First
Prospects of the
Medical College of Louisiana
1834
In selecting St. Louis as a place for the location of their school, the undersigned have been governed by the following among other considerations:

1. Because it is the largest and not populous town in the South West, and the most accessible to students.

2. Because its hospitals which will be close to the undersigned for the purpose of instruction are the largest in the Southern Union States, so that practical medicine and surgery can be taught at the bedside of the patient, — the only proper place for their study.

3. Because the study of anatomy can be prosecuted with more advantage, and at a cheaper rate here than in any other city in the U.S.

4. Because St. Louis is so healthy during eight months in the year, that students can remain in it, and study the different types of disease at different seasons.
5th. Because it is a commercial town, and more surgical accidents occur to men than to any other class of individuals, and it is consequently the best field for the study of surgery in the South West.

6th. Because in consequence of its great population its hospitals are always filled with patients.

7th. Because, as the undenominated pledge tenured students can get board at $25. a month.

The lectures of the Med. Col. of S.C. will commence on the 1st Monday of January 1835 and will continue for four months from that day.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Degree</th>
<th>Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thos. Hunt</td>
<td>M.D.</td>
<td>Prof. of Anat. &amp; Physiology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jr. Harrison</td>
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<td>Adjunct</td>
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<td>Char. A. Lenzberg</td>
<td>M.D.</td>
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<td>J. Summ. M.</td>
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<td>Thos. P. Ingalls</td>
<td>M.D.</td>
<td>Prof. Chemistry</td>
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<td>Augustus H. Caesar</td>
<td>M.D.</td>
<td>Prof. Hist. &amp; Biblical</td>
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Thos. Hunt, M.D. Dean of the Faculty.
"THE PROSPECTUS"

Officially titled, "The First Circular or Prospectus of the Medical College of Louisiana," this is the original document pertaining to the establishment of Tulane University. The manuscript served as copy for the printed announcement of, and justification for, the founding of the first medical school in New Orleans. It was drafted on 23 September 1834 by Dr. Thomas Hunt with the assistance of Drs. John H. Harrison and Warren Stone. The Prospectus was published a week later, on 29 September 1834, in French and English versions, on the front page of the L'Abéille (The Bee), the local, bilingual newspaper. A verbatim typescript of the manuscript is printed on the reverse of this sheet.

The Prospectus caused a storm of controversy in New Orleans at the time. The "French" physicians of the community were outraged that the youthful "American" physicians (the eldest of the three founders was twenty-six) should presume the latter were more qualified to teach medicine than the former.

With the formation of additional colleges, the Medical College of Louisiana evolved into the University of Louisiana in 1847. The University was renamed Tulane University, and became a wholly private institution, in 1884.

Little is known about the subsequent history of The Prospectus manuscript: where it was kept, who cared for it, or how it was handed down. The best guess is that it was preserved in the care of successive Deans of the School of Medicine or their assistants. In 1982 it was transferred from the Office of the Chancellor to the Archives of the Rudolph Matas Medical Library. The manuscript was first exhibited on 6 June 1987 at the Graduation Reception of the School of Medicine Class of 1987. Its condition is fragile and display is rare, limited to the most important School of Medicine and University anniversaries and ceremonies.

The pedestal and case for the preservation and display of The Prospectus manuscript was provided through the generosity of the School of Medicine Class of 1987 and the efforts of Gordon Patrick Marshall, M.D., Class President.
1st Circular or "Prospectus" of Med. College of La. 1834

"In selecting N. Orleans as a place for the location of their school the undersigned have been governed by the following among other considerations:

1st. Because it is the largest and most populous town in the South West, and the most accessible to students.

2d. Because its Hospitals which will be open to the undersigned for the purpose of instruction are the largest in the Southern and Western States; so that practical Medicine and Surgery can be taught at the bedside of the patient, -- the only proper place for their study.

3d. Because the study of Anatomy can be prosecuted with more advantage, and at a cheaper rate here than in any other city in the U.S.

4th. Because N.O. is so healthy during eight months in the year, that students can remain in it, and study the different types of disease at different seasons.

5th. Because it is a commercial town, and more surgical accidents occur to seamen than to any other class of individuals, and it is consequently the best field for the study of Surgery in the South West.

6th. Because in consequence of its great population its hospitals are always filled with patients.

7th. Because, as the undersigned pledge themselves, students can get board at $25. a month."

The Lectures of the Med. Col. of La. will commence on the 1st Monday of January 1835, and will continue for four months from that day --

Thos. Hunt
Jno. Harrison
Chas. A. Luzenberg
J. Munro Mackie
Thos. R. Ingalls
Edwin Balhurst Smith
Augustus H. Cenas

M.D. Prof. of Anat. & Physiolgy
M.D. Adjunct "
M.D. Prof. Surgery
M.D. Prof. Chemistry
M.D. Prof. Mat. Med.

Thos. Hunt
M.D. Dean of the Faculty

[23 September 1834]