Dear MCMLA Members,

This MCMLA Express theme is Transitions, and it could not be a more appropriate theme! First, I would like to share some transitions in MCMLA leadership. Kim Harp, who served as Incoming Chair from 2021-22 and was due to serve as Chair from 2022-23 had to resign from her role as MCMLA Chair due to health issues and career commitments. We want to thank Kim for all her service and wish her the best. We know this was a very difficult decision, and we look forward to continuing to work with Kim in future years.

I was due to serve in the Incoming Chair role from 2022-23 and have enthusiastically agreed to now step into the Chair role and serve as MCMLA Chair from 2022-23. I have been a member of MCMLA since 2017; have served on the MCMLA Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee and as Chair of the MCMLA Research Committee; and am so excited to be serving in this new role. If we haven’t met before, hello! I’m an Assistant Professor in the School of Library and Information Management at Emporia State University in Emporia, Kansas. Prior to pursuing my PhD, I was a practicing medical librarian, and I am fortunate that I have the opportunity to continue to teach in this sphere at Emporia with classes on Health Sciences Librarianship, Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Response, and Consumer Health Information. We started our Health Information Professionals concentration and certificate a few years back at Emporia and are continuing to grow our program in medical librarianship. I am hoping as MCMLA Chair to foster more connections between LIS graduate students (in all programs!) with MCMLA. Stay tuned to hear more about those opportunities!

Our LIS program at Emporia State was until recently a hybrid program with both face-to-face and online instruction, but we have recently transitioned to a fully online, synchronous program, so I have been living through many transitions in my professional life recently, which I am sure many of us have! MCMLA will continue to support you and your professional transitions in the year ahead. Please feel free to reach out if you have ideas or questions. I look forward to getting to know more MCMLA members through my time as MCMLA Chair.

Yours in Service,
Emily Vardell, MLS, PhD, AHIP
What is your position title?
My position title is Health Information Strategist at the Network of National Library of Medicine (NNLM), Region 3.

What do you like most about the library and information science field so far?
I love being able to help communities achieve the information and resources they need to live an equitable and healthy life. I have worked with underserved and underrepresented communities to help them locate and utilize health information and resources that are relevant to them. I never thought that I could do something like this in the library and information science field and I am excited to keep on assisting communities with their information needs.

What do you like most about MCMLA so far?
As a new member I so far have enjoyed the warm welcome of MCMLA. I also like the various committees available within MCMLA and professional resources available.

Are you interested in a specific area of libraries? I am very interested in the health sciences (as I’m sure most of you are), I am specifically interested in public health outreach, connecting with community health workers, and promoting health literacy within underserved and underrepresented communities.

What is your educational background?
I received my Bachelor of Art in Art (BAA) from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. I focused on photography and graphic design centered on LGBTQ+ experiences in the U.S. I recently graduated with my Master of Library and Information Science (MLIS) from the University of Missouri. While at the University of Missouri I was a grant awardee of the Catalysts for Community Health (C4CH). This grant allowed me to participate in an experiential and field-based learning environment to provide health resources to underserved and underrepresented communities through library services.

What made you want to work in libraries?
I always enjoyed the library space; it made me feel safe and I enjoyed getting to know my local library staff while growing up. I did not imagine that this enjoyment and love for the library would spark an interest for the career. I remember early in college someone asked me if I would continue on with a career within librarianship and I quickly answered, ‘No.’ Well, here I am 7 years later with an MLIS and excited to be starting off as an early-career librarian.

What is your previous work experience?
I started working in libraries as a student library assistant at UNLV; this gave me a baseline exposure to academic libraries and allowed me to work within various different departments. After graduating from UNLV, I took on a new position as an Access Services Specialist for the CU Anschutz Strauss Health Sciences Library (shout out to everyone there!). I worked at the Strauss Library for 4 years and was able to collaborate with various departments which eventually led me to create a LGBTQ+ health resources libguide for the university’s LGBTQ+ Hub. I am happy with my time at the Strauss Library; they definitely helped grow a passion for health science librarianship and promoting health literacy.

What do you hope to gain from being a new member of MCMLA?
As a new member of MCMLA I hope to build relationships and work with members within the chapter to promote health literacy and offer services through NNLM Region 3 as their new Health Information Strategist.

The MCMLA mascot is an owl; what kind would you be if you were an owl? I’d choose the scary and elusive barn owl.

What is a fun/unique/exciting tidbit for your fellow MCMLA’ers to know about you, or how do you spend your free time?
I served in the U.S. Army Reserves for 8 years as a Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear (CBRN) Specialist. I recently finished my contract with them in September 2022. While in the Army I taught CBRN courses to a variety of audiences from private organizations to allied militaries. The most fun I had while as a CBRN was teaching an emergency mass decontamination course to German soldiers. I helped teach them how to set up a large decontamination tent and how to properly decontaminate citizens in cases of emergency. It was fun to learn about their culture and military policies while training them.
The 2022 MCMLA Annual Meeting was a huge success. A big thank-you and congratulations to the virtual planning committee and this year's meeting planning chair, Angela Spencer, for all the hard work for a great meeting!

MCMLA 2022
Virtual Planning Committee

Angela Spencer — Virtual Meeting Planning Chair 2022
Elizabeth Frakes — Research
Jeanne Burke — Education
Cindi Flanagan — Membership
Shawn Steidinger — Fun Activities
Maggie Shawcross — DEI
Jerry Carlson — technology
Jackie Hittner —treasurer
Holly Henderson — website
Kiara Comfort — publicity
Holly Hubenschmidt — MCMLA Chair
Peggy Mullaly-Quiljas - Virtual Meeting Planning Chair 2023
John Bramble- Annual Meeting Advisor

MCMLA means friends, fun and growing as a professional.
Rebecca Graves

I love MCMLA for the inspiring librarians I've connected with -- many of whom have become dear friends
Holly Hubenschmidt

Thank you for a terrific year
Now let's get ready to make next year even better

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MCMLA 2022 CONFERENCE
RESEARCH COMMITTEE WINNERS
BY  ELIZABETH FRAKES, CHAIR, MCMLA RESEARCH COMMITTEE

The MCMLA Research Committee is pleased to announce the winners of the MCMLA Annual Meeting presentation awards:

MCMLA Best Research Paper Winner
“Piloting a Buddy Program for New Hires”
Presenter: Dana Abbey MLS, AHIP, University of Colorado-Anschutz
Other Authors:
Nina McHale, MA, MA/MSLS, AHIP, University of Colorado-Anschutz
Kristen DeSanto, MSLS, AHIP, University of Colorado-Anschutz
Shandra Knight, M.S., University of Colorado-Anschutz
Christi Piper, MLIS, AHIP, University of Colorado-Anschutz
Ellie Svoboda, MLIS, AHIP, University of Colorado-Anschutz
Danielle L. Ostendorf, MLIS, Colorado School of Mines
Jacob Gallay, MLIS, MA

MCMLA Best Research Poster or Lightning Talk Winner
“Highlighting Hidden Costs: Assigning a Dollar Amount to the Library’s Contributions to Systematic Reviews”
Presenter: Ellie Svoboda, University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus, Strauss Health Sciences Library

MCMLA Viewer’s Choice Award: Best Paper
“Piloting a Buddy Program for New Hires”
Presenter: Dana Abbey MLS, AHIP, University of Colorado-Anschutz
Other Authors:
Nina McHale, MA, MA/MSLS, AHIP, University of Colorado-Anschutz
Kristen DeSonto, MSLS, AHIP, University of Colorado-Anschutz
Shandra Knight, M.S., University of Colorado-Anschutz
Christi Piper, MLIS, AHIP, University of Colorado-Anschutz
Ellie Svoboda, MLIS, AHIP, University of Colorado-Anschutz
Danielle L. Ostendorf, MLIS, Colorado School of Mines
Jacob Gallay, MLIS, MA

MCMLA Viewer’s Choice Award: Best Lightning Talk
“Highlighting Hidden Costs: Assigning a Dollar Amount to the Library’s Contributions to Systematic Reviews”
Presenter: Ellie Svoboda, University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus, Strauss Health Sciences Library
Recently the MLA sent a survey requesting help to document the MLA’s chapters’ histories. Rebecca Graves spearheaded MCMLA’s response. Here is an excerpt of what was submitted:

MCMLA Chapter History

Q. Name of your chapter
Midcontinental Chapter of the Medical Library Association (MCMLA)

Q. What year was your chapter established?
1968

Q. Has your group had any name changes? If your group has changed its name, please list the names and years these changes occurred.

- Central States Regional Medical Library Group 1968-1969
- Midcontinental Regional Medical Library Group 1970-1980
- Midcontinental Chapter of the Medical Library Association 1980 - Present

Q. Chapters: Have the geographical boundaries of your chapter changed? If so, when and what changes took place?
No, we continue to be the seven states that formed the predecessor to MCMLA in 1968: Utah, Wyoming, Colorado, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, and South Dakota.

Q. What are the top 3 (or fewer) moments in the history for your chapter since 1998?

- Quint Chapter meeting 2014 - MCMLA, MLGSCA, NCNMLG, PNCLMLA & SCCMLA
- MCMLA held the first Virtual Annual Meeting in 2015 (Chapter of the Year award winner 2016)
- Conference proceedings published online as of 2019 (Chapter of the Year award 2022)

Q. Tell us something fun about your chapter.
At our 1995 annual meeting in Kansas City, our chapter hosted the wedding of Scott Plutchak and Lynn Fortney. When Bob Pisciotta heard Scott and Lynn were going to get married while at the MCMLA annual meeting, he got the backing of the organizing committee to hold the wedding at the welcome reception at the Simpson House. Even listed it in the schedule in the conference program. (For more details: https://www.mlanet.org/d/do/20670)

There was an “Office Visions” contest during the 1998 annual meeting in Omaha. Prior to the meeting, members were encouraged to submit secret photos of colleagues’ offices to show the wondrous ways in which librarians work. Contest winner E. Diane Johnson, Otto Lottes Health Sciences Library, University of Missouri – Columbia, took a four foot tall Flying Pig trophy for an office in which every square inch was covered in papers and folders. The consummate reference and user services librarian, Diane managed hundreds of requests, and to-dos without ever losing track of any. She has proudly possessed the trophy since 1998.

Q. What is one thing about your chapter that your colleagues would be surprised to learn?
MCMLA was the first chapter to establish a chapter endowment to supplement the chapter’s finances. Fund raising has been continuous since the Joint Midwest-Midcontinental Chapter Meeting (Des Moines) in 2016.

Q. How has your chapter become more accessible, equitable, or inclusive than in the past?
The Chapter created the DEI committee in 2018. Prior to the DEI committee, the Chapter established a DEI Task Group with Brenda Linares as the chair. Brenda continued to be chair when the DEI task group became an official MCMLA committee. (This is the second DEI Committee led by Brenda Linares. She also led the MACMLA task group which eventually became a DEI committee. A nod to MACMLA as theirs was the first chapter DEI committee, preceding even MLA’s own)

The MCMLA DEI committee created the Code of Conduct for MCMLA Meetings; conducted surveys of the membership in 2020 and 2021 and presented a poster on the results at the 2020 MCMLA Annual Meeting with recommendations adopted for our 2021 Annual Meeting. They hosted a session on pronouns and a panel discussion at MCMLA’s 2022 Annual Meeting titled Diversity and Inclusion: Moving Us Forwards. Updates from the MCMLA DEI Committee. Maggie Shawcross led the panel along with co-presenters Emily Vardell and Brenda Linares. Attendance exceeded fifty in the zoom session.

This said, our membership remains predominately white and female.

Q. What topics do you think your chapter will be addressing in 2048?
Membership; artificial intelligence and its impact on healthcare, and library science; climate change, keeping the power on in a chaotic world; helping patrons find evidence-based information and critically appraise the research.

Q. Is there additional information you would like to share about your chapter?
MCMLA counts some of our profession’s most illustrious health science librarians among its founders and members including Dr. Frank B. Rogers, Dr. Estelle Brodman, Bernice Hetzner, Erica Love, and Priscilla Mayden.
2023 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL
BY: JACKIE HITTNER; EDITED BY JERRY CARLSON

In an effort to have our membership dues collected to coincide with the fiscal year of the Chapter, the following schedule will be used to notify the membership that it is time to pay 2023 dues.

During the first week of January 2023 all current MCMLA members will receive their first notice to pay their 2023 dues.

Reminder notices will go out January 16 and February 1.

Members who have not paid their 2023 dues by February 15, 2023 will go into lapsed status and will not get to vote in the 2023 Chapter elections.

Thank you for paying your membership dues promptly after you receive the first dues notice!

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:
Katie Dayani, editor
Jerry Carlson
Nina McHale
Amanda Sprachi
Danielle Westmark

REMEMBER FROM YOUR PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE: SEND US YOUR STORY IDEAS FOR THE NEXT EXPRESS

EMAIL: KODAYANiOMCM.DEU
ENDOWMENT FUND THANK YOU

BY JACKIE HITTNER, FINANCE COMMITTEE; EDITED BY JERRY CARLSON

The Finance Committee would like to thank the chapter members who contributed to the MCMLA Endowment Fund during the 2022 Annual Meeting registration. $388.00 was collected for the endowment.

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

A big THANK YOU to chapter members who generously gave to the endowment in August - November 2022:

- Jannette Bradley
- John Bramble
- David Brown
- Melissa De Santis
- Felicia Di Salvo
- Deborah Divis
- Beth Edson
- Cynthia Flanagan
- Kim Harp
- Teresa Hartman
- Jackie Hittner
- Assako Holyoke
- Sarah Hood
- Holly Hubenschmidt
- Brynn Mays
- Mary McFarland
- Euemduan C. Osmera
- Margie Sheppard
- Shawn Steidinger
- George Strawley
- Ellie Svoboda
- Danielle Westmark
- Gregg Whitmore
- Nancy Woelfl

MCMLA 2022 ANNUAL MEETING PRESENTATIONS NOW AVAILABLE IN THE ARCHIVES

BY RAVEN MORRIGAN, MCMLA ARCHIVIST
EDITED BY AMANDA SPROCH

All presentations for the 2022 MCMLA Virtual Meeting that were sent to me for archiving are now in the MCMLA digital repository. These are open to all MCMLA members for viewing:

- Diversify: the 2022 MCMLA Annual Virtual Meeting, October 28, 2022: Schedule with Abstracts [https://doi.org/10.25677/e5te-7x21]
- 3D Printing at an Academic Library: Seven Years Later! [https://doi.org/10.25677/k0ms-9b31]
- Brief Overview of the MLA 2022 Immersion Session on Using the AVSL Criteria and Algorithm to Create a Vetted Journal Program [https://doi.org/10.25677/rbqr-ypp78]
- Diversify: MCMLA Oct 27-28 2022 [https://doi.org/10.25677/0pnt-0116]
- Diversity and Inclusion: Moving Us Forward Updates from the MCMLA DEI Committee [https://doi.org/10.25677/gvs9-2q18]
- Highlighting Hidden Costs: Assigning a Dollar amount to the Library’s Contributions to Systematic Reviews [https://doi.org/10.25677/hhy8-ay41]
- Piloting a Buddy Program to Onboard New Hires [https://doi.org/10.25677/fprd-h745]
- Pix or It Didn’t Happen: What Types of Graphics Attract Medical Students to Articles and Resources? [https://doi.org/10.25677/v805-z404]
- Proximity Project: Using Spatial Thinking and Social Psychology to Develop Collaborations and Partnerships [https://doi.org/10.25677/6tjv-rj17]

Thank you to all the presenters who sent in their PowerPoint presentations. I am working on the 2022 Proceedings for the Annual Meeting, and the first draft is complete. Proofreading is being completed by the MCMLA Executive Committee and others, and if all goes well it will be completed after the holidays. The Proceedings should be published sometime in January.

A summary of the chapter history by Rebecca Graves is also now available [https://doi.org/10.25677/g4rc-6x72].

Please send me any items relating to MCMLA for the archives or digital repository. The website (https://digitalcollections.cuanschutz.edu/) has a self-submission feature if you prefer to sign up for a free account and submit items online. Thanks!
CHILDREN'S MERCY LIBRARY SERVICES HOSTS ARCHIVES EXHIBIT

BY KATIE DAYANI

Children’s Mercy Kansas City celebrated its 125th birthday in 2022. To help celebrate this milestone, the Children’s Mercy Library Services & Archives team curated the archival exhibit: A Legacy of Mercy: Colleagues Dedicated to All Children - Snapshots of Children’s Mercy staff throughout our history.

The exhibit features archival images from around the hospital and across time, from nurses tending to patients and doctors performing surgery to community partnerships. The collection highlights the work of CM employees and volunteers to provide the best care for all children.

The Library team hosted a grand opening reception in November that included a scavenger hunt, a reflections wall, a photobooth, and prizes. Members of the hospital’s executive team, as well as CM employees across the organization, attended the event.

We are adding more images to our digital archives collection, too. Check it out today: https://scholarlyexchange.childrensmercy.org/exhibit/the-history-of-childrens-mercy/

CM Library team members: (L-R) Julia McBride, Keri Swaggart, Katie Dayani, Dr. Fadi Al Muhaisen, Heather Steel (not pictured Susan Sanders & Kim Weir)

CM staff taking a closer look at the exhibit

Heather Steel leads a tour for members of CM’s executive team

Children’s Mercy President and CEO Paul Kempinski & Katie Dayani pose in the selfie station
Shout Outs to the following MCMLA members on their recent publications & accomplishments

The MCMLA Research Committee is pleased to announce that **Nena Schvaneveldt** has been selected to receive the 2022 Research Stipend for her proposal entitled “Investigating Health Professions Students’ Information Needs at the Beginning of Clinical Education.” The purpose of Nena’s study is to invite students to share their information practices at the transition to clinical education. The findings would help librarians understand how students move through information problems, therefore allowing instruction to play to the strengths of these students’ knowledge and address knowledge gaps. Congrats, Nena!

Congratulations to **Brenda Linares** for starting a new job on November 1st, 2022. She is now the Associate Dean of Library Services at UMKC University Libraries in Kansas City, Missouri.

Congrats to **Kristen DeSanto** on her recent publications:

Congratulations to **Raven Morrigan** who presented at the 2022 Medical Institutional Repositories in Libraries (MIRL) conference. The topic of the presentation was migrating a repository.

Congrats to **Ellie Svoboda** and **Ben Harnke** for their recent publication: