In 1951 the Rockefeller Foundation abruptly closed down its International Health Division, which for almost 40 years had operated against malaria, yellow fever and other diseases in many countries. Did this closure signify weaknesses in the Division's approach to medical interventions, or a broader disillusionment with international health activities? How much did the Cold War cause a reappraisal of the Foundation's activities? To what extent did WHO take on some of its responsibilities? In this presentation, Professor Weindling, an expert on international health in the 20th century, reviews the background and causes of the closure, and goes on to raise wider issues of international health policies in the Cold War era.

Co-organized with The Wellcome Trust Centre for the History of Medicine, University College, London
Contact: Thomson Prentice, Global Health Histories +41 22 791 4224 (prenticet@who.int)
Website: http://www.who.int/global_health_histories/en/