

**AHIP Chapter Liaison to MLA Credentialing Committee - Report  
September 2013**

**Joan Wilson, AHIP Liaison for the Pacific Northwest Chapter of MLA**

*The following is taken from the MLA Planning Grid, section on the Credentialing Committee.*

The Academy of Health Information Professionals (AHIP) is MLA's peer-reviewed professional development and career recognition program. The academy recognizes the personal investment of time and effort required for exemplary professional performance and for contributions to the association and to the profession. It encourages health sciences librarians to become leaders in the profession and encourages life-long learning.

AHIP goals are to promote:

1. Recruitment, Membership, and Leadership in the Profession
2. Life-long Learning

2013-2014 Objectives:

- Review and revamp the entire AHIP web site for clarity and consistency
- Create self-directed learning resources (such as online tutorials) for potential Academy members to learn how to compile their portfolios
- Improve resources and support for Chapter Credentialing Liaisons, including a document of best practices, standard articles that can be distributed through chapter communication methods, etc.
- Reach out to former members of the Academy who may not have been able to renew their membership recently because of changes in their positions
- Improve communication between the Committee and Academy members, and Committee and potential members of the Academy
- Improve Academy and Credentialing Committee participation and representation at MLA 2014 through better assessment of activities (such as the Academy Q&A session and services at the Academy booth)

## **Highlights from the MLA Credentialing Committee Annual Meeting Minutes – May 3, 2013**

In the past year, the Committee updated the *AHIP Candidate Portfolio Review Procedure Manual*.

A subcommittee of AHIP has been working on requirements for Canadian members of AHIP regarding the Distinguished member designation, which is available to them without actually becoming a member of MLA. However, it was moved and approved that MLA should not modify its AHIP point system, such that the five points of activities for the Distinguished level will continue to be for MLA activities (as opposed to activities in other library associations).

Another action was approved pertaining to the JAAPA Ask-A-Librarian column. It was agreed to update the point index to award 3 points for an author of a brief column with less than 1,000 words. These points, and documentation required, will be listed under:

Authoring: Peer-Reviewed Journal/Non-Peer-Reviewed Journal.

The point index will also be updated so that editing of conference proceedings will have the same points awarded as guest editor/co-editor of a journal. To be listed under:

Editing: Journal.

A task force was established to address the issue of whether CE points should be awarded for taking a MOOC.

The Credentialing Committee agreed on an objective to provide better support to Chapter Credentialing Liaisons regarding AHIP applications and portfolios, and to develop an online tutorial for applicants.

At the MLA Annual Meeting 2013, for the first time there was an AHIP booth and the opportunity for prospective members to make appointments at the booth for review of portfolios. An AHIP Q&A session is also held as a regular event at MLA.

Marketing AHIP – The Credentialing Committee is developing a new marketing plan, which includes reaching out to members via facebook, twitter, MLANET, YouTube, and other social media outlets, besides the RMLs.

The Committee plans to continue updating the Academy website, especially related to new job types and the need for points to be health sciences library-related.

## **PNC/AHIP Liaison Comments**

Regretfully, this is the first year since I've been the AHIP Liaison for the Pacific Northwest Chapter that I have not been able to attend the PNC annual meeting. The other years I have at least spent some time at the MLA booth handing out AHIP brochures and being available to answer questions.

I have had very few inquiries about AHIP from prospective or renewing members since I've been the Liaison, and I've had no inquiries in the last year, since the 2012 PNC meeting.

However, MLA Headquarters informs me that:

Currently the Pacific Northwest Chapter has 39 members of AHIP.

22 Distinguished

9 Senior

5 Member

3 Provisional

1 Emeritus

Four members have renewed in the past year. There are six that should renew who have expiration dates of 2013. These six can still renew this year. Please contact me if you have any questions or would like assistance regarding renewal of your AHIP membership.

There are no new AHIP members from the PNC in 2013.

Also, since I have been the PNC AHIP Liaison since 2010, I would be glad to relinquish my duties, if someone else is interested in taking over this role.

Respectfully submitted,

*Joan W. Wilson*

Joan W. Wilson, MLS, AHIP  
Clinical Reference Specialist  
Learning and Information Center  
Kootenai Health  
Coeur d'Alene, Idaho