



NCNMLG Newsletter



A message from the President 2002 – 2003 will be an exciting year!!

On June 7 NCNMLG transitioned to the new board for 2002 – 2003. We have a lot of new faces and a LOT of new ideas!

I wish to thank Doug Varner for his strong leadership last year. He has turned NCNMLG into the future with programs on advanced technology. Our website looks better than ever. He has insured that we look forward and not get left in the past. Doug will continue to help us in an advocacy role in the coming year. Thank you Doug!

The benchmarking project was a roaring success! We need to keep the momentum going. If you didn't participate the first time around there will be additional opportunities and data will need to be updated. This is an extremely important project. Participating libraries are already finding the data invaluable.

Our first task for the new year is to provide the Medical Library Association with feedback on the new MLA strategic plan. Please take a look at the document. It can be found at:
http://www.mlanet.org/about/draft_plan0702.html

There is an area on the MLA website where you can leave comments. This will not be your only opportunity to provide input. NCNMLG's fall program will feature a special forum with MLA. The date will be sometime in October. Watch your email for the announcement!

We still have a few committees that need chairs. Please consider volunteering to chair one of the following committees: Bylaws, Documentation, or Parliamentarian. All the committees would welcome new members. Become directly involved in your association. Don't think of it as time consuming. It is an extremely rewarding experience that actually gives something back to you.

I look forward to working with all of you. NCNMLG is a GREAT group!! Please don't hesitate to call if you have questions or comments. Have a wonderful summer and I'll see you at the Fall program!

Sara Pimental

EDITOR'S CORNER

As the new editor of the NCNMLG Newsletter, I'd like to take a moment to welcome you to this issue. Most of you access the Newsletter via the NCNMLG website. There are only a few members who continue to receive their Newsletter via 'snail mail.' Much information that was traditionally published in the Newsletter is now regularly published on the website, and will no longer be included in the Newsletter. The submission deadlines are also changing – you can now submit items for the Newsletter up to two weeks before publication. I hope this will make for a timelier Newsletter and inspire you to tell your success stories and submit items for publication. I welcome your ideas regarding content for the Newsletter and hope to solicit many articles of interest for the membership throughout the coming year. Are you working on a research project, conducting user surveys, or redesigning a website? Please consider reporting on your projects in the Newsletter. An old friend of mine used to say, "In sharing we grow." There is much we can share professionally, and the Newsletter is one way to pass along your tips and strategies for a more fulfilling work life. I'm looking forward to hearing from you; collectively we have a wealth of knowledge to share.

Peggy Tahir, Editor

GRANT RECIPIENTS

Two NCNMLG Members Receive PSRML Express Outreach Awards

Two of our members applied for and recently received funding from the PSRML to provide outreach to community groups. Kudos to Doug Varner and Eris Weaver!

Doug Varner, former NCNMLG President and Library Manager at California Pacific Medical Center/UOP School of Dentistry, has developed a project titled "Bay Area Health Information Outreach." Partnering with the Golden Gateway Library Network, the project will provide instruction to public library user groups and reference librarians working in public libraries, focusing on using and evaluating health care information resources on the Internet, including NLM products and services. Instructional sessions will cover topics such as MEDLINEplus, PubMed, and the NLM Gateway. Instruction will focus on finding information on aspects of healthy living for various urban public library user groups, such as minority populations, seniors, and persons living with HIV/AIDS.

Eris Weaver of the Redwood Health Library in Petaluma and our own belly-dancing librarian, received funding for "Petaluma Health Information Access." This project will identify television and video programming which covers finding and evaluating health information, and targets Spanish-only speakers and consumers with low literacy levels. Partnering with local television station Petaluma Community Access, television and video programs in English and Spanish will be broadcast on the local cable channel. These programs will inform viewers how to access local health services, including the Redwood Health Library and the Petaluma Health Center; how to find and evaluate health

information; and basic prevention, wellness, and self-care issues. In addition, the project involves the creation of two to four original programs, both in English and in Spanish. All programs will be available for checkout from the Library.

RESOURCES: FINDING THE DATA YOU NEED

By the Numbers

Each year the publishers of *Modern Healthcare* publish a supplement titled "By the Numbers." It is packed with loads of useful statistical information, including healthcare spending per capita, hospital admissions and outpatient visits, hospice admissions, health plan cost increases, HMO growth rates, U.S. AIDS cases, Medicare and Medicaid spending, hospital utilization rates by state, and much more. The 2001 edition is online at: <http://www.modernhealthcare.com/pdf/2001by.pdf>.

Counting California

Counting California is a collaborative project funded by the California Digital Library and the Library of California. It provides access to the growing range of social science and economic data produced by government agencies. In a departure from more static formats, Counting California's single interface enables access to actual raw data compiled by federal, state, and local agencies, and also allows users to collate and integrate data by topic, geography, title, and provider. Point your browser to:

<http://countingcalifornia.cdlib.org/>

RAND California

Besides articles and reports on public policy, this database compiles a wealth of California statistical resources from varying sources. Hospital utilization, data on long term care facilities, numbers of physicians and surgeons, drug and alcohol abuse, and AIDS statistics are all covered. Other information includes data on population and demographics, education, quality of life measures (i.e., crime rate, air quality, population density, etc.), business and industry, census, government finance, and politics and public opinion. This is a subscription service, but if your library does not subscribe, you may have free remote access via your local public library.

BENCHMARKING

Benchmarking Data Now Available

By Lynn Van Houten MLIS, AHIP; NCNMLG Benchmarking Educator

Benchmarking information for more than 300 hospital libraries is now available for all MLA members to utilize! Analysis of the data is well underway. Sample charts and tables are provided in this article and a comprehensive portfolio of reports will be mounted on MLANET this summer. A lot of hard work and creative effort by many MLA members resulted in a successful first year of data collection. The data includes representation from each chapter of MLA. Users of the data can initially compare

their own libraries against the aggregate. A total of 344 hospital libraries were included in the final data. Assuming approximately 1,500 hospital libraries in the US and Canada, the 344 libraries responding to the questionnaire represent a 22.9% return.

Chart 1 shows the type of hospital that participated. Chart 2 shows the size of the libraries that participated by total Library FTE. The participants were compared to the number of hospitals in the AHA Hospital Statistics 2002. Chart 3 shows the result that large size libraries participated more. Many people are interested in what is our sample size. Again comparing the data to the AHA Hospital Statistics 2002, Table 1 shows the sample size of our survey for each bed-size range.

The Benchmarking Implementation Task Force plans to report the results of the survey in various ways. Aggregate tables based on hospital or library size will be placed on MLANET. Specific questions will be analyzed. An interactive site where you can choose your own parameters of size and measures of activity will be developed. Finally the entire Excel data file will be available for benchmarking or research.

The aggregate tables being planned will cross various hospital and library size parameters with various measures of library activity. Some parameters are hospital FTE, outpatient visits, staffed beds, total library FTE, and total library expenditures. Some measures are reference questions, educational program sessions, expenditures on print serials, and print serials titles with electronic full-text access. An example of the aggregate tables is shown in Table 2, comparing current print serials titles to ranges of hospital FTE size. The data for the mean, median, third quartile, minimum, and maximum of the number of current print serials titles are given based on hospital size as measured by number of Hospital FTE.

Members of the Task Force will be working over the summer to create the report features of the Benchmarking Network. There are definite plans to open the network for a second data entry window in early 2003. The Task Force expects that a revised questionnaire worksheet will be available on MLANET in late fall. The current worksheet is still available for viewing. If libraries wish to collect the data now, they can still compare their data against the aggregate, even though they will not be included in it.

It is hoped that many more libraries will participate in the MLA Benchmarking Network next year. As more libraries participate, the breakdown of the data by specific parameters increases in relevancy. The comparative information becomes even more useful to all.

Chart 1. Type of hospital participating. N=343.

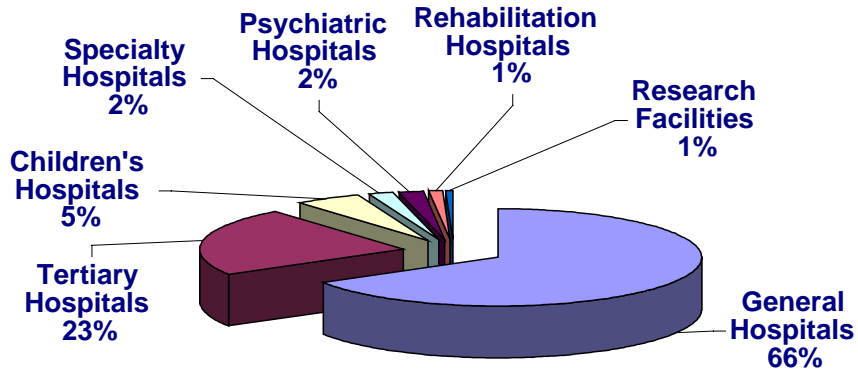


Chart 2. Size of the library participants by total library FTE. N=344.

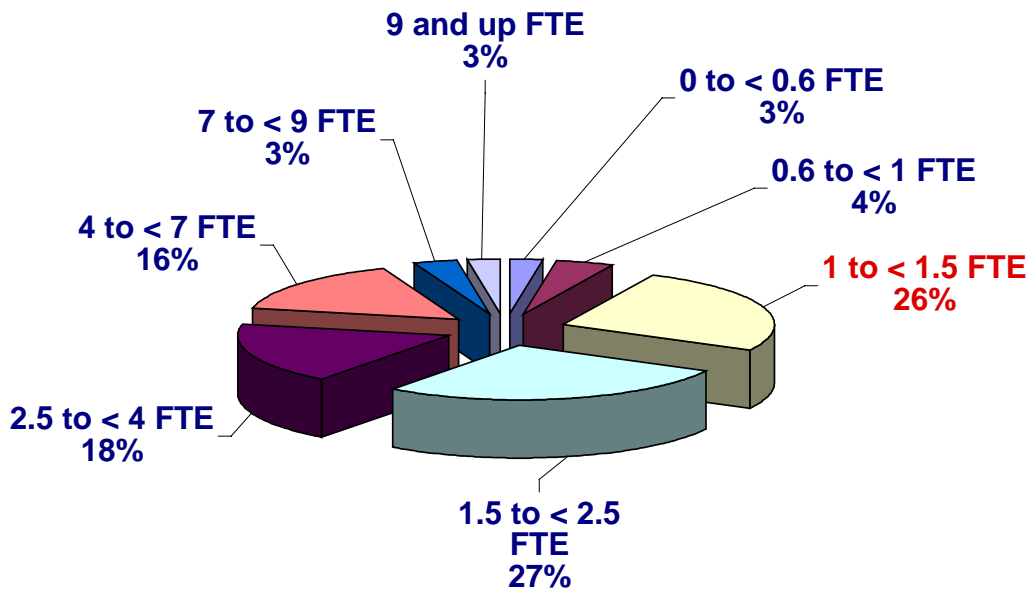


Chart 3. Comparison of BN Survey Participants to the AHA Hospital Statistics 2002, by Percentage.

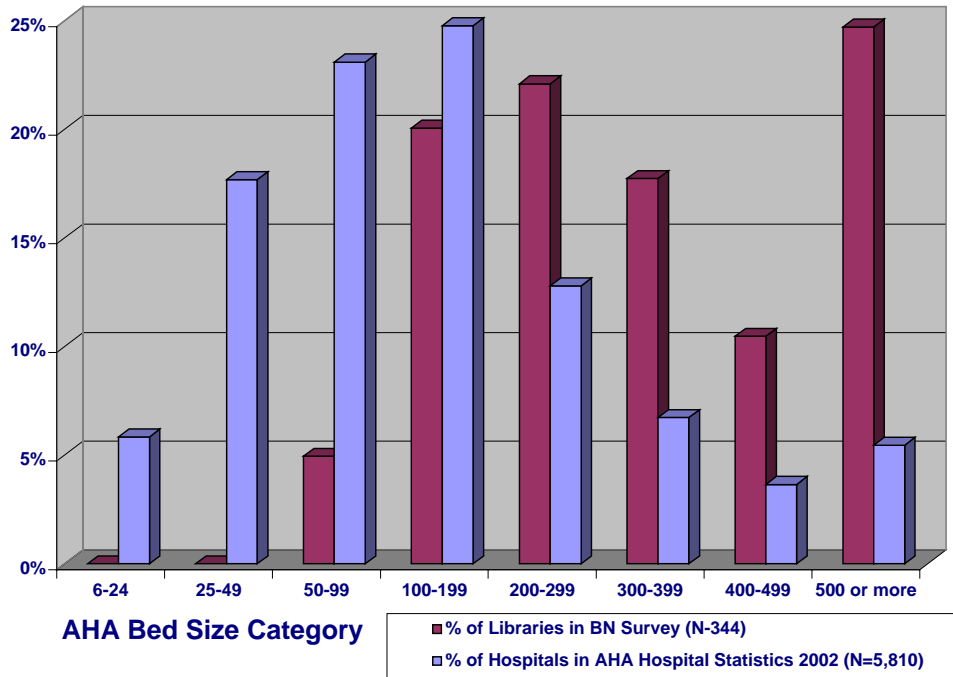


Table 1. Sample size of BN survey for each AHA Hospital Statistics 2002 bed-size range.

AHA Bed Size	BN Libraries	AHA Hospitals	Sample Size
6-24	0	339	0%
25-49	0	1027	0%
50-99	17	1342	1%
100-199	69	1439	5%
200-299	76	743	10%
300-399	61	391	16%
400-499	36	212	17%
500 or more	85	317	27%

Table 2: Current Print Serials Titles by ranges of hospital FTE size.

Current Print Serials Titles (ts02) by Hospital FTE (pa06)	qualified answers	mean	median	third quartile	maximum	minimum
Range 1 : 0 to 499.9	9	126	71	131	433	52
Range 2 : 500 to 849.9	26	128	112	135	650	6
Range 3 : 850 to 1349.9	61	158	135	210	430	6
Range 4 : 1350 to 1824.9	61	214	186	279	641	42
Range 5 : 1825 to 2599.9	61	256	211	350	640	25
Range 6 : 2600 to 4249.9	62	325	328	418	668	50
Range 7 : 4250 to 7999.9	27	406	350	488	980	85
Range 8 : 8000 and up	9	563	669	737	860	180
N=	316	250	202	335	980	6

PEW INTERNET PROJECT REPORT

The Pew Report, **Vital Decisions: *How Internet users decide what information to trust when they or their loved ones are sick*** can be found via a link on the MLA website (www.mlanet.org). The full report may be downloaded. The report presents the results of a national survey conducted March 1-31, 2002. The survey found that 62% of Internet users, or 73 million people in the United States, have gone online in search of health information. It details types of health information sought, search strategies used, success of finding information, whether information sources are verified by the user, demographic differences and more.

CAREER FOCUS

Check out the American Library Association's Human Resource Development and Recruitment Careers web page at <http://ala.org/hrdr/careers.html>. The ALA has developed resources on their website to assist in the recruitment of a diverse workforce of librarians. There are general resources on careers in libraries, career profiles, information by library type/specialty, links to job listings and more. Materials for career/job fairs can be requested.

SPOTLIGHT ON CONSUMER HEALTH

The Ida & Joseph Friend

Cancer Resource Center

UCSF Comprehensive Cancer Center, 1600 Divisadero Street, First Floor
San Francisco, CA 94143-1725, 415.885.3693, <http://cc.ucsf.edu/crc>

The Cancer Resource Center promotes wellness and the healing process by providing patients and their families with supportive care services and with information related to cancer. Getting

diagnosed with cancer is often likened to being an immigrant in a new land, having to deal with new terminology, new rules and a new system. In this analogy, the Resource Center can be likened to the tourist information center, guiding people to the information, support and resources that they need. The Resource Center offers a range of programs designed to educate patients about their diagnosis, foster community, and give patients effective tools to navigate the disease process. All of the programs offered at the Resource Center are free to anyone living with cancer, regardless of where they receive their care. The services include:

Information Services

- Information searches for patients on their diagnosis, treatment options, and clinical trials
- Lending library with books, audio tapes and videotapes on cancer-related topics
- Workshops, and classes on a variety of topics of interest to cancer patients and their families
- Community referral services directing patients to the wide array of available cancer resources
- Consultation Planning: Communicating effectively with your doctor counseling

Emotional Support Services

- 20 Resource Center run support groups for a variety of cancers
- Extensive resource list of over 300 other cancer related support groups in the Bay Area
- *Peer Support Program* to put patients in touch with other patients
- Workshops on coping with cancer, including “Coping with Loss”, “Cancer and Parenthood”, and “Acupuncture and Cancer”, amongst others

Lifestyle Enhancing Programs and Services

- Exercise classes including: Dance Therapy, Gentle Yoga, and Restorative Movement
- Nutritional counseling and workshops
- Prepare for Surgery Workshops
- Managing Fatigue Workshops
- Writing Workshops
- Disability and health insurance counseling sessions for people living with cancer
- Fun activities: Weekly knitting gathering, free hats & wigs, free entertainment tickets & lots more...

More detailed information about the Cancer Resource Center can be obtained by going to <http://cc.ucsf.edu>.

The Cancer Resource Center is 100% funded through donations and grants. All contributions are welcome and appreciated.

MLA GRANTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

The Medical Library Association is pleased to sponsor grant and scholarship opportunities to practicing health science librarians and help qualified students study health sciences librarianship in graduate library science programs.

Continuing Education Grants

MLA members may submit applications for these grants of \$100-\$500 to develop their knowledge of the theoretical, administrative, and/or technical aspects of librarianship. More than one CE grant may be offered in a year.

Application Deadline: December 1

Cunningham Memorial International Fellowship

This fellowship is available to health sciences librarians from countries outside the U.S. and Canada. The grant provides up to four months of observation and supervised work in one or more medical libraries in the United States or Canada.

Application Deadline: December 1

EBSCO/MLA Annual Meeting Grants

EBSCO Information Services sponsors four grants of up to \$1000 each to enable medical librarians working in health sciences libraries to attend MLA's annual meeting.

Application Deadline: December 1

Hospital Libraries Section / MLA Professional Development Grants

This grant, given twice a year, sponsored by the Hospital Libraries Section, provides librarians working in hospital and similar clinical settings up to \$800 for educational or research activities.

Application deadlines are February 1 and August 1.

David A. Kronick Traveling Fellowship

One \$2,000 fellowship covers the expenses involved in traveling to three or more medical libraries in the United States or Canada, for the purpose of studying a specific aspect of health information management.

Application Deadline: December 1

Donald A. B. Lindberg Research Fellowship

The Lindberg research fellowship has been established to fund research that links the information services provided by librarians to improved health care. A \$25,000 grant is awarded through a competitive grant process to a qualified health professional, researcher, educator, administrator, or librarian.

Application Deadline: November 15

Medical Informatics Section/MLA Career Development Grant

This grant provides up to two individuals \$1,500 each to support a career development activity that will contribute to advancement in the field of medical informatics.

Application Deadline: December 1

Please pass the word on to any students you may have contact with regarding the following opportunities:

MLA Scholarship

A scholarship of up to \$5000 will be granted to a student entering an ALA-accredited library school or with at least one-half of the requirements of the program to finish when the scholarship is granted in February.

Application Deadline: December 1

MLA Scholarship for Minority Students

A scholarship of up to \$5000 will be granted to a minority student entering an ALA-accredited library school or with at least one-half of the requirements of the library school program to finish when the award is granted in February. African-American, Hispanic, Asian, Pacific Islander or Native American students who wish to study health science librarianship are eligible.

Application Deadline: December 1

ISI/MLA Doctoral Fellowship

The Institute for Scientific Information sponsors a fellowship in the amount of \$2000 to foster and encourage superior students who have been admitted to candidacy to conduct doctoral work in an area of medical librarianship or information science. The award supports research or travel applicable to the candidate's study within a twelve-month period. The award may not be used for tuition. The award is granted every other year with the next award scheduled for distribution in 2003.

Application Deadline: December 1

MLA/NLM Spectrum Scholarship

MLA and the National Library of Medicine (NLM) jointly sponsor a scholarship through the ALA Spectrum initiative program. A \$5,000 donation each year supports minority students in their goals to become health sciences information professionals. For more information, contact the ALA Spectrum program at 800.545.2433 x4276 or email the [Spectrum Inquiry Line](#).

Application Deadline: March 1

Application deadlines for all grants and scholarships are December 1, unless otherwise noted. More information and applications are available at www.mlanet.org/awards/grants, or contact Lisa C. Fried at MLA Headquarters at mlapd2@mlahq.org.

MLA AWARDS: CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

You can make a difference! Nominate yourself or an outstanding colleague for one of the MLA Awards mentioned below.

Lois Ann Colaianni Award for Excellence and Achievement in Hospital Librarianship

This award, is given to a member of the association who has made significant contributions to the profession in the area of overall distinction or leadership in hospital library administration or service, production of a definitive publication related to hospital librarianship, teaching, research, advocacy, or the development or application of innovative technology to hospital librarianship. The recipient receives a cash award of \$500 and a certificate.

Estelle Brodman Award for Academic Medical Librarian of the Year

The award recognizes an academic medical librarian, who at mid-career demonstrates significant achievement, the potential for leadership, and continuing excellence. The Award was established in 1986 with a gift from Irwin H. Pizer. The recipient receives a certificate and a cash award of \$500 at the Association's Annual Meeting.

Majors /MLA Chapter Project of the Year Award

This is a general award for excellence, innovation and contribution to the profession of health sciences librarianship. These attributes must be shown through special projects beyond the normal operational programming of the chapter. The recipient receives a certificate and a cash award of \$500.

Janet Doe Lectureship

The Janet Doe Lecturer is an individual chosen annually by the Medical Library Association for his/her unique perspective on the history or philosophy of medical librarianship. The selected lecture is presented at the Association's Annual Meeting, and is subsequently published in the Bulletin of the Medical Library Association. The Lecturer receives a \$250 honorarium, travel expenses to the site of the Annual Meeting, hotel expenses for 1 night, per diem for 1 day and a certificate.

Ida and George Eliot Prize

The prize is presented annually for a work published in the preceding calendar year, which has been judged most effective in furthering medical librarianship. The award was first presented in 1962 and is currently sponsored by Login Brothers Book Company, Chicago, Illinois. The recipient receives a cash award of \$200 and a certificate.

Rittenhouse Award

The award is presented annually for the best unpublished paper (bibliographical, issue or topic based, or report of research results) on medical librarianship or medical informatics written by a student in an ALA-accredited school of library and information studies or a trainee in an internship in health sciences librarianship or medical informatics. The Rittenhouse Medical Bookstore in Philadelphia,

Pennsylvania established the award in 1967. The author of the winning essay receives a cash award of \$500 and a certificate.

ISI/Frank Bradway Rogers Information Advancement Award

The award is presented annually in recognition of outstanding contributions for the application of technology to the delivery of health science information, to the science of information, or to the facilitation of the delivery of health science information. The Award has been sponsored by the Institute for Scientific Information since 1973. The recipient receives a cash award of \$500 and a certificate.

Louise Darling Medal for Distinguished Achievement in Collection Development in the Health Sciences

The medal is presented annually in recognition of distinguished achievement in collection development in the health sciences. Ballen Booksellers International, Inc established the Medal in 1987. Blackwell North America, Inc currently supports it. The recipient receives an engraved medal, a certificate and a \$1,000 cash award.

Murray Gottlieb Prize

The prize is awarded annually for the best unpublished essay on the history of medicine and allied sciences written by a health sciences librarian. The Prize was established in 1956 by Ralph and Jo Grimes of the Old Hickory Bookshop, Brinklow, MD in order to recognize and stimulate the health science librarian's interest in the history of medicine. The author of the winning essay receives a cash award of \$100 and a certificate.

Lucretia W. McClure Excellence in Education Award

The award honors an outstanding educator in the field of health sciences librarianship and informatics who demonstrates skills in teaching, curriculum development, mentoring, research, or leadership in education at local, regional, or national levels. The recipient receives a cash award of \$500 and a framed certificate.

Marcia C. Noyes Award

The Noyes Award is the highest professional distinction of the Medical Library Association. The award was established in 1947 and recognizes a career, which has resulted in lasting, outstanding contributions to medical librarianship. The recipient receives an engraved sterling silver Revere bowl at the Association's Annual Meeting.

Fellows and Honorary Members

Fellowship is conferred on Regular MLA members in recognition of outstanding and sustained contributions to the advancement of the purposes of the association. Fellows receive a certificate at the association's Annual Meeting and lifetime Regular Member benefits at no charge.

Honorary Membership is conferred on individuals, not formally MLA members, who have made outstanding contributions to the advancement of the purposes of the association. Honorary members receive a certificate at the Association's Annual Meeting and lifetime Regular Member benefits except voting privileges at no charge.

Nomination deadlines for all awards are November 1. For more information, or to access applications on any of the awards please visit our website at www.mlanet.org or contact Lisa C. Fried, Professional Development at the Medical Library Association; 65 E. Wacker Place, Suite 1900, Chicago, IL 60601, 312-419-9094 ext. 28, mlapd2@mlahq.org.

ACCESS TO ELECTRONIC HEALTH INFORMATION GRANTS AVAILABLE

The National Network of Libraries of Medicine (NN/LM) is pleased to announce the release of a new Request for Proposals (RFP). The RFP for the Access to Electronic Health Information projects is posted at http://nmlm.gov/projects/funding/aehi_rfp2002/index.html. The deadline for submitting proposals is October 1st, 2002. The period of performance is 18 months from the date of the award. Full and affiliate members may apply for this award. Single institutions may receive up to \$10,000 and a group of two or more institutions may receive up to \$40,000.

The focus of this solicitation is on projects designed to improve access to electronic health information for such groups and organizations as consumers, underserved and minority health care professionals, public health workers, public libraries, and community-based and faith-based organizations. Please contact your regional RML at 1-800-338-7657 for further information.

BOOK DONATIONS NEEDED

Yasemin Gunay, a UN online volunteer on assignment for Mgbala Agwa, a Nigerian based NGO, is in need of book donations for a newly opened library. Books or pamphlets on the following topics are needed:

- HIV/AIDS and other sexual related infections
- Alleviation of Poverty
- Environmental Protection
- Youth Empowerment

For further information, please contact Yasemin Gunay at gunay_238@yahoo.com, or

Ozor Nduka - Coordinator
42 Ifekoya str. Dopemu Agege Lagos
Nigeria

Email: nduka71@hotmail.com Phone: +234 1 4925569 Fax: +234 1 4925569

DIRECTIONS FOR JOINING THE NCNMLG LISTSERVS

LISTSERV ADDRESS: ncnmlglist@lists.stanford.edu

Everyone is encouraged to subscribe to the general listserv. These are very low-volume lists designed for communication of important information from NCNMLG to its members. The only time you will need to unsubscribe is when your e-mail address changes. In this case two actions are necessary. You will need to unsubscribe your old e-mail address and then subscribe the new address. This keeps our listserv current!

TO SUBSCRIBE:

Send a message to: majordomo@lists.stanford.edu

Leave the subject line blank

Type in body of the message: **subscribe ncnmlglist *your_email_address_here***

TO UNSUBSCRIBE

Send a message to: majordomo@lists.stanford.edu

Leave the subject line blank

Type in body of the message: **unsubscribe ncnmlglist *your_email_address_here***

TO SEND A MESSAGE:

Send a general e-mail: ncnmlglist@lists.stanford.edu

SUBMITTING ITEMS TO THE NEWSLETTER

Please email your submissions to the Newsletter. Items for the NCNMLG Newsletter may be sent in electronic format (text or WORD format preferred) to:

Peggy Tahir

Email: peggy.tahir@library.ucsf.edu

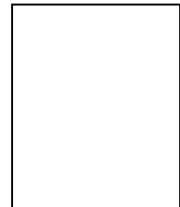
Phone: 415-476-5765

If you have questions about submitting articles or announcements to the Newsletter, please feel free to call and ask questions.

The NCNMLG Newsletter is published 6 times a year: (July/August, September/October, November/December, January/February, March/April, May/June.

Copy for the September/October newsletter is due by the 15th of August.

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED