

Happy spring (sort of?)

There's something about the winter that always seems to make the membership fall into a state of hibernation. But fear not! We have a small but mighty winter Express issue for you.

Firstly, I'd like to put out an appeal to our membership as your plucky editor. I will not be attending MLA this year, so I'm asking you, our MCMLA membership, to send me pictures, stories, posters, papers, and anything that might be of interest from Atlanta for your MCMLA colleagues. If you are presenting a paper or poster, please let me know, we'd love to highlight it in our May issue. And please send photos! We like to see our members out doing their thing professionally, and if you have interesting photos from your field trips into the city of Atlanta we'd love them too. Feel free to [email them to me](#) and I'll add them to the next issue. Everyone traveling and presenting, good luck and safe journey.

In this issue, John Bramble, our fearless leader, [talks about](#) how to answer the question, What can MCMLA do for me? when you are talking to colleagues. He gives some great tips on how MCMLA membership can enhance your scholarly and professional career. Jessica Gerber, our intrepid MCMLA archivist, [has a blast from the past](#), highlighting an old MCMLA Express that was recently added to our archive. Check it out!

The Finance Committee [reports](#) on new donations to the MCMLA Endowment, and Advocacy is [bribing you](#) for ideas with a chance at an Amazon gift card. The Membership Committee introduces us to [FOUR new members](#) this month. All are beautiful and talented and, like all our members, above average. Please say "Hi!" to them when you see them at conferences, meetings, or the local coffee shop. Because we all know about librarians and coffee (or tea).

Katie Dayani, one of your hard-working MCMLA editors, introduces a [new column](#) called "Getting to Know You," featuring a current MCMLA member. It's always great to get re-acquainted with the fabulous folks that make up our chapter. And her next ~~victim~~ (uh, subject) might be you!

Hope you are out enjoying the spring-like (when it's not winter-like) weather. Good luck to everyone who is presenting at MLA this year!

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Midcontinental Chapter Medical Library Association

In this issue

Notes from the Chair	2
What's New in the Archives?	3
Endowment Report	4
New Member Spotlight	5
Getting to Know You	7
MCMLA Congratulates	8

Notes from the Chair

By John Bramble, MCMLA Chair; edited by Amanda Sprochi



Dear MCMLA Members (and potential members),

In my normal recruiting duties as a MCMLA member, I have been asking former- and non-MCMLA members about joining our association, and their responses got me to thinking. When drilling past the “lack of time” comments, I started to discover the responses had a common theme, “Why should I join MCMLA?” and “What does MCMLA do for me?”

When you are recruiting new members, have you gotten similar responses? What about when you are encouraging inactive members to find ways to participate? What has been their response?

For me, the first question is a perfectly good question for anybody to ask, especially when time is a rare commodity for people who need to put limits on their extracurricular activities. We all get this, right? So, aside from the major challenges of regular promotion and reaching the right people, I think MCMLA does a good job in explaining (via our website, brochures, word of mouth, etc) the benefits of being a member. (Brace yourself for the “however”...)

However, the second question bothered me, so I asked members of the MCMLA Executive Committee to help me see if I was just being oversensitive or unreasonable. I asked them help me better understand what the spirit of question is and to formulate a better response to it. I say “spirit” because I get the sense that there are some (or maybe even more than some) who think that MCMLA is a service for them rather than an organization of like-minded people who are willing to invest time and money into furthering their profession. I also asked them not to feel like their responses needed to be all warm and fuzzy. Brutal honesty was called for if MCMLA was in need of a hefty reality check.

This is what I got back.

What does MCMLA do for me?

MCMLA is a networking bonanza for me. Through my chapter, I’ve connected with folks to pal around with at national meetings; I’ve collaborated with MCMLA members on projects, posters and article publication; and I’ve gotten an opportunity to serve members who are seeking professional growth and recognition via the MLA AHIP program by being appointed as the chapter’s Credentialing Liaison. Having ties to a national group is good, but having ties to a regional group has been great!

- Shawn Steidinger, AHIP Liaison

For me, as a librarian working in a one person library, the chapter allows me to connect to the broader medical library community. This connection has become deeper because I choose to be actively involved in the chapter. Serving on committees and in leadership positions have allowed me to develop skills that I used in my work life. While the annual chapter meeting connects me to the larger parent entity (MLA), it is at the chapter level that I learn what is going on in other libraries and in our region (NNLM Update). I have taken ideas and projects that I have seen at a chapter level meeting and implemented them in my library with success. Because of the membership size of the chapter, I can get to know members beyond just where do you work. Being part of MCMLA gives me a group of medical librarians who can be a sound board for ideas or be a source of ideas. I value the connection to medical librarians in our chapter and I am willing to pay for that.

- Jackie Hittner, MCMLA Treasurer and Finance Committee Chair

MCMLA is a good starting point for a me as newly entered health science librarian in 2007; the affordable dues are very attractive ; the association is smaller than the national group, where I can easily navigate to find networking, mentors, and committees opportunities.

- Euem Osmera, Bylaws Committee Chair

Notes (cont'd)

[MCMLA] provides me with a collegial environment to get ideas from my peers which I might be able to employ in my setting. [It] provides me with feedback/input when I have questions and the ability to pick their collective brains in a safe & supportive setting. [It] gives me the opportunity to grow from 'lessons learned' of others who are the epitome of collective wisdom.

- Pat Hamilton, Nomination Committee Chair

Networking. Chance to learn what's important on a regional level (such as the Cost of Impact study) Get feedback from people that may not be in MLA

- Angela Spencer, Advocacy Committee Chair

MCMLA is a platform for health sciences library professionals to share the amazing things with their peers.

- John Bramble, 2017-2018 MCMLA Chapter Chair

So, the next time you are out recruiting, I hope you can use these responses the next time you are asked what MCMLA can provide its members, or can incorporate them into a statement meaningful to you. Do you have responses to this question you are willing to share? Please [email them](#) to me.

New Hospital Libraries and MLA Nominating Committee Officers

By David Duggar, AHIP, HLS Nominating Committee Chair; edited by John Jones

Thank you for voting for our leadership. Congratulations to our new *HLS officers* and *Nominee to the MLA Nominating Committee!* New officers begin their positions in May at the MLA annual meeting in Atlanta.

- Chair-Elect – Angela Spencer
- Secretary – Christine Willis
- Treasurer – Louise McLaughlin
- Nominee to the MLA Nominating Committee – Ellen Aaronson

Thank you to the members of the Hospital Libraries Section who were willing to step forward and serve if elected: Brian Baker, Jerry Carlson, Sara Pimental, Peace Osom-Williamson, and Antonio Primo DeRosa.

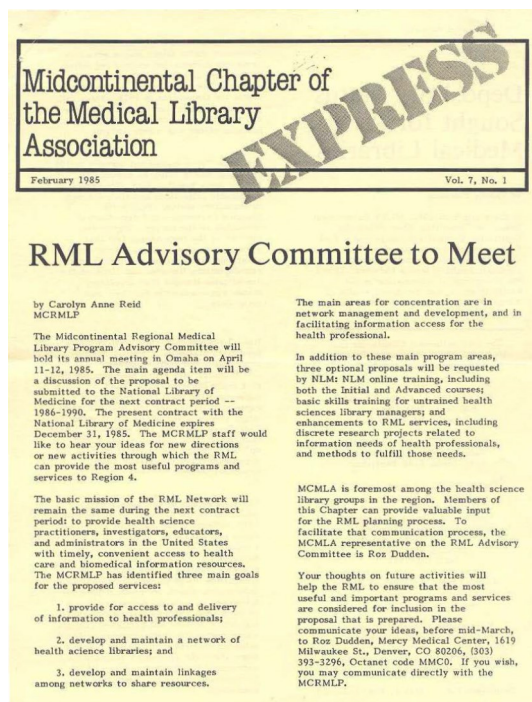
It takes a village to run a Section, and every person's role counts.

Volunteer! Vote! Serve!

This Month in MCMLA History

By Jessica Gerber, MCMLA Archivist; edited by John Jones

Check out the [Express volume](#) from February 1985, Vol. 7, No. 1.



This volume featured an announcement about the upcoming meeting of the RML (Regional Medical Library) Advisory Committee on the first page. Midcontinental Regional Medical Library Group (MCRMLG) was one of the previous names for MCMLA, and you can read more about this history in the newly ingested document, [MCMLA: How It Evolved](#).

Check out this list of items ingested into the repository during the last month:

- [MCMLA Express Newsletter](#) of the Midcontinental Chapter of the Medical Library Association Volume 38, Issue 4
- [MCMLA: How It Evolved](#)
- [MCMLA Strategic Goals and Objectives](#) 2016-17
- [MCMLA Leadership Orientation](#) 2017 Part One
- [MCMLA 5 Year Strategic Plan](#) 2017-2022

Please email any photos of MCMLA members or events [to me](#) – help our repository grow!

MCMLA Endowment Update

By the MCMLA Finance Committee; edited by Katie Dayani



*Thank you for
Contributing to the
MCMLA Endowment
Fund*

The Finance Committee would like to thank the chapter members who contributed to the MCMLA Endowment Fund since the last issue of the MCMLA Express.

Please mail donations to the MCMLA Endowment Fund to:

**MCMLA
PO Box 221465
St. Louis, MO 63122**

Please write in the check's memo line: MCMLA Endowment Fund.

MCMLA members who have donated to the Endowment Fund since the last issue of the Express include:

Lynne Fox



Our Endowment piggy bank says, "Laissez les bons temps rouler" as she celebrated Mardi Gras 2018. It looks like she had one too many hurricanes while celebrating!

Children's Mercy Kansas City Library Services New Institutional Repository!

*By Brenda Pfannenstiel, AHIP, Children's Mercy
Kansas City, Kansas City, MO; edited by John Jones*

Children's Mercy Kansas City Library Services is proud to announce their [new institutional repository!](https://scholarlyexchange.childrensmc.org/) Find it at <https://scholarlyexchange.childrensmc.org/> and expect to see more content added soon - provided the ice storms, winter illnesses, and other distractions are over.

Library Services will advocate for their institution by promoting the work of Children's Mercy through this repository, and will also advocate for the library by depositing some of their own work. In fact, they try to remember to advocate for themselves in every encounter. They use every relationship-building opportunity as well as every services/resources education opportunity. Through the publication of an annual report (2017 is coming soon!) they communicate what it takes to maintain and pay for services and resources. Through participation in a wide array of hospital committees, work groups, and events, they aim to be indispensable! The new institutional repository is just one more way they can build, grow and help their organization.

Advocate and Win!

**The MCMLA Advocacy Committee
wants to know:**

- **How do you define advocacy?**
- **What tools/resources do you use for advocacy?**

Let us know! A random winner will be selected for each answer and will receive a \$25 Amazon Gift Card!

Send your answers to [Angela Spencer](#),

New Member Spotlight

Britt Fagerheim, MS, MLIS

By the MCMLA Membership Committee; edited by Katie Dayani

Britt Fagerheim is an Instruction Librarian working with the departments of Nursing and Communicative Disorders & Deaf Education at Utah State University.



What do you like most about it so far?

I really like learning new methods of research, and the intricacies of searching databases like PubMed. I've started working with the VetMed librarian to assist faculty with systematic reviews, which is fascinating, and I'll be attending the Supporting

Clinical Care: An Institute in Evidence-based Practice for Medical Librarians in Denver this summer.

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

I have a Masters of Library and Information Science from the University of Washington and an MS in Instructional Technology and Learning Sciences from Utah State University. My undergraduate degree is in International Relations from Mount Holyoke College.

What is your previous work experience?

After my MLIS, I spent six years at the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, creating instructional design for the US Public Libraries program. I have been at Utah State University for 14 years, but only recently focused on nursing and communicative disorders and deaf education.

What's a fun/unique/interesting tidbit for your fellow MCMLA'ers to know about you?

I grew up near Seattle on a small hobby farm; we had just about every farm animal at some point, including horses, cows, ducks, pigs, chickens, and donkeys. The only animal we never had were goats - I'm not sure why!

How do you spend your free time?

I like hiking and skiing; although, this hasn't been a great year for skiing! I've switched from road cycling to mountain biking, but I'm a very cautious mountain biker!

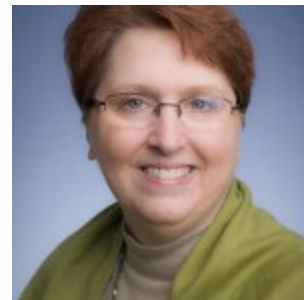
What do you hope to gain from being a member of MCMLA?

I'd like to develop connections with medical and health sciences librarians, and learn more about the issues in the field.

Debra Loguda Summers

By the MCMLA Membership Committee; edited by Katie Dayani

Debra is the Public Services and 3D Print Shop Manager/Work-Study Coordinator, at A.T. Still University in Kirksville, MO.



What do you like most about it so far?

Working with the library staff, faculty, and students.

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

I attended Northeast Missouri State (now Truman State University)

What is your previous work experience?

I came to the library from the museum world. I was curator for 16 years at the Museum of Osteopathic Medicine, located at the founding school of Osteopathic Medicine in Kirksville, MO.

What's a fun/unique/interesting tidbit for your fellow MCMLA'ers to know about you?

I am the youngest of 10 children and a fraternal twin (a brother) and my two older brothers are also fraternal twins. I am married and have two older children and two four legged children, a beagle named Copper and a cat named Abigail Louise.

How do you spend your free time?

I love to cook, travel, and of course read.

Is there any additional information you would like to share about yourself?

I love learning new things and 3D printing is my newest passion. I love working with our medical students, faculty, and staff on new projects for the 3D printers.

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

Since I am new to this field, networking and learning what other libraries are doing is my goal for now.

New Member Spotlight (cont'd)

Jennifer Brady, MLIS

By the MCMLA Membership Committee; edited by Katie Dayani

Jennifer Brady is Director of the Mercy College of Nursing and Health Sciences Library at Southwest Baptist University in Springfield, MO.



What do you like most about it so far?

I enjoy that no two days are ever the same.

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

I have a very broad background. I started in graphic design, later became a licensed pharmacy tech, and finally earned my B.S.Ed. from Missouri State University with an emphasis in secondary English education. In 2016, I completed my MLIS from the University of Washington in Seattle – the iSchool is MY school!

What is your previous work experience?

I have both a public library background and an academic background, but this is my first time to work in an academic library. I enjoy combining my passions of academia and education with the ever-challenging field of nursing and health sciences. I learn something new from my students every day.

What's a fun/unique/interesting tidbit for your fellow MCMLA'ers to know about you?

I am the proud mommy of a beautiful black lab whom we lovingly call Miss Aspen. Miss Aspen has her own Instagram account and hashtag - #Bibliopuppy - where I take pictures of the most patient puppy in the world reading books. FYI, she is not a formatist and reads print, digital, and audio books. (If you would like pictures of her, feel free to grab those as well. She is MUCH more photogenic than I am!)

How do you spend your free time?

Other than reading, I enjoy quilting, gardening, and watching sports. My husband and I have a sports team/favorite athlete for nearly every sport. We rarely agree, so there is always a healthy competition happening in our home.

Is there any additional information you would like to share about yourself?

I am a firm believer that coffee is its own food group.

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

Being new to the field of medial librarianship, everything? Mainly, I think the differences in research styles, as well as needing to pick up APA, QUICK!

Kimberly O'Neill, MS, MLIS, AHIP

By the MCMLA Membership Committee; edited by Katie Dayani

Kimberley O'Neill is Assistant Professor, Research & Instruction Librarian, and Health Sciences Liaison at Regis University's Dayton Memorial Library, Denver, CO.



What do you like most about it so far?

I love working with the students and faculty here.

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

I have a BA in Biology, MS in Nutrition & Food Science, and Masters in Library & Information Science. - all from Wayne State University in Detroit, MI.

What is your previous work experience?

I have experience working in most types of libraries: special, academic, public, and government. However, I have not worked in a school library

What's a fun/unique/interesting tidbit for your fellow MCMLA'ers to know about you?

I am a genealogy nut.

How do you spend your free time?

I spend my free time shuttling my kids to/from hockey and football practices and games, and I enjoy watching my oldest son perform in his high school theater productions.

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

I hope to connect with more librarians in the health sciences and take advantage of more educational opportunities.

Getting to Know You: Lori Fitterling

By Katie Dayani: edited by Amanda Sprochi

What is one of the best things about MCMLA? Connecting with and learning from our amazingly talented members, of course! With that in mind, *The Express* is excited to introduce a new feature highlighting one of our colleagues called, "Getting to Know You." In our inaugural column, we interviewed Lori Fitterling, MLS, the Medical Librarian and Instructor of Medical Informatics at Kansas City University of Medicine & Biosciences' D'Angelo Library.



Q: What's your job and how do you describe your role?

My job responsibilities include reference, instruction, supervisor of Interlibrary Loan and other access services personnel, and course instructor for first year Medical Informatics

course. In this course I lecture on information literacy and evidence based resource retrieval, and facilitate student group grand rounds case presentations throughout the first year. My role has clearly evolved into more course instruction than before, and this has been a positive change for our library services as we now have a solid place in the curriculum.

Q: How did you get started in libraries?

Growing up I had always loved books and the library. When I attended college, I worked in the public library and my supervisor encouraged me to get a library degree. I majored in English in my undergraduate studies and worked at several newspapers and loved it. I thought that is what I would be, a news writer. But, life has a way....and after staying home with my 4 children for 10 years, I went looking for work and found a job at the library, where I have stayed for 25 years. Different libraries, but definitely libraries.

Q. How are you involved in MCMLA?

I have attended many of the meetings for MCMLA, submitted posters and served on the Planners Committee in 2011-12. I also have been a member of the Research Committee.

Q. What are three personal items that are currently on your desk?

Well, I have been trying to minimize lately so have taken my lovely lighthouse pictures down in my office, but on my desk I have:

- Pictures of my *grandchildren*, my children and me with my dad.
- A figurine of Roo from the Winnie the Pooh stories, and he is holding a sign that says, "I love you Mama." My daughter, Heidi, gave that to me many years ago.
- I have a statue of a lighthouse, Boston Harbor, that a supervisor, Linda Medaris, gave to me many years ago. She brought it back from a trip that she took to Boston. She was a great mentor, and it reminds me of her and what I hope to be.

Q. Do you have a professional goal for 2018? What is it?

My professional goal for 2018 is to create more active learning activities for the lecture sections of my course. I have been working to develop learning modules and hope to incorporate these in the fall.

Q. If you could hop on a plane right now, where would you go?

I love Maine...Bar Harbor or Kittery, or one of those lovely Maine coastal towns.



Q: What is your advice to people who want to get into medical librarianship?

"Nevertheless, she persisted" – break the barriers, think outside the box, love what you do.

Q: What do you do for fun outside of work?

Love to hike the National Parks.

Q: What book are you currently reading?

Leonardo da Vinci by Walter Isaacson. He was amazing!

A special thank you to Lori for sharing! Know a colleague who should be featured in the next Getting to Know You? Send nominations to [Katie Dayani](#).

MCMLA Congratulates

By Amanda Sprochi, Express Editor

Our newest Hospital Library Section officers: Chair-Elect **Angela Spencer**; Secretary, **Christine Willis**; and Treasurer, **Louise McLaughlin**. Welcome on board!

Ellen Aaronson, the MCLA nominee to the MLA Nominating Committee. Well done!

Erica Lake, who received the prestigious Consumer Health Librarian of the Year Award from MLA. Also, congrats to Erica on her David A. Kronick Traveling Fellowship from MLA. We are so proud of you!

Marty McGee, on her retirement from Education & Research Services group at the McGoogan Library of Medicine, University of Nebraska Medical Center. We will miss you.

Long time former MCMLA member **Gerry Perry**, still dear to our hearts, who is the recipient of the Janet Doe Lectureship for 2019 and a fellowship from MLA. Well earned, Gerry!



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?

Visit <http://www.mlanet.org/academy/> for more information

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