

MHSLA NEWS

No. 88

FALL 2008

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE MICHIGAN HEALTH SCIENCES LIBRARIES ASSOCIATION

President's Corner

by Janet Zimmerman

Well, it's getting down to crunch time for the big conference this year and I hope many of you are registering and planning on supporting MHSLA by your attendance at the conference at the Troy Marriott. Many hours of planning and hard work have taken place over the last three years and it's a little hard to believe that it will be coming together next month. This conference is a great opportunity to get connected with colleagues all over the Midwest and hopefully we'll all go home and be inspired and recognize all the neat things we as medical librarians are doing.



*MHSLA President
Janet Zimmerman*

At the MHSLA Board Meeting in July, we had some great dialogue on some issues that were brought up by different Board and MHSLA members. Since I'm sure many of you don't hunt down our meeting minutes on a regular basis, I'd like to share a brief summary of the discussions we had on three issues.

Unfortunately, some of our members in the organization have seen some reductions in staff and services recently and all of us in MHSLA want to show our support for our colleagues during these difficult transitions. Advocacy for our profession is one of the Board's strategic goals and we discussed how we as MHSLA members can advocate for medical libraries in the state. After the meeting, I went and looked at the Medical Library Association's website section at



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<http://www.mlanet.org/resources/html> to see the results of the MLA Vital Pathway Task Force on the status of hospital libraries and the resources they have developed to help us advocate for ourselves and others. What is amazing to me through all these transitions is how resilient and still dedicated these members are to advancing our profession and how they still continue to contribute their time and their talents to our conference planning and MHSLA committees.

Another discussion we had at the Board meeting was about how difficult it has been in the last few years to recruit candidates for the Board and what we can do as an organization to make sure we remain a viable and worthwhile organization. If any of you have suggestions on how we plan for our successors, please feel free to send us a note.

And last but not least, we discussed future conference planning ideas for upcoming MHSLA Conferences since we've had suggestions from some of our members on collaboration ideas with other state library associations. The idea of collaborating with another library organization was to help alleviate some of the planning tasks and activities being done by volunteers and shifting that responsibility to a library organization's paid staff. Also there might be an opportunity to share ideas for speakers and programs that impact our entire field, not just medical librarians. After much lively discussion, the majority of the Board members still feel that the annual conference should continue to be a three day conference planned by our membership and that the conference's programming be directed to our members. Board members also mentioned that the annual conference is still being offered at a reasonable cost and that many of our members rely on this conference for updating them in their professional activities.

As you can see by our discussions, the MHSLA Board is responding to your ideas and concerns. As a member, you might not always agree with our conclusions, but that's more than enough reason for you to run for an office the next time you are asked. After serving on the Board for my second stint, I really appreciate how dedicated our members are to what we do. Please join us in October to get rejuvenated and renewed in your profession and see you there!

Still Time to Register for the 2008 MHSLA / Midwest Conference

Submitted by Nandita Mani

You can register online via <http://www.rsvpbook.com/event.php?459908>. Payments for registration may be made by credit card or check.

In order to get the member rate for conference registration, you must be a member of either Midwest Chapter MLA or MHSLA.



--Click here to join Midwest Chapter MLA: <http://midwestmla.org/membership/>

--Click here to join MHSLA (Michigan Health Science Libraries Association): <http://www.mhsla.org/join.htm>

To keep the planet "vibrant and healthy" we will not be providing bags at this conference. Please

recycle and “BYOB” (bring your own bag!).

MHSLA Research Poster Wins an Award

By Sandy Swanson, MSL, MPA

Following up on the preliminary survey that we conducted in 2007, the MHSLA Research Committee investigated the current use of Web 2.0 technologies by members of MHSLA and its affiliated local groups. The goals of the investigation were to determine what Web 2.0 tools we are using, what barriers exist to using them, what our members need in order to apply these technologies in our libraries, and how we prefer to learn about them. The information derived from our research was shared with the MHSLA Board and the Education Committee to assist in developing programming tailored to our members’ needs.



We created, revised, and pilot-tested a survey using SurveyMonkey. Invitations were issued to members via the MHSLA listserv and blog to take the survey between January 30 and February 15, 2008. Fifty-nine members completed the survey.

Committee members Misa Mi, Marie-Lise Shams and Sandy Swanson examined the data. Because we used a convenience sample, we did not apply statistical analysis to the results. Instead, we examined the data using charts and graphs to visually display the results.

The Medical Library Association had accepted

the abstract we submitted in November 2007, and the results and conclusions sections were added in late February following our examination of the data. We created a PowerPoint poster using a template found on the Internet. The poster was well-received when presented in Chicago on May 18, 2008; many librarians stopped to look it over and we received a number of comments. The poster was available for conference-goers to review through May 20.

We were excited to learn in June that the MLA’s Research Awards section had selected the poster for the Hospital Librarian Research Award (poster). We thank the Medical Library Association and all of the members who assisted us to attain this honor.

Birth Announcements in Traverse City

By Chris Allen

Munson Community Health Library has two birth announcements to share.

First, after about eight years of gestation, we have finally given birth to a publically available online catalog! The online catalog software was configured to safely bridge our hospital firewall, due to the tireless efforts of a new Information Services Department liaison. Our new liaison understands libraries and how important this piece is to serving our users. To use the Community Health Library online catalog, point your browser to http://www.munsonhealthcare.org/munson/health_info/community_library.php. The collection includes books, multimedia, models, kits and games.

Second, please welcome baby, Julia Acker, daughter of Information Research Assistant,

Laura Acker to our world. Laura joined the Community Health Library in March and is a valuable team member. Congratulations to the happy parents.

The Thomson Reuters/ Frank Bradway Rogers Information Advancement Award

*Recognize Technological Innovation in Health
Science Information!*

By Janette Schueller

The Rogers Award, originally called the ISI Information Advancement 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, sponsored by the Thomson Reuters, has been given since 1983. The recipient receives a cash award of \$500 and will be recognized at the Annual Meeting of the Medical Library

Association, May 15-20, 2009, Honolulu, Hawaii.

For more information on the award and past winners go to: <http://www.mlanet.org/awards/honors/rogers.html>.

For a copy of the nomination form, eligibility information and instructions go to: http://mlanet.org/pdf/awards/rogers_nom_20080611.pdf

All nominations are due by November 1, 2008. Please forward this message to colleagues who might be interested.

Janette Schueller, Jury Chair, 2007-2008
Thomson Reuters/Frank Bradway Rogers Award
Jury (206.528.3372) or schuelle@battelle.org

Hospital Name Change

Submitted by Patricia Vinson

As of July 1, 2008 DMC Surgery Hospital is the new name for Michigan Orthopaedic Specialty Hospital. The name was changed to accommodate the expansion of service lines and outpatient pediatric surgical services being performed by Children's Hospital at this location.

MHSLA NEWS

MHSLA News, ISSN 1543-0359, is published three times each year by the Michigan Health Sciences Libraries Association, <http://www.mhsla.org>.

Please send contributions or suggestions to:

MHSLA News Editor

Arlene Weismantel

Michigan State University Libraries

100 Library

East Lansing, MI 48824-1048

or

weisman1@mail.lib.msu.edu