Hello, fellow MCMLAers!

Seems like there’s been a bit of a lull after the excitement of the excellent MCMLA Annual Meeting in KC this year. However, we have some great stuff this issue to help you keep away those winter blues.

In her regular President’s column, Brenda Pfannenstiel writes of the importance of submitting an annual report for your administrators. Even if they don’t read them, annual reports remind them you are there!

In continuing news from the 2013 Business Meeting, the results of the survey polling the membership on issues of library and librarian advocacy are out. The Research Committee has pulled together the results to share with you all, and the Ad Hoc Committee on Championing for Librarians sets out the next steps in the process. I know that keeping our libraries open is of vital interest to all our membership, so please join the discussion. They need your input.

MLA2013 in Boston is just around the corner, and this joint meeting is going to be a whopper. Besides the fact that Boston is infinitely cool, three, count ‘em three, international library associations are joining the MLA this year. If you’ve been saving your pennies to go to a meeting, this is the one.

We welcome new members Gary Church, Sarah Robertson, and Rose Turner. Welcome to MCMLA! We also say goodbye to Amy Ritterskamp, who’s accepted a position with Lockton Insurance, and Dick Kammer, who is retiring in February. Good luck to you both!

We have our usual features; Darell will try to dazzle and discombobulate you with his Doozies, and MCMLA congratulates those who need congratulating.

Looking forward to Spring but hoping everyone is staying warm this chilly February.

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Notes from the President

By Brenda R. Pfannenstiel, MCMLA President; edited by Kristen DeSanto

This is the time of year when I compile statistics from the previous year, review the year’s accomplishments, then write our annual report. No one asked me to do this, but other sections and centers within my hospital produced annual reports, and I thought it might be a good way to make our librarians and our library services more visible. As with most libraries, we have individual patrons who appreciate our individual services, but we would like our total client base, especially our administrators, to know about the value we add to our institution.

The annual report is deliberately short: two pages front and back with ample white space and colorful graphics. It is distributed in print and as an email attachment to a number of key people throughout the hospital, and is posted on our intranet web site. Last year, Keri Swaggart put our statistics into a value calculator [http://nnlm.gov/mcr/evaluation/calculator.html], and that became a page of our report.

I wasn’t sure that anyone actually bothered to read our annual report. Everyone in the hospital is bombarded with so much information it can be difficult to cut through the static. Then I attended a Medical Staff Education Committee meeting last November, and out of the blue a pediatric clinical psychologist said to me, “I was so impressed to see how much our library services are worth in your annual report.” She was talking about the report that I had circulated nine months earlier!

So, I am going to be brave and post my annual reports for you to see on the MCMLA website blog. You will notice that I did not have the assistance of a professional graphic artist; I used the software that came with my work computer and used Excel to turn some of my statistics into colorful graphs. If you aren’t already putting out some sort of annual report, I encourage you to do so. In today’s market, we cannot afford to be shy about touting our accomplishments, or about telling how the services we provide benefit our parent institution. Don’t be invisible.

Transitions

By Brenda R. Pfannenstiel, MCMLA President; edited by Katie Dayani

Amy Ritterskamp has accepted a job as Research & Communications Specialist with Lockton Insurance Companies, so she is leaving Dykes Library and her MCMLA office as listserv manager and web editor. Amy has done a terrific job, selecting and setting up our Wild Apricot web platform [www.mcmla.org] and maintaining the web-based directory, online membership renewals, electronic voting, listserv communications, and more. The time and effort she put in has laid the groundwork for our chapter’s electronic communication for years to come. Amy also distinguished herself by designing the lovely fountain logo for our MCMLA 2012 annual meeting. We will miss her ingenuity, her competence, her calm professionalism, and her get-it-done attitude.

Peggy Mullaly-Quijas has resigned her position as Executive Secretary of MCMLA, after a remarkable twelve years of excellent service. Peggy has kept the chapter’s accounts and financial records, maintained membership records, and done all the necessary work to keep the chapter legal, honest, and solvent.

While working hard for MCMLA, Peggy also found time to run the Health Sciences Library of the University of Missouri—Kansas City, where she won the HSLNKC’s Award for Outstanding Academic Health Sciences Library in 2005 and 2010. She also won MCMLA’s Bernice M. Hetzner Award for Excellence in Academic Health Science Librarianship (2000), and MCMLA’s Outstanding Achievement Award (2004).

Peggy has decided to lighten her schedule by turning over her Executive Secretary duties to her successor, but we will continue to benefit from her wise counsel in MCMLA.
HSLNKC Awards Five Kansas City Libraries for Outstanding Service

Submitted by Dawn McInnis, Clendening History of Medicine Library, University of Kansas Medical Center, Kansas City, KS; edited by Darell Schmick

The Health Sciences Library Network of Kansas City presented five awards to Kansas City area libraries for providing outstanding service to their institutions in 2012, at the ninth annual HSLNKC Awards and Recognition Ceremony held Wednesday, January 9, 2013, at Quintiles, Inc.

The award recipients were as follows:

- **Outstanding One-Person Health Science Library:** Medical-Dental Library of Truman Medical Center at Lakewood, Gwen E. Sprague, MLS
- **Excellent Return on Investment:** North Kansas City Hospital, Medical Library, Evelyn J. Vail, MS
- **Outstanding Outreach Efforts:** The Olathe Health System Health Sciences Library, Dick Kammer, MA, MLS
- **Outstanding Academic Health Science Library:** Ruth R. Cleveland Memorial Library of Cleveland Chiropractic College, Marcia Thomas, BA MLS
- **Outstanding Health Science Library:** Carl R. Ferris Medical Library, Research Medical Center, Kitty Serling, MLS

Along with the five awards, HSLNKC presented Service Certificates to members who worked to help the organization fulfill its mission, and presented certificates to member libraries qualifying for Certification. The awards and certificates were presented at the ceremony following the network’s annual business meeting, hosted by Jim Chestnut, MS MILS, Associate Director, Library & Information Services at Quintiles, Inc.

A special *Heart and Soul Award* was presented to Dick Kammer, MA MLS at the HSLNKC 35th Anniversary Party on Friday evening, January 25, 2013. Dick retires in February 2013 and the surprise award captured the energy and passion that Dick has put into the Network and the Library profession.

Medical Library Tools

By Brenda R. Pfannenstiel, MCMLA President; edited by Amanda Sprochi

Check out the Hospital Library Toolkit [http://nnlm.gov/sea/newsletter/2012/11/hospital-librarian-toolkit-launched/] developed by NN/LM SE/A Region.

Other big news: Value of Library and Information Services in Patient Care (the updated and expanded “Rochester” study) has been released as a JMLA epub ahead of print. Check out the web site [http://nnlm.gov/mar/about/value.html] or read the article itself [http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC225641/pdf/mlab00115-0079.pdf]!

Don’t forget to report status changes in our chapter libraries [http://www.mlanet.org/resources/vital/status_form.html] on the MLANET Vital Pathways web site [http://www.mlanet.org/resources/vital/].

MCMLA Mentors Needed to Help MCMLA Members with AHIP

By Phyllis Whiteside, Chair, MCMLA Membership Committee; edited by Amanda Sprochi

If you have an interest mentoring AHIP for MCMLA mentees, please go and log into the MCMLA site [http://www.mcmla.org/]. Click on Mentor Program [http://www.mcmla.org/mentorprogram] and register. We need more mentors who have an interest in sharing information about AHIP. So far we have one mentor who expressed an interest in AHIP and three mentees who would like to be helped with this area.

Thank you for helping other MCMLA members!
Dick Kammer Retires

By Katie Mulik Dayani, American Academy of Family Physicians, Leawood, KS; edited by Darell Schmick

The stacks were rocking on January 25 as the Health Sciences Library Network of Kansas City (HSLNKC) celebrated its 36th anniversary at St. Luke’s Medical Library. In addition to the anniversary, HSLNKC members celebrated the contributions of founding member Dick Kammer, who is retiring as the librarian at Olathe Medical Center.

Kammer entered the medical librarian field after a twenty-year career in private school administration. An internship at Shawnee Mission Medical Center working with Cliff Nestell sparked Kammer’s interest in hospital librarianship. He has worked at a few hospitals in the Kansas City area, most recently at Olathe since 1995. He helped create HSLNKC in 1999 and was instrumental in making it a strong and supportive group.

Kammer has seen a lot of changes in the profession during his career. In order to stay current, Kammer advises, “The profession must review and reinvent itself. Librarians must not only be solid researchers but also marketers and networkers.”

At the HLSNKC event President Sue Sykes Berry presented Kammer with the aptly-named Heart and Soul Award. Sykes Berry read a proclamation that states, “Dick Kammer exemplifies the passion for people and his profession that is implied by the expression heart and soul.”

As he reflects on his professional contributions, Kammer says, “We build upon those who have gone before. I hope that I have helped provide a secure building block.” He will miss the people with whom he has worked the most. And evidenced by the HSLNKC party, his colleagues will miss him too.

Jan Foster, Librarian at St. Joseph Medical Center/St Mary’s Medical Center, says Kammer’s contributions to HSLNKC will never be forgotten. “His was the energy that held us together and pushed us forward. His was the vision that showed us the way. His was the affection that reminded us how important we are to each other. And always, his was the wit that made us laugh. The group will go on and I hope Dick will remain a part of it in some capacity. To truly say good-bye is unthinkable.”

So, what’s next for Kammer? “Whatever the fates propose,” he says. Here’s to you, Dick, and your next adventure.

Darell’s Doozies

By Darell Schmick, Publications Committee; edited by Kristen DeSanto

In a scientific paper, the section on methods, if presented correctly:

A. Should make it possible for another investigator to exactly reproduce the experiments and to obtain exactly the same results.
B. Should summarize the steps taken, rather than give exact amounts, times, etc.
C. Should not be put into a separate section but worked into the section on results or into the discussion, if possible.
D. Should be omitted entirely if the results are clear and the author’s address is given.

As of 2013, how many subheadings are in the MeSH structured vocabulary?

A. 64
B. 80
C. 83
D. 91

Answers to questions from our previous issue:

Libraries serving medical schools must be prepared to support:

A. Research
B. Education
C. Medical practice
D. All three

At 12 meetings, the most common destination for Medical Library Association Annual Meetings has been:

A. Chicago, IL
B. Washington, DC
C. Atlantic City, NJ
D. Philadelphia, PA
Join your Medical Library Association (MLA) colleagues and register for One Health, May 3–8, 2013, in Boston, MA!

Expand your professional network at this unique international meeting, with presenters from more than 30 countries expected. In addition to the conversations you’ll have with your worldwide colleagues, expect fresh ideas from keynote speaker Richard Besser, ABC News senior health and medical editor.

One Health will feature more papers and poster presentations than any previous MLA meeting, covering an even greater breadth of topics. The theme of One Health encompasses not only human and animal health, but also public health, environmental health, climate change, food safety and production, and international policy, emphasizing interdisciplinary and international collaboration.

Register now and reserve your room at the Sheraton Boston, the official conference headquarters hotel. View the Invitation to MLA ’13 for an exciting video tour of what Boston has to offer attendees! Special tours (including library tours) will be available for One Health attendees. You can also view the Exhibitor List.

Register for One Health Continuing Education courses, organized in tracks according to professional competency areas, with many new courses on offer.

Additional plenary session speakers include:

- Joanne Gard Marshall, AHIP, FMLA, alumni distinguished professor, School of Information and Library Science, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill and producer of the “Rochester Study”, the highly cited report on the impact of the hospital library on clinical decision making.

- Sheila Davis, director of global nursing at Partners in Health (PIH), and clinical assistant professor in the School of Nursing at the MGH Institute of Health Professions in Boston, MA.


This federated international meeting will incorporate:

- 2013 MLA Annual Meeting and Exhibition (MLA’ 13)
- 11th International Congress on Medical Librarianship (ICML),
- 7th International Conference of Animal Health Information Specialists (ICAHIS)
- 6th International Clinical Librarian Conference

We look forward to seeing you at this special international meeting in Boston!
Throughout December 2012 MCMLA members had a chance to voice their thoughts on the current and future state of librarianship. The MCMLA research committee designed a survey to gather data which would allow MCMLA leadership to focus its efforts on the issues members felt were the most critical to our profession. We had a great response rate with 118 members completing the survey.

Question 1:

The current paradigm of medical librarianship does not support librarians who need to validate their worth to prevent position loss and library closures.

Question 2:

Standardized essential best practices for medical librarians would help advance the field of medical librarianship.

Question 3:

We need research studies establishing the impact of medical librarians and libraries?

Question 4:

Research studies supporting the impact of medical librarianship would help individuals and organizations understand the value of our work.
We asked members to rank four initiatives according to their level of importance in preserving and advancing medical librarianship. The initiative receiving the highest rank was “design and implement research trials to verify the value of medical librarianship.” Forty-nine respondents (42%) ranked it as the most important and 33 (28%) as the second most important. The initiative receiving the lowest rank, with 80 respondents (68%) ranking it as the least important, was “implement a required ongoing certification process for medical librarians.”

Respondents also provided a wealth of comments and suggestions that MCMLA leadership will be able to utilize along with the data. The Research Committee and MCMLA Leadership will be reviewing the comments and suggestions for future planning. Stay tuned for more details and analysis of the survey in future Research Roundup columns.
Championing for Librarians: What’s next?

By Betsy Mueth, Ad Hoc Committee on Championing for Librarians; edited by Amanda Sprochi

Following the 2013 MCMLA Business Meeting, Betsy Mueth, Cam Gentry, and Claire Hamasu collaborated on revising a motion proposed by Dick Kammer. In discussing the issues raised by Dick, they found that they agreed with the sentiments that prompted Dick to propose his motion, but did not agree with the action items he proposed. Betsy, Cam, and Claire offered a series of motions focusing on hospital librarians, because they believe that hospital librarians are the canaries in the library-closing coal mine. Their proposal was reviewed at the December 14, 2012 leaders meeting, at which Brenda Pfannenstiel, MCMLA Chair, appointed them to the Ad Hoc Committee on Championing for Librarians. On December 20, 2012, the motions were sent out to the membership for review, and Amy Ritterskamp established a page on the MCMLA web site for discussion. A survey was sent out polling the membership on the proposals from January 22 through February 1, 2013. At the end of the voting period all of the motions had passed by a sizable margin.


**Motion 1. 58 For, 8 Against. Passed by 88%**
MCMLA, within one year will begin work with state hospital accrediting bodies to adopt standards requiring direct access to a librarian.

**Motion 2. 64 For, 2 Against. Passed by 97%**
MCMLA will encourage and support publication by the membership in (non-library oriented) health professional publications, newsletters, journals, letters to the editor.

**Motion 3. 54 For, 12 Against. Passed by 82%**
MCMLA will request that the MLA Board charge the MLA Hospital Library Section to aggressively support the survival of their membership with a plan proposed to their membership within a year.

**Motion 4. 59 For, 7 Against. Passed by 89%**
MCMLA will request that MLA actively recruit members to contribute to their “Change in Status of a US Medical Library” website and to regularly publish the results of member input to the site.

**Motion 5. 55 For, 11 Against. Passed by 83%**
MCMLA will request that MLA begin to work within one year with national accrediting bodies to adopt standards requiring a librarian.

**Motion 6. 57 For, 9 Against. Passed by 86%**
MCMLA will request that MLA sponsor research that illustrates the hospital librarian’s contribution to the institution in meeting the requirements of meaningful use and of health care reform, and that the results of this research be submitted to non-library oriented health professional publications.

The next steps are for the Chapter to begin implementing the actions for which the membership voted. This includes forwarding our requests to the MLA board to request action on the items in motions 3-6. For motions 1-2, the Ad Hoc Committee is now accepting ideas about how the Chapter may accomplish these goals. Please send any suggestions to Betsy Mueth, Cam Gentry, or Claire Hamasu.

MCMLA Congratulates

By Amanda Sprochi, MCMLA Express Editor

**Dick Kammer**, on his Heart and Soul Award from Health Sciences Library Network of Kansas City (HSLNKC). Have a great retirement, Dick!

**Gwen E. Sprague, Evelyn J. Vail, Dick Kammer, Marcia Thomas, and Kitty Serling**, for being recognized by the HSLNKC for their outstanding library work.

**Darell Schmick**, for being named a University of Missouri Global Scholar. Darell will be joining 11 other MU faculty on a trip to Beijing, China this summer.

**Amy Ritterskamp**, for her new position at Lockton Insurance Companies. We’ll miss you, Amy!

**Peggy Mullaly-Quijas**, stepped down after a remarkable twelve years as MCMLA Executive Secretary. Our profound thanks for your service to the Chapter. Enjoy some “time off.”

**Katie Dayani**, for her new position at the Academy of American Physicians. Good luck in the new job!
**New Member Spotlight: Welcome to MCMLA!**

**Gary L. Church**

*By Phyllis Whiteside, Chair, MCMLA Membership Committee; edited by Katie Dayani*

Welcome, Garry L. Church, MLIS, Ed.S., M.Ed

Assistant Director of Library Services, Roseman University of Health Sciences, South Jordan, UT

**Where do you hail from?**

I came to Roseman University for Health Sciences from the University of Houston at Sugar Land. I am originally from Detroit - by way of Kuwait, Oman, and UAE, Northwestern State University in Natchitoches, LA, and a community college in Laredo, TX.

**What brought you to your current job?**

The well-regarded Roseman University is a great place to work. Being an innovator in health education is my overt purpose. Also, the opportunity to work in such a special library with the students, the staff, faculty, and administration made me want to come here. Finally, my willingness to jump at the chance to work in an institution solely devoted to the health sciences was built on several years of closely-working with the Nursing faculty & students at the University of Houston - Victoria.

**What do you like most about it so far?**

I like coaching the library staff, to reinforce our team with solid support, to be all that we can be. I like working with the students and faculty.

**What’s a fun/unique/interesting tidbit about you?**

I’m here in Utah, with all these beautiful, awe-inspiring mountains and canyons, and I don’t ski. I spent 10 years in the warm climates of the Middle East, and here I am in near-zero temps contemplating the next snow fall.

**Is there any information you would like to share about your family?**

I have a spouse and 2 children.

**What do you hope to gain from being a member of MCMLA?**

An opportunity to learn more from other librarians & libraries. I have found that interacting with peers – through blogs, email, listservs, face-to-face, conferences, webinars – gives me insight into what’s going on at other places and provides reflection for my own practice as a librarian.

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**Publication Statement**

MCMLA Express is a publication of the Midcontinental Chapter of the Medical Library Association. It is published four times per year in February, May, August, and November.

**Committee Members:**
Amanda Srochi, editor
Darell Schmick
Kristen DeSanto
Katie Dayani
New Member Spotlight (cont’d)

Sarah Robertson

By Phyllis Whiteside, Chair, MCMLA Membership Committee; edited by Katie Dayani

Welcome, Sara Robertson!
Assistant Librarian, KU Medical Center’s A. R. Dykes Library

Where do you hail from?
I grew up in Topeka, KS, and now live in Kansas City.

What brought you to your current job?
After graduating college, I moved to Kansas City and was fortunate to start working at KUMC’s A. R. Dykes Library in public services.

What do you like most about it so far?
I enjoy serving our patrons and working with such great people!

What’s a fun/unique/interesting tidbit about you?
I was once a registered storm spotter.

What do you do to relax? How do you use your free time?
I like reading, baking and traveling. I also enjoy volunteering with the local Bhutanese refugee population in Kansas City.

What is your educational background and what schools did you attend?
I have a B.S. in Journalism and Mass Communications from K-State and am currently attending MU’s Library Science program.

What are you doing in your current position at A. R. Dykes Library?
Currently, I work in public services and lead the marketing team in promoting the library.

What do you hope to gain from being a member of MCMLA?
I am looking forward to connecting with other health information providers and growing professionally.

Rose Turner

By Melissa DeSantis, MCMLA Membership Committee; edited by Darell Schmick

Rose Turner is a new student member of MCMLA. She is currently a library school student at Wayne State University and is working in the Education & Reference Department at the Health Sciences Library at the University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus.

Rose is originally from Michigan but has lived in Colorado for the past three years. She received her undergraduate degree from the University of Michigan and has been working as a project manager for HP coordinating software testing. Both her work for HP and her library school program can be done remotely allowing her to live anywhere that she would like.

Rose found her part-time position working for the Education & Reference department after seeing a posting on the Colorado Library Association’s Facebook page. She has a science background but had never considered medical librarianship until she saw the Facebook post. She is now providing reference support to library users about 15 hours per week. What she likes the best is working on challenging questions.

In her free time Rose enjoys reading, snowboarding and playing with her dog.

She is looking forward to meeting other librarians and learning more about the profession by participating in MCMLA. Welcome Rose!
Joining the Academy of Health Information Professionals (AHIP) has never been easier. A new system has been launched allowing you to download fill-in AHIP forms, upload or email the completed portfolio, and pay online.

For an introduction to how the online forms work click on http://www.mlanet.org/academy/whatsnew-online-submissions.html

Other changes have also been approved.

**New Job Requirements:** Because of the economic recession, some medical librarians are no longer full-time medical librarians, have left the field, or have become a different type of librarian. MLA realizes there are librarians who want to move into, remain in, and come back to the health sciences librarian field and want AHIP membership. To help members succeed with AHIP, the MLA Board of Directors has approved changes to the job requirements for AHIP starting May 1, 2012. To read about these changes click on http://www.mlanet.org/academy/whatsnew-job-requirements.html

**Provisional Membership:** Starting January 1, 2014, all provisional membership applications (both new and renewing) will be required to include 5 points of professional individual accomplishments per year. This new requirement will allow members the opportunity to become more involved with MLA; MLA Sections, SIGs, and Chapters; and local medical library groups. Professional individual accomplishments then can be used towards the application for membership when the provisional member moves on to the member or senior level of AHIP.

Currently there are roughly 1100 AHIP members who participate in the academy at 5 levels of membership. Why don’t you join us?