MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR
Betty Jo Jensen

This message is the final time you will hear from me as PNC Chair. I write with mixed feelings. The first is relief that my term of office is completed, the annual meeting behind me, and all my reports to MLA written and sent. The rest are a mixture of pleasure and perhaps a little regret. The regret is that I will no longer be the first to know what is going on. The phone doesn’t ring as often as it did in September and October, with calls from all over the Region, and even the rest of the United States. The pleasure is in having worked with a wonderful executive board and in getting to know so many more PNC members. Thank you to everyone who helped me through this year as PNC Chair.

I know Patrice has some exciting ideas for the coming year and a very capable executive board to aid her in their implementation. By the time we are together again in Couer d’Alene, we will have had many months experience with our changed ILL structure, our Northwest listserv and the Internet. More of us will have seen JCAHO and experienced the effect of the new hospital standards. We will be further along in health care reform and all the changes that is bringing to our work. This is a time when our professional organizations and networking with colleagues can be especially helpful. It is a good time to become an active participant.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS AND BEST WISHES FOR THE COMING YEAR.
ALASKA REPORT
October 1993

Judith Bendersky’s position at the Alaska Native Medical Center, Anchorage has been re-classified to permanent part-time. Doreen Smith’s hospital (Fairbanks Memorial) is expanding its ambulatory care services. It is anticipated this will impact the library but it is too soon to know. The Alaska Native Medical Center (Fairbanks Memorial) is expanding its ambulatory care services. This initiative was from the University of Alaska which was in the process of looking for a new automated system.

Anchorage reports that the Rural Alaska Native Health Services have selected to participate in the grant. Neil Rambo and Barbara Sokolov made presentations concerning medical library services at the Alaska Hospital and Nursing Home Association meeting in Petersburg in August. In September HSIS invited Mary Anne Blake to Anchorage to give the GRATEFUL MED train the trainer course. HSIS has exhibited this year at the Rural Alaska Health Conference and a conference for nursing educators. The Health of the Inuit of North America: a conference for nursing educators. The catalogue dept had recommended stripping these headings at the time of the

BC REPORT
November 1993

The western Canadian pilot of DOCLINE in Canada began in earnest in 1993 with the first request going from the Medical Library Service to the University of Washington in May and the first Loansome Doc request coming from a Vancouver physician to the Medical Library Service in June. Twenty-five smaller health science libraries in BC, CISTI (Canada Institute for Scientific and Technical Information), one Edmonton hospital library, and libraries at the Universities of BC, Manitoba, Alberta, and Calgary are currently participating.

Tests with PNC libraries in the US are being arranged. Nancy Press of the NNLM PNW centre in Seattle has given the pilot invaluable support; without her expertise to call on, running the pilot would have been very difficult.

As a result of the requirement that Canadians access DOCLINE via the Internet, arrangements have been made for all BC health science libraries who do not already have Internet access to be provided with this service via BC Systems, the crown corporation which provides computing services to the provincial government. BC Systems also maintains numerous databases for the BC Ministry of Health, so we expect other useful spin-offs of this arrangement.

(con't page 7, column A)
OREGON REPORT
October 1993

Ann von Segen, St. Vincent Hospital, lost a full-time technician due to re-location, and the position is now frozen. Ann reports that services such as photocopying have ceased. Madelyn Hall, Good Samaritan Hospital and Medical Center, may face a similar situation in December when her half-time technician leaves. Many more libraries in Oregon are gaining access to the Internet, including Planetree Health Resource Center, Linfield College, and Good Samaritan Hospital and Medical Center. The Legacy librarians (Meridian Park Hospital, Emanuel Hospital and Health Center, Good Samaritan Hospital and Medical Center, Mt. Hood Medical Center, and the Visiting Nurses Association) have written a proposal to bring Medline accessibility to physicians' offices via CD-PLUS. The proposal is written to include 15 simultaneous users. This may be a reality by June 1994.

OHSILA has several program ideas for 1994, including: MEDLINE and DOCLINE updates with Nancy Press and Linda Milgrom of the RML; a trip to the State Library to learn more about ORPAC, the Oregon Public Access Catalogue and databases, with Bob Thornhill.

Peggy Baldwin, Providence Medical Center, and Ann von Segen, St. Vincent's, announce that their libraries have a CD network which should be mounted in November, with "beta testing" continuing through December.

Planetree Health Resource Center is part of an LSCA grant to link together the libraries in the Columbia Gorge. The project is the first in line for state funding of LSCA grant money. Michele Johns of Planetree hopes to begin initial implementation steps in 1994. Michele also reports seeing about 250 people a month now at the Planetree Health Resource Center and is awaiting delivery of their public access computer so their patrons can search databases themselves and also Planetree's holdings. Michele says her staff gives about 6-10 tours a month to interested health care institutions.

Oregon librarians will participate in a family practice conference in Portland, February 14-15, 1994, with a joint display by OHSU (CD-PLUS) and OHSILA (Grateful Med). The three Kaiser Permanente libraries (Kaiser Sunnyside, Bess Kaiser, and Kaiser Center for Health Research) have a networked Silver Platter's CD-ROM system. Networked databases include full MEDLINE, Cinhahl, Health Planning and Administration.

Nancy Brown, former librarian at Kaiser Center for Health Research, will be working temporarily at Good Samaritan Hospital and Medical Center (December-January) and at Bess Kaiser (January-March), filling in for two maternity leaves.

Submitted by Madelyn Hall

WASHINGTON REPORT
October 1993

A new way of producing the 1994 WMLA Union List was proposed and approved. The records will now be maintained by the Pacific Northwest Regional staff of the National Network of Libraries (aka the RML) as a part of DOCLINE. A grant requesting funding to put the holdings into WLN will be submitted to the Washington State Library.

The WMLA board made recommendations re: cell placement in the DOCLINE routing tables in response to the disruption of traditional patterns of lending/borrowing caused by document delivery agreements drawn up between the University of Washington Health Sciences Library and Information Center and several Seattle Area Hospital Library Consortium members. The recommendations were based on the number of current serial subscriptions. Hopefully, those libraries that want to continue reciprocal lending/borrowing will use the smallest collections first so that the largest libraries do not get swamped.

The bylaws were rewritten, incorporating the WMLA mission statement developed in 1992.

WMLA chose a new Regional Advisory Committee member, Robin Braun. Marcia Batchelor, the 1994 WMLA President, will represent WMLA on the newly created Washington State Resource Sharing Advisory Team.

Submitted by Nancy Van Dinter, Health Information Consultant, Idaho State Library

(cont'd from page 2, column C)
GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE
Annual Report 1993

The PNC/MLA governmental relations committee meet in Portland on October 20, 1993. The committee roster includes Bob Pringle, Jim Henderson, Jeri van den Topp, Marcy Horner, Leslie Wykoff, and Neil Rambo - ex officio. Each committee member shared with the committee activities that were happening in each state and province. All issues discussed dealt with health care reform and how these are affecting our libraries and our changing roles as professional medical librarians. The following items were discussed and will be acted on by the committee:

1. Encourage PNC/MLA members to know who their representatives health care aides are and become knowledgeable about federal and state legislation that impacts on our professional and access to information.

2. The PNC/MLA governmental relations committee members will use the INTERNET for their communication tool. A distribution list will be implemented by the committee chair for communication from ALA and MLA.

3. All PNC/MLA members are encouraged to respond to the joint MLA/AAHSLD Legislative task force draft position paper on the health care reform movement. This document will be posted on the MEDLIB-L and AAHSLD Listservs and should be available in November.

4. All PNC/MLA members are encouraged to read the Capital News column in the MLA NEWS. This provides the best overview of governmental issues that need membership involvement. Please read and heed. As chair of the committee, I have handouts, minutes from the MLA government relations committee in Chicago, IL, minutes from the Governmental Relations Chapter Roundtable session, and MLA Governmental Relations memorandums. Copies are available to all. Please contact me. I also emphasize the need for all members to become politically active. This committee is the ACTION committee of the 90’s and we need to voice our concern with the Health Care Reform Movement. A special thanks to Mary Langman, MLA governmental relations liaison for her excellent handouts and information that is available to all chapter members.

Bonnie R. Chadbourne, Chair
Governmental Relations Committee
sv_bonnie@vino.emcmt.edu
FAX 406-657-7580

BYLAWS COMMITTEE
Annual Report 1993

The PNC/MLA Bylaws were last revised in November 1990 to incorporate changes approved by the Board and to conform with the Model Bylaws for Chapters and Sections issued by the MLA Bylaws Committee in March 1990. Since that time there have been no changes proposed for the Chapter Bylaws. Shortly after the Chapter's 1992 Annual Meeting, the PNC Bylaws were submitted for the files at MLA headquarters. Aside from that, there has been no activity this year.

At the point the Bylaws are next revised, we will want to submit the Bylaws to MLA for review, a fairly recent process never undertaken previously. New Model Bylaws are expected to be developed by the MLA Bylaws Committee before the MLA meeting in May 1994. Reviewing those models would a good opportunity for the Board and Committee to consider any proposed changes to PNC's Bylaws.

Respectfully submitted,
Jan Schueller, Chair

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT
Annual Report 1993

Presently, there are 203 current members of PNC/MLA. This includes: 5 life members, 3 renewals to 1994, 1 renewal to 1995. In 1993, we recruited 19 new members. In addition, we have 23 special memberships (which includes other MLA regional chapters and MLA Newsletter editors). This brings our total membership to 227.

Submitted by Leza Hamby,
Membership Secretary and Chair, Membership Committee

PNC NOMINATING COMMITTEE
COMMITTEE REPORT
PNC/MLA CONFERENCE OCT 20-22, 1994

The theme was "The Vision: Looking Outward, Looking Inward". Rachael Anderson, the director of the University of Arizona and our keynote speaker, helped us to focus outward in a very well received talk entitled, "Health Information Challenges for the Library: Threat of Opportunity." Other topics covered in the conference included the Oregon plan as a response to the need for health care reform, demonstrating a commitment to change (looking inward), the information seeking behavior of primary care physicians, and the new JCAHO standards and the importance for needs assessment in our institutions. A panel of our peer shared their experience on the Internet with us, giving us ideas about how the Internet can be useful in our everyday library activities. The most popular continuing education classes were "Quickdoc" and "Down the rabbit hole: an adventure into the Internet." The evaluations received from conference participants indicated that we have just begun to scratch the surface of training the people would like to see concerning the Internet. This conference's program and continuing education were attended by 139 people. Besides a schedule of stimulating speakers, participants also enjoyed the elegant setting of the Benson in downtown Portland and the well prepared and presented meals.

Submitted by Peggy Baldwin,
PNC/MLA Conference Chair
PUBLICATIONS

A new publication designed to assist librarians in collecting and cataloging health sciences books will debut in October. The bimonthly journal is called Doody's Health Sciences Book Review Journal. The publication will include bibliographic citations and quantitative analyses of the books: author, title, publisher, price, ISBN, NLM# LCC/CIP data, the number of illustrations, references, tables, and contributors, as well as information about author and contributor affiliations and the kind of artwork in the book. None of the participating publishers has paid a fee to get their books noticed or reviewed. As the first issue of the journal is being prepared for publication, more than 1,000 books with 1993 copyrights have been received. Publishers who account for more than 65% of the 3,000 titles published annually are already participating, range from Saunders, Mosby, and Lippincott to Quality Medical, Munksgaard, and Guilford Press. The journal can be ordered through your subscription agent or directly from Doody Publishing (1-800-219-9500).

From the Editor

It has been my pleasure to collect, edit and publish Northwest Notes during the past year. While the hours this has taken always exceeded what I expected, the value I believe these few pages have to the members of PNC makes the effort worthwhile.

I thought I'd give you a brief update on my situation - mostly to ease your minds! I am currently working at the University of Washington Health Sciences Library and Information Center as a half-time temporary systems librarian. The position is funded until the middle of June. I'm having a ball learning new software packages with the final goal of teaching their use to other library staff members. I have also signed on to work as a substitute librarian at the Bellevue Public Library (the largest branch of the King County Public Library System - 80,000 square feet with an emphasis on business reference). This may work into a permanent position.

So, life continues, both for me and for the library staff at Providence. In fact, Susan Way and Leilani St. Anna will be working part-time at Providence for the next three months while Peggy Burt takes her maternity leave-of-absence.

I've kept my internet code (kmurray@halcyon.com), so keep in touch!

Kathy Murray

Professional Calendar

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>May 13-20, 1994</td>
<td>MLA Annual Meeting, San Antonio, TX.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fall 1994</td>
<td>PNC/MLA Annual Meeting, Coeur D'Alene, ID.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 6-12, 1995</td>
<td>MLA Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fall 1995</td>
<td>PNC/MLA Annual Meeting, Western Washington.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 21-28, 1997</td>
<td>MLA Annual Meeting, Seattle, WA.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

AUTOMATION COLUMN

This issue's column describes some ideas for preserving access to data stored on either CD-ROMs or floppy disks. CD-ROMs are not indestructible, they can be scratched. Plan a maintenance program to clean the disks with a dry, soft cloth, wiping from the center. Avoid using solvents or cleaners. Even if caddies are used, keep in mind that dust can accumulate.

Floppy disks (both 5.25 and 3.5 inch) should be thought of as temporary storage. Data integrity can deteriorate, especially from disks that are more than a year old. The editors of Library Systems Newsletter offer the following disk handling suggestions:

1. Always store disks immediately after use in a storage box designed for them.
2. Write on the label, and THEN affix it to the floppy. Do not use a pencil because the graphite can damage the disk.
3. Oils from your hand or finger should be kept away from the oval opening on floppy disks. This exposed part on the larger floppy disks can also be scratched, so keep fingers and objects away from this opening.
4. Smoking is harmful to both computers, their peripherals and humans!
5. Residues from liquids form on floppy - so don't use sprays or liquids near disks.
6. Avoid fumes from cleaners, nail polish, glue, etc.
7. Magnetic fields will erase the disks. Magnets are in many products: radios, telephones, dimmer switches, and of course magnetized screw drivers.
8. Copy data from heavily used disks, since they lose their magnetism after time.
9. Back-up all important data on a regular basis.

PNC/MLA needs your help to attain our goals. If you are willing to serve on a committee, please complete this form.

I am interested in being appointed to a committee whose term of tenure is 1/94 - 12/94. Please choose from the following committees: Automation, Bylaws, Education, Governmental Relations, 1995 Program Committee, Publications, and Research.

Preference - 1st _______ 2nd _______ 3rd _______

If none of these committees has an opening, I am willing to serve on any committee!

Please send your name, mailing address, phone number, and e-mail address to:

Suzy Holt, Shodair Childrens Hospital, Shodair Medical Library, 840 Helena Ave.
PO Box 5539, Helena, MT 59604

Pacific Northwest Chapter of MLA (PNC/MLA)
Willingness to Serve Form
Edmonton health libraries have formalized their ILL arrangements with the U of A. The health libraries have employed a half-time ILL person to retrieve and photocopy materials on a daily basis. The cost of the person is shared equitably. During the NEOS forming process and the review of the ILS system the need for a distributed MEDLINE as well as other health files was recognized. A team was formed which included university people and hospital librarians. They RFP process, on-site visits and selection process took about two months. As the University of Calgary was going through the same process but a few months behind, the Universities have been working on a very collaborative project to have a provincial implementation of MEDLINE beginning in the two cities. They are currently in the stage of preparing a major grant application. The University Faculties and the hospital libraries in both cities have been very supportive of the project and this should strengthen the grant application.

The MEDICAL INFORMATION SERVICE project run out of both Universities as a service to rural docs continues. There is some small increase in numbers of subscriber. The University of Alberta office has begun to collaborate with a project being developed by one of the local neurologist. The project SYNAPSE, has developed a NEXT version of Grateful Med, is working on a bulletin board for consultation purposes and particularly is hopeful of providing access to Consensus Guidelines in SGML hypertext format.

Financially the health care sector in Alberta is facing difficult times. The government of Alberta is working to eliminate a substantial deficit in the next three years. This has resulted in hospital closings, mergers and consortiums, with massive layoffs. So far there have been no librarians laid off but this may be a matter of time. The library position in Fort McMurray was eliminated and the one for three Edmonton teaching hospitals has not been filled since a May vacancy. The position has been advertised. Both of the provincial Cancer Centre librarians will be resigning and it is not known whether they will be replaced. Within the government, the Health Dept lost one librarian due to downsizing.

The University of Calgary Medical
Library has a new director: John Cole. The nursing librarian’s position has not been filled and the work has been picked up by one of the three librarians in the medical library. The University of Alberta also lost their nursing librarian and the position is still frozen. Submitted by Lea Starr
Reference Services Coordinator
John Scott Library, University of Alberta
LSTARR@UALTAVM.BITNET

CISTI issued a new strategic plan late in 1992 calling for a shift to a more business-like organization, with industry identified as the primary clientele. As a result of this plan, the Health Science Resource Centre, the hospital-centred to community-based care are still being worked out. Regular meetings via the Internet would seem to be the most likely form of communication.

Johann van Reenen offered his TQM workshop to HLABC members in May.

Dr. Richard Henderson, a family physician in Parksville, has received funding to establish an information service for rural physicians on northwestern Vancouver Island. Links via BC Systems to Mindlink! (a bulletin board service in the Lower Mainland), circulation of journal tables of contents, end user literature searching via a CD Plusnet system at the Nanaimo Regional General Hospital (NRGH), and links to the Vancouver Island Regional Library system for consumer health information are proposed. Jane Price, the NRGH librarian, is heavily involved. Also proposed are arrangements for consultant physicians to give commentary on literature search results provided by the information service.

Anne George, through funding provided by the BC Medical Association, investigated the need for information services for BC professionals in the substance abuse field. It is hoped a new library will be created to replace and expand the services offered by the Drug and Alcohol Programs library closed in 1991. Submitted by Jim Henderson
Medical Library Service
College of Physicians and Surgeons of BC
Northwest Notes is published five times per year by the Pacific Northwest Chapter, Medical Library Association.

Kathy Murray, Editor, Providence Medical Center, Horton Health Sciences Library, PO Box 34008, Seattle, WA 98124. Phone 206.320.3788; fax 206.324.5871; OnTyme PMC; Internet kmurray@halcyon.com.

News and articles are most welcome! Please submit items via OnTyme, Internet or send them on a diskette as ASCII files (text only; NO formatting!). Short items (under one page) may be submitted to the Editor as typed copy. Please specify clearly that items are for the newsletter. Include your name, library, address, phone, and fax number (if available) with all submissions. Call or write for further details.

The Editor reserves the right to edit submissions as necessary.

Articles from Northwest Notes may be reprinted without permission; credit would be appreciated.

To join the Pacific Northwest Chapter, send membership dues to:

Vicki Croft  DUES: $15.00 U.S.
PNC/MLA Treasurer  $18.00 Canadian
NW 1840 HallDr.
Pullman, WA 99163-3551

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO  PNC/MLA

Your Name:  

Address:  

(You may use home or work address)

Circle those that apply:  Renewal  New Member

Membership type requested:  Individual  Institutional

Are you a member of the Medical Library Association?  Yes  No