Overview: In this lab we explore topics relevant to the histories of psychology and psychiatry. A generally underappreciated specialty, historians of psychology serve important intellectual and even ethical functions for the discipline as a whole (Richards, 2010). In endorsing both, I believe it is particularly important to focus on topics and questions either underrepresented in the literature, or involving participants and/or perspectives falling outside the dominant historical canon. Hence, the laboratory title speaks to both the status and focus of our work!

Currently, we are exploring the historical and contemporary relevance of phrenology. As a late 18th century pseudoscience, the theories of mind (e.g., materiality, localization of mental functions and corresponding brain anatomy) consolidated and advocated by Franz Josef Gall represent an important, if also highly problematic, step in the emergence of neuroscience and scientific psychology. Many of these contributions have been adequately explored in the literature, and are currently enjoying some degree of “rediscovery” by historians of neuroscience. As a 19th century pseudo-professional practice, however, phrenology’s role in American society has yet to be fully appreciated. Occupying a position not dissimilar to psychoanalysis in the first two-thirds of the 20th century, practical phrenology played an important and almost ubiquitous role in shaping concepts of identity and action for 19th century Americans. Particularly noteworthy is how its ideas and practices so effectively crossed gender, socioeconomic, geographic, and racial boundaries.

We are exploring the impact of practical phrenology in two ongoing projects:
1) *Practical phrenology as a pathway to professional identities* for women and people of color (with special interest in Pacific Northwest).
2) *Practical phrenology's role in the emergence of 20th century psychotherapy*.

**Project Duties:** Conducting literature searches and reviews; archival research (electronic and physical archives); presentation development.

**Participation Requirements:** Open to graduate and advanced undergraduate students. For undergraduate participants: completion of PSYC 3700 (students in process will be considered) and HIST 1200, 1210, or 2310. For graduate participants: demonstrated equivalent background.

**Participation Commitment:** Three to six hours per week for two (or more) quarters. Undergraduate students may participate through the Psychology Practicum Program (PSYC 4950; 1-2 credits) or may volunteer. Graduate students may volunteer.

**Participation Process:** Interested students (UG & Grad) should email Dr. Lilleleht to schedule an information interview. In advance of our meeting, students are requested to provide two faculty references (contact information; please inform your references about the project). Undergraduate students interested in participating through the Practicum Program will also need to schedule a meeting with the Psychology Practicum Director (Dr. Katherine Raichle; raichlek@seattleu.edu).