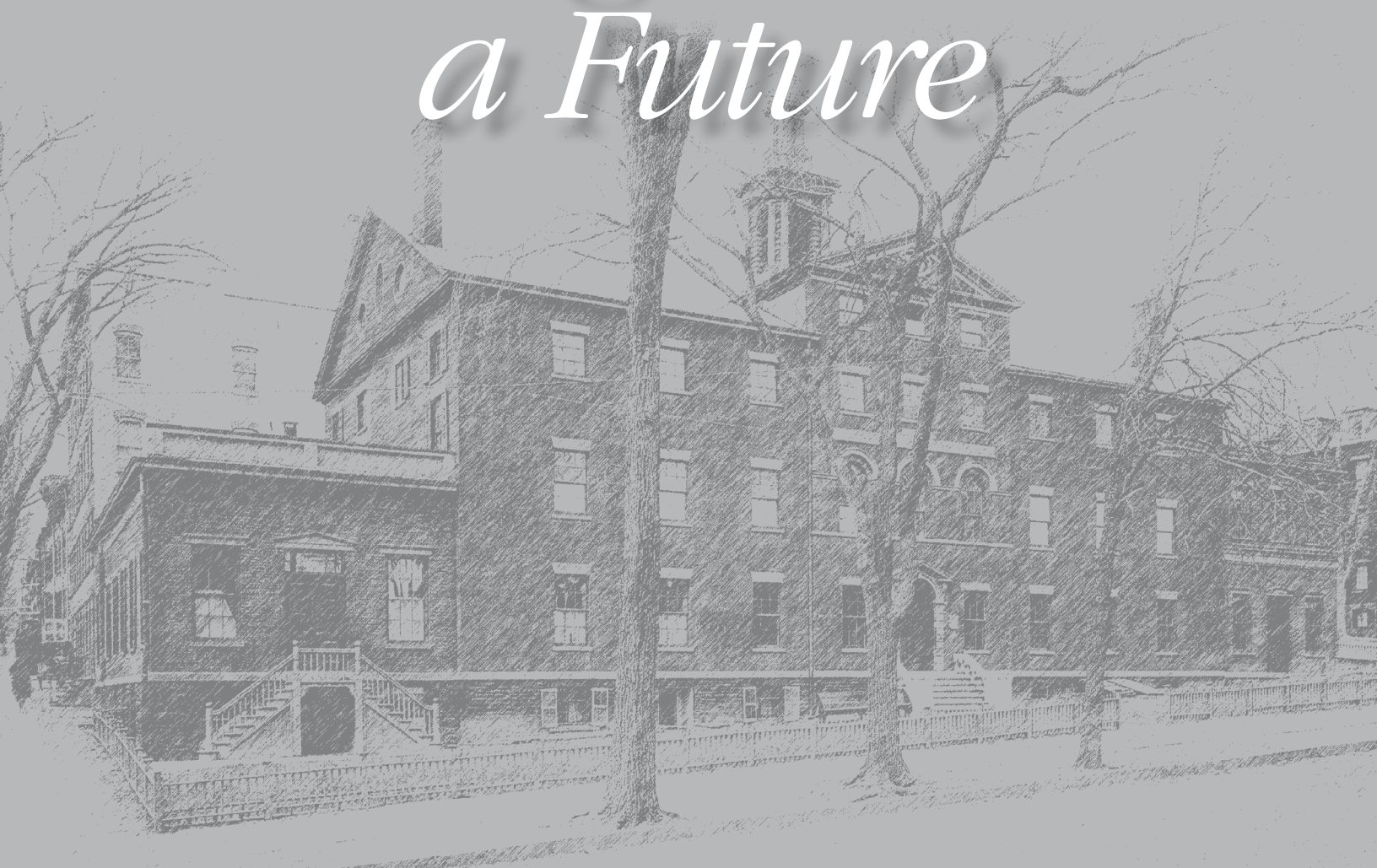




ALBANY MEDICAL COLLEGE ARCHIVES

# *Giving the Past a Future*



Albany Medical College, 1914

*Support for the Archives is provided by the Albany Medical College Alumni Association.*

## COLLECTION HOLDINGS HIGHLIGHTS

*The Albany Medical Center Archives enables access to unique and historical materials related to the history of the Albany Medical College, Hospital, and Center by procuring, preserving, and caring for its collection. The Archives Collection dates back to 1811 and features not only documents such as the original draft of the Act to Incorporate the Albany Medical College, but also fascinating and unusual objects, such as the Lithopedion or “stone baby.”*

If you are interested in learning more about the history of Albany Medical College or want to peruse your individual student alumni file, containing anything from photos to old news articles contact:

Jessica Watson, MSIS, AMC Archivist  
AMCArchives@mail.amc.edu  
p 518.262.5810  
f 518.262.6824

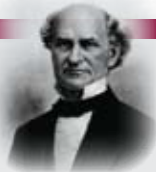
### HOURS:

Monday 8:30 am - 4:30 pm,  
Tuesday/Wednesday  
8:30 am - 2:30 pm

### LOCATION:

Albany Medical College  
Schaffer Library  
3rd Floor, Room L301  
47 New Scotland Ave.  
Albany, NY 12208

- Albany Hospital Records 1844-1990
- Albany Medical Annals 1880-1939
- Albany Medical College 1811-2005
- Alumni Assoc. Student Informational Files 1839-2008
- Alumni Association Records 1874-2005
- Assorted Faculty and Alumni Personal Papers
- Hospital Registrar Books
- Albany Medical College Catalogues 1838-2005
- Photographs
- School of Nursing
- Theses 1839-1891
- Yearbooks “The Skull” 1906-2009



**1830**

Dr. Alden March proposed the creation of a medical school in Albany.

**1839**

February 16, the Senate and the Assembly of the State of New York passed, “An Act to Incorporate the Albany Medical College.”



**1839**

When Albany Medical College was housed in the Lancaster School Building from 1839-1926, the college also contained an Anatomical Museum. This museum contained anatomical and morbid specimens donated by members of the community as well as collected by AMC founder, Dr. Alden March.

**1839**

Dr. Alden March was recorded as president of the College and Professor of Surgery.



**1849**

The Albany Hospital was incorporated and is the first private hospital in the state outside of New York City.



**1873**

The Board of Trustees of the Albany Medical College met on June 12 and adopted resolutions to become the Medical Department of Union University.



**1874**

The Alumni Association was founded.



Henry Darwin Didama, M.D. was elected president.

# Historical Timeline



# FACTS FROM THE PAST

## DR. ALDEN MARCH

Dr. Alden March, a graduate of Brown University, formally proposed the creation of a medical school in Albany in 1830. Besides having practiced surgery and lecturing on anatomy in Albany, Dr. March also lectured in Castleton, Vermont where he was a member of the faculty of medicine.

## ALBANY MEDICAL COLLEGE

In 1838 a group of men from the City of Albany agreed to petition the Common Council of the City of Albany for the gratuitous lease of the Lancaster School building. The city granted free use of the school building for five years. The school building was three stories in height and contained an anatomical theater, chemistry laboratory, and a museum. By the early 1920's it had

become apparent that the growth of Albany Medical College required a larger building. Construction on a new college building at its current location on New Scotland Ave. began in 1926 and was first occupied by the College in 1928.

## ALBANY HOSPITAL

In 1830, Albany Medical College founder, Dr. Alden March voiced the need for a medical school and hospital in the city of Albany. At the time, Albany was critically lacking in medical care. The state of New York only had one general hospital (located in New York City). As a result, the citizens of Albany had to rely on private physicians for their medical care. Dr. March advocated the need for a hospital by emphasizing the city's poor and their inability to get treatment via private physi-

cians. He felt that a hospital would benefit them as well as benefit the College, as a teaching hospital. Dr. March along with Dr. James Armsby (3rd Dean of Albany Medical College), and several other Albany citizens continued to push for the idea of a hospital in Albany and were rewarded for their effort in 1849, when the Legislature of New York State incorporated Albany Hospital. After the appropriate meetings were held to determine hospital funding and materials needed, the Hospital finally opened in 1851, in a former private residence located at the southwest corner of Dove and Lydius Street (now Madison Avenue).

## THE SKULL

The publication of the Albany Medical College Yearbook, the Skull, began in 1910 and has continued till the present year with the exception of a long break from 1917 through 1946. It is unclear why there was a break in publication. Many speculated the break was connected with the newly appointed Dean Ordway, and his strict running of the College, including tight censorship of the yearbook content. In any case, the Skull did not start publication again until 1947. In 1976 the editorial staff decided to change the name of the Yearbook from Skull to Iatrogenia. The editors felt the Yearbook needed a "less morbid name" and made the new name up. However, the new name only lasted one year, the following year showed the return of the Skull on the cover of the yearbook.

## 1926

By the early 1920's it had become apparent that the growth of Albany Medical College required a larger building. Construction on a new college building at its current location on New Scotland Ave. began in 1926 and was first occupied by the College in 1928.



## 1935

The Almshouse Hospital, the oldest building on campus and dating prior to 1850, was renovated to provide space for the Department of Physiology and Pharmacology. It was named the Theobald Smith Building after Theobald Smith, an 1883 graduate of Albany Medical College who later became a notable American microbiologist.

## 1951/1952

The Graduate Studies Program was initiated at Albany Medical College, with three graduate students enrolled in the program. The following year the number of graduate students doubled to six.

## 1963

The college opened a new 5-story 122,000 square-foot Medical Science Building. In 1975 the building was refurbished and named the Neil Hellman Building.



## 1972

The Medical Education Building and the Schaffer Library of Health Sciences opened.



## 1982

The Albany Medical College and the Albany Medical Center Hospital united to form the Albany Medical Center.



## 1993

The Center for Medical Ethics, Education, and Research of Albany Medical College was established by Dr. John Balint.

## 2004

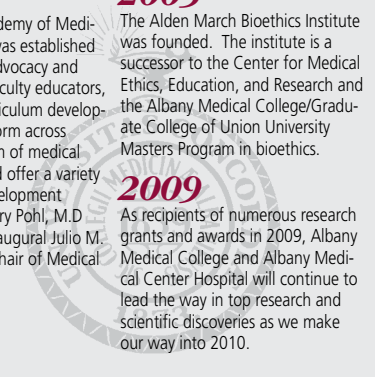
The Sosa Academy of Medical Sciences was established to promote advocacy and support for faculty educators, stimulate curriculum development and reform across the continuum of medical education and offer a variety of faculty development activities. Henry Pohl, M.D. named the inaugural Julio M. Sosa, M.D., Chair of Medical Education.

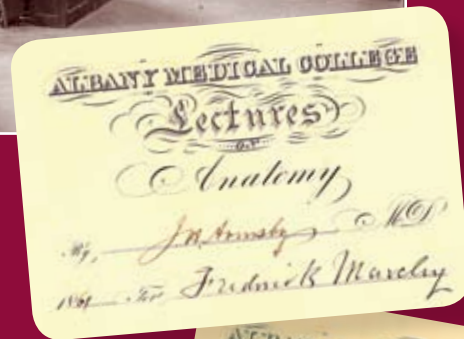
## 2005

The Alden March Bioethics Institute was founded. The institute is a successor to the Center for Medical Ethics, Education, and Research and the Albany Medical College/Graduate College of Union University Masters Program in bioethics.

## 2009

As recipients of numerous research grants and awards in 2009, Albany Medical College and Albany Medical Center Hospital will continue to lead the way in top research and scientific discoveries as we make our way into 2010.





Albany Medical College Alumni Association  
47 New Scotland Avenue, MC-5  
Albany, New York 12208  
(518) 262-5033 [www.amc.edu/alumni](http://www.amc.edu/alumni)