

## **Pacific Northwest Chapter/Medical Library Association Technology Committee Annual Report 2011**

### **PNC/MLA 2011 Annual Meeting**

**Boise, ID**

**October 15-18, 2011**

#### Committee Members

Hope Leman (chair), Emily Glenn, Rose Relevo, Jonathan Potter, Laura Zeigen, Isaac Huffman, Ann Madhavan

#### Official Charge

The Technology Committee was established in the spring of 2009 and given the following charge:

The Technology Committee is responsible for investigating emerging technologies, informing the PNC/MLA Board and members of potential uses for the Chapter and the field of medical librarianship, and integrating appropriate technologies into the PNC/MLA web site and communications.

#### Membership Management and Event Conference Management Software Evaluation

Our primary task for 2011 was to research membership management and event conference software packages for purchase and use by the PNC Board and Committees.

The aim was to help the PNC board choose the membership management and event conference management software most likely to cost-effectively enhance chapter activities by:

- Enabling PNC members to renew their membership online, which would convenience them and almost certainly contribute to retention of members who might otherwise fall away if required to renew via snail mail
- Rendering membership management easier for PNC officers and Committee members (e.g., the PNC treasurer, PNC membership chair)
- Enabling potential meeting attendees to registered for the annual conference online in a manner both easy for conference organizers to manage and cost effective for the chapter

#### Results

The consensus of the Technology Committee was that Wild Apricot seemed the best choice vis-à-vis cost, reputation, user-friendliness, and functionality. That is the recommendation the Committee made to the board and the Committee was thanked by PNC Chair Laurel Egan. Wild Apricot was the product that the board ultimately chose. It seems to have proven to have been a wise choice.

#### Other matters

Rose Revelo was on maternity leave for some months and we on the Committee are not sure if she still wishes to remain on the Committee. She has been a valued member.

Alison Aldrich has left the PNC region and so resigned from the Committee. She will be greatly missed, as she was a huge help to the Committee.

Hope Lemman has resigned as chair and as a member the Committee due to the press of work duties. She wishes to thank all of the committee members and current PNC Chair Laurel Egan and Laurel's immediate predecessor in that position, Noelle Stello, for their support and guidance.

The committee would also to thank Judith Hayes, Sally Brenner, Valerie Lawrence, Todd Hannon, and Heather Wiley for their immense help in the membership software evaluation project and to especially recognize the many hours of effort and dedication Sally, in particular, spent on technology-related matters even though she was not even a member of the committee. Her input was astute and invaluable. She was a model of patience, good humor and generosity with expertise and advice. Laurel provided skillful, efficient leadership in the complex membership software evaluation project.

#### Future Activities

- Respond to Board and membership questions about this report
- Receive guidance from board on next projects for Committee
- Board/incoming PNC/MLA chair will need to recruit and appoint new chair and new members to replace Alison and Hope and ask existing members if they wish to remain on Committee

Hope Lemman, MLIS  
Chair, PNC/MLA Technology Committee  
October 2011