

Scattergood Behavioral Health Foundation Library Internship Digital Project Research and Writing

The Library offers an internship for the summer of 2017 focused on research related to mental health and Quakerism, particularly the history of Friends Hospital. The intern will spend the summer researching and contextualizing materials, formulating arguments, and writing materials which will be included in the Quakers & Mental Health digital portal. The internship presents excellent opportunities to strengthen both research capacity and digital skills.

Project

Founded by Philadelphia-area Quakers in 1813 as the Asylum for the Relief of Persons Deprived of the Use of their Reason, Friends Hospital was the first private psychiatric hospital in the United States. The hospital was partly modeled on the York Retreat, an English mental hospital also founded by Quakers, which pioneered the humane treatment of the mentally ill and subscribed to the philosophy of “moral treatment,” a movement within the mental health community which advocated against physical restraint of patients and for more humane conditions within asylums.

This research will draw from rich Quaker & Special Collections holdings, including the archives of Friends Hospital. These materials include minutes of the managers, corporation, and other hospital administrative materials; the superintendent’s day books, which record information on the patients’ health and behavior, visitors, and admissions and discharges; casebooks and admission records which record patients’ health issues and treatments; and published annual reports of the hospital.

The project will consider the history of Friends Hospital within the larger histories of mental health care and Quakerism. The focus for this summer’s work is on the roles of gender, class, religion, or race and ethnicity at Friends Hospital; the intern will develop the project in conversation with the supervisor based on interests and a survey of materials. The intern will work closely with the Scattergood Data Visualization intern to develop visualizations to support and complement new additions to the website. This internship will be an opportunity for students who have digital skills to further develop them; however, there are no technical skills required.

The digital project can be explored at qmh.haverford.edu.

Oversight

Sarah Horowitz, Curator of Rare Books & Manuscripts and Head of Quaker & Special Collections will serve as the project supervisor and will meet regularly with the student to offer direction and advice. A team of advisors will also meet with the interns throughout the internship.

Skills required

The successful applicant will have:

- An interest in mental health, Quakerism, and/or history;
- Strong research skills
- Strong written and oral communication skills
- Attention to detail.

Duration & Funding:

- 11 weeks; May 15, 2017 – July 28
- 35 hours per week between 9am and 5pm
- \$11.00/ hour

To apply

To apply, please fill out the library's summer internship application form and provide a short statement (500 words or less) describing why you are interested in this internship and why you think it would be a good fit. Please describe any experience you have working with special collections materials or digital projects and provide the name of a faculty member who we can contact as a reference.

Applications are due by **February 15**.