

mhsla news

MICHIGAN HEALTH SCIENCES LIBRARIES ASSOCIATION

No. 32

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1990

FAREWELL ADDRESS

Diane O'Keefe
Immediate Past President

John Adams wrote: "I must study politics and war that my sons may have liberty to study mathematics and philosophy, geography, natural history and naval architecture, in order to give their children a right to study painting, poetry, music, architecture, statuary, tapestry and porcelain."

The MHSLA has followed a similar path. In the beginning, we fought the battles of networking, resource sharing and the creation of union lists. This has enabled us to move on to budgeting, grant applications and long range planning. And now, in the past year, we are beginning to work in areas of research and ethics.

Our past activities solved many of the technical problems of making our organization a successful tool for the best access to and use of all of the information that is available in health science libraries in the state.

Our successes in these areas stood as an example to other types of libraries who have followed our lead and are now working on the same types of resource sharing capabilities.

We are now getting more involved in the less technical aspects of our

profession. Research and ethics are more abstract studies but are equally of value to the future of our profession.

Our contributions in these areas will not only benefit our profession, but may also help secure our positions in the health care industry.

We again have the opportunity, through these efforts, to take a leadership position in our profession and I am pleased to see that we are doing so and will continue to do so in the future.

I would like to thank all of the people who have served on MHSLA committees this year, particularly the chair people, because without their efforts, MHSLA could not continue its important work. I would also particularly like to thank the Local Arrangements Committee and the Education Committee for their work in putting on the 1990 conference.

And now, I would like to turn over the gavel and the leadership of MHSLA to our new president, Marge Kars.

PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS by Marge Kars

These are exciting times for us as professionals. The information age means a new surge of technology for libraries, and a new value to librarians as a resource. In

preparing for today I found an article that I would like to quote from. The article was written by Peter Lewis and says "the company that can best gather and evaluate information will have an edge." The article continues, "In the vanguard of information technology, today's librarians are as likely to be experts in work stations, networking, communications protocols, electronic imaging and fiber optics as they are in books and manuscripts. The information technologies and techniques now being explored by libraries are likely to serve as models for business in the years to come."

That article appeared in the New York Times last May. I don't know how many healthcare CEOs in Michigan read the Times; I do know that no one at Bronson called to tell me they had read about what I do in the New York Times.

I agree with what Mr. Lewis said. I also believe librarians are change agents. We are often seen as non-threatening; perhaps because we are seen as lacking power; but that gives us a somewhat unique vantage point.

I believe we are problem solvers. We are also a valuable resource because we provide access to another valuable resource, information.

We are a decision support service. We provide decision support every time a client, not a patron, comes to us for information to support a patient care treatment decision, a management decision, a project decision.

Commenting on the role of libraries in medical education, in a recent issue of the Bulletin of the New York Academy of Sciences, Robert Braude wrote, "We are seen in the

traditional view of the library, as a passive entity, and the stereotype of the librarian as a nonassertive partner in the activities of the health sciences center." Everyone in this room has been affected in some way over the last five years by what the healthcare industry terms downsizing, or "rightsizing". We've either lost staff, or budget. In some cases, jobs and libraries have disappeared. The same people who deny that library services are worth money or have value will pay a consult thousands of dollars for information.

We have underrated ourselves and our value and we have let others do the same. There has been too much focus on the cost of libraries and not enough on the value of librarians as a resource. We are change agents and problem solvers. We combine traditional and new information technology skills. Now we have to use those skills of analysis, retrieval, organization, information repackaging to help ourselves. We know that libraries are really dynamic organizations and that librarians are agents of change. We are not too late to change the emphasis and recognize the value. It is not enough to say we can, we must do what we can to change the perceptions; and in healthcare that means quality and return on investment.

And that brings me to this Association.

We formed this organization for the express purpose of providing answers to the challenges of continuing education for health sciences librarians, promoting the development of new health sciences libraries and continuing to provide access to information for our clients. To that end, we created a statewide union list of serials; we

cut down on length of time it took us to respond to our clients needs for information; we were the first state serials list to be loaded into DOCLINE; we manage an annual educational conference and workshops throughout the year, we publish a newsletter.

At different times in our history we have convened a planning committee to look at where we are and what we hope to accomplish. Recently we took another look at ourselves to see whether we are able to meet the challenge that will lie ahead in the next three years.

The Executive Board recently approved the strategic plan for the organization. The plan includes a vision statement to "further health sciences librarianship by assisting members to demonstrate a positive impact on health care within their communities."

The plan has five goals. Networking to share resources, educational opportunities for members, provision of a professional support team, financial viability of the association, and perhaps the most important, application of research in library science to health care. Perhaps those are only restatements of what we've been about; I don't think so. I think we are again responding to our environment.

As President of MHLA, I want to begin working on the goals in the Strategic Plan. I believe this plan is important to the MHLA membership. I believe the goals are important steps to our demonstration of our positive impact on health care. I can't do this alone; I can only do this as a member of this association with your help. As MHLA, we will be that collective voice and use our

collective skills, and this time we will be change agents for MHLA, this time we will be problem solvers for MHLA, this time we will be decision support for MHLA, and we will begin to demonstrate the positive impact on healthcare within our communities.

A TIP FOR MANAGEMENT COLLECTIONS

"What Chief Executives Read : how some of the best business minds get their information." Is a recent article by Martha E. Mangelsdorf, appearing in the September 1990 Inc magazine, p.64-passim.

If you are collecting management information, this is one article you should see. The article includes the reading habits of such notables as Tom Peters, author of In search of excellence.

Lansing General Hospital, Osteopathic (ECJ or LIBID 48909A) will accept ILL's for this reference.

CONSUMER HEALTH

Norma Powers from Munson Medical Center in Traverse City, MI sends us this clip:

The October 1, 1990 issue of Modern Healthcare cites a new publication from the Mayo Clinic. The book Mayo Clinic Family Health book is priced at \$34.95 and is published by William Morrow & Co., New York.

According to Modern Healthcare "The book is divided into five sections: growth and development, first aid, health and fitness, an encyclopedia of diseases and a dictionary of drugs."

UPPER PENINSULA UPDATE by Mildred Kingsbury

Theresa Scram and Janis Lubenow, formerly Library Assistants, have had title changes to: Library Information Specialists to better describe the complex nature of their positions. The title change is a result of an in-depth study of position responsibilities.

Janis Lubenow, Library Information Specialist completed training in "Fundamentals of MEDLARS Searching" August 13-17, 1990 in Chicago.

The Upper Peninsula Health Sciences Libraries Consortium (UPHSLC) held their Annual Meeting on Friday August 17, 1990 at Calumet Public Hospital in Laurium, MI, where a Saunders Book Fair was held, and at Portage View Hospital in Hancock where a program titled "Building an Archives in a Health Sciences Library" was presented by Theresa Sanders-Spence, University Archivist and Special Collections Librarian at Michigan Technological University. In addition, the UPHSLC held a discussion on the Guture of the Consortium" at their annual business meeting.

Mildred Kingsbury was a speaker at the MC/MLA conference in Minneapolis on October 24, 1990. Her topic was "The anatomy of a proposal : Marquette General Hospital Library/Clinic Fax Transmission Project." The program focused on the grant writing process from the initial idea to the final product. Special emphasis was placed on needs assessment, preparation time, data gathering, charts and graphs, institutional dynamics and final review. Although the program was aimed at the novice grant writer, the experienced writer also gained new insights in the practice of grantsmanship.



TROUBLESHOOTING COMPUTERS:

Mid-Michigan Health Sciences Libraries hosted a presentation by Blaine Morrow of Grosse Pointe Public Library on troubleshooting computer problems called "They shoot computers, don't they?"

No one is immune to computer disasters. This presentation dealt with a step-by-step method for tracking down the source of problems which result from simple things you can solve before calling a repair person. It was very interesting and taught me to set up a more logical approach to situations which arise on a day-to-day basis in my Library.

With Blaine's permission we are reprinting a bibliography provided at his presentation.

Bee, Harry, "The PC User's Survival Kit". PC Resource, June 1989, pp. 62-70.

Beechhold, Henry. The Plain English Repair and Maintenance Guide for Home Computers (Simon and Schuster, 1984)

Berliner, Don Managing Your Hard Disk (Que, 1988)

Brenner, Robert C. IBM PC Troubleshooting and Repair Guide (Sams, 1985)

"Eight Common Problems (And How to

Solve Them)", edited by Michael Goodwin. PC World, January 1988, pp. 257-80

Fisher, Stephen and Frantz, Lynn Hard Disk Management (Compute!, 1987)

Fox, Jackie "Beginner's Guide to Troubleshooting". PC Novice September 1990, pp. 10 passim.

Gilliland, Steve "When Your Printer Won't Print". Computer Shopper, July 1990, pp. 417-18

Hard Disk Management in the PC and MS DOS Environment (McGraw-Hill, 1988).

Howard, Bill, "The Ultimate Utility Shelf". PC Magazine June 26, 1990, pp. 165-204.

Kleinholtz, Lisa, "Survive System Breakdowns". Home Office Computing, June 1990, pp. 49-53

Miller, Stephen "A Question-and-Answer guide to Floppies". Home Office Computing, August, 1989, pp. 52-54.

Morrow, Blaine Victor Essential Guide to the Library IBM PC Vol 15: Utility Software (Meckler, 1990)

Norton, Peter and Jourdain, Robert The Hard Disk Companion (Brady, 1987)

Osborne, Larry N., "Those (In)destructible Disks; or Another Myth Exploded". Library HiTech v.7, no.3, 1989 p. 7-10

Pred, Rachel and Schwebach, Lynn, "A Guided Tour of PC TOols". PC Today, July 1990, pp. 60-62

Roch, Winn L., "Tune Up Your Hard Disk". PC Computing, December 1989 pp. 116-121.

Thompson, Brad, "When Your Hard Disk Drive Goes Kaput". Computer Shopper, July 1990, pp. 183ff.

Veale, David S., "Add a 3.5 Inch Drive in Six Easy Steps". PC Resource, June 1989, pp. 105-112.

Veale, David., "How to Install a Fax Board". PC Resource, July 1989, pp. 89-98.

Wolverton, Van Running MS-Dos (Microsoft, 1985)

On a personal note, I recommend the articles by Rachel Pred and Jackie Fox for starters. You may also wish to add the books to your library's collection for future reference.

Judy Barnes,
Lansing General Hospital.
Osteopathic

ANNOUNCING:
MHSLA TECHNOLOGY SURVEY, 1990/91

Included with this issue of the MHSLA NEWS is the third MHSLA Technology Survey. The MHSLA Technology Directory will be produced from the results of this survey.

The Directory is intended to provide a comprehensive reference source for hardware, software, library applications and general software programs, as well as fax machines and interlibrary loan policies for these. Members are encouraged to consult the Directory, find an institution using the particular product under consideration and contact the user for information on reliability, ease of use and a general evaluation. In this manner a more informed decision may be made on some aspects of library automation.

To make the Directory comprehensive and most useful for the membership, please take the time to respond.

Please note the following when filling out the survey:

1. Concentrate on the most advanced equipment in use at the library; give information on other systems as space allows.
2. Please provide information on the equipment and programs that are IN USE; not just what is owned (and sits on the shelf)!

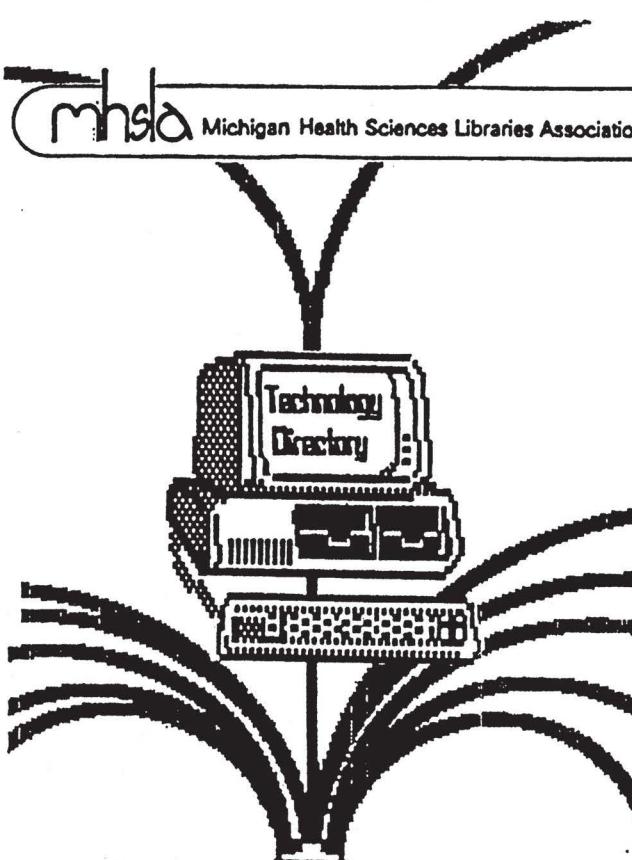
3. If you don't know the answers to some of the technical questions, please DO NOT ask the technical people at your institution. The intent of the Directory is to provide people who are knowledgeable at the library level; not to get the questions answered no matter what.

4. At the top of the survey there are two questions concerning the Director/Manager of the library and the "title" of that person. We are trying to gather information on the wide range of position titles employed in the library setting and would appreciate both the name of the person responsible for the library as well as that person's proper title.

5. Also included in the survey are questions concerning the Directory's usefulness in the past and ways that it could be made more useful in the future. All suggestions in this regard are welcome; please let us know.

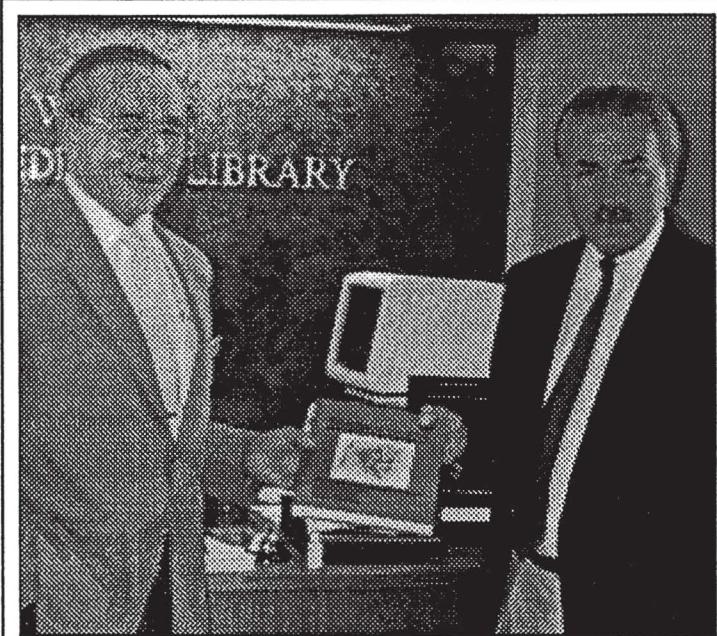
6. Please use the three-digit MISHULS code when responding to the survey. If you have previously had a four-digit code, please list BOTH the old code and the new code.

Diane Dustin,
Providence Hospital, Southfield



10,000th Book

Chi Memorial Medical Library



Robert Van Every presenting the 10,000th book to David G. Kedde

During July of 1990, the 10,000th book was purchased by the John W. Chi Memorial Medical Library of Ingham Medical Center and added to the book collection. The book title is *Tumors of the Spine* by Narayan Sundaresan, and the publisher is W.B. Saunders.

This is quite a unique and memorable event, considering the past history of the Chi Medical Library. In 1973, when I became the Director of the Library, the library covered only 1,000 square feet, and a small collection of 1,000 books, 75 journal titles in the collection, and a staff of one. Today, the library covers 4,000 square feet, 10,000+ books, 850 journal titles, and a staff of five.

Pictured presenting the 10,000th book to me is Robert Van Every, sales representative of W.B. Saunders Company. As a book salesman, Mr. Van Every has been calling on the library since 1974. The acquisition of this 10,000th book was a tribute to the library as well as to Mr. Van Every. Like me, Mr. Van Every has seen the Chi Medical Library grow from a small collection to the resource center that it is today.



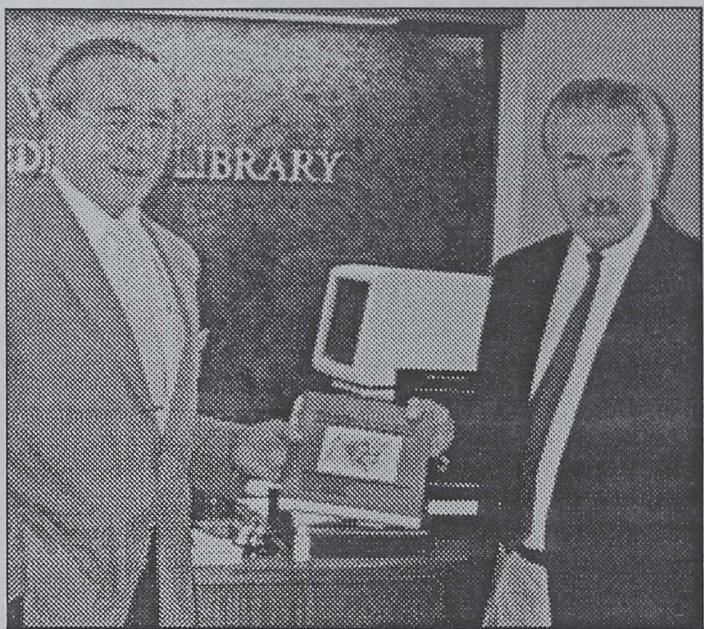
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10,000th Book

Chi Memorial Medical Library

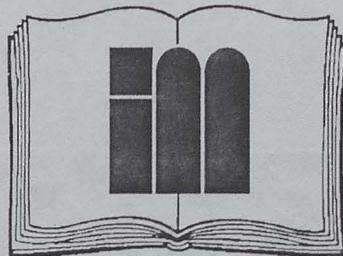


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