



NORTHERN • CALIFORNIA & • NEVADA • MEDICAL • LIBRARY • GROUP

A CHAPTER OF THE MEDICAL LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

# NCNMLG Newsletter

## A Message from the President Submitted by Lisa Lott Jerant

The 2003-2004 year promises to be one of excitement and new beginnings.

The first part of my message must be to convey my thanks to: Sara Pimental for a great year of working together and all of her help with the transition; the too many to name committee chairs who agreed to continue their service this year; the very welcome new volunteers who have taken up positions; and finally to Rebecca Davis, Vice- President, for filling in for me in the last newsletter.

We also still have some committees that need new chairs and members. Please see the directory of Committee, Appointments and Task Force Chairs at the end of this newsletter to identify the positions that remain open. One position that needs to be filled ASAP is that of the Nominating Committee Member. Please contact either me at [ljerant@comcast.net](mailto:ljerant@comcast.net), or Rebecca Davis, [radavis@ucdavis.edu](mailto:radavis@ucdavis.edu).

Now, for some of the new beginnings: fundraising, our tri-chapter meeting, and planning for the future of our Chapter. As Rebecca mentioned in the last newsletter, one of the new ideas for a small fundraising effort is an E-Bay auction of member donated items which will be our first attempt this year to broaden our fundraising opportunities. We need to continue to cultivate new ideas and implement plans for more fundraising and possible revenue streams. As the next step in this direction, the Board will be discussing the topic of fundraising at the October 10 meeting. So please keep those suggestions coming!

The Joint Meeting this year also promises to be bigger and better than ever. With the addition of our colleagues from the Pacific Northwest Chapter, we will have a larger, more varied group to meet and share our expertise and experiences through formal paper presentations, poster presentations and informal discussions throughout the

meeting. While the idea of a Tri-Chapter meeting has been discussed over the years, this is the first time it has gone through the planning stages to become a reality. So, again I would like to thank Rebecca Davis and the entire planning committee for all of their hard work. I would also like to encourage the entire membership to take part in this groundbreaking meeting in any way possible – submit a paper or poster, volunteer to help at the meeting, take advantage of the increased number of CE courses available, and by all means, attend the meeting!

As one way of beginning to plan for the future, our Tri-Chairs of the Long-Range Planning committee will be bringing a proposal for a continuing strategy for long-range goal setting and planning to the Board for discussion at the October 10 meeting. We will also be discussing the goals and implementation plans for this year, which will enable us to continue to build on these new beginnings to keep us on track for a prosperous future.

Please feel free to contact me, [ljerant@comcast.net](mailto:ljerant@comcast.net), if you have any ideas, issues or concerns. I look forward to working with you all during this exciting year.

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## Editor's Corner

I would like to thank those who sent me the feedback on the June/July issue of the Newsletter. In order to add some local flavor, I am planning to add a new column "NCNMLG Members News" beginning in the next issue. The news could be any of your professional accomplishments, such as publications, conference presentations, membership change of the Academy of Health Information Professionals or job promotion, etc. If you could send me the news along with a color photo and brief biographical information, that would be great!

Next issue, Eve Melton, Programming Co-Chair, will write the highlights of the discussion on scholarly publishing, led by Linda Watson at the Chapter's meeting on October 10.

All your contributions to the Newsletter are greatly appreciated. Please note that you could submit news items to me **any time**.

And last, but not least, a special thanks goes to Tonya Kraft for being willing to proofread the Newsletter.

Min-Lin E. Fang, Editor

## Joint Meeting 2004

### 2004 Gold Rush: The Information Frontier

NCNMLG, MLGSCA, PNC/MLA

January 28 – 31, 2004

Holiday Inn Capital Plaza

Sacramento, CA

#### Programs:

Jan 28: Symposium on Health Literacy

Jan 29, 30: Meetings

Jan 31: CE classes

#### Events:

Jan 28 evening: Welcome Reception

Jan 29 evening: dinner and a play at the Suspects Dinner Theatre onboard the Delta King riverboat

Welcome to the Joint Meeting of the Northern California and Nevada Medical Group ([NCNMLG](#)), the Medical Library Group of Southern California and Arizona ([MLGSCA](#)), and the Pacific Northwest Chapter of the Medical Library Association ([PNC/MLA](#)).

This is the first ever 3-chapter meeting convening medical librarians from 8 western states and 2 Canadian provinces! The meeting will be held in the Capital Plaza Holiday Inn, located in the heart of downtown Sacramento and steps away from shopping, museums, a movie theatre, and the Old Sacramento historic district.

The theme for the meeting is "2004 Gold Rush: The Information Frontier", reflecting the history of the Sacramento area, and our role as information pioneers. There will be a gold mine of activities and events, starting January 28 with [Stake Your Claim to Health Literacy](#), a day-long symposium sponsored by Pacific Southwest Regional Medical Library.

The meeting will be held on January 29 and 30 with opportunities to listen to speakers and panel presentations and networking with colleagues. An exciting and varied group of 7 CE classes will be held on January 31. Fun events include a Welcome Reception on the evening of January 28 and dinner and a play at the Suspects Dinner Theatre onboard the Delta King riverboat on the evening of January 29.

Don't miss this educational and fun meeting! Register early! More information on the joint meeting, visit <http://ncnmlg.stanford.edu/calendar/jtmtg2004/>

**Call for Nominations:  
NCNMLG AWARD FOR PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE**

Nominations of NCNMLG members for the Award for Professional Excellence will be accepted until **December 15, 2003**. There are many outstanding chapter members who are eligible for this honor, which is designed to recognize individuals for significant contributions to NCNMLG as well as to the profession of health sciences librarianship. Previous award winners include Ysabel Bertolucci, Jacqueline Wilson, Jo Anne Boorkman, Leonard Shapiro, Nancy Witten Zinn, Justine Roberts, Dorrie Slutsker, George McGregor, Rebecca Davis and most recently, Linda Grix.

Candidates should meet the following award criteria:

1. Contributions are significant towards the advancement of health sciences librarianship through the endeavors of NCNMLG;
2. Contributions may include, but are not limited to, service to the group, publications, presentations and projects;
3. Have been a member of NCNMLG at the time of nomination and been a member for at least two years.

Recipients receive a check for \$200.00 and a commemorative plaque. Nominate someone soon using the format below. You may send the completed form, along with a letter of nomination, to any member of the Awards and Honors Committee. A fax or email is acceptable; however, please send a signed copy within a week of your fax/email submission. If you have any questions, please contact Terri Malmgren (v)916-734-3529 or [tlmalmgren@ucdavis.edu](mailto:tlmalmgren@ucdavis.edu) or (f) 916-734-7418.

**Nomination Form  
NCNMLG AWARD FOR PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE**

Names of Candidate:

Institution:

Address:

Telephone:

PLEASE STATE WHY YOU BELIEVE THE CANDIDATE DESERVES TO RECEIVE THIS AWARD.

Nominations submitted by:

Institution/ Address/Telephone:

**RETURN BY DECEMBER 15 2003 TO:**

Terri Malmgren  
UCDMC Library  
2252 45<sup>th</sup> St.  
Sacramento CA 95817

Jo Anne Boorkman  
Carlson Health Sciences Library  
University of California, Davis  
Davis CA 95616

Linda A. Grix  
3650 Kiekebusch Ct.  
Carmichael CA 95608

## Call for Volunteers to Serve NCNMLG

Join your colleagues and make a difference by volunteering to be an officer in your NCNMLG.

**Urgent need for volunteers** in the following positions (2003/04):

Mentoring Task Force Chair  
 MLA Membership Representative  
 Parliamentarian

Other positions available are:

Vice President/President Elect 2004-2005  
 Secretary 2004-2005  
 Treasurer 2004-2006  
 Nominating Committee 2004-2005  
 MLA Nominating Committee 2004-2005  
 MLA Chapter Council 2004-2005

The vitality of the chapter depends on those willing to become involved. An organization is only as good as its members and leaders. Volunteer and reap the benefits! For more information, Contact:

Kristi Wessenberg  
 Nominating Committee Chair  
 Samuel Merritt College  
 510.869.6833  
[kwessenberg@samuelmerritt.edu](mailto:kwessenberg@samuelmerritt.edu)

Beverly Taugher  
 Nominating Committee Member  
 The American Academy of Ophthalmology  
 415.447.0298; [btaugher@aao.org](mailto:btaugher@aao.org)

## Minutes of the NCNMLG Executive Board Meeting, October 10, 2003

Northern California and Nevada Medical Library  
 Group Minutes of the Executive Board Meeting  
 Friday, October 10, 2003  
 Chiron Corporation, Emeryville

### Call to order:

The meeting of the Executive Board of the NCNMLG, held at the Chiron Corporation,

X Building, was called to order by Lisa Lott Jerant, President, at 10 a.m., Friday, October 10, 2003.

### Attendance:

The following people were present: Lisa Lott Jerant, President, Rebecca Davis, President Elect and Joint Meeting Chair, Sara Pimental, Past President, Doris Hayashikawa, Secretary, Annette Osenga, Treasurer, Kristi Wessenberg, Nominating Committee Chair, Candace Walker, MLA Chapter Representative, Julia Kochi, MLA Nominating Committee, Keir Reavie, Archivist, Anne Shew, Credentialing Liaison (AHIP), Lisa Wallis, Electronic Resources Chair, David Brown, ILL Coupons Chair, Ysabel Bertolucci, Dorrie Slutsker and Gail Yokote, Long Range Planning Tri-Chairs, Min-Lin Fang, Newsletter Editor, Nancy Mangum and Eve Melton, Programming Co-chairs, Peggy Tahir, Joint Meeting Planning Committee (Roundtables), Kathryn Skhal, Ruth Amernick, Ellen Richards, and Julie Kwan, PSRML.

### Minutes:

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as distributed.

### Reports and Announcements:

**President's report:** Lisa Jerant solicited volunteers for various open positions. Peggy Tahir volunteered to be the PSRML Representative. The CA Library Net Taskforce representative position was dropped, as this organization seems to be inactive. Duties of the Documentation chair were combined with the Electronic Resources position, and Lisa Wallis will oversee the organization's documents as to consistency and correction as appropriate. Still vacant are the positions for Mentoring, Nominating Committee, and Parliamentarian.

**Treasurer's report:** Annette Osenga reported an overall total of \$34,042.43. She transferred \$6,000 from the Money Market account into the Checking account in anticipation of Joint Meeting expenses. Annette also inquired about what information should be posted on the Web site. The group agreed that it was appropriate to post the annual report, not routine

Treasurer's reports since highlights are reflected in the minutes. She also explained that money allocated to the President could be used for awards and recognition. For example, the group felt that the contributions of people such as Laurie Bagley should be acknowledged. The FY2003-2004 Budget indicates an expected income of \$4000 and budgeted expenses of \$3140.

**ILL Coupons Report:** David Brown distributed a summary report for 2001 through 2003. Overall, the balance at the end of FY2002-2003 was \$7,028.06, minus the coupon liability (estimated value of coupons held by libraries). The interest income available to the Chapter was \$367.77 for 2002-2003 as compared to the interest income of \$1071.67 generated in 2001-2002. He also distributed a report for the first quarter, indicating a balance of \$17,008.25, minus the coupon liability of \$89,584.

**Archivist's report:** Keir Reavie requested that members send pictures to the archives. A solicitation message will be sent to the ListServ. It was pointed out that such items as the original copy of the Chapter logo should be deposited in the Archives where it can be retrieved as needed.

**Chapter Council:** Candace Walker reported that most Chapters do not place advertising in their newsletters, but are interested in doing so. She reported on various other concerns of the Council, such as attendance of MLA liaisons at required meetings held at the annual MLA conference, mentoring, recruitment, etc. The response to her inquiry about awarding points to recorders at the Roundtables held at the MLA annual conference was that Chapter Council was looking comprehensively at Roundtables. Annette Osenga suggested that all Roundtable recorders be given a form to fill out to facilitate getting information out of the Roundtable onto the Web site since the issues discussed were often helpful to those unable to attend, particularly contact information and URL's. The group decided that there were no projects to submit for the award by Majors for the Chapter Project of the Year. However, the group requested that Sara Pimental continue to pursue the auctioning of items on

E-bay to raise money for the Chapter, with a goal of holding the auction in January or February 2004.

**Newsletter:** Min-Ling Fang reported that she has a flexible deadline and will accept items any time. She needs to feature articles, such as the IFLA meeting report authored by Peggy Tahir. Suggested items included a focus on individual members or individual libraries.

**Credentialing (AHIP):** Anne Shew reported that there will be a table at the Joint Meeting with information about AHIP such as brochures.

**Programming:** Nancy Mangum and Eve Melton reported on the program scheduled to follow the business meeting featuring Linda Watson, past president of MLA, speaking on scholarly publishing, along with panel members who have had recent experiences as published authors. A spring program is being planned.

**Nominating Committee:** Kristi Wessenberg solicited names of nominees for positions.

**Electronic Resources:** Lisa Wallis, San Francisco State University, was introduced as the new chair of Electronic Resources. She has added a search function to the NCNMLG Web site.

**Joint Meeting:** Rebecca Davis distributed a preliminary program and an update. So far, there are 15 exhibitors who will be located in the main meeting area. Seven CE classes are scheduled for Saturday, January 31, and will usually cost \$80 per half day or \$160 per full day class. The NLM sponsored Health Information Literacy Symposium, January 28, will cost \$35 and include lunch.

Documents related to Joint Meeting planning are available at:

<http://ncnmlg.stanford.edu/calendar/jmttg2004/planning/>

The actual Web Site for the Joint Meeting will be available soon. After careful consideration of costs related to PayPal, the Planning Committee decided not to have online registration.

Rebecca solicited ideas on things or activities that would make the Joint Meeting memorable. An exercise session using rubber strips or tubing was suggested. Other suggestions are welcome.

**Long Range Planning:** Rebecca Davis made a motion to accept the proposal of the Long Range Planning Trichairs as distributed via email, September 24, 2003 (attached). The motion was seconded and carried unanimously. In the future, the Transition Meeting will be used to brainstorm ideas that can be used to choose initiatives from MLA's Strategic Plan and brainstorm ideas for implementation at the chapter level. To begin this process-based Strategic initiative, Gail Yokote led the group in brainstorming two MLA priorities: A. Life-long learning and B. Recruitment, membership & leadership.

A. Life-long learning

- Build an infrastructure for getting program ideas
- Send out an annual survey along with the membership renewal forms online, informal through ListServ
- List some ideas, not just a blank question, to generate response
- Glean ideas from the MLA Roundtables
- Build on current strengths: this is what we already do well
- Consider costs and provide affordable CE
- Consider applying for the Challenge Grant program of the Leadership & Management Section of MLA

B. Recruitment, membership & leadership

- Sponsor a social event for UCB and CSUSJ (SJSU) students and participate in teaching classes; provide subsidized rates for Chapter sponsored CE events on a cost recovery, space available basis
- Provide recognition awards or acknowledgements such as the Armadillo Accolades (members donate money in honor of good work done by peers)
- Make money or other resources available to Chapter members with good ideas
- Create logoware to be used as acknowledgements and awards, such as fleece jackets, canvas bags, pins

Dorrie Slutsker made a motion that the NCNMLG pursue applying for the Challenge Grant. The group agreed to table the motion until the next meeting in view of the absence of the CE chair and a possibility of partnering with the MLGSCA.

Next Executive Board meeting: The next meeting will probably be by e-mail or conference call, not face to face.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at noon, in favor of distribution of boxed lunches prior to the scheduled afternoon program on Scholarly Publishing.

Respectfully submitted,

Doris Hayashikawa, Secretary

### Call for Pictures Taken at the Past NCNMLG Events

If you have pictures taken at the past NCNMLG meetings or events, please send them to the Chapter Archivist

Keir Reavie  
The Kalmanovitz Library  
University of California, San Francisco  
530 Parnassus Ave.  
P O Box 0840  
San Francisco CA 94143-0840

### MLA Deadlines Approaching

#### Call for MLA Grants and Scholarships Applications

The Medical Library Association sponsors many grants and scholarships to practicing health science librarians and also to help qualified students study health sciences librarianship in graduate library science programs.

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](http://www.mlanet.org/awards/grants), or contact Lisa C. Fried at MLA Headquarters at: [mlapd2@mlahq.org](mailto:mlapd2@mlahq.org).

#### Call for Papers and Posters, 2004 MLA Annual Meeting, May 21-26, 2004, in Washington, DC

Abstracts for 2004 MLA annual meeting papers and posters are due by **November 3** at midnight, central standard time. Details are available at <http://www.mlanet.org/am/am2004/participate/>. Also, make sure to sign up for the annual meeting email discussion list. This list was created to exchange ideas, solve problems, ask questions, and get information. Selected messages may be edited and posted to the annual meeting FAQ. For details and instructions on how to subscribe, visit [www.mlanet.org/am/am2004/participate/discussion.html](http://www.mlanet.org/am/am2004/participate/discussion.html).

#### Submit Your Questions to Candidates for MLA 2004/05 Election

MLA has a new strategic plan available at <http://www.mlanet.org/about/strategc.html> and many exciting initiatives underway. Now is the time to think about what questions you would like to pose to candidates for the 2004/05 elections of officers for the MLA Board of Directors and president-elect. You are encouraged to submit your questions for candidates to Carol Jenkins, AHIP, FMLA, chair, Nominating Committee, at [carol\\_jenkins@unc.edu](mailto:carol_jenkins@unc.edu). Candidates will post responses to your questions on MLANET.

Complete candidate information will appear on MLANET by November 3. An abridged form will be published in the November/December 2003 issue of the MLA News. Ballots will be mailed to each voting member beginning November 5, 2003. Visit <http://www.mlanet.org/press/mla-focus/2003/mla-focus-20030710.html> for a list of candidates.

#### Call for Donald Lindberg Fellowship Application

Applications for the Donald A. B. Lindberg Fellowship \$25,000 is due November 15, 2003

MLA is now accepting applications for The Donald A. B. Lindberg Research Fellowship established by MLA to fund research aimed at expanding the research knowledge base that links the information services provided by librarians to improved health care and advances in biomedical research. The endowment will provide a \$25,000 grant, awarded annually by MLA through a competitive grant process, to a qualified health professional, researcher, educator, administrator, or librarian.

An application and more information about the fellowship can be accessed at [www.mlanet.org/awards/grants/](http://www.mlanet.org/awards/grants/) or by contacting Lisa C. Fried, MLA's Credentialing and Professional Recognition Coordinator at [mlapd2@mlahq.org](mailto:mlapd2@mlahq.org).

#### New Open Access Publishing Venture: Public Library of Science Debuts

A coalition of major library and public interest organizations praised the October 13 premier of the first "open access" journal published by the San Francisco-based Public Library of Science (PLOS), a non-profit organization of scientists and physicians. PLOS Biology (<http://biology.plosjournals.org/>), a monthly peer-reviewed journal available free online, features research of exceptional significance, including several groundbreaking articles that recently have received extensive coverage in the worldwide news media.

PLOS is employing a new model for scientific publishing in which research articles are freely available to read and use through the Internet. The costs of publication are recovered not from subscription fees -- which limit information access and use -- but from publication fees paid by authors out of their grant funds and from other sources.

Organizations voicing their support for PLOS include the American Association of Law Libraries, Association of Academic Health Sciences Libraries, Association of College and Research Libraries, Association of Research Libraries, Medical Library

Association, Open Society Institute, Public Knowledge, and SPARC (Scholarly Publishing and Academic Resources Coalition). Several of these organizations have been actively promoting alternatives to subscription-based journal publishing.

"PLoS has captured the imagination of scientists around the globe," said James G. Neal, Vice President for Information Services at Columbia University and Chairman of SPARC. "The support it has garnered from leaders in biomedical research makes it a potent symbol of the opportunity we have today to share scientific findings and propel innovation. The networked digital environment allows PLoS and similar initiatives to sustain the best features of traditional journal publishing but without perpetuating barriers to access and use. This is a milestone in the advancement of scholarly communication."

PLoS is supported by a large group of the world's leading scientists, including Nobel Laureate James Watson, Susan Lindquist, E.O. Wilson, and Kai Simons. A team of leading scientists serves as academic editors and an experienced professional staff operate the venture. Start-up costs for PLoS are being supported by a grant from the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation.

"Unlimited access to scientific research will speed discoveries and medical advances, as it has in the cases of the Human Genome Project and SARS," said Harold Varmus, co-founder and chairman of the board of PLoS. "The speed at which these projects advanced science and, more importantly, saved lives is testament to the equation that drives the Public Library of Science -- multiply knowledge by access and you can really accelerate progress." Varmus is a Nobel Prize winner, President of Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, and former director of the National Institutes of Health.

PLoS is one of several initiatives that promote open access to scientific and medical literature. Although they still represent only a fraction of the published research literature, many open-access journals have been launched. BioMed Central

(<http://www.biomedcentral.com/>) is a commercial publisher of original research papers using an open-access model. The Directory of Open Access Journals (<http://www.doaj.org>) identifies 540 peer-reviewed open-access journals in wide-ranging scholarly and scientific fields. There are also groups, such as the Open Society Institute (<http://www.soros.org/openaccess/>) and SPARC (<http://www.arl.org/sparc/>) that are providing support and advocacy for open-access publishing.

Backing for this new publishing model is growing, particularly in biomedical fields, where high journal subscription charges limit access by physicians, researchers, and individual members of the public. Recently the Howard Hughes Medical Institute (<http://www.hhmi.org/>) and the Wellcome Trust (<http://www.wellcome.ac.uk/en/1/awtvispolpub.html>), major private funders of biomedical research in the U.S. and U.K. respectively, announced that they would earmark funds to pay open-access publication fees as part of their grants.

According to Vivian Siegel, PLoS Executive Director: "Our goal is to make the scientific and medical literature a freely accessible resource. But the literature is huge, and we cannot do it all by ourselves. Using the success of our own journals as a template, we hope to encourage other publishers to adopt the open-access model."

\* \* \* \* \*

The American Association of Law Libraries (AALL) is a nonprofit educational organization dedicated to providing leadership and advocacy in the field of legal information and information policy. AALL's more than 5,000 members respond to the legal information needs of legislators, judges and other public officials, corporations and small businesses, law professors and students, attorneys, and members of the general public. [www.aallnet.org](http://www.aallnet.org)

The Association of Academic Health Sciences Libraries (AAHSL) is composed of the directors of libraries of 142 accredited U. S. and Canadian medical schools belonging to the Association of

American Medical Colleges. AAHSL's goals are to promote excellence in academic health science libraries and to ensure that the next generation of health practitioners is trained in information seeking skills that enhance the quality of health care delivery, education, and research. [www.aahsl.org/](http://www.aahsl.org/)

The Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL), a division of the American Library Association (ALA), is a professional association of academic librarians and other interested individuals. ACRL currently has a membership of approximately 12,400, accounting for nearly 20 percent of the total ALA membership. ACRL provides a broad range of professional services and programs for a diverse membership. [www.ala.org/acrl](http://www.ala.org/acrl)

The Association of Research Libraries (ARL) is a nonprofit organization of 124 research libraries in North America. ARL programs and services promote equitable access to and effective use of recorded knowledge in support of teaching, research, scholarship, and community service. [www.arl.org](http://www.arl.org)

The Medical Library Association (MLA) is a nonprofit educational organization of more than 900 institutions and 3,800 individual members in the health sciences information field committed to educating health information professionals, supporting health information research, promoting access to the world's health sciences information, and working to ensure that the best health information is available to all.

The Open Society Institute (OSI) is a private operating and grant-making foundation established in 1993 by investor and philanthropist George Soros. It develops and implements a range of programs in civil society, education, media, public health and human and womens rights, as well as social, legal, and economic reform. [www.soros.org/openaccess](http://www.soros.org/openaccess)

Public Knowledge is a public-interest advocacy organization dedicated to fortifying and defending a vibrant information commons. This Washington, D.C. based group works with wide spectrum of

stakeholders -- libraries, educators, scientists, artists, musicians, journalists, consumers, software programmers, civic groups and enlightened businesses -- to promote the core conviction that some fundamental democratic principles and cultural values openness, access, and the capacity to create and compete -- must be given new embodiment in the digital age.

[www.publicknowledge.org](http://www.publicknowledge.org)

SPARC (Scholarly Publishing and Academic Resources Coalition) is an initiative of universities, research libraries, and library organizations to correct dysfunctions in the scholarly publishing marketplace that have constrained the dissemination of scholarship and crippled libraries. SPARC publishing partnerships and educational activities demonstrate publishing models that expand information dissemination in a networked digital environment while responding to the needs of scholars and academe. [www.arl.org/sparc](http://www.arl.org/sparc)

#### MLA Statement on Open Access

The Board of Directors recently approved a statement on open access. The statement provides support for the principle of open access currently being addressed by Congress and through several initiatives such as BioOne, SPARC, and the Budapest Open Access Initiative. The statement encourages exploration and further study of alternative models before dismantling the current scholarly publishing model. A copy of the statement can be found at [http://mlanet.org/government/info\\_access/openaccess\\_statement.html](http://mlanet.org/government/info_access/openaccess_statement.html).

Additional information about open access and scholarly publishing can be found at [http://mlanet.org/government/info\\_access/](http://mlanet.org/government/info_access/) and [http://mlanet.org/resources/publish/pub\\_resources.html#9](http://mlanet.org/resources/publish/pub_resources.html#9).

## Selected Resources on Scholarly Publishing and Open Access<sup>1</sup>

- MLANET  
[www.mlanet.org/resources/publish/pub\\_resourees.html](http://www.mlanet.org/resources/publish/pub_resourees.html)
- ARL [www.arl.org/scomm/index.html](http://www.arl.org/scomm/index.html)
- PubMed Central [www.pubmedcentral.nih.gov](http://www.pubmedcentral.nih.gov)
- BioMed Central [www.biomedcentral.com](http://www.biomedcentral.com)
- Public Library of Science [www.plos.org](http://www.plos.org)
- Directory of Open Access Journals  
[www.doaj.org](http://www.doaj.org)
- Open Society Institute  
[www.soros.org/openaccess](http://www.soros.org/openaccess)
- SPARC Open Access Newsletter  
[www.arl.org/sparc/soa/index.html](http://www.arl.org/sparc/soa/index.html)
- Bethesda Open Access Statement  
[www.earlham.edu/~peters/fox/bethesda.htm](http://www.earlham.edu/~peters/fox/bethesda.htm)

1. Watson, L. (2003, October). Scholarly publishing. Paper presented at the NCNMLG meeting, Emeryville, CA.

## Scientific Publishing Symposium: Public Library of Science, November 19, UCSF

Wednesday, November 19  
8:30-10:30 a.m.

Lange Room, Kalmanovitz Library  
University of California, San Francisco (UCSF)  
530 Parnassus Ave, San Francisco

The Scientific Publishing Symposium: Public Library of Science, the second in a series of Library-sponsored lectures on New Models in Scientific Publishing, will be held on November 19 in the Kalmanovitz Library at University of California at San Francisco.

Please join us for an exploration of the Public Library of Science (PLoS), a new electronic publishing model that provides immediate free access to peer-reviewed biomedical research. Vivian Siegel, Executive Director of PLoS, will share details about the PLoS model and Karen Butter, University

Librarian, UCSF, will provide a brief overview of the issues facing libraries.

UCSF faculty Peter Walter, Arthur Weiss, and Jonathan Weissman and research fellow Jeroen Roose will share their perspectives as authors and editors. There will be time set aside for questions and comments. Refreshments will be served.

Please RSVP to [epub@library.ucsf.edu](mailto:epub@library.ucsf.edu)

## Prepare for MLA Benchmark Data Entry

MLA's Benchmarking Network can be a tool of benefit to all MLA members; the 2003/04 benchmarking questionnaires will offer significantly expanded questions for almost all MLA member libraries. Changes include the expansion of health systems data, the addition of profiles for non-hospital libraries, auto-calculated fields to reduce addition and percentage errors, and the revision of administrative, public services, technical services, and special services questions to accommodate all library types.

Online data collection will begin in December 2003; only 2002 or 2003 institutional/library data will be accepted. Worksheets for collecting your data ahead of time are now available on MLANET at [http://www.mlanet.org/members/benchmark/worksheet\\_2003-04.html](http://www.mlanet.org/members/benchmark/worksheet_2003-04.html). Other benchmarking resources are also available at <http://www.mlanet.org/members/benchmark/>.

For further information, contact Kate Corcoran, [corcoran@mlahq.org](mailto:corcoran@mlahq.org), 312.419.9094 x12.

## Featured Article

### IFLA 2003 World Library and Information Congress: A Brief Report

By Peggy Tahir, MLIS, MA, Information Services Librarian  
The Kalmanovitz Library and Center for Knowledge Management, University of California at San Francisco

The theme for this year's IFLA conference (August 1-9, 2003 Berlin, Germany) was *Access*

*Point Library: Media – Information – Culture.* There were many interesting presentations and sessions covering topics from reference services to copyright to bioinformatics. There were close to 5,000 librarians attending the conference from countries all over the world, representing many different types of libraries. It is very invigorating to learn both the differences and commonalities between libraries and library services in so many varied locations and settings. In this brief report, I will attempt to give you a synopsis of some of the sessions I found of interest at the conference.

One session I attended covered marketing library services to academic communities. I found the most interesting paper presented in this session to be by Thomas Wilding from the University of Texas at Arlington, which discussed a faculty survey conducted by the library. The library was investigating which library services were most used and valued by the faculty on their campus. One not surprising outcome of their survey was that electronic journals and remote access to electronic resources ranked extremely high as a valued service the library provided. An interesting learning experience gleaned from the survey was that mixing satisfaction questions with importance (ranking) questions caused confusion and elicited mixed results. Another outcome was that the survey itself was too lengthy. Their library will be following up this initial survey with focus groups and additional surveys that are shorter and more focused to specific target areas.

The bioinformatics session presented at the meeting was very well attended. IFLA's Health and Biosciences Libraries & Science and Technology Libraries Section sponsored this session. Two scientists presented papers on data quality and text mining, and a librarian presented a paper on an engineering subject gateway developed at his University with the goal of an integrated access approach. This particular gateway included five different search modules: a meta search engine, an online document ordering system, full text sources, subject guide collections with filters and sub-categorization, and a specialized search engine with a focus on research and specificity (this final module is still in development stages).

Another session I found particularly interesting was on reference services and the changing face of reference. The title of this session was *Reprofessionalisation of reference work: interaction in the physical and the virtual library.* Anne Lipow, whom many of you already know from presentations and workshops held in Northern California, presented an overview of the current status of reference and the changes happening due to technology and digital tools. A panel of presenters followed with interesting insights into reference services in each of their library settings. One paper covered designing and delivering information services to postgraduate students, a second discussed digital reference services in Germany, and the third provided an overview of a Danish 'Ask a Librarian service' which focused on the cooperation between public and scientific libraries in Denmark.

I also attended an offsite workshop on user studies that was held at the Social Science Research Center Berlin and included discussion with scientists from that institute. Several presentations were followed by breakout sessions. Each session had a facilitator for the discussion and a social scientist who provided the research perspective to the discussion. In the breakout session I attended, the social scientist was very concerned with the problem of escalating journal prices and was extremely interested in the open access movement. Our group had a lively discussion on alternative publishing models, as well as how the Internet is used throughout the world to connect people to the information they need.

The IFLA conference includes arranged visits to numerous libraries, and I was able to visit the Medical Library of the Charite – Campus Virchow Clinical Center. This library provides resources for over 2500 scientists and 5000 students in Europe's largest clinical center. It is housed in a historical pavilion that was recently renovated and converted into library space. As with many libraries in the U.S., they struggle with journal price increases and have been forced to cancel many print subscriptions in order to provide access to the online versions of those

journals that they were once able to collect both in print and online.

I presented a poster at this year's conference on educational outreach, and found a variety of thought-provoking posters presented from many types of libraries. Though there are usually a limited number of posters accepted for each conference, I would encourage anyone interested to check out the call for posters on the IFLA website if you have a project that aligns with the theme of the meeting. The call for posters for next year's conference is not currently on the IFLA website, but there is a note indicating that it will be coming soon.

Many of the papers presented at the 2003 IFLA conference are available on the IFLA website: <http://www.ifla.org/IV/ifla69/prog03.htm>

The next IFLA conference will be held in Buenos Aires, Argentina, August 22-27, 2004. The theme of this conference will be *Libraries: Tools for Education and Development*. You can find out more about it here: <http://www.ifla.org/IV/ifla70/index.htm>

### Healthy People Library Project –San Francisco Public Library (SFPL)

Submitted by Ruth Amernick, Health Librarian at SFPL

The American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), through a grant by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) has initiated the "Healthy People Library Project". The SFPL is one of eight national test sites.

This community based project is designed to help public libraries better meet the health information needs of African Americans, Hispanic Americans, Asian Americans, and Native Americans. Diabetes is the first health topic for this project.

On Wednesday, August 20<sup>th</sup> at San Francisco Civic Center Farmer's Market, health practitioners spoke and provided diabetes eating and health tips, exercises, personal experiences and demonstrated massage for people with diabetes. Diabetes books,

handouts and information were distributed to large numbers of the targeted population.

Ruth Amernick, Health Librarian at SFPL, is the SFPL contact for the project. For more information about the project, visit the Healthy People Library Project site @ <http://www.healthlit.org>. This site also provides useful health resources for consumers.

### Call for Post-Graduate Informatics Training Fellowship Applications

The Division of Health Sciences Informatics at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine offers an exciting opportunity for individuals to participate in an Informatics Training Fellowship. This interdisciplinary program selects candidates from the disciplines of basic science, clinical science, library science, nursing, and public health. The two-year fellowship begins on July 1, 2004. Application review will begin during the fall, 2003, and positions will be offered by April 1, 2004. See <http://dhsi.med.jhmi.edu/content/admissions.html> for complete program information.

Please pass this message along to colleagues and students who might be interested in exploring this post-graduate opportunity? For more information, contact

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**CE: Symposium on Health Literacy  
Focusing on Language and Cultural  
Access to Health Information, January 28,  
2004**

This daylong symposium, sponsored by PSRML, will be held on Wednesday, January 28, 2004, the first day of the Joint Meeting in Sacramento. For more information about the symposium and registration, go to the Joint Meeting web site at <http://ncnmlg.stanford.edu/calendar/jtmtg2004/symposium.html>

**CE: ACRL Institute for Information  
Literacy, California Regional Immersion  
Program, July 22-27, 2004**

The ACRL Institute for Information Literacy (IIL)  
California Regional Immersion Program

July 22-27, 2004

The Claremont Colleges

The California Regional Immersion program is open to all California Academic Librarians.

There are two tracks of study in the Immersion program:

- **Track I: Librarian as Teacher** This track focuses on individual development for those who are interested in enhancing, refreshing, or extending their individual instruction skills. (Limited to approximately 60 participants)
- **Track II: Librarian as Program Developer** This track focuses on developing, integrating, and managing institutional and programmatic information literacy programs. (Limited to approximately 30 participants)

For more information on the California Regional Immersion Program, go to the SCIL web site: <http://clics.ucsd.edu/scil/immersion>.

**CE: Marine Biological Laboratory Medical  
Informatics Course, May 30-June 6, 2004;  
September 26-October 3, 2004**

Application Deadline: January 20, 2004 for either offering.

This week-long survey course is designed to familiarize individuals with the application of computer technologies and information science in biomedicine and health science. Through a combination of lectures and hands-on computer exercises, participants will be introduced to the conceptual and technical components of biomedical informatics. For application forms and information, contact: Carol Hamel, Admissions Coordinator at 508-289-7401 or [admissions@mbl.edu](mailto:admissions@mbl.edu). For more information about the course, visit the site <http://www.mbl.edu/education>.

**CE: MLA Web-Based CE Courses**

The MLANET Educational Clearinghouse currently has several [Web-based courses](#) approved for MLA continuing-education credit. Go to <http://www.mlanet.org/education/web/> to visit Web-based course listings. For more information, contact [Kathleen Gaydos Combs](#) at [mlapd1@mlahq.org](mailto:mlapd1@mlahq.org), 312.419.9094 x29.

**What's New in MeSH**

1. 2004 MeSH in XML format is available for download. It is also available in ASCII format. See <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/mesh/filelist.html>.
2. ASCII MeSH and XML MeSH are now updated weekly. The updates are run every Sunday and are available Monday morning.

3. The MeSH Browser is now available with 2004 MeSH. 2003 MeSH is available as an optional link. See <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/mesh/MBrowser.html>.

The MeSH Section will continue to provide access via the MeSH Browser for two years of the vocabulary: the current year and an alternative year. There will be a default file with access to an alternative year through a link on the Browser entry page.

### OLDMEDLINE Now in PubMed

Early October, NLM transferred 1,517,855 OldMEDLINE citations from the NLM Gateway to PubMed. These citations were originally printed in the paper indexes from 1953 to 1965.

These citations are not as complete as current citations because they were produced at different times and in different ways. None of these citations have abstracts. Most do not have a country of publication; some lack issue number; language, if not English, may be absent. The OT (Other Term) field includes the original MeSH headings that may not correspond to current MeSH headings.

A new subset has been created for these citations -- the "OldMEDLINE for Pre 1966" subset. You can select this subset through the subsets pull-down in the Limits section or search for these articles directly by typing "oldmedline [sb]".

More information is available in the NLM Technical Bulletin article, "OldMEDLINE Citations Join PubMed", that is available at: [http://www.nlm.nih.gov/pubs/techbull/so03/so03\\_oldmedline.html](http://www.nlm.nih.gov/pubs/techbull/so03/so03_oldmedline.html)

### New MEDLINEplus Tour Available

The new MEDLINEplus Tour is now available and linked from the MEDLINEplus homepage <http://medlineplus.gov/> and "About" page. The tour was developed by Molly Cahall, an NLM associate. It contains pictures and sound and requires a Flash plug-

in, version 6 or above. If you do not have Flash, you will be prompted to obtain a free download of the software before you start.

The tour runs by itself and takes about 8 minutes to view. NLM welcomes your comments on the new MEDLINEplus Tour. Send them through the "Contact Us" link on the MEDLINEplus homepage.

### New Release of the NLM Gateway

A new version of the NLM Gateway has recently been released. Specific enhancements are listed below:

- Access to two new collections, "MEDLINEplus Health Tutorials" and "MEDLINEplus Current Health News" was added to the NLM Gateway in the Consumer Health category.
- Limits for the current search are now displayed under the Gateway Features bar.
- Author name truncation for searching has been added to the Meeting Abstracts and HSRProj collections.
- Direct links for Pubmed Central articles were added to the Document Ordering page.
- A spell checker for user input was added.

Gateway provides you with accesses to PubMed, LocatorPlus, MEDLINEplus, ClinicalTrials.gov, DIRLINE, Meeting abstracts on HIV/AIDS, health services research and space life sciences, and HSRProj (health services research projects), etc. It's available at <http://gateway.nlm.nih.gov/gw/Command>.

If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact Sonya Shooshan at 301-435-3189 or email her at [sonya@nlm.nih.gov](mailto:sonya@nlm.nih.gov).

### Web Resources for Medical Librarians

The Resources at MLANET have recently been reorganized and expanded. Visit <http://www.mlanet.org/resources/>. The resources covered are:

- JCAHO accreditation
- Librarians' compensation
- Library public relations and marketing
- Professional issues, including scholarly publishing, Electronic licensing
- Benchmarking and library standards

**Video Available from the Pacific  
Southwest Regional Medical Library  
(PSRML)**

If you missed the opportunity to attend the MLA Satellite Teleconference on Health Information Literacy: “Reading between the Lines: Focusing on Health Information Literacy”, its videocassettes is now available for loan from PSRML. Go to the PSRML web site to submit your request: <http://nmlm.gov/psr/loans/videoloans.html>

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## DIRECTIONS FOR JOINING THE LISTSERV

**LISTSERV ADDRESS:** [ncnmlglist@lists.stanford.edu](mailto: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:

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## SUBMITTING ITEMS TO THE NEWSLETTER

Please email your submissions to the Newsletter editor **ANY TIME (no deadline)**. Items for the NCNMLG Newsletter may be sent in electronic format (text or WORD format preferred) to:

Min-Lin Fang  
Email: [fang@library.ucsf.edu](mailto:fang@library.ucsf.edu)  
Phone: 415-476-3397

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.

**The November/December issue of the newsletter will be available at the end of December.**