



October-December 1998 Volume 19 Number 4

Letter from the Chair

[Maryanne Blake](#)

Another successful PNC/MLA annual meeting has come and gone. Mary Ellen Lemon and her stalwart helpers on the 1998 Annual Meeting Committee deserve high praise. Since the meeting in Boise I have heard colleagues talking about "self-actualization" in both work and personal terms, echoes of our keynote speaker, Dr. Albert Bandura. I have heard numerous compliments for the wonderful CE courses and panel discussions that were presented. My favorite times were those when we could get together and talk - at the welcome reception at the Idaho State Historical Museum; informally, at lunch or in the hotel lobby or over a cup of coffee in the hallway during a break; at our 45th banquet and the accompanying "walk down memory lane" PNC/MLA trivia contest. Have you ever noticed that Mary Ellen Lemon bears a strong resemblance to Vanna White? And the meeting brought some new partners to join us and share information with us - health educators and public librarians.

Some business was transacted at the meeting as well. The two important discussions we had concerned, first, a dues increase and second, where to hold the annual meeting in the future. In some respects these two topics have an impact on each other. If annual meetings are held in places like Montana and Idaho where so few members attend we will not make any money on the meeting. Are the annual meetings meant to make a profit that will then be used to run the day-to-day business of the chapter? Why should only those attending the annual meeting be expected to bear this additional expense? And if we cannot rely on making a profit at the annual meeting then should we raise the dues to cover the expenses of the chapter? Pam Spickelmier, PNC/MLA Treasurer, has written an article on the possibility of a dues increase, covering these and other points, for this issue of the newsletter. Please read Pam's article since the chapter will be voting on this important matter this month. You should be receiving your ballot in the mail in early December. Read the issues. Make your decision. Cast your ballot by the end of December.

The second issue discussed at the Business Meeting was where to hold annual meetings in the future (see my last "[Letter to the Chair](#)"). Members spoke their minds, and sometimes their hearts, on this topic. By the end of the discussion it was agreed that we should hold meetings in alternating years in Washington, Oregon and British Columbia. Flexibility was encouraged so meetings could be held either at a resort or in a city, leaving open the possibility of Salishan, on the Oregon coast, in the year 2001. The other decision was that the newly constituted Conference Planning Committee would take a major role in assisting with the routine tasks connected with the annual meeting, while the Professional Development Committee would take on the role of

arranging continuing education. The Annual Meeting Committee for any particular year would be made up of members from as many states and provinces as possible. These changes would go a long way to ensuring that the burden of arranging a meeting would not be on the same individuals every three years. This plan will only work if everyone in PNC/MLA feels that they have a role to play in making the annual meeting happen. It is up to you to get involved, in some way, small or large, in our one meeting that each year brings us from far and wide to share our ideas and talents.

So be a part of PNC/MLA. Vote! Participate! Don't just join - BELONG!

Around the Region

ALBERTA

As posted on HLIB-NW, *Lea Starr* announced that she is "on the move" again. I have accepted the position of head librarian at the Open Learning Agency in Burnaby BC.

Today (November 25, 1998) is my last day with the University of Alberta. I begin my new position on December 1st. In the interim of 6 days, I will be moving. This is a permanent change. We have sold our house in Alberta and rented a house in Vancouver. I am looking forward to visiting all my west coast friends from PNC soon! Likewise my home in Vancouver is open for visits. Address: 5276 Blenheim, Vancouver. I will post my new email address when I know it."

ALASKA

State Report

submitted by [Kathy Murray](#)

Anne Girling at the Alaska Native Medical Center has a one-year subscription to Ovid via the web including two groups of full-text medical journals.

Donna Hudson announced that Elmendorf's move into their new hospital has been pushed back until the Spring.

The University of Alaska Anchorage library has a new Dean, *Stephen Rollins*. Steve abandoned the sun and altitude of Albuquerque for Anchorage, taking over the reins from Barbara Sokolov on 1 October 1998.

As announced in the last newsletter, UAA was awarded an outreach subcontract for public health professionals. So, *Kathy Murray* will be able to continue her exploration of Alaska by visits to ten or more communities over the next year and a half.

Alaska's State Library is spearheading a trial of state-wide databases. After six months, a selection of the most useful (as voted on by the populace) databases will be made permanently available. Anyone interested in the vendors being evaluated should visit their [home page](#).

BRITISH COLUMBIA

BC Report for PNC/MLA

October 1998

submitted by [Jim Henderson](#)

Personnel and Institutional Changes

The Tzu Chi Institute for Complementary and Alternative Medicine opened and immediately hired a full-time professional librarian, *Vivian McCallum*. Unfortunately, money problems have hit the Institute and Vivian will be losing her position in November.

Carolyn Hall from the BC Health Association retired with the closing down of the Association. She is reported to be happily traveling. Leslie McGee is now running the library of the new Health Association of BC. She was with the BC Association of Community Care, which closed its offices and library. The new library amalgamates the BCHA, BACC, and Health Communities libraries.

Nancy Forbes has retired from UBC's Biomedical Branch Library at the Vancouver General Hospital. We welcomed *Dean Giustini* back from Alberta to replace her. *Pat Lysyk* retired from the UBC Hamber Library at the Women's / Children's complex. Her replacement, *Cathy Rayment*, ended her long term - some 16 years - job-sharing arrangement with Pat Young at the Vancouver- Richmond Health Board. *Donna Curtis* is leaving her position as document delivery librarian in UBC Woodward Library. UBC introduced "case-based learning" for first year medical students in Sept. 1997.

Carol Macfarlane of the Registered Nurses Association is the proud mother of a new baby girl. We were pleased to welcome *Marjory Jardine*, even temporarily, for maternity leave replacement.

Anyone interested in overseas work might want to apply to the Chilliwack Hospital. *Elaine Robinson* has left for library work in Micronesia in the South Pacific, following in the footsteps of her predecessor, *Sue Kurucz*, who is in the United Arab Emirates.

The Medical Library Service of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of BC launched a web site in November of 1997, featuring the popular Cites & Bytes with links to PubMed and, when available (average of 5 of 50 articles), free full text. It can be reached at <http://www.mls.cps.bc.ca>.

Riverview Hospital learned that the hospital will be closing in 11 years. The Library was the first in the province to offer OVID full text journals.

The opening of the new BC Cancer Agency clinic in Kelowna resulted in the hiring of *Diana Hall* as half-time reference librarian.

Charlotte Beck moved the Richmond General Hospital Library to new quarters in a prime location.

Shyann Hiebert left her position with the Capital Health Region library system to take up a career in physiotherapy. She is missed.

Hoong Lim was joined by *Jenny O'Grady* at Burnaby General Hospital one day a week. Jenny is also spending a day a week at St. Mary's Hospital.

Activities

As of earlier this year, every province in Canada is represented in the list of DOCLINE participants. The Pacific Northwest on both sides of the border can be proud of its pioneering role in making DOCLINE an international system. And do consider putting Canadians in your routing tables - we are now cheaper than ever, and we love those American dollars!

Derek Reimer was hired as Director of Records Management and Library Services with responsibilities for the BC Ministry of Health Library. The Ministry catalogue was mounted on the web using SIRSI software (at unicorn.hlth.gov.bc.ca/uhtbin/webcat).

BC has been an active participant in federal activities. Health Canada, the federal government department, created the Advisory Council on the Health Info- Structure through its Office of Health and the Information Highway. This Council issued its Interim Report in September. Also arising from Health Canada, first as the National Population Health Clearinghouse as recommended in the National Forum on Health, but strangely transformed into a consumer health information service called the Canada Health Network. This Network is currently searching for a Western Canada operating centre. The Consumer Health Information Service of Metro Toronto Reference Library would seem to have scooped the library aspects of the national operating centre.

The Health Libraries Association of BC (HLABC) submitted a one-page brief, "*Health Knowledge Network: Transforming Knowledge to Health*", to the BC Ministry of Health to encourage a co-ordinated approach to changes resulting from regionalization and the shift to community-based health care delivery. HLABC has launched a Task Force to advocate for a more systematic approach to access to knowledge-based information in the province. HLABC produced a printed union list from DOCLINE data for the first time in several years.

Finances

On this side of the border, great gnashing of teeth and groans greet each drop in the Canadian dollar relative to its robust American cousin - over 6% down in the past year. Many libraries are cutting journal subscriptions even more this fall since most good journals and databases are published in the US.

MLA in 2000

Of course, we have been seeing more of our American neighbours as a result of the favourable exchange rate, and look forward to and are preparing for a large inundation for MLA/CHLA 2000. It will be held in the "sails", that is, Canada Place, in the Vancouver Trade and Convention Centre - on the waterfront in downtown Vancouver May 6-10, 2000. We are bemused, and delighted, that MLA decided to start the new millenium here in Vancouver. We are counting on the MLA 1997 Seattle experience of our Pacific Northwest friends!

IDAHO

State Report

submitted by [Kathy Nelson](#)

The Idaho Medical Librarians met in Twin Falls for their annual spring meeting. The education program was on using teams to solve problems. *Gardner Hanks* from the State Library was the facilitator. *Terry Wiggins* announced that she would be moving to Kansas City and she had accepted a position at the University as Clinical Librarian. *Nancy Griffin* accepted the position as Director of the Idaho Health Sciences Library. This library was named a resource library by the NN/LM for Idaho and was awarded an outreach subcontract from the RML to provide service to five

Health West clinics with internet access training and hardware. Nancy exhibited at the Idaho Medical Association meeting in October about the library and internet resources, and will be doing more exhibits at other health professional meetings.

The IHIA fall meeting was in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho and the education program was provided by *Linda Milgrom*. The group rented a computer lab and had a hands on PubMed update. This meeting is held in association with the Idaho Hospital Association meeting and the librarians enjoy the social events including a dinner meeting. We also visited the DeArmond Consumer Health Library at Kootenai. *Joan Hust* shared how they deliver information to inpatients, outpatients and community patrons. She fills 400-500 requests each month for consumer health information.

St. Joseph's Hospital in Lewiston, Idaho has a new medical librarian, *Susan Jones*. Susan attended the fall IHIA meeting and has been very active using Docline. *Cecilia Sharp* is the new library technician at Magic Valley Regional Medical Center in Twin Falls. She attended PubMed training in Portland Oregon in August.

The State Library dropped the specific health library consultant position. IHIA took charge of printing the Idaho Union List from the former consultant *Rand Simmons* and the list was given to IHIA members free. Copies are available for sale to other libraries. Rand's new position in the state library includes managing the LiLi website* and he is helping us to create a webpage on the site for the Health Sciences Libraries in Idaho. Watch for more information on this in the future. [* LiLi stands for "Libraries Linking Idaho" a project of the Idaho State Library and the Idaho Library Community. The LiLi website at <http://www.lili.org> has information about Idaho and

links to many sites of interest around the state including library home pages, catalogs etc. IHIA will be putting up a webpage on this site in the future.]

IHIA is participating in the evaluation of the statewide database proposal and we hope that we will have an agreement similar to Washington State's when the licensing and contracts are completed.

Update on the DeArmond Consumer Health Library in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho

submitted by [*Joan Hust*](#)

The latest in the Consumer Library here is The Patient Question Pad. This is given to all new patients, and they can request, and obtain, the information the very same day which is delivered to their rooms.

We have approximately 400-500 " folks " per month come through the Library. We tape by satellite daily. Our collection of videos is quite good. We average about 2500 books. One may check out books, cassettes, posters, and videos. Brochures are free. Our brochure collection is approximately three hundred plus.

We are on the Kootenai County system which includes Athol, Bookmobile, Harrison, Hayden, Post Falls, Rathdrum , and Spirit Lake. They can check out materials from me, and return them to the nearest Kootenai County Library. We also serve the five northern counties, and the two Indian reservations. We do many ILL's. Patrons using the Library range from home schoolers (Elementary - High School), Private Schools, Nursing students, employees, College students, and the general public.

All the doctors have prescription pads that they fill out requesting health and medical information on various topics plus the patient's diagnosis. Their patients bring the slip to me, and I do a search for them via the Internet, medical databases, books, videos, brochures, cassettes, et al.

MONTANA

New librarian in Helena

submitted by *Jacque Jakovac, RN, MA*

My name is *Jacque Jakovac* and I'm the new Librarian at Shodair Children's Hospital, an inpatient child and adolescent psychiatric and genetics facility in Helena, Montana. I've been a Registered Nurse working in Obstetrics for the past 10 years and continue to work as an RN every other weekend. I received my Master's in Information Resources and Library Science in December 1997. I work half-time and have a half-time technical assistant. I'm currently learning the ropes and getting settled in our new facility. I'm also planning a children's library for the inpatient/partial hospitalization kids. I'm definitely having fun!!

Montana State Report

submitted by [Kim Granath](#)

The usually stable medical library scene in western Montana was shaken up considerably in 1998. *Susan Long* left the library at Kalispell Regional Medical Center to accept a position at MultiCare Health System in Tacoma. Also leaving the state was *Kate Oliver*, who had been in the library at the Rocky Mountain Laboratory in Hamilton. Both positions are still vacant at this time, although *Suzy Holt* has been filling in for both positions on a temporary basis.

The two hospitals in Great Falls have merged. The librarian for the combined medical library is *Pat Mueller*.

The VA Medical System in Montana is reorganizing. *Gail Wilkerson* is in charge of all VA information services at this time.

The MSU Extended Nursing Campus in Great Falls has moved its library collection to the College of Technology in Great Falls. The College of Technology library will be expanded and its expansion is scheduled to be completed in Fall, 1999.

Montana libraries of all types are participating in a state-wide licensing arrangement for access to full-text databases. The current vendor is EBSCO.

Kathy Kaya at Montana State University-Bozeman has received NLM funding to provide outreach training and equipment to the 7 tribal colleges in Montana.

OREGON

New librarian at Klamath Falls

submitted by [Pam White](#)

I have been a librarian since 1990. I specialized in Systems Analysis & Database Design while studying at UCLA's Graduate School of Library & Information Science. My work experience includes libraries as diverse as the Bodleian Library in Oxford, England and Haleakala Waldorf School, on Maui. In a 1998 project, I analyzed web sites as a consultant. My current goals are to automate the hospital library and Community Health Education Library catalogs.

OHSLA State Report

submitted by [Beverly Schriver](#)

OHSLA has a new medical librarian; *Pam White* is at Merle West Medical Center, Klamath Falls, OR.

In July at the Silver Falls annual conference, OHSLA hosted *Ann McKibbin* who taught the CE course Evidence-Based Medicine. It was well attended by both Oregon and Washington medical librarians.

OHSLA members were encouraged to look at the possibility of joining the University of Michigan consortia membership to DIALOG. With DIALOG's new price structure there is a significant savings to be made by such a membership. Apparently there is also a similar consortia in Colorado.

OHSLA new officers:

President: *Peggy Baldwin*, Providence Portland Medical Center

Past President: *Beverly Schriver*, SHMC

Program Chair: *Judith Hayes*, Tuality Community Hospital

Secretary: *Melissa Horner*, Adventist Medical Center

Treasurer: *Valerie Lawrence*, Western States Chiropractic College

WASHINGTON

Our region has been given the opportunity to have a voice within the larger MLA organization. We currently have three PNC members running for office on the MLA ballot. If you have not voted, please dig out your ballot and mail it so it reaches Chicago no later than **December 18**. Two members are on the slate for possible Board positions:

Susan Schweinsberg Long, AHIP, believes that MLA's challenge for the next century is to use its strengths: professional development, governmental relations, research, and advocacy to solidify its position as a leader in health sciences information. "My goal as an MLA Board member is to leave the association stronger, more resilient, more agile, and more connected to our members, our strategic partners, and our mission of excellence in health information," she commented. A recipient of the MLA Award for Excellence and Achievement in Hospital Librarianship and the AHIP Distinguished Member status, Schweinsberg is a former chair of the MLA Task Force on Hospital Library Certification, the Hospital Libraries Section, Strategic Planning Task Force, and the Professional Development Committee.

Intellectual property rights management is the most critical issue facing the health sciences information profession according to *Jean Shipman*, AHIP. The Associate Director of Information Resources Management at the University of Washington, Seattle, Shipman feels that because the Web provides an automatic publishing forum, the ability to protect intellectual property rights while maintaining a balance of fair use presents a major challenge to the health librarianship profession. A Distinguished Member of AHIP, Shipman has served on many committees including the 2001 National Program Committee and the Governmental Relations Committee. Shipman has also served as chair of the Ida and George Eliot Prize Jury of the Awards Committee.

And **Terry Jankowski** is running as our region's selection for the MLA Nominating Committee. This group chooses the slate of officers for MLA.

WLN and OCLC Begin Negotiations to Merge

Lacey, Washington, October 21, 1998 - WLN and OCLC announced today the signing of a letter of intent that could lead, following negotiations, to the merger of WLN and OCLC. For further information, please connect to the [WLN home](#) page.

CHAPTER BUSINESS

Please welcome the following new PNC members. This list was submitted by [Barbara Crain](#), Membership Secretary.

<i>Beverly Schriver</i> SHMC Professional Library Sacred Heart Medical Center bschriv@peacehealth.org	<i>Carole Shultz</i> Technical Resource & Information Center HealthComm International, Inc carole@healthcomm.com
<i>Nicole Hitchcock</i> Kissler Family Health Sciences Library Saint Alphonsus Regional Medical Center nicohit@mailstn.sarmc.org	<i>Melissa Wills</i> Kissler Family Health Sciences Library Saint Alphonsus Regional Medical Center MELIWILL@mailstn.sarmc.org
<i>Karin Thomsen</i> thomk@ils.unc.edu	<i>Ann Marie Clark</i> Arnold Digital Library Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center aclark@fhcrc.org
<i>Melanie Jones</i> Community Health Library Kittitas Valley Community Hospital hlthlib@eburg.com	<i>Jan Gallagher</i> Library Services Overlake Hospital overb@halcyon.com

Proposed Dues Increase

Over the past three years, the expenses of operating our chapter have been greater than the income that has been generated. As a result, the PNC/MLA Board is proposing a dues increase of \$10.00 per year for chapter membership to take effect in 1999 if approved. Should members vote to approve this increase, dues will be raised to \$25.00 per year U.S. and \$28.00 per year Canadian funds. There are a number of reasons the Board decided to propose this dues increase.

On December 31, 1994, the assets of our organization totaled \$11,602.05. Assets as of October 29, 1998 totaled \$8,255.05, and are projected to drop further unless steps are taken to stabilize the chapter's income base. A question was raised at the recent annual meeting in Boise as to why the general membership should raise their dues to support the annual meeting. Actually, just the opposite is the reality. Annual meeting profits have historically been used to subsidize regular chapter business along with the annual dues paid by each member. However, in the past three years, as meetings have become more expensive to produce, and as vendor support and attendance has declined (along with a decline in attendance by our members to "rural" meetings), meeting profits have declined dramatically. Chapter membership has remained fairly steady over those same years as well, offering no additional dues income on which to rely for regular chapter business expenses. The following is an actual breakdown of income and expenses over the past four years:

PNC/MLA Income vs. Expense Comparison				
Year	Meeting Income	Dues Income	Total Income*	Total Expenses
1995	\$6,135.19	\$2,511.28	\$8,801.70	\$5,669.45
1996	\$73.00	\$1,719.67	\$1,882.20	\$ 6,636.84
1997	\$542.44	\$2,703.00	\$3,395.92	\$7,491.16
1998	\$2,805.89	\$2,574.00**	\$5,512.06**	\$6,239.65**

*Total income figures include interest on checking account.

**Year-to-date figures as of October 29, 1998

The Board has undertaken several cost cutting measures including electronic publication of the newsletter, *Northwest Notes*, which has eliminated printing and postage costs and minimizing Board travel expenses by reducing overnight stays where feasible and using the cheapest possible airfares. However, these cost cutting measures have not provided the balance needed to bring the chapter budget into line.

The Board will be submitting this issue to a vote of the membership in December 1998. Ballots will be mailed in the first week of December and are due back via mail (no faxes please) no later than **December 31, 1998**. If you are a current PNC member and have not received a mailed ballot by December 10th, please contact [Pam Spickelmier](mailto:Pam.Spickelmier@slrnc.org), Treasurer, at (208) 381-2277 or e-mail spickelp@slrnc.org.

Committee Reports

Bylaws

submitted by [Jan Schueller](#)

During the past year the Bylaws Committee has been working on changes to PNC's bylaws and is now incorporating the newest proposed changes for submission to MLA. Changes mainly reflect revisions to MLA's Bylaws, the incorporation of PNC, changes to committee structures, and general clarification of wording. Once MLA has approved the revisions, the membership will have the opportunity to review and vote on the changes. Members of the Committee are Doreen Smith, Nancy Turrentine, and Jan Schueller, Chair.

Conference Planning Committee

submitted by [Leilani St. Anna](#)

Leilani St. Anna, chair
Bonnie Chadbourne
Peggy Baldwin
Kathy Murray (2000 mtg chair)
Mary Ellen Lemon (1998 mtg chair)
Betty Jo Jensen
Vicki Croft
Caroline Mann (1997 mtg chair)

The committee met during the 1997 Portland meeting and produced a long list of items to add to the Conference Planning Manual. We're working toward centralizing some processes to lessen the burden on local groups, add more continuity to the planning process and pass on 'the collective memory'. The committee wants to add sample documents to the manual, provide more detailed instructions and concrete examples and to standardize reports. The current PNC Conference Manual is now available on the PNC web site. Peggy Baldwin produced a vendor database. Leilani St. Anna handled the registration for the Boise meeting from a distance.

Professional Development Committee

submitted by [Lisa Oberg](#)

At the 1997 Annual Meeting in Portland, OR, Lisa Oberg of the University of Washington Health Sciences Library assumed the chair of the Professional Development Committee.

Current membership of the Committee includes:

Janice Bacino, St. Peter's Community Hospital
Margaret Connors, Oregon Health Sciences University
Mary Ellen Lemon, Healthwise

Nancy Press, NN/LM
Barbara Saint, University of British Columbia
Doreen Smith, Fairbanks Memorial Hospital
Lea Starr, Multicare Health System

PNC Web Site

A section of the PNC/MLA web site has been developed for the Professional Development Committee and is available at <http://weber.u.washington.edu/~pncmla/ce/>. Information available includes the roster of current committee members, upcoming CE opportunities in the PNC region and professional development funding opportunities. Suggestions are welcome, as well as CE courses you would like to see included.

PNC CE Survey

Together with Nancy Press and the generous support of the RML, the PNC CE Survey was revised and the 1998 survey was mailed to members late in 1997. The survey was mailed earlier than usual in order to try and address educational interests at the 1998 Annual Meeting. Some interesting results from the survey are that PubMed and using other Internet resources were the most frequently suggested course topics, that 36% of the membership (of 113 respondents) have been in the profession over 15 years and that time and time management are on everyone's minds. For complete results see <http://weber.u.washington.edu/~pncmla/ce/98results.html>.

MLA '98 Survey

The MLA Continuing Education Committee (CEC) has developed a Chapter Needs Assessment Survey, available at <http://www.tulane.edu/~zeller/intro.html>, that they would like chapters to use in 1998. Copies will be available to members at the 1998 Annual Meeting.

PNC Annual Meeting - Boise, ID, October 27-29, 1998

Three courses were arranged for the meeting:

Just In Time Information Delivery Options

Jean Shipman, University of Washington, Seattle, WA
26 attendees

Consumer Health Information

Part I - Planning and Providing Consumer Health Information
Michele Spatz, Planetree Health Resources Center, The Dalles, OR
13 attendees

Part II - The Psycho-Social Aspects of Providing Health Information
to Patients & Consumers

Margaret Connors, Oregon Health Sciences University, Portland, OR
Jane Grosman, Santa Rosa Medical Center, Santa Rosa, CA

Michele Spatz, Planetree Health Resources Center, The Dalles, OR
22 attendees

Finding the Figures

Bill Gembala, Lisa Oberg and Janet Schnall
University of Washington, Seattle, WA
17 attendees

1998 Goals

Goals for 1998 include developing a packet for the instructors to use as a guide to developing courses. This idea had been proposed previously and I would like to pursue it. Also, I would like to see more CE posts to HLIB-NW and possibly added to the PNC web site when appropriate. As many librarians' jobs continue to diversify, I would like to be sensitive to the fact that relevant CE opportunities may come from many different sources. Nancy and I have also discussed a major revision to the PNC CE Survey and this will be an agenda item of the Professional Development Committee at the Annual Meeting.

"Evidence-Based Health Care (EBHC) in Action"

The MLA Continuing Education Committee, in celebration of MLA's Centennial, has developed a yearlong distance learning program about evidence-based health care. As part of this program I arranged for the downlinking of the kick-off teleconference, which was broadcast on September 16, 1998. There were 16 local attendees, who were very favorable about the teleconference in their evaluations. A videotaped copy can be borrowed from the PNC Lending Library. [editor's note: Check the complete list of items available for loan from the [Lending Library](#). This page also describes the video content as "Evidence-Based Health Care in Action Teleconference, September 16, 1998, 1 1/2 hour. (Sponsored by the Medical Library Association and by Ovid Technologies, Inc.). The conference provided knowledge about the purpose, origin, and history of EBHC; demonstrated the actual practice and process of EBHC, illustrated the roles that librarians are currently undertaking in the process, and provided a starting point for discussion through the creation of an EBHC listserv."]

MLA has also organized a series of journal clubs focusing on evidence-based health care that they are encouraging members to participate in. For more information see MLA's EBHC web site at <http://www.mlanet.org/education/telecon/>.

Benchmarking Tool Kit

A copy of the Benchmarking Tool Kit has been ordered using PNC Professional Development funds. It will be available for borrowing from the PNC Lending Library. Benchmarking is a key tool for continuous quality improvement. Using the guidelines for data collection and performance measurement in this Tool Kit, health and other special libraries will be able to compare their own performance with pilot project data; benchmark against their own performance over time; or benchmark against one or more partners.

Publications

Newsletter

submitted by [Kathy Murray](#)

Another year has slipped away. Part of the reason this last year was so painless for me, is that I was ably assisted by Loretta Andress. The newsletter was her html learning tool and thus many hours of work were shifted from my shoulders to hers. I also want to thank Emily Hull. She has put in many, many hours building our web pages. Her list of projects for next year would be intimidating for many, but I have every confidence she will have a completed checkmark next to each item by year's end. I am also grateful for her statistics...to paraphrase Ms. Fields, "You really, really read the newsletter!"

Northwest Notes has been in electronic form for two years. Any suggestions? We currently mail only six copies. This will increase by one for next year when we add the University of Washington's Library School to our mailing list. The library school at UBC has received a copy for many years...it's unfortunate that the only other school in our region has been neglected.

I will be contacting you (hiding behind the door won't help ;-)) in the coming months. I would like to see more information about the little things we all do that others will find interesting. [note: in this issue, Kootenai Medical Center's library has submitted a number of interesting tidbits.] What is happening in your library or life?

Web Editor

submitted by [Emily Hull](#)

The past year has been a busy one for the PNC web site, with a lot of new content added and a noticeable increase in usage. Additions to the web site include:

- 1998 annual meeting information, including registration materials online
- 1997 business meeting minutes
- Program Planning Manual
- Membership form, member list, and links to the Directory of Health Sciences Libraries in the Pacific Northwest and information about HLIB-NW
- New section about the Professional Development Committee, including information about MLA's evidence-based health care distance learning opportunities, other conferences and workshops, funding opportunities, and CE survey information
- 1998 board members and board meeting minutes
- Current Bylaws and Map
- Yellow "NEW" icon to spotlight new content on the site
- Web site search using HuskySearch
- Web site access log, with monthly stats from May through September

During 1999-2000 I plan to:

- Develop publishing guidelines for content and format.
- Submit paper copies of core documents from the web site to the PNC archives.
- Post a chapter history written by Janet Schnall, PNC archivist.
- Post the results of the Compass survey, summarized by Nancy Press.
- Post the revised Bylaws once these have been approved by MLA.

The access log, which has been operational since the middle of March, reveals some interesting usage patterns. A monthly average of 322 files have been viewed in the last six and a half months, with a high of 441 in September and a low of 167 in April. The daily average is 11 hits, with highs of 104 on May 20th, 118 on July 23rd, and 125 on October 21st.

The Program Planning Manual is a perennial favorite with an average of 31 hits each month, though access dropped off dramatically in September, but by then it was too late, right?

Peaks in usage seem to follow announcements about the web site on HLIB-NW. A third of the usage in May occurred on the 20th, the day that a question about putting a member list on the site was raised on the email list. After the conference registration materials were posted and the April-June issue of Northwest Notes was announced on July 22, the site received 180 hits in three days. Again, when the current issue of Northwest Notes was announced on October 21st, usage jumped to 125 hits in one day.

The annual conference information doubled in popularity between July and August, from 87 hits to 171, and interest continues strongly into October.

Clearly there is a lot of material on the web site that is useful to members. The Bylaws, Membership, Publications, and Professional Development Committees have all contributed information. I'd like to see the work of all the committees represented. Please contact me with any ideas for new content on the web site.

From Our Colleagues Choosing Electronic Resources

Reprinted from MEDLIB-L@LISTSERV.ACSU.BUFFALO.EDU; November 17, 1998
As written by [Marcy Horner](#)

I just had a discussion with my CEO about MDConsult.... we decided against offering it for a number of reasons...

1. From a risk management point of view: the MDConsult search engine only searches the journals published by Lippincott/Williams and Wilkins (about 40) - physicians may think they have covered the literature when in fact they have only seen a **very** small part of it... if they make patient care decisions based on such a small subset of information, they may not be making a truly informed decision.

2. From a cost control point of view: there is no way to attach local library holdings statements to MDConsult... no way for your staff to know that your hospital has already paid for that journal, and they can have the article without paying the publisher again.... there are no FAIR USE provisions, each time a staff member wants an article, you pay full price...(one BIG question is WHO will pay the full price... our medical staff has resisted an increase in library support payments even though journal prices continue to sky-rocket... they are not willing to pay for each article - and why should the library pay for what we can borrow under fair use?!)

3. The prices VHA Securenet quoted were considerably higher than what we currently pay to use Micromedix and Health Reference Center - products we already provide to our staff thru the library server

4. From a staff loyalty and local medical community point of view our medical staff members are committed to THEIR library, it binds our local medical community together, and has provided the basis for the development of a rural consortium that has many benefits beyond the provision of direct information services

We will be using VHA Securenet for our purchasing department... there are some cost savings and advantages there.

How Do You Classify Your Consumer Health Material?

DeArmond Consumer Health Library
 Kootenai Medical Center - Coeur d'Alene, ID
 submitted by [Marcy Horner](#)

We have modified the NLM classification schedule to fit our consumer health library - we use the NLM system, but we have renamed the major subject headings to reflect lay language.

Consumer Health Classification Schedule		
QU	VITAMINS	
QV	HERBS AND DRUGS	(note: although the NLM catalogs some herbals in WB as well, we have classified all our books and videos that deal with herbs in this section, as we find our patrons find it easier to have the material all in one place, and our collection is small)
QW	GERMS	
QX	BUGS	
QZ	GENETICS AND CANCER	
WB	ALTERNATIVE MEDICINE AND PHYSICAL THERAPY	(note: this is the widest departure from the NLM terminology.. we looked at the materials we had purchased in our initial collection and discovered

		most of the WB titles dealt with complementary or alternative approaches to medicine)
WC	INFECTIONS	
WD	ALLERGIES	(once again, when we looked at what our collection represented, most of the WD section dealt with allergies)
WE	BONES AND JOINTS	
WF	LUNGS	
WG	HEART	
WH	BLOOD	
WI	GUTS	
WJ	MEN'S HEALTH (AND KIDNEYS)	
WK	DIABETES	(once again, when we looked at what our collection represented, most of the WK section dealt with diabetes)
WL	NERVES & PAIN	
WM	EMOTIONS	
WN	IMAGING	
WO	SURGERY	
WP	WOMEN'S HEALTH	
WQ	PREGNANCY	
WR	KIDS	
WS	SKIN DISEASES	
WT	AGING	
WU	TEETH & GUMS	
WV	EAR, NOSE & THROAT	
WW	EYES	
WX	HOSPITALS	
WY	NURSING	
WZ	HISTORY & HUMOR	

MEETINGS

Online Northwest

submitted by [Dolores Judkins](#)

Online Northwest 99, the sixteenth annual conference concentrating on computerized information retrieval and technology in libraries, will be held on February 12, 1999, at the Sheraton Airport Hotel in Portland, Oregon.

The conference is sponsored by the Interinstitutional Library Council Online Coordinators Committee of the Oregon University System. The Keynote speech by Reva Basch, author of four books including "Researching Online For Dummies" and "Secrets of the Super Net Searchers," will begin a program of 23 breakout sessions designed for academic, public, special, and school librarians.

The conference includes lunch and an opportunity to win some exciting door prizes--last year's prizes included a digital camera, a scanner, and more. But the conference really offers an opportunity to learn and network with colleagues of technology in libraries.

To register for the conference online or for more information, visit the Online Northwest 99 [web site](#).

MLA in Chicago in '99

Medical Library Association (MLA) will wrap up its year-long Centennial Celebration next year at its ninety-ninth annual meeting and exhibit in Chicago, IL. The meeting will take place May 15 to 19, 1999, at the Hyatt Regency Hotel. The program will include well-known speakers such as noted librarian/futurist, Clifford Lynch, Ph.D., and bioethics expert, Dr. Daniel Callahan. For more information, check the Press Release link or visit MLA's [homepage](#).

Proposed Chapter Sharing Roundtable Topics

Reprinted from MEDLIB-L@LISTSERV.ACSU.BUFFALO.EDU; originally posted 30 October 1998

posted by [Pamela Elwell](#)

The Chapter Sharing Roundtables Committee of MLA Chapter Council is planning Roundtable topics for the 1999 Annual Meeting in Chicago. We seek your response, comments, feedback about the following list of topics. Notice that some topics center around Chapter activity; other topics are more of individual interest.

Chapter Sharing Roundtables are for everyone. They provide an opportunity to meet with colleagues with similar interests or responsibilities, and to share ideas, projects, successes and (sometimes) challenges. Participants meet others from across the Chapters in a discussion of mutual interest, and benefit from the networking that results. Please respond to me with your comments. Thanks for your help!

Proposed topics for 1999 Annual Meeting:

Annual Meeting	AHIP and Credentialing	Automation
Bylaws	Chairs and Incoming Chairs	Chapter Webmasters
Communications	Continuing Education	Finance
Government Relations	Internet (general)	Internet Security
Intranets and Libraries	Leadership Development	Library Webmasters
Membership	Networking and Collaboration	Research

Note that topics may be modified by the time you see it in the preliminary program, based on your feedback! Your opinion is important!

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 Director, Library Services 614-234-1257 fax
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 793 West State Street
 Columbus OH 43222

Future Meetings

PNC/MLA, Seattle, Washington in Fall 1999

MLA, Vancouver, B.C.: May 6-10, 2000

PNC/MLA, Alaska in 2000: September 16-20

Humor

...or maybe not

Just in case you need a visual explanation of the Y2K problem:
http://www.thesitefights.com/wepatrol/mil_bug.gif

A computer was something on TV
 from a science fiction show of note
 a window was something you hated to clean...
 And ram was the cousin of a goat....

Meg was the name of a girlfriend
 and gig was a job for the nights.
 Now they all mean different things

and that really mega bytes

An application was for employment,
a program was a TV show,
a cursor used profanity,
a keyboard was a piano.

Memory was something you lost with age,
a CD was a bank account,
and if you had a 3 1/2" floppy,
you hoped nobody found out.

Compress was something you did to the trash
not something you did to a file,
and if you unzipped anything in public
you'd be in jail for a while.

Log on was adding wood to the fire,
hard drive was a long trip on the road,
a mouse pad was where a mouse lived,
and a backup happened to your commode.

Cut you did with a pocket knife,
paste you did with glue,
a web was a spider's home,
and a virus was the flu.

I guess I'll stick to my pad and paper
and the memory in my head.
I hear nobody's been killed in a computer crash
but when it happens they wish they were dead.

Source: anonymous

Boris Yeltsin, Bill Clinton and Bill Gates were invited to have dinner with God. During dinner he told them "I need three important people to send my message out to all people

- Tomorrow I will destroy the earth".

Yeltsin immediately called together his cabinet and told them "I have two really bad news items for you: 1. God really exists, and 2. tomorrow He will destroy the earth".

Clinton called an Emergency meeting of the Senate and Congress and told them "I have Good news and Bad News: 1. God really does exist, and 2. The bad news is tomorrow he's destroying the earth".

Bill Gates went back to Microsoft and happily announced "I have two fantastic announcements: 1. I am one of three most important people on earth, and 2. The Year 2000 problem is solved".

In The News

NLM Second Year Associate Fellowship RFP

Reprinted from MEDLIB-L@LISTSERV.ACSU.BUFFALO.EDU; originally posted on 30 Nov 1998

Posted by [Naomi Miller](#)

Colleagues:

The National Library of Medicine is pleased to announce the solicitation for proposals from academic health science centers, hospital research facilities, corporations, or other organizations interested in serving as second-year sites for NLM's Associate Fellowship program.

Requirements and application procedures are outlined in the Statement of Work and Request For Proposal (RFP) available on NLM's [Web site](#) under General Information, Training Opportunities, NLM [Second Year Associate Fellowship](#).

Any questions you may have about this solicitation can be directed to the Acting Associate Fellowship Program Coordinator, [Karen Hajarian](#), at hajarian@nlm.nih.gov or at (301)435-4083. The primary purpose of NLM's Associate Fellowship program is to prepare librarians for future leadership roles in health science libraries. The emphasis of the optional second year of the program is on the Fellow developing skills and gaining experience working on teams of librarians, administrators, health professionals, system developers, and/or educators in a multi-disciplinary Host Institution.

Proposals are due no later than close of business on Friday, January 15, 1999. We hope that you will consider submitting a proposal.

Betsy Humphreys

Y2K ... ARE YOU COMPLIANT ? OR COMPLACENT?

by [Marcy Horner](#)

By this time, most of us who work with computers on a daily basis have heard so much about the Y2K bug that we have begun to tune out the end-of-the-world-as-we-know-it hype. We hope the "experts" are hard at work at the problem and will have everything fixed by the time it affects our personal work or home life. We've become Y2K complacent.

I'm not usually one to yell fire in crowded theater, or to imagine worst-case scenarios for every situation, but I am truly concerned about the impact Y2K will have on our ability to provide healthcare information. We have become so dependent on our connections to each other for resource sharing that we are very vulnerable. Most of us work in institutions that rely on multiple vendors for our information systems which increases the probability of failure.

At a recent hearing of the special Senate Committee on the Year 2000 problem, Rx2000 director Joel Ackerman stated, "Some health care institutions intend to rely almost entirely on vendor assurances of compliance, even though experience has proven these to be unreliable." A survey completed by a national law firm estimates that 87 percent of U.S. healthcare institutions are in danger of computer system failures.

Some of our institutions have begun to implement Y2K compliance plans, and most are looking closely at patient critical systems, but in the short time we have left to prepare, I believe library systems may well be overlooked. What steps can we take, as professional librarians, to insure that we will be able to effectively fulfill our mission to our patrons on January 1, 2000?

Step one is to become educated about potential problems in your library. There are a number of excellent web sites dedicated to informing the public about the Y2K timebomb, some specific to healthcare issues. Checkout www.rx2000.org; this site has a good "self-help" section, a speaker's bureau, and some examples of plans used by other hospitals. Another good site is www.y2Klinks.com. If you want to get really nervous, try www.tickticktick.com

Step two is to inventory all of your potential Y2K problems. The obvious issue of circulation or other application software packages that use a two-digit date is just one area of possible failure. Embedded chips and programs that use the date field in an internal error-checking algorithm are often more difficult to detect and correct. Your inventory list should include bar code readers, routers, hubs, network cards, printers, copy machines, fax equipment, security systems, and modems, as well as PCs and all of your software programs.

Step three is to check with your vendors to determine if they have tested their hardware and software for Y2K compliance. There are sample vendor letters available on the www.rx2000.org web site. You'll want to keep a hardcopy of your vendor's responses to your query. Don't be surprised if you don't get a quick answer, most vendors are swamped with requests. In the meantime, you can check your vendor's web sites to see if they have posted their test results. The FDA maintains a website for health-related manufacturers at www.fda.gov/cdrh/yr2000/y2Kprblm.html, most of these postings concern direct patient care equipment.

Step four is to have your equipment tested. Your institution should have a testing policy in place. There are a number of testing programs available on the web or in retail stores. If you don't know your way around your PC, have a specialist or consultant do this. **THIS CAN BE DISASTROUS IF YOU DO IT WRONG!**

Step five is to develop a contingency plan. What can you do to provide information without your computers? (Remember when we used to do that all the time?) Time for some serious collection development decisions. Are your hardcopy reference materials up-to-date? Do you have an adequate journal collection on-site for your mission critical services? How can you provide drug and emergency information?

Step six is to cross your fingers and pray ;-) (And stock up on firewood, candles, fresh water and canned goods.)

REFLECTIONS

This was hung up inside a door on the Reservation in ND. It is meant for the living, but I think it means just as much to us for our loved ones who have gone to the Summerland, and will return again:

While We're Apart

It's not easy for us while distance separates us, as each day passes into another, we must look forward into tomorrow, knowing that we are one day closer to the dreams we hold.

It may be frustrating when we need a hug or want each other's company. If we feel alone, we should close our eyes and remember a moment in time when we held one another...

Remember our smiles, and listen to our warm voices, and feel the Love that surrounds us. We must live each day together, even though distance keeps us apart.

It may seem unfair at times if we feel neglected by each other...we must understand each of our needs and take time out of our separate worlds to open our hearts and minds.

Let's live each day, side by side, let's feel comfortable with our love, for then loneliness will leave us.

Missing each other will help us gain confidence in our togetherness, and we'll grow while we're apart.

For those we love, and for those we miss

Report of the Fourteenth Subcommittee on Convening a Discussion Group

by *Marge Piercy*

This is how things begin to tilt into change,
how coalitions are knit from strands of hair,
of barbed wire, twine, knitting wool and gut,
how people ease into action arguing each inch,
but the tedium of it is watching granite erode.

Let us meet to debate meeting, the day, the time,
the length. Let us discuss whether we will sit
or stand or hang from the ceiling or take it lying
down. Let us argue about the chair and the table and
the chairperson and the motion to table the chair.

In the room fog gathers under the ceiling and thickens
in every brain. Let us form committees spawning
subcommittees all laying little moldy eggs of reports.
Under the Grey fluorescent sun they will crack
to hatch scuttling lizards of more committees.

The Pliocene gathers momentum and fades.
The earth tilts on its axis. More and more snows
fall each winter and less melt each spring.
A new ice age is pressing the glaciers forward
over the floor. We watch the wall of ice advance.

We are evolving into molluscs, barnacles
clinging to wood and plastic, metal and smoke
while the stale and flotsam-laden tide of rhetoric
inches up the shingles and dawdles back.
This is true virtue: to sit here and stay awake,

to listen, to argue, to wade on through the muck
wrestling to some momentary small agreement
like a pinhead pearl prized from a dragon-oyster.
I believe in this democracy as I believe
There is blood in my veins, but oh, oh, in me

lurks a tyrant with a double-bladed ax who longs
to swing it wide and shining, who longs to stand
and shriek, You Shall Do as I Say, pig-bastards.
No more committees but only picnics and orgies
and dances. I have spoken. So be it forevermore.

In Honor of Women's History Month

Did you know....

If shop mannequins were real women, THEY'D BE TOO THIN TO MENSTRUATE.

There are 3 billion women who don't look like supermodels and ONLY 8 WHO DO.

Marilyn Monroe wore a SIZE 16.

If Barbie were a real woman, she'd have to walk on all fours due to her proportions.

The average American woman weighs 144 lbs. and wears between a size 12 and 14.

One out of every 4 college aged women has an eating disorder.

The models in the magazines are airbrushed-THEY'RE NOT PERFECT!!

A psychological study in 1995 found that 3 minutes spent looking at models in a fashion magazine caused 70% of women to feel depressed, guilty and shameful.

Models who twenty years ago weighed 8% less than the average woman, today weigh 23% less.

~~~~~

The enclosed Maya Angelou poem is being circulated to celebrate Women's History Month

**Phenomenal Woman**  
**by Maya Angelou**

Pretty women wonder where my secret lies  
I'm not cute or built to suit a model's fashion size  
But when I start to tell them  
They think I'm telling lies.  
I say  
It's in the reach of my arms  
The span of my hips  
The stride of my steps  
The curl of my lips.  
I'm a woman  
Phenomenally  
Phenomenal woman  
That's me.  
I walk into a room  
Just as cool as you please  
And to a man  
The fellows stand or  
Fall down on their knees  
Then they swarm around me  
A hive of honey bees.  
I say  
It's the fire in my eyes  
And the flash of my teeth  
The swing of my waist  
And the joy in my feet.  
I'm a woman

Phenomenal woman  
That's me.  
Men themselves have wondered  
What they see in me  
They try so much  
But they can't touch  
My inner mystery.  
When I try to show them  
They say they still can't see.  
I say  
It's in the arch of my back  
The sun of my smile  
The ride of my breasts  
The grace of my style.  
I'm a woman  
Phenomenally  
Phenomenal woman  
That's me.  
Now you understand  
Just why my head's not bowed  
I don't shout or jump about  
Or have to talk real loud  
When you see me passing  
It ought to make you proud.  
I say  
It's in the click of my heels  
The bend of my hair  
The palm of my hand  
The need for my care.  
'Cause I'm a woman  
Phenomenally  
Phenomenal woman  
That's me.

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## NEWS FROM MLA

submitted by [Mary Langman](#)

Following is a summary legislative update prepared by the American Library Association which describes several of the information issues that the Governmental Relations Committee and Joint MLA/AAHSL Legislative Task Force have followed throughout the 105th Congress. A comprehensive legislative update will appear in the January 1999 issue of the MLA News.

In addition to the information provided below, P.L. 105-277 provides \$181,309,000 to the National Library of Medicine for F.Y. 1999, a 12.7% increase over F.Y. 1998.

MLA and AAHSL's priorities for 1998-99 are:

**DRIVE**

NLM Funding  
Appropriations  
Reauthorization  
Telemedicine

**INFLUENCE**

Computerized Patient Records  
Information Access  
Title 44 Revision  
Federal Depository Library Program Restructuring  
Intellectual Property and Copyright  
Copyright Reform (domestic and international NII issues)  
CONFU Guidelines  
Copyright Term Extension  
Medical Research Trust Fund  
NII/HPCC  
Next Generation Internet  
Telecommunications  
Universal Service  
Communications Decency Act

**MONITOR**

Indirect Costs  
Health Care Reform  
Licensing

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**MLA PRESS RELEASES**

November 1998

**MEET MLA'S 1999/2000 ELECTION CANDIDATES**

The voting members of the Medical Library Association (MLA) will soon decide who will hold the president-elect, three Board of Directors and nine Nominating Committee member positions opening for the 1999/2000 year. Ballots will be mailed to members in early November and must be returned by December 18. Complete text of candidates' background and statements can be found on [MLANET](#) and in the November/December issue of MLA News. The outstanding health sciences information leaders campaigning for the open positions are as follows.

Running for the 1999/2000 president-elect seat are **J. Michael Homan**, AHIP, and **James Shedlock**, AHIP. Homan, Director of Libraries, Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN, has been a member of MLA for 28 years and has served as editor of the Bulletin of the Medical Library Association for the past three years. He has also served as chair of several MLA committees including the Information Systems Task Force, Scholarship Committee, and the Section Council Advisory Committee.

A Distinguished Member of the Academy of Health Information Professionals(AHIP), Homan feels that MLA has done a great job of responding to the major issues facing the profession but must make an even stronger effort as the association enters its next century. “Now is an opportune time to act strategically to attract new members who are passionate about health sciences librarianship, ignite the passion in existing members, and forge new, creative, and long lasting alliances with the other organizations where goals intersect,” he stated. The other candidate for president-elect, James Shedlock, has served as chair of several committees and sections including the Medical Informatics Section, Medical School Libraries Section, and the Interlibrary Loan and Resource Sharing Standards and Practices Committee. A current MLA board member, Shedlock also spearheaded the MLA Cookbook Project with recipes provided by MLA members. Cookbook proceeds will go to help fund continuing education in collection development.

Director of Northwestern University’s Galter Health Science Library in Chicago, IL, Shedlock sees technology playing a vital role in the future of the health sciences information profession. He stated, “Our vision must focus on our skills and the constant updating of these skills in using technology as a means of fulfilling our mission to connect users to the information they need. We must serve our core idea of bringing users together with information, making quality information service lead to quality health care, and employing management, selection, technical, and organizational skills.”

Three of the following candidates will be elected to serve on the MLA Board of Directors:

An active MLA member, **Wendy Carter** is Co-Director of the Health Information Resources Service, Department of Veteran Affairs, in Washington, DC. Currently a member of both the Hospital Library Section and the Federal Library Section, Carter is also an Ex Officio Member of the National Library of Medicine Board of Regents. She comments, “The challenge to the MLA and its individual members is to partner with the medical informatics community, provider associations, academic institutions, and consumer organizations to better define their needs and design multidisciplinary strategies to address them for the 21st century.”

**Susan Schweinsberg Long**, AHIP, believes that MLA’s challenge for the next century is to use its strengths: professional development, governmental relations, research, and advocacy to solidify its position as a leader in health sciences information. “My goal as an MLA Board member is to leave the association stronger, more resilient, more agile, and more connected to our members, our strategic partners, and our mission of excellence in health information,” she commented. A recipient of the MLA Award for Excellence and Achievement in Hospital Librarianship and the AHIP Distinguished Member status, Schweinsberg is a former chair of the MLA Task Force on Hospital Library Certification, the Hospital Libraries Section, Strategic Planning Task Force, and the Professional Development Committee.

**Julie McGowan**, AHIP, Director, Dana Medical Library, University of Vermont and Fletcher Allen Health Care/Medical Center Hospital of Vermont, Burlington, has received many professional honors including the MLA Career Development Award in Medical Informatics, and the Frank Bradway Rogers Information Advancement Award. An extensively published author, McGowan has served as chair of the Medical Informatics Section, Research Section,

International Cooperation Section, and the Bylaws Committee. She states, “As we finish our first hundred years, medical librarians can look back proudly. However, now is not the time to rest on our laurels; the profession must re-envision itself to remain viable. MLA is now in a unique position to help its members realize its full potential.”

Director of the Medical Library and Peyton Anderson Learning Resources Center, Mercer University School of Medicine, in Macon, GA, **Jocelyn A. Rankin**, AHIP, has served on several MLA committees including the Nominating Committee, and the Grants and Scholarship Committee. Rankin is also the recipient of several MLA honors including Distinguished Membership in AHIP, Ida and George Eliot Prize, and MLA’s Frank Bradway Rogers Information Advancement Award. She is also the editor of a new book, *The Handbook of Problem-Based Learning*, published by MLA. “As a member of the board, I would advocate the development of skills, strategies, and tools to better integrate our libraries into our institutions, whether these are hospitals or universities, and to achieve integration from both the technological and programmatic perspectives,” Rankin stated.

Intellectual property rights management is the most critical issue facing the health sciences information profession according to **Jean Shipman**, AHIP. The Associate Director of Information Resources Management at the University of Washington, Seattle, Shipman, feels that because the Web provides an automatic publishing forum, the ability to protect intellectual property rights while maintaining a balance of fair use presents a major challenge to the health librarianship profession. A Distinguished Member of AHIP, Shipman has served on many committees including the 2001 National Program Committee and the Governmental Relations Committee. Shipman has also served as chair of the Ida and George Eliot Prize Jury of the Awards Committee.

**Lois Weinstein**, AHIP, believes that actively encouraging new legislation to benefit the profession and its patrons should be one of MLA’s primary goals. “We need to be pro-active about drafting legislation that we want, not just respond to legislation that others want to impose on us. I would work to see that MLA takes the lead on collaborating with other library and information associations to create and gain passage for new legislation that would benefit our profession.” Executive Director of the Medical Library Center of New York, Weinstein is a Distinguished Member of AHIP, and former chair of MLA’s Information Technology and Automation Committees.

Nine of the following candidates will be elected to serve on the MLA’s Nominating Committee.

|                         |                      |                     |
|-------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| Sharon L. Berglund      | Ysabel R. Bertolucci | Virginia M. Bowden  |
| Karen A. Butter         | Ellen Gay Detlefsen  | Dottie Eakin        |
| Cynthia Goldstein       | Anna M. Habetler     | Terry Ann Jankowski |
| Dixie A. Jones          | Joanne G. Marshall   | Debra C. Rand       |
| Melinda Saffer-Marchand | Barbara Slater       | Julia Sollenberger  |
| Kay Cimpl Wagner        | Elizabeth H. Wood    | Karen M. Zundel     |

For more information, please contact [Carla Funk](#) at 312/419-9094 x14. This release is also available at [www.mlanet.org/press/](http://www.mlanet.org/press/)

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November 1998

#### WINDY CITY OF CHICAGO TO HOST MLA '99

The Medical Library Association (MLA) will wrap up its year-long Centennial Celebration next year at its ninety-ninth annual meeting and exhibit in Chicago, IL. The meeting will take place May 15 to 19, 1999, at the Hyatt Regency Hotel, close to the MLA headquarters office.

The '99 National Program Committee (NPC) has created a stimulating and unique program that will include well-known speakers such as noted librarian/futurist, Clifford Lynch, Ph.D., and bioethics expert, Dr. Daniel Callahan. Continuing education opportunities, poster sessions, and the Hall of Exhibits are also among the many events scheduled for the meeting. During the meeting, MLA '99 meeting attendees will also be invited to a reception celebrating MLA's new headquarters office.

"The meeting's theme, Present Tense/Future Perfect?, embodies the focus of the meeting--the future of the health sciences librarianship profession," states MLA President Jacqueline Donaldson Doyle. "The conference will provide health sciences information professionals from all over the world with a forum to discuss and envision what must be done to create secure and challenging professions in the new century. "

The MLA '99 Preliminary Program will be mailed to all MLA members in January 1999. Non-members can request a copy by calling 312/419-9094 x21. For more information about MLA '99, visit our [Web site](#).

For more information, please contact [Ray Naegele](#) at 312/419-9094 x17. This release is also available at [www.mlanet.org/press/](http://www.mlanet.org/press/)

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November 1998

#### DOODY'S ELECTRONIC JOURNAL UPGRADE RELEASED

Allowing instant Internet access to Doody's entire database, Doody's Electronic Journal (DEJ) provides medical librarians with an excellent reference, collection development, and cataloging resource. DEJ features a database of 65,000 bibliographies complimented by Doody's Star Ratings and Reviews, tables of contents, book list managers, and customized weekly e-mail bulletins. Version 4.0, the latest upgrade to DEJ, is now available.

Selected features of the fall 1998 upgrade include:

- \* Reviews of electronic products such as CD-ROM's and Web sites
- \* Doody's Star Rating on-line questionnaire
- \* E-mail tool for communicating reviews to faculty and staff
- \* Auto-archiving of weekly e-mail bulletins
- \* Enhanced delivery technology for faster loading

The enhancements to DEJ were added in response to feedback from MLA members, technological advances, and developments in the industry. MLA Executive Director Carla Funk, comments, "Since 1994, MLA has endorsed the book review service provided by Doody Publishing as a valuable collection development, cataloging, and reference tool."

Dan Doody, founder and President of Doody Publishing, adds, "Our systematic upgrades every November and May allow us to respond quickly and sensibly to the excellent suggestions we continually receive from our most thoughtful customer, the medical librarian. We at Doody Publishing are proud of the results of this customer feedback as evidenced in our latest upgrade." Doody's Electronic Journal can be found on the Web at <http://www.doody.com/dej.htm>.

MLA members are eligible for a 20% discount when subscribing to either the library or site license version of Doody's Electronic Journal. MLA members can also take advantage of a one-month free trial subscription to DEJ. For more information, contact Doody Publishing at 800/219-9500.

For more information, please contact [Sioux Johannsen](mailto:Sioux.Johannsen) at 312/419-9094 x23. This release is also available at [www.mlanet.org/press/](http://www.mlanet.org/press/)

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October 1998

#### CONGRESSMAN HENRY BONILLA RECEIVES MLA AWARD FOR DISTINGUISHED PUBLIC SERVICE

Congressman Henry Bonilla (R-TX, 23rd District) was recently awarded the 1998 Medical Library Association (MLA) Award for Distinguished Public Service. Established in 1988, the award recognizes persons whose exemplary actions have served to advance the health, welfare, and intellectual freedom of the public. Congressman Bonilla received the honor for his contributions to the health information community, which has made a difference in the quality of our nation's health care in the United States.

The award was presented to Congressman Bonilla at his Capital Hill office by Marianne Puckett, AHIP, Associate Director, Louisiana State University Medical Center Library, and Chair of the MLA Governmental Relations Committee; and MLA Past President Naomi Broering, Executive Director, Texas Medical Center, Houston Academy of Medicine. Also in attendance was MLA Executive Director, Carla J. Funk.

In presenting the award, Broering stated, "Congressman Bonilla's knowledge and understanding of the key role of information and information services in support of health care has been

invaluable to those of us in the health information sciences profession. His strong and consistent support has resulted in much-needed increases in appropriations for the National Library of Medicine (NLM), which have helped us provide our nation's health professionals and the public with high quality information services.”

In her statement, Broering also mentioned the joint effort by the South Central Regional Medical Library and the public libraries in Houston and Congressman Bonilla's district in San Antonio to support consumer access to current and reliable health information.

For more information, please contact [Mary Langman](mailto:Mary.Langman@nlm.nih.gov) at 312/419-9094 x16. This release is also available at [www.mlanet.org/press/](http://www.mlanet.org/press/)

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October 1998

## THE 1998/99 MLA DIRECTORY --YOUR LINK TO HEALTH INFORMATION EXPERTS

The 1998/99 Directory of the Medical Library Association (MLA)--the essential resource for locating health sciences information professionals--will soon be released. Featuring a unique, eye-catching cover design, the Directory contains a complete listing of MLA's individual and institutional members.

Serving not only as an important networking tool for medical librarians, the Directory is also a valuable resource for those not in the profession seeking health information. In addition to listing health sciences information professionals and institutions, the Directory also contains

- elected and appointed MLA officials
- section and chapter leaders
- MLA corporate partners
- Code of Ethics for Health Sciences Librarians
- MLA bylaws
- descriptions of MLA awards, scholarships, and grants and lists of recent recipients
- current year committee charges and leaders
- MLA past elected officials

The “Yellow Pages,” a list of companies that provide products and services for those in the health sciences information profession, is also included.

For Internet users, MLA is preparing to launch an online directory exclusively for MLA members. The new, electronic membership directory will be available in the near future.

The 1998/99 Directory of the Medical Library Association is a benefit of MLA membership and is available to nonmembers for a fee of \$150.00. If you would like a copy of the Directory or would like to inquire about MLA membership, please call the MLA headquarters office at 312/419-9094.



For more information, please contact [Kate Corcoran](#) at 312/419-9094 x12. This release is also available at [www.mlanet.org/press/](http://www.mlanet.org/press/)

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## Membership Form

To join the Pacific Northwest Chapter, send dues to:

Pam Spickelmier **Dues: \$15.00 U.S. or \$18.00 Canadian**  
PNC/MLA Treasurer  
3766 S. Rush Creek Place  
Boise, ID 83712

### MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO: PNC/MLA

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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(You may use home **or** work address)

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Circle one: **Renewal** **New Member**

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## Publication Statement

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Statements and opinions expressed in the newsletter do not necessarily represent the official position of the Chapter or the Editor. **News and articles are welcome!** Please include your name, library, address, phone and fax number, and email address (if available).

The editor reserves the right to edit submissions as necessary.

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