

SOUTHERN EXPRESSIONS

Alabama Georgia Puerto Rico Tennessee
Florida Mississippi South Carolina Virgin Islands

**Volume 20, Number 1,
Winter 2004**

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Next Reporting Deadline:

March 15, 2003

Next Publication Date:

April 15, 2004



Message from the Chair **Mary Fran Prottzman**



Did You Know ?

- eleven of our thirteen standing committees have new chairs [see page 2]
- the History Committee, under the guidance of **Nancy Clemmons**, is preparing to work on oral histories
- the Research Committee, under the leadership of **Priscilla Stephenson**, began a new program of awarding cash prizes for the best research papers and posters presented at the Annual Meeting, awarding \$1000.00 in Coral Gables [see page 8]
- the Honors & Awards Committee under the auspices of **Cheryl Dee** awarded \$2000 for outstanding academic & hospital librarians, first time attendee, and Martha Watkins scholarships
- under the leadership of **Marian Morris**, Membership Committee, we attracted 37 new members this year and matched our first mentor/mentee pairings
- **Taneya Koonce** continues to upgrade our web page, adding electronic presentations from Miami and currently working on the transfer of hosting to MLANET for stability and improved services
- we have 159 members of AHIP, 14 of who are provisional (If you're one of the 42 up for renewal in 2004, **Jan Orick**, MLA Credentialing Liaison, is available for consultation.)
- our Public Relations Committee, led by **Laura Kane**, notifies local publications and CEO's when our members hold office, receive awards, and otherwise excel in the profession, spreading well-deserved recognition to the profession as well as to the individual

Committee work is the backbone of our chapter. As you renew your membership, please indicate committee(s) on which you are willing to serve. **Linda Flavin**, our database manager, compiles this data and makes it available to committee chairs in the fall as they are selecting new committee members. Our membership form: (<http://www.mc.vanderbilt.edu/biolib/scmla/memform.htm>) provides information on committee functions by linking to committee rosters and annual reports.

Thanks for the 78 surveys turned in to date; we'd love to have more so please take this opportunity [page 10] to participate. The responses have been evenly divided between relatively new members and those of us who have been around forever, with a range of 1 month to 30 plus years. Our

new board and committee members need your input as they bring renewed energy and ideas to the Chapter, building upon past efforts. It is all about you! So let your voice be heard! **We're listening.**

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Content policy for Southern Expressions

Statements and opinions expressed in
Southern Expressions do not necessarily
represent the official position of its co-
editors or the Southern Chapter of the
Medical Library Association. Contributions
may be edited for brevity, clarity, or
conformity to style. Final decision on the
content of *Southern Expressions* shall be
left to the discretion of the co-Editors with
the advice of the Communications
Committee of the Southern Chapter/
Medical Library Association.

Around the South:
News from Our Regional Libraries



ALABAMA

US Army Aeromedical Center, Fort Rucker

✂ Mary Fran Prottzman thanks Carol Burns for her generous contribution towards our scholarship and research activities.

University of South Alabama Baugh Biomedical Library

✂ The Biomedical Library of the University of South Alabama College of Medicine has acquired the first American Edition (1859) of Gray's Anatomy. Funding for this expensive acquisition was provided by the USA College of Medicine Alumni Association in honor of **Dr. William A. Gardner**, former Chair of Pathology at the College. Dr. Gardner also served as Interim Dean for two years. Dr. Gardner is a life-long bibliophile with a special interest in historical medical books. *(submitted by Tom Williams)*

Justin Robertson became a provisionary member of AHIP.



FLORIDA

University of South Florida Shimberg Health Sciences Library

✂ The Shimberg Health Sciences Library was well represented at the annual meeting of the Southern Chapter/MLA held in Coral Gables, FL. **Beverly Shattuck, Rose Bland, Judy Johnston, Allison Howard, Danny O'Neal, John Orriola, and Karen Keene** attended the meeting. The following posters were presented: *Anchors A-Weigh! Marketing the Library, University-based Weight Management Programs & a Healthier Lifestyle* by **Karen Keene**; *Creating Partnerships between a Special Oncology Library and an Academic Health Sciences Library* co-authored by **Allison Howard**; *Multi-state Study of Health Professionals' Use of Personal Digital Assistants (PDAs)*, and *Evaluation of the Software Service OVID@Hand* co-authored by volunteer **Andrew Todd**; *How Web Pages Change - The Image Evolution* by **Judy Johnston, John Orriola** and **Ellen Stanley**.

Lee Ann Howlett wrote a chapter *IP Ranges vs. Passwords* for the book E-Serials Collection Management Transitions, Trends, and Technicalities, edited by **David C. Fowler** and published by Haworth Press, Fall, 2003.

Danny O'Neal presented the paper *Setting a Course for the Maiden Voyage: Measuring the Effect of a Library Training Module on First Year Medical Students*.

The Library organized a holiday donation drive to benefit the American Cancer Society's Tampa Hope Lodge. A variety of audio books, music CDs, and feature films on DVD and video were collected throughout the Health Sciences Center. Generous students, faculty and staff donated over 130 items to supplement the entertainment needs of the Tampa Hope Lodge cancer patients.

Karen Keene participated in the Great American Teach-In on November 20th. Her presentation *College is for Everyone* on the affordability of a public university education and the joys of medical librarianship was delivered to two classes at Gaither High School in Tampa.
(Submitted by Karen Keene)

(continued pg. 4)

Baptist Health - Jacksonville

☞ **Susan McCullough** (Manager of Medical Library Services) presented a poster, “Taking a New Tack on Consumer Health: Developing the Library for Healing”, at the FHSLA. She was also elected to a three-year term on the NEFLIN Board of Directors as the Special Libraries representative.

University of Florida (Gainesville)

☞ Library Events: Hosting database training sessions from NN/NLM in March 2004.

March 8 ~ PubMed (full day) **March 9** ~ Toxnet (full day) **March 10** ~ NLM Gateway & ClinicalTrials.gov (half day) **March 24-26** ~ Introduction to Molecular Biology Information Resources
For more class descriptions and to register go to NLM's National Training Center's website:
<http://nnlm.gov/mar/online/request.html>

The UF Genetics Institute and the HSC Libraries co-sponsored ‘A Field Guide to GenBank and NCBI Resources Instruction for Scientists, Researchers, Graduate Students and Clinicians,’ December 11-12, 2003. The instructors were **Susan Dombrowski**, Ph.D., and **Peter Cooper**, Ph.D., scientists from the National Center for Biotechnology Information (NCBI).

Honors and Awards: ‘**Nita Ferree** became a member of the Medical Library Association’s Academy of Health Information Professionals (MLA-AHIP) at the provisional level.

Barbara Francis, Associate University Librarian Emerita, retired December 19 after 17 years of service. Barbara served the HSC Libraries in many capacities over the years as reference librarian, liaison to Dentistry, Nursing and Physical Therapy, educational services coordinator, and acting assistant director of the Reference Department. In addition, she has been recognized for helping to develop a web based tutorial (in use worldwide) on the National Library of Medicine’s PubMed database. Barbara is a member of AHIP on the emerita level.

Meetings, Workshops and Conferences attended: UF’s Health Science Center Libraries were well represented at Southern Chapter in Miami. **Beth Layton**, **Linda Butson**, **Peggy Hsu**, **Amy Buhler**, ‘**Nita Ferree**, **Nancy Schaefer** and **Rae Jesano** from the Gainesville campus attended. **Pam Neumann** and **Sandra Canham**, from Borland Library at UF-HSC in Jacksonville, also attended the meeting. **Pamela Sherwill-Navarro** was a member of the panel on Evidence Based Nursing/Medicine for the poolside chats. **Linda Butson** moderated the session of contributed papers entitled: *Heading windward: New ways of to deliver information*.

In November **Faith Meakin** and **Beth Layton** attended AAMC in Washington DC. Beth also attended the symposium, *The Library as Place: Symposium on Building and Revitalizing Health Sciences Libraries in the Digital Age* just prior to AAMC.

Pam Sherwill-Navarro and **Adriana Yoshii** attended *The EBM Process in Depth: Learn the Process and Statistical Concepts Necessary for Appraising Clinical Literature for Validity and Relevance*, a workshop at the Library of the Health Sciences - University of Illinois at Chicago, November 13-14.

Nancy Schaefer attended the American Public Health Association annual meeting November 15-20, at Moscone Convention Center, San Francisco, CA.

Michele Tennant taught the *Molecular Biology and Genetics for Librarians* CE class at SCC/MLA in Shreveport, LA, October 4. She attended the *Bio21 - Teaching Biology with Bioinformatics* workshop October 17-18 in Chapel Hill, NC. Geospiza, Sun Microsystems and the National Science Foundation sponsored the conference. Michele also was a co-instructor of the three-day course, *Introduction to Molecular Biology Information Resources*, November 17-19 at UCLA.

Around the South (continued from pg. 4)

Publications, Papers and Posters:

-**Cataldo TT, Buhler AG, Ferree N.** Presented poster *All hands on deck: Collaborating to provide chat reference services*. Southern Chapter/MLA Miami, Fl. October 10-12, 2003.

-**Butson LC, Schmidt S, Susan McCullough** (Manager of Medical Library Services, Baptist Health, Jacksonville, FL) presented a poster, *Taking a New Tack on Consumer Health: Developing the Library for Healing*, at the FHSLA. She was also elected to a three-year term on the NEFLIN Board of Directors as the Special Libraries representative.

-**Hawkins D.** *Developing an information portal for cardiovascular resources for Florida's health professionals*. Southern Chapter/MLA Miami, Fl. October 10-12, 2003.

Presentations/Papers:

-**Sherwill-Navarro P, Schaefer N, Cataldo TT, Meakin FA.** *The 'X-Team': A team approach to reference department management*. Southern Chapter/MLA Miami, Fl. October 9-13, 2003.

-**Schaefer N, Ferree N, Canham S.** *Out of academia's harbor and into the rough waters of reality: lessons for librarians new to the information environment in public health departments*. Southern Chapter/MLA Miami, Fl. October 9-13, 2003.

-**Jesano R.** *PDR Electronic Library and Clinical Pharmacology Online: Comparison and evaluation for collection management*. Southern Chapter/MLA Miami, Fl. October 9-13, 2003.



GEORGIA

Mercer University School of Medicine

☞ Mercer Medical Library & Peyton T. Anderson Learning Resources Center received the Distinguished Library Award for 2003 from the Consortium of Southern Biomedical Libraries (CONBLS). They were honored for the success of GaIN (Georgia Interactive Network for Medical Information) which celebrated its 20th anniversary this year, making it the oldest statewide network of its kind in the country. The award was made at the CONBLS luncheon held during the SC/MLA Annual Meeting in Coral Gables.

Lee McCarley, Systems Librarian & LRC Coordinator, has achieved Senior Member status in AHIP.

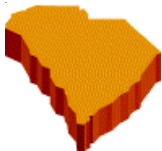


MISSISSIPPI

Keesler Airforce Base Library (Biloxi)

☞ Sherry Nave, Administrative Librarian at Keesler Air Force Base in Biloxi is retiring, effective January 2004, after 32 years of federal civilian service. Her career began at the VA in Biloxi, as she began pursuing a library science degree at night while working as a library technician. She was promoted to Medical Librarian after receiving her degree from the University of Southern Mississippi in 1979. In 1983, she earned a M.L.S. and accepted her current position at Keesler AFB in 1985.

Sherry has been an AHIP member at the senior level since 1990, and has been actively involved in the Federal Libraries Section of MLA during her years at Keesler. Since 2000, she has been an adjunct librarian at the Jefferson Davis Campus of Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College, where she'll remain after retirement. She will also be "spending lots of time with my two grandchildren, Tyler (5 years old) and Kate (15 months old), who live in Gulfport."
(submitted by Sarah Adcock)



SOUTH CAROLINA

☞ Ellen Reynolds authored the article *A Dream Come True* which was published in the November/December 2003 issue of Library Mosaics. The article is about the library's Charles S. Bryan History of Medicine Room.

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Around the South (continued from pg. 5)

The Library welcomed **Allison Duncan** as Head of Circulation in November. Allison is a graduate of the University of South Carolina (USC) School of Library and Information Science and has held positions with the USC Music Library, the USC School of Library and Information Science, and the Richland County Public Library.

Laura Kane's book, *Straight from the Stacks: A First-Hand Guide to Careers in Library and Information Science*, published by the American Library Association in September 2003, was featured in the December 2003 issue of *American Libraries*.
(Submitted by Ruth Riley)



TENNESSEE

Eskind Biomedical Library (Vanderbilt)

✂ **Annette Williams** has been named to the position of Associate Director of the Eskind Biomedical Library at Vanderbilt. Annette, formerly Assistant Director for Knowledge Management, joined the Eskind Library in 1993 as a cataloguer. As information needs changed and new services emerged, Annette was able to adapt and translate her early cataloging know-how and skills to meet new information demands through the development of effective digital libraries. Please join the Eskind team in congratulating Annette in her new role.

Dr. Nunzia Giuse, director of Eskind Biomedical Library at Vanderbilt in Nashville, Tennessee, recently received two honors. Nunzia is included in the National Library of Medicine's "Changing the Face of Medicine" exhibit that celebrates the lives and achievements of America's women physicians. Her profile is available at: http://www.nlm.nih.gov/changingthefaceofmedicine/physicians/biography_129.html. In addition, Nunzia has been promoted to Professor of Medicine, Department of Biomedical Informatics at Vanderbilt University's School of Medicine. The Eskind Library staff hopes you'll join them in celebrating Nunzia's recent achievements.



Dr. Nunzia Giuse

University of Tennessee Graduate School of Medicine, Preston Medical Library Memorial Hospital Medical Library Erlanger Medical Center

✂ **Martha Earl** and **Sandy Oelschlegel**, University of Tennessee Graduate School of Medicine, Preston Medical Library; **Margarette Dodd**, Memorial Hospital Medical Library; and **Virginia Cairns**, Erlanger Medical Center exhibited NLM products at the Tennessee Nurses Association Annual Conference in Chattanooga on November 14, 2003. They spent an enjoyable, appreciated, and successful day speaking to over 100 nurses about NLM, their own institutions, and health science libraries. Information about exhibit grants can be found on the NNLM SEA web site.
(Submitted by Martha Earl)

The National Limb Loss Information Center

✂ The National Limb Loss Information Center, a department of the national non-profit Amputee Coalition of America, received \$11,050 in additional funds to complement an existing two-year grant from the Langeloth Foundation to further develop the NLLIC Library catalog. The goal of the NLLIC Library catalog is to provide consumers with information about limb loss and secondary conditions and help them formulate questions they can ask their healthcare providers. The Library catalog contains materials (full text and abstracts) in several formats: inMotion articles, First Step articles, Fact Sheets and Insights, Spanish translations, books, electronic resources, serials, newsletters, and pertinent periodical articles. This ongoing project has new material added daily. For more see: http://www.amputee-coalition.org/nllc_library.html or contact:

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(888) AMP-KNOW ext. 8135 (865) 524-8772 ext. 8135

Tales from Miami:

SC/MLA Annual Meeting in Coral Gables, FL Oct 9-13, 2003



☞ The 53rd Annual Conference in Coral Gables, FL, October 9-13, was both entertaining and enlightening as we learned from one another through a wide variety of programs and venues.



The **Mentoring Breakfast**, organized by **Ruth Riley**, gave attendees the opportunity to converse with **Lyn Dennison, Laura Kane, T. Scott Plutchak, Mary Fran Prottzman, Priscilla Stephenson, Judy Burnham, Lynanne Feilen, and Martha Earl** about publications and presentations.



The **Poolside Chats**, coordinated by **Diane Rourke**, where informality reigned as we table-hopped and inquired about fellowship opportunities, retirement, quality and electronics issues.



The Meeting also provided many opportunities to enjoy the insights of our many presenters and speakers.

Linda Garr Markwell's report demonstrated that benchmarking works as **Ysabel Bertolucci** and **Kay Terrell** received substantial budget increases after presenting benchmarking data to their administrators.



Henry Lemkau, provided an insightful exploration of the history, present and future of medical librarianship.



Dr. Roberts Brooks, from Florida State, clearly demonstrated that bioterrorism is a realistic threat, but that significant efforts are under way to combat it. Dr. Brooks fielded numerous questions from the audience.



Lee Huntley, Baptist Health System CEO, spoke about the importance of sending succinct information to our CEOs.



Jocelyn Rankin, Julie McGowan, Janet Fisher, and Ada Seltzer, spoke of the good old days, reminiscing about their endeavors to create electronic, academic libraries in the 1970's.

Followed by **Barbara Shearer's** relating the intricacies in designing such a library these days.

(continued pg. 8)

Annual Meeting 2003 News (continued from pg. 7)



Raymond Santiago (left), Director of Miami-Dade Public Library System reminded us that:

- every action is political
- we need to communicate with our administration in terms of services we can offer constituents, not numbers of books shelved or reference questions answered
- image portrayal comes from within; we must believe in our own worth first before we can project same to others

Stephen Ullman, from the University of Miami School of Medicine, spoke about the current status of the health care system.



Lynn Fortney, Diane Rourke, Carla Funk, Ann Robichaux, Tom Singarella, Jane Bridges, Jan LaBeause, and Scott Plutchak

Tom Williams (right) demonstrated his cooking prowess as he served samples of Southern cuisine at his "Cookbook" exhibit advertising recipes for the upcoming Southern Chapter cookbook.



made the transition from Nashville by producing "Coming About in Coarl Gables-ville" to end our Business Meeting with a Resolution of thanks. See more at: <http://calder.med.miami.edu/SCMLA2003/photos.html>

Noted SC/MLA member retirees from the last year include:

Ardis Haaland, Kay Harwood, Mary Lillian Randle, Fred Roper, Neeta Shaw, Jack Smith, Marley Soper.

Thanks to the determined efforts of **Jan Haley** and **Lyn Dennison**, we had a record number of poster and paper presenters, many of which have been posted on the the web at <http://www.mc.vanderbilt.edu/biolib/scmla/epres03.htm>



Our gracious hosts, **Henry Lemkau** and **Suzetta Burrows**, ensured that we were fed elegantly and often, from the champagne/fruit punch offered upon registration, to refreshments at breaks. The banquet was held at the world renowned Vizcaya Museum and Gardens overlooking Biscayne Bay. We enjoyed breathtaking scenery, exquisite decor, delicious hors d'oeuvres and a three-course dinner.



(continued pg. 9)

Awards presented during the Business Meeting



Tracy Powell
Hospital Librarian



Rick Wallace
Academic Librarian



Michael Lindsay
First Time Meeting
Attendee Award



Linda Flavin
Special Award

Martha Watkins Scholarships: Thomas Hill & Susan Ebbinghouse

Research Poster Awards:



First Place
*Multi-state Study of Health
Professionals' Use of the
Personal Digital Assistant* by
**Cheryl Rae Dee, Marilyn
Teolis, Andrew Todd**



Second Place
*Citation Analysis of
Complementary Alternative
Medicine in Physical
Therapy* by
Judy Burnham, Dennis Fell



Third Place
*Comparison of Delivery
Methods Used for Article
Requests in Two Hospital
Library Settings* by
Karen Roth, Thomas Hill

Research Paper Awards:

First Place:

Setting a Course for the Maiden Voyage: Measuring the Effect of a Library Training Module on First Year Medical Students by **Danny O'Neal, Linda Musante**

Second Place:

Rethinking Selective Dissemination of Information (SDI) Service in the Digital Age by **Shannon Mueller, Peggy Westlake, Nunzia B. Giuse, MD**

And now it is on to Biloxi for October, 2004, the Gulf Coast, where life is good, shrimp boats are still active and antebellum scenes still charm. Send your ideas to **Sandra Franklin**, Program Chair, **Ada Seltzer**, Local Arrangements Chair, and **Karen Dahlen**, Professional Development Chair.

(Submitted by Mary Fran Prottzman)

Southern Chapter Needs Assessment 2003

1. Work setting:
Academic____Hospital____Public____ Other____[please specify]
2. Southern Chapter member for ____ years
3. Number of Southern Chapter meetings attended in the last 5 years:
4. Preferred communication method [*check all that apply*]
listserv____ Newsletter [print]____ Newsletter [electronic]____ Website____
5. What influences your decision to attend Southern Chapter meetings? [*check all that apply*]
Program content____ Personal participation in program____ Institutional funding____
CE content____ Location____ Cost____ Vendor participation____ Personal schedule____
Other____
6. When you are unable to attend a Southern Chapter meeting, how can we best convey the meeting proceedings to you? [*check all that apply*]
listserv____ Newsletter [print]____ Newsletter [electronic]____ Website____
Videotape____ Audiotape____ Webcast____ Other____
7. What are the most important issues you will face in the next three years?
Funding____ Electronic access to information____ Library relocation/downsizing____
Recruiting new staff____ Mentoring staff____ Other____ [*please elaborate*]
8. How can we attract new members and encourage existing members to increase their participation in chapter activities?
9. What is the most important benefit Southern Chapter provides to you? .
10. What would you prefer that we do differently?

**After completing please
send to:**

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Research Spotlight

Award Winners 2003: Research Papers and Posters

If you attended the SC/MLA meeting, you heard and saw a group of excellent papers and posters!! The Research Committee recognized the following as winners of our first ever SC/MLA Research Paper and Research Poster Presentations:

Research Paper First Place

Setting a Course for the Maiden Voyage: Measuring the Effect of a Library Training Module on First Year Medical Students

Authors: **Danny O'Neal**, MA, AHIP, Coordinator of Reference Services, Shimborg Health Sciences Library, University of South Florida and **Linda Musante**, PhD, Professor of Psychology, University of Tampa.

Purpose: Evaluate the effect of instruction on using library resources in first year medical students.

Setting/Subjects: College of Medicine. First year medical students.

Methodology: Survey; Pretest and Posttest to instructional training; Self-evaluation. For each of the past two years, first year medical students participated in a three-week program taught by the College of Medicine faculty. The element of the program investigated in this study was an instructional module on using library resources. To assess the effectiveness of the library module, students were first given a self-assessment survey as a pretest to measure their comfort and skill levels in using a health sciences library and online resources. The pretest was administered during the first ten minutes of the first day of the program prior to exposure to the module. The library training module was then presented over the next two weeks. The survey was again administered as a posttest to measure the change in comfort and skill levels. **Results:** Results reveal that for both years, students reported significant improvement in comfort and skill levels using the medical library and its online resources. Participants reported improvement in medical library research skills and their comfort level with using medical library online catalog and information resources. They also improved their knowledge of online search strategies and techniques, searching online medical databases and information

resources, using the medical library catalog, and others.

Discussion/Conclusion: We have demonstrated that the instructional module produces positive results. These results validate the importance of the library's role in the medical curriculum and indicate possible applications to other curricula within the Colleges of the Health Sciences, i.e. Colleges of Nursing and the College of Public Health.

Research Paper Second Place

Rethinking Selective Dissemination of Information (SDI) Service in the Digital Age

Authors: **Shannon Mueller**, MLIS, Library Intern, **Peggy Westlake**, MLS, Assistant Director, Staff Training and Quality Assurance; **Nunzia B. Giuse**, MD, MLS, AHIP, Director, Eskin Biomedical Library, Vanderbilt University Medical Center.

Purpose: To evaluate the relevancy of an ongoing Selective Dissemination of Information (SDI) service for research faculty in a changing library environment that provides off-site access to numerous electronic current awareness resources.

Setting/Participants/Resources: Delivery of SDIs to research faculty in a large academic medical center.

Brief Description: Treasured by researchers, SDIs of the early 1970s were performed by specially trained librarians who used "command language" to search MEDLINE through a terminal device connected through a direct dial phone nestled in a coupler. Armed with a thermal paper printer at 10 characters per second and a watchful eye on connect rates, librarians produced customized bibliographies to meet researcher's specifications. In 1972, when libraries housed only print collections and only 150 libraries had access to MEDLINE, a researcher's access to up-to-date targeted information was only by the librarian's SDI service or weekly visits to the library to scan the latest Current Contents. Thirty-one years later, in an environment of ever-increasing access to automatic current awareness and electronic alerting services, is the Eskin Library's SDI service still relevant? Ten randomly selected researchers currently subscribed to Eskin's SDI service will be phone surveyed on the relevance of their current awareness packets. Based on

(continued on p.12)

on responses, researchers will be further questioned on their knowledge and degree of comfort with existing current awareness tools available to them such as the library's digital library, Cubby in PubMed, ISI's Current Contents Connect, individual journal or database e-alerts, and others. Training in these alternatives will be offered to researchers based upon need.

Results/Outcome: Due to the proliferation of targeted, just-in-time and point-of-need current awareness tools available outside the library's walls, Eskind's SDI service needs to shift to provide education and consulting regarding available current awareness tools instead of packets.

Evaluation Method: Follow-up phone calls to researchers will determine satisfaction.

Research Poster First Place

"Multi-state Study of Health Professionals' Use of the Personal Digital Assistant (PDA)"

Authors: Cheryl Rae Dee, MLS, AHIP, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, School of Library and Information Science, University of South Florida; Marilyn Teolis, MLS, AHIP, Medical Library Coordinator, Baptist Hospital/Saint Thomas Health Services; Andrew Todd, BSN, MLS, University of South Florida.

Purpose: The objectives of this study were to: 1) analyze PDA users medical information seeking behaviors; 2) examine health professionals personal digital assistants (PDA) needs in the clinical environment; and 3) discover the PDA users medical information usage by assessing the participants use of Ovid@Hand PDA software.

Setting/subjects: One hundred and thirty health care professionals at five clinical sites in Alabama, Florida, Kentucky, Pennsylvania, and Tennessee participated in the study.

Methodology: Participants completed a pre-study questionnaire and a post study questionnaire designed to determine PDA information needs and information seeking behavior. Interviews of selected participants provided additional in depth information. Results: Findings will report what medical information sources health professionals consulted, how often they used the PDA for clinical and non clinical purposes, and the impact of PDA use on clinical encounters. Additional findings will discuss preferred PDA features for clinical use and barriers encountered in

the use of clinical PDA software.

Conclusions: The study will describe the information needs and the information seeking behaviors of PDA users. Trends regarding the information needs, which can be met by PDA technology and the impact on patient care will be discussed. Limitations and barriers to PDA use in the clinical setting will be included.

Research Poster Second Place

"Citation Analysis of Complementary Alternative Medicine in Physical Therapy"

Authors: Judy Burnham, MLS, AHIP, University of South Alabama Biomedical Library; Dennis Fell, University of South Alabama Department of Physical Therapy.

Purpose: This poster will describe a citation analysis of the literature of physical therapy involving complementary alternative medicine.

Subjects: Citations of articles on appropriate physical therapy techniques involving complementary alternative medicine published 2000-2002 were analyzed to determine the characteristics of this body of literature.

Brief Description: A search of the MEDLINE database was conducted articles concerning appropriate physical therapy techniques and complementary/alternative medicine (CAM) published 2000-2002. The search was limited to English, human and those articles that were evidence based. The references appearing at the end of those articles were analyzed to determine the characteristics of the literature.

Results: Results of the study will give a description of the literature of CAM in physical therapy, including the format of literature cited and the age of the literature cited. The study will also develop a list of journals important to this field.

Discussion/Conclusion: The results of this study will characterize the nature of the literature of this emerging discipline, including the format, age and major journals. The results can be used by physical therapy clinicians to determine target journals for publications avenues, by physical therapy researchers looking for literature in the area of CAM or by librarians who need to identify core journals in this area for collection development.

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Research Spotlight: Award Winners 2003 (continued from pg. 12)

Research Poster Third Place

Comparison of Delivery Methods Used for Article Requests in Two Hospital Library Settings

Authors: **Karen L. Roth**, Manager, Medical Libraries, Morton Plant Mease Health Care, Clearwater, Florida and **Thomas W. Hill**, Librarian, Medical Library, Self Regional Healthcare, Greenwood, South Carolina.

Purpose: This poster will delineate the available delivery methods for articles from two hospitals libraries and compare their use for both internal and external customers during a three-month period.

Setting: The two medical libraries are similar in size and services. Each library carries approximately 2000 books and 250 print journal subscriptions, and each makes available several online full-text resources for all patrons. The libraries are staffed 40 hours per week and are available 24/7 to physicians and hospital personnel. Morton Plant Hospital, home of the main medical library for Morton Plant Mease Health Care, is an urban, not-for-profit community hospital. The Medical Library of Self Regional Healthcare is in the SRH Medical Center, a rural, not-for-profit, family practice residency teaching and regional referral center.

Brief Description: Data will be collected over at least one three (3) month period. The hospital libraries have a multifunction digital copy machine, which not only makes paper copies but also makes paperless faxes and scan items into TIFF. Both libraries can convert paper or TIFF to PDF copies. The Morton Plant Hospital library also has a microfiche machine, which can make paper copies, paperless faxes, or TIFF attachments. Only data on these various forms of "copies" made of journal articles during the prescribed time frame will be collected.

Expected Outcomes: It is expected that data collected from this project will show that libraries are moving from paper copies to a variety of electronic formats for delivery to customers. These data will help us to understand how better to serve the customers' needs. Many library patrons have expressed a desire to receive information using email and/or other computer access. Moving to a more seamless approach will expand the customer base of the library.

Discussion: The Medical Library continues to move toward non-paper products and also continues to "push" the consumer.

A special thank you to our judges: **Judy Burnham**, **Tom Singarella** (papers); **Scott Plutchak**, **Rita Smith**, **Priscilla Stephenson** (papers and posters), and congratulations to our award winners!

(Submitted by Priscilla Stephenson)

Research Spotlight: Recipient of 2002 Research Project Grant Continues Work on Skill Inventory for Literature Searching

The winner of the Southern Chapter 2002 Annual Research Award, **John J. Orriola**, MA, MEd., reports significant progress in his study of Strategic Competency-Based Incremental Literature Searching Instruction for the Medical Student. The aims of the project are to discover and enumerate the criteria that should be employed by library educators teaching literature searching to medical students. The project in part will consist of gathering opinions of medical faculty, curriculum developers, and librarians from across the US, Puerto Rico and Canada.

John reports his progress to date:

"Our project was somewhat delayed as we sought additional funding to complete the bigger project. At the end of the first quarter of the year, we realized that we would have to move on and complete the portion for which we did obtain the SCMLA grant. We then proceeded to develop the survey instrument. Up to this point, our team consisted of myself and my assistant, Ellen Stanley. We went through several iterations of the instrument, while at the same time managing our day-to-day affairs. Unfortunately, I lost Ms. Stanley to the budget demons. This put quite a strain on the project, as Ellen was truly a co-author as much as an assistant. I have been fortunate in finding a replacement in the person of a telecommuting medical librarian, who has been volunteering her time assisting me here. Jolinda Thompson, AHIP, Himmelfarb Health Sciences Library, George Washington University Medical Center, has been instrumental in refocusing our efforts. So, finally, I can say we are ready to launch our survey, which has evolved into a skills inventory of core skills, knowledge, and resources important to medical literature searching. We will wait until January to make sure our target group is back from the holidays. We will be able to present a contributed paper of our findings and analysis at the SCMLA 2004 meeting in Biloxi."

To learn more about the project, contact:

John Orriola, Head, Education Services
Shimberg Health Sciences Center Library
University of South Florida
12901 Bruce B. Downs Blvd., MDC 31
Tampa, FL 33612
jorriola@hsc.usf.edu

Tel: 813-974-2990; Fax: 813-974-4930

(Submitted by Rita Smith)

2004 Southern Chapter MLA Annual Meeting: An Invitation Limerick*

**courtesy of the Planning Committee - suitable for librarians of all ages!*

SC/MLA
54th annual
meeting
Oct. 21-25,
2004
Biloxi,
Mississippi



The white sandy beaches and coast,
Are some of the things Biloxi can boast,
You'll find arts and crafts
And plenty of laughs
Come join us, we'll be a "GRAND" host.

The Gulf Coast has seafood galore,
There's shrimp, catfish and oysters and
more,
Our restaurants are fine
Get ready to dine
There's muscadine wine you can pour

Mary Mahoney's a truly great bet
And, Vrazel's as good as it gets,
Delicious mud pie
A treat you must try,
We promise you'll have no regrets.

Walter Anderon's art's on display,
See his works a short trip away,
His whimsical style
That might make you smile
Can be viewed in less than a day.

There are many historical sites,
Lovely old homes, the light house at night,
The Shipp Island fort
A short ride from port
Has museums and other delights.

Bay St. Louis - a quaint little town,
Where shops, antiques and cafes abound
Catch a crab or two
A fun thing to do
Whatever you choose, you're never let down

Gaming choices are many, it's true,
There's cards, slots - it's all up to you,
You may hit the jackpot
If you're really hot
The Beau, Isle - just to name a few.

I'm convinced you'll join us next fall,
Because the Gulf coast has it all,
The chapter's 54th
In October '04
It's a "GRAND" time - come have a ball!

2004 Annual Meeting – Call for Papers/Posters Biloxi, Mississippi October 21-25, 2004

You are invited to submit proposals for contributed papers and posters for the 2004 Southern Chapter/Medical Library Association Annual Meeting in Biloxi, Mississippi, October 21-25. Our theme is Upping the Ante: Connect, Collaborate, and Communicate. Ante up means to raise the bar. Presentations should relate to health sciences information professionals increasing and improving their services, visibility, efficiency, resources, or programs especially by connecting, collaborating, or communicating with colleagues, users, or constituents.

Papers should be submitted in the format of structured abstracts (See <http://hubnet.buffalo.edu/mla/abstract.html>). Each abstract may be up to 300 words in length and must include a list of authors, their institutional affiliations, e-mail addresses, and telephone numbers as well as an indication of whether the submission is a Contributed Paper or Poster proposal.

Contributed Papers: Each paper will be 15 minutes in length. Email abstracts to **Kathy Torrente** at libkjt@emory.edu using a Word attachment.

Posters: Presenters should plan to be available to staff posters during a one-hour poster session. Posters will remain up for viewing for the remainder of the conference. Electrical connections will be available. Email abstracts to Kathy Torrente at libkjt@emory.edu using a Word attachment.

Abstract Submission Deadline: April 2, 2004

(Submitted by Sandra Franklin)

Chapter Council Presents Chapter Sharing Roundtables: MLA 2004 Washington, DC

It's not too early to make your plans to join your colleagues for lunch and informal discussions on Sunday, May 23rd, 2004 from Noon until 2:00 PM. The roundtables have become an eagerly anticipated part of the annual MLA. They provide a wonderful opportunity to share experiences, make new friends, and discuss mutual professional concerns and chapter activities and business. This is a ticketed event for which you will need to register and buy a lunch ticket. Full details will be included in the meeting registration packets.

Facilitators will be at each table to initiate discussion and encourage participants to share their ideas, experiences, and concerns. If you would like to share your skills and expertise as a facilitator or serve as a recorder for one of the topics below, please email **Jan LaBeause**, chair, Chapter Council Roundtables Committee at labeause_j@mercer.edu.

TOPICS FOR 2004 ROUNDTABLES

- 1 - AHIP Credentialing
- 2 - Archives - Traditional & Electronic
- 3 - Benchmarking
- 4 - Bioterrorism - Library Issues
- 5 - Chairs & Incoming Chairs
- 6 - Consumer Health
- 7 - Copyright Issues with Ejournals & Ebooks
- 8 - Disaster Clean-Up
- 9 - Distance Education Services
- 10 - EBM - Evidence-Based Medicine
- 11 - Effective Library Reports
- 12 - EFTS - Electronic Fund Transfer System
- 13 - Electronic Document Delivery
- 14 - Health Literacy
- 15 - Informationists
- 16 - Library Web Sites
- 17 - License Negotiation
- 18 - PubMed LinkOut
- 19 - Marketing & Public Relations
- 20 - Mentoring
- 21 - Non-Traditional Reference Services
- 22 - One-Person & One-Librarian Libraries
- 23 - PDAs & Healthcare
- 24 - Recruitment, Retention & Staff Development
- 25 - Rural Health Information Outreach
- 26 - Service Quality & Outcomes Assessment
- 27 - Strategic Planning
- 28 - Survival Strategies for Hospital Libraries
- 29 - Technology Issues for Hospital Librarians
- 30 - Virtual Library Services

You Deserve Recognition!

The Public Relations Committee needs your help in identifying and recognizing our "gold standard librarians." If you have any information on honors, accomplishments, offices, or other good news about our members, please notify your PR Committee state representative (listed below). He or she will send out a formal letter regarding the achievement to the librarian's CEO, as well as press releases to local newspapers and newsletters. Please don't hesitate to send information about your own accomplishments!

Public Relations Committee Members:

Laura Kane, Chair
(laura@med.sc.edu)

Michael Lindsay (AL)
(jmlindsay@bbl.usouthal.edu)

Diane Rourke (FL)
(dianer@baptisthealth.net)

Susan Poorbaugh (GA)
(spoorbau@mail.mcg.edu)

Helvi McCall (MS)
(hmccall@rowland.umsmed.edu)

Chris Colthorpe (SC)
(colthor@clemson.edu)

Linda Farmer (TN)
(linda.farmer@wth.org)



(Submitted by Laura Kane)

GaIN Celebrates 20 Years with Technology Awareness Conference

Mercer Medical Library welcomed over 80 attendees to the 20th Anniversary GaIN Meeting & Technology Awareness Conference, held October 30-31, 2003 at the Mercer University School of Medicine in Macon, Georgia.

The meeting marked the 20th anniversary of GaIN, the Georgia Interactive Network for Medical Information. The primary objective of the conference was to increase awareness of technology applications and tools among health professionals and health sciences librarians in the state. The meeting was made possible by a Technology Awareness Conference grant from the National Network of Libraries of Medicine - Southeastern Atlantic Region (NN/LM SEA).

Activities for the conference included a keynote address by **Carol Jenkins**, MLS, AHIP, Director of the Health Sciences Library at UNC-Chapel Hill. Ms. Jenkins is principal investigator for the NC Health Info project (<http://www.nchealthinfo.org>), a statewide online directory linking consumers to authoritative medical information as well as local providers and services.

Other conference events included vendor exhibits and door prizes for attendees, sessions on technology tips, National Library of Medicine training in the use of PubMed and the NLM Gateway, and a reception to celebrate GaIN's 20th anniversary and National Medical Librarians Month.

The reception featured several special events: **Jocelyn Rankin**, GaIN's founder and now Chief, CDC Information Center, was on hand to offer remarks and reminiscences, and **Janice Kelly** extended congratulations on behalf of NN/LM SEA. **Sandra Franklin**, Director, Health Sciences Center, Emory University, presented **Jan LaBeause** with the first-ever Distinguished Library award on behalf of CONBLS (Consortium of Southern Biomedical Libraries). Also during the reception, former and current librarians at GaIN's original institutional members (1983-86) were recognized. Those attending the meeting were **Maxine Blair** (St. Joseph's Hospital and Candler General Hospital, Savannah); **Jane Bridges** (Memorial Medical Center, Savannah); **Liz Cox** (Phoebe Putney Memorial Hospital, Albany); **Mary Fielder** (Candler General Hospital, Savannah); **Susan Leik** (Colquitt Regional Medical Center, Moultrie; John D. Archbold Memorial Hospital, Thomasville; and South Georgia Medical Center, Valdosta); **Claudia LeSueur** (Sumter Regional Hospital, Americus); **Mike Shadix** (Roosevelt-Warm Springs Institute for Rehabilitation, Warm Springs); and **Cathy Woolbright** (Simon Schwob Medical Library, The Medical Center, Columbus.)

(Submitted by Rita Smith)



Sandra Franklin, Jan LaBeause, and Jocelyn Rankin pose with the CONBLS first-ever Distinguished Library Award, presented to GaIN.



Jan LaBeause recognizes several former and current librarians at GaIN's original institutional members: **Susan Leik, Maxine Blair, Cathy Woolbright, Mike Shadix, Jane Bridges, and Liz Cox.**

FHSLA SPONSORS & PARTICIPATES at 2003 SOUTHERN CHAPTER MEETING in CORAL GABLES

Southern Chapter just finished another successful meeting. The 2003 annual meeting was held at the Omni Colonnade Hotel in Coral Gables, Florida. At least 40 members from the Florida Health Sciences Library Association participated in this meeting.

FHSLA members presenting posters:

- 1) **Amy Buhler, 'Nita Ferree:** Collaborating to provide chat reference services
- 2) **Karen Keene:** Marketing the library, university-based weight management programs & a healthier lifestyle
- 3) ***Karen Roth, Thomas Hill:** Comparison of delivery methods used for article requests in 2 hospital library settings
- 4) **Joan Miller, Allison Howard:** Creating partnerships between a special oncology library and an academic health sciences library
- 5) **Linda Butson, Sharon Schmidt, Debbie Hawkins:** Developing an information portal for cardiovascular resources for Florida's health professionals
- 6) **Judy Johnston, John Orriola:** How web pages change – the image evolution
- 7) **Cheryl Dee, Marilyn Teolis, Andrew Todd:** Multi-state study of health professionals' use of the personal digital assistant (PDA)
- 8) **Susan McCullough, Debbie Jones:** Taking a new tack on consumer health: developing the library for healing at Baptist Health

FHSLA members presenting papers:

- 1) **Pam Sherwill, Nancy Schaefer, Tara Cataldo, Faith Meakin:** The "X-Team:" a team approach to reference department management
- 2) **Nancy Schaefer, 'Nita Ferree, Sandra Canham:** Out of academia's harbor and into the rough waters of reality: lessons for librarians new to the information environment in public health departments
- 3) **Rae Jesano:** PDR electronic library and clinical pharmacology online: comparison and evaluation for collection management
- 4) ***Danny O'Neal, Linda Musante:** Measuring the effect of a library training module on first year medical students
- 5) **Tanya Feddern:** Developing EBM instructional materials for medical students

(***Danny O'Neal's** presentation was given the 1st place award for presentation research. **Karen Roth's** poster was given the 3rd place award for poster research.)

FHSLA is also represented on the Southern Chapter Board as follows:

- | | |
|------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1) Pam Neumann | Secretary-Treasurer |
| 2) Danny O'Neal | Chapter Council Alternate |
| 3) Karen Roth | Bylaws Committee Chair |

(My apologies if I forgot to include any FHSLA member's name. Please let me know and I will rectify the oversight in the next ALERT publication.)

(Submitted by Karen L. Roth)

Hospital Library News from Southern Chapter Meeting

☞ Hospital Librarian of the Year Award

The Hospital Librarian of the Year Award was established to recognize a hospital librarian who exemplifies excellence, promotes leadership, and pursues continued high levels of achievement in the field of library science. The award winner must currently be a hospital librarian who has worked in a hospital library for at least five (5) years immediately preceding the award as well as being a member of MLA and SC/MLA.

This year's recipient was **Tracy Powell**. Tracy commented, "Being selected as the 2003 SCMLA Hospital Librarian of the Year was a wonderful surprise for me. I feel honored to join the ranks of previous award winners, and to represent the many outstanding hospital librarians in the Southern Chapter."

☞ Martha C. Watkins Memorial Scholarship

The Martha C. Watkins Memorial Scholarship was established in 1996 to honor **Martha Watkins**. She was a founding member of the Southeastern Conference of Hospital Librarians (SCHL), and a friend and mentor to many hospital and other health sciences librarians in the South. Applicants for the scholarship must be current Southern Chapter members who work in a hospital library and who want to take a course or workshop at the Southern Chapter annual meeting. The amount awarded will not exceed \$300.00, and can be used to defray any expenses necessary for the fulfillment of the course such as tuition or travel.

Two Martha Watkins Award winners were chosen for 2003. **Susan Ebbinghouse** was thrilled to be able to attend the Southern Chapter meeting in Coral Gables. She works for an HCA hospital, which no longer reimburses employees for travel. Susan hadn't been able to attend a meeting in several years due to a lack of funds. She said "The Martha Watkins Award enabled me to attend 2 CE classes, Running with Squirrels: Providing Library Services to Hospital Administration and Evidenced Based Medicine in a Nutshell. Both were excellent courses. The most valuable experiences I had were getting feedback from other librarians about various issues I have working in a for-profit hospital and the great networking with colleagues."

Thomas Hill had this to say about winning the Martha Watkins Award, "For the first time in many years, I took a CE course with the support of the scholarship. It fit perfectly with our hospital libraries luncheon program, about service to hospital administrators. I intend to write a short piece for Southern Expressions about the course and what we learned. I encourage our colleagues to apply for the scholarships when they are announced. Martha is proud of our honoring her by increasing our knowledge through support of "her" scholarship grants."

☞ Hospital Librarians Receive SCMLA Research Awards

Hospital librarians were among the winners of the First Annual SCMLA Research Poster Awards. The first place poster was *Multi-state Study of Health Professionals' Use of the Personal Digital Assistant (PDA)* **Cheryl Rae Dee**, MLS, AHIP, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, School of Library and Information Science, University of South Florida; **Marilyn Teolis**, MLS, AHIP, Medical Librarian Coordinator, Baptist Hospital/Saint Thomas Health Services; **Andrew Todd**, BSN, MLS, University of South Florida. The third place poster was *Comparison of Delivery Methods Used for Article Requests in Two Hospital Library Settings* **Karen L. Roth**, Manager, Medical Libraries, Morton Plant Mease Health Care, Clearwater, Florida and **Thomas W. Hill**, Librarian, Medical Library, Self Regional Healthcare, Greenwood, South Carolina.

☞ Hospital Library Committee

The Hospital Library Committee members for 2004 are **Marilyn Teolis**, TN Chair; **Diana F. Akins**, FL; **Lyn Ashby**, SC; **Elsa Lopez**, PR; **Janice Debose**, MS 1 year; **Tara Douglas-Williams**, GA 1 year; and **Pat McGee**, AL 1 year. Members service for two years unless noted. Ms. Teolis would welcome any suggestions for the committee or the Hospital Libraries Luncheon.

CONBLS Libraries Partner with Biomed Central

CONBLS libraries actively affirmed support of the open access movement through a consortia agreement for BioMed Central membership effective November 1. Fourteen Southern Chapter institutions participated in this regional library leadership initiative, including East Tennessee State University, Emory University, Medical College of Georgia, Medical University of South Carolina, Meharry Medical College, Mercer University, Morehouse School of Medicine, University of Alabama at Birmingham, University of Miami School of Medicine, University of South Alabama, University of South Carolina, University of South Florida, University of Tennessee and Vanderbilt University.

Emerging as a well-regarded, peer-reviewed alternative for faculty authors to publish without forfeiting copyright, BioMed Central membership enables faculty to publish without paying processing charges. BioMed Central provides full text access to all original research papers published in its approximately 100 online journals <http://www.biomedcentral.com/libraries/oajournals.asp> covering all areas of biology and medicine, as well as any that will be added over time.

Joining over 150 national and international institutions, CONBLS is pleased to encourage new trends in scholarly communication through support of this open access alternative. The partnership is especially timely as the Public Library of Science embarks on its open access model through premiere journals for biology and medicine.

(Submitted by Tamera P. Lee)

Open House Held to Celebrate National Medical Librarians Month at the University of Tennessee Health Science Library

The University of Tennessee Health Sciences Library held an Open House to celebrate National Medical Librarians' Month in October. The event was designed to welcome new faculty members to the campus and provided an opportunity to showcase new products and update guests on changes in various library services.

Held the week before Halloween, the Open House featured balloons and pumpkins, orange cookies, and candy corn. Individual members of the library faculty were stationed at computers in the Reference area, with prepared minipresentations on specific databases and electronic resources such as ScienceDirect, Mouse KnockOut & Mutation Database, MD Consult, PubMed, and STAT!Ref. Other faculty used laptop computers for tabletop demonstrations on video streaming, computerized test development, PDAs and scientific editing services – all services provided by the library.

During the same week, ScienceDirect trainers were on hand for a two-day introductory training blitz on the Mouse KnockOut & Mutation Database, BioMedNet Reviews, and ScienceDirect for several well-attended sessions.

(Submitted by Priscilla Stephenson)



Library Director **Tom Singarella** and Elsevier's **Neil Weston** at the UT Open House.



UTHSC Access Services Librarian **Steve Golanka** explains our wireless iBook loan procedures to a graduate student.

THE BACK PAGE

My First Southern Chapter Meeting - J. Michael Lindsay

I would like to begin by expressing my appreciation to the Southern Chapter for the opportunity to attend the conference in Coral Gables. The Chapter's generosity in funding this award allowed me the opportunity to interact with medical librarians from several states, to gain from their knowledge, and to be inspired to contribute to the profession as a whole. If Southern Chapter members seek to inspire and train the new generation of medical librarians, continuing to fund awards such as the one I received is a vital step toward that goal.

One of the most important lessons I learned at this conference was how personal the business of medical libraries is. We serve our patrons best by helping and developing each other. The welcome reception was an opportunity to meet other librarians, and I met the head of a hospital library in Mississippi. Speaking with her gave me a new appreciation of the trials and tribulations that hospital librarians go through. I now know why there is an increasing focus in MLA on preserving hospital libraries. These libraries provide front line information support to physicians, but often do it without adequate staff, and increasingly face the threat of closure by hospital managers who do not see the value of professionals in selecting information sources, managing them, and in providing reference service.

The mentoring breakfast was an invaluable chance to gain from the experience of other librarians in publication and presentation. I picked up some advice on preparing posters; in particular to begin by reviewing the guidelines for the particular poster presentation that you plan on contributing to. I took away a few other pieces of advice regarding publishing and presentation; namely, to present something of value and interest to yourself and your colleagues.

Sunday was for me the highlight of the entire conference. It began with the business meeting breakfast. There, I had the opportunity to express my thanks to the Southern Chapter for their support of the profession through the funding of awards including mine and by providing leadership to medical librarians throughout the South. This meeting also gave me insights into the activities and goals of the chapter.

Probably the most intriguing paper presented at this conference to me was "Peer Comparison for Collection Development: Casting a Broader Net," presented by **Gail C. Anderson** and **Marilee Creelan** of the Medical College of Georgia. It is a challenge for any collection development librarian to gauge the value of their collection in comparison to those of peer institutions. This presentation provided me with tools and a perspective for evaluating my collection.

Later Sunday evening came the highlight of the conference: the banquet at Vizcaya. The museum and gardens were magnificent, overlooking Biscayne Bay. This was an ideal site for enjoying an amazing meal and to relax and enjoy the fellowship of other Southern Chapter members. This was an opportunity to make friendships with colleagues that I hope will last a lifetime.

This conference was a wonderful opportunity in so many ways. I met face to face with many vendors that I work with on a daily basis. I spoke with many of the leaders of medical libraries throughout the South. I picked up tips and ideas that will help me perform my work better. I was inspired and given the confidence to contribute to the profession. And, above all, I was continually impressed by the intense commitment that the Southern Chapter has to the development of its members and to the library profession as a whole. To all of the Southern Chapter, I express my thanks for this opportunity.



J. Michael Lindsay

The Final Word. And now a word from your new editors... On behalf of Clista and myself I would first like to say how honored we are to be entrusted with the editorship of the Southern Expressions newsletter. We certainly have our work cut out for us in order to live up to the high standards set by our predecessors. In upcoming issues we hope to introduce new columns and features that will be both informative and entertaining. For example, this issue features the first of a proposed, regular column called the Back Page. Here we would like to feature SC members and their personal experiences within our chosen profession. We would love to hear from you if you have any ideas that you feel would be useful additions to Southern Expressions. Also we urge you to please feel free to send comments/recommendations/curses etc. concerning SE our way. Thanks again, we'll see you next issue!