

## **Martin Anthony Summers**

Department of History  
Boston College  
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Chestnut Hill, MA 02467  
[summermb@bc.edu](mailto:summermb@bc.edu)

### **Education**

Ph. D. in U.S. History, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, New Jersey, May 1997.  
Dissertation: "Nationalism, Race Consciousness and the Constructions of Black Middle-Class Masculinity during the New Negro Era, 1915-1930."  
Advisor: David Levering Lewis

B. A. in History-Social Sciences Education, Hampton University, Hampton, Virginia, May 1990.

### **Professorial Experience**

2020-            Professor, Department of History and African and African Diaspora Studies Program, Boston College  
Affiliate member of Medical Humanities, Health, and Culture Program  
Affiliate member of Women's and Gender Studies Program

2009-2020     Associate Professor, Department of History and African and African Diaspora Studies Program, Boston College

2006-2008     Associate Professor, Department of History, University of Texas at Austin  
Affiliate member of Center for African and African American Studies  
Affiliate member of Center for Women's and Gender Studies

2004-2006     Associate Professor, Department of History, University of Oregon

2000-2004     Assistant Professor, Department of History, University of Oregon

1997-2000     Assistant Professor, Federated History Department of New Jersey Institute of Technology and Rutgers University, Newark

### **Administrative Experience**

2014-2018     Director, African and African Diaspora Studies Program, Boston College

2004-2006     Director, Ethnic Studies Program, University of Oregon

## Research Interests

- African American History
- History of Medicine
- Race and Mental Illness
- Gender and Sexuality

## Courses Taught

- Twentieth-Century World (NJIT)
- U.S. as a World Power (NJIT)
- Gender, Race, and Ethnicity in America (NJIT)
- Readings and Problems in African American History (Rutgers-Newark)
- African American History I and II (NJIT, Rutgers-Newark, UO)
- History of American Masculinities (UO, Boston College)
- Black Migrations: Movement and Mobility in the African Diaspora (UO, Boston College)
- Black Radical Thought and Politics in 20<sup>th</sup> Century U.S. (UO)
- Race, Gender, and the State in the Americas (UO – team taught with Carlos Aguirre)
- Jazz Age America: The United States in the 1920s (UO)
- Gender and Sexuality in African American History (UO, UT-Austin, Boston College)
- U.S. Since 1865 (UT-Austin)
- Introduction to African American History (UT-Austin)
- Health and Disease in African American History (UT-Austin, Boston College)
- History of Medicine and Public Health in the African Diaspora (Boston College)
- Introduction to African Diaspora Studies (Boston College)
- Health and Disease in US History (Boston College)
- The Body in History (Boston College)
- African Diaspora and the World II (Boston College)

## Current Research

*Inner City Blues: African American Mental Health and Social Policy in Twentieth-Century Urban America* (book-length research project)

## Publications

### BOOK

*Madness in the City of Magnificent Intentions: A History of Race and Mental Illness in the Nation's Capital*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2019.

*Manliness and Its Discontents: The Black Middle Class and the Transformation of Masculinity, 1900-1930*. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2004.

\*Received AHA-PCB's 2005 Pacific Coast Branch Book Award

## EDITED BOOK

*Precarious Prescriptions: Contested Histories of Race and Health in North America.*  
Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 2014. Co-edited with Laurie Green and John McKiernan-Gonzalez.

## ARTICLES AND BOOK CHAPTERS

“Diagnosing the Ailments of Black Citizenship: The African American Medical Profession and the Politics of Mental Illness, 1895-1940.” In *Precarious Prescriptions: Contested Histories of Race and Health in North America*, edited by Laurie Green, John McKiernan-Gonzalez, and Martin Summers. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 2014. (Peer-reviewed)

“‘Arguing for Our Race’: The Politics of Non-recognition and the Public Nature of the Black Masonic Archive.” In “*All Men Are Free and Are Brethren*”: *Prince Hall Fraternalism and the Rise of a People*, edited by Steven Kantrowitz and Peter Hinks. Ithaca, N.Y.: Cornell University Press, 2013. (Peer-reviewed)

“Manhood Rights in the Age of Jim Crow: Evaluating End of Men Claims in the Context of African American History,” *Boston University Law Review* 93 (May 2013): 745-67.

“Suitable Care of the African When Afflicted with Insanity’: Race, Madness, and Social Order in Comparative Perspective,” *Bulletin of the History of Medicine* 84 (Spring 2010): 58-91. (Peer-reviewed)

“Diasporic Brotherhood: Freemasonry and the Transnational Production of Black Middle-Class Masculinity.” *Gender and History* 15, no. 3 (November 2003): 550-74. (Peer-reviewed)

\*Reprinted in *Dialogues of Dispersal: Gender, Sexuality and African Diasporas*, edited by Sandra Gunning, Tera W. Hunter, and Michele Mitchell. Malden, MA: Blackwell Publishing, 2004.

“‘This Immoral Practice’: The Prehistory of Homophobia in Black Nationalist Thought.” In *Gender Nonconformity, Race, and Sexuality: Charting the Connections*, edited by Toni Lester. Madison: University of Wisconsin Press, 2002. (Peer-reviewed)

“Mount Olive Baptist Church.” In *Plainfield’s African American: From Northern Slavery to Church Freedom*, edited by Leonard L. Bethel and Frederick A. Johnson. Lanham, Md.: University Press of America, 1998.

## ENCYCLOPEDIA ENTRIES

“Black Nationalism,” “Fraternal Orders,” “Masculinity,” and “Universal Negro Improvement Association.” In *Encyclopedia of the Great Black Migration*, edited by Steven A. Reich. 3 volumes. Westport, Ct.: Greenwood Press, 2006.

“Frederick Douglass,” “Bayard Rustin,” and “U.S. Colored Troops.” In *The Oxford Companion to American Military History*, edited by John Whiteclay Chambers II. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1999.

## BOOK REVIEWS

Wendy Gonaver, *The Peculiar Institution and the Making of Modern Psychiatry, 1840–1880* (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2018), in *Journal of American History* 107:1 (June 2020).

Melissa N. Stein, *Measuring Manhood: Race and the Science of Masculinity, 1830–1934* (Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 2015), in *Journal of the History of Medicine and Allied Sciences* 71 (July 2016).

Douglas Walter Bristol, Jr., *Knights of the Razor: Black Barbers in Slavery and Freedom* (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2009), in *Journal of American History* 97:2 (September 2010).

Riché Richardson, *Black Masculinity and the U.S. South: From Uncle Tom to Gangsta* (Athens and London: University of Georgia Press, 2006), in *Journal of American Ethnic History* 27:2 (Winter 2008).

Steven Estes, *I Am a Man! Race, Manhood, and the Civil Rights Movement* (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2005), in *The Historian* 68:2 (2006).

Robert J. Corber, *Homosexuality in Cold War America: Resistance and the Crisis of Masculinity* (Durham, N.C.: Duke University Press, 1997), in *Borderlines: Studies in American Culture* 5:1 (1998).

## **Honors, Awards, Fellowships and Grants**

Ruth W. and A. Morris Williams Jr., Fellowship, National Humanities Center, 2013-2014

Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study Fellowship, 2007-08

ACLS Frederick Burkhardt Fellowship for Recently Tenured Scholars, 2006-07 (Deferred to 2007-08)

American Philosophical Society Sabbatical Fellowship, 2006-07 (Declined)

Stanford Humanities Center External Faculty Fellow, 2006-07 (Declined)

Dean’s Fellowship, University of Texas at Austin, 2006

Martin Luther King, Jr. Service Award, University of Oregon, 2006

AHA-PCB Pacific Coast Branch Book Award, 2005

Summer Research Award, University of Oregon, 2003  
New Faculty Award, University of Oregon, 2001  
Ford Foundation Postdoctoral Fellowship, National Research Council, 1998-99  
Rutgers Center for Historical Analysis, Associate Fellowship, Rutgers University, 1998-99  
Institute of American Cultures and Center for African American Studies Postdoctoral  
Fellowship, University of California at Los Angeles, 1998-99 (Declined)  
Frederick Douglass Institute for African and African-American Studies Postdoctoral Fellowship,  
University of Rochester, 1998-99 (Declined)  
Rutgers Center for Historical Analysis, Graduate Fellowship, Rutgers University, 1994-95  
Minority Advancement Program Summer Scholarship Award, Rutgers University, 1994  
Minority Advancement Program Fellowship, Rutgers University, 1990-94

## **Presentations**

### INVITED LECTURES AND PRESENTATIONS

“Race, Community Control, and Mental Health Care in Chicago: The Woodlawn Mental Health Center in the Black Freedom Struggle,” Madness, Violence, and Technologies of Care Symposium, University of Buffalo, Buffalo, New York, May 2019.

“Inner City Blues: African Americans, Psychiatry, and the Postwar ‘Urban Crisis,’” Eisenberg Institute for Historical Studies, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan, November 2018.

Response to Edward Baptist, “Slavery and the Making of American Capitalism,” Boisi Center for Religion and American Public Life, Boston College, Chestnut Hill, Massachusetts, October 2016.

“‘From Slave to Citizen’: The Racial Politics of Insanity in Post-Reconstruction Washington, DC,” National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Teacher’s Institute, Washington, DC, July 2016.

Comment on Elaine Pinderhughes, “Understanding Power: Twenty-First Century Human Services Imperative,” Elaine Pinderhughes Lecture, Graduate School of Social Work, Boston College, Chestnut Hill, Massachusetts, April 2016.

“‘A Maze of Unintelligibility’: Psychotherapy and African American Patients at Saint Elizabeths Hospital, 1900-1940,” Department of History, Brown University, Providence, Rhode Island, March 2016.

“The African American Medical Profession and the Politics of Mental Illness, 1895-1945,” Advancing Research and Scholarship Symposium, Boston College, Chestnut Hill, Massachusetts, December 2014.

- “‘A Maze of Unintelligibility’: Psychotherapy and African American Patients at Saint Elizabeths Hospital, 1900-1940,” Dorothy Bernstein Lecture in the History of Psychiatry, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, Minnesota, September 2014.
- “Melancholy and the ‘Madness of Fanaticism’: The Multiple Narratives of Black Insanity in Antebellum America,” National Humanities Center Public Lecture, Research Triangle Park, North Carolina, April 2014.
- “‘Broken Fragments of the Primitive Life’: Race and Dynamic Psychiatry in the Early Twentieth Century U.S.,” 3rd Annual Peggy Pascoe Memorial Lecture, University of Oregon, Eugene, Oregon, November 2013.
- “Race and Moral Treatment at Saint Elizabeths Hospital: Or, Reconciling State Racism and the Soteriological Vision of Health in a Nineteenth-Century Asylum,” Henry Sigerist Circle, American Association of the History of Medicine Annual Meeting, Atlanta, Georgia, May 2013.
- “Manhood Rights in the Age of Jim Crow: Evaluating End of Men Claims in the Context of African American History,” Evaluating Claims about “the End of Men”: Legal and Other Perspectives, Boston University Law School, Boston, Massachusetts, October 2012.
- “An Unnatural Association: State Racism and the Soteriological Vision of Health in a Nineteenth Century Insane Asylum,” Cleveland State University, Cleveland, Ohio, March 2012.
- “Creating a Racial Geography of the Asylum: Built and Natural Environments in the Design of the Government Hospital for the Insane,” Porter J. Fortune Symposium, University of Mississippi, Oxford, Mississippi, March 2012.
- “Racial Discourses of Insanity, the African American Medical Profession, and the Politics of Mental Illness, 1895-1945,” Boston University, Boston, Massachusetts, December 2009.
- “Racial Narratives of Insanity, the African American Medical Profession, and the Politics of Mental Illness, 1895-1945,” Racial Formation in the Twenty-first Century: A Symposium on Theory, Politics, and Practice, Wayne Morse Center for Law and Politics, University of Oregon, Eugene, Oregon, April 2009.
- “Racial Narratives of Insanity, the African American Medical Profession, and the Politics of Mental Illness, 1895-1945,” Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio, March 2009.
- “Homophobia and the Heteronormative Bounds of Black Empowerment in the Long Civil Rights Movement,” Boston College Law School, Newton, Massachusetts, February 2009.
- “Producing the ‘Dangerous Negro Lunatic’: Race and Masculinity in the Turn-of-the-Century Asylum,” 2006-07 Henkels Lecture Series, University of Notre Dame, South Bend, Indiana, April 2007.

“Remaking Men: Patriotism, Citizenship, and Black Middle-Class Masculinity during World War I,” Center for Africanamerican Urban Studies and the Economy 2004-5 Speakers Series, Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, March 2005.

“‘The Fruit and Flower of a Loyal Race’: Black Discourses of Patriotism and Manliness during World War I,” 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Gender Studies Symposium, Lewis and Clark College, Portland, Oregon, March 2005.

“Diasporic Brotherhood: Freemasonry and the Transnational Production of Black Middle-Class Masculinity,” Fisher Center for the Study of Women and Men, Hobart and William Smith Colleges, Geneva, New York. February 2003.

“The Persistent ‘Problem’ of the Body in Discourses and Performances of Black Masculinity,” Black Masculinities Symposium, Princeton University, Princeton, New Jersey, November 1997.

“Free Men and Citizens, Producers and Sex Machines: Historical Perspectives on African American Male Experiences,” Children’s Defense Fund/Institute for the Research on the African Diaspora in the Americas and Caribbean Conference on African American Males, Clinton, Tennessee, September 1994.

#### CONFERENCE AND SYMPOSIA PRESENTATIONS

“Race, Community Control, and Mental Health Care in Chicago: The Woodlawn Mental Health Center in the Black Freedom Struggle,” African American Intellectual History Society Annual Meeting, Austin, Texas, March 2019.

“Melancholy and the ‘Madness of Fanaticism’: The Multiple Narratives of Black Insanity in Antebellum America,” European Association of American Studies Annual Meeting, Constanta, Romania, April 2016.

Chair and roundtable participant. “Precarious Prescriptions: Contested Histories of Race and Health in North America,” Organization of American Historians Annual Meeting, Atlanta, Georgia, April 2014.

“Therapeutic Culture and the Racial Topography of a Nineteenth-Century Insane Asylum,” American Studies Association Annual Meeting, San Juan, Puerto Rico, November 2012.

“The Government Hospital for the Insane and African American Perceptions of the State in Post-Reconstruction Washington, D.C.,” American Association of the History of Medicine Annual Meeting, Baltimore, Maryland, April 2012.

Commenter. “The New Negro and the Modern Girl: Politics and Gender on Black College Campuses,” Association for the Study of African American Life and History Annual Meeting, Richmond, Virginia, October 2011.

“The ‘best humane institution on the face of the Globe’? The Government Hospital for the Insane and African American Perceptions of the State in Post-Reconstruction Washington, D.C.,” Organization of American Historians Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C., April 2010.

“The Transnational Dimensions of Race and Psychiatry, from the 1840s to the 1930s,” Radcliffe Fellows’ Presentation, Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts, March 2008.

“Voice and Representation in Histories of Mental Illness: Saint Elizabeths Hospital as a Case Study,” Organization of American Historians Annual Meeting, San Jose, California, April 2005.

Panel organizer. “Disease, Health, and the State in the Late Nineteenth- and Early Twentieth-Century United States: Charting the Colonial Connections,” American Historical Association Annual Meeting, Seattle, Washington, January 2005.

“‘Suitable Care of the African When Afflicted With Insanity’: Race and the Insane Asylum in the Nineteenth- and Early-Twentieth Century United States,” American Historical Association Annual Meeting, Seattle, Washington, January 2005.

Chair and commenter. “Mapping Men and Asian America,” American Studies Association Annual Meeting, Atlanta, Georgia, November 2004.

Chair and commenter. “Black Manhood and Masculinity in the Nineteenth-Century United States,” American Historical Association Pacific Coast Branch Annual Meeting, Vancouver, B.C., August 2001.

“Hegemony, Agency, Historicity: Keywords in the Research Agenda of African American Men’s Studies,” American Men’s Studies Association Annual Meeting, Albuquerque, New Mexico, March 2001.

Roundtable participant. “Personal Narratives of Affirmative Action,” American Studies Association Annual Meeting, Detroit, Michigan, October 2000.

“Prince Hall Freemasonry in New York City, 1900-1930: Class, Ethnicity and the Organization of Black Masculinity,” Rutgers Center for Historical Analysis, New Brunswick, New Jersey, December 1998.

“The ‘Respectable’ and the ‘Damned’: Leisure and the Constructions of Middle-Class Black Masculinity during the Jazz Age,” American Studies Association Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C., October 1997.



“Primitives and Producers: Modernism, Masculinity and Cultural Production in the Harlem Renaissance,” Organization of American Historians Annual Meeting, San Francisco, California, April 1997.

“Workers and Citizens: The Great Migration, World War I, and the Constructions of African American Masculinity,” Rutgers Center for Historical Analysis, New Brunswick, New Jersey, April 1995.

“Performing Manliness: Masculinity, the Public Sphere and the Rituals of Performance in the Garvey Movement,” Association for the Study of Afro-American Life and History Annual Meeting, Atlanta, Georgia, October 1994.

Moderator, “Lesbian and Gay Studies in the African Diaspora: A Cross-Disciplinary Conversation,” Rutgers University, Piscataway, New Jersey, February 1994.

### **Masters’ Thesis and Ph. D. Dissertation Committee Service**

Nikolas Howard (2001-03). “San Francisco in Color: African Americans, Chinese, and Citizenship in a White City.” M. A. thesis, History, University of Oregon. (Chair)

Akiko Takeyama (2001). “What Does It Take to Be a Man? Male Dominance and Its Paradoxes in Contemporary Japan.” M. A. thesis, Asian Studies, University of Oregon. (Third reader)

Christa Orth (2002). “Brothers and Sisters (And Everyone in Between): Sexuality and Class in the Pacific Northwest, 1970-1995.” M. A. thesis, History, University of Oregon. (Third reader)

Shelli Jordan-Zirkle (2002). “Gendering the National Narrative: U. S. History Textbooks and National History Standards.” M. A. thesis, History, University of Oregon. (Third reader)

Taro Iwata (2000-03). “Race and Citizenship as American Geopolitics: Japanese and Native Hawaiians in Hawai’i, 1900-1941.” Ph.D. dissertation, History, University of Oregon. (Third reader)

Leon Luckey (2001-02). “The Eugenics Movement and the Welfare State in Great Britain and the United States, 1870-2000.” Ph.D. dissertation, Sociology, University of Oregon. (Outside member)

Philip A. Ojo (2002). “Mortuary Tropes and Identity Articulation in Francophone Caribbean and Sub-Saharan African Narratives.” Ph.D. dissertation, Romance Languages, University of Oregon. (Outside member)

Terree Randall (2002). “Democracy’s Passion Play: The Lincoln Memorial, Politics, and History as Myth.” Ph.D. dissertation, Art History, Graduate Center of the City University of New York. (Outside member)

- Edwin A. Taylor (2003-06). “Engendering Peace: Masculinity, Femininity, and the Good Friday Negotiations in Northern Ireland.” Ph.D. dissertation, Political Science, University of Oregon. (Outside member)
- Bryan Duncan (2004-05). “Literary Labor: Resistance and Reform in American Literature, 1936-1945.” Ph.D. dissertation, English, University of Oregon. (Outside member)
- Leah Deane (2008-2013). “That Mess on Campus: The New Left, the New Right, and the Campus Politics of Sexuality in Berkeley and Austin.” Ph.D. dissertation, History, University of Texas at Austin. (Outside member)
- Adam Rathge (2012-2017). “Cannabis Cures: American Medicine, Mexican Marijuana, and the Origins of the War on Weed, 1840-1937.” Ph.D. dissertation, History, Boston College. (Chair)
- Julia Bates (2015-2018). “The Occlusion of Empire in the Reification of Race: A Postcolonial Critique of the American Sociology of Race.” Ph.D. dissertation, Sociology, Boston College. (Third reader)
- Marya Mtshali (2014-2018). “Gray Matter: The Roles of Race, Gender, and Racialized Gender Ideologies in the Management of Racial Difference in Heterosexual Black/White Intimate Relationships.” Ph.D. dissertation, Sociology, Boston College. (Third reader)
- Joshua Truelove (2019-present). “The Strike, the Boom, and the Radicals: Comedians in Ronald Reagan’s America.” Ph.D. dissertation, History, Boston College. (Chair)

## **Departmental and University Service**

### Boston College

- Covid-19 Faculty Seminar/Task Force (2020-present)
- Modern US History Search Committee, Chair, Department of History (2019-2020)
- Race, Religion, and African Diaspora Search Committee, Chair, African and African Diaspora Studies Program (2016-2017)
- Priya Lal Tenure Committee (2016)
- MCAS Cultural Diversity Core Renewal Working Group (2015-2016)
- Arissa Oh Promotion and Tenure Committee, Chair (2015)
- Priya Lal Second Year Review Committee, Chair (2015)
- University Climate Survey Committee (2014-2015)
- MCAS Awards Committee, (2014-present)
- University Committee on Teaching (2012-13)
- Sub-Saharan African Search Committee, Chair, Department of History (2012-13)
- Medical Humanities Working Group (2012-13)
- Self-Study Committee, Department of History (2010)

19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>-Century U.S. History Search Committee, Department of History (2009-10)  
New Directions in African Diaspora Studies Lecture Series Coordinator, African and African  
Diaspora Studies Program (2009-10)  
AADS Dissertation Fellowship Selection Committee, AADS Program (2010, 2012, 2015)  
Amanda V. Houston Traveling Fellowship Selection Committee, AADS Program (2009-10)  
Institute for Liberal Arts Governing Board (2009-2013)

#### University of Texas at Austin

Strategic Planning Committee, Center of African and African American Studies (2006-07)  
African American History Search Committee, Department of History (2006-07)  
Committee to Bring in Promising Scholars, Department of History (2008)  
Conference Co-organizer, "Making Race, Making Health: Historical Approaches to Race,  
Medicine and Public Health," University of Texas, November 13-15, 2008

#### University of Oregon

University Diversity Work Group (2005)  
\*Co-leader of Critical Mass sub-work group  
Center on Diversity and Community, Executive Committee (2004-05)  
History Department Speakers and Events Committee (2003-06)  
History Department Advisory Committee (2001-02)  
History Department Travel Committee (2000-01)  
Ethnic Studies/Political Science Search Committee, co-chair (2005-06)  
Ethnic Studies/Women's and Gender Studies Search Committee (2005)  
Ethnic Studies Search Committee, chair (2004-05)  
Honors College Search Committee (2003-04)  
Women's Studies/U.S. Women's History Search Committee (2001-02)  
Ethnic Studies Program Committee (2000-02)  
Ethnic Studies Executive Committee (2002-06)  
Diversity Building Scholarship Selection Committee (2004)  
Black Student Union Graduation Speaker Selection Committee (2003)  
Target of Opportunity Laurel Award Selection Committee (2002)

#### **Professional Membership and Service**

ClioVis, Advisory Board Member (2017-present)  
Boston Seminar on the History of Women and Gender, steering committee member (2016-  
present)  
Organization of American Historians, member (1995-present)  
\*2017 OAH Annual Conference Program Committee, member (2015-2017)  
\*Ellis W. Hawley Book Prize Committee, member (2010-2011)  
American Studies Association, member (1997-2010)  
American Historical Association, member (1998-2012)  
\*Committee on Minority Historians, member (2008-2011), chair (2011)  
American Association of the History of Medicine (2005-present)

African American Intellectual History Society (2017-present)

Berkshires Conference on Women's History (2010)

\*2011 Conference Program Committee, Politics, State, and the Law Subcommittee,  
member

Central Lunatic Asylum for the Colored Insane Historical Project, Advisory Board Member  
(2010-present)

Reviewer, NEH Collaborative Research grant proposal (2001)

Reviewer, National Humanities Center (2013, 2014)

Manuscript reviewer, University of North Carolina Press, University of Minnesota Press

Manuscript reviewer, *Gender and History*, *Journal of American History*, *Radical History  
Review*, *Culture, Society & Masculinities*, *Journal of the Civil War Era*, *Journal of the History of  
Medicine and Allied Sciences*