Richard Aghababian Papers: A Finding Aid

Lamar Soutter Library, Office of Medical History and Archives
University of Massachusetts Medical School

Descriptive Summary

Repository: Lamar Soutter Library, Office of Medical History and Archives
University of Massachusetts Medical School

Identification: SC 16

Creator: Aghababian, Richard

Title: Richard Aghababian Papers


Quantity: 1 document box and 1 record carton containing documents, photographs, and 1 CD-ROM.

Abstract:

The Richard Aghababian Papers chronicle Aghababian’s time as a student, professor, and department head at University of Massachusetts Medical School.

Access Restrictions: Access to most material in the collection is unrestricted. Access to restricted material may be requested by completing a “Restricted Records Access Request” form.

Preferred Citation: The proper citation format for any item from this collection is:
Richard Aghababian Papers, University of Massachusetts Medical School Archives, Lamar Soutter Library, University of Massachusetts Medical School, Worcester, Massachusetts.

Processing Information: This collection was processed by Rose Koven, March/April 2017.

Biographical Note

Richard V. Aghababian was born in Boston on July 7, 1948 and grew up in Newton, MA. He graduated from Harvard College with a degree in biochemistry in 1970, and was a member of the first class of the University of Massachusetts Medical School, matriculating in fall of 1970. He did his first clerkship at Saint Vincent’s hospital in Worcester, MA in the surgery department, and graduated with the first class from the University of Massachusetts Medical School in 1974. His internship and junior residency in internal medicine was at Mt. Auburn Hospital in Cambridge from 1974 to 1976. From 1976 to 1978 he did a fellowship in emergency medicine, which had recently been established with funding from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, at the University of California San Francisco, a Level I Trauma Center. In 1978 he accepted a position as Chief of the Emergency Department at Burbank
Hospital in Fitchburg, MA and also began teaching at UMass Worcester. While at Burbank he became involved in Emergency Medical Systems (EMS) education by helping to train paramedics and developed Burbank’s emergency program into a Level II Trauma Center, the only Level II Trauma Center in central Massachusetts outside of the City of Worcester at the time.

In 1983 he became the Division Director of the Division of Cardiology and Emergency Medicine and began working towards developing the Department of Emergency Medicine at UMass Medical. He was the first Professor of Emergency Medicine at UMass Medical. Along with Dr. H. Brownell Wheeler and Dr. Wayne Silva he developed the Level I Trauma Center at UMass Medical, which included developing the helicopter and ambulance systems for transporting patients. He became the founding chairman of the Department of Emergency Medicine at UMass Memorial Health Care and an associate dean of continuing education at the University of Massachusetts Medical School.

During his time at Burbank he was elected President of the Massachusetts Chapter of the American College of Emergency Physicians. He also served as President of the American College of Emergency Physicians in 1995, and from 2012-2013 he served as President of the Massachusetts Medical Society. He was the editor of two emergency medicine textbooks, *Essentials of Emergency Medicine* and *Emergency Medicine: The Core Curriculum*.

Dr. Aghababian volunteered his time and expertise to help develop Emergency Medicine Systems around the world including in Armenia, Guatemala, and Mexico. In the fall of 2001 the Worcester District Medical Society awarded Dr. Aghababian the Dr. A. Jane Fitzpatrick Community Service Award for his national and international work on developing Emergency Medicine Systems. In 2007 he was awarded the Annual Health Care Heroes Award from the *Worcester Business Journal*.

In 1972 he married Ann E. Bachini. They had a daughter Emily and a son Andrew. Dr. Aghababian died October 1, 2014 at the age of 66.

**Scope and Content**

This collection contains material relating to Dr. Aghababian’s education and career at the University of Massachusetts Medical School from 1970 through 2006. The bulk of the collection is Dr. Aghababian’s collection of University of Massachusetts publications. The collection also includes records from his time as a medical student, publications by Dr. Aghababian, correspondence, photographs, and a CD-ROM.

**Series and Subseries in the Collection**

The collection is arranged in nine series according to topic area or record type, three of which are further arranged into subseries according to topic area. The series contain folders arranged chronologically or alphabetically, depending on the topic. The material in each folder is also, for the most part, arranged either chronologically or alphabetically. Folders 3 and 10 in Box 1 are the only exceptions. They are both in Aghababian’s original order, and were the only two folders where this arrangement was applicable. The series and subseries of the collection are as follows:

**Series I. Medical School, 1970 – 1975**

- A. Student (Box 1, Folders 1 – 5)
- B. Faculty (Box 1, Folder 6)
C. Student Rosters (Restricted) (Box 1, Folder 7)

Series II. Dr. Aghababian’s Publications, 1990 – 2000 (Box 1, Folder 8)

Series III. University of Massachusetts Medical School, 1981 – 2005
   A. General (Box 1, Folder 9)
   B. 25th Anniversary, 1995 (Box 1, Folder 10)

Series IV. Correspondence, 1983 – 2009 (Box 1, Folder 11)

Series V. University of Massachusetts Publications, 1985 – 2013
   A. Periodicals, Newspapers, Reports (Box 1, Folders 12 – 43)
   B. Brochures, Pamphlets, Programs (Box 1, Folders 44 - 48)
   C. Catalogs and Student Handbooks, 1970 – 2009 (Box 1, Folders 49 – 51)

Series VI. Other Publications (Box 2, Folders 1 – 6)

Series VII. Newspapers Clippings, 1974 – 2006 (Box 2, Folder 7)

Series VIII. Photographs (Box 2, Folder 8)

Series IX. Audio-Visual Materials (Box 2, Folder 9)

BOX 1
Series I: Medical School, 1970 – 1975

Scope and Content: This series contains materials related to Dr. Aghababian’s time as a student at the University of Massachusetts Medical School from 1970 – 1975, including correspondence, paper drafts, a textbook, tuition receipts, graduation materials, student rosters (restricted), and a list of faculty.

Series I – A: Student (Folder 1 – 5)

Scope and Content: This subsseries contains materials related to Dr. Aghababian’s time as a student. This includes tuition receipts, textbooks, graduation materials, and some correspondences.

Folder 1.1: 1970
   2. Letter, Lamar Soutter to Richard V. Aghababian, March 6, 1970, Subject: Update on progress of the school
3. Receipt of tuition payment, August 16, 1970
4. Welcoming Address to the First Class at the University of Massachusetts Medical School by Lamar Soutter on September 15, 1970

Folder 1.2: 1971-1972
1. Pathology, University of Massachusetts Medical School, 1971-72, Textbook

Folder 1.3: 1972 – 1973
1. Drafts and research related to “A Study of the Incidence and Reporting of Viral Hepatitis in Three Massachusetts Cities”, co-authored by Richard Aghababian

Folder 1.4: 1973
1. Letter of Recommendation, Roger B. Hickler to Edward W. Ciriacy, October 8, 1973
2. Letter of Recommendation, Hugh S. Fulmer to Edward W. Ciriacy, October 30, 1973, 2 copies

Folder 1.5: 1974
1. Copy of program from UMass Medical School’s first graduation, May 25th 1974

Series I – B: Faculty (Folder 6)

Scope and Content: This subseries contains a list of faculty with Names, Address, Department, College, Prof. Experience, and Major Research Interests.

Folder 1.6: Faculty
1. List of Faculty with names, addresses, and research areas

Series I – C: Student Rosters (Restricted) (Folder 7)

Scope and Content: This subseries contains student rosters for the graduating classes of 1974 and 1975. This material is restricted.

Folder 1.7: Student Rosters, access restricted
1. University of Massachusetts Medical School: Students – 1970
2. University of Massachusetts Medical School: Students – 1970
3. Class of 1974: Students 1970 – University of Massachusetts Medical School
Series II: Dr. Aghababian’s Publications, 1990 – 2000 (Folder 8)

Scope and Content: This series contains publications authored or coauthored by Dr. Aghababian from 1990 – 2000.

Folder 1.8: Dr. Aghababian’s Publications, 1990 - 2000


Series III: University of Massachusetts Medical School, 1981 – 2005

Scope and Content: This series contains documents related to the University of Massachusetts Medical School from 1981 to 2005 and includes promotion documentation, a brief history of the University, documents relating to the Lazare Review committee, and documents related to the celebration of the 25th Anniversary Celebration of the University of Massachusetts Medical School in 1995.

Series III - A: General (Folder 9)

Scope and Content: This series contains documents related to the University of Massachusetts Medical School from 1981 to 2005 and includes promotion documentation, a brief history of the University, documents relating to the Lazare Review committee, and correspondence.

Folder 1.9: General, access restricted

1. Reappointment documentation for Aghababian as an Assistant Professor, 1981
   access restricted

2. Promotion documentation for Aghababian, 1981 access restricted

3. Salary Increase documentation for Aghababian, 1981 access restricted

5. Letter from Jack Wilson to Aaron Lazare, dated September 12, 2005, subject: Lazare review Committee
6. Lazare Review Committee report, no date
7. Review and Self Assessment by Aaron Lazare, MD, dated May 2005

Series III - B: 25th Anniversary, 1995 (Folder 10)

_Scope and Content:_ This subseries contains documents related to the celebration of the 25th Anniversary Celebration of the University of Massachusetts Medical School in 1995.

Folder 1.10:
1. Aghababian’s name card from 25th Anniversary event
2. 25th Anniversary program card with envelope
3. “The Best of Times…” program, a musical performed September 16, 1995 to celebrate UMMC’s 25th Anniversary
4. Aghababian’s 25th Anniversary reunion weekend envelope containing Welcome Letter and morning program for Saturday September 16, 1995

Series IV: Correspondence, 1983 – 2009 (Folder 11)

_Scope and Content:_ This series contains correspondence either to or about Dr. Aghababian from 1983 to 2009.

Folder 1.11: Correspondence, 1983 – 2009
1. Card, Peggy Thrappas to Dr. Aghababian, no date. Subject: Thank you note
2. Memo, Janice B. Wyatt and Barbara Bahlke to All Department Heads, February 11, 1983. Subject: Hospital Long Range Plan
4. Letter, Arthur Russo to UMMC Faculty Member, February 27, 1995. Subject: Program to Achieve Clinical Systems Superiority
5. Letter, Ellen More to Sona Husisian, November 3, 2009. Subject: Thank you note for a donation from Husisian to the archives conveyed by Dr. Aghababian


_Scope and Content:_ This series contains publications from the University of Massachusetts from 1985 – 2013 collected by Dr. Aghababian. The bulk of this series is Periodicals, Newspapers, and Reports. The series is broken up into three subseries. The contents of the subseries B: Brochures, Pamphlets, Programs has mostly been removed and placed in the University of Massachusetts Medical
School Publications Collection, 1976 – ongoing. A few items from the other subseries have also been moved from this collection. Most of the items in this series were published by the University of Massachusetts Medical School, however there are a few items published by the University of Massachusetts.

**Series V – A: Periodicals, Newspapers, Reports (Folders 12 – 43)**

*Scope and Content:* This subseries contains Periodicals, Newspapers and Reports published by the University of Massachusetts between 1985 and 2013. Duplicate copies were removed and de-accessed. These changes are noted on the item level.

1. March 1985 Vol. III, No. 1
2. Summer 1994 Vol. 4, No. 1

Folder 1.13: Annual Reports, 1982 – 2012
1. UMMC 1982
2. UMMC 1985
3. UMMC 1990
4. UMMC 1992

Folder 1.14: Annual Reports, 1982 – 2012
1. UMMC 1993
2. UMMC 1995 – duplicate removed
3. UMMC 1996 – duplicate removed

Folder 1.15: Annual Reports, 1982 – 2012
1. UMMC 1997 – 2 duplicates removed
2. UMMC 1998 – 2 duplicates removed
3. UMMC 1999

Folder 1.16: Annual Reports, 1982 – 2012
1. UMMS 2000 – Vitae: Vol. 23 No. 2 – 2 duplicates removed
2. UMMS 2002 – Vitae: Vol. 25 No. 2 – duplicate removed
3. UMMS 2003 – Vitae: Vol. 26 No. 2

Folder 1.17: Annual Reports, 1982 – 2012
1. UMMS 2004 – Vitae: Vol. 27 No. 2 – 2 duplicates removed
2. UMMS 2006 – Vitae: Vol. 29 No. 2 – 3 duplicates removed
3. UMMS 2007 – Vitae: Vol. 30 No. 2
Folder 1.18: Annual Reports, 1982 – 2012
   1. UMMS 2008 – *Vitae*: Vol. 31 No. 2
   2. UMMS 2009 – *Vitae*: Vol. 32 No. 2 – duplicate removed

Folder 1.19: Annual Reports, 1982 – 2012
   1. Office of Faculty Affairs, AY 2007 – 2008

Folder 1.20: Annual Reports 1982 – 2012

Folder 1.21: Annual Reports, 1982 – 2012
   1. Annual Reports of Donors 2009
   2. Annual Reports of Donors 2012

Folder 1.22: Centerscope, 1996
   1. September, 1996 Vol. XXI, No. 3

Folder 1.23: Developments, 2008 – 2009
   1. Sep 2008
   2. Dec 2009

   1. April 2000 Vol. 2, No. 9
   3. May 2007 Vol. 9, No. 9
   4. July 2008 Vol. 10, No. 10

Folder 1.25: Invision, 2010
   1. Winter 2010 – Removed and placed in Periodicals Collection

Folder 1.26: Messenger, 1999
   1. August 26, 1999

Folder 1.27: News & Views, 2007

Folder 1.28: On Call!, 1994
   1. Fall 1994 Vol. 1, No. 1
Folder 1.29: Pathways, 2006
1. Summer 2006

Folder 1.30: President’s Report, 2007 – 2010
1. AY 2007 – 2008
2. 2010

Folder 1.31: SoutteReview, 2009
1. Summer 2009 Issue 33 – 2 duplicates removed

1. 2010, Year in Review Volume 1, No. 1
2. 2012, Research
3. 2012, Year in Review
4. 2013, The Albert Sherman Center

Folder 1.33: UMass Medical Center, 1979
1. December 1979 Volume II, No. 2

Folder 1.34: UMass Medical Center Quarterly, 1982
1. (Fall 1982) Volume V, No. 1

Folder 1.35: UMass Medical Center Magazine, 1994 - 1997
2. Fall/Winter 1994 Volume 17, Issue 1
4. Spring/Summer 1996 Volume 18, Issue 2

Folder 1.36: UMass Medical Center Magazine, 1994 – 1997
1. Fall/Winter 1996 Volume 19, Issue 1
2. Spring/Summer 1997 Volume 19, Issue 2 – duplicate removed
3. Fall/Winter 1997 Volume 20, Issue 1 – 3 duplicates removed

Folder 1.37: UMass Medical School Magazine, 1998
1. Fall/Winter 1998 Volume 21, Issue 1 – 3 duplicates removed

Folder 1.38: The Vibe@ The School of Medicine, 2010 – 2012
1. Summer 2010 – Removed and placed Periodicals Collection
2. Summer 2012 – Removed and placed Periodicals Collection

Folder 1.39: Vitae, 1999 – 2010
1. Spring/Summer 1999 Vol. 21, No. 2 – 2 duplicates removed
2. Fall/Winter 1999 Vol. 22, No. 1 – duplicate removed
4. Fall/Winter 2000 Vol. 23, No. 1

Folder 1.40: Vitae, 1999 – 2010
1. Spring/Summer 2001 Vol. 23, No. 3
2. Fall/Winter 2002 Vol. 25, No. 1 – duplicate removed
4. Fall/Winter 2003 Vol. 26, No. 1

Folder 1.41: Vitae, 1999 – 2010
2. Fall/Winter 2004 Vol. 27, No. 1 – duplicate removed
4. Fall/Winter 2005 Vol. 28, No. 1 – duplicate removed

Folder 1.42: Vitae, 1999 – 2010
1. Spring/Summer 2006 Vol. 28, No. 3
2. Fall/Winter 2006 Vol. 29, No. 1 – duplicate removed, Nobel Issue
3. Spring/Summer 2007 Vol. 29, No. 3
4. Fall/Winter 2007 Vol. 30, No. 1

Folder 1.43: Vitae, 1999 – 2010
1. Spring/Summer 2008 Vol. 30, No. 3
2. Fall/Winter 2008 Vol. 31, No. 1
3. Spring/Summer 2009 Vol. 31, No. 3
4. Spring/Summer 2010 Vol. 32, No. 1 – duplicate removed

Series V – B: Brochures, Pamphlets, Programs (Folder 44 – 48)
Scope and Content: This subseries contains Brochures, Pamphlets, and Programs published by the University of Massachusetts between 1985 and 2013. Unless otherwise indicated, these have been removed and placed in the University of Massachusetts Medical School Publications Collection, 1976 – ongoing.

Folder 1.44: General
1. Partners in Service – UMass Medical School and the Community (remains with collection)
2. University of Massachusetts Medical Center Worcester - Achieving a Dream, A Commemorative
3. University of Massachusetts Medical Center Worcester - Achieving a Dream, A Commemorative, photocopy (remains with Collection)
4. University of Massachusetts at Worcester – The Medical School
5. UMass Performance – Accountable and on the Move
6. UMass Cancer Center – Clinical Care and Research, Worcester Massachusetts
7. UMass Medical Center – An Introduction, 1991 (remains with collection)
8. UMass Medical Center – In Brief (had two, one remains with collection)
9. UMass Medical Center – Mission, Objective, and Operating Principles (had two, one remains with collection)

Folder 1.45: General
1. UMass Medical Center – Department of Medicine Research Programs
2. UMass Medical School – A Comprehensive Guide to Accredited Continuing Medical Education Program Planning, Updated 06/10/02 (remains with collection)
3. University of Massachusetts Medical School – Profile
4. The University of Massachusetts Medical School is Please to Announce the Appointment of Michael F. Collins, MD as Chancellor – 2008
5. UMass Medical School Message to Graduate, spiral bound (remains with collection)
6. UMass Medical School – UMass Memorial Health Care – Academic Health Science Center Strategic Plan – FY 2009-2014
7. UMass Memorial – Building Our Future – The Lakeside Expansion Project at UMass Memorial Medical Center – University Campus (remains with collection)

Folder 1.46: Events

Folder 1.47: Inauguration
1. William M, Bulger, 24th President of UMass – September 18th, 1997
2. William M, Bulger, 24th President of UMass, Inaugural Address – September 18th, 1997

Folder 1.48: Investiture
1. September 17, 2009

Series V – C: Catalogs and Student Handbooks, 1970 – 2009 (Folders 49 – 51)

Scope and Content: This subseries contain Catalogs and Student Handbooks published by the University of Massachusetts from 1970 – 2009.

Folder 1.49: School of Medicine, 1970 – 2009
1. 1970-1971 Medical School, Blue cover – 2 copies
2. 1970-1971
3. 1973-1974
4. 1983-1984

Folder 1.50: School of Medicine, 1970 – 2009
1. 1995-1997
2. 2007-2009

Folder 1.51: Student Handbooks, 1988-1989
1. UMMS Student Handbook 1988-89

BOX 2

Series VI: Other Publications (Folders 1 – 6)

Scope and Content: This series contains publications collected by Dr. Aghababian that were not published by University of Massachusetts nor co-authored by Dr. Aghababian. Most of these publications are either by organizations in the Worcester area or authored by someone in the University of Massachusetts community.

Folder 2.1: Back grounder
1. “Westborough Rotary Club’s “Guatemala Project” Expands Again”. Dr. Aghababian provided medical oversight of the project. Back grounder is associated with Cotton Tales, Westborough rotary Club News.

Folder 2.2: Worcester District Medical Society’s 2001 Fall District Meeting
1. Program - November 14, 2001. Dr. Aghababian received award. 2 copies

Folder 2.3: Worcester Medical News
Folder 2.4: Worcester Medicine
2. Vol. 57 No. 4, Fall 1991

Folder 2.5: JAMA

Folder 2.6: Annals of Emergency Medicine

Series VII: Newspapers Clippings, 1974 – 2006 (Folder 7)

Scope and Content: This series contains photocopies of newspaper clippings collected by Dr. Aghababian about himself and the University of Massachusetts Medical School between 1974 and 2006.

Folder 2.7: Newspapers Clippings, 1974 - 2006
1. June 4th, 1970, article about Medical School opening in Worcester, with pictures of first class in Globe
3. “Burbank Doctor Elected President of State Unite”, Sentinel-Enterprise, Fitchburg, MA, Thursday, no date
5. “Celebrating the Past, Shaping the Future: University of Massachusetts Worcester turns 25” A Special Advertising supplement to the Telegram & Gazette, September 10, 1995

Series VIII: Photographs (Folder 8)

Scope and Content: This series contains black and white photographs of staff and students at University of Massachusetts Medical School, Color photographs of Dr. Aghababian, two negatives, and a slide.

Folder 2.8: Photographs
1. B/W – Negative – Man in Lacrosse gear in front of window and chair, no date
2. B/W – Photo – Man in Lacrosse gear in front of window and chair, no date
3. Color – Slide – Main in Lacrosse gear in front of window and chair, no date
4. B/W – Negative of Man in Lacrosse gear in front of window, no date
5. B/W – Photo – Department of Medicine Housestaff 1987
6. B/W – Photo – Department of Medicine Housestaff & Faculty 1988
7. B/W – Photo of Department of Medicine Housestaff and Faculty 1989
8. B/W – Head Shots – University of Massachusetts Medical School Class of 1990
12. Color – Photo – Aghababian in front of Ambulance with three other men, came with ASA card from Lisa Connor to Richard Aghababian date 8/30/94, subject of the card is the photograph

**Series IX: Audio-Visual Materials (Folder 9)**

*Scope and Content:* This series contains a CD – ROM with photographs of the first graduating class of the University of Massachusetts Medical School.

Folder 2.9: Audio-Visual Materials

1. CD-ROM, contains 4 files. 2 image files of picture first class in suites, one yellow and one color adjusted. 1 image file of first class in cap and gowns. 1 pdf of image file of first class in cap and gowns.