

# Jesse F. Ballenger

## Curriculum Vitae

Drexel University  
Health Administration Dept  
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### Current Position

Associate Teaching Professor, Health Administration, Drexel University.

### Current Research Project

“To Conquer Confusion: Aging, Alzheimer’s and the Struggle for a Coherent Approach to Researching, Diagnosing and Treating Neurodegenerative Disease in Modern Biomedicine.”

### Degrees

Ph.D., History, Case Western Reserve University, 2000.

M.A., History, Case Western Reserve University, 1994.

B.A., History, Kent State University, 1989.

### Publications

#### Books

Volume co-editor, with Peter J. Whitehouse, et al. *Treating Dementia: Do We Have a Pill for It?* Johns Hopkins University Press, 2009.

*Self, Senility and Alzheimer’s Disease in Modern America: A History.* Johns Hopkins University Press, 2006.

Volume co-editor, with Peter J. Whitehouse and Konrad Maurer. *Concepts of Alzheimer Disease: Biological, Clinical and Cultural Perspectives.* Johns Hopkins University Press, 2000.

## Articles

“The Evolving Classification of Dementia: Placing the DSM-V in a Meaningful Historical and Cultural Context and Pondering the Future of “Alzheimer's.” Co-author with Daniel George and Peter Whitehouse, *Culture, Medicine and Psychiatry*, 35(3): 417-435, 2011.

“Progress in the History of Alzheimer’s Disease: The Importance of Context.” *Journal of Alzheimer’s Disease*. 9(3 Suppl):5-13, 2006.

“Beyond ‘Progress’ in the History of Alzheimer Disease.” Co-author with Peter J. Whitehouse and James Lindemann Nelson. [Editorial] *Alzheimer Disease and Related Disorders*, 13: 130-31, 1999.

## Book Chapters

“Disappearing in Plain Sight: Public Roles of People with Dementia in the Meaning and Politics of Alzheimer’s Disease.” In Stephen Jacyna and Stephen Casper, eds., *The Neurological Patient in History*. University of Rochester Press, 2012.

“Necessary Inventions: Anti-Dementia Drugs and Heightened Expectations for Aging in Modern American Culture and Society.” In Ballenger et al, eds. *Treating Dementia: Do We Have a Pill for That?* Johns Hopkins University Press, 2009.

“Reframing Dementia: The Policy Implications of Changing Concepts.” In Murna Downs and Barbara Bowers (eds.) *Excellence in Dementia Care: Principles and Practices*. Open University Press, 2008. Revised for second edition, 2014.

“Conflict of Interest in the Development of Drugs for Dementia: A Historical Perspective.” Co-author with Peter J. Whitehouse and Jason Karlawish. *Medicine and Industry*. George Tomossy (editor). Ashgate, 2007.

“Biomedical Deconstruction of Senility and the Persistent Stigmatization of Old Age in the United States.” *Thinking About Dementia: Culture, Loss and the Anthropology of Senility*. Annette Leibing and Lawrence Cohen (editors). University of California Press, 2006.

“How We Think About Quality of Life: The Necessity of Wisdom for Aging.” Co-author with Peter Whitehouse and Sid Katz. *Aging: Decisions at the End of Life*. David Weisstub, David C. Thomasma, and Serge Gauthier (eds.) Kluwer, 2001.

“Beyond the Characteristic Plaques and Tangles: Mid-Twentieth Century American Psychiatry and the Fight Against Senility.” In Peter J. Whitehouse, Konrad Maurer and Jesse F. Ballenger (eds.), *Concepts of Alzheimer Disease: Biological,*

*Clinical and Cultural Perspectives*. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2000.

### **Other Publications**

“Through the Amyloid Gateway.” Co-author with Daniel George, Peter Whitehouse and Simon D’Alton. *Lancet*, 380: 9858, 1986-87, 2012.

“Alzheimer’s Disease and Dementia.” *Oxford Encyclopedia of Scientific, Medical and Technological History*, Oxford University Press, in press.

“Age and Ageism,” “Alzheimer’s Disease” and “Dementia.” Entries in Susan Burch (ed.) *The Encyclopedia of American Disability History*. Facts on File, 2009.

“Time to Rethink Our Approach to Alzheimer’s by Listening to Those Who Live with It” [Op-Ed] *Newsday*, 21 July 2009.

“Meynert, Theodor Hermann.” Entry co-authored with Peter J. Whitehouse in *Encyclopedia of Neurological Sciences*. San Diego: Academic Press, 2003.

“The Concept of Alzheimer’s Disease: Past, Present, and Future.” Co-author with Peter J. Whitehouse and Konrad Maurer in *Neuroscience News*. 1(4):39-40, 1998.

### **Book Reviews**

“Memory: Fragments of a Modern History,” by Alison Winter. [Book Review] *Bulletin of the History of Medicine*, Summer 2012.

“The Woman Who Walked in the Sea: Huntington’s and the Making of a Genetic Disease,” by Alice Wexler. [Book Review] *Bulletin of the History of Medicine*. Summer 2010.

“Specialty Care in the Age of Managed Care: Cleveland Clinic versus University Hospitals of Cleveland,” by John A. Kastor. [Book Review] *Bulletin of the History of Medicine*. Winter 2006.

“Dr. Golem: How to Think about Medicine,” by Harry Collins and Trevor Pinch [Book Review] *Science and Public Policy*. October 2006.

“Let Them Eat Prozac: The Unhealthy Relationship Between the Pharmaceutical Industry and Depression,” by David Healy. [Book Review] *Bulletin of the History of Medicine*. Summer 2005.

“Alzheimer: The Life and Career of a Physician and the Career of a Disease,” by Konrad and Ulrike Maurer. [Book Review] *Bulletin of the History of Medicine*. Fall 2003.

“New Deal Medicine: The Rural Health Programs of the Farm Security Administration,”

by Michael Grey. [Book Review] *New York History*. April 2003.

Co-author with Peter Whitehouse, Jonathan Sadowsky and Atwood Gaines.  
“Mind, Environment and Culture.” [Review essay] *Hastings Center Report*. March-April 2001.

Co-author with Peter J. Whitehouse, “Anticipating the Neuroscience Millennium.” [Review essay] *Medical Humanities Review*, Spring 2000.

Co-author with Peter J. Whitehouse, “The Body as Cultural Text.” [Review essay] *Medical Humanities Review*, Spring 1998.

### **Invited Lectures and Conference Presentations**

“To Conquer Confusion: The Struggle for a Coherent Concept of Dementia in Modern Medicine.” University College London Centre for the History of Medicine, March 2013.

“Confusing Biomedicine: The Struggle for a Coherent Approach to Dementia in Medicine and Society since 1980.” Centre de Recherche, Médecine, Sciences, Santé, Santé Mentale, Société, Paris, December 2012.

“Research on AD in Historical Context: Using the Past to Make Sense of the Future.” Alzheimer’s Association, Greater Pennsylvania Chapter Annual Meeting, Pittsburgh, October 2012.

“The Aging of Biomedicine: Struggling for a Coherent Concept of Dementia in Medicine and Society since 1980.” Bioethics and Sciences of Aging: The Case of Dementia. University of California at Berkeley. October 2012.

“Of Mice and (De)Ment(tia): Hope, Hype and the Transgenic Mouse in Modern Alzheimer’s Research.” Technique, Technology and Therapy in the Brain and Mind Sciences, 1850-2012. Clarkson University, May 2012.

“Aging, Alzheimer's Disease, and Risk in Modern Biomedicine and Society.” Between the Medical and the Social: Institutions of Chronic Disease and Disability in the Twentieth Century, conference workshop sponsored by the Centre de Recherche, Médecine, Sciences, Santé, Santé Mentale, Société, Paris, December 2011.

“Anti-Dementia Drugs and the Social Value of Aging.” Annual Meeting of the Gerontological Society of America, New Orleans, LA, November 2010.

“History and Contemporary Issues Related to the Diagnosis of Alzheimer’s Disease.” The NOW Workshop on Responsible Early Diagnostics for Alzheimer’s Disease, University of Twente, Enschede, The Netherlands. March 2010.

- “Drug Treatment for Dementia: Using the Past to Make Sense of the Present.” 2009-2010 Visiting Scholars Series, Institute on Aging, University of Pennsylvania. February 2010.
- "Memory, Selfhood and Senility in Modern America: A Cultural History of Alzheimer's Disease," invited lecture at Susquehanna University for the Susquehanna University Medical Humanities Initiative., March 2009.
- "To Conquer Confusion: Aging, Culture and Concepts of Dementia," invited lecture at the New York Academy of Medicine lecture series Changing Perspectives on Healthy Aging. February 2009. (A version of this lecture also given at the Hershey History of Medicine Society in November 2008).
- “Disappearing in Plain Sight: Public Roles for People with Dementia in the Meaning and Politics of Alzheimer’s Disease.” The Neurological Patient in History, the Wellcome Trust Centre for the History of Medicine Workshop, December 2008.
- “Ageism, Successful Aging and the Normative Demand for Health in Post-World War II American Social Gerontology.” (Re)Constructing the Aging Body, Johannes Gutenberg University, Mainz, Germany, September 2008.
- "Moral Engagement in the STS Classroom.," 22nd Annual Meeting of the International Association of Science, Technology and Society, Baltimore, MD, 2007.
- “Imperiled Selfhood and the Rise of Alzheimer’s Disease in Modern America.” Untangling Selfhood: The History and Experience of Alzheimer’s Disease. Penn State University, State College, PA. March 2007.
- “Alzheimer’s Disease and the Health Politics of Anguish.” Gerontology Colloquium Series, Penn State University, march 2007.
- “To Conquer Confusion: History and Dementia in the Twentieth Century.” Reflecting on 100 Years of Alzheimer’s: The Global Impact on Quality of Lives. Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, OH, November 2006.
- “The Embodiment of Deconstruction: Selfhood in the Memoirs of Alzheimer’s Disease Patients.” The Patient: An International Symposium. Bucknell University, October 2006. (A version of this talk also given at the Annual Meeting of the American Society on Aging, Philadelphia, PA, March 2005)
- “Biologizing the Aging Mind: Stigma and Selfhood in Alzheimer’s Disease.” Seminar presentation, The Meanings of the Biomedical Mind: Biological Psychiatry in History and Culture, Case Western Reserve University, September 2006.
- “The Meaning of Dementia: Interdisciplinary Perspectives.” Chair and commentator, Annual Meeting of the Gerontological Society of America, November 2005.

- “Treatment and the Changing Boundaries of Dementia.” Drug Development for Alzheimer’s Disease: Historical and Clinical Perspectives, Conference at The Johns Hopkins University, March 2004.
- “Gerontology, Race, and the Liberal Critique of ‘Ageism’ in Post-WW II America.” Annual Meeting of the American Historical Association, Washington, D.C., January 2004.
- “Quality of Life: Bridging the Gap between Science and the Humanities.” Presented with Peter J. Whitehouse at the Park Ridge Center visiting scholars program, Chicago, IL, June 1999.
- “From ‘Social Pathology’ to the ‘Characteristic Plaques and Tangles’: Senility, Alzheimer’s Disease, and the Stigma of Old Age in Twentieth-Century America.” Annual Meeting of the American Association for the History of Medicine, Toronto, Ontario, Canada, May 1998.
- “‘Men Die as Trees Die’: Social Change, Senility and Self in Modern America.” Annual Meeting of the Organization of American Historians, Indianapolis, IN, April 1998.
- “Cultural History as an Approach to Senility and Alzheimer’s Disease.” The Concept of Alzheimer’s Disease -- Past, Present and Future, Conference at Marktbreit, Germany, November 1997.
- “Discourse on Senility, Work and Retirement: The Changing Meanings of Old Age in Modern America.” Childhood and Old Age -- Equals or Opposites, Conference at Odense University, Odense, Denmark, April 1997.
- “Representing Senility: Toward a Cultural History of Alzheimer's Disease.” Andrew W. Mellon Mellon Lecture Series, Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, OH, February, 1997.
- “Beyond the Characteristic Plaques and Tangles: American Psychiatry's Concept of Senile Dementia, 1930-1960.” Annual Meeting of the Gerontological Society of America, Atlanta, GA, November, 1994.

## **Teaching Experience**

HSAD 309, Advanced Health Care Ethics, Drexel University, Winter 2014.

HSAD 210, Health Care Ethics, Drexel University, Winter 2014.

BIOT 502, Perspectives in Macro-Bioethics, Penn State University, Fall 2012, 2013

BMH 132/RL ST 131, Introduction to Bioethics, Instructor, Penn State University, Fall 2012.

STS/PHIL 432, Medical and Health Care Ethics, Instructor, Penn State University. Fall 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010

STS/HIST 124, History of Western Medicine. Instructor, Penn State University, Spring 2010, 2011, 2013, Fall 2014

BMH 490, Bioethics and Medical Humanities Capstone. Instructor, Penn State University, Spring 2010, 2011

STS 101 and 101H, Modern Science, Technology, and Human Values, Instructor, Penn State University, Fall 2004, 2005, 2006, 2009, Spring 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2012

STS 100 and 100H, Science, Technology and Culture, Instructor, Penn State, Spring 2008, 2009, 2010

STS 200, Critical Issues in Science, Technology and Society, Instructor, Penn State University, Spring 2005, Fall 2005, 2006

Perspectives on the History of Psychiatry, Instructor, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, Fall 2003.

History of the Modern Life Course, Instructor, Johns Hopkins University Dept. of the History of Science, Medicine and Technology, Spring 2003.

History of Medicine, Instructor, Case Western Reserve University Dept. of History, Fall 2001; Graduate teaching assistant, Fall 1997.

American Social and Cultural History, 1865 to the Present. Case Western Reserve University Dept. of History, Spring 2000, 2001.

American and World History Surveys, Teaching Assistant, Case Western Reserve University Dept. of History.

## **Service**

## **To the STS and Bioethics Programs and Penn State University**

Faculty Advisor, Bioethics Graduate Program, Fall 2009 – present.

Faculty Advisor, Bioethics and Medical Humanities Minor, Fall 2009 – present.

Acting Director, Bioethics Program, Fall 2009 – Spring 2011.

Bioethics and Medical Humanities Faculty Advisory Board, 2006 and 2007 academic years.

Graduate Advisor, STS Program, Fall 2009 – present.

Undergraduate Advisor, STS Program, 2008-2009 academic year.

Schreyer Honors College Advisor for the STS program, Fall 2008 – present.

STS Program Executive Committee, 2009-2010 academic year.

Disability Studies Program Faculty Advisory Board, Fall 2005 – present.

Member of faculty search committees for the STS program, the Penn State Institute on Energy and the Environment, and the College of Medicine.

## **To the Profession**

External Program Review Committee, Science, Technology and Society Program, Vassar College, Fall 2011

Editorial Board, *Culture, Medicine, and Psychiatry*.

Manuscript review, *Johns Hopkins University Press, Oxford University Press, Routledge, Journal of the History of Neurosciences, Journal of the History of Medicine and Allied Sciences, Medical Anthropology Quarterly, Medicine Studies, Sociological Inquiry, Science Studies, International Journal of Medical Sciences, Journal of Alzheimer's Disease and American Journal of Alzheimer's Disease and Other Dementias*.

Conference organizer, “Untangling Selfhood: The History and Experience of Alzheimer’s Disease.” An international and interdisciplinary conference held at Penn State University in March 2007. I conceived the conference, took the lead in framing the questions around which it was organized, brought in most of the speakers, and took the lead in organizing the program.



Conference organizer, “Drug Treatment for Alzheimer’s Disease: historical and Clinical perspectives.” An international and interdisciplinary conference held at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine in March 2004. I helped conceive the conference and frame the questions around which it was organized, took the lead in developing the program, and communicated with the outside speakers.

### **To the Public**

WPSU Public Service Media Group, 2006-2008.

Member, Task Force on End-of-Life Decisions Public Issues Forum, 2005-2006.

### **Other Academic Experience**

Post-Doctoral Fellow, Department of the History of Science, Medicine and Technology, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD, 2002-2004

Coordinator, Case Western Reserve University Program on Society and Health, 2000-2001 academic year.

Editorial Assistant, *Encyclopedia of Cleveland History*, Fall 1994 to Spring 1996.

Editor, *History Notes*, Case Western Reserve University Dept. of History Newsletter, 1995.

Research Assistant, Case Western Reserve University Public Policy Working Group, 1992-93 academic year.

### **Other Work Experience**

Director of Research, Windward Course, LLC, nonprofit consulting agency, 2000-2001.

Cardiac Catheterization Lab Assistant, The Genesee Hospital, Rochester, New York, 1990-1991.

Nursing Assistant, Deaconess Hospital, Cleveland, Ohio, 1979-1989.

### **Honors and Awards**

Jane and Cecile Lyman Prize for Best Ph.D. Dissertation in History, 2000.

Dean's Instructional Excellence Award, Case Western Reserve University, Graduate Studies, 1996-97.

Andrew W. Mellon Dissertation Fellow, Fall 1996.

Ralph W. Besse Fellowship, 1994 and 1995 academic years.

Outstanding Achievement for Graduate Study, Case Western Reserve University Department of History, 1994 and 1996.

**Professional Associations**

American Association for the History of Medicine.

American Society for Bioethics and Humanities

Gerontological Society of America

Society for Social Studies of Science