

Acknowledgments

Towards the end of 2002, Drs. George A. O. Alleyne and David Brandling-Bennett, then Director and Deputy Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau, the Secretariat of the Pan American Health Organization, gave me the opportunity to do some research, which turned into this book and became a true joy for me. So I should start by thanking them. I am also indebted to the 2001–2002 Fulbright New Century Scholars Program, Challenges of Health in a Borderless World, directed by Dr. Ilona Kickbusch, in which I participated during 2002. Many of the ideas that helped me to organize my research were developed during the course of this program. I am also eternally grateful to Dr. Mirta Roses Periago, the current Director of the Bureau, who supported the project of writing a history of the Organization.

Special recognition goes to Dr. Judith Navarro, Manager of PAHO's Publications Area, and the members of her team, for their support throughout the process of researching and editing the manuscript.

During the first five months of 2004, thanks to a resident research fellowship at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars in Washington, D.C., I was able to devote time to correcting and polishing the manuscript. Many thanks to Dr. Joseph S. Tulchin, Director of the Center's Latin American Program, and Mrs. Rosemary Lyon, Director of the Scholar Selection and Services Office.

I also wish to thank Dr. José Romero Teruel for his invitation to a meeting of former Bureau staff members in late 2002 in Washington, D.C., which was filled with anecdotes and affection for the institution. Dr. Pedro E. Brito, a Headquarters staffer, provided support during various stages of the project.

Thanks also go to the directors and staff of the archives and libraries that I consulted and which are listed in the bibliography. Dr. Elizabeth Fee, Chief of the National Library of Medicine's History of Medicine Division, located in Bethesda, Maryland, U.S.A.; Dr. Ineke Deserno, Head of Records and Archives at WHO in Geneva, Switzerland; Irma Betanzos, Director of the Historical Archives of Mexico's Ministry of Health; and Dr. Darwin Stapleton, Director of the Rockefeller Archive Center in Sleepy Hollow, New York, deserve special mention.

My thanks to the PAHO/WHO Representatives and employees in the countries I visited, and to the managers of the Organization's centers, institutes, and programs who answered my questions and sent me essential information. I especially want to mention Drs. Joaquín Molina, PAHO/WHO Representative in Mexico, and José Moya, a staff member in that Country Office, who made it possible for me to interview Dr. Héctor R. Acuña, former Director of the Sanitary Bureau from 1975 to 1983. In Havana I enjoyed the support of Dr. Eduardo Patricio Yépez and had the honor of talking several times with Dr. Gregorio Delgado García, the noted Cuban medical historian. I was fortunate to have the collaboration of Dr. Manuel Peña, former PAHO/WHO Representative in Jamaica, who taught me about the rich public health tradition of the English-speaking Caribbean. Special recognition goes to Drs. Henri Jouval, PAHO/WHO Representative in Chile, Juan Manuel Sotelo, PAHO/WHO Representative in Argentina, and Patricio Hevia, a prominent former staff member of the Organization. A series of interviews with officials at the PAHO/WHO Country Office in Brazil, as well as the opportunity to consult invaluable texts to which I had access in the Latin American and Caribbean Center on Health Sciences Information, better known as BIREME, in São Paulo, were also very productive.

In Brazil I also received support at an extraordinary center for the history of medicine: the Oswaldo Cruz House of FIOCRUZ, located in Rio de Janeiro and directed by Dr. Nisia Trinidad Lima. Thanks, also, to Dr. Emilio Quevedo of the History of Medicine Center, National University of Colombia. At these two centers, whose activities are part of a new and dynamic history of public health that has emerged in various countries of the Region in recent years, and which are partly reflected in the HISPALC (History of Public Health in Latin America and the Caribbean Network), I was able to review important research material.

In Lima, to which I returned after each research trip, I had the invaluable assistance of a talented young historian to whom I am indebted: José Carlos de la Puente. Also, the PAHO/WHO Country Office in Peru, and Dr. Marie Andrée Diouf-Romisch (who shared with me her valuable prior experience in Haiti), supported my work. I want to express my gratitude for the continuous support of Gaby Caro and the staff of the "Carlos Enrique Paz Soldán" Information and Documentation Center, which operates in that Country Office.

Finally, I am indebted to the officials, teachers, and students of the School of Public Health and Administration, Universidad Peruana Cayetano Heredia in Lima. I am a professor of health history at this university, and I have heard and discussed many of the ideas about what public health has been, is, and can be, in this institution.

Last but certainly not least, and most especially, I must thank my family (Cecilia, Vicente, Alejandra, and Rodrigo) for their encouragement, generosity, and understanding.

Marcos Cueto