

MCMLA Executive Committee Annual Meeting
Report from MLA Chapter Council Representative
Holly Henderson and Carolyn Warmann
Cody, WY, October 4, 2008

Chapter Council Representative Activities since May 2008:

In June 2008, Holly sent a survey via the MCMLA listserv at the request of Chapter Council liaison to the MLA editorial board. The survey asked MCMLA members to share their opinion about adding MCMLA annual meeting posters, papers, etc. to the MLA CORE Toolbox. 33 responses were gathered. 30 responses were favorable, 1 response was against, 2 responses voted unsure. 15 people provided additional responses, listed below:

- I think this is an excellent idea!
- maybe just link to open access versions in our various institutional repositories or subject repositories
- It is difficult to reach all the publications of interest at a meeting. By making them available after published, papers may be reached by anyone who has the interest on the topic for the purpose of learning. Librarianship is about sharing information.
- It seems a wonderful way to let ALL regions benefit from the work of others. The only negative I can see is the need to be able to quickly drill through the "chaff" to get to the appropriate presentations for my need.
- I think these materials should be available in electronic form to members somewhere and CORE seems like a good place. Plus, so many sessions now include links to web resources and it will be more convenient to access these resources from a link online.
- It is good to add our chapter's information to the toolbox, but it would be nice to know the actual usage numbers of the toolbox as well. Could we get stats on how often our materials are viewed, in order to better make future decisions about adding/maintaining materials there?
- I think this is a great idea.
- Great idea! Not all chapters archive this information. It would be highly beneficial for chapters to share their information.
- I think it would be a great resource for new ideas and things others tried that worked.
- how would they be accessible? how long would they be accessible?
- A great way to see what's happening in other chapters. Not every one presents at MLA or attends MLA.
- Good idea, but I don't want to do it! Who will manage this?
- Great way to share with other chapters what is happening in ours!
- It would be great to have all of these items in one location so that I don't have to look in so many places to try and find these items, especially posters.
- sounds great, although not helpful to non-MLA members

Holly has forwarded Chapter Council information to the MCMLA listserv as appropriate.

Abridged Minutes of Chapter Council Meeting at MLA annual meeting in Chicago

Chapter Council Directory: 2008-09 Chapter Council Directory is available on the website, <http://www.chaptercouncil.mlanet.org/>

Chair's Report: Paula Raimondo attended the MLA Board Meeting on Friday, May 17 and updated the group on that meeting.

Attendance statistics for the Philadelphia MLA meeting in 2007 were 1727 attendees and exhibitors. This number was up from Phoenix and San Antonio. Student registrants were 99 in 2007 which was up from 68 in 2006.

The joint program organized by the Section Council/Chapter Council on Health Information Literacy held on the final day of the 2007 conference was successful. It was rated 3.8 out of a total of 5. However, less than ½ of the conference attendees stayed for the Wednesday AM program.

Paula is liaison to the MLA Board from the Chapter Council so if you have suggestions for the Board, please give them to Paula.

Future MLA annual meetings:

2009 Honolulu, HI
2010 Washington, DC
2011 Minneapolis, MN
2012 Seattle, WA
2013 Baltimore, MD
2014 Chicago, IL

Location is determined by the Board. Meetings will be at Hilton hotels for the next few years, based on a contract the board has signed with the hotel chain.

There is concern about attendance for 2009 meeting. While costs of food and hotel will probably be reasonable, transportation could be an issue. Most members will be traveling a long distance and the price of fuel will probably remain high. The Board encourages chapters to create incentives for members to attend the Hawaii meeting – awards, contests, etc.

CC Communications Committee

Communications Committee Chair Craig Elam reported that the CC Booth was redesigned for more effective display of chapter materials after our experiences at the MLA meeting in Philadelphia in 2007.

The Chapter membership chairs were notified through the CC liaison to the MLA Membership Committee to provide standard sized brochures for the booth and to provide the appropriate wall pocket size to display their brochure.

Marie Reidelbach submitted MCMLA brochures for this display in Chicago..

Chapter Planning Guidelines Project: Pam Rees announced that the Chapter Planning Guidelines are now up on the Chapter Council website in the Projects and Programs section. Chapters that have similar web instructions should send the links to Pam to be added as links to the Guidelines page.

Holly was unable to locate a link to this document on the MCMLA website.

Chapter News: Pam Corley, editor of the *MLA News* Chapters Column announced that the next issue of the *News* will probably include highlights from the MLA Roundtables. Pam is interested in any suggestions for future columns. Ideas included featuring how Chapters are using blogs, wikis and other technology, and a column to share news of what is going on in the individual chapters.

CC Continuing Education Committee

Julia Shaw-Kokot, chair of the Chapter Council committee and liaison to the MLA CE Committee, reported that the committee set up a wiki to be more efficient at conducting their business.

CC Home Page/Web Committee

Kim Granath, committee chair and web master, has just begun taking on the web responsibilities. She has added the Roundtables wiki link, the Chapter Planning Guidelines and a history of Chapter Council prepared by Sarah Gable, former Chapter Council Chair. Website address, <http://www.chaptercouncil.mlanet.org/>

MLANET Editorial Board

Pam White, Liaison, and Jonathan Lord, Liaison-in-Training, reported that the Board meeting is scheduled for Monday. Jonathan will attend along with Pam White. Chapter Council members are encouraged to make everyone aware of the blogs/wikis in use in their chapter. The new management system with a MY MLANET component is scheduled to be available in September. There is a move to improve the Members only area. Work is underway on the CORE Toolbox to reorganize it with improved tagging on all the entries. The tagging was to be completed by the end of May. The toolbox editor is focused on completing that.

Pam solicited feedback on the recently revised website. Comments covered:

- 1) The cluttered appearance
- 2) Difficulty in finding items known to be on the site
- 3) Searching results not sorted well

MLA Membership Committee

CC Liaison Sue Ben-Dor participated in the Committee's efforts to telephone former members whose memberships had lapsed. While this activity did remind a few members to renew, it also allowed for others to express their unhappiness with MLA.

MLA

Carla Funk, MLA Executive Director, reported that headquarters conducts a membership survey every 3 years. Results this year revealed that 83% of the MLA members belong to a chapter. 43% plan on attending chapter meetings, and 20% were undecided. Academy mentoring is up over the last 4 years ago. There is also a generational shift happening. Folks in the 30-39 age group are beginning to take participate more in MLA activities.

MAHSLIN has rewritten the MEDSPEAK brochures using plain language aiming at a 5th grade reading level. The completed brochures have been included in the conference folder. The remaining brochures will be completed in the coming year.

Over 300 libraries in the US and Canada participated in the benchmarking process this year.

Survey was done to see if those participating in the Colleague Connection thought that it was valuable. 80% of those responded thought that it was a valuable program and helped them feel more connected at the meeting.

700 recruitment packages for MLA membership were sent to librarians in allied health programs.

A Retiree special interests group (SIG) has been formed to encourage ongoing participation of the older, retiring MLA members.

Headquarters no longer keeps statistics about whether chapter members are MLA members too. Since 2003 fewer members are getting their memberships paid by their institutions. Sometimes members let their membership lapse if they are not attending the annual meeting.

Concern over the Hawaii meeting was expressed. The National Planning Committee is looking at group rates for hotels, airfare, etc. Food events at the meeting will provide more food for the members. The schedule will be different in Hawaii – more early meetings will be scheduled so that afternoon programs will end earlier and allow for more free time. Pre- and or post-conference cruises may be available around the 4 islands.

One suggestion from the group was to announce the content as early as possible so that members have more information upon which to make their decision about attending the 2009 meeting.

Hawaii meeting will be the 40th anniversary of the Hawaii Chapter and the 50th anniversary of Hawaii as a state. It has been 30 years since a meeting was held in Hawaii.

Estimated attendance for the Chicago meeting is 1400 and when counting exhibitors it will be 2000.

Other suggestions from Council members were to improve the itinerary planner, include a PDF of the abstracts, improve the links to the posters, and encourage the exhibitors to be greener.

All posters are to become part of CORE. The software for the itinerary planner is being reviewed since some of the difficulties reported were software difficulties

KMLA South Korean Medical Library Association has been invited to attend the MLA 2009 meeting as part of the bilateral agreement.

Majors/MLA Chapter Project Jury

Kim Granath, Jury Chair, announced that the 2008 winner is the New York/New Jersey Chapter for their project, "Digitization of Chapter Archives and Photos."

It is recommended that CC members remind chapters to think about their potential nominees long before the jury asks for the nominations. Chapters should closely follow

the instructions for how to submit a project. Submissions that are in accord with instructions are more likely to impress the jury.

Julia Shaw-Kokot suggested that the jury prepare a checklist of what is needed to help the Chapters organize what is needed.

MLA Benchmarking Editorial Board

CC Liaison Vickie Sanders reported that the 2007 Benchmarking Survey period was October 12, 2007 through January 31, 2008. There were 307 participants. Vickie will send us the survey results when they are available.

The top chapter for number of completed surveys was NAHSL (North Atlantic Chapter) with a close second from the New York-New Jersey Chapter. Top chapter by percentage of surveys completed were NCNMLG (Northern CA chapter), and Mid-Continental Chapter provided a close second.

It was announced that Barbara Reich will be the MLA Benchmarking Liaison in training for the coming year.

Chapter Roundtables Committee

Melanie Cedrone and Marie Reidelbach, co-Chairs of the Roundtables Committee, announced that the luncheon is scheduled for Sunday, May 18, 2008 from noon-2:00 p.m.

Tickets are \$40 and include a plated lunch. For the fourth year, MLA and Chapters will underwrite the cost of attendance for a limited number of new members (i.e., members of MLA for less than five years) or first time attendees. The free slots have been awarded on a first-come, first-served basis to new members or first time attendees who register online for MLA '08.

Evaluations from the 2007 event and a survey of the membership resulted in the table topics for 2008, Roundtable reports from 2004 – 2007 can be found on the Chapter Council Webpage. Annotations for the topics, along with *Instructions for Facilitators and Recorders* are also available on the Chapter Council Website at <http://www.chaptercouncil.mlanet.org/roundtables/index.html>

A wiki was developed this year that documents the suggested procedures for future Roundtable Committees. It is linked from <http://ccroundtables.pbwiki.com/FrontPage>

As of May 12, 2008 there were 283 Roundtable luncheon registrants for 29 topics and 41 tables.

Paula emphasized that Council members should volunteer to be facilitators and recorders. She also requested that next year table topics organized around chapter functions be included. These would include chapter secretaries, chairs, and meeting planners.

Chapters continue to subsidize the Roundtables. Some chapters support seats with no designation as to who receives this; others designate their own chapter members to receive the funding. NY/NJ offered seats to those who did not have institutional support for the meeting but they got no takers. Those chapters that just donate would be interested in learning who did get the funding. It was suggested that this topic could be a column in the MLA News announcing the recipients of this chapter supported activity.

MLA Task Force on Social Networking

CC Liaison, Sue Ben-Dor, reported that serving on the task force provided an excellent learning experience for her, since the work required her to get up to speed on the 2.0 tools.

Sue helped develop and teach the online MLA course on Web 2.0 technology. Seven hundred members registered for the course. Not all of these members completed the course. Some hospital librarians had difficulty accessing the course because of firewalls set up at their institutions; others just found it too much to do. It is not known whether this will be offered again.

MLA has once again requested that chapters schedule annual meetings at different times so that it is easier for MLA Board members to attend the meetings. There is a list of future meetings but that is sometimes difficult to find. Paula will locate this page, report to the group and get a link on our page to that list of conferences so it will be easier to locate.

Elections

Voting was done to select 6 Chapter representatives to be part of the MLA Nominating Committee. One runner up is selected in case a selected representative is unable to serve. After several ballots, the slate was selected as follows:

Kerry O'Rourke	NY/NJ
Evelyn Breck Morgan	NAHSL
Anne Seymour	Philadelphia
Linné Girouard	South Central
Julie Kwan	Southern California/Arizona
Amy Lyons	UNYOC
John Bramble	Midcontinental (Runner-up)

New Business

A by-laws change to be discussed at the MLA business section will be a reorganization of the Section council. Council terms will be changed from 3 to 2 years. Past Chairs of the sections will be the representatives; current chairs will serve as alternates.

Another by-laws change will change the language to allow electronic voting for both Section and Chapter Councils.

MLA is interested in encouraging paraprofessionals to attend library schools; there are currently efforts to get them to school. Paula asked that everyone consider suggesting that their chapters participate in encouraging paraprofessionals to become librarians.

All are encouraged to contribute to the MLA CORE Toolbox. This is an underutilized resource.

Paula asked on behalf of MLA that chapters encourage their members to attend IFLA, the International Federation of Library Associations, which will be meeting in Quebec City this year.

The Pittsburgh Chapter has begun to explore the possibilities of merging with another chapter. Members total 44 with 12 of them from University of Pittsburgh. At this point the Pittsburgh membership has agreed to merge, and a committee is looking into the legal ramifications of a merge. There has been no discussion yet with other chapters, but potential chapters could be Philadelphia or MAC.

Orientation for Chapter Chairs

Chapter chairs joined the meeting. Paula described the responsibilities of chapter officers and Chapter Council. She discussed the mid-year and annual reports and emphasized how the Chairs and Representatives reports differ (see **Old Business**). Paula described the main activities of Chapter Council: the primary responsibility as the bi-directional conduit between MLA and the chapters; sponsor of the round tables; and Chapter Council booth at the conference.

There is a Chapter column in the MLA News and this is a good way to publicize chapter activities. Plans are now to feature what chapters are doing with social networking.

Chapter chairs agreed that there is a need for more communication among chapter officers with similar responsibilities. As suggested, Paula will gather the information to create a directory of chapter chairs and make it available on the Chapter Council website.

Next year's Chapter Council meeting is scheduled for May 16, 2009, from 7AM-2PM, in Honolulu, Hawai'i.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:55 so members could attend the Leaders' Tea and get an update from Mary L. Ryan and orientation for the 2008/2009 year.

CHAPTER REPORTS

Midcontinental Chapter

Chapter Meeting

Midcontinental and Midwest Chapters held a joint meeting on October 12 – 16th 2007 in Omaha, NE

- 238 attendees from 17 states and one foreign nation,
- 11 continuing education courses offered including:
 - Research for Beginners: Seven steps for success;
 - Emerging Mobile Technologies;

- Leadership Skills;
- Librarians: Partners in Knowledge Transfer for Patient Safety;
- Bioinformatics Primer;
- Culturally Competent Health Information Services;
- Getting Magnetized--Search and Service Strategies for Nursing Excellence;
- EBM: Introduction to Study Design and Critical Appraisal;
- Redesigning Library Spaces for the Electronic Age;
- Institutional Repositories;
- Expert Searching Nursing & Allied Health
- Conference website is linked from <http://www.mcmla.org/2007> and new for this year a conference blog linked from <http://midwestmla.org/ConferenceCall2007/>
- Twelve papers presented
- Thirty four posters

Featured speakers included:

- Dale Lea, R.N., M.P.H., C.G.C., F.A.A.N, who works for the National Human Genome Research Institute and is a member of the Education and Community Outreach Branch (ECIB).
- Fred Lee, author of *If Disney Ran Your Hospital*, is a nationally recognized expert and consultant in patient relations and service excellence.
- Dr. Joann Schaefer is one of NLM's "Local Legends" from the "Changing the Face of Medicine" exhibit. She is the Director of the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services Division of Public Health as well as Nebraska's Chief Medical Officer.
- Rivkah Sass, director of the Omaha Public Library, was *Library Journal's* Librarian of the Year 2006 as well as a *Library Journal Mover and Shaker* 2002.
- Mark Funk, AHIP, 2007/08 MLA President.

Celebrating MCMLA Members:

MCMLA currently has 280 members. The MCMLA Membership Committee offers free memberships to students attending an accredited library school for up to two years. Only one student participated. Introductory letters and membership brochures were mailed to eleven faculty members at the three library schools in the region (Denver University, Emporia State University and the University of Missouri). They were encouraged to share information about MCMLA with students. Seven new members were interviewed and those interviews included in the *MCMLA Express* newsletter.

•MCMLA Stars: This project celebrates MCMLA Members. In 2004 we had 50 stars, 2005 we had 80 stars, 2006 we had 60 stars, and in 2007 we had 75 stars. Members send in accomplishments for the year and "stars" are worn on meeting badges.

Donations:

•MCMLA is donating to the 2008 MLA Chapter Council Sharing Roundtables.

5 Minute Discussion of MCMLA Activities

•MCMLA will meet in Cody, Wyoming on October 2 – 6, 2008. The theme is "Open Spaces, Frontier Places" The Sky's the Limit! A call went out for papers and posters with submissions due June 9.

•The MCMLA Library Advocacy Task Force created an electronic survey using Survey Monkey, and notified the MCMLA membership using MCMLA-L. Responses were

received from 55 member institutions from across the region. Results were evaluated focusing on whether the institution had a marketing plan, whether the library focused on services to administrators, and whether the library showed either a budget increase or decrease over the past year. The Task Force has been working toward adapting the Maine State Library Valuation Calculator for health science libraries. The group has identified the average salaries of physicians, health science librarians, hospital administrators and allied health professionals. Group members are currently evaluating operations in their own libraries to determine average percentages of time spent on resource/collection development activities, will be followed by evaluating service activities.

- To further efficiency of *Express* production, the MCMLA Publications Committee finalized a submission style sheet which they distributed with each publication call. Past issues are archived on the Chapter website; indexing is being investigated.

- The MCMLA Research Committee mentors members about research process, encouraging them to turn a research project into a poster or paper and presented two research awards at the Annual Meeting. In support of MLA's Benchmarking project they won MCMLA Board approval to give a Flash Drive to each member who completes the survey. Two of its members completed a paper on the Journal Club experiment done in 2005-2006.

- The Board directed the Bylaws Committee to update the bylaws to be in compliance with MLA rules regarding electronic elections.

- A number of MCMLA committees have been investigating and using web 2.0 technology to conduct their business.

Submitted by:

Marie Reidelbach, Representative
Stephanie Weldon, Alternate

Northern California Nevada Medical Library Group

NCNLMG conducted a very successful Joint Meeting in February 2008 in Las Vegas with the MLGSCA. Eight (8) continuing education courses were offered. At this meeting, several members were recognized through the Colleague Appreciation Program. Proceeds from this program support the chapter's professional development awards. The chapter is closing out its ILL coupon system which should be completed by the end of the year. The chapter funded two (2) seats for the MLA Roundtables in Chicago. NCNMLG is celebrating its 60th anniversary as an organization. Plans are underway for a dinner and other events for chapter members.

Submitted by:

Terri L. Malmgren, Chapter Council Representative
Vickie Sanders, Chapter Council Alternate

NY-NJ Chapter

The chapter membership is about 200, approximately 30% of whom are AHIP members. An email invitation to the Chapter Spring Dinner meeting, including a membership application, was sent to all local members of MLA national who are not current chapter members. This resulted in 21 new or lapsed renewed members.

A new membership brochure was created in 2007. It has been distributed at several local recruitment events and will be available at the Chapter Council booth.

A Chapter Facebook group was recently started and has 30+ members – about 15% of the total chapter membership.

The chapter offered 4 scholarships to Chapter Sharing Roundtables to current chapter members. The scholarships were to be awarded by lottery, with no more than one seat funded for each topic. A requirement for reimbursement was that a 500 word report be submitted to the newsletter editor. Those whose institutions will fund their participation were asked to refrain from applying. It was heavily advertised over a period of 6 weeks, but no applications were received.

Recently 2 new columns have debuted in the chapter newsletter. One is called “Getting to Know You” and consists of profiles of new members. 3 new members have been profiled to date. The individuals are interviewed by the column editor, and each profile contains a photograph, and both background professional and personal information. The other, “Libraries in Literature,” contains a summary of a piece of literature in which a library figures prominently, and will accept submissions from any chapter member. Both columns have proven to be very popular.

2007 annual meeting was held October 18th at Montclair State University. The theme was “Librarians Lead the Way to Long Life & Good Health.” The keynote speaker was Dr. Rosanne Leipzig MD, PhD, Professor of Geriatrics and Adult Development, Medicine/Clinical Geriatrics, and Health Policy at Mount Sinai School of Medicine. Other highlights included a panel on new technologies for library tasks and the awards ceremony, at which 100 awards were distributed recognizing accomplishments of chapter members and service to the chapter.

2008 annual meeting will be held at New York University Medical Center on November 6th. The 2009 annual meeting is planned to be a tri-chapter meeting with the MidAtlantic and Philadelphia chapters in Atlantic City. We are also scouting locations for the 2010 annual meeting in Westchester, NY.

The Chapter won the Majors/MLA Chapter Project of the Year award for our photo archive digitization project.

Chapter members were strongly encouraged to participate in the Benchmarking Network, and 39 libraries submitted data. This consisted of more than 10% of the total number of respondents to the survey.

Submitted by:

Barbara Reich, Representative
Robb Mackes, Alternative

Pittsburgh Chapter

- Chapter members attending the Annual Business Meeting on April 11, 2008 moved that the chapter should merge with another chapter and look at a separate regional social organization.
 - The membership chair has done a recruitment drive to national MLA members, within our regional boundaries, who currently do not belong to the chapter.
 - Recruiting members to hold leadership positions remains a problem. The pool of candidates is limited due a low total membership (44 members) and a low number who also meet the requirement of holding national MLA membership (33 members).
- The chapter awarded the Eakin/Shapiro scholarships (\$250 per recipient) to two chapter members at the April, 2008 annual business meeting.
- Recruitment of an editor for chapter's newsletter, The Pittsburgh Pulse, was unsuccessful. The chapter's listserv has been functioning as the main communication vehicle for the Board and its members in the interim. A committee evaluated a chapter blog to replace the newsletter format. The group also evaluated new options for hosting the chapter website. This matter will be tabled until the question about a potential merger with another chapter is decided.
- The chapter offered funds for two Chapter Council round table lunches. Only one member requested use of this funding.
- The chapter sponsored three CE opportunities
 - July 17, 2007 at the Uniontown Hospital utilizing the MLA Spring 2007 Teleconference, *Survival of the Fittest: Strategies to Prove Your Library's Value*. There were 7 participants
 - November 5, 2007 at Allegheny General, *Patient Safety Resource Seminar: Librarians on the Front Line*. The instructor was Arpita Bose. There were 21 participants.
 - April 11, 2008 at Duquesne University, *Technology for Geeks*. There were 25 participants.

Respectfully submitted,

Melissa Ratajeski
Chapter Council Alternate

South Central Chapter

As of April 2008, total chapter membership was 316, including 27 new members, 14 MLA Fellows. The chapter also has 123 members in the Academy of Health Information Professionals (AHIP).

The 2007 annual meeting was held in Albuquerque, NM on October 20-24, with an emphasis on being environmentally "green" (no tote bags, minimum paper, etc.) Attendees were encouraged to bring their own bags and urged to enter a contest for

various prizes: “bag from farthest away”, best designed”, etc. Seven CE classes were held over three days with 85 registrants.

The chapter donated \$180 to MLA to sponsor 4 seats at the MLA Chapter council Roundtables in Chicago.

An official Armadillo logo was approved for the chapter.

RegOnline was chosen by a Task Force to simplify online meeting registration software. It will be piloted at the 2008 meeting, to be held in Dallas, October 11-15, 2008.

The History Committee developed a written agreement with Houston Academy of Medicine/ Texas Medical Center library for the storage and conservation of the chapter archives and has begun conducting oral history interviews with past and present members.

This was the last year for our printed chapter newsletter and directory, replaced by the PDF versions accessible from the web page. Older issues of the SCC/MLA newsletter dating back to fall 1980 have been digitized. Blogs were created for the Executive Board and the 2008 Local Arrangements Committee to improve communications.

Submitted by:

Ethel Madden, Representative
Craig Elam, Alternate

Pacific Northwest Chapter

Recruitment, Membership, and Leadership in the Profession—

Current membership (as of April 2008) stands at a total of 134 members. The Chapter continues its early membership renewal drive with a prize drawing for those who renew by the stated deadline for the contest. There are currently 44 members who have not renewed this year – they will be receiving follow-up emails/phone calls from Membership Committee representatives to remind them to renew.

Four free student memberships were awarded. These memberships encourage participation in the Annual chapter meetings and in PNC activities post-graduation.

Life Long Learning—

Four CE courses were offered at the 2007 annual meeting in Billings, MT:

- Developing Online Tutorials by Greg Notess
- Health Issues in the Headlines: Learning to Read Between the Lines by Gail Kouame
- Knowledge Management by Wilda Newman
- Effective Communication by Carlos Arce

The conference bags for the 2007 meeting were handmade by the registration committee. Conference attendees received bags with a contribution to the Central Asia Institute. The plan is to re-use these bags at future PNC annual meetings.

The Chapter will not be holding an annual conference in 2008, but will host CE courses in Seattle – October 3-4, 2008. Courses planned for inclusion are:

- Electronic Health Records and the Health Sciences Librarian: a Forum – an NN/LM sponsored event including a panel of experts
- Collecting and Analyzing Evaluation Data by Susan Barnes
- Web 2.0 by Greg Notess
- Value-Added Searching by Mary Ellen Bates

Advocacy—

One of the hospital libraries in the Pacific Northwest was chosen as a pilot site for MLA's Health Literacy Pilot Project – the Billings Clinic in Billings, MT.

Creating and Communicating our Knowledge—

The Chapter continues to use a blog as its newsletter and communication vehicle with the membership. The use of the blog is a benefit of Chapter membership.

Complementary messages are also posted to the HLIB-NW listserv and refer people to the blog for the full story. We have a new logo for our web site and print materials.

Building a Network of Partners—

Our chapter has continued conversations with Saskatchewan, hoping they will join, but they are also considering joining the Midwest Chapter. We will continue to invite them to our events.

Medical Library Group of Southern California and Arizona

•**Awards** - Louise Darling MLGSCA Achievement Award was presented to Eileen Wakiji.

•**Benchmarking Project** - 25 members participated and two were selected to win \$25 Border's gift cards

•**CE** - offered in both CA & AZ: Fall: "**Face to Face: Strategies for Effective Consumer Health Communication**" taught by Michele Spatz; Spring: "**Community Assessment**" taught by Susan Barnes and Alan Carr (AZ);

•**Election ballot** - Designed using Survey Monkey and included a "statement of aims" and photos for President-Elect candidates and brief biographies for the slate

•**ILL Coupon Phase Out** - The 'BLUE' interlibrary loan (ILL) coupons are being phased out. Outstanding coupons must be redeemed before December 31, 2008.

•**2008 Joint Chapter Meeting** - "Viva Librarian" NCNMLG & MLGSCA, February 6-9, 2008 at the Flamingo Hotel in Las Vegas included 2 days of programs and 2 days of CE.

•**2009 Meeting Plans – One-Day Technology Symposium**, jointly hosted by the Pacific Southwest Region, NN/LM, instead of full joint meeting because of MLA's Hawaii location that year. The next joint meeting will be in 2010.

•**2008 Chapter Membership Renewal & Raffle** - members renewing by December 31, 2007 were entered in a drawing for a 2008 MLA individual membership.

•**Newsletter** - ".MLGSCA Link" is transitioning to a blog format. The first release was May 13, 2008.

•**Student Scholarships** - 2 Candidates were awarded a \$1,000 scholarship - Elana Justine Churchill who was accepted at San Jose State University starting in Spring, 2008 and Jennifer Lee Bach who is attending the University of Arizona.