

Midwifery Legacies Project



Twentieth Century Midwives Student Interview Project

Information & Application Packet

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Twentieth Century Midwives – Student Interview Project

INFORMATION & INSTRUCTIONS

Project History

The development of modern midwifery in the United States is due, in part, to the personal commitment of many midwives who practiced during the 1900's. Their stories are rich with determination and surpassing barriers. These stories must be saved for historical purposes and can serve as inspiration for developing student midwives to learn from the previous generation. The acknowledgement that the stories of these midwives are worthy of preservation is also a way of honoring the senior midwives who pioneered the profession on so many fronts.

The Midwifery Legacies Project (MLP), formerly known as the OnGoing Group (OGG), was formed in 2009. MLP is supported by the A.C.N.M. Foundation, Inc., and seeks to honor senior (age 65+) Certified Nurse-Midwives and Certified Midwives through a variety of activities that acknowledge and preserve their contribution to the profession. Current MLP activities include: maintaining a roster of contact information for senior midwives, outreach via an annual Birthday Card greeting, biographical written/video interviews of senior midwives, and student-senior interactions.

The Twentieth Century Midwives – Student Interview Project began in 2010 and has collected numerous personal and professional histories of senior midwives. The stories, along with the student authors' names, are archived at the A.C.N.M. Foundation, Inc. headquarters as part of the *Twentieth Century Midwives Story Collection*. Interview content is used in print and electronic form to publicize the midwifery profession.

Eligibility Criteria

Students (SNMs/SMs) who are members of ACNM and enrolled in a midwifery education program accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Midwifery Education (ACME) are eligible to participate.

Senior midwife interviewees are *not required* to have been members of ACNM, or maintain current membership to be selected for participation in the interview project.

Course Credit Recommendations

Midwifery faculty members are encouraged to consider offering participation in this project as part of their program's curriculum. Students should check with their education program's faculty to determine whether participation can count toward course credit.

***Please note:** The A.C.N.M. Foundation, Inc. discourages faculty from mandating student participation as part of coursework, but it does support the offering of participation as an alternative or bonus assignment for course credit.*

Interview write-ups should be creatively portrayed and are not required follow any particular manuscript format (e.g. APA, MLA, etc...). In fact, prior awardees were most successful if they

incorporated color and creativity in the preparation of their interview manuscript rather than strictly adhering to document formats that are usually applied to scholarly/scientific publications.

Awards

In addition to the joy and learning of conducting a senior midwife interview, prizes are awarded to students whose interview project is outstanding. Judging of completed interview projects is conducted annually in late spring, with announcement of winners occurring at the ACNM annual meeting.

First Place*	\$1,000
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**Additional prizes and recognition levels may be available and are considered based on the number of project participants and funding availability from the A.C.N.M. Foundation, Inc.*

Important Dates

Deadline to submit Student Application for Participation	<i>February 15</i>
Deadline for Submission of Completed Interview Project	<i>April 1</i>

Instructions for Student Participants

First Steps:

- Review the entire information packet
- Seek support from a midwifery faculty member or your program director, and advise them of your intention to participate in the interview project
- Submit a completed & signed copy of the Student Application For Participation (*page 7*), via email to the A.C.N.M. Foundation: fdn@acnm.org

Student – Senior Matching Process:

- Student applications are reviewed on a first-come, first-serve basis
- Students can either request approval for a senior midwife interviewee of their choice **OR** opt to be assigned a senior midwife interviewee from the project database.

Please note: *Senior midwife interviewees must be at least 65 years old, and not have participated in a 20th Century Midwife Interview before.*

The age requirement is firm, but special circumstances such as terminal illness or degenerative cognitive impairment will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

We do NOT have detailed information about the type of practice (e.g. home birth, birth centers, hospital) the senior midwives in our database were involved in during their career. We regret that we are unable to match based on student interests in a particular practice setting.

- We strive to match students with senior midwives in a variety of geographic locations so that the project adequately represents the diversity of midwifery practice. In-person, face-to-face interviews are preferred, but if distance and/or time prohibit this, a virtual interview (*by telephone or video conference*) is an acceptable alternative. Students desiring a senior midwife from a particular geographic area should indicate their preference on their application.
- Students who opt to be matched with a senior midwife from the project database will receive an email from the project coordinator with a senior midwife's name and contact information.

Please note: *Contact Information changes frequently and although we strive to maintain updated information, students occasionally encounter difficulty in contacting the senior midwife with the information provided.*

- The student should make their initial contact with the approved/assigned senior midwife by phone, email, or postal mail. Remember that some retired midwives may not use email. If one method of communication does not yield a contact after a few days, try another method. Bear in mind that the individual may be traveling or the contact information may be out of date. If you are unable to contact the senior midwife after reasonable time and effort, contact the project coordinator for assistance obtaining an alternative interviewee.
- When contacting the senior midwife, explain the purpose of the project and the interview process. Discuss areas that will be covered by the interview so that the midwife can be thinking about what she would like to tell you about.

Remember: *The senior midwife may not have heard about the project before your contact.*

- Ask if she/he has a resume or CV and if not, ask if they would be willing to fill-out a biographical data form (*pages 10 & 11*) prior to your arrival for the interview. This may give the midwife time to think about dates and places where she/he worked over the years.
- Arrange with the senior midwife for a time, date, and place for the interview. Be sure to ask if the senior midwife has any special needs that need to be considered for the interview. If you will be going to the midwife's home to conduct the interview, ask for directions, parking, and other logistics.

Conducting the Interview:

- Obtain the midwife's signed consent to be interviewed using the Initial Consent Form included with this packet (*page 8*). Give one copy to the senior midwife and keep one copy to be submitted with your written project.
- Request a copy of the midwife's resume or CV. If the midwife does not have one, complete the Senior Midwife Biographical Data Form (*pages 10 & 11*) instead.
- If the senior midwife agrees, take/submit a photo of her/him to be included with the written interview.

***Tip:** If the midwife declines to have a photo included with the interview write-up, simply place the words "Photo Declined" on the cover page of your interview write-up. This will prevent you from being penalized during judging for the photo omission.*

- Consider asking for any supplemental materials such as media articles about the midwife and her/his career that might enhance your interview write-up. Copies of supplemental items should be incorporated into the final interview write-up and all original items retained by the senior midwife.
- Arrange a relaxed and comfortable setting for the interview.
- Conduct the interview according to the Project Instructions (*pages 2-6*) & Interview Questionnaire (*page 9*).
- Thank the senior midwife for their time and for sharing her/his story. Remind her/him that you will be sending a draft of the written interview for their final approval and/or corrections. You will also be sending a Final Consent Form stating that the midwife has read and edited the interview and that it is satisfactory.

Writing:

- Write the interview in narrative form, not exceeding 1,500 words. Avoid question and answer format. Creative layouts increase the likelihood of success in the judging process!
- Include a cover page with the senior midwife's name, student's name, and interview date. This page does not count in the 1,500 word limit. Consider placing a photo of the midwife on the cover page
- Write a self-reflection about the story and experience of interviewing this midwife and its effect on you, not to exceed 500 words. Include specific examples from the senior midwife's experiences that especially affected you. How will this life story influence your career development? How will you incorporate the lessons learned from this story into your midwifery practice or career?
- The interview and reflection should exhibit excellent content and grammar, flow logically, and express the senior midwife's story in an engaging manner.

Validating Your Written Interview with the Senior Midwife:

- Send a copy of your completed interview write-up to the senior midwife for review and approval. Ask if it is accurate and if there is any portion that the midwife does not want included in the final draft. Make corrections accordingly.
- When the senior midwife has read and agreed to the final draft, have the midwife sign two copies of the Final Consent Form. Give one copy to the midwife and keep one copy to be submitted with your written project.
- The review and consent process may be accomplished by email. If the midwife does not use email, remember to leave plenty of time to achieve this step by postal mail.

Submitting Your Written Interview & Accompanying Items:

- Consider asking your supporting faculty member to proofread your interview essay and self-reflection. Remember to follow any course instructions if this project will count for course credit.
- Complete the Student Submission Checklist to ensure that you have included all required items.
- Compile all documents for submission into a single PDF file, not exceeding 10MB. Due to storage constraints, we cannot accept any video or audio files.
- Send an electronic copy of these items to the A.C.N.M. Foundation (fdn@acnm.org) prior to **11:59pm Eastern Time, April 1.**
- Send a note to the senior midwife thanking her/him for their participation

Scoring & Awards Process:

- Scoring of the interview documents will be conducted by a committee of Midwifery Legacies Project (MLP) members and volunteers, according to the scoring rubric provided in this packet.
- Winners will be notified in late spring.
- Prizes will be awarded during the Annual Meeting of the American College of Nurse-Midwives. Student winners are encouraged to attend and receive their award in person, if possible.



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STUDENT APPLICATION FOR PARTICIPATION

INSTRUCTIONS: Complete this form and email it to the A.C.N.M. Foundation at fdn@acnm.org

Student Demographic Information

Student Name (*first/last*): _____

Current Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip code: _____

Telephone: _____ ACNM member number (*required*): _____

Email Address: _____

Midwifery School: _____

Name of Supporting Faculty Member: _____

Supporting Faculty Member's email address: _____

Expected Midwifery School Graduation Date (*MM/YYYY*): _____

Choose one of the following options		
_____	Option #1	<p>Match me with a midwife from the project database.</p> <p>Specific requests for the matching process (<i>e.g. geographic location, travel distance, etc</i>): _____</p> <p>_____</p>
_____	Option #2	<p>I am requesting approval to interview the following senior midwife:</p> <p>Name (<i>first/last</i>): _____</p> <p>Date of Birth (<i>MM/DD/YYYY</i>): _____</p> <p>Current Address: _____</p> <p>City: _____ State: _____ Zip code: _____</p> <p>Telephone: _____</p> <p>Email Address: _____</p> <p>Midwifery School: _____</p> <p>Midwifery School Graduation Date (<i>MM/YYYY</i>): _____</p>

I have reviewed the project instructions and information packet and agree to the terms of participation in the 20th Century Midwife Student Interview Project. I agree to keep the project coordinator apprised of my progress and understand that I must notify the project coordinator, if for any reason, it becomes necessary for me to withdraw from the project prior to completion.

Student Signature: _____ **Date:** _____



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INITIAL CONSENT FOR INTERVIEW

The purpose of the interview is to offer a listening ear to your history as a midwife and record your words for historical purposes. Many midwife stories are lost. If we write about the establishment of midwifery care and services in the early days, the foundation of the profession will be recorded. Formalizing the collection of midwifery stories will preserve our heritage.

After your interview today, the student interviewer will write what you said and then will send or email the interview to you so that you can edit or make corrections as needed. Once you approve the content, your story will be sent to the A.C.N.M. Foundation, Inc. office for safekeeping.

Participating in this interview may not benefit you directly but will contribute to the body of knowledge about midwifery history. Immediately, the stories will help the current student and new midwives learn from your history. We do not envision any significant risks related to participation in this interview. You may choose not to participate, although we would appreciate you informing us so we do not unnecessarily contact you again about this project.

Audio or video recordings of the interview may be done with your permission and will be archived at the A.C.N.M. Foundation, Inc. office. The interviews will be utilized for publications and promotion of midwifery. The plans are to create an anthology when the collection is sufficient to publish. Abstracts of each interview and a brief biography of the student interviewer will be written to create a summary of the encounter.

The A.C.N.M. Foundation, Inc. shall own all rights, title, and interest in the approved interview documentation, to be used and disposed of without limitation, as A.C.N.M. Foundation shall in its sole discretion determine.

Your signature on this consent form indicates your agreement to participate in the interview. You will be given a copy of this form to keep, and the second consent form will be kept with your submitted history.

Thank you very much for your willingness to participate.

Senior Midwife Interviewee:

Full Name (*print*): _____ Date of Birth (*MM/DD/YYYY*): _____

Midwifery School: _____ Graduation Date (*MM/YYYY*): _____

Signature: _____ Date (*MM/DD/YYYY*): _____

Student Interviewer:

Full Name (*print*): _____ Date of Birth (*MM/DD/YYYY*): _____

Midwifery School: _____ Graduation Date (*MM/YYYY*): _____

Signature: _____ Date (*MM/DD/YYYY*): _____



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INTERVIEW QUESTIONNAIRE

Tips for conducting an interview:

- Create a space that is inviting for the senior midwife
- Ask the senior midwife how she/he would like to be addressed
- Share something about yourself
- The first step to a good interview is to listen with your heart
- Organize your interview questions ahead of time to maximize the telling of your interviewee's experiences
- You might consider sharing some general questions ahead of time to allow the midwife to contemplate and be prepared to respond to your questions

Demographic Information

Ask the senior midwife to provide a copy of her/his resume or CV. If she/he does not have a CV or resume, complete the Senior Midwife Biographical Data Form, included in this packet.

Standardized Interview Questions

The following questions should be used to guide the conversation between the interviewer and senior midwife. Each interview should include, at minimum, the following information:

- Are you retired or are you still working in midwifery?
- What experience or individual influenced your decision to become a midwife?
- Tell me about your midwifery education and individuals who may have mentored you through your midwifery career.
- What were your greatest joys & deepest regrets about in your midwifery career?
- What have been the political, professional and personal challenges that have shaped your role as a midwife?
- What do you consider the “heart of midwifery”?
- Do you have advice or “words of wisdom” for student midwives?
- How are you using your midwifery education now?
- Would you share a memorable story from your midwifery career?
- Is there anything you would like to tell me that I didn't ask?

Concluding the interview

- Would you be willing to have a photo included with the interview write-up?
- Are there any media articles or historical documents about your midwifery career that you would like to share?
- What method (email, postal mail, fax) would be best for me to send you a copy of the interview to review and approve?

WORK HISTORY (attach additional pages as needed)

Date: _____ to _____ Site: _____ City/State: _____

SERVICE / PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES (attach additional pages as needed)

ACNM Service (Committees, Offices – National, State and Local):

A.C.N.M. Foundation, Inc. Service (Committees, Offices – National, State and Local):

Professional Achievements/Awards:

Publications:



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FINAL CONSENT FOR INTERVIEW USE

I hereby grant the A.C.N.M. Foundation, Inc. rights to my interview, likeness, and any interview-related materials in written, photographic, audio, and/or video format, without payment or any other consideration.

I understand that the written account of my interview may be archived, copied, exhibited, published, and/or distributed. Additionally, I waive any right to royalties or other compensation arising from or related to the use of my interview or image.

I understand this permission signifies that written, photographic, audio, and/or video recordings of me may be electronically displayed via the Internet or in a public educational setting. There is no time limit on the validity of this release nor is there any geographic limitation on where these materials may be distributed.

The A.C.N.M. Foundation, Inc. shall hereby own the copyright and all rights to the interview and all related materials. No copies of the interview or sections thereof may be reproduced or disseminated in any form without permission from the A.C.N.M. Foundation, Inc.

By signing this release, I hereby acknowledge that I have completely read and fully understand the above release and agree to be bound thereby. I hereby release all claims against any person or organization utilizing this material.

My signature also certifies that I have reviewed the entire written interview account and all related materials (*CV, picture, articles, audio and/or video recordings of the interview*), and that I have had ample opportunity to request changes and/or removal of any portion of the interview that I do not wish to have included. These changes, if any, have been made to my satisfaction.

Senior Midwife Interviewee:

Full Name (*print*): _____ Date of Birth (*MM/DD/YYYY*): _____

Midwifery School: _____ Graduation Date (*MM/YYYY*): _____

Signature: _____ Date (*MM/DD/YYYY*): _____

Student Interviewer:

Full Name (*print*): _____ Date of Birth (*MM/DD/YYYY*): _____

Midwifery School: _____ Graduation Date (*MM/YYYY*): _____

Signature: _____ Date (*MM/DD/YYYY*): _____



STUDENT SUBMISSION CHECKLIST

INSTRUCTIONS: Use this checklist to ensure your project submission is complete.

Student Name: _____

Senior Midwife Interviewee's Name: _____

	Completed
1. Student Application for Participation submitted to fdn@acnm.org prior to deadline? February 15th – 11:59pm Eastern Time	
2. Senior midwife interviewee approved OR assigned by a project coordinator?	
3. Initial Consent for Interview signed & included? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (2 copies) - one submitted with interview & one copy given to senior midwife to keep 	
4. Senior midwife's resume/CV or biographical data form completed and included with submission?	
5. Written interview essay includes responses to all/most of the standardized interview questions and does not exceed the 1,500 word limit?	
6. Student's written self-reflection included and does not exceed the 500 word limit?	
7. Senior midwife interviewee has reviewed & approved the written interview?	
8. Final Consent for Interview Use signed & included? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (2 copies) - one submitted with interview & one copy given to senior midwife to keep 	
9. Interview write-up and all supporting documents (including photos) have been saved as a single PDF file that does not exceed 10MB.	
10. Project submission completed via email to fdn@acnm.org , prior to deadline? April 1st – 11:59pm Eastern Time	



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SCORING RUBRIC

Student Interviewer: _____

Scorer's Initials: _____

Senior Midwife Interviewee: _____

Category	Points Possible	Points Awarded
Submission of Required Items (6 total points)		
• Initial Consent & Final Consent signed & included	2	
• Interview Essay included & does not exceed 1,500 words	1	
• Student's self-reflection included & does not exceed 500	1	
• Senior midwife interviewee's resume/CV OR biographical sketch included	1	
• Photo of senior midwife interviewee included (<i>no penalty if interviewee declines photo</i>)	1	
Interview Essay (50 total points)		
• Discusses factors that influenced the interviewee to become a midwife	10	
• Identification of important people/mentors who were influential to the midwife	5	
• Portrays a clear picture key events & elements of the midwife's career	10	
• Emphasizes & clearly depicts the interviewee as a midwife	5	
• Details a memorable story and/or career event that impacted the senior midwife interviewee's development as a person/midwife	10	
• Captures an essence of the senior midwife's 'words of wisdom'	10	
Student Self-Reflection (20 total points)		
• Identifies specific, inspirational moments/elements of the interview process	10	
• Reflects on the interview experience & implications for own journey into midwifery	5	
• Captures the overall spirit of interviewee's story & value of the interviewee's 'words of wisdom'	5	
Grammar & Style (12 total points)		
• Cover page clearly identifies the interviewee, student, & date of interview	2	
• Overall organization of the paper includes an introduction, body, & conclusion	2	
• Each paragraph is cohesive with a clear topical sentence & logical flow of thought	2	
• Proper grammar, sentence structure, spelling, & punctuation	2	
• Consistent verb tense & use of third person voice throughout	2	
• Writing style is engaging, conversational & reader-friendly	2	
Excellence in Creative Writing (up to 12 total points)		
• Writing is creative & evidences talent in expression of thoughts and ideas. Reflections & insights are thoughtful & refreshing. Good use of strong, vivid words & descriptions throughout. Style is readable & entertaining. There is a rhythm & flow of language. Sentence structure is varied through the writing. Organization and use of supporting details are evident in the work. There is evidence of creativity in the written format and presentation of the story.	0 to 12 points <i>(scorer's discretion)</i>	
OVERALL SCORE	100	

Scorer's Comments: