Body of Knowledge Receives “Great Exhibition” Award

Preparation showing head and neck with arteries, 1856, Warren Anatomical Museum in the Francis A. Countway Library of Medicine [WAM 00301]

The collaborative exhibition Body of Knowledge: A History of Anatomy (in Three Parts) has been awarded the 2014 Prize in the Small Exhibition category of the British Society for the History of Science Great Exhibition Competition for Exhibits on the History of Science, Technology or Medicine.

The exhibition narrative covered approximately 500 years of anatomical history and was the result of a special curatorial collaboration by the Center for the History of Medicine, Harvard University’s Department of the History of Science, the Collection of Historical Scientific Instruments, the Francis A. Countway Library of Medicine, Harvard Medical School’s Program in Medical Education, and Harvard Museums of Science and Culture. It was sponsored by the David P. Wheatland Charitable Trust, the Ackerman Program on Medicine & Culture, the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, and Harvard Museums of Science and Culture.

Three Center staff members were part of the curatorial team that designed and installed the exhibition. Scott Podolsky, the Center’s Director, Jack Eckert, the Public Services Librarian, and Dominic Hall, the Warren Anatomical Museum Curator, all worked to select the items on display, craft the label copy and generate the exhibition’s themes and narrative. David Jones, the A. Bernard Ackerman Professor of the Culture of Medicine and the chair of the Center for the History of Medicine’s Advisory Committee, was also part of the curatorial group. The entire team can be found here.

Limited time remains to see the award-winning exhibit. It closes December 5th at the Collection of Historical Scientific Instruments.