the Chronicle

Philadelphia Regional Chapter
Medical Library Association, Inc.
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In this issue...

At the Biblioteca Central "Juan José Montes de Oca," Facultad de Medicina, Universidad de Buenos Aires: Director, Lc. Maria Teresa Di Vietro, Barbara Kountouzi, and Associate Director, Analia R. Verrie.

IFLA in Buenos Aires : A Magical Experience

By Barbara Kountouzi
varvarak@mail.med.upenn.edu

The 70th International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) conference was held in August in Buenos Aires, Argentina. Taking place for the first time in Latin America, the conference attracted nearly 4,000 participants from 121 countries. Thanks to the generosity of my library, I was one of them.

The theme of this year's meeting was "Libraries: Tools for Education and Development." As the Education Coordinator at Penn's Biomedical Library, I felt that the theme fell in line with my work duties and interests. Further, being relatively new to the profession and still somewhat uncertain of my place in the profession, I felt I could benefit immensely from getting in touch with librarians from all over the world.

The overall experience was breathtaking, both literally and metaphorically. At a metaphorical level, I was bombarded with new information: information pertaining to professional issues, to cultural issues, even political issues. At a literal level, trying to attend as many sessions as possible was a true marathon. Due to space limitations, the conference events were split between two hotels, and in accordance with Murphy's law, most of the sessions I was interested in were held either simultaneously, or one right after the other at different locations. I was told by more experienced attendees that this is the way it always is at big conferences, but this didn't diminish my frustration. The distance between the hotels was a mere five-minute drive and there was a shuttle leaving from the Hilton every twenty minutes. However, given the notorious traffic of Buenos Aires, I soon figured out that it was much faster to walk. So I ran. I should mention a loss of six pounds among the other benefits I had from this conference.

The sessions I attended focused on the challenges that new technology poses for librarians in promoting information literacy, particularly in the area of health sciences. My first meeting was the Health and Biosciences Libraries Committee business meeting, which I attended as an observer. Sitting among the very experienced and active committee members was a little intimidating at first, but the warm welcome I received and the relaxed atmosphere soon made me relax. One of the items on the agenda was the bid for the 2009 International Congress on Medical Librarianship (ICML) site. Representatives from two libraries gave a presentation promoting their libraries for the location of the conference. This was something totally new to me, as I had never put much thought into what it takes to organize a conference.

The Health and Biosciences section had five speakers, all of whom addressed various aspects of health literacy. There was a presentation on patient information from New Zealand, one each on medical resources from India and from China, and one on electronic textbooks by – surprise! – OVID Technologies. I found the latter rather odd, especially when the whole presentation came down to the speaker trying to sell the OVID products and the attendees criticizing OVID's pricing. I thought that it is not proper for a conference session to become the arena between vendors and librarians, but perhaps I am wrong. Perhaps this is exactly the place for librarians to raise their complaints as one entity. That's something for further thought.

There was a lot of talk on the collaboration between librarians and faculty as well as between librarians and physicians. On the one hand, it was very comforting for me to see that librarians across the globe face the same problems that we do, and also very encouraging to see how other libraries deal with these problems. On the other hand, it was a bit dispiriting to hear about programs that have been successful mainly because libraries had outstanding financial and moral support from the university administration.

This year there was a lot of attention to the younger professionals. The "newcomers" session -- though somewhat belated since it took place on the third day of the conference – offered some practical tips on making the most of the conference, as well as some very inspiring leads. Further, there was a whole day dedicated to student attendance, spreading a hopeful message about the new generations of librarians.

And now to my absolute favorite part: the library visits! Officially, every attendee was allowed to participate in one library tour. My first choice was the National Academy of Medicine Library, which I visited as part of the guided tour. However, when I expressed an interest in visiting more libraries, one of the librarians at the Academy was so nice as to call the Medical Library of the University of Buenos Aires, obtain permission for me to visit, and even put me in a taxi and give directions to the cab driver! Upon my arrival, I received an individual tour from the director herself. Needless to say, I was most honored by this royal treatment. Finally, I was lucky enough to meet another Argentine librarian (she came to my rescue when I was struggling for directions with a hotel employee who didn't speak a word of English) who works at the Italian Hospital of Buenos Aires, and who invited me to visit her at work before leaving for the U.S. So I got to visit three libraries in total. For me, this was the best part. It was great to talk to these

librarians about their actual daily work and to hear about their problems; I had to admire the perseverance with which they deal with the national financial crisis which has had a devastating impact on libraries. It was a strong reminder of how many more resources are available to us in the U.S. and how we usually take them for granted.

I could go on for pages, but space limitations mandate that I control myself. Besides, there are things that no words could accurately describe no matter how hard I try: being at the Teatro Colon with 4,000 people and a common interest; hearing a half-dozen different languages at the same time; walking on the streets of Buenos Aires on a spring afternoon.

Attending an IFLA conference is a magical experience that every librarian must have, even if it's once in a lifetime. Once again, a big thanks to my supervisors for making this trip possible, and to my colleagues for covering for me while I was away. **§**

Editor's Note: Barbara Kountouzi is Coordinator of Education and Research Services, Biomedical Library, University of Pennsylvania.

Open Access and the NIH Proposal

By Karen Albert
karen.albert@fccc.edu

By now, you have most likely heard about the bold new Congressional directive to the NIH to provide free access to all publications resulting from its research funds. The recently passed House Appropriations bill requires the NIH to submit a plan by December 1 for accomplishing this open access goal in fiscal year 2005. This is an amazing development in view of the endless years of struggle and angst experienced by librarians over the serials pricing crisis and the resulting barriers to accessing critical journal content. Perhaps it took the involvement of scientists in the open access movement to finally stimulate the government to act.

The NIH plan calls for the research publications they fund to be deposited in PubMed Central (PMC) six months after publication. The draft plan appears in the Federal Register, and comments are requested by email (PublicAccess@nih.gov) or webform: (http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/public_access/add.htm) by November 16. The NIH could apparently enact this policy without Congressional intervention – by simply changing the conditions for grants and contracts.[1] Once the public commentary period has ended, that is quite possibly what they will do.

What are the implications of this approach to providing free access to journal articles? There are conflicting statistics concerning exactly how much literature is NIH-funded and therefore affected by the policy. I've seen data indicating the applicable literature ranges from 20-60% of all published journal articles. No matter what the numbers are, this new policy will surely impact a significant percentage of the major biomedical publications.

Few can argue with the lofty goals of providing consumers, scientists, healthcare providers, students, and teachers with unfettered web-based access to vital, credible clinical and research information. The public should not have to pay for the results of research that they have funded. However, there are a variety of opinions regarding the true impact of this new plan. Here is a summation of the views of major stakeholders:

Commercial publishers: As expected, they were extremely unhappy with the original plan allowing some articles to be deposited in PMC immediately after publication. During a July meeting with NIH Director Elias Zerhouni, publishers protested that "the immediate release of papers would dramatically affect their businesses." (The instant deposit of papers was eventually dropped from the plan in favor of the six-month delay.) Over 100 publishers subsequently visited Zerhouni's office, voicing strong concerns about the plan overall, because "this essentially mandates open access without any evidentiary hearings or studies."[2] The Association of American Publishers (AAP) believes that this policy represents governmental interference with free enterprise without documentation of a public need.[3]

Society publishers: They have a variety of objections to the NIH proposal. The smaller ones believe this will cost them losses in subscription-based funds and could lead to their demise. Larger ones, like ASBMB (publisher of the *Journal of Biological Chemistry*) and the Massachusetts Medical Society (publisher of *New England Journal of Medicine*) support the proposal, but would like to see linking to the publisher's website for access to article full text, rather than deposit of articles in PMC. They believe that linking will avoid problems inherent in multiple article versions and locations, which they say can lead to third-party modifications.[4, 5]

Library groups: SLA, ALA, MLA, and AALL sent Elias Zerhouni a joint letter (http://www.sla.org/content/SLA/advocacy/otherinitatives.cfm) of support for the proposal, indicating their belief that this plan would expand access to much needed information, while giving publishers time to explore alternative journal models. MLA's support for the proposal is detailed in a letter (http://www.mlanet.org/government/info_access/mla_nih_1.html) posted on MLANET to Zerhouni from Joanne Gard Marshall and Carla Funk.

Consumers: A number of patient advocacy groups and consumer groups strongly favor the proposal. However, the executive director of the Deafness Research Foundation indicated that many patients would prefer that original research be made available in a digested or summary format, rather than in the original form.

My view: This is such a complex situation that it is extremely difficult to predict how this new plan, if implemented, would ultimately affect our world. Here is an excerpt of the comments I sent to the NIH:

> *I fully endorse the ideals espoused in the NIH Enhanced Public Access proposal. I agree that the products of taxpayer-funded research should be available free to the public in a long-term, reliable database like PubMed Central. I also concur*

with the goal of preserving the publishers' role in peer review and publication of scientific research.[6]

I believe that publishers will experience some loss of revenue due to subscription cancellations if this plan is implemented. From past experience, I have seen publishers raise prices in the face of perceived or real income loss. Even with the six-month delay in deposit of research articles, I believe that some libraries and individuals will cancel subscriptions, relying on the free access for titles less critical to their needs. I fear that in the face of these cancellations, publishers will increase subscription prices for remaining customers, as they have often done in the past.

Therefore, I am not sure that this proposal will do much to address the problems caused by the serials pricing crisis. It is possible that this proposal, if enacted, will lead to a worsening of the situation.

What do you think? Feel free to address these issues by writing an opinion piece or letter to the editor for the next issue, or email me with your thoughts. I welcome the interchange.

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From the Chair

Summer went by too quickly, as it always does. The Board wasn't idle however; we had a productive meeting in July at which we planned some wonderful programs and CE courses for the coming year.

Two events have already taken place. The CE course held September 22 dealt with electronic licensing issues. Those who attended learned a lot! On October 28th, we had a joint program with our friends in SLA-Phil. Sharon Ladner, a researcher from the University of Miami, presented her findings from interviews she conducted with librarians on whether gender issues have a significant impact on jobs in the information world. Three local chapter (SLA or MLA) panelists, Christine Chastain-Warheit, Suzanne Cole, and Holly Rudkowski shared their very different but equally satisfying career paths. Their experiences and life stories were fascinating!

What I'm really excited about is our upcoming Mini-Public Health School. On April 6th, this day-long program at Thomas Jefferson University features outstanding speakers in the field: Marla Gold, Dean of the School of Public Health at Drexel University; Kristine Alpi, from the NYC Department of Mental Health and Hygiene; and Trevor Hadley, Director, Center for Mental Health Policy and Services Research, University of Pennsylvania. Public Health is an increasingly important social issue as the United States struggles with the escalating cost of delivering health services to all. The appeal of this program, like our very successful Mini-Medical School in 2003, goes well beyond the interests of librarians. Stay tuned for more detailed information and encourage all of your colleagues in the health care arena to attend. CE credit will be offered.

The Chapter has a new strategic plan for 2004-2006 which you can read at http://www.mlaphil.org/strategic_plan.html. Intended to complement MLA national's plan, it is designed to meet the needs and concerns of the membership. §

Lenore Hardy
Chair, 2004-2005
ls43@drexel.edu

From the Editor

We strugged a bit with this issue, trying to come up with something special to report. We got really lucky, on two fronts! First, thanks to Anne Seymour for putting me in touch with Barbara Kountouzi at Penn's Biomedical Library, who came through with a beautiful piece on her trip to Buenos Aires to attend IFLA. Buenos Aires is a place that I've always wanted to visit, and Barbara 's story reinforced that idea. I always enjoy seeing libraries in other locales, and this is just what Barbara did as part of her IFLA experience.

Second, Karen Albert generously offered to compose an article about the hot topic of Open Access. She also came through with an excellent report, which she somehow managed to produce before and after a quick trip to Paris to visit her daughter, Barbara, and family, who just welcomed child number three! Reading Karen's article helped me to understand the points of view of the various "stakeholders" better; I'm certain you'll feel the same way.

Do check out two new member profiles in this issue-- Diane Wolf and Brad Long.

And please mark your calendars for two important future events-- the Mini-Public Health School on April 6 and the Annual Dinner on May 4.

We welcome your feedback, letters, comments! §

Linda M.G. Katz
lk32@drexel.edu

From the Program Committee Chair

On October 28, 2004 Philadelphia MLA joined forces with Philadelphia SLA for a joint program at the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine Zedeck Auditorium in Evans Hall. The featured speaker, Sharyn J. Ladner, from the University of Miami, and author of *Career Patterns of Women Librarians Who Were Early Adopters of the Internet*, her Florida State University Ph.D. dissertation, presented: "Gender and the Information Professional: Is it the Elephant in the Room?"

After her presentation a panel of Chapter members discussed how gender has influenced their career paths as information professionals. The panelists included:

* Christine Chastain-Warheit, Director, Medical Libraries, Christiana Care
* Suzanne Cole, Consultant to the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation
* Holly Rutkowski, Vice President, Information Services, QVC

The program was made possible with the generous support of Swets Information Services and STAT!Ref

A total of 61 people attended the event. They included:

    4 speakers
    3 vendors
    1 retiree
    3 students
    50 regular members

Many thanks to Melanie Cedrone, Stephanie Ferretti and Lenore Hardy for helping to coordinate this event.

Look for our next exciting program in early 2005. If you have any suggestions or ideas for programs, please email me or call. **§**

Dan Kipnis
Program Committee Chair
dan.kipnis@Jefferson.edu

Meet Your Fellow Chapter Members

Profile #1: Diane Wolf

Present Professional Position: I am currently the Associate Director, Medical Libraries, at the Christiana Care Health System. I manage reference, interlibrary loan services and the clinical library at the Wilmington Hospital. I assist the Director, Christine Chastain-Warheit, on other aspects of management of our four libraries. Looking ahead, our major new initiative is facilitating the move to the new library at the Christiana Hospital that will house the merged collections of the Delaware Academy of Medicine and the Christiana Hospital Library. That move is scheduled for 2006.

Past Professional Experience: I've been at Christiana Care for 25 years (my official anniversary is 11/7/04). I started as a reference librarian focusing on audiovisual software and equipment. Before working at Christiana Care, I served as Extension Librarian with the Mid-Eastern Regional Medical Library Service (the former Philadelphia-based RML). I enjoyed a brief stint as a young adult services librarian at the Irvington (NY) Public Library and started my career as an AV Librarian at what is now the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey

What do you find most interesting about your work? I love the variety of hospital library work, and especially opportunities to work closely with residents and students. One of the many interesting parts of my work is clinical librarianship with the family medicine department.   I go to rounds once a week and help develop and answer the clinical questions that evolve from the discussions.

What qualities or traits do you find most helpful in your work? Traits that are helpful include flexibility in dealing with ever-changing priorities and demands on my time. Also important are the seemingly incongruent qualities of creativity in problem-solving and willingness to stick with a question until it is satisfactorily answered.

What do you enjoy doing "for fun"? A recent travel weekend provided many opportunities for fun, such as reading (I got to read a whole novel in one weekend!),

exercise, bird watching, and trying new restaurants.   I enjoy spending time with my adult (most of the time) children and delight in their accomplishments.

Is there anything about you that others might be surprised to know? People seem surprised when they learn that I have absolutely no science background. My undergraduate major was in religion with a minor in modern dance.

Why would you encourage members to become actively involved in the Philadelphia Regional Chapter? I've been a Chapter member since 1976 and have enjoyed both the benefits of membership and the opportunities for Chapter leadership.   Our small (geographically speaking) size allows us to get to know one another quickly, meet frequently, and to respond expeditiously to new developments. My participation in the MLA national task force on the information specialist in context (formerly known as the informationist concept) is directly related to our Chapter's speedy response to the original informationist editorial in the *Annals of Internal Medicine.*

Profile #2: Brad Long

Present Professional Position: Senior Information Services Librarian at Scott Memorial Library, Thomas Jefferson University (Sept. 2000-present). Also working as part-time Evening Supervisor at Hahnemann Center City Library, Drexel University (Oct. 2002 - present).

Past Professional Experience: Medical Librarian, St. Francis Medical Center, Pittsburgh, PA (Feb. 1995-June 1999) and Library Director, Ohio Valley Medical Center, Wheeling, WV (July 1999-Aug. 2000).

What do you find most interesting about your work? Knowing that I am making a difference in improving patient care. From helping the first-year nursing student with a basic research project to doing a stat search for a physician with an unfamiliar case, I know that, somewhere down the line, my assistance will lead to positive treatment outcomes.

What qualities or traits do you find most helpful in your work? The three things that I find most helpful with my job are my strong customer service skills, my health sciences undergraduate training, and my computer skills. The combination of the three is extremely helpful for being a medical reference librarian.

What do you enjoy doing "for fun"? I really enjoy sports, whether I'm watching one of my Pittsburgh teams play or I'm in Fairmount Park playing softball or riding my bike. I also like to travel within the United States, with the eventual goal of visiting all 50 states. This country has so much to offer and is so diverse. My recent trip to New Mexico reminded me of how different the Southwest is from the Northeast.

Is there anything about you that others might be surprised to know? That I grew up in the middle of the Allegheny National Forest in northwestern Pennsylvania. There were 28 people in my high school graduating class, and that was a public school.

Why would you encourage members to become actively involved in the Philadelphia Regional Chapter? I know practically everyone says this, but you do get a lot out of networking. I know that I can call on my colleagues at other institutions when I need to know how things are done elsewhere. This was extemely important to me when I was working in small hospital libraries. Also, you do get a lot out of the social aspects from meeting and conferences. I still have quite a few good friends from other chapters that I belonged to that I see at the annual conference. **§**

Edited by Linda M.G. Katz
linda.katz@drexel.edu

Member & Library News

Nancy Calabretta, Reference Librarian, Reuben L. Sharp Health Science Library, Cooper Health System, Camden, has become a member of the Family Physicians' Inquiries Network (FPIN) Librarian Community. FPIN is a national, not-for-profit academic consortium of family physicians, family medicine residency programs and departments, medical librarians, and other health professionals with the common goal of using information technology to improve health care. The FPIN Librarian Community is a network of librarians interested in collaborating on delivery systems for evidence-based information at the point-of-care. Currently Clinical Inquiries (CI 1s) are the primary area in which FPIN librarians lend their search expertise and collaborate with physicians. These CI 1s are evidence-based summaries prepared by clinician authors who review and appraise the evidence provided by the librarian co-author through structured, evidence-bases searches of the literature. The CI 1s are published in the *Journal of Family Practice*.

Nancy Calabretta, Reference Librarian, Reuben L. Sharp Health Science Library, Cooper Health System, Camden, has been appointed to the Editorial Board of *Medical Reference Services Quarterly*.

Rachel Resnick, Research Librarian, Polisher Research Institute, Abramson Center for Jewish Life (formerly Philadelphia Geriatric Center) in Horsham, has published "Resources for the Elderly and their Caregivers" in *Journal of Hospital Librarianship*, 4(3):1-14, 2004.

Susan Cavanaugh, Reference Librarian, Reuben L. Sharp Health Science Library, Cooper Health System, Camden, attended the Alliance of Academic Internal Medicine (AAIM) Meeting in Nashville, TN, October 14-16. She co-presented a workshop entitled "Real-Time Evidence-Based Medicine: Opportune Teaching Moments at the Bedside."

Janet Clinton, Manager, Library Services, Health Sciences Library, Mercy Fitzgerald Hospital, Upper Darby, is a recipient of a 2004 Leadership Award from the Hospital Libraries Section, MLA.

Christine Chastain-Warheit, Director, Medical Libraries, Christiana Care Health System, was an invited speaker at the first Thomson MicroMedex User Alliance held at Coors Field in Denver, Colorado, on September 26-28. The conference was attended by 120 health professionals and three librarians. Her presentation, entitled "Maximizing Your MicroMedex Investment," emphasized the importance of demonstrating ROI and the value of collaboration between hospital pharmacy professionals and hospital librarians.

Christine Chastain-Warheit, Director, Medical Libraries, Christiana Care Health System, was part of the three-person panel of discussants at the joint Philadelphia SLA and MLA program on "Gender and the Health Professional," on October 28.

Linda Katz, Associate Director, Drexel University Health Sciences Libraries, has been chosen to be a Library Selector in the creation of *Doody's Core Titles in the Health Sciences* (*DCT*), to be published online in December of this year. She is one of a recruited panel of collection development specialists participating in this project. DCT is expected to fill the void created by the demise of the Brandon/Hill Selected Lists.; it will be a core list of selected titles for medical, nursing and allied health libraries, covering 119 specialties.

The National Library of Medicine has announced that the **Philadelphia AIDS Library,** in collaboration with **Project TEACH** (Treatment Education Activists Combating HIV), with **Jenny Pierce** as Project Director, is one of 40 funded projects in 24 states intended to improve access to health information for the general public. New modules will be created for the TEACH interactive media series.

Delaware Academy of Medicine's Lewis B. Flynn Library is a winner of the NN/LM Middle Atlantic Region's 2004 National Commission on Libraries and Information Science (NCLIS) Blue Ribbon Consumer Health Information Award. Award winners were chosen based on the overall success of the library's consumer health information services program, with particular emphasis on the program's potential best practices in consumer health information distribution done through the libraries.

Mindy Paquette-Murphy reports that Sanofi-Synthelabo is now Sanofi-Aventis, with a corresponding change in the email domain to sanofi-aventis.com.

Rebecca Raszewski, Reference Librarian, **Gary Childs**, Education Librarian, and **Jessica Ward**, Access Services Librarian, all at Drexel University Health Sciences Libraries' Hahnemann Library, are hosting a tour of the Hahnemann Library in conjunction with National Medical Librarians Month. SLA student members and Drexel library school students are invited to the program, which will include a short presentation of OVID MEDLINE, on November 15 at 5:30 pm.

Staff Changes:

Kevin Block is now Systems/Reference Librarian at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey Health Sciences Library, Stratford, NJ; he had been Manager of Access Services, Scott Memorial Library, Thomas Jefferson University.

Jonathan Goff has joined the staff at the College of Physicians of Philadelphia as the Content Manager for the College's Philly Health Info web portal (http://www.phillyhealthinfo.org). Previously, he had worked in the Electronic Acquisitions Department at the University of Pennsylvania's Van Pelt Library. **§**

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Linda M.G. Katz
lk32@drexel.edu

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Membership Update

There are many things happening over here at Membership. First, you may have noticed that the online membership directory hasn't been working properly recently. We are currently working to modify the website and change all of the pages to Dreamweaver format. The page was originally authored in Frontpage, so there are some compatibility issues at the moment. This problem should clear up shortly.

Second, in light of this change, the password used to enter the online membership directory will be changing in the near future. The new password will be sent to members via email. If you have changed email accounts recently or if you have any questions regarding these changes, please email me at *gc24@drexel.edu*.

Third, the Membership committee will be offering a new renewal feature this coming year. For the year of 2005, MLA-PHIL members will be able to renew their existing memberships for multiple years. Members will be able to renew their membership for a maximum of three years! We hope that this feature will make the renewal process easier for all of our members.

Last, the total number of Chapter members is currently 142. **§**

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Gary Childs.
Membership Chair
gc24@drexel.edu

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From the Development Coordinator

A letter was sent out to vendors in early October to seek their support for our 2004-2005 schedule of programs and Continuing Education courses. I am pleased to report that just

one month later we have already received contributions from three of them. Swets Information Services was one of the sponsors of the joint SLA/MLA program on October 28, "Gender and the Information Professional," and HSLC and Majors Scientific Books have both sent contributions to be used at our discretion.

As always, if you have thoughts of possible new sponsors, please email me contact information. §

<div align="right">
Gina Kaiser
Development Coordinator
g.kaiser@usip.edu
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MLA's Leadership and Management Section : The Benefits of Membership

Certain problems are common to all medical librarians: how to keep their skills current, finding a network of colleagues who can advise and support them, and figuring out a career plan that offers them opportunities for growth and advancement. The MLA, fortunately, exists in order to help us address these problems. And within the MLA there is a flourishing system of sections that makes this task even easier.

There are currently 23 MLA sections. These sections draw like-minded colleagues together so that they can better pursue their common interests. Their range – from medical informatics to collection development to dental and veterinary libraries – attests to the diversity and vitality of our profession. Membership in any one of these sections is certain to stimulate and benefit those who belong to them.

I am a member of the Leadership and Management Section (LMS) and serve on that section's membership committee. I am willing to admit that this affiliation has perhaps clouded my objectivity. And it's not inconceivable that my partiality to the LMS has made me lose sight of the important work that I'm sure is conducted within the other 22 sections. However that may be, I think that you might find membership in the Leadership and Management Section to be especially appealing. Let me explain why.

The LMS allows its members to network with colleagues interested in leadership and management by promoting research and professional development activities. It accomplishes this goal through programs and symposia held at MLA annual meetings, through *The Leading Edge* – its excellent newsletter, through its listserv, and through social events and business meetings. A particularly valuable service provided by the LMS is its identification and remediation of leadership and management problems in medical libraries. A recent LMS survey, for example, found that the profession offered few training and educational opportunities for librarians wishing to become middle managers. In response to this finding the LMS created a task force to determine how the section can help to fill this vacuum.

I mentioned at the outset that all librarians face the problem of figuring out a career plan that offers them opportunities for growth and advancement. Managerial and administrative positions are often exceedingly challenging and difficult. But they can also be fulfilling, rewarding, and stimulating in ways that other library positions are not. Those of you interested in such a career path will find that joining the MLA's Leadership and Management Section will help you to realize your professional aspirations.

More information about the LMS is available on its web page at:
http://www.lms.mlanet.org/
An application form is available at: http://www.lms.mlanet.org/join_us_form.html §

Submitted by Brian Bunnett, member of the South Central Chapter and of the LMS Membership Committee.

MLA Offers Library School Student Scholarship

MLA offers a scholarship of up to $5,000 to encourage library school students who show excellence in scholarship and potential for accomplishment in health sciences librarianship. Link to past recipients and an application form, which lists eligibility requirements and application procedures can be found at http://www.mlanet.org/awards/grants/, scroll down to MLA Scholarship.

Applications are due no later than December 1, 2004. §

MLA Scholarship for Minority Students

The Medical Library Association, as the professional association dedicated to improving the quality and leadership of health information professionals, has, since 1976, annually awarded a scholarship to a library school student from a minority group. This year the scholarship is up to $5,000. The MLA Scholarship for Minority Students is intended to encourage candidates who show excellence in scholarship and potential for leadership to pursue a career in health sciences librarianship and join that special cadre of librarians at the leading edge of information management.

To be eligible for the MLA Scholarship for Minority Students, applicants must be entering an ALA-accredited graduate library program or must have completed no more than half of their graduate library programs at the time of the award announcement (February). Applicants must be members of a minority group; this is defined as African-American, Hispanic, Asian, Native American, or Pacific Islander. Finally, applicants must also be citizens of or have permanent residence in the United States or Canada.

The deadline for applications is December 1, 1004.

For application information, please contact:

Medical Library Association
Professional Development Department
65 East Wacker Place, Suite 1900
Chicago, IL 60601-7298
Phone: (312) 419-9094
Fax: (312) 419-8950
Email: *mlapd2@mlaphil.org*

An online application form is available at: http://www.mlanet.org/awards/grants/ §

USA PATRIOT Act Institutional Guidelines Examples Sought

Has your library or institution developed a statement providing institutional guidelines for responding to search and seizure requests from law enforcement officials as a result of the USA PATRIOT Act (PL 107-56)? If so, MLA would like to provide a link to these on MLANET's governmental relations page. The statements will provide a valuable information resource for members who are developing a statement or wish to know more about how libraries are complying with the law. Please send links and a brief annotation to Mary Langman at *mlaedo2@mlahq.org*. §

Hospital Libraries Section/MLA Professional Development Grant Available

Hospital and clinical librarians: are you seeking funding to attend a meeting, further your professional education or conduct research? The HLS/MLA Professional Development Grant is intended to encourage participation in professional programs or to support reimbursement for expenses incurred in conducting scientific research; to aid librarians working in hospitals and other clinical care institutions in developing and acquiring knowledge and skills delineated in *Platform for Change* http://www.mlanet.org/education/platform/ (MLA's Educational Policy Statement) and *Using Scientific Evidence to Improve Information Practice* http://www.mlanet.org/research/science1.html (MLA's Research Policy Statement).

The deadline for the next grant award is February 1, 2005. Up to $800.00 is available to the recipient.
 Further information, including application forms and eligibility, is available at http://mlanet.org/pdf/grants/hlsapp_2002_1112.pdf. For more information, please contact Lisa Fried at (312) 419-9094, ext. 28, or email at *mlapd2@mlahq.org*. §

Call for the 2005 EBSCO/MLA Annual Meeting Grant

The EBSCO Annual Meeting Grant is sponsored by EBSCO Information Services and enables MLA members to attend the association's annual meeting. Each year awards up to $1,000 for travel and conference-related expenses will be given to four librarians who otherwise would be unable to attend the meeting. To be eligible an applicant must be currently employed as a health sciences librarian and have between two and five years experience in a health sciences library. Priority consideration will be given to the applicant who is the following:

1. Attending the annual meeting for the first time

2. Presenting a paper or poster at the annual meeting

3. Having a MLA committee, jury or section/SLG assignment

4. Being an MLA member

The application deadline is December 1.

Applicants must complete an application form including a 200-word statement answering the question, "What do you expect to gain professionally and/or personally by attending the MLA annual meeting?" The application is available at http://mlanet.org/pdf/grants/ebsco_app_20030730.pdf.

The completed application should be sent to the Medical Library Association, Professional Development Department, 65 East Wacker Place, Ste. 1900, Chicago, IL 60601-7298.

For more information contact Lisa Fried at MLA headquarters (*mlapd2@mlahq.org*) or Sandra L. Canham, Chair of the EBSCO/Annual Meeting Grant Jury (*scanham@ufl..edu*). **§**

TechnoHumanist Corner

Is your computer running slower and slower? Do you click on a web link of a site you regularly visit, but find yourself at an undesired page? You repeatedly try to close the browser, but it will not shut down. Finally, out of frustration you shut down your computer, reboot, and run your anti-virus program. The results of the scan are negative. It found no viruses. If this is your experience, then welcome to the 21st century's mini-version of Orwell's 1984. Big Brother is watching you. Your computer is running spyware that has taken control of your machine. The reason your antivirus program did not detect the spyware is because these programs are not usually viruses. So, what is spyware? How does spyware get into your computer? How does it affect the Internet user? What can you do to protect yourself against spyware programs?

Spyware is one of the fastest growing problems on the Internet. It has become such a problem that EarthLink and AOL are taking measures to combat these software programs. Although there may be some variance in the definition of spyware, all definitions agree that these programs have been placed on a person's computer without their knowledge and without their permission. These menacing and insidious programs fall into two categories: surveillance spyware and advertising software.

Surveillance spyware is dangerous because it collects sensitive personal information, which can be used by government agencies and hackers. In addition to information on the sites a person has visited, surveillance programs also capture a variety of sensitive information such as social security and credit card numbers and passwords. This information in the wrong hands can be harmful to the individual user.

Since the main focus of advertising software is to gather information for advertising and marketing purposes, it is considered less harmful. While advertising software may record your sex and age, it is more interested in your online shopping habits and your computer and system configuration than in sensitive personal information.   Advertising spyware is sometimes known as "Adware."   This is incorrect.   Unlike advertising spyware, adware is placed on the user's computer with his/her permission.

You may be thinking, "But, I'm always careful about downloading. How does spyware get on my computer?" Spyware gets on your machine in a variety of ways. One way spyware comes to your machine is through free software or shareware. Spyware programs will surreptitiously hitch a ride with a program, which you innocently downloaded. For example, that multimedia program you downloaded last year has been updated and now requires a plug-in, which you just downloaded. That plug-in may be accompanied by a spyware program. Another way is through your authorization for spyware to be placed on your computer. Now, you are probably thinking, "But, I never gave authorization for spyware be placed on my computer." Actually, you did when you accepted the terms of the End User Licensing Agreement (EULA). Most of us never read the EULA. We just want the program. However, some of those licensing agreements state acceptance of the EULA allows a company to capture information about your online habits and use that information as it sees fit.

Another way spyware arrives on your computer is through the backdoor of security and operating systems. Remember, if you use a cable modem or a broad bandwidth campus network, the minute you boot up your computer, you are connected to the Internet. Files and programs can creep onto your computer. Spyware exploits the security flaws and weaknesses of your browser and operating system. For instance, you visit a music site and you accidentally click on an ad. If from this point on, you are bombarded by a repetition of pop-ups, there is a good chance that spyware has been installed on your computer. Every time Microsoft writes a "patch" for Windows or Internet Explorer (IE), it means MS is closing a door through which viruses and spyware can take control of your computer. Since Windows is the most heavily used operating system and Internet Explorer (IE) is the most popular browser, they bear the brunt of hacker and spyware attacks.

"How does the presence of spyware on my computer affect me?" The information the spyware collects on you can affect you personally and technically. From a personal perspective, spyware can send your personal information to an unknown third party, leading to the theft of your identity. Identity theft, as we have read or heard in the media, can lead to a hellish nightmare for victims. It is not unusual for victims of identity theft to spend years in trying to restore their good name and credit.

From a technical standpoint, the presence of spyware on your computer is never good. If spyware is on your computer, initially you may not notice that your computer is running more slowly than normal. In the beginning, you may attribute the slowness to a bad connection or heavy traffic on the Web. However, over time the slowness of your computer will increase and become more evident. This slowness is the result of spyware lurking in the background. Programs running in the background usually require more memory and CPU time. Also, as the spyware uploads its information to another server, your Internet bandwidth becomes narrower. This leads to an information packet traffic jam on the Internet. This is the equivalent of being on I-95 at rush hour when it is four lanes, and then it narrows to a single lane. The trip that was supposed to take 15 minutes now takes 45 minutes. In addition to the slowness, you may experience browser and system crashes due to poorly written code in the spyware.

How do you protect your computer against spyware? There is no single program that can defeat all spyware. Since there is no silver bullet that will defeat spyware, it is recommended that you employ a variety of tools, i.e., firewalls, anti-spyware and anti-virus programs, to protect yourself against spyware. Begin with installing a firewall. You can purchase firewall programs from computer anti-virus security companies such as Norton and MacAfee. Or, you can use a free version of a firewall, e.g., Zone Alarm. Zone Alarm (http://www.zonelabs.com) also has a version for purchase that contains more security features.

The purpose of firewalls is to keep harmful programs from coming into and out of your computer. A program like Zone Alarm tells you when a potentially harmful program, which it has identified, is trying to access your computer. It will give you the name of the program, i.e., file, and ask you to decide if it should be allowed to access your computer. If you have a potentially harmful program already on your machine, it will do the same thing.   But, this time, it will ask if you want to give that program access to the Internet. Remember, spyware gathers its information, and then sends it to a third party on the Internet.

If you have downloaded the Windows update Special Packet 2 (SP2), still consider installing a firewall. SP2 has a version of a firewall. It will block programs from attempting to access your computer, but it will not prevent programs already on your machine from accessing the Internet.

You may decide not to install a firewall, but you must install anti-spyware programs. You can purchase or download free anti-spyware programs. Many of the free versions

have a fee-based version which has more security options. It is recommended that you use more than one anti-spyware program to scan your hard drive.

Two of the most popular free anti-spyware programs are *Ad*-ware (http://www.lavasoftusa.com) and Spybot-Search & Destroy (http://security.kolla.de). These programs scan your hard drive, find the spyware, list the evil culprits and let you decide whether or not to delete the programs. Read the list and make sure you are indeed deleting harmful programs. When you delete the harmful files, some of the applications which carried the spyware may stop functioning. If that application is important to you, try to find a version that is free of harmful files.

The key to good computer security is to stay current with the updates of the programs that are protecting your computer. Every week new evil gremlins are appearing on the Web. Once they appear, the good guys start writing antidote programs. If you do not update your programs, you cannot protect your computer against new spyware. Think of the computer as your electronic child. Children need to be vaccinated against diseases and these immunizations need to be current in order to give effective protection. The same principle applies to your computer.

There is a lot of information about spyware that I could not cover in this column. Please visit the sites in my bibliography. These sites will provide information on: various anti-spyware programs, reviews of these programs, sites that list known spyware files, etc.

In the meantime, as that jolly fellow in the red suit says, "You better watch out!" *Happy Holidays to All and to All a Good Night!* C U NX year!!

<u>References</u>

CyberSafety: Spyware (http://www.zisman.ca/Security/spyware.htm) by Alan Zisman

Dealing with Unwanted Spyware and Parasites
 (http://www.mvps.org/winhelp2002/unwanted.htm) - Microsoft Most Valuable Professional (MVP) program

Here's Looking At You, Kid: How To Avoid Spyware (http://www.smartcomputing.com/editorial/article.asp?article=articles%2F2003%2Fs1409%2F20s09%2F20s09%2Easp&articleid=15393&guid=955C1FF7F56A4199953B7738E32FBBAD&searchtype=&WordList=&bJumpTo=True) September 2003 • Vol.14 Issue 9 Page(s) 68-70 in print issue.

How spyware & adware programs threaten network security & performance (http://www.windowsecurity.com/articles/spyware_Adware_Programs.html) – WindowSecurity.com

Security Tutorial – Spyware
(http://www.itsu.vt.edu/Workshops/Security/html/spyware.htm) – Information
Technology Services Unit, Virginia Tech

Spyware (http://www.netguide.co.nz/magazine/pulp/60/spyware/) – NetGuide Web

Tutorial: Got a virus/trojan or adware/spyware
(http://www.vbulletin.nl/community/showthread.php?t=5594) – vBulletin.nl

Us Like Spies – How computer users ask to be doomed to viruses and spyware
(http://slate.msn.com/id/2102856/) by Clive Thompson

What is Spyware? (http://www.spywareinfo.com/articles/spyware/) – SpywareInfo **§**

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Carlos Rodriguez
rodrigue@pobox.upenn.edu

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Calendar

PALINET Workshops
Location: PALINET, 3000 Market St., Suite 200, Philadelphia, PA
Information & registration: (215) 382-7031 or fax (215) 382-0022 or
http://www.palinet.org/
   See website for other Pennsylvania, Delaware, and New Jersey locations.
Workshops at the Philadelphia site:
   Nov. 19 MARC Tags Basics.
   Nov. 30 WorldCat Searching Basics for New Users of OCLC Cataloging
         (Connexion Client Interface)
   Dec. 1 WorldCat Searching Basics for New Users of OCLC Cataloging
         (Connexion Browser Interface)
   Dec. 2, 3 Advanced Serials Cataloging (SCCTP)
   Dec. 6 OCLC Connexion Client for Current OCLC Catalogers: Learning
         The New Interface.
   Dec. 7, Dec. 14 Cataloging Basics for New Users of OCLC Cataloging:
         Connexion Browser Interface -
   Dec. 9 Planning for Digital Projects, Part 1. and Part 2
   Dec 10   African-American Resources Online
   Dec. 13 OCLC Connexion Browser for Current OCLC Catalogers: Learning the
   New Interface.
   Dec. 15 ILL Basics for New Users of OCLC ILL-WorldCat Resource Sharing
         Interface

DIALOG Workshops
Location: 1735 Market St., Suite 1600, Phila., PA 19103
Cost: free

Information & registration: (215) 981-0243 or fax: (215) 981-0317 or
http://training.dialog.com/sem_info/calendar/penn.html
> **Nov. 18, Dec. 16**   Basic Skills Review for Classic Dialog Searchers
> **Dec. 2**   Introduction to Dialog; featuring Dialog/Web Command Interface
> **Dec. 20**   Pharmaceutical Sciences Information on Dialog

Also available: Web-based training and free Online courses, see
http://training.dialog.com/

November 17, 2004
Measuring Impact: Cost Justification for Information Services
Sponsor: Philadelphia Chapter, SLA
Location: Thomas Jefferson University
Information: http://www.sla.org/chapter/cphl/events.htm

December 1, 2004
Medical School Experience [CE course]
Sponsor: Health Sciences Library Association of NJ   .
Location: NJ Hospital Association, 760 Alexander Rd., Princeton, NJ 08543-0001
Price: $100.00 HSLANJ members; $140.00 nonmembers
Information & registration: http://www.hslanj.org/HSLANJ09162004.pdf or call
Robin Siegel at (732) 294-2668 or rsiegel@centrastate.com

December 1, 2004
Open Access: Implications & Cost Models [a virtual learning seminar]
Sponsor: SLA
Time: 2:00 to 3:00 PM ET
Cost: $99.00 members; $149.00 nonmembers
Registration: http://www.signup4.net/Public/ap.aspx?EID=VIRT21E
System requirements: http://main.placeware.com/support/sys_req.cfm

January 12, 2005
Taxonomies and Universal Search
Sponsor: Philadelphia Chapter, SLA
Location: Radnor Public Library
Information: http://www.sla.org/chapter/cphl/events.htm

January 14-19, 2005
AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION Midwinter Meeting
Location: Boston, MA; Headquarter Hotels will be the Marriott Copley Place, Sheraton
Boston Hotel and the Westin Copley Place.
Exhibits: January 15-17 in the Hynes Convention Center.
Registration:
http://www.ala.org/ala/eventsandconferencesb/midwinter/2005/registration.htm.info
Information:
http://www.ala.org/ala/eventsandconferencesb/midwinter/2005/MidWinterPrelim.pdf

January 19, 2005
PubMed
Sponsor: NN/LM Middle Atlantic Region
Location: New York Academy of Medicine, 1216 Fifth Ave, NY 10029
Information & registration: (800) 338-7657 or (212) 822-7354 or edaniels@nyam.org

January 20, 2005
NLM Gateway & ClinicalTrials.gov
Sponsor: NN/LM Middle Atlantic Region
Location: New York Academy of Medicine, 1216 Fifth Ave, NY 10029
Information & registration: (800) 338-7657 or (212) 822-7354 or edaniels@nyam.org

January 21, 2005
DOCLINE Explained
Sponsor: NN/LM Middle Atlantic Region
Location: New York Academy of Medicine, 1216 Fifth Ave, NY 10029
Information & registration: (800) 338-7657 or: (212) 822-7354 or edaniels@nyam.org

Compiled by Janet Clinton
jclinton@mercyhealth.org

Treasurer's Report

The Philadelphia Regional Chapter/MLA Citizen bank account, as of November 2004, has a balance of $23,242.22, with all transactions recorded in a Quicken database. **§**

Stephanie Ferretti
2003-2004 Treasurer
StephanieFe@pcom.edu

Chronicle Editor and Staff

The next deadline is March 1, 2005