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Polybiography of Diagnostic Medical Sonography

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Polybiography of Diagnostic Medical Sonography

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.01. INTRODUCTION (Return to Index)

Diagnostic Medical Sonography, often referred to as “ultrasound”, is one of the newest and fastest growing diagnostic imaging modalities. Most people today know Sonography from intrauterine fetal images or sonograms. It is a very safe and useful medical tool that was first
attempted after W.W.II using surplus, nondestructive testing, sonar equipment. These early valve-tube electronics were too slow for the very short distances and high resolution required for medical imaging. With the development of microchips, sonography has made huge advances with each new microprocessor. Many individuals around the world have contributed to these incremental advances.

The American Institute of Ultrasound in Medicine (AIUM) was the first “… professional organization devoted to ultrasound.” [2] “The AIUM began in 1951 when 24 physiatrist attending the American Congress of Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation met in a hotel room in Denver, CO to discuss the necessity for organizing a sub-group of that Congress. However, we [AIUM] were not incorporated until March 7, 1975.” [3]

Diagnostic Medical Sonography became an established profession with the organization of the Society of Diagnostic Medical Sonographers (SDMS) in 1969 when six individuals (Joan Baker, Marilyn Ball, Margaret Byrne, James Dennon, Raylene Husak, and L.E. Schnitzer), formed the American Society of Ultrasound Technical Specialists (later renamed the SDMS). 2, [4] The SDMS facilitated the implementation of the first certifying examinations for non-physician “Sonographers” and physician “Sonologists” by forming the American Registry of Diagnostic Medical Sonographers (ARDMS) [5] in 1975.2 Organized diagnostic sonography is less than 30 years old.

The relatively recent and rapid development of the profession means that most of the inventors and founding individuals are still living. This presents a unique opportunity to document this early history. Individuals involved such as Don Baker on ultrasound Doppler (USA), Stewart Campbell on obstetrical sonography (Great Britain), and Rokuro Uchida on ultrasonic equipment (Japan) are but three of hundreds if not thousands of contributors to the field of Diagnostic Sonography.

.02. METHODS (Return to Index)

In response to this opportunity, OBGYN.net [6] and the SDMS have collaboratively established the WWWeb site “Ultrasound-History Forum & Archives” [7]. The WWWeb site historical content is made up of formal articles, streaming audio/video interviews and lectures, photographs, sonographs, and an archived ListServ forum. The intent is to give those who were involved with early sonography an opportunity to tell their stories. This historical forum will be a threaded, searchable archive to facilitate individuals adding their own recollections and even differing views of an event.

An example of the polybiography can be seen at the OBGYN.net History of Ultrasound web site in reference 6. This author is also aware of two spontaneous of polybiographies occurring. These were two different sets of siblings who corresponded via the Internet and began discussing their remembrances. In each group one of the siblings began to archive all the email messages, creating a small family polybiography.
Another polybiography has just been announced by The Center for Humane Arts, Letters, and Social Sciences online, Michigan State University. The polybiography is manifest as the H-Disability discussion group and is described as:

This discussion group serves not only to give historians an opportunity to exchange ideas, syllabi, scholarly work, and archival sources but will attract other historians of all specialties to the field. The H-Disability discussion group allows disability scholars to compare and contrast the experience of disability across time and space, including American, European and non-Western contexts.[8]

While the H-Disability discussion group does not refer to itself as a polybiography this collection of historical materials do fit the definition.

.03. Discussion

The polybiography is uniquely adapted to the Internet and would be virtually impossible without the Internet. Without the global connections it would be difficult to locate all the individuals who contributed to the development of sonography. By the use of the Internet anyone who has a story to tell about sonographic developments will be able to add to the history. This will allow those who were assistants to contribute, as well as the luminaries; whereas with the traditional oral history, the editor might not locate some relatively minor, relocated participants.

The concept of the "polybiography" was first presented at the Annual Conference 2000 of the American Association of History & Computing in Waco, Texas. [9] The original article was titled "Poly-autobiography of Diagnostic Medical Sonography", but during the discussion following the presentation it was suggested that, while the concept was thought to be a unique use of the Internet and WWWeb, the term "polybiography" would be more appropriate and descriptive.

.04. REFERENCES (Return to Index)

[1] Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program (Accredited CAAHEP), University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, 4301 West Markham Street Mail Stop 563, Little Rock, Arkansas 72205;http://www.uams.edu/CHRP/dmshome.htm, last access: February 21, 2001.


[3] Carmine Valente [cvalente@aium.org], Executive Director, American Institute of Ultrasound in Medicine, personal communication, February 27, 2001.

[4] Society of Diagnostic Medical Sonographers (SDMS); text-


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8 THOUGHTS ON “POLYBIOGRAPHY OF DIAGNOSTIC MEDICAL SONOGRAPHY”

plotki
on January 30, 2014 at 7:11 AM said:

Good work…

dating
on January 30, 2014 at 11:37 AM said:
I’m extremely enjoying the theme/design of your site. Do you ever run into any browser compatibility problems? A modest number of my blog audience have complained about my website not operating properly in Explorer but looks good in Firefox. Do you have any tips to support fix this issue? I am curious to learn what blog method you are utilizing? I’m acquiring some small security difficulties with my newest website and I want to find something additional safeguarded. Do you’ve any recommendations?

Erik Suto
on January 30, 2014 at 6:15 PM said:

It is appropriate time to make some plans for the longer term and it’s time to be happy. I have read this put up and if I may just I desire to recommend you few attention-grabbing things or tips. Perhaps you can write next articles regarding this article. I wish to learn even more issues about it!

plotka
on February 1, 2014 at 1:48 AM said:

This is my first time pay a visit at here and i am truly impressed to read everthing at alone place.

kuchnia
on February 1, 2014 at 2:17 AM said:

you have any? Kindly allow me realize so that I may just subscribe. Thanks. as well conceive so , perfectly written post! .

9ja
on February 3, 2014 at 1:32 AM said:

your attendees and take pictures.
temat
on February 3, 2014 at 1:56 AM said:

“Great, thanks for sharing this article post. Appreciate it Again and again. Terrific.”

nigeria dating
on February 5, 2014 at 12:18 AM said:

Attractive section of content. I just stumbled upon your weblog and in accession capital to assert that I buy actually enjoyed account your blog posts. Any way I’ll be subscribing to your augment and even I achievement you access consistently quickly.