

Archival Collections

Primary Sources

A *Primary Source* is an artifact or document (such as a letter, newspaper clipping, or other source of information) that is an original source of information about a topic. Primary Sources offer the most direct connection and insight into the past.

The PA History Society has one of the largest collections of historic, primary source information on physician assistants. The PAHx now offers the entirety of its archival holdings online in a collection of *Finding Aids*. A *Finding Aid* is a roadmap for each collection in our archives.

Collections Finding Aids

If you go to the Archival Research webpage (<https://pahx.org/archival-research/>), you will be able to see a list of every collection in our archive, along with a brief description of what is in that collection. Collections are traditionally named for the person that donated them, which sometimes means that the collection's materials aren't solely (or at all) about that person! For example: The Don Pedersen Collection does not include information on Don Pedersen. It mostly contains NCCPA committee materials on recertification from the 1980s.

Title of Collection

Pedersen, Don Collection, 1968-2001

Description: Collection consists of materials from early PA meetings held at Duke, PA legislation (both in Utah and in US in general), and NCCPA conference and committee materials and correspondence.

Short Description of the Collection

[Learn more →](#)

Link to Finding Aid

Physician Assistants for Latino Health Caucus Collection, 1994-2009

Description: Collection contains documentation and publications of the Physician Assistants for Latino Health (PALH). Collection also contains meeting minutes, promotional flyers, newsletters, member directories, and among other materials.

[Learn more →](#)

By clicking on the “Learn More” link underneath the collection that you are interested in’s description, you will be taken to our PastPerfect™ website’s finding aid for that collection.

Archive Record

[Email to a Friend](#) [Send Us Feedback](#)



Catalog Number	AC2015-012
Collection	Ruth Ballweg Collection
Title	Ruth Ballweg Papers, 1972-2017
Scope & Content	<p>Contains the papers of Ruth Ballweg, MPA, PA-C Emeritus. She was a professor and a former director of the MEDEX Northwest Physician Assistant Division in the Department of Family Medicine at the University of Washington School of Medicine.</p> <p>She has been an acknowledged leader within the PA profession serving as an educator and professional consultant for more than three decades. She is active in the international development of the PA profession in her consultant role as Director of International Relations for the NCCPA.</p> <p>Types of materials include personal papers, minutes of organizational planning meetings, photographs, artifacts, and correspondence. Materials range in date from 1972 to 2017 with the bulk from 1990 to 1995.</p>

A *Finding Aid* is divided up into 8 parts:

1. The Catalog Number: This lets the archivist know where the container(s) is/are located in the archive.
2. The name of the collection
3. The Scope and Content Note – A brief overview of the historic significance of the collection and what it contains, ex. Correspondence, newspaper clippings, board meeting minutes, etc.
4. Admin/Biographical History – A more in-depth history of the collection, who donated it, and any other meaningful history that may be of use to the researcher.
5. Copyrights – Defines if the PAHx archives own the rights to the materials or if someone else must be contacted for the researcher to republish the material.
6. Search Terms – Keywords and phrases that describe the themes and people within the collection materials.
7. Year(s) – The dates that the materials in the collection span.
8. Containers – This lists the names of the folders within the collection. It gives the researcher a better sense of what subjects the collection holds.
 - a. If you click on one of the folder names it will show you more information on that folder, such as the date(s) of the contents and if there are any special details.

Archive Record

Email to a Friend

Send Us Feedback



1. Catalog Number	AC2004-0007
2. Collection	James M. Bartow Papers
Title	James M. Bartow Papers
3. Scope & Content	<p>James "Jim" Bartow is a 1971 graduate of the Duke University Physician Assistant Program. He was also the first physician assistant to be hired full-time to work on staff at the AAPA. He helped organize AAPA's State Chapters.</p> <p>The collection contains correspondence, brochures, publications, certificates, and plaques ranging from his days as a PA student to his position at the AAPA.</p>
4. Admin/Biographical History	<p>A 1971 graduate of the Duke University Physician Assistant Program, Bartow was the first physician assistant to be hired full-time to work on staff at the American Academy of Physician Assistant (AAPA). He was hired in 1977 - three years after the AAPA opened its national office in Washington, DC - as the organization's convention manager. A year later, Bartow was promoted to General Manager. In this role, he helped organize AAPA "State Chapters." He presented seminars to newly elected state chapter officers on how to develop meetings for their local memberships. The AAPA annual meeting grew from 325 attendees and 30 exhibits to 1500 attendees and 140 exhibits before Bartow departed in 1984 to become an independent consultant for managing other associations' medical meetings.</p>
5. Copyrights	<p>Copyright for the Society for the Preservation of Physician Assistant History records is held by the Society; all other copyright is retained by the authors of items in these papers, or their descendants, as stipulated by United States copyright law.</p> <p>James M. Bartow Papers, Society for Preservation of Physician Assistant History, Johns Creek, GA, USA</p>
6. Search Terms	<p>James Bartow Duke University Eugene A. Stead Jr. Physician Assistant Student Society AAPA Certification</p>
Year Range from	1969
7. Year Range to	1986
8. Containers	<p>Correspondence Duke PA Program Acceptance Letter Eugene A. Stead PA Student Society Certificate Brochures, Publications and Certificate Plaques for AAPA Secretary</p>

You can see more information on the folder by clicking on its name

Container Record

Title	Brochures, Publications and Certificate
Date	1977-1986

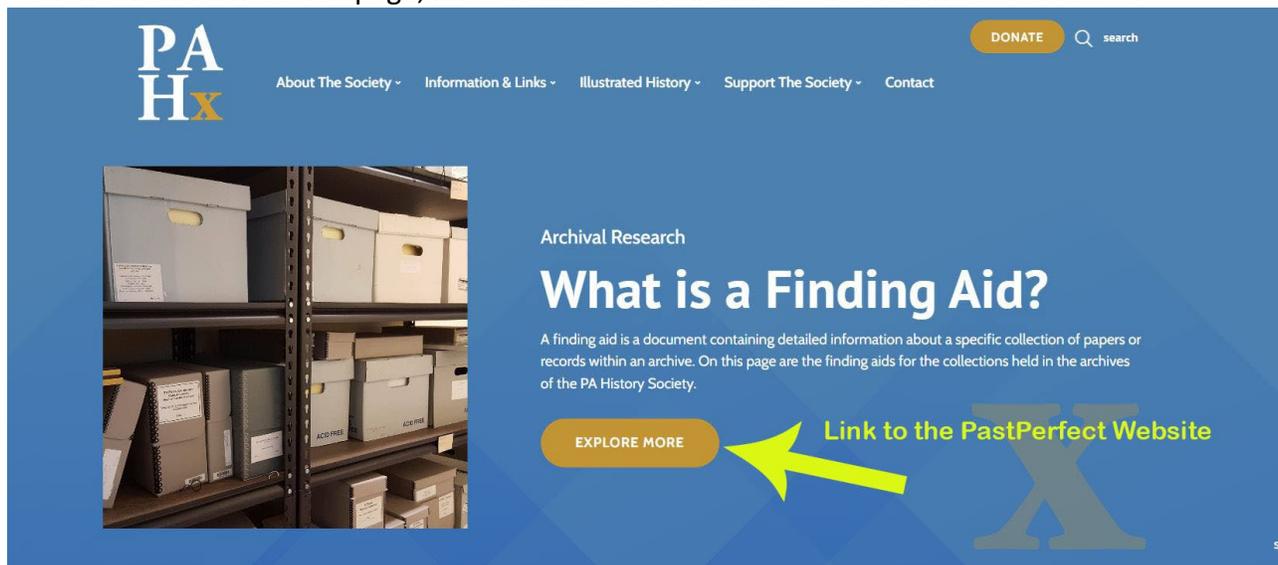
Name of folder

Date range of materials in folder

Searching the Archival Collections

There are ways to search the Society's collections without clicking on every finding aid to try to find what you are looking for.

On the Archival Research page, find the link to our Archival Collection in PastPerfect™.



Archival Research

What is a Finding Aid?

A finding aid is a document containing detailed information about a specific collection of papers or records within an archive. On this page are the finding aids for the collections held in the archives of the PA History Society.

[EXPLORE MORE](#) **Link to the PastPerfect Website**

Or just click the following link: <http://pahx.pastperfectonline.com/archive> and you will be taken to our Archive Search Page.

Type in any keyword, such as a topic or name, that you are researching in the Archive Search box. If the keyword is longer than one word, make sure to encase it in quotations marks. For example, "International PA Programs".



HOME KEYWORD SEARCH ADVANCED SEARCH RANDOM IMAGES ARCHIVES PHOTOS LIBRARIES OBJECTS

"International PA" Search

Items with Images Only
Search Hints: To search by phrase wrap your criteria in quotes. ex: "Find me"

195 results found. Records searched: 195

OHC00001 - Susan Swank-Caschera Oral History
Record Type: Archive

Archives Search Box

All the collections in the PAHx archives that contain materials relating to that topic, person or organization will show up.

HOME KEYWORD SEARCH ADVANCED SEARCH RANDOM IMAGES ARCHIVES PHOTOS LIBRARIES OBJECTS

"International PA Programs"

Items with Images Only
Search Hints: To search by phrase wrap your criteria in quotes. ex: "Find me"

2 results found. Records searched: 195

 **AC2015-012 - Ruth Ballweg Collection**
History Physician Assistants Education International **International PA Programs** Legislation Richard
Record Type: Archive

 **AC2015-004 - Roderick Hooker Papers, 1981 - 2010, 2017**
International PA Programs International Australia Tawain India Africa AAPA HOD House of Delegates
Record Type: Archive

Clicking on the name of a collection will bring up that collection's finding aid.

You can also search a topic or person by clicking on the appropriate link in the Search Terms section of a finding aid.

Search Terms	<ul style="list-style-type: none">AAPAPAEAAPAPNCCPAMinority AffairsCertificationRecertificationPhysician Assistants HistoryPhysician Assistants EducationInternationalInternational PA ProgramsLegislationRichard SmithDick SmithUniversity of WashingtonMEDEXRuth BallwegWilliam MarquardtBruce FichandlerCanadaNetherlandsSwitzerlandLaosGhana
--------------	---

Researcher Requests

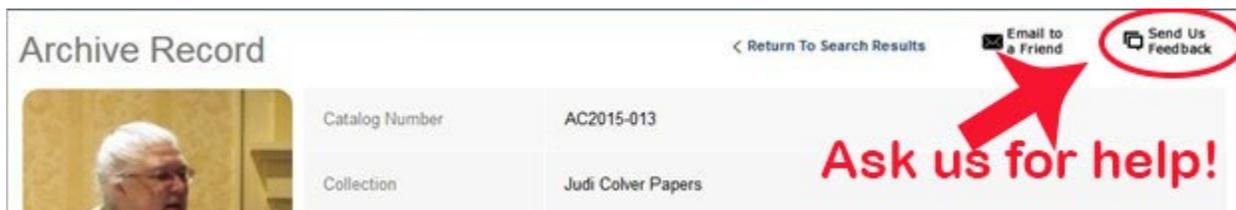
You have done a search of the archival collections and found a collection and some folders you think would be important for your research... **Now what?**

Contact the friendly PAHx Archivist and ask for help!

You can reach her by emailing contactus@pahx.org

OR

Click the “Send Us Feedback” button in the top right corner of a finding aid page.



When writing to the Archivist, please make sure to explain some of the background of your research and give the collection name and folder(s) that you are interested in.

The Archivist can then look through the folders to give you a better idea if they are suitable to your research needs, offer advice on other collections that might be helpful, and scan the appropriate documents/materials to send to you for your educational research purposes.