I’ve been a member of MCMLA for a long time, but until a year and a half ago, I was not an involved member. Oh, every so many years, MCMLA held its annual meeting in St. Louis, and local librarians would put out the call for volunteers. Of course, I stepped up. These were colleagues and friends that I deeply respected asking for my help. I always had a great time connecting more deeply with librarians already in my network, meeting new colleagues from our region, and getting ideas to take back to my library. I don’t have a good reason why I let my MCMLA enthusiasm wane between St. Louis-hosted conference years, but I suspect it was the plethora of opportunities for my time. I would serve on an MLA award jury, take a leadership role in the Nursing and Allied Health Resources caucus, help out with my children’s PTO, or embrace committee work at my university. And then there was ACRL. And then there was IFLA.

For a long time I took on too much. As I got better about saying no, weighing possibilities, and thoughtfully choosing where to put my time and energy, each volunteer commitment became more rewarding and fulfilling. With this more balanced frame of mind, I was intrigued by an email from then-incoming-MCMLA-chair Melissa De Santis seeking a chair for the Bylaws Committee. I messaged with Melissa about what the role entailed and decided this was an area I wanted to learn more about. I agreed to serve. That was a great decision! Not only did I learn a lot about the infrastructure of an organization, I connected with librarians who I only knew as names on the listserv. My biggest takeaway from my MCMLA work thus far is how many devoted librarians are giving their time, whether small amounts or significant hours, to making this organization active and vibrant.

As incoming chair, my responsibilities included “staffing” our committees. While I’m still seeking a few more volunteers, I’m gobsmacked at the number of people rotating off of committees who immediately wanted to try a different role. Through a series of twists and turns, I now write this column as chair of MCMLA myself. MCMLA is not large in comparison to most MLA chapters, and a significant percentage of our members are currently serving in leadership roles or as committee and task force members in the chapter.

My theme for my chair year is reinvention, and I’m challenging all of us to look at ways to reinvent the chapter and our annual meeting. While we have gotten even better at operating virtually during the pandemic, many of us are working in libraries where we are extremely short staffed and where our budgets are very tight. To keep MCMLA this amazing organization, we need to look at how we have always done things, ask ourselves why we do them this way, and question if there are more efficient ways to do the most meaningful work without burning out our truly committed membership. Ultimately, reinvention might mean recommitting to much of what we already do, but I believe it is critically important that we be asking these questions now.

This issue of the Express has a theme of gratitude. I want to express my gratitude to everyone who is working to make our chapter an exciting place to be. Thank you for all you do.
NEW MEMBERS SPOTLIGHT
BY CINDI FLANAGAN, MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE; EDITED BY KATIE DAYANI

Joe Richard
What is your position title?
I am currently the Outreach Coordinator at the Frank Ritchel Ames Memorial Library at Rocky Vista University.

What do you like most about the library and information science field so far?
I most enjoy creating interpersonal relationships with Faculty and Staff. I feel energized when I am able to connect with my community on a personal level and find opportunities to help them explore our library resources and services.

What do you like most about MCMLA so far?
The virtual conference was a great opportunity to connect with a talented group of health sciences professionals.

Are you interested in a specific area of libraries?
I am interested in Outreach and Collection Development.

What is your educational background?
I earned my Bachelor’s in History from the Indiana University of Pennsylvania and MLIS from the University of Denver.

What made you want to work in libraries?
The people!

What is your previous work experience?
I previously worked as a Library Clerk at Rocky Vista University.

What do you hope to gain from being a new or returning member of MCMLA?
I want to attend more webinars and find opportunities to network, and maybe serve on committees.

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

How do you spend your free time?
I spend my free time going to movies with coworkers, playing video games (Rocket League, Far Cry, Battlefield), and reading for my book club.

Teresa McGinley
What is your position title?
Medical Librarian, Centura Health

What do you like most about the library and information science field so far?
I really like how diverse the experience can be as a medical librarian. There’s no cut and dry job description, which is not emphasized enough in LIS programs.

What do you like most about MCMLA so far?
The outpouring of support. Everyone at MCMLA and CCML has been very welcoming so far.

What do you hope to gain from being a new or returning member of MCMLA?
As a solo librarian for a large hospital system, I’m hoping to gain a network I can rely on for questions and issues that might be beyond my expertise.

Are you interested in a specific area of libraries?
I think providing consumer health information is extremely important, especially in the current climate.

What is your educational background?
I have a MLIS from the University of Kentucky and a BS in biology from Colorado State University.

What made you want to work in libraries?
I love being an “information broker” and it’s pretty awesome knowing that I am making an impact in patient care decisions.

What do you hope to gain from being a new or returning member of MCMLA?
I interned at University of Kentucky’s Medical Center Library as a graduate student and spent over four years as a contractor at NLM, working on the NICHSR websites HSRC and PH Partners.

What is a fun/unique/interesting tidbit for your fellow MCMLA’ers to know about you or how do you spend your free time?
I am originally from Colorado, but my husband, sons, and I just moved back to the Denver area in May after 3 years in southwest England. The pandemic made that distance too hard on us all.
NEW MEMBERS SPOTLIGHT, CONTINUED

Beth Edson

What is your position title?
Director of Library Services, Saint Luke’s Health System

What do you like most about the library and information science field so far?
Helping clinical staff with literature searches. It’s like a treasure hunt.

What do you like most about MCMLA so far?
The information and connections.

What do you hope to gain from being a new or returning member of MCMLA?
To meet more librarians and learn more about how other libraries operate.

Are you interested in a specific area of libraries?
Honestly, so many areas are fascinating to me.

What is your educational background?
My undergrad is in History and I received my MLIS from Emporia State University.

What made you want to work in libraries?
They were my safe place as a kid and teen. Like a second home.

What is your previous work experience?
I was a customer service manager for a decade before working in libraries.

What is a fun/unique/interesting tidbit for your fellow MCMLA’ers to know about you or how do you spend your free time?
I’m as average as you get. I like playing with my dog and cat, seeing live music, and I LOVE traveling.

Jamie McPhail

What is your position title?
Currently a teacher, trying to gain a librarian position in medical sciences librarianship.

What do you like most about the library and information science field so far?
In general, I love the ability for all people to have access to information and education at their disposal. In health science librarianship specifically, I am passionate about assisting providers to locate rare or emergent medical resources specifically to help patients with rare diagnoses or in emergency situations.

What do you like most about MCMLA so far?
I enjoy seeing that so many members are close by in my neck of the woods!

What do you hope to gain from being a new or returning member of MCMLA?
Networking, fellowship and learning opportunities.

Are you interested in a specific area of libraries?
Health sciences librarianship is my focus, but I also am passionate about school libraries.

What is your educational background?
I have a BS Psychology, Master of Library and Information Science.

What made you want to work in libraries?
The ability to inclusively help all people access information

What is your previous work experience?
I have been a school librarian and teacher.

What is a fun/unique/interesting tidbit for your fellow MCMLA’ers to know about you or how do you spend your free time?
Some people say I remind them of Aubrey Plaza. I mostly spend my free time having fun with my wonderful little girl who has been a joy to raise.
MCMLA HONORS & AWARD WINNERS
BY TALLIE CASUCCI; EDITED BY DANIELLE WESTMARK

2021 Outstanding Achievement Award
Amanda Sprochi

Amanda K. Sprochi, MLIS, is awarded the MCMLA Outstanding Achievement Award. This award is given to a member for contributions to the chapter and its activities. Amanda served as editor of the MCMLA Express for ten years, from 2010-2020.

As one nominator wrote, 'Under Amanda’s leadership, the Express became a prime vehicle for MCMLA communication... The Express is the glue that helps bind the chapter together... The Express helps members feel connected and puts MCMLA at their fingertips. It is a lasting record that highlights and celebrates the members and their achievements... She capped her ten-year editorial run by recruiting an outstanding new editor and continues to serve as a trustworthy guide to the current editorial team.'

We recognize and appreciate Amanda’s continued dedication to MCMLA and the profession. Amanda will receive an award plaque and stipend. Congratulations, Amanda!

All MCMLA members can self-nominate themselves for the STARS Program. STARS are recognized for their professional accomplishments over the past year. Prizes are randomly given to three stars. Alissa Fial, Cynthia Flanagan, and Nancy Woelfl received gift card prizes. Listed below are our 2021 MCMLA STARS and their accomplishments. Congratulations, everyone!

- **Alissa Fial** - for multiple publications, posters, presentations, and committee service
- **Anna Beth Morgan** - for donating to the chapter endowment when she paid her 2021 MCMLA dues
- **Brandon Patterson** - for multiple publications, posters, and presentations, awards, committee/board service, mentorship, and teaching
- **Cynthia Flanagan** - for new AHIP membership, multiple publications and presentations, awards, and committee/board service
- **David Brown** - for donating to the chapter endowment when he paid his 2021 MCMLA dues
- **Elizabeth Kiscaden** - for donating to the chapter endowment when she paid her 2021 MCMLA dues
- **George Strawley** - for donating to the chapter endowment when he paid his 2021 MCMLA dues
- **Gwen Wilson** - for presentation, poster, and committee/board service
- **Laura Lipke** - for donating to the chapter endowment when she paid her 2021 MCMLA dues
- **Margie Sheppard** - for donating to the chapter endowment when she paid her 2021 MCMLA dues
- **Nancy Woelfl** - for committee and board service, mentorship, and presentations

2021 MCMLA STARS
**EDUCATION COMMITTEE UPDATE**

**BY JEANNE BURKE;**
**EDITED BY DANIELLE WESTMARK**

The MCMLA Education Committee plans on continuing initiatives started last year, including the "Discussions" and "Journal Club" sessions. Additionally, the Annual Meeting Planning Committee and MCMLA Chapter Chair, Holly Hubenschmidt, requested continuing education (CE) options usually held during the Annual Meeting be scheduled at other times in the year. This move is to help shorten the number of days at our 2022 MCLMA Conference. So, as you may surmise, this will be another year of change as we endeavor to find ways to continue to improve the educational experiences that MCMLA provides for all its members.

Since we are still in the early planning stages of our sessions, please send Jeanne Burke discussion ideas, moderator names, article titles, and other thoughts on CEs that you think will benefit you and our members. Don’t forget our students and early career members when thinking of these ideas! As we did last year, the Education Committee would like to work with our other MCMLA Committees, so consider this an invitation to reach out to us.

We would also like to know the times and days that would work for you for the "Discussion" and "Journal Club" sessions. Last year’s dates were Wednesday and Thursday afternoons around 3:30 or 4 p.m. (CT). In addition, let us know what dates and times would work for you for CE sessions.

Enjoy the holiday season, and we will share more information as our plans develop.

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**ENDOWMENT FUND THANK YOU**

**BY JACKIE HITTNER**

The Finance Committee would like to thank the chapter members who contributed to the MCMLA Endowment Fund during the 2021 annual meeting. $784.00 was collected for the endowment, and a generous member matched that amount.

Three members who donated to the endowment at the Annual Meeting won an Amazon.com gift certificate. The winners were: **Margie Sheppard, Elizabeth Kiscaden and Anna Gieschen**.

Tax Letter: If you donated to the endowment fund in 2021 (while paying dues or during the annual meeting) and want a letter stating your donation for tax purposes, please contact Jackie Hittner at jhittner@aaortho.org

A big **THANK YOU** to the following members who generously gave to the endowment in October 2021:

- Margaret Bandy
- Judith Bergjord
- Jeanne Burke
- Nicole Caskey
- Melissa De Santis
- Kristen DeSanto
- Cynthia Flanagan
- Anna Gieschen
- Rebecca Graves
- Kim Harp
- Teresa Hartman
- Jackie Hittner
- Holly Hubenschmidt
- Ellen Kearns
- Liz Kellermeyer
- Sarah Kirby
- Brenda Linares
- Debra Loguda Summers
- Amy Masek
- Emily McElroy
- Euem Osmera
- Margarita Shawcross
- Margie Sheppard
- Amanda Sprochi
- Heather St. Clair
- Shawn Steidinger
- Lisa Traditi
- Danielle Westmark
- Gwen Wilson
- Nancy Woelfl
- Janice York
ARCHIVES UPDATE
BY RAVEN MORRIGAN, MCMLA ARCHIVIST

Update on the new original cataloging record for the MCMLA archives: I have begun sorting, processing, and digitizing the physical archives that have been mailed to Strauss Library with Debra Miller’s help.

I cataloged and created the original cataloging record in the Strauss Library catalog: https://library-cuanschutz.hosted.exlibrisgroup.com/permalink/f/1127ahs/01UCOHS_ALMA21125664660003421

And the record for the MCMLA Archives is now in OCLC: http://www.worldcat.org/oclc/1286690992

Debra and I will begin adding the boxes that have been processed to the record as they are completed. Debra has been specifically working on the photographs. She is removing photographs from the binders they are in and transferring them to archival envelopes, scanning them for digitization in the process. I am working on making the scanned files accessible and writing the metadata for the completed scans. I hope the members look forward to the new items being added to the digital repository.

A.T. STILL MEMORIAL LIBRARY UPDATE
BY DEBRA LOGUDA-SUMMERS

The A.T. Still Memorial Library is pleased to welcome Maud Mundava, MLS, MBA, as Missouri Campus Library Head/Assistant University Library Director. Mundava previously served as the Director of Library Services at Cleveland State Community College, where she oversaw the library’s daily operations, including acquisition, budgeting, and hiring of personnel.

She strongly advocates promoting continuous improvement strategies that foster faculty/librarian collaborations, student engagement, and research. Before this position, Mundava worked at various academic libraries, including the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, Atlanta University Center, Robert W. Woodruff Library, and the University of Zimbabwe. She is a former Fulbright scholar and graduate of SUNY Buffalo, NY, where she received her Master of Library Science after completing a bachelor’s degree in History and a postgraduate diploma in organization and management at the University of Cape Town, South Africa. Mundava holds an MBA from Mercer University.

Mundava was selected and completed the 2018-19 Association Research Libraries (ARL) Leadership program. She has presented at several conferences and published a book chapter and peer-reviewed articles on plagiarism, marketing approaches, and diversity issues in libraries. She is a member of the American Library Association (ALA) and has been actively engaged in the Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL), where she served in committees and held co-chair positions.

Mundava is excited to join the ATSU family and be part of the founding institution of osteopathic healthcare. She looks forward to working closely with faculty and other campus-wide partners to embed Library resources and services into the curricula. She can be contacted at MaudMundava@atsu.edu
2021 MidWest/MCMLA Meeting Highlights

By Gwen Wilson; Edited by Katie Dayani

MCMLA BUSINESS MEETING REPORT

MCMLA Business Meeting Approved Motions

- MCMLA Bylaws changes
- 2020 MCMLA Annual Business Meeting Minutes
- Treasurer’s Report as presented
- MCMLA form a taskforce to provide feedback to MLA on the selection of a new platform

Bylaw Changes -Summary

1. There are two major reasons for the proposed updates, the full text of which is below. The first is to bring the bylaws into conformance with Robert’s Rules of Order regarding virtual meetings and the second is to facilitate the work of the Nominating Committee, which could not meet election deadlines specified in the bylaws due to the pandemic.

2. Robert’s Rules specifies that any organization that wishes to conduct virtual annual or committee meetings must specifically authorize the practice in its bylaws. This has been done by adding a new Section 3 on meeting technology to Article V.

3. The provision requiring MCMLA to distribute election ballots by February 15 (Article IV, Section 3.3) has been stricken from the bylaws. In its place is a new provision stating that MCMLA’s election must be concluded no later than 30 days before MLA’s annual business meeting, which gives the chapter Nominating Committee more flexibility in soliciting officer candidates.

4. Several other important changes are proposed:
   a. Article VII, Section 3: The voting privileges of ex officio standing committee members have been clarified, indicating they are non-voting, advisory committee members. This change makes standing committee votes consistent with those of the Executive Committee.
   b. Article VII, Section 5 specifies that chairs of MCMLA standing committees must be members of MLA. In a chapter the size of ours, this provision excludes many talented members from committee chairperson positions. The chapter has asked MLA to address this issue for several years, but the MLA Board has declined to do so. The Bylaws Committee unanimously recommends that we drop this requirement from our bylaws and allow all regular members to chair standing committees.
   c. Finally, the Bylaws Committee recommends that the adoption date for the effective version of the bylaws appear at the top of the document, immediately below the heading, and only the three most recent revision dates appear at the end of the document.
#MidwestMCMLA2021 Daily Twitter Winners

- **Emily Vardell** – Coolest Cup (though I think her conference partner stole the show)!
- **Hannah Craven** and **Amos** – Conference Companions!
- **Amy Blevins** – Mask Fashion show!

@vardell

Emily Vardell and Brenda M. Linares, MLS, MBA, AHIP

10:41 AM · Oct 13, 2021 from Olathe, KS · Twitter for Android

Emily Vardell

@vardell

Replying to @mwmcmila2021

Ready for #MidwestMCMLA2021 Baby Clara and I solemnly swear we’re up to having a great time at the conference! #chaitelatte

Hannah Craven

@HannahC_MLS

Replying to @mwmcmila2021

This is Amos, my #BeahuahuaShihterrier keeping me company through #MidwestMCMLA2021 😍

Amy Blevins

@blevinas

Replying to @mwmcmila2021

Ready for the final conference day. #MidwestMCMLA2021 #facehugger #spookysesonn
The following awards were given at the Annual Conference

**STAR Award Gift Card Winners**

Cindi Flanagan
Alissa Fial
Nancy Woelfl

**Research Stipend Award Winner**

Shawn Steidinger for her proposal entitled “Academic Librarian Involvement in Health Literacy Education Efforts in North American Postsecondary Institutions.”

**Best Research Paper**

Christi Piper, University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus; Samantha Wilairat
‘Why Doesn’t Anyone Want to Apply to our Jobs? A Qualitative Study on MLIS Graduate Student’s Perceptions of and Interest in Health Sciences Librarianship’

**Best Poster/Lightening Talk**

Heidi Greenberg, and Carmin Smoot, Spencer S. Eccles Health Sciences Library “Promoting Wellness and Community-Building in our Library Through Virtual Wellness Challenges’

**MCMLA/Midwest Joint Conference Viewer’s Choice Awards**

**Best Paper**

Brenda Linares, University of Kansas Medical Center; Mariana Ramirez Mantilla “JUNTOS Radio: Healthcare Providers, Librarians, and Community Members, Partner to Provide Credible Health Information through Spanish Podcasts’

**Best Lightning Talk**


Ellie Svoboda, Strauss Health Sciences Library, University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus “To Zoom or Not to Zoom?”

**Advocacy Challenge Winners**

Maggie Shawcross, Univ Northern Colorado: Created a LibGuide that includes books, journals, databases, films and community resources related to DEI

Annie Heimann, Clarkson College: Developed a 3-year data trend dashboard outlining the use of resources and services to help explain ROI for funds spent on journals, databases

**MCMLA Free Membership Drawing**

Debra Loguda-Summers
AHIP ANNOUNCEMENT
BY SHAWN STEIDINGER, MCMLA’S AHIP CREDENTIALING LIAISON

Congratulations to Jamie McPhail for earning Provisional AHIP on 11/17/21!

Jamie also received an MCMLA First Time AHIP Applicant Award of $135.

Congratulations to the following MCMLA members on their recent publications

Kristen DeSanto:


Elizabeth “Ellie” Svoboda & Ben Harnke:
  https://digitalcollections.cuanschutz.edu/work/ns/62cf2e8e-b803-48a4-a8c7-9fb5727ece94

Wlad Labelkovsky & Dana Abbey have a chapter accepted for a book to be published by ALA on the topic of spatial literacy in public health. The title of the chapter they are drafting is “Mapping and Evaluation of Local Public Health Resources, Access, and Populations using Free Software and Census Information”.

Holly Hubenschmidt is grateful for:
- Time off to rejuvenate and be with family
- Co-workers who make me laugh
- MCMLA members who give me a sense of community and professional pride

Katie Dayani is thankful for:
The amazing Children’s Mercy Library Services team!
It’s been a wild two years, but you have made it successful through hard work and collaboration. Thanks to Julia McBride, Heather Steel, Keri Swaggart, Susan Sanders, and Kim Weir. You all are the best!

Images of Fall across MCMLA

Melissa DeSantis’s dogs soaking up some Colorado autumn sun.

Katie Dayani’s kids visiting the ginkgo trees at the Nelson-Atkins Museum in KC.