ORAL HISTORY PROJECT
SC/MLA History Committee
The Oral History Interview

Each interview begins with a short recollection of where the candidate comes from and how he or she became interested in librarianship. The main body of the interview covers jobs and institutions, the evolution of the candidate’s relationship with the Southern Chapter, and his or her memories of Southern Chapter conferences and major events that shaped the Chapter. The remaining questions cover the subject’s involvement with the Medical Library Association, and his or her observations about the field of medical librarianship.

Suggested Questions

1. Please describe how you became interested in librarianship and give a brief overview of your professional career.
2. Now let’s talk about some of your Southern Chapter activities. Do you remember the first Southern Chapter meeting you attended? What details can you remember about it?
3. Please recount any funny or interesting stories you might recall about any Southern Chapter meeting you attended.
4. Can you talk about your observations on how the Southern Chapter has evolved through the years?
5. In your opinion, what sets the Southern Chapter apart from other professional library associations?
6. Were you ever a Southern Chapter officer? Which committees did you serve on?
7. Can you tell us anything about the founding of the chapter or any chapter-related event of historical significance?
8. How has the Southern Chapter impacted your professional development throughout your career?
9. What are the names of the people who contributed to your professional development?
10. What do you recall about some of the MLA meetings you attended?
11. How has the Medical Library Association impacted your professional development throughout the years?
12. How has the medical library profession changed during your career? Which developments in the field of librarianship had the greatest impact on your professional life?
13. What advice would you give to new medical librarians?
14. Do you have any final comments?

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January 31, 2007