowledge to members of the group and opening channels of communication among ourselves. The 'members' of our internet network and those who displayed

interest in it received a newsletter (the second one will be distributed toward the end of the year), a collection of abstracts of the lectures given at our last conference including photos, and messages and various greetings. Ronen Segev opened and manages a Facebook account that currently has 219 registered visitors.

At the same time we are working on completing the construction of the Society's website, with the generous and skillful assistance of Dr. Ayala Gonen.

Further activities were due to the visit of Professor Susanne Kreutzer, the President of the German Association for the History of Nursing. Two lectures were delivered in February 2017: the first at the Hadassah-Hebrew University School of Nursing in Jerusalem and the second at a home gathering, both under the title "Nursing Education in Germany: Concepts and Practical Experiences since 1945". About thirty-five people attended these lectures.

The meeting of the International Society for the History of Medicine was convened in Beijing, China, between 6.9. - 17.9. this year.

Ronen Segev was the sole Israeli representative in this conference. The title of his presentation was, "In Every Mission Together: The History and the Development of Israeli Army Nurses." About sixty people attended the fifth conference of the Israeli Society for the History of Nursing convened at the Tel Aviv University Department of Nursing on 21 June, 2017, under the heading "Policy and



Ronen Segev, the meeting of the International Society for the History of Medicine, Beijing, China, 2017

Administration, from Then to Now: Nurses as Agents of Change." Reactions to the conference were very positive. The Chair of the Society, Professor Hava Golander, opened the conference with a survey of the year's activities and the subjects of the conference. Dr. Nira Bartal followed with a report of her participation in a meeting of the Coordinating Committee of the European Association for the History of Nursing, held at the University of Utrecht in the Netherlands, 22–25 of February, 2017. Dr. Dorit Weiss headed the first session, titled "The Consolidation of the Policy Process in Nursing: Issues, Regrets, Achievements, and Recommendations". Her lecture discussed "To What Extent Are Nurses Really Involved in Decision Making about Themselves and/or Health Policy?" Afterwards, a conversation was conducted with leaders in nursing. The participants were Ms. Nitza Bauman (former Deputy Director General and Head of Nursing Division of Clalit, the largest provider of health services in Israel), Ms. Adi Aharoni and Ms. Devorah Goren (both former heads of nursing services at two of the largest medical centers in Israel), and Prof. Miriam Hirschfeld (former Director of Human Resources for Health of WHO). The second session revolved around shaping and leading in nursing education and the composition of professional personnel. In the first presentation, Sigal Ziv provided a portrait of Atia Margalit-Kochen, Head of the Hadassah School for Nurses from 1948 to 1968; Sigal is writing a book in her memory. The third session was titled 'Nursing in Critical Junctions and Formative Eras' and focused on the

1950s, the first decade of the State of Israel. Prof. Shifra Schwartz discussed her recently published book, "To be a Healthy Nation: Massive Immigration and Public Health in Israel, 1948-1960". Moriah Ashkenazi and Dr. Sarit Rahmani presented the critical role of community nurses in public health services during a period of absorbing mass immigration. The conference also included the presentation of a new book, 'Stretcher on a Camel's Back: Medical Aspects of Eretz-Israel

Systems, 1916-1918', by Prof. Eran Dolev from Tel Aviv University. Next year we will dedicate the conference to the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the State of Israel and the place of nursing from then to now. We will also be celebrating the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Department of Nursing at Tel Aviv University, which also marks the establishment of academic education in nursing in Israel.

## Italy - Italian Nurses' Association with a Nursing History Group, CNAI (Consociazione nazionale delle Associazioni infermiere/i)

### Woman, Intellectual, Nurse: Rosetta Brignone one hundred years after her birth

by Anna La Torre

In 2017, the nursing history group of Italian nurses' association, CNAI (Consociazione Nazionale Associazioni Infermiere/i), started a collaboration with the University of Turin for the celebration of one hundred years from Rosetta Brignone's birth.

Throughout the years of lead, a term used for a period of social and political turmoil in Italy, Rosetta Brignone expanded nursing career horizons, particularly during her CNAI presidency, from 1976 to 1984, despite the current difficulties. She strongly insisted in the importance of an upgrade in the nursing education system, trying to convince the Italian political and public opinion that an academic degree or title instead of a



school diploma was mandatory for all nurses. Times were ripe and Brignone, with CNAI, strongly supported the creation of a new educational path that responded to the rising demands to update the training for the new nurse professionals that would be able to cope with the complexity and extension of health services in every area, including primary

health care.

In the 1970's science and technology accomplished their highest achievements, it was a decade during which technology invaded health management, changing forever the reference health care background as it had never happened before. Several medical specializations and numerous healing techniques developed with the advent of new technologies. The nursing profession also underwent the fascination of technological progress by diverting attention to the resulting

changes in the nursing needs of people. In an innovative spirit, Rosetta Brignone decided to introduce the use of the word "nursing" instead of the Italian "assistenza" in 1972. This new term implied a sharp cut with the past, brought along a new way of thinking about nursing care and nursing, shifting the focus on the person receiving the nursing service. Nowadays the word "nursing" is commonly used in Italian, and when we refer to nursing we imply the possession of exclusive theoretical-technical competence, responsibility, ethics and ethical behavior. However it is imperative to remember the steps that led us here and to never forget women like Rosetta.

The conference, through the voice of those who knew her as colleague, student and researcher, conveys an important piece of history of the Italian nursing profession. At the same time it is a stimulating meeting point between old and new generations, a path where modern nursing professionals build and base their roots.

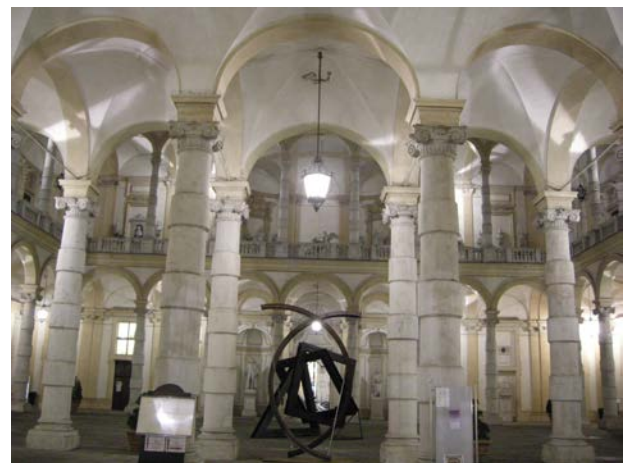


Photo: University of Turin, Italy

# The Netherlands - The Dutch Centre for Nursing History: the Florence Nightingale Institute (FNI)

by Nanni Wiegman

## About us

The Florence Nightingale Institute (FNI) is the online platform and museum for the history of nursing and public health in the Netherlands. The FNI performs scholarly research, manages the nursing collection, develops educational modules and communicates with the public. Its aim is the transfer of knowledge of nursing history to (future) nurses. In 2017, the Dutch Museum Association recognised the FNI as the first online museum. We share the heritage in our care with the public through pop-up exhibitions. During the national museum week, we participated with the theme "Piss-pot". Our entire collection has been digitised. See for more: <http://www.fni.nl/english>

## Events 2017

### Annual Meeting EAHN

From 22 to 25 February, the Annual Meeting of the European Association for the History of Nursing (EAHN) took place in the Academy Building in Utrecht. The Florence Nightingale Institute organised and hosted the event. Thursday 23 February was devoted to a thematic program and was initiated by a welcome address by dr. Sonja Kersten, director of the Nurses' Association V&VN. In the morning, education



EAHN Meeting 2017 in Utrecht

was discussed. The participating countries had been asked to give a presentation about the question: "How is nursing history embedded in your country?" This resulted in an interesting discussion, leading to the conclusion that nearly all countries are struggling with the problem that history no longer is a compulsory subject. The participants concluded that this matter was far from exhausted.

After lunch, we visited the Utrecht Provincial Archives. Here, we attended a presentation on the archive of the oldest Dutch

Deaconesses' Hospital, founded in Utrecht in 1844. A small exhibition of photo books and archival exhibits had been arranged especially for the benefit of the EAHN members.

At the end of the day, the kick-off of the MOOC took place, entitled "Nursing Traditions and History in Europe". In this online course, composed by the University of Tromsø, various members of the EAHN offer lectures on the subject. Following an explanation by Åshild Fause about the genesis of the MOOC, Petri Roodbol gave a presentation, after which the MOOC was presented. In conclusion, a debate was held under the direction of Christine Hallett on the question of what position this MOOC should occupy in education. Finally, we raised a glass to this fine result.

On Friday 24 February, the Annual Meeting of the EAHN took place, which focussed on plans and perspectives. We concluded the proceedings with a farewell dinner, where the Sister Vernède Foundation made a substantial donation to give the EAHN website a facelift.

The Florence Nightingale Institute considers it an honour to have been able to organise this meeting!

### International Nurses Day

By now, 12 May, Florence Nightingale's birthday, is a festive day in Dutch hospitals and institutions. The professional organisation V&VN surprised nurses working the night shift with theatre and music. The Florence Nightingale Institute organised a pop-up exhibition on the history of leadership at the Bernhoven hospital. In collaboration with student nurses, we organised a fashion show of historical uniforms at the Arnhem nursing school. At an office of the Association for Mental Health and Addiction Care in Eindhoven, Nannie Wiegman held a lecture on the development of leadership in nursing.

### Nightingale Symposium

On 30 June, the second Nightingale Symposium took place in Utrecht, which was themed "Nursing during Wartime".



Florence Nightingale Medaille

during the Great War of 1914-1918, the Netherlands was neutral and little is yet known about the Dutch nurses in wartime. But we are eager to contribute to the important research that is being conducted everywhere. The 150 years anniversary of the Dutch Red Cross, in 2017, was a fitting opportunity. TV producer Ad van Liempt held a lecture about 150 years of Red Cross nurses. He launched a

travelling exhibition with historical films. Nannie Wiegman presented the results of research into the nurses awarded with the Florence Nightingale Medal. From 1912 on, 15 nurses in the Netherlands have been awarded with this medal. All 15 nurses and their careers were highlighted. Rick Ravensburg, a military nurse, was interviewed about his present work during peace missions. In this manner, we could supply some insight into “nursing during wartime”.

### Adoption of 5 Nurses

On 19 September, a fundraising event took place in Amsterdam. The Royal Dutch Academy of Arts and Sciences is working on a book, a website and an exhibition about “1001 women in the 20<sup>th</sup> century”. During this event, the Florence Nightingale Institute nominated 5 nurses for a place in this publication. The pitch presented the careers of the five. District nurse Aafke van Hulst (1900), war nurse Rosa Vecht (1915), bemedaled nurse Bep Engelberts (1959), director Frederike Meyboom (1970) and first professor of Nursing Sciences Anneke van den Bergh (1986) have all been adopted.

### Research and Education

In 2017, the FNI started the oral history project “Their Voices Heard”. We use this to record the stories of nurses who have shown leadership in their nursing career. The project started with “Nurses on the front line, the struggle against the AIDS

crisis 1982-1996”. The research, in collaboration with the University of Amsterdam, has by now been concluded and will be presented at the 2018 international AIDS conference in Amsterdam. We have also done research into e.g. novels featuring nurses and into protest actions of district nurses in the 1970s, resulting in a new dossier on the website: <http://www.fni.nl/i/2066/wijkverpleging-in-actie>. Research is the basis of everything we undertake.

In order to keep the nurses of today up to date on the history of nursing, schools and hospitals can hire the expertise of the Florence Nightingale Institute. Against remuneration, we offer a number of 10 set lectures and classes, which interested parties can book through [fni.nl](http://fni.nl). Furthermore, we also offer bespoke lectures in which the institution itself will be central. In 2017, lectures were arranged for a group of district nurses selected by the Ministry of Health, Welfare and Sport. In the lecture “This is where your profession comes from”, they were presented with the history of district nursing. Classes were held for paediatric nurses, student nurses, hospitals and the Association for Mental Health and Addiction Care. On 1 December, during a symposium at the Academic Hospital of Rotterdam, Nannie Wiegman delivered the lecture: “Nurses, Mind Your Affairs”. This was also the theme of a pop-up exhibition in the foyer of the hospital.



Nurses, 1910

## Poland – Central Historical Commission in Cooperation with The Main Board of Polish Nurses Association

by *Krystyna Wolska-Lipiec and Małgorzata Marcysiak*

The Main Historical Commission has been working since 1962. It is based in Warsaw, at al. Reymonta 8. Currently, it consists of 20 members (including: 4 supporting and 3 honorary). These are nurses – enthusiasts and historians of medicine/nursing, working in both entities of health care, as well as at universities and research institutes. The chairperson of the body is Krystyna Wolska-Lipiec. The main work of the Commission focuses on maintaining and developing the Barbara Purtak Central Archive of the Polish Nursing, as well as the Virtual Museum of Polish Nursing. The main aim is to popularize knowledge about the history of nursing with special emphasis on the role of humanistic profession and shaping the ethical attitudes.

In 2017, the Commission has been working quite intensively. The special purpose was further development of documents and historical materials and their popularization. The most important achievement of the Commission was the extension of the Archive. The Main Board at its meeting on 6 April 2017, adopted a resolution to transfer one more room for the needs of the Archive. The work of the Commission focused on the equipment and organization of the room, in which the exhibition will be located: “Cabinet Director of the Warsaw School of Nursing”. Digitization of documents and their electronic archiving is carried out.



There had been held 8 meetings of the Commission by November 2017. During those meetings the assessments of the conducted work was done as well as new



tasks were assigned. New documents were added to the collection, these included many documents and memorabilia systematically ordered, protected and evolved. Interviews were conducted with: Elżbieta Chróścicka, Maria Kocent, Seweryn Mikucka, Kamila Łukaszewicz and others.

The Commission promotes the history of nursing among nursing students by conducting educational activities. In the past year, these were students from Krakow and Poznań. The Commission have organized meetings, lectures, talks about the history of nursing for nurses.

The members of the Commission, especially its chairperson have published their works in “The Nurses and Midwives Magazine” (cycle - in each number) and in the monograph “Nursing yesterday, today, tomorrow...”

The members of the Commission participated actively in scientific conferences - national and international, including those organized by the Museum of the History of Medicine, Medical University of Warsaw, the State Higher Vocational School in Ciechanów, Collegium Medicum in Krakow, Polish Episcopate at the conference in connection with the publication of the “New Charter of Health Care Professionals” and the House of History Meetings at the Congress of Social Archives.

Members of the Commission participated in the organization of the Nurse of the Year 2016 Competition and in the celebration of the 60th Polish Nursing Society. Therefore the chairperson of the Commission gave a speech about “PTP contribution to the development of Polish nursing in the years 1957 – 2017” at



eight conferences in: Krakow, Warsaw, Bialystok, Wroclaw, Rzeszow, Olsztyn, Katowice and Kielce. She published an article titled "Golden Jubilee of PTP" in "The Nurses and Midwives Magazine". A thematic exhibition was also organized at the Warsaw Medical University.

The Museum ([www.wmpp.org.pl](http://www.wmpp.org.pl)) is systematically enriched. New CVs and documents of 19 meritorious nurses were added and complemented. The new documents attract a great interest of the Internet users.

The Commission has cooperated with the Polish Academy of Sciences, Medical University of Warsaw, the Central Library of Physicians, the Catholic

Association of Nurses and Midwives in Cracow, Supreme Council of Nurses and Midwives and others.

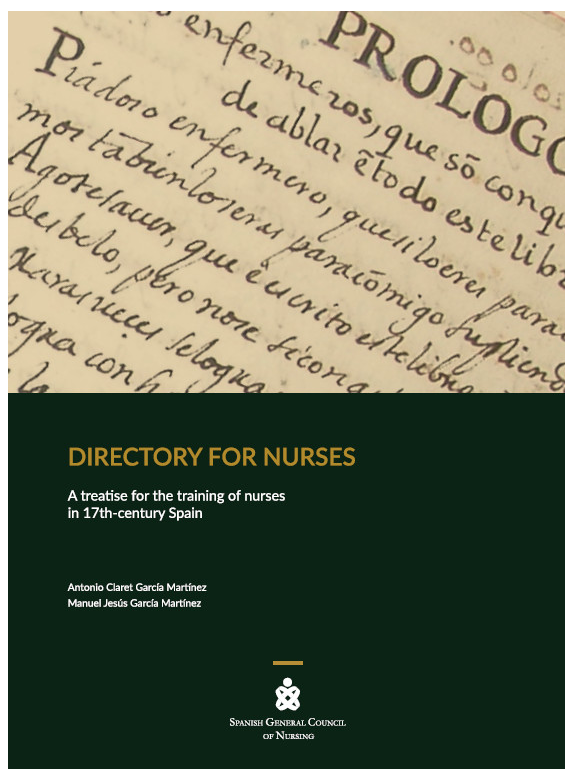
Plans for 2018:

- Increasing the possibilities for displaying the gathered collections,
- Organizing the office of the directors of the Warsaw School of Nursing,
- Reprint of the oldest nursing magazine the Polish Nurse,
- Digitization of the collection,
- Providing collections during the "Night of Museums",
- Preparation of the film "Three portraits" about the directors of the Warsaw School of Nursing.

## Spain: Qalat Chábir. Asociación Cultural para el Estudio de las Humanidades (Spain)

"Directory for Nurses" a treatise written by a Nurse or the origins of modern Nursing in Spain (1651)

by Antonio Claret García Martínez



The creation of any profession entails the development of a specific body of knowledge, the establishment of ethical standards laying out the framework of action for professionals and the development of a theory that enables its advance both as a profession and as a discipline.

The treatises written by 17th-century Spanish nurses perform this task: developing a specific body of knowledge that delimits their profession, providing nursing practice with standards for action that define nurses as carers, and laying the basis for a theory that made it possible to identify Nursing from among the other healthcare professions.

As a result of the development of Modern Science in the 17<sup>th</sup> century, Medicine experienced significant advances, and the conception of disease also evolved, increasingly departing from causality based on divine origins or magical forces. But the road ahead was a long one.

In order for these advances to reach medical treatments and patients, the training level of the staff in charge of the provision of care - nurses - had to rise.

Spanish Nursing as a profession has deep roots that have been preserved in historical texts of very different types. The deeds of foundation of hospitals describe, at least from the 15th century, the work of nurses who

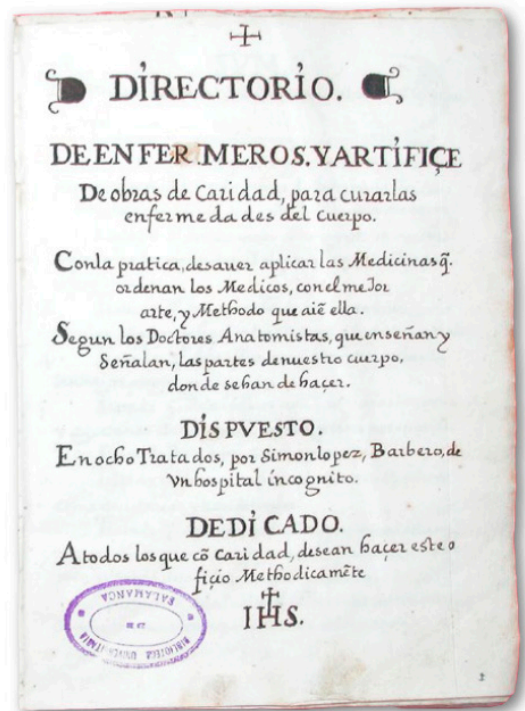
practised their profession in the many hospitals founded in the various Peninsular kingdoms; administrative documents record nurses' salaries and various categories or levels; treatises for the training of nurses show the interest and need that, from the 16th century, an increasingly high number of nurses started to have to raise the training level of those who were to provide care, and thus help to heal the huge number of patients and handicapped people who flooded the streets of every European town and were finally hospitalised.

It is in this context that the proposals made by Simón López, a nurse and barber who completed his "Directory for Nurses" in 1651, should be understood. It is an extensive and practical treatise for the training of the staff who provided care in hospitals and other healing centres. Simón López shows throughout his work that he acquired an extensive scientific education as a result of his wide reading, his frequent conversations with physicians and other healthcare professionals, and his experience over more than 25 years working in hospitals in Castile.

Simón López based his nursing practice on the principles of hygiene, an adequate diet, proven treatments, and the application of care based on a method. Due to the way in which he conceived nursing care, we have called his proposal the "Humanistic-critical nursing model".

- García Martínez, Antonio C.; García Martínez, Manuel J.: *Directory for Nurses. A treatise for the training of nurses in 17th-century Spain*. Ed. Consejo General de

Enfermería de España. Printing: SITTIC. Madrid (Spain), 2017. ISBN: 978-84-697-3014-0, 406 p., 37 facs.



A Special edition published on the occasion of the 26th Quadrennial Congress of the International Council of Nurses, held in Barcelona, Spain (2017, May). Actually, we are preparing a digital version.

## The origins and foundations of modern Nursing in Spain

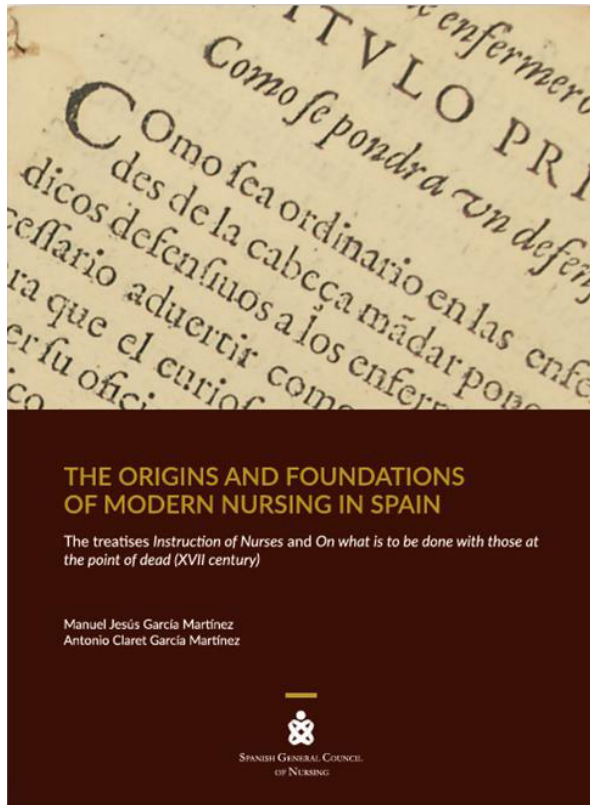
by Manuel Jesús García Martínez

Archives and libraries keep the Nursing Memory in Spain. From 15<sup>th</sup> century onward many cities built a complex network of hospitals, which provided elementary care, at first, but diverse and specialized afterwards. In the second half of the 16<sup>th</sup> century important changes started to happen and the development of sciences (medicine, surgery), which provided a new vision of disease and a different concept of the sick: hygiene, diet and methodical work were the concern of doctors and nurses.

With this background, in 2017 we will be celebrating the Fourth Centenary of the publication of the first edition of the *Instrucción de Enfermeros* (*Instruction of*

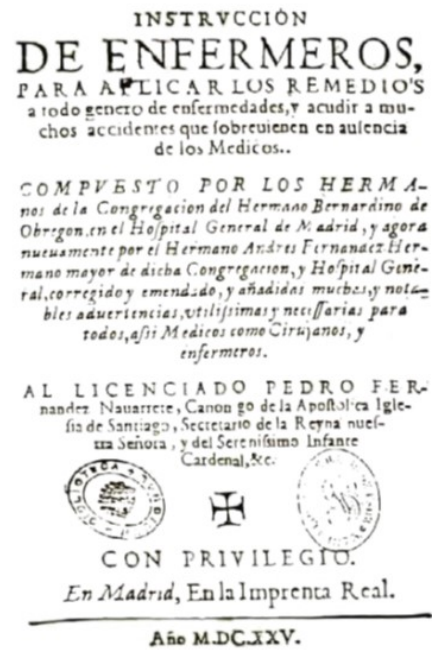
*nurses*), which was reprinted six times in Spanish and once in Portuguese between 1617 and 1747. Even though this work was written by nurses for their own training, it was also frequently used by other healthcare professionals, such as barbers, surgeons, medical practitioners, and apothecaries, and was appreciated and praised by eminent 18th-century physicians. Copies of *Instrucción de Enfermeros* can be found in libraries across the world, in Spain but also in Portugal, France, the United Kingdom, Italy, and the Americas, from Argentina to the United States. It was used to train many generations of nurses, particularly in Spanish-speaking countries, linked to Spain for historical reasons.

This work constitutes a new way of understanding the care of the sick in Spanish hospitals, and was based on the conception of man as comprising three main parts: a biological component, a psychological component, and a social component. Hence the work comprises, properly speaking, two treatises: one focusing on healing and the provision of care to recover bodily health,



which displays nursing work (nursing techniques, knowledge of anatomy, botany, nutrition, and other knowledge required for proper training); and one focusing on spiritual assistance to patients at the point of death. This aimed to return patients to the society from which the disease had detached them, or to prepare them to have a good death.

The work thus attempts to integrate the new medical and pharmacological knowledge with a more scientific nursing practice, resulting from the expansion of the



new humanistic ideas and their conception of nature, of which disease is just another manifestation.

This work examines 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> century Spanish nursing through the study and edition of the treatise *Instruction of Nurses and Artificer of Works of Charity to Heal Bodily Diseases*. The work was written by Andrés Fernández, a member of the Minim Congregation of Poor Brothers Infirmarian, and printed in 1625, after a smaller first edition printed in 1617.

Bernardino de Obregon, the founder of the nursing Congregation in the second half of the 16<sup>th</sup> century, requested of his brothers, before his death, that they write a book to compile all the knowledge required for the training of nurses, who played such a key role in hospitals across the Kingdom.

In the second half of the 16<sup>th</sup> century, a reflection started on the nature of nursing care and the way to provide it in hospitals: from that point on, hygiene, nutrition adapted to the patient, and methodical work became increasingly frequent practices in the work of the nurses in the main Spanish hospitals of the time.

# Switzerland – Swiss Society for the History of Health and Nursing

Objects of the past. Report from the 4<sup>th</sup> workshop in Switzerland, June 2017

by Sabina Roth

The Swiss Society for the History of Health and Nursing (GPG-HSS) organized its 4<sup>th</sup> workshop at the Institute for the History of Medicine at the University of Bern. The historian and physiotherapist Véronique Hasler, member of the GPG-HSS committee, shaped the program, which put the history of health and nursing into the perspective of material cultures. Scholars from the disciplines of History, Sociology, Midwifery and Occupational Therapy (*Ergotherapie*) presented their papers and the participants as well came from a range of disciplines.

The first part of the discussions unravelled the many relations between objects and professional identities. Corinne Doria (Paris/Milano) taught how the building of the discipline ophthalmology was interlinked with the development of the ophthalmoscope in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Therese Hailer (Winterthur) tracked the changing significance of Leopold's maneuvers for the midwives' practice and, Magali Bonzon (Yverdon-Bains/Lausanne) discussed the history of the Naegele's rule to calculate the estimated date of confinement (see figure 3352). Via a small popup exhibition of objects Lucette Aubort and Kim Roos (Winterthur) explained how in the 20<sup>th</sup> century occupational therapists adapted things such as typewriters or hand looms for patients who had to stay in bed for a long period of recovery.

In the afternoon the role of objects for the management of diseases was discussed. The starting point of Vincent Pidoux's (Lausanne) paper was a medical device of the 1950s which enabled patients with diabetes to measure the amount of glucose in the urine by themselves (see figure 3795b). From 1970 onward devices came onto the market for the glucose measurement in the patient's blood. Today the management of chronic diseases set trends with equipments that interlink knowledge, data, patients and health professionals. Sunjoy Mathieu (Zurich) presented first sketches of an object related history of tuberculosis. Finally Dorothe Zimmermann (Bern) and Stefanie Kohler (Zurich) gave insights into the permanent exhibition of the Museum of Medicine (*Medizinmuseum*) in Bern opening up in October 2018. Only a few of the 10'000 objects in the museum's collection will be shown in relation with ten specific practices such as cutting, waiting, preventing, nursing or paying.

For further information (in German and French) and reports (only German) see: [www.gpg-hss.ch](http://www.gpg-hss.ch)

Figure 3352 and 3795b, Collection of the Museum of Medicine, Bern, [www.medizinmuseumbern.ch](http://www.medizinmuseumbern.ch)



## United Kingdom -The UK Association for the History of Nursing (UKAHN)

by Sue Hawkins

UKAHN had another busy year in 2017. Our management committee met twice and on 28 June we held the Annual Research Colloquium, this year hosted by the University of Huddersfield.

### The UKAHN Colloquium

This was a special year for the Colloquium, representing its 20<sup>th</sup> birthday, and tributes were paid to founding member, Dr Helen Sweet who was in attendance. As in the last few years, the Colloquium was preceded by an afternoon seminar focussed on postgraduate research and work in progress. This is proving to be a very popular development and we hope to make the seminar a regular feature of the Annual Meeting. Sarah Rogers, a new PhD student, spoke of her project on Eva Luckes, while Dr Tommy Dickinson discussed his work on nursing and HIV/AIDS in the 1980s and 90s. Dr Jane Brooks rounded off the afternoon with a paper on her new project: women who fled Nazi Europe and became nurses in the UK. UKAHN is very pleased to hear of these new and exciting projects and wishes the researchers all the best with their work.



### The UK Association for the History of Nursing

For the colloquium proper, the keynote speaker was Teresa Doherty, Library and Archive Manager for the Royal College of Nursing, who spoke of the challenges of managing archives and the constant pressures of collection, preservation and provision of access for researchers. Her talk reminded us of the invaluable work archivists undertake, without whom our work as historians would be all but impossible.

The morning's session focused on research in First World War nursing. Papers spanned Professor Peter Nolan's fascinating discussion of the work of the York Retreat and conscientious objectors; PhD student, Samraghni Bonnerjee's work on nurses' writing on of pain and suffering; the French Flag Nursing Corps (Peter Jones) and nursing and public health provision for munitions workers (Dr Claire Chatterton). The afternoon session was more diverse, but no less engaging, including papers on the Chelsea, Pimlico and Belgravia District Nursing Association (Julie Bliss), mental health nursing in colonial India (Michael Young), the nurse training school at the Royal Masonic Hospital (Susan Snell), Henry Burdett and the RBNA (Dr Sue Hawkins), and nursing reform in Lincoln (Dr Stuart Wildman). In other words a wealth and range of work, which

shows nursing history is alive and well in the UK and which were a fitting tribute to the 20th birthday of UKAHN Colloquium.



### Colloquium 2018: call for papers

Next year's colloquium will be held on 10 July 2018 at the University of Chester. The call for papers is now open and more information can be found at: <http://ukahn.org/wp/ukahn-colloquium-2018>. Papers can cover any aspect of nursing history and we especially encourage researchers looking for a supportive environment in which to present work in progress.

### Essay Writing Competition

In order to encourage scholarship and new researchers into the field we have launched an essay writing competition, which is open to anyone resident in the UK, interested in the history of nursing. A prize of £100 is on offer along with the potential opportunity to be published in the UKAHN Bulletin. Closing date for entrants to the 2018 competition is Friday 23 March 2018. Submission details <http://ukahn.org/wp/ukahn-essay-competition/>

### UKAHN Bulletin

*The Bulletin*, now in its 7<sup>th</sup> year, is an annual electronic journal sent to members of UKAHN free of charge that aims to be a focus for those interested in the history of nursing. Submissions are now welcome for our next (2018) edition which will be published in November of that year. There is more information on the UKAHN website: <http://ukahn.org/wp/the-ukahn-bulletin/>

We would also like to announce our plans for 2020, with a call for expressions of interest in a special edition of the Bulletin to celebrate the bicentenary of the birth of Florence Nightingale. Contact Bulletin editor, Stuart Wildman at [s.wildman@bham.ac.uk](mailto:s.wildman@bham.ac.uk), if you would like to explore this further, and for any other questions about *UKAHN Bulletin*.



## The European Association for the History of Nursing (EAHN)

The European Association for the History of Nursing (EAHN) was established 2012 to promote development and advancement of Nursing History through scholarly work and public outreach. The Association brings individuals and associations together in order to provide mutual support and opportunities for collaboration.

The purpose of the Association is to provide a European focus for the development of the discipline of Nursing History. It has three aims:

- To promote scholarly work in the Nursing History, by providing a mutually supportive network of individuals working in the field and by creating opportunities for direct collaboration on significant research projects.
- To promote the public understanding of Nursing History, by supporting initiatives for public engagement.
- To gain recognition for the discipline of Nursing History throughout the European region.

The Association has a federal structure. Constituent member associations are autonomous and self-governing. A constituent association may be administered through an academic centre, a scholarly society or an interest group. Each constituent association will be eligible to send at least one member to a European Coordinating Committee.

The membership comprises individuals who are members of a constituent association. The membership is intended to be inclusive. Members may be nurses or non-nurses, and might or might not hold an appointment in a recognised academic institution. An individual from any part of the world may join any of the constituent associations, and thereby become a member of the EAHN.

### EAHN member associations (and contact email addresses)

**Austria:** *Historical nursing research in Austria* ([golla@pflege-professionell.at](mailto:golla@pflege-professionell.at))

**Denmark:** *The Danish Society of Nursing History* ([s-malchau@mail.tele.dk](mailto:s-malchau@mail.tele.dk))

**Finland:** *Finnish Association for History of Nursing Science* ([irja.savolainen@saunalathi.fi](mailto:irja.savolainen@saunalathi.fi))

**Germany:** *German Association for the History of Nursing (Fachgesellschaft Pflegegeschichte)* ([kreutzer@fh-muenster.de](mailto:kreutzer@fh-muenster.de))

**Germany:** *The Historical Nursing Research Section of the German Society for Nursing Science* ([thiekoetter@fliedner-fachhochschule.de](mailto:thiekoetter@fliedner-fachhochschule.de))

**Ireland:** *The Irish Association for the History of Nursing and Midwifery* ([gerard.fealy@ucd.ie](mailto:gerard.fealy@ucd.ie))

**Israel:** *The Israeli Society for the History of Nursing (ISHN)* ([nirabartal@gmail.com](mailto:nirabartal@gmail.com))

**Italy:** *Italian Nurses' Association with a Nursing History Group, CNAI (Consociazione nazionale delle Associazioni infermiere/i)* ([latorretintori@gmail.com](mailto:latorretintori@gmail.com))

**Netherlands:** *Dutch Centre for Nursing History: Florence Nightingale Instituut* ([nwiegman@fni.nl](mailto:nwiegman@fni.nl))

**Norway:** *The Norwegian Association for the History of Nursing* ([ashild.fause@uit.no](mailto:ashild.fause@uit.no))

**Poland:** *Museum and Archive for Polish Nursing History at the Polish Nurses Association* ([zgptpiel@gmail.com](mailto:zgptpiel@gmail.com))

**Spain:** *Qalat Chábir. Asociación Cultural para el Estudio de las Humanidades* ([hiades@arrakis.es](mailto:hiades@arrakis.es))

**Sweden:** *The Swedish Society of Nursing (Svensk sjuksköterskeförening)* ([catrine.jacobsson@umu.se](mailto:catrine.jacobsson@umu.se))

**Switzerland:** *Swiss Society for the History of Health and Nursing* ([gpg@gpg-hss.ch](mailto:gpg@gpg-hss.ch))

**United Kingdom:** *The UK Association for the History of Nursing* ([webmaster@ukahn.eu](mailto:webmaster@ukahn.eu))

### EAHN Coordinating Committee

The Coordinating Committee consists of delegates from the member association. The committee meet at least once per year.

#### EAHN Coordinating Committee elected officers

President Prof Dr Christine Hallett, UK ([Christine.Hallett@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:Christine.Hallett@manchester.ac.uk))

Secretary Dr Gerard Fealy, Ireland ([gerard.fealy@ucd.ie](mailto:gerard.fealy@ucd.ie))

Communications Officer PD Dr Karen Nolte, Germany ([karen.nolte@uni-wuerzburg.de](mailto:karen.nolte@uni-wuerzburg.de))

#### EAHN Bulletin

The annually EAHN Bulletin is published on the EAHN web page. Editor of the Bulletin is PD Dr Karen Nolte, Germany ([karen.nolte@uni-wuerzburg.de](mailto:karen.nolte@uni-wuerzburg.de))

#### EAHN webpage

The EAHN webpage <http://www.eahn.eu> is managed by webmaster Keiron Spire, UK: [keiron@britisharmynurses.com](mailto:keiron@britisharmynurses.com)

#### EAHN Twitter account

The EAHN Twitter account [EAHN@HistNursingEU](https://twitter.com/EAHN@HistNursingEU) is edited by Dr Anja Peters, Germany ([pflgewirtin@web.de](mailto:pflgewirtin@web.de))

#### Membership

If your association would like to affiliate with the EAHN please contact EAHN president Prof Dr Christine Hallett, UK ([Christine.Hallett@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:Christine.Hallett@manchester.ac.uk)). There are no fees for membership.

#### EAHN meeting 2018

*Swiss Society for the History of Health and Nursing* is hosting the EAHN Coordinating Committees annual meeting in Winterthur on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> of June 2018, the day before the International Conference “Bad’s in healthcare: Negative experience as an impetus to reform in nineteenth and twentieth centuries” begins (21<sup>st</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> of June 2018, [www.gpg-hss.ch](http://www.gpg-hss.ch)). Further information will be provided via email.