



MCMLA EXPRESS

NEWSLETTER OF THE MIDCONTINENTAL CHAPTER OF
THE MEDICAL LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

VOLUME 44, ISSUE 3

NOTES FROM THE CHAIR

BY RUBY L. NUGENT, MCMLA CHAIR



Dear MCMLA Members,

I don't know about you, but every time the first of January looms, I fall into the cyclical New Year's resolution trap. "New year, new me", am I right?! But no matter how strong I start off, some inevitably end up fading away as the year moves along.

This past January, everything fell off the rails for me right out of the gate and it took everything in me just to be present this year. I became disconnected personally and professionally from the things and people I loved - sometimes deliberately - in an effort of self-preservation.

Looking back, I feel like I literally lost a year of my life.

I share this story because I think we all have years like this - a period of time that just gets away from us for various reasons. Although we might consider these perceived shortcomings as failures, I am of the opinion it is also an opportunity to look back and reflect, recalibrate, and reconnect to things that are important to us.

As I begin my tenure as MCMLA Chair, I am fortunate to be in a position to do that exact thing. I am so excited to have the opportunity be able to connect to all of you in the upcoming year! I am looking forward to seeing you at our monthly Chair Chats, collaborating on programming and initiatives with chapter committees, and networking at events and conferences - both virtually and in person.

The theme for this issue of the newsletter is "Connections". I would like to challenge you all to take this to heart as we approach the first of the year by committing to making at least one new connection. It can be reaching out to a new chapter member, becoming a mentor to a library student, joining a chapter committee, helping plan a conference, or collaborating on scholarship with a colleague you have never worked with before. Write it down on a sticky note, put it on your calendar, tell someone about.

It does feel like a fresh start doesn't it? I eagerly anticipate all the wonderful things the next 365 days will bring for MCMLA. I know the ongoing success of the chapter is a direct result of your commitment and engagement as members. Let's take this time to reinvigorate this momentum!

And finally, I would like to wish you all a very happy, fulfilling, and successful new year.

Ruby L. Nugent, MA, LIS

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NEW MEMBER SPOTLIGHTS



BELINDA BOELTER

By Cindi Flanagan; Chair, Membership Committee; Edited by Nina McHale



What is your position and title?

I'm the Marketing and Communications Specialist at University of Nebraska Medical Center's McGoogan Health Sciences Library.

What do you like most about the library and information science field so far?

I like how vast the field is and how many topics/areas it covers. It's full of so much information that I'm looking forward to learning more about! I have tons of respect for the students, faculty, and staff who immerse themselves in this knowledge every day for the betterment of our communities.

What do you like most about MCMLA so far?

I am a brand-new member! What attracted me to the association was the opportunity to learn from other members and soak up as much knowledge as I can to help enhance the work our team does on UNMC's campus.

Are you interested in a specific area of libraries?

As of right now, I can't say that I have a specific area that I'm interested in. Coming from a design background, I find our rare book collection fascinating—the time and amount of detail put into making some of those books is incredible. For me, I think just the opportunity to learn as much as I can to ensure the messaging and content I'm putting out to our students, faculty and staff is accurate and aligns with the McGoogan Library's mission and vision.

What is your educational background?

I earned my BA in Graphic Design and Marketing, my MA in Graphic Design, and I have

a dual certification: Professional Certified Marketer (PCM®) in Digital Marketing and Certified Digital Marketing Professional (CDMP).

What is your previous work experience?

My previous work experience covers a variety of industries. I started out in the print industry working at a small, family-run print shop doing graphic design where I learned a lot about offset printing. From there, I moved into the retail industry as a graphic designer for a jewelry business. Upon my departure from that job, I headed into the nonprofit sector where I quickly learned a lot about crisis communication and social media marketing. An opportunity came about to work at a marketing agency doing social media marketing for a handful of clients. That role grew significantly over the three years I was there to the point where I was each client's account manager, marketing strategist, content creator and designer—essentially their one-person marketing and communication team. The last role I was in prior to coming to the library was back in the nonprofit sector, where I became a passionate food security advocate. I was at one of Nebraska's two Feeding America Partner Food Banks. Our service area covered a large portion of the state and crossed the river into western Iowa. While there, I was the Social Media & Marketing Manager working heavily on social media and digital marketing, web development and design, graphic design, and assisting with event planning.

What do you hope to gain from being a new or returning member of MCMLA?

I hope to gain new connections and learn from other members about what they're doing at their libraries to assist students, faculty, and staff, and what they're finding successful.

The MCMLA mascot is an owl; if you were an owl, what kind would you be?

I think I would be a Snowy Owl. Their white feathers are so majestic, and according to the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, "their feet are covered with feathers, like fluffy slippers"—the "fluffy slippers" is definitely a vibe that I can get behind during our winter months. 😊



NEW MEMBER SPOTLIGHTS



BELINDA BOELTER, CONTINUED

What is a fun/unique/exciting tidbit for your fellow MCMLA'ers to know about you, or how do you spend your free time?

A fun/unique tidbit about me is that I'm obsessed with unicorns and rainbows—always have been, always will be! Right now, it works out pretty well for me since that is what is trendy at the moment. At a previous job, I was gifted so many different unicorn/rainbow items: a unicorn piñata filled with candy that I would replenish on my desk, desk decorations, birthday cards, a unicorn nutcracker from a holiday party white elephant gift exchange. I brought some of those items with me to my new role at the library for some color and pizzazz.

What is your educational background?

I have a Masters in Military History from Norwich University.

What made you want to work in libraries?

I fell in love with libraries as a child and never wanted to leave.

What is your previous work experience?

I have worked at many different libraries in the past: academic, public, and military.

What do you hope to gain from being a new or returning member of MCMLA?

I have been attending MCMLA conferences and webinars and reading the newsletter for several years without being a member, so I'm looking forward to becoming more actively involved in the group.

KELLY GONZALEZ

By Cindi Flanagan; Chair, Membership Committee; Edited by Nina McHale



What is your position/ title?

Education and Research Associate at the McGoogan Health Sciences Library

What do you like most about the library and information science field so far?

I really like how libraries have evolved away from being a place of only books to a place that meets people's needs in many ways. Libraries fill holes in the community, which means every library is unique and constantly changing. Plus, you can see very immediate relief when you help people, and they realize that the library is a trusted, safe place for them.

What is a fun/unique/exciting tidbit for your fellow MCMLA'ers to know about you, or how do you spend your free time?

I lived in Korea for two years, and the first two friends I made there turned out to be librarians.

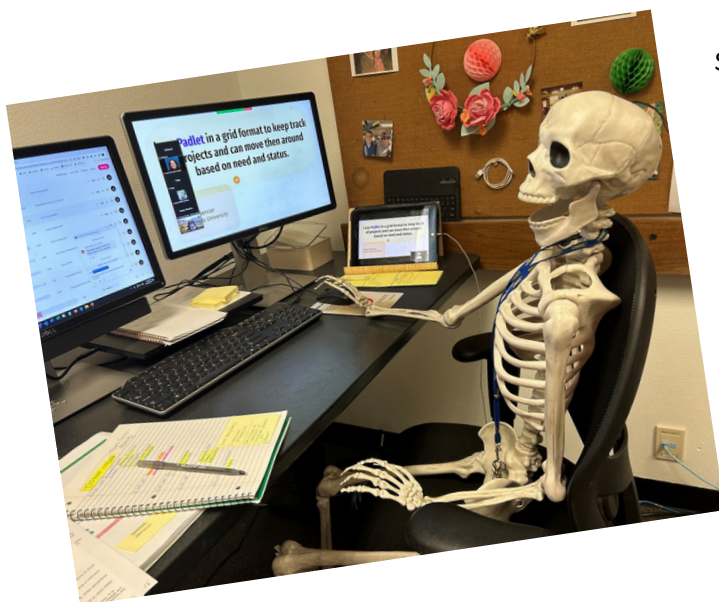
PHOTOS FROM THE MCMLA ANNUAL MEETING



Librarians in Kansas City gathered for a post-conference gathering. (L-R): Sarah Winston, Casey Phillips, Emily Vardell, Clara, Brenda Linares



Denver-Area Librarians gathered to watch at Strauss Health Sciences Library. Pictured from the front going clockwise: Sarah Villere, Jerry Carlson, Ruby Nugent, Kristen De Santo, Ellie Svoboda, Ben Harnke, Hannah Pollard
(Liz Kellermeyer photographer)



Cindi Flanagan running the conference's tech in her "zoom tomb".

CONGRATULATIONS TO MCMLA ANNUAL MEETING WINNERS

By Abbey Griffith; Edited by Katie Dayani

Congratulations to everyone who presented their research and program descriptions for the 2023 MCMLA Annual Meeting! We had a lot of great presentations this year. I am very happy to announce the winners of the Best Research Paper and Lightning Talk, as well as our Viewers' Choice winner!

Best Research Paper:

Gwen Wilson, Mayo Clinic Libraries,
"Building a Consensus for Tracking the Impact of Libraries: A Delphi Study"

Best Research Lightning Talk:

Ellie Svoboda, Strauss Health Sciences Library, UC Anschutz,
"Filling the Gaps: Collecting Instruction Data for Meaningful Benchmarking"

Viewers' Choice:

Nena Schvaneveldt, Spencer E. Eccles Health Sciences Library, University of Utah,
"I Had to be a Little Bit More of an Expert: Information Practices of Early Clinical Health Professions Students"

Thank you to everyone who attended the presentations on Friday, and congratulations again to this year's winners!



MCMLA LAUNCHES EARLY CAREER LIBRARIAN (ECL) INITIATIVE TASKFORCE

by Casey Phillips, Edited by Jerry Carlson

At the MCMLA Annual Meeting there was great discussion about the Early Career Librarian (ECL) Initiative Taskforce.

The Early Career Librarianship Initiative (ECLI) will focus on the experiences and needs of early career librarians (ECLs) to help them develop in their roles as medical and health sciences librarians.

All MCMLA members are encouraged to participate, whether they are experienced librarians, ECLs, or students.

A Google Sheets document [here](#) includes:

- A sign-up list to be a member on or follower of the taskforce (membership is open to all experiences of librarians/students)
- A summary of the Jamboards & chat from the meeting on what has helped ECLs and what was needed
- Resources shared from the meeting
- Other ideas

Members are welcome to add resources, ideas, etc. on [these spreadsheets](#). Co-chairs Sarah Winston and Casey Phillips are excited to see how this taskforce can support our early-career librarians and our chapter. Please reach out to them about it:

Sarah Winston
Sarah.Winston@rockhurst.edu

Casey Phillips
cphillips13@kumc.edu

2023 AAHSL OPPENHEIMER CORNERSTONE AWARD

By Lori Fitterling; Edited by Danielle Westmark

The Association of American Health Sciences Libraries (AAHSL) has awarded the 2023 AAHSL Oppenheimer Cornerstone Award to the Osteopathic Membership Task Force: Lori Fitterling, Kansas City University Library Director, Joanne Muellenbach, CHSU Director of the Health Sciences Library, Sandra Franklin, Emory University Director Woodruff Health Sciences Library, and Stephanie Ferretti, (Retired) PCOM University Library Director.

This award, named in honor of Gerald J. Oppenheimer, AAHSL's first president, is given to an individual, group, or institution selected by the AAHSL's Board of Directors and is provided for a notable or significant contribution that has assisted AAHSL in achieving its mission or had a substantial impact on the profession of academic health sciences librarianship. Past recipients are listed at <https://www.aahsl.org/cornerstone-award>.

The Oppenheimer Cornerstone Award is given at the discretion of the Board and only when there is evidence of a significant contribution, not necessarily on an annual basis. The Board may determine that no award should be given during a year. If awarded, only one will be given per year.

About the task force

The College of Osteopathic Medicine (COM) libraries were classified as affiliate members at AAHSL for several decades. In the late 2010s, with the merging of the Match between DO and MD medicine, the rising numbers of COM schools, and several other factors, COM library affiliate status in AAHSL began to be questioned. COM and allopathic schools share many of the same goals, chief among them educating the future healthcare workforce, and therefore, the libraries serving these programs share many of the same interests and goals.

The Osteopathic Libraries Task Force was established and tasked with considering the issue and available options, including continuing the status quo or offering full membership status to COM libraries. They studied the issue and recommended that COM libraries be given full member status. While this only affected a minority of members, it has allowed several COM libraries to participate fully within the AAHSL structure, bringing more diversity of perspectives into AAHSL as an organization. Among the criteria for the Cornerstone Award are efforts or contributions that have had a significant impact on AAHSL.

Noting the longstanding separations that have existed between osteopathic and allopathic teaching and provider communities, this act of coming together in partnership in light of shared interests and goals is historic in the legacy of AAHSL.

READING IS EVERYWHERE

By Katie Dayani

The Children's Mercy Library Services team has partnered with Lead to Read KC to establish a community book distribution location for kids and families. A Reading is Everywhere free book basket is located in the waiting area of CM's Center for Family and Community Connections Services. Julia McBride, Children's Mercy Library Specialist, leads the project and works to ensure the popular book bin remains full of diverse and bilingual books.



Julia McBride (right) poses with Children's Mercy colleagues and the new Reading is Everywhere book bin.

PUBLICATION STATEMENT

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Committee Members:

Jerry Carlson
Katie Dayani, editor
Nina McHale
Amanda Sprochi
Danielle Westmark

MCMLA ENDOWMENT FUND THANK YOU

By Jackie Hittner

The Finance Committee would like to thank the chapter members who contributed to the MCMLA Endowment Fund during the 2023 Annual Meeting registration. \$205.00 was collected for the endowment.

Tax Letter: Email Jackie Hittner at jhittner@aaortho.org if you want a letter stating your donation to the endowment for tax purposes.

A big **THANK YOU** to chapter members who generously gave to the endowment in August - November 2023:

- Jennifer Brady
- Lori Fitterling
- Emily Glenn
- Kim Harp
- Teresa Hartman
- Jackie Hittner
- Holly Hubenschmidt
- Sarah Kirby
- Brenda Linares
- Amy Masek
- Cynthia Schmidt
- Amanda Sprochi
- Shawn Steidinger
- Kristi Torp
- Gwen Wilson
- Nancy Woelfl



MISSOURI LIBRARY ASSOCIATION'S INTELLECTUAL FREEDOM COMMITTEE IS BUSY SUPPORTING LIBRARIES

By Casey Phillips; Edited by Jerry Carlson

Casey Phillips, Co-Chair of the new MCMLA Early Career Librarian Initiative Taskforce, is also the Social Media and Communication Officer and Chair-elect for the Intellectual Freedom Committee (IFC) of the Missouri Library Association (MLA).

Throughout the year the IFC conducts workshops for libraries across Missouri (plus Kansas, Nebraska, and Arizona). This includes a workshop during the pre-conference of the MLA's Annual Conference. The full workshop is three hours long, but can be adapted to one and two-hour sessions.

This year American Library Association President Emily Drabinski attended the pre-conference workshop. These workshops always initiate great discussion, connect colleagues, and give library staff a space to work through real-life scenarios together when addressing censorship issues.

The IFC also hosted a Table Talk. There were so many interested attendees, the IFC had to move to a bigger space.



Chair-elect Casey Phillips (third from right) at the conference with fellow IFC members. .



Casey Phillips presenting during the IFC workshop.

Many of the Table Talk attendees were interested in how they can support libraries, each other, and intellectual freedom and where they can connect their patrons that want to participate in a collaborated effort. A great option is to join the Missouri Right to Read Coalition (see other options on IFC's webpage below). Individuals and organizations can join the coalition by completing the [Sign On Form](#) or visiting the Right to Read coalition Facebook page to make a positive impact in these trying times.

As the IFC's fearless leader says, the IFC is a traveling road show. The workshop can be brought to any library or group – virtual and in-person! The IFC can be contact by emailing: intellectualfreedom@molib.org.

More information on intellectual freedom, their workshop presentation, and scenario decks can be found at: <https://www.molib.org/Intellectual-Freedom>.

AI RESOURCES FROM THE MCMLA EDUCATION COMMITTEE

By Jeanne M. Burke; Edited by Amanda Sprochi

I don't think that anyone would dispute that AI is now a fact of life for libraries. We all have a number of questions, ranging from "What is AI?" to "How can we incorporate AI into our libraries' service, support, and work environment in a secure and controlled manner?"

Both the general AI session and the AI Panel during the MCMLA Annual Meeting gave us a general introduction to what AI is, how it is being used, and what developments we can expect in AI in the near future. The Education Committee will make these presentations and the full list of resources and references available to you in a MCMLA SharePoint AI folder.

If you have other resources you want to share with your colleagues, please feel free to send them to me at jburke@creighton.edu. Be sure to add "MCMLA AI SharePoint Resources" in the subject line. We appreciate those of you who give preference to open access sources.

The Education Committee will offer additional education sessions so we can continue to learn more about this fast-moving, new technology and software.

Below are some of the references and resources that the AI Panel members recommend:

Resources mentioned by Kathy Craig & Chad Brocker, Creighton Libraries IdeaHub (AI generated videos):

- [Different Types of AI](#)
- [Artificial Intelligence: A Revolution in Technology](#)
- [Future of Education](#)

Resources mentioned by Michelle Kraft, Cleveland Clinic Libraries:

- Springer Webinar: [The Future of Publishing: Using AI Techniques to Manage Information Overload](#)
- Springer Webinar: [How AI powers research](#)
- [Explainpaper](#)
- [Jenni](#)
- [Quivr](#)

Resources mention by Chris Carmichael, Creighton University Libraries Research & Instruction Librarian for Business & Education

- LibGuide: Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center. (2023). Artificial Intelligence Library Guide. https://libguides.mskcc.org/artificial_intelligence/background
- Cox, C. & Tzoc, E. (2023). ChatGPT: Implications for academic libraries. CR&L News. March, 99. <https://ai-infrastructure.org/the-hidden-costs-challenges-and-tco-for-gen-ai-adoption-in-the-enterprise-sept-2023>
- Dancy, C. (2023, October 31, 2022). The White House's 'AI Bill of Rights' Outlines Five Principles to Make Artificial Intelligence Safer, More Transparent and Less Discriminatory. Netgov/FCW. <https://www.nextgov.com/ideas/2022/10/white-houses-ai-bill-rights-outlines-five-principles-make-artificial-intelligence-safer-more-transparent-and-less-discriminatory/379101/>

STUDENTS CAN EARN A CHIS CERTIFICATE BY TAKING YOUR LIS/ISCHOOL COURSE

By Samantha Nunn; edited by Katie Dayani



Did you know LIS/iSchool students can earn a Consumer Health Information Specialization (CHIS) certification by taking your class? Through the Consumer Health for Library Students program, you now have

the opportunity to have your consumer health-related course CHIS certified through a unique partnership with the Medical Library Association (MLA) and the Network of the National Library of Medicine (NNLM).

What Are the Benefits?

Teaching an MLA-approved consumer health course in your LIS or iSchool program allows students to gain knowledge in providing health information services to consumers and receive a nationally recognized certificate. They will receive recognition from future employers for acquiring new health information skills, and it is a great skill set to add to their resume.

Additionally, it is a great incentive to increase the number of students enrolled in the course and introduce students to the health sciences librarianship field. Hear from current professors participating in the program about their experience applying and hear from students about their appreciation for receiving a CHIS certificate from their LIS program [here](#).

What Are the Requirements to Have Your Class MLA-Approved as a Consumer Health Course?

Your course must address one or more of the eight core competencies for providing consumer health information services. NNLM and MLA will work with you to ensure your coursework entails the CHIS competencies listed below.

CHIS Competencies

Required for Level 1

- C1 - Know the Community
- C2 - Know the Health Consumer
- C3 - Knowledge of Subject Matter and Resources
- C4 - Evaluation of Health Information
- C5 - Communication, Reference, and Instruction

Required for Level 2, in addition to Level 1 requirements

- C6 - Literacy and Health Literacy
- C7 - Technology and Health
- C8 - Ethical and Legal Issues

How Much Does It Cost?

Nothing! With this partnership, MLA will waive the approved course application fee for professors participating in the program. Furthermore, on behalf of the students, NNLM will cover the CHIS application fee (a \$99 value) for level 1 or level 2 CHIS certification for students who complete the course.

How to Get Started

For more information about the program and how to apply to get your class CHIS certified, visit nnlm.gov to learn more. If you have any questions or want to express interest in applying, please contact Samantha Nunn at sam.nunn@utah.edu.

congratulations

**Kudos to the following MCMLA members
on their recent publications, presentations, & accomplishments**



Congratulations to **Brenda Linares** for winning the 2023 Bernice M. Hetzner Award for Excellence in Academic Health Science Librarianship



Congrats to **Maud Mundava** for being selected to the 2023-2024 NLM/AAHSL Leadership Fellows Program



Congratulations to **Nina McHale** for receiving a Sewell Fund stipend that allowed her to attend the AACP (American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy) Annual Meeting.



Congrats to **Hannah Pollard** who was accepted as a member of the Fall 2023 cohort of the Data Services Continuing Professional Education (DSCPE). DSCPE is a ten-week online intensive learning experience geared toward preparing working librarians to provide needed data services.



Congratulations to **Christi Piper** and **Michelle Schonken** who were elected to serve on the CCML (Colorado Council of Medical Librarians) Board.



Kristen DeSanto had two publications:

- Harris KT, Kong L, Vargas M, Hou V, Pyrzanowski JL, DeSanto K, Wilcox DT, Wood D. Considerations and outcomes for adolescents and young adults with cloacal anomalies: a scoping review of urologic, colorectal, gynecologic and psychosocial concerns. *Urology*.
- Lehn C, Chipman C, Augustine S, Lyon C, DeSanto K. Is trigger point injection therapy an effective treatment for low back pain? *American Family Physician*. 2023;108(1):85-86.



Ellie Svoboda had an article posted in Doody's on the topic of creating a curated OER guide. The article is based on the poster Ellie presented at the IFLA meeting.