the *Chronicle*

In this issue...

Spotlight: The Library of the Polisher Research Institute

The Polisher Research Institute is part of the Madlyn and Leonard Abramson Center for Jewish Life, formerly known as the Philadelphia Geriatric Center, a nationally recognized leader in providing services to the elderly. The Institute serves as an umbrella under which social and clinical scientists work to understand the process of aging. Established in 1959, the Institute was the first center of its kind in the U.S. to be sponsored by a geriatric facility. The Library of the Polisher Research Institute has supported the Institute since its inception and has been managed by a professional librarian since the late 1970s.

The Library is a major United States resource for material relating to the fields of gerontology, geriatrics, and long-term care. As previous librarian Joyce Post noted in 1998, it is one of only two in the world that is located in a long-term care facility, has a substantial collection, is open full-time and is managed by a full-time librarian. Comprised of over 7,000 monographs and 200 current and archival journal titles, the collection includes materials covering the aging process, the elderly as a special population group, the medical aspects of old age, long-term care administration, aging healthcare policy, Medicare and Medicaid, death and dying, and the aging populations outside of the United States. Resources relating to the anthropological issues of aging, environmental design and housing for the elderly, marketing to the senior population, the depiction of the aged in fiction and literature, social work and the aged, Alzheimer's disease, and caregiver issues are actively acquired. For researchers concerned with aging, the collection is considered a gem since, between the specificity of the journal collection and the depth of the book collection, they can essentially find all the material they need in one location.

Recently, the Library was awarded a Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) grant from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for 2001-2002. In the coming months, the Library will use these monies to purchase the necessary hardware and software to automate all library functions. The grant was given to promote networked information access with the goal of providing wider access to the information housed within the library's catalog to both academic and research communities and the public. To this end, the catalog will be published on the home page of the Polisher Research Institute, http://www.pgc.org/PRI. In addition, the catalog will be available through the Access Pennsylvania database. A previous grant from Access Pennsylvania funded conversion of the library's catalog from paper to digital format. At a later date, the library hopes to add to the catalog a collection of photographs, audiotapes and 35 mm film chronicling the early years of the Philadelphia Geriatric Center. This collection is currently being housed in the Jewish Archives of the Balch Institute.

The Madlyn and Leonard Abramson Center for Jewish Life has recently completed the construction of a new state-of-the-art long-term care facility. The building is completely wired to optimize both staff and resident access to electronic communications and resources. The library will be moving to the new research offices, located at The Pavilion in Jenkintown, by the end of 2001. The new offices will have broadband Internet

connection to better facilitate the library's role in serving the residents and staff of the Horsham campus.

Among the Library's long-term goals is to build a geriatric consumer collection that can be used to educate the residents, their families and the community at large on the issues surrounding the aging process. Its aim is to provide an overall collection that can serve as a resource for improved patient care by front-line workers and clinical staff as well as a conduit to information and recreational reading for the residents and their families.

Although its primary mission is to support the research efforts of the Polisher Research Institute, the Library is open to the public on weekdays from 8:30 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. The librarian, Sheryl Panka-Bryman can be reached by telephone at 215-456-2987 or by Email at: *sherylpanka-bryman@rcn.com* for reference services. The library assistant, Mary McCaffrey, can be reached at 215-456-2001 for information about interlibrary loan and circulation of materials.

The Library is a member of the Delaware Valley Information consortium (DEVIC), the Basic Health Sciences Libraries Network (BHSL), the National Network of Libraries of Medicine (NN/LM), and the Philadelphia Regional Interlibrary Loan (PRILL) group. In addition, the Library maintains strong ties with the other major gerontology and geriatrics collections maintained by the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP), the National Council on the Aging, the National Institute on Aging, and the Andrus Gerontology Center at the University of Southern California. **§**

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> *Calabret@umdnj.edu*

From the Chapter Chair

It is with a sense of real sadness for our Chapter, but great happiness for her, that we wish Barbara Shearer a fond farewell. As many of you already know, Barb is moving to Florida to become Director of the Medical Library at Florida State University College of Medicine, in Tallahassee. Barb's last day at Thomas Jefferson University will be November 2nd. Barbara currently holds the position of Secretary of our Chapter, but she has served the Chapter in many capacities during her years in Philadelphia. Recently Barb brought acclaim to our Chapter by spearheading the "symposium project" that developed as a result of the Informationist Program held last Fall. The symposium is tentatively entitled, "Patient-centered Librarianship: the Informationist and Beyond," and is scheduled to appear in the January 2002 issue of the newly named *Journal of the Medical Library Association*. Barb's dedication, loyalty, intelligence, and wonderful wit will be sorely missed by all of us. We're already in the planning stages for a joint meeting

with the Southern Chapter, which will take place in Tallahassee, on the beach, under the palm trees, margaritas in hand. Congratulations and good luck, Barb!

As we bid Barbara goodbye, we welcome Bradley Long to the Board. Brad has agreed to finish out Barb's term as Secretary of the Chapter. Thank you, Brad, for being so willing to help us out!

Also new to our Board is Gerri Stephenson, our new Development Coordinator. Gerri follows in the very large footsteps (metaphorically speaking) of our previous Coordinator, Marjorie Smink. Thanks to Gerri for taking on this important responsibility for our Chapter! Mindy Paquette-Murphy has also recently joined the Board in the capacity of AHIP Liaison. Thank you, Mindy!

Our Program Chair/Chair Elect, Eric Delozier, has been doing double duty for the Chapter this Fall. He has continued to act as our Chapter Webmaster while also directing program planning for the year. Beginning this January, Kevin Block will be taking over the position of Webmaster for the Chapter, along with assuming management of the MLA-PHIL listserv. We are very appreciative that Kevin has accepted this additional position. Thank you, Kevin!

Plans are underway for a joint meeting to be held in Philadelphia during Fall 2003. Informally known as the "Quad Meeting," participants now include our own Chapter, the New York/New Jersey Chapter, the Pittsburgh Chapter, and the Mid-Atlantic Chapter. A planning meeting with representatives from all four chapters is planned for Friday, November 9, at the College of Physicians. Andrea Kenyon has already been in touch with several meeting planners as well as the Convention Bureau. The Philadelphia Chapter of the Special Libraries Association has also expressed interest in participating in some way, perhaps through shared exhibits, joint blocks of hotel rooms, and through some shared programming. It will take a lot of work to successfully pull off such a large regional meeting but we know we can do it with your help! Rest up now and prepare to volunteer when the call goes out.

Enjoy the rest of this beautiful fall season. I look forward to seeing all of you at our upcoming programs! §

<div style="text-align: right">

Pat Heller, Chair
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Letter from the Editors

In lieu of our usual Letter from the Editors, we felt that it would be appropriate to reprint in its entirety the *Library Community Statement on Freedom of Speech and Access to Information* that was written in response to the September 11 terrorist attacks and was endorsed by the MLA Board of Directors. In addition, we would like to pass along a

request for assistance from MLA member Betty Wagoner. Betty's Library/Information Resource Center was located on the 16th floor of 2 World Trade Center and was destroyed along with the offices of her employer, National Development & Research Institute, in the September 11 tragedy.   Contact Betty via Email *(blw89@yahoo.com)* or by phone (718-488-8954) to find out how you can help. **§**

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September 20, 2001

Library Community Statement on Freedom of Speech and Access to Information

America's library community mourns the innocent victims of the recent terrorist attacks. We send our deepest sympathy to their families, friends, and other survivors. We also extend our appreciation and heartfelt support to the thousands of police officers, firefighters, volunteers, and other emergency personnel in New York City, Washington, D.C. and Pennsylvania who have sacrificed so much to assist others.

As our Nation and, indeed, the World move forward during this time of mourning and recovery, libraries continue to serve a diverse array of communities across our Nation with information and library services that celebrate the freedom of speech and access to information that we all embrace. By maintaining, on a daily basis, the balance between access to information for all, the privacy rights of our users, and the responsibility to cooperate with law enforcement agencies, libraries continue to be cultural and living symbols for the freedoms that we enjoy.

As stated so eloquently by Abraham Lincoln in a letter to an old friend in Illinois during the final days of the Civil War, "freedom is not some arbitrary right that is bestowed upon us because of the virtuous nature of our national character. It is a right we must protect and defend in both times of promise and peril if we are to remain in the future what we are in the present -- a free and honorable people."

The library associations listed below support the efforts of our Nation's leaders to protect and preserve the freedoms that are the foundation of our democracy. Libraries serve as critical resources for communities, individuals, and institutions and those concerned about the important need for access to information. We welcome the public's continued use of public, academic, research, special and school libraries.

American Association of Law Libraries
Mary Alice Baish, Associate Washington Affairs Representative
202-662-9200

American Library Association
Lynne Bradley, Director, Office of Government Relations
202-628-8410
Association of Research Libraries
Prudence S. Adler, Associate Executive Director
202-296-2296
Medical Library Association
Mary M. Langman, Manager, Information Issues and Policy
312-419-9094 ext. 27
California Library Association 2001
Cindy Mediavilla, President
310-915-8588

Member & Library News

Judith Schaeffer-Young, Director, Arthur Bedell Memorial Library, Wills Eye Hospital, has written "Cyberethics: the Internet and Allied Technologies. CQ Sources/Bibliography," published in *Cambridge Quarterly of Healthcare Ethics*, vol. 10, no. 2, p. 170-171, 2001. She also presented "Medical Resources for Special Libraries" at the 9th Special, Health and Law Libraries Conference in Melbourne, Australia, on August 28, 2001. On September 5, she spoke to the Special Libraries Association of South Australia in Adelaide on "Issues of Importance to Special Libraries in the United States."

Eric Delozier, Associate Librarian, Library, Penn State Harrisburg, is now a Distinguished Member of the Academy of Health Information Professionals (AHIP).

Staff Changes:

Carol Hansen Montgomery, Dean of Libraries at Drexel University, has postponed her retirement, which had been scheduled for December 2001.

Barbara Shearer, currently Director of Public Services and External Relations, Scott Memorial Library, Thomas Jefferson University, will become Director of the Medical Library at the College of Medicine, Florida State University, Tallahassee, on November 19.

Barbara Bernoff Cavanaugh has been appointed Librarian of the C.J. Marshall Memorial Library, University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine. She was Health Sciences Libraries Liaison at the Biomedical Library, University of Pennsylvania.

Ann Silverberg is now Reference Librarian at the Hahnemann Library, MCP Hahnemann University. Her previous position was at the Delaware Academy of Medicine's Lewis B. Flinn Library as Consumer Health Librarian.

P.J. Grier assumed the position of Director of Library and Information Services at the Lewis B. Flinn Library, Delaware Academy of Medicine, on October 16. He had been Senior Project Manager at Advanced Information Consultants (an Infotrieve Company), Springhouse, PA. §

Linda M.G. Katz
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Programming Committee Update

This year presents some exciting challenges and opportunities for the Program Committee as we celebrate the Chapter's 50th anniversary. Our fall program held at Penn State Harrisburg about Personal Digital Assistants (PDAs) was very interesting and informative. While this program may have presented some traveling challenges for attendees from East of Dauphin and Lancaster counties, I can assure you that the winter and spring meetings will be much closer to the greater Philadelphia area.

The winter program planning is already underway with plans expected to be finalized sometime in November. The main topic for the winter program will be virtual (digital) reference services. Virtual reference services are common in many academic libraries and are gaining acceptance among hospital and corporate libraries as well. The speaker and location details will be announced as soon as they become available. If you or your institution would like to host the meeting, please contact me via phone (717-948-6373) or Email (*epd103@psu.edu*) as soon as possible.

In April 2002, for our Annual Meeting, we hope to return to the location of the first gathering of Philadelphia area medical librarians fifty years ago. It was Friday, November 19, 1951, when a group met at the College of Physicians of Philadelphia to discuss the advisability of forming a regional chapter of the Medical Library Association. The guest speaker at the meeting was Janet Doe, Librarian at the New York Academy of Medicine, who described the activities of the New York group. The spring meeting should be a memorable one. Please do not hesitate to contact any member of the committee with program suggestions or to volunteer your services. Committee members include Eric Delozier, Martha Kirby, Brad Long, Nina Long, Deborah Lovett, and Gina Kaiser. §

Eric Delozier
Program Chair/Chair-Elect
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CE Report

Mark your calendars!

The Philadelphia Regional CE Committee is pleased to announce that on Friday, December 14, 2001, we will kick off our CE events for the year with a presentation by Michelynn Mc Knight. Her topic, "Proving Your Worth: Professional, Business and Political Skills," will address professional development from several perspectives.

Michelynn is a dynamic speaker who is recognized as a knowledgeable instructor. Her numerous workshops for regional chapters and national MLA have been highly regarded. She is Director of the Health Science Library at Norman Regional Hospital in Oklahoma.

We anticipate an enthusiastic turnout for this timely topic. The venue will be The Class of '55 Room, 2nd Floor, Van Pelt-Dietrich Library, 34th and Walnut Streets, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA. Expect a mailing with details and registration information about five weeks before the class. This class carries four contact hours for those interested in AHIP certification.

And for an encore...

On February 6, 2002, we will participate in a national MLA Teleconference on the topic of PDAs and hand held computers. Look for details on our web site and a mailing early in January.

The Committee is investigating other topics/speakers for the spring, including: 5 Star Customer Service, Advanced HTML, Keeping Up with PubMed, Consumer Health, and Updating Library Service Delivery. These topics cover a wide range of activities and interests to keep you up to date with developments in our rapidly changing field.

Please let me know of your interest in any of these topics, or other potential topics. **§**

> Ruthanne Spatafore
> Chair, CE Committee
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The following listing of resources was compiled by Robert S. Lyle and other VA librarians in response to recent events. The Disaster Coordinator at the Philadelphia VA Medical Center, who is also a FEMA coordinator in the city, suggested that this information be as widely distributed as possible.

Biological Warfare/Bioterrorism Internet Resources:

Sources Gathered by Librarians of the VA Library Network (VALNET)

Books & Other Documents on the Web

- Bioterrorism alleging use of anthrax and interim guidelines for management—United States, 1998. *MMWR* 1999 Feb 5; 48(4):69-74

- Chemical and Biological Terrorism: Research and Development to Improve Civilian Medical Response, Committee on R&D Needs for Improving Civilian Medical Response to Chemical and Biological Terrorism Incidents, Institute of Medicine (HTML)

- Medical Management of Biological Causalities - also known as the "blue book"

- Medical Management of Chemical Casualties - also known as the "green book" - (HTML) (PDF)

- Medical Management of Radiological Causalities - also known as the "tan book" (PDF)

- Textbook of Military Medicine: Medical Aspects of Chemical and Biological Warfare (HTML)

- United States Army Medical Research Institute of Chemical Defense. Field Management of Chemical Casualties Handbook, 2nd ed. July, 2000.

- United States Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases. Medical Management of Biological Causalities Handbook, 4th ed., 2001

- Textbook of Military Medicine: Medical Aspects of Chemical and Biological Warfare (HTML)

Web Sites

- Bioterrorism: Preparing for the Future, Medscape Resource Center (This is a free site, but you must register to use it.)

- Center for Civilian Biodefense Studies, Johns Hopkins University

- National Center for Infectious Diseases, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

- State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations Department of Health. Weapons of Mass Destruction, Emergency Management and Medical Web Sites (Very large list of resources; updated frequently)

- United States Army Medical Research Institute of Chemical Defense, Chemical Causality Care Division

- United States Army. Treatment of Biological Warfare Agent Casualties. July, 2000.

Literature Searches

- PubMed search for recent, general articles on biological warfare or bioterrorism

- PubMed search on the prevention and control of disease outbreaks from biological warfare

Consumer Related Resources

- American Academy of Pediatrics Offers Advice on Communicating With Children About Disasters

- Coping With Violence: Personal Protection Pamphlet

- Disaster: Helping Children Cope

- National Library of Medicine. MEDLINEplus. Biological and Chemical Weapons

- What To Tell Your Children About The Terrorist Attack

Other Resources

- America Responds -- U.S. Government information and resources in response to the events of September 11, 2001

- America's Tragedy -- bigchalk.com's page of resources to help bring the events of September 11, 2001 into perspective in the home and classroom

- Coping with Terrorism -- from the American Psychological Association

- Other Fact Sheets form the APA Online System **§**

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Philadelphia MLA Visits the *Inquirer*

Jenny Pierce of the AIDS Library and Brad Long of Thomas Jefferson University were speakers at the *Philadelphia Inquirer* for the MLA Reporters Seminar on October 2nd. This seminar is a nationwide public relations series sponsored by MLA. The purpose of the series is to have *local* chapter representatives inform *local* media of *local* medical information resources as well as of Internet resources to use for medical news reporting.

Eleven *Inquirer* staff members – both reporters and library staff members -- were in attendance. Reliable and up-to-date Internet resources were of primary interest to the group. Two interesting points emerged during the discussion period. First, the media usually receives press releases before the medical community, including medical

librarians. Additionally, reporters admitted to being uninformed regarding the lack of currency of medical statistics.

The session proved to be an excellent opportunity for the Philadelphia MLA to make their resources and expertise known to the *Inquirer*. Jenny and Brad both gained useful insights into the medical information needs of this prominent, local news source. Both librarians offered to make themselves available for future consultation to the staff at the *Inquirer*. §

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Free MLA Membership Awarded

The Medical Library Association offers each Chapter the opportunity to award one free national individual membership to a Chapter member. The Philadelphia Regional Chapter Board selected a chapter member's name at random at a recent meeting. The winner for the 2002 membership is….Leopoldo Montoya, Collection/Technical Services Librarian at the Hahnemann Library, MCP Hahnemann University. Congratulations, Leopoldo! §

JoAnn Babish
Chair, Membership Committee
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Kudos

Mary Mylenki, Associate Director, NN/LM, Middle Atlantic Region, called to our attention the "noteworthy project" submitted by the College of Physicians of Philadelphia that is currently featured on the NLM web site as part of National Medical Librarians Month. The College's project seeks to capitalize on the subject expertise of their C. Everett Koop Community Health Information Center (CHIC) librarians as well as the community presence of The Free Library of Philadelphia in order to "maximize dissemination of quality consumer-health information." Their "Be Health Smart!" publicity campaign employs tri-fold brochures, bookmarks, and posters to promote the two institutions as resources for quality health information. College and Free Library staff have developed and co-taught health information workshops for the public. Project liaisons are Andrea Kenyon, Director of Public Services at the College of Physicians of Philadelphia, and Mary Flournoy, Adult/Young Adult Specialist, at the Free Library of Philadelphia. Good job, Andrea! Visit the NLM web site http://www.nlm.nih.gov/lo/profiles01/index.html to see more noteworthy projects from NN/LM libraries across the country.

Christiana Care Health System, Wilmington, DE, captured first place honors in the public relations Swap 'n Shop during the MLA annual meeting in Orlando. The Swap 'n Shop booth showcased library promotional materials and was staffed by representatives from

Public Communications, Inc. (PCI), MLA's public relations consultant. Sample items on display included bookmarks and fliers as well as full-color posters and CD-ROMs. PCI representatives judged entries for creativity, accomplishments of stated goals, and best use of available budget and resources. Christiana's "Community Health Library: Information for Healthy Living" brochure was awarded first place in the Hospital-Based Libraries – One-Time Promotions category. Congratulations to Barbara Henry, CHL librarian. **§**

Nancy Calabretta
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Bernie Todd Smith, Chair, Benchmarking Task Force, announced earlier this year that the beta test for the Benchmarking Network has been successfully accomplished with a total of 84 participants. In an effort to encourage the many hospital librarians who have not yet made the decision to participate in this worthwhile project, the Task Force designed a Top Ten list for dealing with the survey. Remember, should you have any further questions regarding benchmarking, you can contact Marion Chayes, Chapter Benchmarking Educator, at (215) 576-2096 or by email at *chayes@amh.org*.

How Best to Approach the Benchmarking Survey Tool:

Top Ten Things To Do

 # 10. Read background materials on "what is benchmarking" on MLANET <http://www.mlanet.org/members/benchmark/faq.html>; (have your MLANET username and password ready!).

 # 9. Browse and read the benchmarking definitions provided on MLANET <http://www.mlanet.org/members/benchmark/definitions.html>; (have your MLANET username and password ready!).

 # 8. Read through the entire survey tool prior to beginning. <http://www.mlanet.org/members/benchmark/worksheet.html>; (have your MLANET username and password ready!).

 # 7. Identify all data that you can obtain from standard directories of statistical information, e.g., the *AHA Guide to the Health Care Field* (helpful for bed count, outpatient visits).

 # 6. Find the places within your hospital that can provide you with the data you need as identified on the worksheet, such as the Admitting Office, Medical Records, Medical Staff Office, Quality Management, or Planning.

 # 5. If you do not collect data at all, have just begun, or do not have data in all the areas requested, extrapolate! Gather a sample for 3 months and then multiple by 4

quarters…estimates are acceptable.

 # 4. Start collecting data NOW! It's never too late.

 # 3. Collect and organize your data before entering it online. Print off the worksheet and the definitions and use them together.

 # 2. Remember that you are not required to answer every question if you do not have the data. **But!** Do try to be as complete as possible so that the final product will be more useful to all participants.

 # 1. DO NOT GIVE UP! If you don't understand a question or are confused, CONTACT your MLA Benchmarking Chapter Educator. They have volunteered to HELP you. **§**

Hopkins Case Highlights Institutional Review Board's (IRB) Need for Librarian Expertise

In late July, our hospital's risk manager asked if I could locate anything concerning the Johns Hopkins asthma clinical trial in which a healthy 24-year old volunteer died. The cause of death was progressive lung and kidney failure caused by the subject's toxic reaction to hexamethonium, a chemical she inhaled as part of the study. Subsequent analysis of the case showed that the researcher conducting the study failed to locate relevant literature describing this chemical's toxic effects. Such articles do exist prior to 1966; however, the literature search for the JHU study was completed using a limited number of resources including PubMed, thus overlooking the older material. [1]

By the time our risk manager returned from a one-week vacation, I had accumulated four inches' worth of information on this situation: articles from the *New York Times* (http://nytimes.com) and the *Baltimore Sun* (http://sunspot.net), press releases and original source material from the Johns Hopkins' website (http://www.hopkinsmedicine.org/), and comments made by medical librarians on the Medlib-l discussion list (http://listserv.acsu.buffalo.edu/cgi-bin/wa?A0=medlib-l). I also included a search I had performed on the NLM Gateway (http://gateway.nlm.nih.gov/gw/Cmd) in which I had identified articles not found by the Hopkins researchers. I wanted to increase respect and support for our profession, and to improve the quality of our own investigations since Doylestown Hospital participates in clinical trials.

As a result of my efforts, our risk manager has lobbied several members of our Institutional Review Board to either have me appointed to the IRB or to at least require a request for my services before a trial is approved. She and I then wondered, if I were to join the IRB, what my responsibilities should include. I offered to consult with other medical librarians regarding their experiences. This led to the Email message sent to

Medlib-l on August 27, 2001 asking for other medical librarians to describe their responsibilities regarding their IRBs. By August 30, I had submitted a recapitulation of the responses to the list.

Replies came from librarians in small community hospitals as well as in large healthcare networks, military hospitals, and university medical centers. Responses came from several states (Pennsylvania, Indiana, New Hampshire, Maryland, Illinois, Ohio, Louisiana, North Carolina and others), and one came from Canada.

Everyone who commented on the experience of serving on an IRB gave positive feedback, calling it "enlightening" or "a good experience." They also mentioned the "heads up" factor that results; in other words, gaining more knowledge of what is going on in your institution. They indicated that it is an educational opportunity for both the librarian and for the board, whose members learn more about what librarians do.

This brief list of websites was provided for information about the roles and responsibilities of IRB members:

Office of Human Research Protections IRB Guidebook
http://ohrp.osophs.dhhs.gov/irb/irb_guidebook.htm

Medical College of Ohio, Research and Grants Administration--training modules regarding protection of human research subjects
http://www.mco.edu/research/training_human_research.html

University of Washington, Human Subjects Division--additional websites dealing with human subjects issues: http://depts.washington.edu/hsd/additional.htm

Librarian members of IRBs who included their specific responsibilities listed the following activities: reviewing protocols, asking questions of the principal investigators, approving proposals, ensuring that other staff are not overburdened with extra duties, making sure that the hospital gets reimbursed for its time and effort; reading proposals, and taking part in discussions.

Other members provide specific library-oriented services to the IRB in addition to or instead of their generic IRB duties. Here is one response:

> We are adapting our literature search form to say: "comprehensive research required" when any human subjects research is proposed.
> … comprehensive research means that Medline and Toxicology databases will be searched, search hedges will include contraindications, adverse effects, and complications, and the broadest possible range of years will be checked before saying "safe."

It is acknowledged that the IRB process is not perfect, as evidenced most recently by the unfortunate incident at Johns Hopkins. One individual had these recommendations for IRBs:

1. Develop a checklist for the IRB members to use in reviewing research protocols [this was advised by more than one librarian]; including a review of references, submitted by the investigator, regarding the research to be conducted.

2. The chair of the IRB should request literature searches from a librarian in order to determine the merits of any research proposal involving human subjects.

3. The researcher should be required to sign an agreement detailing responsibilities, and the IRB should monitor ALL research activities on a continual basis, not just yearly.

MLA is getting into the act as well. As a result of the situation at Johns Hopkins, MLA President, Carol Jenkins, will appoint a Taskforce to Promote the Importance of Expert Searching. The charge will be to recommend action(s), including Best Practice Guidelines that promote excellence in expert searching in biomedicine and research.

Overall, our librarian colleagues who sit on institutional review boards have found it to be a rewarding experience, and they recommend it to others. The responsibilities are not always handled in an ideal fashion, but the general consensus is that our participation, either as lay members or as information specialists, improves the quality of study evaluations.

1. Perkins, Eva, "Johns Hopkins' Tragedy: Could Librarians Have Prevented a Death?" *Information Today,* August 8, 2001 URL: http://www.infotoday.com/newsbreaks/nb010806-1.htm

NOTE: Much of this article also appears in *National Network:*
Resnick, Rachel, "IRB & You, the Hospital Librarian," *National Network*, vol. 26, no. 2, October, 2001; p. 5, 8.

Postscript: Rachel Resnick was recently made a full member of her institution's IRB, with all the normal duties, plus research responsibilities as needed.

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Note: The following related item appeared in an MLA Focus Email, October 18, 2001:

Researching Medical Literature on the Internet

In light of a research volunteer's death at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, Baltimore, MD, and the creation of the Task Force to Promote the Importance of Expert Searching by the MLA Board of Directors at its September 2001 meeting, searching the Internet has become a hot topic. The following feature article appeared in LLRX.com, a free Web journal that provides legal professionals with information on Internet legal research and technology-related issues. Access the article entitled "Researching Medical Literature on the Internet --2001 Update" **§**

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Melissa Zogby
Reference/Circuit Librarian
Lewis B. Flynn Library
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Wilmington, DE 19806
Phone: 302.656.6398
Email: *mjz@delamed.org* **§**

Jo-Ann Babish
Chair, Membership Committee
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MLA Continuing Education Grant

Each year the Medical Library Association awards a grant to one or more of its members to provide them with an opportunity to increase their competence in the theoretical, administrative, or technical aspects of librarianship. This grant may be used to attend a MLA course or other CE activity.

Candidates for the CE Grant must: (1) hold a graduate degree in library science, (2) be an individual member of MLA, (3) be a practicing medical librarian with at least two years of professional experience, and (4) be a US or Canadian citizen.

More information about this grant and the application can be found online at:
http://www.mlanet.org/awards/grants/index.html

Applications should be mailed to Lisa Fried (*mlapd2@mlahq.org*) at MLA Headquarters. The deadline for applications is December 1. **§**

Karen Crowell
kcrowell@email.unc.edu

Four EBSCO/MLA Annual Meeting Grants Available

The EBSCO/MLA Annual Meeting Grant was established by EBSCO Subscription Services to enable a medical librarian working in a health sciences library to attend the Medical Library Association (MLA) Annual Meeting. Four grants of up to $1,000 each are available. The grants seek to encourage participation in MLA by providing an opportunity to attend an annual meeting (this year in Dallas, Texas on May 17-23, 2002 - http://www.mlanet.org/am/).

This is an excellent opportunity for librarians at any stage in their career who have not attended an MLA meeting to benefit from the outstanding programs and educational opportunities available at the Annual Conference. In order to qualify, applicants must be currently employed as a medical librarian and have at least two years experience as a librarian in a health sciences library at the time of the annual meeting.

The EBSCO/MLA Annual Meeting Grant Jury weighs other criteria in recommending an applicant to the Board, including the level of participation in the upcoming meeting, i.e.: presentations, committee memberships, and jury assignments.

Applying is easy! Fill out a simple form and write a 200-word statement answering the question, "What do you expect to gain professionally and/or personally by attending the MLA Annual Meeting?" Applications are available on MLANET at http://www.mlanet.org/awards/grants/. For further information, contact Anne Greenspan, MLA Research and Professional Recognition Coordinator, at 312/419-9094 x28 or Email *mlapd2@mlahq.org* . Completed applications are due December 1, 2001. **§**

<div align="right">

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A CHI Celebration

This year marks the 25th anniversary of the founding of CHI, the Consortium for Health Information & Library Services. Founded in 1976 with a grant from the National Library of Medicine, CHI sought to develop, promote, and facilitate the exchange of health-related information, and to create an organizational structure to continually work toward these goals.   A quarter of a century later, the Consortium's commitment remains strong, with a proud record of accomplishment in interlibrary loan, professional development, technology acquisition, and its video collection.

To celebrate the occasion, CHI invited members of the Philadelphia Chapter of MLA to a Lecture and Afternoon Tea at 2 P.M. on Wednesday, October 24 at Delaware County Memorial Hospital in Drexel Hill. The guest speaker was Donna Huston Murray, the Main Line author of such mysteries as *Lie Like a Rug, No Bones About It*, and *Final Arrangements*. Ms. Murray described the research and creative process behind her

books, which are especially interesting in their use of locales and events familiar to all of us in the Philadelphia area. Attendees found the afternoon, steeped in tea and mystery, a fitting way to mark CHI's 25th anniversary! **§**

<div style="text-align: right">

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Fall Meeting

Thank you to Eric Delozier and his Program Committee for all of their hard work in putting together our Fall program on the "Use of Personal Digital Assistants (PDAs) in Medicine". Brenda Seago, of Virginia Commonwealth University, gave a great overview of the history of PDAs, some tips on different features and types available, and also a description of the successful Palm Pilot Project that is underway at the Computer Based Instruction Lab, in the School of Medicine, at VCU. If you have any questions for Brenda, please Email her at: *blseago@vcu.edu*.

Andrew Clements, of OVID Technologies, then introduced us to OVID's new handheld application called OVID@Hand. This represents a PDA initiative that compliments the "Journals@OVID" subscriptions that many of our libraries have. Physicians can select a list of journals from those we subscribe to, and have the table of contents automatically pushed to their PDAs when the latest issue of a journal on their list is added to the OVID database. The physician can then select citations from the TOC to be downloaded, in full-text format, to a "My Library" page on the web. Other features, such as quick keyword searches (with results appearing on the "My Library" webpage) and access to drug information directly on the PDA were also discussed. For more information, you might want to check out the press release found at:
http://www.ovid.com/news_events/press/press_release.cfm?whatsnewID=7072
or contact Andrew Clements at: *andrew_clements@ovid.com*

Our thanks to Brenda Seago and Andrew Clements for traveling quite some distance to our meeting, and providing us with some excellent information! And thanks again to Eric and the Program Committee for putting on an excellent program! **§**

<div style="text-align: center">

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TechnoHumanist Corner

Are you feeling frustrated these days when you search the World Wide Web? Perhaps you use your favorite search engine, e.g., *Google*, *AltaVista*, etc., and it lets you down by retrieving a large number of irrelevant sites. You try lots of other web searching strategies, but the results are still disappointing. Are you losing your touch as a searcher

or are you just having a bad Web day? Maybe. However, there is a good chance that the problem may be the Web and not you. You have been searching the "Visible Web," but the information you seek is in the "Invisible Web." You are looking for information in all the wrong places!

Yes, there are two types of Webs – the Visible and Invisible! In the beginning there was only one Web – the Visible Web. The Visible Web consists of static pages, i.e., documents written in HTML. Someone writes a document in HTML code and publishes it on the Web by uploading it onto a server for the world to see. Unless the author or the webmaster alters the code or changes the location, these web pages remain unchanged; ergo, the name "static pages." Good examples of static pages are home pages or, if you are reading this column on the Web, this document.

The "Invisible Web" aka the "Dark Web" or the "Deep Web" is a little harder to define. Most of these labels do not accurately describe the situation. "Dark Web" is analogous to the concept of black matter in physics. Black matter exists, but physicists cannot determine its location, nature, scope and depth. Scientists know it when they encounter it. For me, the term "Dark Web" conjures up images of nefarious characters from *The Lord of the Rings* and rogue Jedi at their computers surfing the Dark Side of the Web. "Invisible Web" also is not an accurate description of this portion of the Web. The documents on this part of the Web are not hidden from view. They reside in the Web waiting to be accessed.

The most descriptive label. the one I prefer, is the "Deep Web." What is the Deep Web? The Deep Web consists of files that reside in the Web that search engines *intentionally* do not index. There are a variety of reasons why a search engine might not index a web page. One reason is format. Search engines have been programmed to be efficient in searching and indexing text files such as HTML files. When they encounter files in other formats such as PDF, Shockwave, Flash or executable programs such as msword.exe, or compressed files such as .zip files, the search engines ignore them. In theory, search engines can be programmed to index many of these formats; in reality, doing so would require a lot of computing power and resources. For instance, U.S. government documents are increasingly being published on the Web in PDF format. They can vary in length from one page to several hundred pages. Indexing a document such as *Medical Subject Headings – Annotated Alphabetic List* would require a lot of computing power because of its size.

Another stumbling block for a search engine is databases. Some databases are proprietary and require passwords. Different databases have different ID and password procedures. Humans can input the various authentication data required by different databases with minimal difficulty. Search engines cannot. Also, the ability to do a good search in a database is predicated on understanding the data structure and searching syntax of a database. Humans can do that; search engines cannot. For example, if you want to search MEDLINE and ISI Web of Science for information on coronary heart disease, you customize the search strategies as appropriate for each database. As medical librarians we know that MEDLINE is a subject-driven database while ISI is keyword-

driven. Therefore, if you are searching MEDLINE for information on coronary heart disease, the appropriate subject heading to use is "Coronary Disease". Searching in ISI, you would input keywords such as "CHD", "coronary disease" or "coronary heart disease". Search engines are presently neither intelligent enough to understand these nuances nor are they able to input the changing terms. Also, many databases, e.g., PubMed, OPACs, etc., create records/files "on the fly." These items are ephemeral and search engines cannot index them because they only exist for the brief time you are searching. As soon as you logout of the database or close your browser, the database documents will disappear into the great electronic netherworld.

Finally, there is the factor of economics. It would be very costly to develop search engines that can index both the Visible and Deep Web. Currently, the best search engine indexing the Visible Web is *Google*. It claims to index 1 billion web pages. According to the study done by Bright Planet, "The Deep Web: Surfacing Hidden Value" (http://www.completeplanet.com/Tutorials/Deepweb/index.asp), the Deep Web is *currently* 500 times larger than the Visible Web. In other words, *Google* only indexes 1/500 of the Web! Much specialized technical and scientific information resides in the Deep Web because it is housed in databases or file formats, e.g., scientific articles in PDF format, which normal search engines miss. The cost of developing the software and having the computing power to quickly, efficiently search over 500 billion pages would be very high.

How do we, as information specialists, cope with this new universe of information? First, by remembering that size does not equate with quality or relevancy. Second, by using a database that covers the topic when searching for specialized information,. If you do not know of a database on your topic, use a search engine to search for it. For instance, if you need to locate radiologic images, you might look in a database of medical images. Try using a search engine to input the terms *+radiology +images +database* to locate a radiologic image database. Third, periodically check the advanced searching instructions of various search engines to see if they are covering an aspect of the Deep Web. For instance, *Google* may currently be the only general search engine that will retrieve PDF files. If you include *filetype:pdf* in your *Google* search query, your retrieval will be limited to PDF files. Fourth, look for subject specific web pages and directories by experts in your topic. Experts tend to target other professionals in their own fields of interest. Therefore, their web pages are likely to link to resources of which a novice or beginner may not be cognizant.

Finally, start using products that are specifically designed to probe the Deep Web. Examples of such products include: Intelliseek's InvisibleWeb.com (http://www.invisibleweb.com/), a directory engine that focuses on resources missed in a traditional web search; CompletePlanet (http://www.completeplanet.com/combined.asp), a product of the company that did the Deep Web study; MedNets (http://www.mednets.com/), specializing in medical searching; Internets (http://www.internets.com/), a collection of searchable databses, and Infomine (http://infomine.ucr.edu/), a collection of scholarly internet resources. There are other products out there. If you have a favorite, share it with the rest of us.

To learn more about the Deep Web and how to search it, I recommend the following: "The Invisible Web" by Karen R. Diaz, *Reference & User Services Quarterly*, 40(2): Winter 2000: p. 131. Academic Index Database; "Those Dark Hiding Places: The Invisible Web Revealed" by Robert J. Lackie (http://library.rider.edu/scholarly/rlackie/Invisible/Inv_Web.html); "Exploring the Invisible Web" by Gary Price and Chris Sherman, *Online,* 25(4): July/August 2001, p. 32-34; "The Invisible Web" by Chris Sherman and Gary Price, *Searcher*, 9(6): p. 62. Academic Index Database; "Getting to Know the Invisible Web" by C. Brian Smith, *Library Journal*, 126(12): July 2001, p. S16. Academic Index Database; "The Internet's Hidden Content and How to Find it" by Bonnie Snow, *Online,* May-June 2000, p. 61-66; "Invisible Web Gets Deeper" by Danny Sullivan, *The Search Engine Report*, Aug. 2, 2000 (http://www.searchenginewatch.com/sereport/00/08-deepweb.html), and "Invisible Web: What it is, Why it Exists, How to Find it, and its Inherent Ambiguity" by UC Berkeley - Teaching Library Internet Workshops (http://www.lib.berkeley.edu/TeachingLib/Guides/Internet/InvisibleWeb.html).

Well, it's time for me to disappear and become invisible. CU NX time. If you have any questions, comments or suggestions about this column, please Email me.

<div align="right">

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Calendar

Date: October 2001
Event: National Medical Librarians Month
Information: http://www.mlanet.org/press/nml-month/index.html

Date : Fall 2001 (see list below)
Sponsor: The College of Information Science and Technology at Drexel University
Location: Drexel Univ., 3141 Chestnut St, Phila. PA 19104 215-895-1070
Contact : Avis A. Taylor, Coordinator, continuing professional education:
Avis.taylor@cis.drexel.edu
Cost and time : Varies
Detailed information and registration:
http://www.cis.drexel.edu/grad/cpe/fall2001_schedule.asp

Date/Topics
October 30 : Object-Oriented Analysis and Design with UML
October 31, Nov. 5,7 Focus on Operating Systems
October 31 The Hidden Web : Finding What the Search Engines Miss
November 1 Online Ontologies and Taxing Taxonomies
November 2 : XHTML III : Cascading Style Sheets
November 6,8,13,15 : Network Technology : A to Z

November 7 : Creating Web Pages with Dreamweaver : Level 1
November 14 : Creating Web Pages with Dreamweaver : Level II
November 16 : The Hidden Web : Finding What the Search Engines Miss
November 19 : Web Development with XML
November 27 & 28 : Client/Server Technology : How and Why it Works
December 4 & 6 : User Interface Design

Date : October 30, 2001
Sponsor: DIALOG
Topic : Developing DIALOG Searching Expertise, Pt. 3: Advanced
Time: 9:00AM-12:00PM
Location : Philadelphia
Information & Registration: Call the DIALOG Knowledge Center: 800-334-2564
Or register online at: http://training.dialog.com/sem_info/calendar/penn.html

Event: PALINET workshops, Fall 2001
Sponsor: PALINET
Class dates and topics:
10/31, 11/07 Internet Search Services (Online)
11/01, 11/08 OCLC Product Services Web Site: Shared Resources for Effective Use
(Online)
11/5-6   OCLC Institute: Library Management In The Knowledge Age: An Introduction
　　　　　for First_Time & Aspiring Managers
11/07 Union List Basics
11/08-09 Advanced Serials Cataloging
11/16 Cataloger's Desktop & Classification Plus
11/28, 12/5 OCLC Telecommunication Statistics: Accessing & Interpreting (Online)
11/29 WorldCat Advanced Searching
12/03 HTML Basics
12/05 HTML: Beyond the Basics
12/06 Online FirstSearch and FirstSearch Electronic Collections Online Usage Statistics
　　　　for Individual Libraries (Online)
12/13   Online FirstSearch and FirstSearch Electronic Collections Online Usage Statistics
　　　　for Consortium & Sub-Group Members   (Online)
Location: PALINET, 3401 Market Street, Suite 262, Philadelphia, PA
Information & registration: http://www.palinet.org

Date: November 2-8, 2001
Sponsor: ASIST (American Society for Information Science and Technology)
Event: 2001 annual meeting
Theme : Information in a Networked World : Harnessing the Flow
Location: J.W. Marriott Hotel, Washington, D.C.
Information: asis@asis.org or http://www.asis.org/Conferences/AM01/index.html

Date: November 5-6, 2001
Sponsor: National Library of Medicine
Topic: Introduction to Web-based Searching : Using PubMed, the NLM Gateway and ClinicalTrials.gov
Location: Bethesda, MD
Information & Registration: http://nnlm.gov/mar/online/request.html

Date : November 6-8, 2001
Event : Internet Librarian 2001
Sponsor : Information Today, Inc.
Location : Pasadena Conference & Exhibition Center • Pasadena, CA
Information: http://www.infotoday.com/il2001/registration.htm
Information Today, Inc., Phone: (609) 654-6266 • Fax: (609) 654-4309
Email: custserv@infotoday.com

Date: November 7, 2001
Sponsor : Special Libraries Association, Philadelphia Chapter
Topic: CI and Market Research : Contributing to Successful Brand Management
Speaker: Linda M. Miles, Miles Marketing Company
Time: 6:00 pm – 9:00 p.m.
Location: Doubletree Guest Suites, Plymouth Meeting, Pa.
Cost: $35.00 members, $50.00 nonmembers
Information: http://www.sla.org/chapter/cphl/eventschp.htm

Date: November 8 & 9
Sponsor: Derwent
Topic: Derwent World Patents Index – Derwent Basics (Nov. 8)
        Advanced Patent Searching & Competitive Intelligence (Nov. 9)
Information and Registration: call: 800 451-3551
or Email: training@derwentus.com

Date: November 12 & 13, 2001
Event : PALINET Annual Meeting 2001 : A Cyberspace Odyssey
     (65th Anniversary Celebration)
Location: Hilton Hotel & Towers, Harrisburg, PA
Information & Registration form: http://www.palinet.org
Cost: $90.00 (members); $125.00 (non-members) (for full conference)

Date: November 19, 1001
Sponsor: National Library of Medicine
Topic: Keeping Up with NLM's PubMed, the NLM Gateway, and ClinicalTrials.gov
Location: Bethesda, MD
Information & Registration: http://nnlm.gov/mar/online/request.html

Date: November 28, 2001
Sponsor: DIALOG
Topic: Developing Patent Research Expertise, Pt. 1: Patent Search Basics
Time: 9:00AM – 12:30PM
Location: Philadelphia
Information & Registration: Call the DIALOG Knowledge Center: 800-334-2564
Or register online at: http://training.dialog.com/sem_info/calendar/penn.html

Date: December 14, 2001
Event: Proving Your Worth
Sponsor: Philadelphia Chapter, Medical Library Association
Speaker: Michelynn McKnight
Location: University of Pennsylvania, Class of '55 room, Van Pelt-Dietrich Library
Center, 2nd floor
Information: Ruthanne Spatafore; Phone: 215-898-5816   Email: rcw@pobox.upenn.edu
More information forthcoming **§**

Treasurer's Report

The Philadelphia Regional Chapter/MLA Mellon bank account, as of October 19, 2001,
has a balance of $10,932.83. All transactions are recorded in a Quicken database. **§**

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The next deadline is February 15, 2001.