Guide to the Aaron Lerner Papers

MS 1896

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March 2009

Yale University Library
P.O. Box 208240
New Haven, CT 06520-8240
mssa.assist@yale.edu
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Collection Overview

REPOSITORY: Manuscripts and Archives
Yale University Library
P.O. Box 208240
New Haven, CT 06520-8240
mssa.assist@yale.edu
http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/

CALL NUMBER: MS 1896

CREATOR: Lerner, Aaron Bunsen

TITLE: Aaron Lerner papers

DATES: 1945–2007

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 1.92 linear feet (2 boxes)

LANGUAGE: English

SUMMARY: The papers comprise biographical materials, correspondence, writings, and photographs documenting the career of Aaron Lerner in the field of medicine, specifically dermatology and pigmentation disorders. Materials relating to his Nobel Prize nomination are included.

ONLINE FINDING AID: To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: http://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.1896

Requesting Instructions
To request items from this collection for use in the Manuscripts and Archives reading room, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at http://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.1896.

To order reproductions from this collection, please go to http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/ifr_copy_order.html. The information you will need to submit an order includes: the collection call number, collection title, series or accession number, box number, and folder number or name.

Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

b. box
f. folder

Administrative Information

Immediate Source of Acquisition
The papers are the gift of Mildred Lerner, 2007.

Conditions Governing Access
The materials are open for research.
Conditions Governing Use

Copyright has been transferred to Yale University for unpublished materials authored or otherwise produced by the creator(s) of this collection. Copyright status for other collection materials is unknown. Transmission or reproduction of materials protected by U.S. Copyright Law (Title 17, U.S.C.) beyond that allowed by fair use requires the written permission of the copyright owners. Works not in the public domain cannot be commercially exploited without permission of the copyright owners. Responsibility for any use rests exclusively with the user.

Preferred Citation

Aaron Lerner Papers (MS 1896). Manuscripts and Archives, Yale University Library.

Biographical / Historical

Aaron Lerner was born in Minneapolis in 1920. He received his undergraduate, medical, and doctoral degrees from the University of Minnesota. He was a faculty member at the University of Michigan and the University of Oregon before coming to Yale in 1956, at which time he became the first director of the dermatology division within the Department of Internal Medicine. In 1971, the Department of Dermatology was established as a freestanding department with Lerner appointed chair. Lerner remained in this position until his retirement in 2000. He is credited with isolating the compound Melanocyte Stimulating Hormone (MSH) and the protein cryoglobulin. He was nominated for the Nobel Prize for Physiology or Medicine in 1993 for the discovery of melatonin, a hormone regulating human sleep-wake cycles. Lerner died in New Haven, Connecticut, on February 3, 2007.

Scope and Contents

The papers comprise biographical materials, correspondence, writings, and photographs documenting the career of Aaron Lerner in the field of medicine, specifically dermatology and pigmentation disorders. Materials relating to his Nobel Prize nomination are included.

Arrangement

The papers are arranged by type of material.
# Collection Contents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Container</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>b. 1, f. 1-3</td>
<td>Personal/biographical files</td>
<td>1945–2007</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 1, f. 4-5</td>
<td>Correspondence</td>
<td>1954–2003</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 1, f. 6-9</td>
<td>Writings</td>
<td>1955–2004</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 1, f. 10</td>
<td>Nobel Prize nomination</td>
<td>1945–1993</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Includes nomination and supporting documentation.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 2</td>
<td>Photographs</td>
<td>circa 1940s, 1971, 1989</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 2</td>
<td>Poster for symposium in Lerner’s honor</td>
<td>1985 June 22</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Selected Search Terms
The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library’s online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

Subjects
Dermatology
Melatonin
Pigmentation disorders

Names
Lerner, Aaron Bunsen

Corporate Body
Yale University. School of Medicine