Happy Spring, MCMLA’ers

It seems like I say this every issue, but this one is indeed packed. First, a reminder to save the date for the next MCMLA annual meeting, held in my beautiful town of Columbia, Missouri. The dates are October 9-11 and we are planning a great meeting, so look for registration to open soon. The call for papers and posters has already gone out; for more information visit the MCMLA2017 website.

Gwen Wilson, our fearless chair, writes this month of the activities of the MCMLA Executive Committee and announces the results of the MCMLA Elections. Nancy Woelfl, chair of the Ad Hoc MCMLA Endowment Task Force, announces the dissolution of that task force and the formation of a new Finance Committee, which will continue to oversee the endowment as well as act as an advisor to the Executive Committee and Section Treasurer on financial matters.

A.T. Still announces the winners of their 3D printing contest. There were some great projects awarded, so check it out!

The amazing librarians at Eccles have been super busy, giving papers, winning awards, and being generally awesome. And speaking of awesome, Melissa De Santis was awarded the Marla Graber Award for Excellence and Achievement in Health Sciences Librarianship; Jerry Carlson mentored his 15th (or was it 16th?) high school student in the Mentored Pathways’ electronic mentoring program; Lori Fitterling presented two posters at the American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine’s annual conference; and Angela Spencer and the Advocacy Committee report on the results of their advocacy survey. You all have been very busy!

MCMLA also welcomes three new members, Prasanna Vaduvathiriyan, Abbey Griffith, and Nitzan Watman. Glad to meet you! And of course we give a shout out to our members’ fine work in our MCMLA Congratulates column.

MLA is right around the corner, hope to see you all in Seattle!

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Notes from the Chair

By Gwen Wilson, MCMLA Chair; edited by Amanda Sprochi

Spring is in the air!

When the weather turns to spring, students begin to panic. The sprint to finals has begun and there will be no rest until it is over. It is that time of year that I think of librarians as super heroes. We are there for all patrons and it is wonderful when someone comes in overwhelmed and leaves with that sense of motivation that they will persevere.

Brief update on MCMLA Executive Committee activities:

- Approved the creation of Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect roles for several of our chapter committees. This is to help the transition between committee chairs.
- A Strategic Budget Task Force was created with the objective to research reasons why the annual budget has been in the red and to recommend suggestions to the Executive Committee to establish a yearly budget that breaks even. The final report has been submitted to the Executive Committee.
- Approved the motion to establish a Finance Committee as a standing committee of MCMLA. With this motion the Strategic Budget Task Force and Endowment Task Force have been discharged.

Please join me in congratulating the following people as they take on new roles in MCMLA:

- Heather Brown is the incoming Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect
- Alicia Lillich is the incoming Recording Secretary
- Nena Schvaneveldt is our new Representative to the MLA Nominating Committee
- Annette Parde-Maass is our new Representative to the MLA Chapter Council
- Jeanne M. Burke is our new Alternate Representative to the MLA Chapter Council
- John Jones is our new Annual Meeting Advisor Understudy
- Rebecca Brown and Gwen Wilson are the co-chairs of the 2018 MCMLA Virtual Meeting

As many of you know, it takes dedicated volunteers to have a successful chapter. Thank you for all that you do for MCMLA.

Until next time, continue being the hero when a patron is in need of information.

SHOW ME ONE HEALTH

MCMLA 2017  Columbia, Missouri  October 9-11

SAVE THE DATE!
Registration for MCMLA 2017, “Show Me One Health,” at the historic Tiger Hotel in downtown Columbia, Missouri, will open early summer, 2017. Come show us! Preliminary schedule and information can be found on the official website.
MCMLA Endowment News

By Nancy Woelfl, Chair, MCMLA Endowment Task Force; edited by Amanda Sprochi

March and April were busy months:

- March 8, The Ad Hoc Endowment Task Force met with our representatives at Lodestar to clarify deposit procedures and procedures for obtaining financial reports. Following the teleconference, the MCMLA Treasurer deposited $23,155.41 into the endowment fund.

- March 9, the Executive Committee approved simplified deposit procedures for endowment contributions. Designated contributions from members are deposited the month they are received and do not require a separate authorizing vote by the Executive Committee. This insures a member’s charitable gift, which can only be used for the endowment, does not wait unnecessarily in the operating fund. Excess operating funds from the MCMLA treasury are deposited once a year and do require a specific approval vote by the Executive Committee.

- A Strategic Budget Committee appointed by Chair Gwen Wilson studied chapter finances overall and whether the Task Force should continue or be dissolved.

- On April 14, the Executive Committee discharged the Ad Hoc Endowment Task Force with thanks and created a new standing Finance Committee. The new committee will be responsible for promoting the endowment fund but has a much broader scope. It will assist and advise the Executive Committee and the MCMLA Treasurer as they deal with complex financial decisions and accountabilities.

- The Finance Committee charge is as follows: The Finance Committee is responsible for recommending to the Executive Committee financial policies, goals, and budgets that support the mission, values, and strategic goals of MCMLA. The committee also reviews the organization's financial performance against its goals and proposes major transactions and programs to the board.

- The Ad Hoc Endowment Task Force was established in 2010. I would like to thank the following MCMLA members who served so ably over the years as the chapter worked to establish its Endowment Fund. It was an honor to work with them and serve to as chair.

  - Claire Hamasu
  - Jackie Hittner
  - Betsy Mueth
  - Peggy Mullaly-Quijas
  - Carolyn Warmann
  - Karen Wiederaenders

Winners! MCMLA 2017 Chapter Council Roundtable Lunch Awards

By Jerry Carlson, Chair, MCMLA Honors and Awards Committee; edited by John Jones

How many Dreamed of attending the Chapter Council Roundtable Lunch at MLA ’17? At least five - that's how many Dared to apply for the MCMLA 2017 Chapter Council Roundtable Lunch Award. Now two Do get randomly selected to receive the award, and they are Mary Helms of the University of Nebraska Medical Center and Marilyn De Geus of the Kansas City University of Medicine and Biosciences.

Watch for their articles in a post-MLA issue of the MCMLA Express, and for next year's chance to do the same in Atlanta next year. Congratulations!

2017-2018 MCMLA Election Results

By Erica Lake, Chair, MCMLA Nominating Committee; edited by Katie Dayani

The results of the MCMLA election are in – please welcome your new officers!

- Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect
  - Heather Brown
- Recording Secretary
  - Alicia Lillich
- Representative to the MLA Nominating Committee
  - Nena Schvaneveldt
- Representative to the MLA Chapter Council
  - Annette Parde-Maass
- Alternate Representative to the MLA Chapter Council
  - Jeanne M. Burke

Congratulations to these members, and a sincere thank you to all of the candidates for their willingness to run for office.
A.T. Still Memorial Library 3D Printing Contest Update

By Debra Loguda-Summers, Public Service Manager, A.T. Still Memorial Library, Kirksville, MO; edited by John Jones

The A.T. Still Memorial Library held a 3D printer contest, starting in February for both the Missouri and Arizona campuses. Models were to be designed to meet the following criteria: use in healthcare education or healthcare in general, innovation, creativity, originality, impact on learning, and ability to meet their designated learning objectives.

A panel of faculty and/or staff from each campus judged the models. Models will be displayed in the library on both campuses.

Both campuses received several entries, the top three winners from each campus were:

**Missouri:**

**First Prize:** 3D Ophthalmotrope, the intended use will be an interactive device that a teacher or student can manipulate to demonstrate normal anatomical movements in the eyes, as well as pathologic states when one or more of these muscular systems have been compromised.

**Second Prize:** 3D Sagittal Brain Sections, the intended use was to assist in gaining a better understanding of the anatomical and spatial relationships between different components of the brain and how they related to each other.

**Third Prize:** 3D Preservative-Free eye drop container, the intended use was to address the need to work with patients to assess needs and provide a 3D solution. This was created due to a need by a patient.

**Arizona:**

**First Prize:** 3D Safe Mandibular Surgery model, the intended use is to serve as an aid in helping surgeons and pre-surgeons accurately visualize the positions of the vital nerve pathways in three-dimensional space that will need to be avoided when making surgical incisions.

**Second Prize:** 3D printing for implant surgical guide, the intended use is to precisely place dental implants using information on the bone, bone density, and nerve location to ensure that an implant can be placed in the most optimal position.

**Third Prize:** 3D Human skull for dental anesthetic technique, the intended use is for the study of skeletal anatomy to learn the complex trigeminal nerve anatomy to be able to administer injections.

Congratulations to all the winners!
Spencer S. Eccles Health Sciences Library (EHSL) Awards Roundup for March-May 2017

By Heidi Greenberg, Administrative Manager, Spencer S. Eccles Health Sciences Library, Salt Lake City, UT; edited by John Jones

2017 Medical Library Association (MLA) Continuing Education Grant Recipient

Shirley Zhao, MLS, Spencer S. Eccles Health Sciences Library, University of Utah–Salt Lake City

This grant provides members with the opportunity to develop their knowledge of the theoretical, administrative, or technical aspects of librarianship. Shirley will attend the Data Science and Visualization Institute for Librarians, April 24-28, 2017 at NC State University in Raleigh, NC. This is a week-long course providing the opportunity for librarians passionate about research and scholarship to immerse themselves in learning about data science and visualization in collaboration with academic peers with the goal of developing knowledge, skills, and confidence to communicate effectively with faculty and student researchers about their data and be able to provide initial data science consultation.

2017 NLM/AAHSL Leadership Fellows Program

Melissa Rethlefsen, MLS, AHIP Deputy Director; Associate Librarian, Spencer S. Eccles Health Sciences Library, University of Utah

This Program prepares emerging leaders for director positions in academic health sciences libraries. It is jointly funded by National Library of Medicine and the Association of Academic Health Sciences Libraries. Since the program began in 2002, 42% of fellow graduates have assumed director positions. Her Mentor: Judy Cohn Assistant Vice President for the Information Services; Director, Health Sciences Libraries Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, Newark, NJ.

2017 Leadership in Inclusive Excellence Faculty Award

Joan Gregory, MLS, AHIP

The award sponsored by the Office of Health Equity and Inclusion recognizes leadership in inclusive excellence from a University of Utah Health Sciences Faculty member. She was nominated by a group of her peers here at Eccles Library who wanted everyone to know that Joan is a campus and community champion for inclusive excellence, whose leadership and vision are centered in achieving equity. There were many deserving nominees who are working hard to create an environment of health equity and inclusion but it was no surprise to us that she was honored with this award. She is a mentor and example to all she comes in contact with and inspires others to contribute their voices to the University of Utah’s diversity and inclusion efforts and goals.

2016 Top Researcher Honoree

Christy Jarvis, MLIS, AHIP - Celebrate U: A Showcase of Extraordinary Faculty Achievements event for her work on the Journal Citation Analysis.

The event was hosted by J. Willard Marriott Library and the Office of the Vice President for Research and highlighted University of Utah faculty who reached a pinnacle of professional success in 2016. Those honored were faculty who authored a book, were primary contributors to a realized creative work or were the top-funded researchers with their college.

2016 Top Researcher Honoree

Melissa Rethlefsen, MLS, AHIP - Celebrate U: A Showcase of Extraordinary Faculty Achievements event.

Melissa was recognized for her research into systematic review reproducibility and methodological quality. Her paper, “Librarian co-authors correlated with higher quality reported search strategies in general internal medicine systematic reviews,” published in the Journal of Clinical Epidemiology, is an Essential Science Indicators “Highly Cited Paper” in the top 1% of Social Science research in 2016. Her latest paper on the reproducibility of search strategies in systematic reviews in pediatrics, cardiology, and surgery, published in PLoS ONE, has led to an international effort she is spearheading to create a reporting guideline on search strategy reporting. Her other recent presentations and publications have also centered around systematic review searching methodology and reproducibility.

JoVE: MLA'17 Meeting Travel Award Recipient

Mellanye Lackey MSI A Librarian's Role in Research Reproducibility

The award is intended to encourage librarians to help advance scientific research by empowering scientists, faculty, and students with the necessary information, tools, and training to achieve research reproducibility.
Eccles Awards (cont’d)

21st Annual VentureWell Open 2017

Tallie Casucci, MLIS and Jean P. Shipman MSLS
(with Roger Altizer, PhD and Jose Zagal, PhD) Shhh! We’re Creating New Technologies in the Library and You Can Too!

This Poster received the Best in Category, Innovation on Campus award at the VentureWell Open in an annual conference for innovation and entrepreneur educators. The poster and award are currently displayed on the Garden Level of EHSIL.

2017 UWorkUWin University of Utah Internship Award

Danielle Haddad

UWorkUWin recognizes internships on campus that offer winning projects, places, people, and perks. Interns nominate themselves with an essay that highlights their experiences. Danielle Hadaad worked with Eccles Health Sciences Library as a Communications Intern and has been an invaluable team member on the Communications Advisory Committee, written communications packages for events and exhibits, and participated in the LIT sessions at Lassonde Studios. She states, “The L.I.T. (Libraries Innovation Team) is a team comprised of highly talented librarians from the Eccles Health Sciences Library, Marriott Library, and Faust Law Library. These members offer comprehensive assistance to all University of Utah affiliates pertaining to any subject. Tabling for the pop-up sessions allows me to see the impact and level of effectiveness my own work is generating. This is an opportunity and project that my supervisor allowed me to run with on my own, which pushed me to use and implement knowledge I gained from my courses.”

And last but not least - Congratulations to our EHSIL Clean Air for U Team – Within the University of Utah network, the University of Utah Eccles Library Clean Air Challenge Team came in at #3 overall, behind Facilities and the Law School. We also won the Most Trips Saved Per Capita Award. We had 21 participants out of a combined total staff, faculty, and students of 58.

Please help us in congratulating all of the award recipients!

Thank you for your contribution to the MCMLA Endowment Fund

As you can see, MCMLA’s adorable endowment mascot continues to help in our endowment building effort. Our piggy works hard for the chapter. Everyday our piggy checks email on her iPad while listening to the NPR Planet Money podcast!

The Endowment Fund Task Force would like to thank the chapter members who have contributed to the MCMLA Endowment Fund since the last issue of the MCMLA Express:

Pat Hamilton
Nancy Woelfl

Remember, donations for the MCMLA Endowment Fund can be sent to:

MCMLA
PO Box 221465
St. Louis, MO 63122
Specify on the check memo line: MCMLA Endowment Fund.

The Endowment Task Force will once again be collecting spare change at MCMLA2017.

Our piggy is getting into shape so she can carry all the spare change that members will be dropping in her!
Fitterling Presents at AACOM

By Lori Fitterling, Kansas City University of Medicine and Biosciences, Kansas City, MO; edited by Katie Dayani

Lori Fitterling, Reference Librarian and Instructor of Medical Informatics at the Kansas City University of Medicine and Biosciences co-authored the following two posters at the American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine’s annual conference held in April. Congratulations, Lori!

Tracking Digital Literacy and Case Presentation Skills in Clerkship Education

A Medical Informatics and Information Literacy course was introduced in the KCU COM 2018 first year curriculum in the fall of 2014 with three objectives: (1) to instruct students on how to locate, critically evaluate and synthesize medical information, (2) to offer students a collaborative experience in presenting a grand rounds clinical case, and (3) to develop independent, self-directed learning skills. This project tracks KCU’s COM 2018 cohort by comparing previously recorded and current database usage statistics and student perception surveys about case presentation experiences and learning outcomes. The choice to add the recorded grand rounds case presentation from their first year course to their student portfolio has also been tracked. By examining database usage statistics, surveying students as to their perception of their information and learning skills, and acknowledging that recorded grand rounds case presentations have been added to student portfolios, the benefits of this curricular addition can be assessed.

Lori Fitterling, MLS, Reference Librarian/Instructor of Medical Informatics, KCU-COM

Cheryl McCormick, PhD, Assistant Dean Professor of Physiology, KCU-COM

Discovering Osteopathic Antiquity in Historical Osteopathic Pamphlets

During the early 20th century, osteopathic information was circulated by way of small journals, pamphlets, booklets and leaflets. Dr. R. W. Williams, Dr. Henry Stanhope Bunting, and the American Osteopathic Association published materials that could be purchased by physicians as a way to market osteopathy in their practice. These early forms of “patient handouts” have distinct illustrations and messages about osteopathic medicine as depicted during that time. The D’Angelo Library is in the process of digitizing its collection of these iconic sources of osteopathic information. This poster describes these early osteopathic artifacts and highlights their historical significance for the current profession.

Lori Fitterling, MLS, Instructor of Medical Informatics/Reference Librarian, KCU-COM

Robyn Oro, Access Services, Special Collections Coordinator/Archive Specialist, KCU-COM
MCMLA Advocacy Survey Results

By Angela Spencer, Chair, MCMLA Advocacy Committee; edited by Katie Dayani

We asked, and you answered. The MCMLA Advocacy Survey results are in with over 50 people responding from a variety of libraries. What did we learn? A lot! The Advocacy Committee is hard at work on next steps to address issues discovered through the survey.

One theme we found is that MCMLA’ers need to share our successes and ideas more! Did you create a display? Do you have a great elevator speech? What’s your email tag line? How do you promote your services? Share your advocacy triumphs with fellow MCMLA’ers. The Advocacy Committee is calling this project LibInterest (think Pinterest combined with Librarian Design Share). See the blog http://mcmla.org/connect/4752201 for details or contact Angela Spencer. [angela.spencer@stlukes-stl.com]

Thanks again to everyone who completed the advocacy survey. See the full report below:

Institution

9 people work in a single hospital
5 people work in a system wide hospital
36 people work in an academic medical center
1 person works in an organization

Over 86% are MLA members

Challenges with marketing/advocacy

36 people said time
9 people said training
9 people said institutional support/policies

Comments:
Lack of money
Developing a communications plan
Good effective ideas for institutions

Barriers in integrating Evidence into practice

38 people said lack of time
16 said lack of evidence
6 said conflicting evidence
9 said lack of training
9 said lack of confidence

Comments:
Lack of money
Poorly done library research
No evidence (accepted by non-librarians) to show librarian makes a difference
Lack of opportunity
Time to review evidence

Do you use data to support your library?

40 said yes
23 said they would like to or needed training
Survey (cont’d)

How can advocacy support you?
14 people picked training on time management
18 picked Provide acknowledgement of awards, publications to administrators
27 picked Promote webinars

Comments
- Help librarians learn how to understand the information needs of clients. What skills librarians can bring
- Research on importance of librarians
- Provide & share ideas and innovations
- Support research to provide evidence that can be used for advocacy – Chapter wide activity that everyone does for advocacy and collect data
- Provide education and support for learning about publishing, promoting, assessment, evaluation
- Research showing data support for library services impact on patient care
- Connections for those of like interests to link up. Provide conduit for what we are interested in and help us find evidence
- Assist with out of the box messages/graphics
- Networking
- Data visualization for administrators
- Success stories – how data helped

2017 Marla Graber Award Presented to Melissa De Santis

By Margaret Bandy and Sara Katsh, CCML Nominating Committee; edited by John Jones

Established in 2002, the Marla Graber Award for Excellence and Achievement in Health Sciences Librarianship is awarded annually to recognize Colorado Council of Medical Librarians (CCML) members who have made outstanding contributions to CCML and to health sciences librarianship at the local level. The award is presented at the annual (April) CCML meeting. The CCML Awards Committee takes great pleasure in announcing this year’s recipient, Melissa De Santis, MLIS, AHIP, Director, Health Sciences Library, University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus.

Examples of Melissa’s qualifications for this award include:
- Several terms as chair of the CCML Education Committee, providing local and national programs to members, both in person and remotely, and hosting the 2015 MCMLA virtual meeting
- Revising and streamlining the duties of CCML Secretary during her 2013-2014 term in that position
- Leadership roles in MCMLA, including
  * Recording Secretary, 2010-2011
  * MLA Chapter Council Representative, 2011-2014
  * 2016 joint meeting co-chair
- MLA leadership roles, including
  * Educational Media and Technologies Section chair, 2007-2008
  * MLANET Editor, 2007-2010
  * Board of Directors, 2014-2017
- Numerous publications, papers, and posters
- Many well-received national and local CE classes, including the recent Emerging Technologies for the Busy Librarian

A recent interview with Melissa for NNLM’s MCR Voices podcast series demonstrates her thoughtful, creative, forward-looking approach to meeting user needs and responding to their “pain points.”

After serving as Deputy Executive Director and Interim Director, Melissa was recently named Director of the Health Sciences Library, University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus. In the announcement to the campus, the Associate Vice Chancellor of Academic Resources and Services praised Melissa’s “record of success” and “passion for the library’s mission and its critical work” and referred to her as a “recognized leader in the national academic health sciences community” and “a trusted and valued colleague.”

All of us who have worked with Melissa in any capacity can attest to these plaudits, and we value her even temperament, flexibility, warm and accepting nature, and ready laugh. We congratulate Melissa on this richly-deserved award.
University of Colorado Health employee finds mentor program rewarding both for him and students

Jerry Carlson can clearly articulate the benefits of being a mentor. “It’s fun, it’s time-effective, and it makes a difference,” he said.

For the past 11 years, the medical librarian has been providing students with something their teachers and professors cannot — extensive knowledge of the medical industry and professional connections.

And it’s given him something as well: a chance to explore fields outside his everyday work and have a hand in developing the next generation of medical professionals.

“Students need to interact with professionals in the industry to see where the industry’s bar is set, as well as understand what they need to do to be successful in post-secondary settings as well as starting their career,” said Veronica Randall, a biomedical science teacher at Prairie View High School in Henderson, Colorado. “But I think our mentors benefit as well. Steel sharpens steel.”

Carlson is one of six UCHealth employees who have chosen to invest about an hour each week to mentor a sixth- to 12th-grader via Mentored Pathways’ electronic mentoring program, of which UCHealth is one of only two sponsors from the health care industry.

“Having the support of someone in the industry makes all the difference in the world to these students,” said David Neils, cofounder and director of Mentored Pathways. “These mentors hold all the experience and knowledge that the students need to be able to connect their interests with opportunities and develop a rock solid path, with mentor support, to fully leverage these career opportunities.”

There are currently more than 8,000 openings in the Colorado economy for health care workers that are going unfilled due to lack of talent, Neils added. Mentored Pathways provides health care professionals the opportunity to support a student from middle school to employment.

Carlson is set to help at least one of Randall’s high school students in the upcoming weeks. But that only makes a small dent in the need for mentors, as there are more than 100 students signed up for biomedical projects alone as of early August and only 22 available mentors.

“I invite all professionals at UCHealth to be a mentor by simply writing two supportive messages a week for a student,” Neils said. “That investment makes a big difference for each student.”

Neils and his team help teachers design projects that give students an opportunity to tackle issues that are real to industries such as biomedical, engineering and business. It is the program’s goal that by the end of the mentorship the student has a portfolio of industry-recognized work, a career and education plan, and a network of industry experts who will support them in their journey through secondary education and into a successful career.

“The students collaborate with mentors to work on real-world problems that can help meet the current and future needs of the industry,” Randall said.

For example, students from Longmont researched various aspects of how the 2013 Colorado flood affected residents and chose one for which to offer a solution. Another project had students investigating where food comes from and the impact of production on society, touching on topics such as the effects of food dye. Another group of students from Missouri were challenged with rebranding an existing company to breathe new life into its products and update its image.

Randall is using Mentored Pathways to complement what her students are already doing with biomedical sciences through the national program Project Lead the Way.

“These kids are writing and researching far beyond what was ever expected of me at that age, maybe even until my later years in college,” Carlson said.

As a librarian, Carlson is highly trained and experienced on where to find information, and many times that means sharing his wide network of medical professionals to help his mentee retrieve the knowledge he or she is after.

“A lot of what people want to know isn’t published,” Carlson said, and that is why a professional network becomes so important.

Over the years, Carlson has worked as a mentor on projects related to the Holocaust, helped edit historical accounts of community members, and created slideshows to support worldwide causes, in addition to health topics. And one great aspect of the mentor project is that he, as the mentor, gets to select the student he’ll work with. Although the Mentored Pathways is based on the Front
Mentor (cont’d)

Range, the students — same as the mentors — live throughout the world.

Neils said this strategy is successful because mentors are able to choose a student with whom they share common interests.

“We end up with higher-quality matches because mentors can bring to bear all of their experiences, education, and wisdom when choosing a project and finally a student,” he said.

After a mentor is matched with a student, they are expected to message their student at least twice a week via Mentored Pathways’ secure website. They help the student think about, plan and develop his or her project. And though everything is done electronically, relationships are built.

Carlson said he knows his experience has been well worth it— he can tell in his reviews and thank you letters — and that’s why in just a few short weeks, he’ll team up with his 15th student — and possibly his 16th student as well because this year’s need is so great, he added.

[Postscript from Jerry Carlson: [Postscript: Student #15 or #16 – who plans to start her nursing education next year - said in her thank you note, “I have been so lucky to have a medical librarian as my mentor (I mean does it get better than that! ;) ”]

Georgie Biomedical Informatics
Course Recap

By Liz Kellermeyer, National Jewish Health, Denver, CO; edited by Katie Dayani

At the beginning of April I was lucky enough to attend the Georgia Biomedical Informatics Course, an immersive course sponsored by Augusta University and the National Library of Medicine. Thirty participants are selected from around the country and invited to spend a week, all expenses paid, in Georgia learning about the use, collection, and application of biomedical informatics. Participants were a varied mix of librarians, clinicians, researchers, administrators, and others who were identified as “change agents” in their respective institutions.

The course is held at the Brasstown Valley Resort & Spa, and while posting from there is an excellent way to make your friends jealous on social media, we weren’t there to relax. Our days, beginning at 7:00 am and going until 9:00 pm, were filled with presentations and demonstrations from a diverse group of experts. Some of the topics covered were EHRs, telemedicine, health data standards, mHealth, data management, imaging informatics, and clinical language processing. The point of this diverse subject matter was to highlight not only how bioinformatics is being used and accessed in different ways across institutions and systems, but where intersections of knowledge happen. The overlap can occur in meaningful and potentially beneficial ways, allowing us to work towards collaborations that utilize the sum of our experiences.

We happened to be attending during a particularly stormy period, but the rain let up enough for us to enjoy a wine tasting at a local vineyard (our one free afternoon), and dinner and music at the resort’s stables on the final evening. The course concluded with a visit and talk from Patricia Brennan, Director of the National Library of Medicine, who encouraged us all to utilize the skills and connections we gained over the week to effect positive change in our institutions. The course was an incredible experience, and I highly recommend it to librarians interested in learning more about biomedical informatics and how the library can provide services that complement and enhance work being done by colleagues in their institutions. For more information about the course, visit Augusta University’s NLM Georgia Biomedical Informatics Course. [http://www.augusta.edu/library/greenblatt/informaticscourse/]

Publication Statement

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Committee Members:
Amanda Sprochi, editor
Katie Dayani
John Jones

Midcontinental Chapter
Medical Library Association
Prasanna Vaduvathiriyan

By Kim Harp, MCMLA Membership Committee; edited by John Jones

Prasanna Vaduvathiriyan is the Senior Liaison Librarian for the School of Health Professions at the University of Kansas Medical Center (KUMC).

What do you like most about your position so far? People, service, education, patient care and research were the very basic philosophy that I experienced in all of the institutions I worked. In the current liaison role, I have more opportunities to work closely with faculties and students, and collaborate with them in curriculum development, teaching and research.

What is your educational background and what schools did you attend? I have an MLS from University of Missouri – Columbia.

What is your previous work experience? My career started as a Graduate Assistant at the J Otto Lottes Health Sciences Library, University of Missouri. Soon after graduation, I was hired as a reference and instructional librarian at University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center. Later on, after four years, I worked as a Clinical Librarian in Loyola University Chicago Health Sciences Library. I started this new position at KUMC recently.

What’s a fun/unique/interesting tidbit for your fellow MCMLA’ers to know about you? Most of my mentors and librarian gurus are in MCMLA region. They might say… oh, she is back!

How do you spend your free time? Cooking and listening to music. It is quite challenging that I re-enrolled in the classical Indian dance lessons, and I am practicing in the weekends! However, my body is not behaving well. (Why are women aging to mid-forties? LOL.)

What do you hope to gain from being a member of MCMLA? Learning and networking.

Please join in Welcoming (Back! 😊) Prasanna Vaduvathiriyan to MCMLA!

Abbey Griffith

By Holly Henderson, MCMLA Membership Committee; edited by Katie Dayani

Abbey Griffith is an MLS Graduate Student at Emporia State University and page at Joplin Public Library, Joplin, Missouri

What do you like most about your position so far? Mostly I love the people I work with and the programs we offer to our patrons.

What is your educational background and what schools did you attend? I got my BS in Biology from Missouri Southern State University in 2009.

What is your previous work experience? I took the past 7 years off to stay at home and raise my kids. My husband and I have three boys, 7, 5 & 2. I am currently working as a library page at the Joplin Public Library in Joplin, MO. I’m finishing up my first semester at Emporia State University’s School of Library and Information Management in Overland Park, KS, and am looking forward to continuing with the MLS program.

Having a science background, medical librarianship is really my goal; though, I do enjoy my work in a public library as well.

What’s an interesting tidbit for your fellow MCMLA’ers to know about you? I realized about a year ago that I had reached my limit on being a stay-at-home-mom and started looking into masters programs and decided on getting my MLS. I come from a medically-inclined family with two nurses and a prospective doctor. I always assumed I would pursue a medical career, but I realized I really prefer the education and research aspects over actually treating patients. I honestly had no idea there was even a medical librarian position until I started looking into career paths for post-grad school, and when I came across it, everything just sort of “clicked.” This summer Kansas City University of Medicine and Biosciences is opening their Joplin campus, and I am anxious to get a chance to talk with the medical librarian and hopefully get to see firsthand what the job requires. I talked with KCUMB Library Director Marilyn De Geus for a class assignment, and she gave me some great information on what to focus on elective-wise in school.
New Members (cont’d)

I did run a small hobby business making sports-related jewelry and accessories for about a year. When I decided to go back to school, I shut down my online shop, but I still do the occasional order for friends.

How do you spend your free time?

Being a boy mom, most of my free time involves extracurricular activities with my kids. My oldest two both play soccer and baseball right now, and my oldest just finished up his Tiger rank requirements for Cub Scouts. We spend a lot of time at practices and games. When we get a break, we usually end up camping at Roaring River State Park and spending the weekend fishing. Outside of that, my time is spent reading for school and working on assignments.

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

Being a member of MCMLA, I hope to get to know some of the professionals in my area to gain a better understanding of what being a medical librarian requires. My graduate program offers several medical informatics classes, but I don’t have anyone who has really worked in the field to talk to about questions regarding what I should be focusing on. I’d really like to hear from the people doing the job I want to see what they think is important to know.

Nitzan Watman

By Merinda McLure, MCMLA Membership Committee; edited by Katie Dayani

Nitzan Watman is a Senior Library Technician at National Jewish Medical Library, Denver, Colorado

What do you like most about your position so far?

I love being able to work with patients and doctors every day. I love when patients are delighted to find free resources that we put together for them and when we can get doctors materials that they weren’t sure they’d be able to access.

What is your educational background and what schools did you attend?

I have a BA and MA from the University of Kansas. I majored in English and Anthropology as an undergraduate and my Master’s is in Literary Theory.

What is your previous work experience?

In addition to teaching college English, I worked at KU Libraries and at the Linda Hall Library of Science, Engineering, and Technology in Kansas City.

What’s an interesting tidbit for your fellow MCMLA’ers to know about you?

I have a twin sister!

How do you spend your free time?

I mostly spend it reading, cooking, watching Seinfeld reruns, or taking walks with my husband, daughter, and our dog, a Great Pyrenees.

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

With most of my library experience being in Kansas and Missouri, I’m just excited to start getting involved in Colorado’s library community!
MCMLA Congratulates

By Amanda Sprochi, MCMLA Express Editor

Jerry Carlson, for his recognition as a mentor in the University of Colorado’s Mentored Pathways program

Shandra Knight, for her three (!) publications on respiratory diseases

Kristen DeSanto, for her article on iron deficiency in heart failure

Teresa Hartman and Cynthia Schmidt, for their paper on interprofessional education for students

T. Scott Pluchak for numerous articles on librarianship

Shirely Zhao, for receiving the 2017 MLA Continuing Education Grant. She attended the Data Science and Visualization Institute at NC State in Raleigh, NC in April

Tallie Casucci and Jean Shipman, for their best in category poster at the 21st Annual VentureWell Open 2017

Melissa Rethlefsen, for being named a 2016 Top Researcher at the University of Utah’s Celebrate U: A Showcase of Extraordinary Faculty Achievements event for her work on systematic review reproducibility and methodological quality, and also for being chosen for the 2016-2017 NLM/AAHSL Leadership Fellows Program

Christy Jarvis, a 2016 Top Researcher honoree for her work on the Journal of Citation Analysis at the University of Utah’s Celebrate U: A Showcase of Extraordinary Faculty Achievements event

Joan Gregory, recipient of the 2017 Leadership in Inclusive Excellence Faculty Award from the University of Utah’s Office of Health Equity and Inclusion

Melissa De Santis, for winning the Marla Graber Award from the Colorado Council of Medical Librarians

Marilyn De Geus and Mary Helms, for winning the MCMLA 2017 Chapter Council Roundtable Lunch Award

Heather Brown, for being elected the incoming Vice Chair/Chair of MCMLA; Alicia Lillich, elected Recording Secretary; Nena Schvaneveldt, elected Representative to the MLA Nominating Committee; Annette Parde-Maass, elected as Representative to the MLA Chapter Council, and to Jeanne Burke, her alternate. Thanks to all for being willing to serve

Jan Rice, recently appointed Director of Library Services for the Bryan College of Health Sciences in Lincoln, Nebraska

Shelie Vacek, who became the Head of the Wegner Health Science Information Center at the University of South Dakota. Shelie will remain as liaison to the School of Health Sciences and the Sanford School of Medicine, and will also oversee operations and management of the Wegner Health Science Information Center Library on the Sanford Medical Center campus in Sioux Falls

Nitzan Watman, Abbey Griffith, and Prasanna Vaduvathiriyan, new members of MCMLA. Welcome, all!

Lori Fitterling, who co-authored two posters at the AACOM conference in April

Emily Glenn, who presented her poster “Benefit of 3D Printing Toward Novel Surgical Tool Design” with her co-authors at the Midwest Student Biomedical Research Forum in Omaha, Nebraska, sponsored by the University of Nebraska Medical Center and Creighton University

Rebecca McCall, for her new position as a Clinical Librarian at the Health Sciences Library at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Rebecca writes, “I will miss working with all the wonderful librarians in MCMLA but I hope to still see people at MLA annual in the future.” Good luck, Rebecca, and we will miss you!

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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.