



# *fellow*

## SPOTLIGHT:

**ANDREA BALDECK, MD, FCPP**

*Board Chair*

*Fellow since 2007*



**W**hat initially interested you about joining the College?

As a Resident, I came to the College to study in the Library and was intimidated by the grand building and the marble staircase. Later, once I was practicing, a good friend, Dr. Henry Jordan, encouraged me to join. The riches of the Museum and Library had always intrigued me and once Dr. Wohlreich, a classmate in medical school, took over the role of President and CEO, I found the place a little less daunting.

**What is one of your fondest memories of time spent at the College?**

I got to know Robert Hicks and Anna Dhody in the Museum and we developed a friendship. They were receptive to the idea of working together on a photo project with the collection. I really came to love the basement world of the Museum. It reminded me of my summer jobs with the National Park Service in upstate New York, living in the maid's quarters of the Frederick Vanderbilt Mansion, where there were as many historic curiosities in attic and basement as there were on public display. The riches of the College's collection were a tremendous revelation to me. They gave me a new perspective on medicine. Unfortunately, in medical school there isn't much time for medical history.

**Is there a memorable lecture or event from the past that stands out for you?**

There isn't one single event that stands out but, rather, it's the breadth of the subject matter that impresses. At the College, you can hear Dr. Wohlreich speak on suicide, you can hear the Director of the Philadelphia Museum of Art talk about the collections of our Fellows throughout history, you can see an intimate stage play, or attend a chamber music concert.

**Which lecture or event are you most anticipating this fall?**

There are several. Our Public Health Grand Rounds are really gaining in stature. The Section on Public Health is an interesting group that brings together professionals in medicine, nursing, social work, activism, and City administration. Their level of cooperation is impressive. I am also very excited that we are expanding the Concerts at the College series this year.

**Tell us about one of your favorite items in the Library or the Museum.**

The Library's collection of anatomy texts is truly amazing. The Vesalius is an obvious one but **Hunter's Atlas [see right]** is an incredible treasure, as well. They are scientific texts but also art objects. More than that, they were true collaborations between the anatomist, the illustrator, the printmaker, the printer, and the bookbinder. That intersection of art and science and the willingness to share a common language fascinates me.

**What is one aspect of the College that you feel doesn't get the attention/recognition it deserves?**

For me, it has to be the Library. I look forward to the process of re-imagining and transforming the Library so that both researchers and the public have more access to the incredible collection on a daily basis.

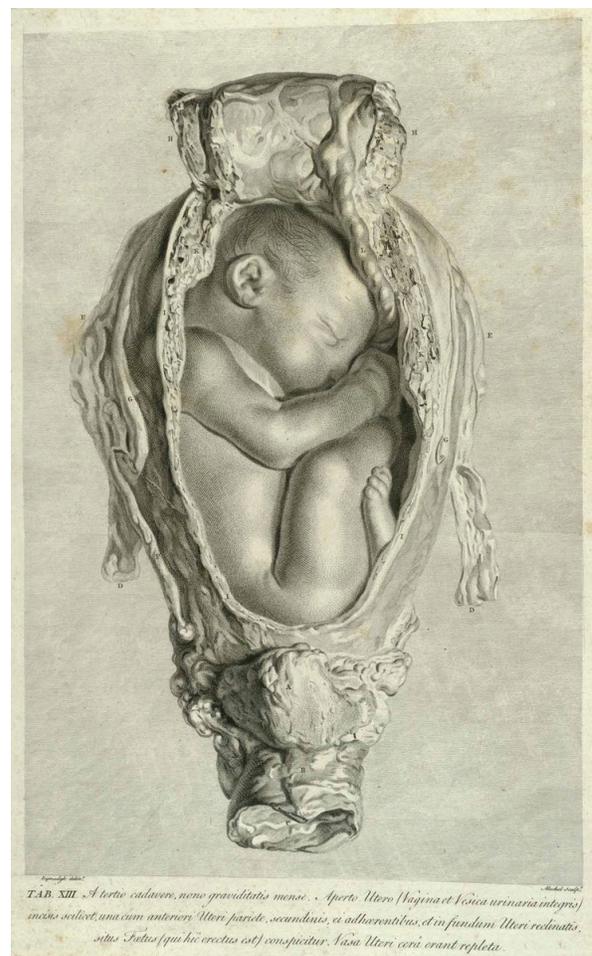
**What do you see as some of the priorities for the College now that you are beginning your term as Board Chair?**

Over the past 10 or 11 years, the College has moved from a "patient in guarded condition" to a flourishing organism. We need to nurture what's working well while determining our challenges and searching for the missing pieces. More than ever before, we are engaged with the public and attracting a fantastic mix of people to this institution, including our fabulous staff. I look forward to working together with the

President and CEO to ensure that we are meeting the needs of all our constituencies.

**What do you feel is one of the best ways for interested Fellows to get more involved with the College?**

It's a process. Our Advancement Department, Executive Office, and Board of Trustees all have a responsibility to inform, educate, and update the Fellowship on the ways they can participate. We have more competition than ever for busy people's time so we have a duty to continue to position ourselves as a vital cultural and professional institution. ■



**Anatomia uteri humani gravidi, or The anatomy of the human gravid uterus, by William Hunter was first published in 1774. Its thirty four illustrations of the gravid uterus were printed life-sized from drawings primarily by Jan van Rymsdyk and engraved on copperplate by a number of individuals.**