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History of surgery at the College of Medicine, University of Nebraska

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HISTORY OF SURGERY AT THE COLLEGE OF MEDICINE
UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA

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Submitted in Partial Fulfillment for the Degree
of Doctor of Medicine

College of Medicine, University of Nebraska

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The first move toward the establishment of a college of medicine within the state of Nebraska came on February 15, 1869 when the Nebraska Legislature approved the formation of the University of Nebraska which was to include a college of medicine. Nothing was done toward the establishment of this college until 1883 when the University of Nebraska Medical College was established at Lincoln. Fourteen students enrolled the first year and more than fifty the second year. The first class graduated in 1884 with eight members. This medical school was given one half of a room on the first floor of the old University Hall, then the only building on the city campus of the University.

In spite of this favorable student support, the medical school lasted only four years. The legislature withdrew its support, after public criticism, necessitating discontinuance of the college on May 18, 1887. It was not until the twentieth century that the state university again had a medical college.¹

The first indication of the establishment of a medical college in Omaha came in 1869 when the Omaha Medical College was incorporated. This college was never opened to students. Then in the fall of 1880 there was inaugurated a preparatory school under the name of the Nebraska School of Medicine. Instruction was given for five months with a complete course of lectures in the different departments of medicine and surgery. With this experience the faculty in May of 1881 organized and incorporated, under the law of Nebraska, the Omaha Medical College. The college was moved

from Thirteenth and Farnam to Eleventh and Mason Street. The faculty strongly recommended the graded course of lectures but would grant diplomas to deserving students after they had had three years of study, including two full years of lectures, the first year of which must have been either in this or some other respectable medical college and the last year in this institution.

The college was pleasantly located on the southwest corner of Mason and Eleventh Street adjoining St. Joseph Hospital. It was two stories high and contained two large lecture rooms, a laboratory, a library and museum room, a patient room, and a dissecting and anatomist room, etc.

Entrance requirements at that time were that all candidates for admission must present to the faculty satisfactory evidence of a good moral character and must be at least eighteen years of age and possess a creditable English education. Women were admitted under the same conditions that were required of men.

Fees at that time consisted of the following: matriculation fee, \$5.00; lecture term, \$35.00; dissecting ticket, \$10.00; diploma fee, \$25.00. Good board and lodging could be obtained at a cost of \$3.50 to \$7.50 per week.²

In 1885 the Omaha Medicine College affiliated with the Methodist Episcopal College of Nebraska, located at York, Nebraska. This affiliation lasted but two years. Again in 1891 the college affiliated, in name only, with Bellevue College of Bellevue, Nebraska.

In 1902 the Omaha Medical College, previously affiliated with Bellevue College, entered into an agreement of affiliation with the University of Nebraska whereby the first two years of the four-year medical course were given at Lincoln and the last two years in Omaha. By this move the college changed its name to the University of Nebraska College of Medicine and became an integral part of the state university.

In 1909, following the rearrangement of the several colleges at Lincoln, a move was started to obtain a new site for the medical college and more adequate buildings. The state legislature of 1909 appropriated funds for the present site at Forty-Second St. and Dewey Avenue. The next legislature appropriated funds for the north laboratory, which was completed in 1913. In 1914 the first two years of medical college were moved back to Omaha. In 1915 the legislature appropriated \$150,000 to provide a teaching hospital that would care for the worthy sick poor of the state. This building was completed in 1917. The school of nursing was organized the same year. The south laboratory building was completed in 1919 and the nurses home was added in 1923. The second unit of the hospital was completed in 1927. In 1936 the service building was completed and in 1938 work on the laundry building was completed. In 1942 an addition to the south building was completed¹ and³ In 1957 a new nurses home and an animal research building were completed.

The first faculty of the Department of Surgery of the Omaha

Medical College consisted of Robert R. Livingston, M. D., of Plattsburgh serving as Professor of the Principles and Practice of Surgery and as President of the college; George B. Ayres, M. D., of Omaha as Professor of Descriptive and Surgical Anatomy and Curator of the museum; Samuel D. Mercer, Professor of Clinical Surgery; and Donald Macrae as Professor of Gynecology.

The course on Principles and Practice of Surgery consisted of about forty lectures and were illustrated in the practical part by operations on the cadaver and the application of bandages and dressing. All material, splints, and dressings were furnished free of cost to students. Advanced students were trained in the use of instruments and appliances and all the operations incidental to an active surgical practice.

The course of Clinical Surgery consisted of a free clinic held every Saturday for instruction in all surgical cases availing themselves of the gratuitous treatment of the college. Advanced students were permitted to examine important cases before presenting them to the class.

In 1884 Dr. William F. Milroy took the position of Demonstrator of Anatomy and Dr. Ayers left the Anatomy Department to replace Dr. S. D. Mercer as Professor of Clinical Surgery. Dr. S. D. Mercer also held the position of Vice-president of the American Medical Association from 1885 to 1886. Surgical Clinics were held on Wednesday as well as Saturday starting with the fall of 1884.

In 1885 Dr. R. R. Livingston left the faculty and Dr. Donald

Macrae replaced him as Chairman of the Department of Surgery. Professor Macrae was previously Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology and remained in the Department of Surgery only until 1887 when he became Professor of Medicine. He returned to the Department of Surgery in 1895 as Professor of Railroad and Clinical Surgery and held this position until 1902 when he left the faculty of the college of medicine. Also during 1885 Ewing Brown joined the faculty as Professor of General Descriptive and Surgical Anatomy.

There was no change in the faculty of the Department of Surgery in 1886 but it was this year that the college was moved to Twelfth and Pacific Street.

Dr. John Edward Summers, joined the faculty as Chairman of the Department of Surgery in 1887 to replace Professor Macrae. Dr. Summers was born at Fort Kearney, Nebraska, the son of General John Edward Summers, Department of Medicine, U. S. Army. He was a student at the U. S. Military Academy for three years then left to study medicine. He graduated from the Department of Medicine at Columbia University and started his medical career by serving in Wyoming as Assistant Surgeon to the United States Army for two years. He then took post graduate work in Vienna, Austria, for two years and later studied in other continental cities and England. He began practice in Omaha as a surgeon in June of 1885. Doctor Summers became a member of the faculty of the Omaha Medical College in 1887 with the title of Professor of Principles and Practice of Surgery. He was elected to membership on the board of trustees in

1890, became secretary of the faculty in 1881 and president of the board in 1897. He severed his connections with the medical college in 1902 when the affiliation was made with the University of Nebraska, and then again became Professor of Clinical Surgery in 1913 when the four years of medical instruction was established in Omaha. He was a member of the Societe Internationale de Chirurgie, a fellow of the American Surgical Association of which he was Vice-president in 1916, a fellow of the American College of Surgeons, a member of the American Medical Association, a fellow and President of the Western Surgical Association, member and President of the Medical Society of the Missouri Valley, Nebraska State Medical Association and Douglas County Medical Association.⁴

In June of 1932, the entire issue of the "Nebraska State Medical Journal" was dedicated to Dr. Summers. This was the first issue dedicated to a man during his lifetime. The complete collection of medical papers published by Dr. Summers appeared in this journal. A tribute to his work by Dr. W. T. Mayo in an article of appreciation heads the section.

Dr. Mayo states, "When one attempts to estimate the progress of medicine in the Missouri Valley in the past forty years, one realizes that the leadership which has given character to the splendid professional advance has come through a relatively small number of men. One of the great leaders of this generation which is just passing is Dr. John E. Summers."

Dr. Summers was Surgeon-in-Chief of Clarkson Hospital which position he held throughout the years, also Chief Surgeon of Douglas County Hospital from the time it was established till he

retired more than forty years later.

Dr. Summers made a liberal contribution to surgical literature. He had more than 200 papers published.^{5 and 6}

Dr. Summers died in Omaha on January 7, 1935.⁷

Joseph Neville joined the faculty in 1887 as Professor of Clinical Surgery and held this position until 1896.

Dr. Wm. J. Galbraith joined the faculty as Professor of Rail-road and Clinical Surgery in 1888. He later had a disagreement, probably due to the election of A. F. Jonas who succeeded him as Chief Surgeon of the U. P. Railroad, and left Omaha Medicine College. He was later outstanding in the establishment of Creighton Medical College, May 30, 1892.⁸

There was no change in the surgery faculty from 1889-1891. In 1891 the Department of Surgery started having two clinics per week at St. Joseph Hospital under the direction of Professor Neville, one clinic per week at St. Joseph Hospital under the direction of Professor Galbraith, and two clinics per week at Clarkson and Immanuel Hospitals under the direction of Professor Summers.

In 1892, Dr. August Fredrick Jonas joined the staff as Professor of Clinical Surgery. He later became chairman of the Department of Surgery and a more complete history of his work will be given later in this thesis. Dr. Neville left the staff this same year and Dr. Ewing Brown was promoted to Professor of Clinical Surgery.

Dr. Galbraith and Dr. Macrae left the staff in 1893. Because

of the establishment of the Creighton School of Medicine the Omaha Medicine College lost the use of St. Joseph Hospital and clinics were now held twice per week at both the Methodist and Presbyterian Hospitals and one per week at Clarkson Hospital. Clinics were also held at Douglas County Hospital and at the college buildings.

In 1895 Donald Macrae, M.D., returned to the faculty as Professor of Railroad and Clinical Surgery and his son, Donald Macrae, Jr., M.D., took the position of Professor of General and Descriptive Anatomy and was promoted to Professor of Clinical Surgery in 1902. They both left the staff in 1912.

Byron B. Davis, M.D., joined the faculty as Lecturer on Bandaging and Surgical Dressing in 1896. As he became Chairman of the Department of Surgery in 1930, his work will be further discussed later in this thesis.

In 1897 Dr. B. B. Davis was promoted to Professor of Clinical Surgery and Dr. Edmister came as Instructor of Bandaging and Surgical Dressing.

During 1899 two members were added to the staff, Dr. Elmer J. UpDegraff as Assistant Demonstrator of Anatomy and Dr. Paul Ludington as Adjunct Professor and Demonstrator of Anatomy. Dr. Ludington left the department in 1907 and Dr. UpDegraff left in 1910.

During 1901 Dr. A. C. Stokes, who had been Professor of Physics and Chemistry, took the position of Professor of Genitol

urinary Surgery. He later became Director of Base Hospital No.49 when it was organized in 1918 by the staff of University Hospital. He left the university staff in 1923 but was a member of the University of Nebraska Regents for more than 30 years before his death in 1940.

Dr. Summers left the department when the first two years of medical school were moved to Lincoln. Dr. August Frederick Jonas became Chairman of the Surgery Department and remained in this position until 1930. Dr. Jonas had become a member of the faculty of the Omaha Medical College as Professor of Clinical Surgery in 1892. In 1894 he was elected to the board of trustees and also served as Dean of the college from 1899 to 1902 when he became chairman of the Surgery Department. He was born in Wisconsin in 1858 and graduated from the Bennett Medical College in 1877. He studied in Vienna, Berlin and Paris from 1882 to 1884 and was graduated from the University of Ludwig Maximilian in Munich in 1884. He came to Omaha in 1887 and died in November 1934.

During his life he was president of the following medical societies: Omaha Medical Society, Nebraska State Medical Society, the Missouri Valley Medical Society, the Society of American Railway Surgeons, the Omaha Surgical Club and the Pan American Medical Society. He was also Vice-president of the A.M.A. He was a member of the American College of Surgeons and also a member of the board and one of the committee on fractures.⁹

When Dr. Jonas became Chairman the department was made up of Professors Jonas, B.B. Davis, Donald Macrae and Donald Macrae, Jr.; Assistant Professors Updegraff and Paul Ludington and Dr. Edmiston. Surgery was being taught in both the junior and senior years. Clinical instruction was given at the Methodist, Immanuel, Wise and Douglas County Hospitals as well as at the college dispensary.

No faculty changes were made in 1903 but in 1904 three men joined the surgical faculty. Dr. George Brown Dandy came as Instructor in Anatomy and kept this position until 1906. Dr. Alfred Onios Hunt became Lecturer in Dental Surgery and he remained until 1914. Dr. Charles Campbell Morrison joined the staff as Clinical Assistant; in 1921 he became Assistant Professor of Surgery. He held this position until he left the staff in 1927. Dr. Jonas began giving lectures in Orthopedic Surgery this year.

Dr. Charles Aaron Hull joined the faculty in 1905. He was Chief of the Surgical Staff of the Nebraska Base Hospital when it was organized in 1916. He became Assistant Professor of Surgery in charge of fractures in 1930 and left the university staff in 1934.

The only change in 1906 was that Dr. Dandy left the department.

In 1907 Dr. Robert Russel Hollister joined the department. He became Assistant Professor of Surgery in 1920 but left the department in 1921. Added to the course of study this year was a

laboratory course in Surgical Pathology. Dr. Ludington left the staff during this year.

No further changes were made until 1910 when Dr. Updegraff left the university staff. Also in this year an optional course of Experimental Surgery with the work being done on animals was added.

Dr. Charles Rex Kennedy joined the staff in 1911 as Assistant Professor. He was promoted to Professor of Clinical Surgery in 1930 and died in 1938. During 1911 Dr. Edmister, Dr. Donald Macrae, and Dr. Donald Macrae, Jr. left the staff.

The next faculty change was in 1914 when Dr. Hunt left the staff and Dr. Summers rejoined the staff as Professor of Surgery. It was during this year that the first two years of medical school were moved back to Omaha. Also during this year the Department of Orthopedic Surgery was set up as a department separate from the Surgery Department under the chairmanship of Professor J.P. Lord.

There were no faculty changes in the next four years. In February, 1918 Nebraska Base Hospital #49 was organized under the directorship of Dr. A. S. Stokes with Major C. A. Hull as Head of the Department of Surgery. This unit was sent overseas to France. It received a citation for meritorious service from General John J. Pershing and praise from the heads of the Red Cross. After the war it was continued as a reserve organization for several years.¹⁰⁻¹¹⁻¹²

In 1919 Drs. Quigley, Nilsson and Roeder joined the staff. Dr. Clyde Augustus Roeder, who came as Assistant, became Associate

Professor of Surgery in 1930 and remained with the department until 1935. He was from a large family of doctors and was himself the sixth generation of doctors. His father was a former staff man of the Omaha Medical College. Dr. John Randolph Nilsson became Assistant Professor of Surgery in 1930, Associate Professor in 1935, and Professor of Industrial Surgery in 1937; he remained on the staff until 1947. Dr. Daniel Thomas Quigley was an Instructor in Surgery until 1945. Among his contributions to medicine was his book written in 1929 titled, "The Conquest of Cancer by Radium and Other Methods." This book was proclaimed as one of the most important texts on cancer and radiation that had been published.¹³

Added to the staff in the Department of Surgery in 1920 were Doctors Alfred Jerome Brown and Charles O'Neil Rich. Dr. Brown became Associate Professor in 1930 and Professor in 1935. He was made Emeritus in 1945 and left the staff in 1948. Dr. Rich became Assistant Professor of Surgery in 1930 and Associate Professor of Surgery in 1935. He was made Emeritus in 1946 and he also left the staff in 1948.

The only change in the faculty in 1921 was that Dr. Hollister left. It was during this year that there was controversy about the medical school lead by the Homopaths and Eclectics in the state. The college was accused of training only surgeons and not doctors. Dean Cutter presented figures to show that only twenty-five per cent of the Nebraska graduates became surgeons.¹⁴ In the year of 1921 there were 1704 operations, both major and minor surgery included,

done at the University Hospital.¹⁵

In 1922 Dr. James S. McAvin joined the surgery staff as Instructor in Anesthesia and Roentogenology. He remained in this position until he left in 1948. It was during this year that a pair of twins were born at University Hospital both of whom had cleftpalates and hare lips. They were kept at the hospital for six months; during this time they had three operations.¹⁶

Dr. Stokes left the staff in 1923 and three new members were added to the Department of Surgery, Doctors Herbert Haywood Davis, Joseph A. Weinberg and Glenn Miller. Dr. Davis became Chairman of the Department of Surgery in 1949 and his works will be discussed later. Doctor Miller was an Instructor in Surgery until he left the staff in 1935. Dr. Weinberg who came as an Instructor in Surgery became Associate Professor of Clinical Pathology as well as Instructor in Surgery. He was promoted to Assistant Professor of Surgery in 1935 and to Associate Professor of Surgery in 1938. He left the staff to join the armed services in 1943. He resigned from his position in November of 1945.

In 1924 two men were added to the staff who were to do much for the Department of Surgery at the University of Nebraska. They were Dr. J. Jay Keegan and Dr. Manuel Grodinsky. Dr. Keegan became Chairman of the Department of Surgery in 1934 and his works will be discussed later in this paper.

Dr. Grodinsky came as Assistant Professor of Anatomy and Instructor in Surgery. He became Assistant Professor of Surgery

in 1935 and was promoted to both Associate Professor of Surgery and Associate Professor of Anatomy in 1940. He held these positions until his death in 1953 at the age of fifty-six.

By 1924 the department had expanded and was teaching the following courses: Principles of Surgery, a three-hour course given in the junior year; Anesthesia in the junior and senior years with the students being assigned to the local hospitals; Clinical Anatomy was given as a one-hour course in the second semester of the senior year; Minor Surgery in the second semester of the junior year for a total of ten one-hour lectures; clinics were given at the various hospitals. Also there was an elective course in Oral Surgery given in the second semester of the senior year and an elective course of Demonstrative Anatomy given one hour per week.

No further changes were made in the faculty until 1927 when Doctors Chester Hill Waters and William Lete Shearer joined the staff. Doctor Waters came as Instructor and was promoted to Assistant Professor of Surgery and Assistant Professor of Gynecology in 1930. He became Associate Professor of Surgery in 1936 and full Professor in 1941. In 1947 he was made Emeritus and he left the staff in 1948.

Doctor Shearer was a dentist as well as a medical doctor. He was born in Fennimore, Wisconsin; he received his B. A. and his D. D. S. degrees from the University of Omaha and his M.D. from Creighton University School of Medicine in 1916. He later

spent five years in Chicago in graduate study in Oral, Plastic, and General Surgery.

During his long and active career he designed many instruments and devised many operations in his specialty. By 1948 he had cared for more than 2,500 children with cleft palate and hare lip.

In 1927 he was appointed to the college of medicine faculty with rank of Assistant Professor of Surgery in charge of Oral and Plastic Surgery. In 1931 he was promoted to Professor. Dr. Shearer is a member of the A.M.A. and Constituent Medical Societies, American Association of Oral and Plastic Surgeons, American Association of Oral Surgeons and Exodontists, Fellow of the American College of Dentists, Fellow of the American College of Surgeons, Charter Member of the Omaha-Midwest Clinical Society and certified by the American Board of Plastic Surgery.¹⁷ He retired from the University Staff in 1948 but is still active in private practice in Omaha.

It was in 1927 that Hazel Kunz sued the University Hospital for \$25,000 because of alleged acid burns received February 1, 1927 while being prepared for an appendectomy. Dr. Keegan made a statement that the burns were from hot water.¹⁸

The magazine section of the Omaha World Herald of November 27, 1927 was dedicated to the opening of the new wing to the University Hospital and gave the following description of unusual cases.

A colored woman who was a domestic laborer brought one of her young children to the University Hospital because of his bowedlegs. This deformity was caused by rickets and examination showed the legs were so bowed that he would soon have been unable to walk. The lad was given a general anesthetic and his crooked legs were broken with a mallet and reset straight. He was put in a cast and discharged one month later with straight legs.

A young woman had one leg shorter than the other. The short leg was lengthened to match the other. The result was effected by means of operation--an incision in the bone, insertion of a steel plate and adjustment of muscles.

A veteran of the Spanish-American War had suffered for seven years with tri-facial neuralgia. He was admitted to the University Hospital and the trigeminal nerve cut at the base of the skull. This operation was described as most difficult and one done only at the largest medical centers.

Operations upon the brain were not uncommon at the University Hospital. Operations for removal of the more common type of goiter were not uncommon at that time but there was one case that the hospital authorities described as being severe. The patient was extremely nervous with short breath and rapid heart rate because of the goiter. By means of absolute quiet and treatment she was prepared for an operation and the goiter was removed under local anesthetic.¹⁹

The patient was entirely recovered in a few weeks.

One of the early cases of skin grafting was done in 1927

upon a man who had lost both legs in a railroad accident and who also had a huge sore on his chest. He left the hospital after 110 days able to use artificial legs.

Dr. Russel Roland Best joined the staff in 1928. He became Assistant Professor of Anatomy and Clinical Assistant in 1930. He was promoted to Instructor in 1932, Assistant Professor in 1935 and Associate Professor in 1938. He was on leave from the University from 1943-1946 during which time he was in the army. After his return he became full Professor in 1948.

In 1930 Dr. Jonas was made Emeritus and Dr. Byron Bennett Davis was promoted to Chairman of the Department. Dr. Davis was born in Fayette, Wisconsin in June, 1859 and came to Salem, Nebraska with his parents in 1868. He received his B.A. at the University of Nebraska in 1882 and his M.D. at the University of Minnesota in 1884 and later studeied at the New York Polyclinic and in Berlin and Vienna. He practiced at McCook, Nebraska before coming to Omaha in 1894.

He joined the staff at the University of Nebraska in 1896 as Instructor. He was promoted to Professor in 1897 and held this position until 1930 when he became Chairman of the Department.

He was a member of the American Medical Association, Nebraska State Medical Association and its President in 1922; a member of the Western Surgical and Gynecological Society, and of the Missouri Valley Medical Society.

He remained as Chairman of the Department until 1933 when he died following an operation at an Omaha hospital.²⁰

No faculty changes were made in 1931 but in 1932 Dr. Shearer was promoted to Professor and Dr. Best to Instructor.

It was in 1932 that LaCleda Sheppard, a sixteen-year-old Broken Bow high school junior had a splenectomy for continued nose bleeds and purpura, at University Hospital. Her condition was serious enough to have required eight transfusions from her mother and her cousin previously. She tolerated the procedure well.²¹

No further changes in the faculty were made until Dr. Davis died in April of 1935.

In 1934 J. Jay Keegan became Chairman of the Department of Surgery. Dr. Keegan was born in Artell, Kansas in 1889. He received his B.A. degree from the University of Nebraska in 1911, his M.A. in 1914, and his M.D. in 1915. In 1911 he became Pathology House Officer at Peter Bent Bingham Hospital in Boston. From 1915 to 1917 he served as Instructor of Anatomy with the University of Nebraska College of Medicine. He served as Lieutenant Senior Grade in the medical corps of the navy and was in charge of the laboratory of the naval hospital at Chelsea from 1917 to 1919.

From 1919 to 1920 he was Surgical House Officer at Peter Bent Bingham Hospital where he studied Neurosurgery. From 1920 to 1923 he served as Assistant Professor of Clinical Pathology

at the University of Nebraska. In 1923 he was made Professor of Clinical Pathology, Director of Clinics, and secretary of the faculty. He served as Dean from 1925 to 1929. He became head of the Section of Neuro-Surgery in 1930 and served in this capacity until he left the active staff in 1955. He was also Chairman of the Department of Surgery from 1934 to 1949.²²

Dr. Keegan made the first scientific report of the Influenza Epidemic in the U.S.A. He has published papers in the fields of Cerebral Morphology, Cerebral Spinal Fluid, Brain Surgery, Epidemic Respiration Disease, Vascular Nephritis, and Medical Education.²³ His most important contribution to medical science was probably his work on the distribution of peripheral nerves. In October of 1946 he made a report of his work before the Harvey Cushing Society. He described a new method for testing for peripheral nerve loss. This consisted of drawing a safety pin under uniform pressure across the skin of the patient. The patient then indicates whether the pin feels sharp or dull. The area of loss of sensation is then mapped out and compared to the charts of Dr. Keegan. His charts of the peripheral nerve distribution are present in most of the new text books.²⁴ Dr. Keegan is still active as a Neuro-surgeon in Omaha.

Dr. John Summers and Dr. Charles Aaron Hull left the staff in 1934. Dr. Jonas died in November of 1934. There were three new men added, Dr. Herman Frank Johnson, Dr. James Dewey

Bisgard, and Dr. Floyd Joshua Murray. Dr. Johnson took the position of Assistant Professor of Orthopedics and Assistant Professor of Surgery in charge of the Division of Fractures. He became Associate Professor in 1943 and left the Department of Surgery in 1952. He is still an active member of the Department of Orthopedics. Dr. Bisgard took the position of Instructor in Surgery in 1934. He became Assistant Professor in 1938, Associate Professor in 1945 and full Professor in 1948. Dr. Murray took the position of Instructor in Surgery in 1934. He was promoted to Associate in 1948.

Those who left the staff in 1935 were Dr. Ewing Brown, Dr. Roeder and Dr. Miller. Added to the staff in 1935 were Dr. Charles William McLaughlin, Jr., and Dr. N. Fredrick Hicken. Dr. McLaughlin came as Instructor in Surgery and became Assistant Professor in 1941. He served in the armed forces from 1943 to 1946. He became Associate Professor in 1948 and full Professor in 1953.

Dr. Hicken came as Instructor in Surgery in 1935, became Assistant Professor in 1938 and left the department in 1939.

Those who were promoted in 1935 were: to Professor, Dr. Brown; to Associate Professor, Dr. Nilsson and Dr. Rich; to Assistant Professor, Dr. Best, Dr. H.H. Davis, Dr. Grodinsky and Dr. Weinberg.

In the year of 1936 Dr. Waters was promoted to Associate Professor, Added to the staff was Dr. Louis Everett Hanisch.

He remained as Instructor until he left the department in 1949.

The only change in 1937 was the promotion of Dr. Nilsson to Professor.

In 1938 Dr. Best, Dr. H.H. Davis and Dr. Weinberg were promoted to Associate Professor and Dr. Bisgard and Dr. Hicken were promoted to Assistant Professor. Dr. Kennedy died in 1938.

The only change in 1939 was that Dr. Hicken left the staff. Dr. Grodinsky was promoted to Associate Professor in 1940 as the only change for that year.

In 1941 Dr. Waters was promoted to Professor and Dr. McLaughlin to Assistant Professor.

In 1942 the Second World War began and the four-year program was changed to a three-year program with school continuing throughout the summer.

In 1943 Dr. Johnson was promoted to Associate Professor. Dr. Best, Dr. Weinberg, and Dr. McLaughlin were given leave to go into the armed services. Added to the curriculum was a one-hour course in Military Surgery.

No changes occurred in 1944 and in 1945 Dr. Brown became Emeritus and Dr. Bisgard was promoted to Associate Professor. Dr. Quigley left the staff in 1945.

Dr. Rich became Emeritus in 1946. Dr. Best, Dr. Weinberg and Dr. McLaughlin returned from the service to take their former positions. Four new men were added to the staff in 1946; Dr. Herman Harvey Brinkman, Dr. Leo Eugene Anderson, Dr. Alister

Ian Finlayson and Dr. John Charles Kennedy. Dr. Brinkman came in as Clinical Assistant. Dr. L.E. Anderson held the position of Instructor in Surgery until he left the staff in 1954. Dr. J. C. Kennedy joined the staff as Instructor in Surgery and Anatomy and was promoted to Associate in 1952. He became Assistant Professor in 1953 and Associate Professor in 1957. Dr. Finlayson came as Instructor in Neurological Surgery in 1946.

He became Associate in 1948, Assistant Professor in 1949, Associate Professor in 1952 and Professor in 1956.

Dr. C.H. Water's, Sr. became Emeritus in 1947. Added to the staff were six new members: Dr. Lawrence Lloyd Anderson, Dr. Kenneth Murle Browne, Dr. John Fredrick Nilsson, Dr. Loyd Oliver Hoffman, Dr. Dorothy Helen Thompson, and Dr. Lynn Wirt Thompson. Dr. Anderson came as Clinical Assistant and was promoted to Instructor in 1948 and to Associate in 1953. Dr. Browne came as Clinical Assistant in Neurological Surgery in 1947. He left in 1949 and returned as Associate in Neurological Surgery and Adjunct Instructor in Physiology and Pharmacology in 1953. He was promoted to Assistant Professor of Neurological Surgery in 1957. Dr. John Fredrick Nilsson came as Clinical Assistant in Surgery and Assistant in Anatomy. He was promoted to Instructor in Surgery and Anatomy in 1948. He was active on the staff until his death in 1958. Dr. Thompson came as Instructor in Anesthesiology and became Associate in 1948 and Assistant Professor in 1952. She still holds this position as well as being full-time

Anesthesiologist at Methodist Hospital. Dr. Lynn Wirt Thompson came as Clinical Assistant in Anesthesiology and became Instructor in 1952 and Associate in 1957. He is still an active staff member as well as Anesthesiologist at Luthern Hospital. Dr. Hoffman held the position of Instructor until he resigned in 1952.

In 1947 four-year-old Sammy Cunningham of Nebraska City, Nebraska had a shunting procedure to by-pass a stricture of the aorta. This was the first cardiac surgery of this type to be performed in Omaha. The patient did well after the operation.²⁵

Those who left the staff in 1948 included Dr. Alfred J. Brown, Dr. Rich, Dr. Waters, Dr. Shearer, and Dr. McAvin of the Department of Surgery. Dr. Best, Dr. Bisgard, and Dr. H.M. Davis were promoted to Professor. Dr. McLaughlin was promoted to Associate Professor. Dr. Finlayson, Dr. Hoffman and Dr. Murray were promoted to Associate. Dr. L.L. Anderson was promoted to Instructor. Five new members were added: Dr. James D. Bradley, Dr. Robert Morris Cochran, Dr. George Nick Johnson, Dr. Stanley Ernest Potter, and Dr. Samuel August Swenson Jr. Dr. Bradley came as Clinical Assistant in Surgery and was promoted to Associate in 1952 and left the department in 1954. Dr. Cochran came as Instructor in Surgery and Assistant in Anatomy and was promoted to Associate in 1953. Dr. Johnson came as Clinical Assistant, was gone for one year in 1949 but returned as Clinical Assistant in 1950. He was promoted to Instructor in 1952, to

Associate in 1955 and to Assistant Professor in 1957. Dr. Potter came as Instructor; he was gone for one year in 1954 and returned as Associate in 1955. In 1957 he was promoted to Assistant Professor. Dr. Swenson came as Instructor in Surgery. He was promoted to Associate in 1953 and to Assistant Professor in 1957.

Dr. J. Jay Keegan gave up the Chairmanship of the Department of Surgery to Dr. Herbert Haywood Davis in 1949. Dr. Davis received his A.B. degree from Cornell in 1917 and his M.D. degree from John Hopkins in 1920. He was an intern at the University of Nebraska Hospital in 1920-1921. He became a member of the staff in 1923 as Instructor in Anatomy and Instructor in Surgery. He was promoted to Assistant Professor in 1938, to Associate Professor in 1938 and to full Professor in 1948. Dr. Davis was in practice with his father. He is a member of the American College of Surgeons, the Nebraska State Medical Association, and the American Medical Association. He is a past president of the Western Surgical Association.²⁶

Dr. Finlayson was promoted to Assistant Professor in 1949. Dr. Hanisch left the surgery staff. Added to the staff were Dr. Muriel Naomi Frank and Dr. Robert Charles Therien. Dr. Frank came as Clinical Assistant in Anesthesiology. She was promoted to Instructor in 1952 and to Associate in 1955, which is the position she now holds as well as being Anesthesiologist at Methodist Hospital. Dr. Therien came as Clinical Assistant in Anesthesiology in 1949. He was promoted to Instructor in 1952, to Associate

in 1955 and Assistant Professor in 1957, which is his present position as well as being Anesthesiologist at Clarkson Hospital.

One of the major improvements in the Surgery Department came in 1949 when a residency program was initiated. There had been a few residents prior to this time under the chairmanship of Dr. Keegan but there was no definite program. Under the strong backing and influence of Dean Louth, Dr. H.H. Davis started a three-year residency program. In 1954 this program was expanded into a four-year program.²⁷

In 1950 Dr. Potter was promoted to Associate and Dr. Bradley to Instructor. No other staff changes were made that year.

Four new men were added to the staff in 1951; Dr. John Hobart Brush, Dr. Max McCoy Raines, Dr. John Arthur Rasmussen, and Dr. Walter Raymond Stager. Dr. Brush came as Clinical Assistant in Surgery. He was promoted to Instructor in 1952, to Associate in 1955 and to Assistant Professor in 1957. Dr. Raines came as Clinical Assistant and was promoted to Instructor in 1952 and left the department in 1953. Dr. Rasmussen joined the staff as Clinical Assistant. He was promoted to Instructor in 1952, to Associate in 1955 and to Assistant Professor in 1957. Dr. Stager came as Associate in Anesthesiology and left the department in 1952.

There were a number of promotions in 1952. Dr. Finlayson was promoted to Associate Professor. Dr. D. Thompson was promoted to Assistant Professor. Dr. Kennedy and Dr. Bradley were promoted to Associate. Promoted to Instructor were Dr. Brush,

Dr. Frank, Dr. G.N. Johnson, Dr. Raines, Dr. Rasmussen, Dr. Therien and Dr. L. Thompson. Dr. McMurtry came as Clinical Assistant. He was promoted to Instructor in 1955 and to Assistant Professor in 1957.

Promoted in 1953 were Dr. McLaughlin to Professor, Dr. Kennedy to Assistant Professor, and Dr. L.L. Anderson, Dr. Cochran, Dr. Browne and Dr. Swenson to Associate. Dr. Grodinsky died and Dr. Raines left the staff in 1953. There were four new members added to the staff; Dr. John Lucian Barmore, Dr. John Daniel Coe, Dr. Barney Benjamin Rees, and Dr. Carlyle Everett Wilson. Dr. Barmore came as Associate in Surgery and was promoted to Assistant Professor in 1955 and to Associate Professor in 1957. He is a full-time staff member and Chairman of the Section of Anesthesiology. Dr. Coe came as Clinical Assistant in Surgery and Assistant in Surgery and Assistant in Anatomy and was promoted to Associate in Surgery in 1957. Dr. Rees came as Clinical Assistant in Surgery and was promoted to Instructor in 1955 and to Associate in 1957. Dr. Raines left the staff in 1953.

In 1954 Dr. Bradley, Dr. L.E. Anderson and Dr. John R. Nilsson left the surgery staff. Dr. Daniel Martin Miller and Dr. John Francis Latenser joined the staff. Dr. Latenser came as Clinical Assistant in Surgery. He was promoted to Instructor in 1955 and to Associate in Surgery in 1957. Dr. Miller came as Instructor in Surgery and was promoted to Associate in 1955 and to Assistant Professor in 1957.

Dr. J.Jay Keegan left the staff in 1955. A number of men were added to the staff in 1955. Dr. Merle McNeil Musselman came as Professor. He became chairman of the department in 1956. He was the first full-time chairman of the Department of Surgery. Dr. William Philip Kleitsch joined the staff as Assistant Professor. Dr. Herbert L. Davis came as Assistant Research Professor. Dr. Kenneth Francis Kimball, Dr. Benton Kutler, Dr. George Harry Pester, Dr. Russell Charles Brauer and Dr. Delbert Neis joined the staff as Instructors in surgery. Dr. Neis became Assistant Professor in 1957. Dr. Kennedy and Dr. Barmore were promoted to Assistant Professor. Promoted to Associate were Dr. Brush, Dr. Frank, Dr. D. Miller, Dr. G.N. Johnson, Dr. Potter, Dr. Rasmussen, and Dr. Therien. Promoted to Instructor were Dr. J. Nilsson, Dr. Coe, Dr. Latenser, Dr. McMurty, Dr. Reese, and Dr. Wilson:

Additions to the staff in 1956 were as follows: Dr. Dewight L. Cherry and Dr. Hiram David Hilton as Clinical Assistant Professors; Dr. Louis T. Gogela and Dr. Samuel F. Moessner as Clinical Instructors.

Those who were added to the staff in 1957 were Dr. John Byron Davis, Dr. Key Hachiya, Dr. George William LeWorthy and Dr. Donald Monroe Love as Instructors. Also added to the staff as Clinical Instructor was Dr. John Gunzaul Wiedman. Dr. Love resigned in 1957.

ROSTER MEMBERS DEPT. OF SURGERY IN ORDER OF DATE OF APPOINTMENT

DATE OF APPT.	NAME	HIGHEST APPT.	REMARKS
1881	Livingston, Robert R.	Chairman (1882-1884)	Resigned 1884
1881	Mercer, Samuel D.	Professor	Resigned 1884
1884	Ayers, George B.	Professor	Resigned 1887
1884	Macrae, Donald	Chairman (1884-1887)	Resigned 1911
1885	Brown, Ewing	Professor	Resigned 1935
1886	Neville, Joseph	Professor	Resigned 1896
1887	Summers, John Edward	Chairman (1887-1902)	Died 1935
1888	Galbraith, William J.	Professor	Resigned 1892
1894	Davis, Byron Bennett	Chairman (1930-1933)	Died 1933
1896	Jonas, August Fredrick	Chairman (1902-1930)	Died 1934
1896	Macrae, Donald Jr.	Professor	Resigned 1911
1897	Edmistor, Aaron Welch	Instructor	Resigned 1911
1899	Ludington, Paul Hogans	Adjunct Professor	Resigned 1907
1899	UpDegraff, Elmer James	Adjunct Professor	Resigned 1910
1901	Stokes, A. C.	Professor	Resigned 1923
1904	Dandy, George Brown	Instructor	Resigned 1906

1904	Hunt, Alfred Onios	Instructor	Resigned 1914
1904	Morrison, Charles Campbell	Assistant Professor	Resigned 1927
1905	Hull, Charles Aaron	Assistant Professor	Resigned 1934
1907	Hollister, Robert Russel	Assistant Professor	Resigned 1921
1912	Kennedy, Charles Rex	Professor	Resigned 1938
1919	Nilsson, John Randolph	Professor	Resigned 1947
1919	Quigley, Daniel Thomas	Instructor	Resigned 1945
1919	Roeder, Clyde Augustus	Associate Professor	Resigned 1935
1920	Brown, Alfred Jerome	Professor	Resigned 1948
1920	Rich, Charles O'Neil	Associate Professor	Resigned 1948
1922	McAvin, James S.	Instructor	Resigned 1948
1923	Davis, Herbert Haywood	Chairman (1949-1956)	Active Staff to Date
1923	Miller, Glenn	Instructor	Resigned 1935
1923	Weinberg, Joseph A.	Associate Professor	Resigned 1945
1924	Grodinsky, Manuel	Associate Professor	Died 1953
1924	Keegan, J. Jay	Chairman (1934-1949)	Resigned 1955
1927	Shearer, William Lete	Professor	Resigned 1948
1927	Waters, Chester Hill	Assistant Professor	Resigned 1948

1928	Best, Russell Rolland	Professor	Active Staff to Date
1934	Bisgard, James Dewey	Professor	Active Staff to Date
1934	Johnson, Herman Frank	Associate Professor	Resigned 1952
1934	Murray, Floyd Joshua	Associate	Active Staff to Date
1935	Hicken, N. Fredrick	Assistant Professor	Resigned 1939
1935	McLaughlin, Charles W. Jr.	Professor	Active Staff to Date
1936	Hanisch, Louis Evertt	Instructor	Resigned 1949
1946	Anderson, Leo Eugene	Instructor	Resigned 1954
1946	Brinkman, Herman Harvey	Clinical Assistant	Active Staff to Date
1946	Finlayson, Alister Jan	Professor	Active Staff to Date
1946	Kennedy, John Charles	Associate Professor	Active Staff to Date
1947	Anderson, Lawrence Lloyd	Associate	Active Staff to Date
1947	Browne, Kenneth Murle	Assistant Professor	Active Staff to Date
1947	Hoffman, Lloyd Oliver	Instructor	Resigned 1952
1947	Nilsson, John Fredrick	Instructor	Died 1958
1947	Thompson, Dorothy Helena	Assistant Professor	Active Staff to Date
1947	Thompson, Lynn Wirt	Associate	Active Staff to Date
1948	Bradley, James D.	Associate	Resigned 1954
1948	Cochran, Robert Morris	Associate	Active Staff to Date

1948	Johnson, George Nick	Assistant Professor	Active Staff to Date
1948	Potter, Stanley Ernest	Assistant Professor	Active Staff to Date
1948	Swenson, Samuel August Jr.	Assistant Professor	Active Staff to Date
1949	Frank, Muriel Naomi	Associate	Active Staff to Date
1949	Therien, Robert Charles	Assistant Professor	Active Staff to Date
1951	Brush, John Hobart	Assistant Professor	Active Staff to Date
1951	Raines, Max McCoy	Instructor	Resigned 1953
1951	Rasmussen, John Arthur	Assistant Professor	Active Staff to Date
1951	Stager, Walter Raymond	Associate	Resigned 1952
ω 1952	McMurtry, George Boone	Assistant Professor	Active Staff to Date
1953	Barmore, John Lucian	Associate Professor	Active Staff to Date
1953	Coe, John Daniel	Associate	Active Staff to Date
1953	Rees, Barney Benjamin	Associate	Active Staff to Date
1953	Wilson, Carlyle Evertt	Associate	Active Staff to Date
1954	Latinser, John Francis	Associate	Active Staff to Date
1954	Miller, Daniel Martin	Assistant Professor	Active Staff to Date
1955	Brauer, Russell Charles	Instructor	Active Staff to Date
1955	Davis, Herbert L.	Asst. Research Prof.	Active Staff to Date
1955	Kimball, Kenneth Francis	Instructor	Active Staff to Date

1955	Kleitsch, William Philip	Assistant Professor	Active Staff to Date
1955	Kutler, Benton	Instructor	Active Staff to Date
1955	Musselman, Merele McNeil	Chairman of Dept.	Active Staff to Date
1955	Neis, Delbert	Assistant Professor	Active Staff to Date
1955	Pester, George Henry	Instructor	Active Staff to Date
1956	Cherry, Dewart L.	Clinical Asst. Prof.	Active Staff to Date
1956	Gogella, Louis J.	Clinical Instructor	Active Staff to Date
1956	Hilton, Hiram David	Clinical Asst. Prof.	Active Staff to Date
1956	Moessner, Samuel F.	Clinical Instructor	Active Staff to Date
1957	Davis, John Byron	Instructor	Active Staff to Date
1957	Hachiya, Keay	Instructor	Active Staff to Date
1957	LeWorthy, George William	Instructor	Active Staff to Date
1957	Love, Donald Monroe	Instructor	Resigned 1957
1957	Wiedman, John Gunsaul	Clinical Instructor	Active Staff to Date

SUMMARY

When the Nebraska Legislature approved the formation of the University of Nebraska in 1869 it provided for a College of Medicine. The first establishment of this college was in 1883 at Lincoln. This college was discontinued when the legislature withdrew its support in 1887.

The Omaha Medical College was incorporated in 1869 but was never opened. In 1880 a preparatory school under the name of the Nebraska School of Medicine was inaugurated and in 1881 it was incorporated under the laws of Nebraska as the Omaha Medical College. In 1902 the Omaha Medical College entered into an agreement with the University of Nebraska whereby the first two years were to be given at the University in Lincoln and the last two years at the Medical College in Omaha. The name was changed to the University of Nebraska College of Medicine with this move. In 1913 the college was moved to its present site at 42nd and Dewey Avenue and the first two years were moved back to Omaha.

The first chairman of the Department of Surgery was Robert R. Livingston who was one of the first members of the Omaha Medical College as well as its first president. He served the college from 1881 to 1884.

Dr. Livingston was replaced by Dr. Donald Macrae as Chairman of the Department of Surgery in 1885. Dr. Macrae was previously Chairman of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology. He remained as Chairman of the Department of Surgery until 1887

when he became Chairman of the Department of Medicine. He again returned to the surgery staff in 1895 as Professor of Railroad and Clinical Surgery.

Dr. Edward Summers joined the faculty as Chairman of the Department of Surgery in 1887. He remained in this position until 1902 when the affiliation was made with the University of Nebraska. He rejoined the staff as Professor of Clinical Surgery in 1913 when the four years of medical college was established in Omaha. He remained on the surgery staff until his death in 1935.

Dr. August Frederick Jonas replaced Dr. Summers as Chairman in 1902. Dr. Jonas first joined the Omaha Medical College in 1892 as Professor of Clinical Surgery. He served as Dean of the college from 1899 to 1902 when he became Chairman of the Department of Surgery. He was given the title of Emeritus in 1930 when he gave up the Chairmanship of the Department of Surgery. He died in 1934.

Dr. Byron Bennett Davis was promoted to Chairman of the Department of Surgery in 1930. He joined the Medical College Staff in 1896. He remained as Chairman until his death, following an operation at an Omaha Hospital in 1933.

Dr. J. Jay Keegan became Chairman of the Department of Surgery in 1934. He first joined the staff of the University Hospital in 1920. He served as Dean from 1925 to 1929. He was head of the Neuro-Surgery Section from 1930 until he left the staff in 1955. He resigned as Chairman of the Department of

Surgery in 1949.

Dr. Herbert Haywood Davis took the position of Chairman of the Department of Surgery in 1949. He had been an active member of the staff since 1923. Dr. Davis remained as Chairman until 1956 when Dr. Merle McNeil Mussilman replaced him. Dr. Davis is still active as a staff member and professor of the Department of Surgery.

Dr. Musselman who took the position in 1956 is the department chairman at this date. He was the first full-time chairman of the Department of Surgery.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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