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A Guide to the  
David Y. Cooper, born 1924,  
Papers, 1821 - 1999 (bulk 1978- 1990)

7.5 Cubic ft.

UPT50 C776

Prepared by Norma Rosado-Blake  
January 2005

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**PROVENANCE**

Gift of Dr. David Y. Cooper (1948, M.D.) on 21 June 2004 (accession 2004:42)

**ARRANGEMENT**

The David Y. Cooper Papers are organized into the following series and sub-series: Innovation and Tradition at the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine, original drafts, second drafts, third drafts; Research, Bound volumes, David Young Cooper Collection Abstracts and Papers; Photographs; Historical medical text books; Film. All series and sub-series are arranged in alphabetical order with the exception of the Innovation and Tradition series, which is arranged by chapter.

## **BIOGRAPHICAL HISTORY**

David Young Cooper, was born on 14 August 1924 in Henderson, North Carolina. He prepared for college at the Woodbury Forest School in Orange, Virginia, where he took a strong interest in science. He studied chemistry at University of North Carolina from 1942 to 1944 and earned its degree of Bachelor of Science in Medicine in 1946. While a student at North Carolina he entered the United States Naval Reserve (USNR) and served two years of active duty, 1943 - 45. In 1946 he entered the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine, where he earned its Doctor of Medicine degree two years later. Following graduation he interned at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania (HUP) for a year.

He returned to active duty with the USNR in 1949, continuing in the service until the end of 1952. He rose to the rank of Lieutenant and received an honorable discharge in 1958.

In 1953 to 1957 he was a resident in surgery at HUP. During those years he performed dual duties as a resident and a fellow of the Department of Surgical Research. He earned board certification in surgery in 1959 and was appointed to the faculty of the University of Pennsylvania in the Harrison Department of Surgical Research. He spent his entire career at Penn before retiring and being named Professor Emeritus in 2004.

Dr. Cooper's most notable contributions in the medical field include the discovery of the role of cytochrome P-450, which is a series of enzymes found in the body, and the introduction

of mouth -to-mouth artificial respiration. <sup>1</sup> “Discovery of cytochrome P -450 is critical to understanding the role of drug metabolism and drug interaction.”<sup>2</sup>

During his long career he wrote dozens of scholarly articles and at least two books. One in particular that he co -authored, *Innovation and Tradition at the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine: An Anecdotal Journey*, (1990), was published in conjunction with the 225<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Penn’s medical school.

His belongs to several professional organizations such as the American Association for the Advancement of Science and the New York Academy of Science. He has served on several local and national committees, such as the National Institute of Health.

## SCOPE AND CONTENT

Dr. Cooper’s life -long study of medicine has produced a prolific career. He has contributed primarily to biochemistry and pharmacology research. However his career has taken him into other fields of research such as the history of science and medicine. The collection reflects his interest. It consists of Dr. Cooper ’s professional papers from 1950 to the 1990s. There are six bound volumes of published papers from 1950 to 1985 and three unbound volumes

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<sup>1</sup> *Update, Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania*. Sept. 11, 1999, vol. 10, issue 7.

<sup>2</sup> Source: <http://www.edhayes.com/startp450.html>

**David Y. Cooper Papers**  
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of papers including letters, manuscripts and photographs from 1978 to 1990s. In addition to his personal papers, the collection consists of several books from his personal library. The collection includes nineteen books on various medical subjects, such as female medicine and surgery. Eight volumes pertain to medical history and biography. The remaining items are medical instruction and general medical information books. One other item in the collection includes a reel of film, thought to be of Prof. Harvey's medical lectures.

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David Y. Cooper, 1924-  
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INVENTORY

*Innovation and Tradition at the Univ. of Pa. School of Medicine*  
Original draft

Box 1	FF 1	Chapter 1
	FF 2	Chapter 2
	FF 3	Chapter 3
	FF 4	Chapter 4
	FF 5	Chapter 5
	FF 6	Chapter 6
	FF 7	Chapter 7
	FF 8	Chapter 9
	FF 9	Chapter 10
	FF 10	Chapter 11
	FF 11	Chapter 12
	FF 12	Chapter 13

**David Y. Cooper Papers**  
**UPT 50 C776**  
**Inventory**

*Innovation and Tradition at the Univ. of Pa. School of Medicine*

Original draft

Box 1	FF 14	Chapter 1 (spiral bound)
	FF 15	Chapter 2 (spiral bound)
	FF 16	Chapter 3 (spiral bound)

Second draft

	FF 17	Chapter 1
	FF 18	Chapter 2
	FF 19	Chapter 3
	FF 20	Chapter 3 (continued)
	FF 21	Chapter 4
	FF 22	Chapter 10
	FF 23	Chapter 12
	FF 24	Chapter 14
	FF 25	Chapter 16
	FF 26	Chapter 17
	FF 27	Chapter 18
	FF 28	Chapter 20

Third draft

Box 2	FF 1	Chapter 1
	FF 2	Chapter 2

*Innovation and Tradition at the Univ. of Pa. School of Medicine*

Third draft

Box 2	FF 3	Chapter 3
	FF 4	Chapter 4
	FF 5	Chapter 5
	FF 6	Chapter 7
	FF 7	Chapter 8
	FF 8	Chapter 9
	FF 9	Chapter 10
	FF 10	Chapter 11
	FF 11	Chapter 12
	FF 12	Chapter 13

Fourth draft

	FF 14	Chapter 2
	FF 15	Chapter 3
	FF 16	Chapter 4
	FF 17	Chapter 5
	FF 18	Chapter 9
	FF 19	Chapter 10
	FF 20	Chapter 11

David Y. Cooper Papers  
UPT 50 C776  
Inventory

*Innovation and Tradition at the Univ. of Pa. School of Medicine*

Fourth draft

Box 2	FF 21	Chapter 12
	FF 22	Chapter 13
	FF 23	Chapter 14
	FF 24	Chapter 15
	FF 25	Chapter 16
	FF 26	Miscellaneous
	FF 27	<i>Contributions of the University of Pennsylvania and Its Medical School to Medical Science, Volume 1</i>

**Research**

Collected Abstracts and Papers (bound volumes)

	FF 28	Volume I, 1985
	FF 29	Volume II, 1985
	FF 30	Volume III, 1985
	FF 31	Volume IV, 1985
Box 3	FF 1	Volume V, 1985
	FF 2	Published papers on Cytochrome P-450, 1968, 2003
	FF 3	Personal account of Mott Cannon by G.J. Mannering, September 1992
	FF 4	Articles related to the history of Cytochrome P-450 and medical education in binder, 1978-1991

**David Y. Cooper Papers**  
**UPT 50 C776**  
**Inventory**

**Research (cont.)**

- Box 3    FF 5            Published papers on Cytochrome P-450 and history of medical education in binder, 1986-1999
- FF 6            Drug metabolism in binder, c. 1990

**Photographs**

- FF 4            Colleagues [unknown], c. 1990
- FF 5            The 4th International Symposium on Molecular Steroidogenesis, 25 August 1999, 28 August

**Historical Medical Text Books**

- FF 6            *American Medical Biographies*, 1920
- FF 7            *American Medical Biography*, 1861
- FF 8            *A Cyclopedia of American Medical Biography*, Volume I, 1912
- FF 9            *A Cyclopedia of American Medical Biography*, Volume II, 1912
- FF 10          *The Early History of Medicine in Philadelphia*, 1886
- FF 11          *Elements of Surgery*, Volume I, 1813
- Box 7    FF 1            *Elements of Surgery*, Volume II, 1813
- FF 2            *An Eulogium on William P. Dewees*, M.D., 1842
- FF 3            *Female Perineum*, 1882
- FF 4            *History of the Life of D. Hayes Agnew, M.D.*, 1892
- FF 5            *The History of Medical Department of the University of Pennsylvania*, 1869

**David Y. Cooper Papers**  
**UPT 50 C776**  
**Inventory**

**Historical Medical Text Books (cont.)**

*The Philadelphia Journal of Medical and Physical Sciences*

Box 7	FF 6	Volume II, 1821
	FF 7	Volume III, 1821
	FF 8	Volume IV, 1822
	FF 9	Volume V, 1822
	FF 10	Volume VI, 1823
	FF 11	Volume VII, 1823
Box 8	FF 1	Volume VIII, 1824
	FF 2	Volume IX, 1824
	FF 3	Volume I (new series), 1825
	FF 5	<i>The Principles and Practice of Obstetrics</i> 1866

**Film**

Oversize 1	Professor Harvey's lectures, c. 1960
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*Return to main page for this collection*



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