

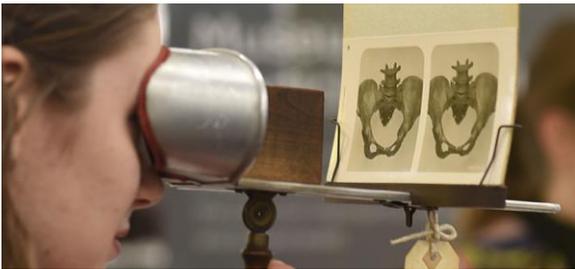
Our Museum of Medicine and Health

Did you know that our Faculty's Museum of Medicine and Health (MMH) holds the most extensive and valuable collection of medical and bioscience objects in the North West spanning the past 300 years?

Some of you may have noticed the Instruments of Change exhibition in the Stopford Building foyer, where Manchester's role in healthcare innovation, research, teaching and policy making is told through key objects from the collection.

Engaging with the public

But there is a lot more to the Museum than Instruments of Change. Some of the more than 8000 historical medical objects in our collection have featured in national and local exhibitions viewed by more than 150,000 people, contributing to the strategic aims of the University and Faculty. It also contributes to University teaching, enhancing the student experience, and is an integral part of the Faculty's and University's public engagement programme.



And while we have had to work differently during the pandemic, the Museum has continued to contribute to the University's public engagement activities. For example, we were unable to host the annual 'Charlotte Beswick: Inspiring Futures' event in 2020 (named after the first honorary curator of the Museum, and which has enabled hundreds of school students to explore healthcare careers) – so instead we collaborated with Manchester Museum

to create an online History of Medicine learning resource, which has been downloaded more than 1300 times since last September.

Another recent highlight has seen Professor Sheena Cruickshank and Dr Hema Radhakrishnan and their students, curating 'A Healthy Profit' exhibition at the National Trust's Quarry Bank Mill, which has proved so popular it will now remain in place until 2022.

Supporting teaching, learning and research

We are also keen for the objects from the Museum to be used in teaching. The MMH has had a longstanding partnership with the University's Institute for Cultural Practices (ICP). Students enrolled for the MA in Art Gallery and Museum Studies use our collections for annual popup exhibitions. More than 400 students have benefited from this hands-on-experience in past years. The Museum has also provided work experience placements for the Masters in History of Science, Technology and Medicine and Science Communication, and with ICP. We want our objects to be more widely used so please do get in touch if you are interested!



Currently student placements take place remotely, but this has proven to be very productive (you can read more here). Digitisation of a sample of the collection will also be included in Manchester Digital Collections. These objects

include an early Penicillin syringe and a Mammography X-ray tube, which will feature alongside historical books and documents held by the University Library.

We are also keen for our objects to be the focus of research. This may include student projects, such as those pursued by our placement students, or small side projects such as the chapter by Carsten Timmermann on the MMH's leucotome. Special thanks in this regard goes to retired neurologist and MMH volunteer extraordinaire Dr Peter Mohr for his drive to publish on the collection. Peter's latest article on the Hull Grundy collection, which forms part of the MMH, has just been published in the *Journal of the History of Collections*. Again, please get in touch if you want to find out more.

The Manchester Museum of Medicine and Health looks forward to hearing from colleagues to explore how it can support teaching, learning and research across the Faculty