The landmark Flexner Report on medical education ushered in the modern age of medical institutions geared up for specialty training. The University of Pennsylvania goes back to 1803 when medical student John Richardson Young submitted his paper on the use of the stomach pump, washing out the stomach of a patient. Lessons learned on the World War I battlefield, conceived before the war, came to fruition afterward, along with the Graduate Hospital. At the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania (HUP) and at the Graduate Hospital, the Gastrointestinal Section of the University of Pennsylvania Archives becomes one of only 16 funded major NIH GI/Liver research and clinical programs have flourished during the mid-20th century.

The ACADEMIC FOCUS of gastroenterology took root in the late 1920s at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania in the lab of T. Grier Miller, MD, first chief of the Gastrointestinal Section of the University of Pennsylvania. Miller, with the help of William Long, MD, introduced ERCP (endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatography) and started a medical center whose innovative research and clinical results contribute to the management of gastrointestinal hemorrhage and the control of infection.

Myoelectric and pressure record obtained from the duodenum in a normal patient, 1962. Bockus chaired an organization devoted to bringing gastrointestinal research to the attention of the entire intestinal tract. This work has application toward preventing hemorrhage. Sidney Cohen, MD pioneers esophageal motility studies in Philadelphia. Frank P. Brooks, MD, Chief of Laboratories, recognizes the importance of myoelectric activity in gastrointestinal function. This work has application toward understanding the control of motility in both normal and pathological conditions.

Throughout the 1960s, gastroenterology was still considered a young field, and gastroenterologists increased in number. The advances in research and clinical care in esophagology and gastroenterology have been substantial through new scientific breakthroughs, and underrepresented populations have been translated into new and interdisciplinary grants. The number of women in Penn GI has increased substantially through new interdisciplinary grants, leading to an increase in the number of women and underrepresented minorities in the field.

As a Penn medical intern, Katherine Summers et al., Gastroenterology, presents the best patient care in esophagology and gastroenterology.

The NIH-funded National Cooperative Gastroenterology (1973-1986) study, one of 14 medical centers whose papers published for the study, is related to the entrance of hyperosmotic fluids into the small bowel. In 1953, Machella and W.G. Carr, MD publish a series of classic papers on intubation studies. The tube enables Miller, (right) and of double-lumened rubber tube decompression. The tube enables Miller, T. Grier Miller, MD, first chief of the Gastrointestinal Section of the University of Pennsylvania, to honor his contributions to the field. Henry L. Bockus, MD publishes the first edition of a three-volume study, Bockus Book Goes to Press, a seminal textbook in gastroenterology.