

MHSLA

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NEWSLETTER OF THE MICHIGAN HEALTH SCIENCES LIBRARIES ASSOCIATION

President's Corner

By Janet Zimmerman

2007-2008 MHSLA President

Director, Library Information Services

William Beaumont Hospital -- Royal Oak

Even though I have been a member of the Michigan Health Sciences Libraries Association for more years than I'd like to admit, I never really had delved into the Bylaws, Procedure Manuals and the Strategic Plan developed in 2006 by Jennifer Barlow's committee before taking on the job of President for 2007-2008. I began reviewing all these documents and



Janet Zimmerman

quickly realized that I as a member never had fully appreciated how much work and commitment to our profession the membership of MHSLA had demonstrated. Many officers and committee chairs have worked diligently to advocate for health science librarianship. Since the beginning of the organization our focus has been: "to further health sciences librarianship by demonstrating a positive

impact on health care within the community through sharing library services ; providing educational opportunities for health science library personnel ; encouraging, coordinating, and conducting research in health science libraries; and providing a



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professional support system for Association members.” - Article II of the Bylaws

As I was contemplating my participation in MHSLA over the years, I have personally been able to see how each type of health science library can benefit from a membership in MHSLA. I started off my library career in an academic library at Wayne State’s Shiffman Medical Library; moved on to become a solo librarian at Foote Hospital in Jackson, then a library manager to a small staff at Bon Secours (now Beaumont Grosse Pointe; it’s true what goes around comes around) and now am a director of a large hospital library at Beaumont Hospitals with a larger staff. In all my library positions though, I definitely have benefited from my connection to MHSLA, either from participating in the MISHULS list way back when, or by learning and setting up DOCLINE or by joining in on group purchases negotiated by MHSLA that made resources more affordable to every type of library.

Many opportunities await our organization in 2008 .We will be sponsoring a joint conference this year with the Midwest Chapter of the Medical Library Association at the Troy Marriott from October 17-21, 2008. The Conference Committee led by Ellen O’Donnell from St. John’s Hospital, Sandra Martin from Wayne State Shiffman Medical Library and myself have already logged many hours and meetings to make this conference outstanding. We are already discussing ideas for the 2009 conference that will be hosted by the Western Michigan Health Sciences Libraries Association whose membership has grown since the Northern Michigan Health Sciences Library Group decided to merge with them in 2007. Misa Mi, MHSLA Research Committee Chair and the Research Committee are conducting a survey about how we’re using Web 2.0 in our libraries. Sandy Swanson, member of the Publications Committee has taken on the task of updating the MHSLA blog (<http://mhsla.wordpress.com/>) and is doing a great job of keeping us all informed on what’s new in the medical library world, but is always looking for contributions and comments from you.



I look forward to working with all of you this year and hope you’ll consider your MHSLA membership a valuable tool in promoting your profession and library.

Effective DOCLINE Use

*By Heidi Schroeder, MHSLA Resource Sharing Committee Chair
Health Sciences Librarian, Michigan State University Libraries*

Many MHSLA members use the National Library of Medicine's DOCLINE system for their interlibrary loan requests. Its usefulness can be seen in part by the MHSLA DOCLINE group, which has 70 participating institutions! Using DOCLINE effectively allows this cooperative system to run smoothly. Please review the guidelines below to make sure your library is using DOCLINE properly.

Keep your serial holdings list in DOCLINE accurate and up to date. Although the National Library of Medicine requires libraries to update their serial holdings annually, you may find additional updates necessary as your subscriptions or technologies change. Remember to only include journals you have interlibrary loan rights to. Do not list journals you are not legally permitted to share.

It is equally important to keep your institutional profile up to date. At least once a year, you should review the following: your contact information (including e-mail address), delivery method preferences for both lending and receiving, and any alternate delivery methods your library can accept. You may also want to review your library's usage statistics. Look for even distribution – ideally, the number of requests should be similar to the number of items lent.

Review your routing tables at least once a year to ensure the effectiveness of DOCLINE's routing algorithm. In 2006, Charniel McDaniels from the Greater Midwest Region, National Network of Libraries of Medicine, provided these guidelines for routing tables. Cells 1, 2, and 3 are for first choice partners, local groups or consortiums (the MHSLA DOCLINE group, for example). Free and low cost options should be placed in these lower cells as well. Cells 4, 5, and 6 are for second choice partners and special collections. Cells 7, 8, and 9 are for resource libraries. If you place a DOCLINE group in one cell and a specific library from the same group in a different cell, the DOCLINE algorithm will only consider the library once.



When requesting items, be clear about your needs. Specify your delivery preferences in the comments field in addition to the delivery field to help your lending partners fill your request through your preferred method. If you mark something as rush or urgent, you may want to call the lending library ahead of time to ensure they have the item and staff available to act quickly.

When fulfilling requests, pay attention to the requestor's delivery preferences - if 'web or e-mail delivery only' is indicated, do not fax or mail the article. Remember to be aware of licensing issues and abide by them. Also, try to avoid sending out bad scans. If your issue is damaged or bound, make a note of this so the recipient knows you were not simply being careless. Do not mark requests as 'filled' until you have actually fulfilled the request. Finally, if your library feels overwhelmed by requests from a library, it is ok to communicate. Consider asking the library to move your institution to a higher cell.

Keeping your holdings, institutional profile, and routing tables updated and accurate are essential

to DOCLINE's effectiveness. Remember, this system is all about sharing so keep it simple, use common sense, be considerate, and appreciate its value to your institution!

(Thanks to Jennifer Barlow for her many tips on effective DOCLINE use.)

Free Books for MHSLA Members from the National Library of Medicine

By Heidi Schroeder

Resource Sharing Committee Chair

Health Sciences Librarian, Michigan State University Libraries

The MHSLA Resource Sharing Committee has been collecting books from the National Library of Medicine's Duplicates Program to distribute to MHSLA Members. These books are available to your libraries free of charge - you don't even have to pay for shipping! The complete list of books was released on December 7th and only a few titles remain: <http://www.mhsla.org/members/purchasing/NLMdupsbooklist111307.doc>.



If you're interested in receiving any of these books, please submit the following in an email to Heidi Schroeder (hschroed@msu.edu): title(s) of requested book(s), your library's name and address, and the person in your library who should receive the books (if applicable). Titles will be reserved on a first come, first served basis. If you request a title that has already been selected by another MHSLA member, you will be contacted by phone or e-mail. The deadline for requesting books is January 31st, 2008. Requested

titles will begin to be shipped in late February or early March. If you have any questions about this program, please contact the Resource Sharing Committee Chair, Heidi Schroeder.

Beaumont Libraries to assist in launch of Royal Oak Health Information Portal

By Janet Zimmerman

Director, Library Information Services

William Beaumont Hospital -- Royal Oak

The Beaumont Libraries have partnered with the Royal Oak Public Library (ROPL) and Wayne State University to launch the Royal Oak Health Information Portal, a program that will provide the Royal Oak community with access to the highest quality health information resources at no charge. This project was made possible by a grant from the National



Library of Medicine which Metta Lansdale, the Royal Oak Public Library Director initiated. The portal which is on the Royal Oak Public Library website <http://www.ropl.org> gives the Royal Oak Community a place to start finding quality health information resources and also has a direct link to the MedlinePlus GoLocal project sponsored by Wayne State University's Shiffman Medical Library. Another aspect of the project is to bring health lectures by Beaumont health care professionals to the ROPL and providing the audience with handouts and resources on health care topics. Also the ROPL staff is offering a series of workshops on how to find good health care information which will be a hands-on

program for interested community members. The project will be evaluated by surveying participants at the programs and doing randomized phone follow-up that was designed by Lynda Baker, Wayne State University Library and Information Science Program. "Beaumont is well suited to provide outstanding clinical expertise for outreach projects in the community," says Janet Zimmerman, Director, Library Information Services. "We look forward to working together with the Royal Oak Public Library as a collaborative partner on this project."

Submit Poster Proposals for the 2008 Midwest/MHSLA Conference by March 31

It's not too early to think about the poster session for the Midwest MLA/MHSLA Conference at the Troy Marriott, October 17-21, 2008, with presentations on Monday, October 20th. Please submit ideas to me no later than March 31st. Let's show our VITAL SIGNS: Keeping You and Your Library Vibrant and Healthy.

Beth E. Trapp
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Save the Date in 2008!

Vital Signs: Keeping You and Your Library Vibrant and Healthy
October 17-21, 2008

Troy, Michigan

Submitted by Beth Trapp, btrapp@beaumont-hospitals.com

Join us in Troy for the 2008 joint conference of the Midwest Chapter of MLA and the Michigan Health Sciences Libraries Association annual meeting. Check out the conference blog for the latest updates on local arrangements, registration, continuing education courses, speakers, special events, exhibits and sponsors: <http://www.midwestmla2008.blogspot.com/>.



Above: At the recent Midwest conference business meeting in Omaha, Sandra Martin, Carole Gilbert, Barb Platts, Ellen O'Donnell, and Nancy Bulgarelli, (the Michigan Medical Players), presented a skit on "Severe Information Deficit Syndrome" during the official welcome address. The group invited conference attendees to cure SIDS by attending the joint conference in Troy, Michigan.

2007 MHSLA Conference Scholarship Winners

MHSLA Conference Scholarship recipients are asked to submit their impressions of the Conference.

Shirley Langebartels

Student, Wayne State University

It was very exciting to be one of the Scholarship recipients for this year's conference. Thanks to all of you for supporting this scholarship. My anticipation continued as I looked forward to meeting new people and renewing acquaintances/friendships from last year. The opportunity for learning from and being encouraged by more experienced health science librarians is a great blessing.

It was a joy to be able to help a little with the local arrangements group as a result of my practicum

placement. ERSHLA, you rock. Thanks for allowing me to participate.

Stacy Payne's presentation on "Working with Generational Differences" offered opportunities to learn to interact better with colleagues, patrons, and even family members/friends. By increasing understanding of others' characteristics, values, and reward motivators it becomes possible to communicate and meet people's information needs more effectively. Dr. Matarazzo's "Prescription for Success" encouraged proactive evaluations to show value in order to maintain survival. The Unshelved Guys showed us how to maintain our sense of humor and even use it to relate better with others. The entertainment with both the harpist and the Planetarium presentation were very enjoyable. Friday's computer classes helped me to increase my skills and all too soon the conference had ended.

I wish to thank the MHSLA members for the opportunity to network with so many wonderful people and to be one of the recipients of the Scholarship Award. It was wonderful to renew acquaintances, receive mentoring from you, and get to know some of you better.

Cathy Serra
Student, Wayne State University

This year I was very privileged to be able to attend the MHSLA conference as one of the student scholarship recipients. The conference was a wonderful experience. I attended very good workshops on a variety of topics including generational differences, things medical libraries can do to be successful, government information in the health sciences, RSS feeds & blogging, Mel health resources and Linkout. By the end of the week I was exhausted but pleased with how much I had learned.

Some of the highlights for me were the workshop on RSS feeds & blogging and the opening night reception which gave me the opportunity to meet other MHSLA members. Although I was familiar with blogs I did not know much about RSS feeds and I was interested to see how health science libraries could use both of them to benefit their libraries. By the end of the workshop I had set up my own blog and learned how to make use of RSS feeds on the internet. I'm already determined to keep up with my new blog so I can "find my voice" as Sandy put it, before writing anything for public use. During the opening night reception I met many new people and had an opportunity to visit with them and find out more about the facilities where they work and the kind of work they do.

Overall my experience was very positive and I look forward to future conferences and learning experiences. I would certainly encourage any library science student with an interest in health sciences to consider applying for the MHSLA scholarship next year. The conference is very eye-opening and informative and is a great way to learn more about what lies ahead after graduation.

Jennifer Bluhm

MHSLA Member, Public Services Librarian, Hamady Health Sciences Library

For someone just starting their career in a library, all of the things that you have to learn can be overwhelming. Library school is a great jumping off point, but you can't learn the practical and most valuable lessons sitting in a classroom. These lessons come from coworkers, patrons and other librarians who can share their knowledge and practical experience. When I was given the opportunity to attend the MHSLA Conference this year I was very excited! Not only for the continuing education classes that I would be taking, but also for the chance to meet new people.

Before I discuss all of the great knowledge that I learned at the conference, I would like to say that the people I met, all of you are the most interesting and intelligent people I have ever had the privilege of meeting. We all come from such diverse backgrounds, and work in many different types of libraries, and for me the chance to hear about all of these differences, and similarities, that we share in our profession is fascinating. I mean, how often can you sit in a room with people who work in hospitals, public libraries and universities from various states and even Canada? I even found out that one of our members has been on Jeopardy-- twice.

While I learned a great deal of information that I could take back to work with me in my library, the most valuable for me were the, "Ethnic Awareness and Health Information Resources" and "Introduction to RSS & Blogging for Librarians." Both got me excited to keep learning and to hopefully develop a blog for our library at Hurley to help keep our patrons in touch with what's going on in the library. The ethnic awareness class helped me to open up to the differences that people from all over the world seek information and healthcare, which is something that I had never thought of in the past.

I think, like a lot of people, one of the highlights for me was the Unshelved Guys. They were hilarious and so nice! Sitting down with them and talking about our experiences dealing with the public was enlightening and again, hilarious! It's amazing that no matter where you work, either in a retail setting or in a library, or a hospital, you will always have interesting stories about dealing with the public. Getting to sit and laugh with other people who have had similar experiences with people is a great way to get rid of the stress that can sometimes build up when you have one person to many push your buttons!

Overall, I would give my experience at the MHSLA Conference an A+! The classes were great, everyone was so nice and interesting, the hotel was great and the food was excellent! I would like to say thank you for awarding me the scholarship to attend and for making my introduction to the profession welcoming and warm. I am very grateful for that, and for getting the opportunity to meet so many wonderful people! Thank you again, and I look forward to seeing all of you again next year!

Who Should I Call if I Have A Question?

2007-2008 MHSLA Officers & Committee Members

If you have questions about MHSLA activities, contact one of our dedicated committee members. Find current contact information in the MHSLA Directory at <http://www.mhsla.org/members/MHSLA2007Directory.pdf>

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