

Alabama Georgia Puerto Rico Tennessee Florida Mississippi South Carolina Virgin Islands

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Message from the Chair Sandra Franklin

Celebration time, come on! That's the song that has been ringing in my ears for the past two months. As a chapter, we had much to celebrate on the Mississippi Gulf Coast. At the Southern Chapter annual meeting, we celebrated with a roast of Ken Robichaux, enriching continuing education classes, networking and making our contacts count with colleagues, a thought provoking program, a fabulous southern style dinner banquet, and a superb symposium.

My library, the Woodruff Health Sciences Center Library, Emory University, celebrated what we referred to as 80 years of service 1924 –2004. We had a birthday party on December 1st and invited Health Sciences Center students, faculty, and staff. Amid the ice cream, birthday cake, and giveaways, we introduced two new products, images.MD and Bates Visual Guide to the Physical Examination in video streaming format. With the Bates product, we got the attention of medical, nursing, and physician assistant students right away. Our statistics already reflect heavy usage.

Special events provide opportunities for us to promote our library and its services. Our Grady Branch held a Harvest Festival during Medical Librarians Month on a day that coincided with a conference in their building. Our Hospital Branch celebrated National Library Week with events that showcased the library's services. Each celebration provided an occasion to mix and mingle with our clientele and let them tell us their perceptions of our services. We also hear about services or products clients would like us to provide, offering an opportunity for follow-up, even if the dollars are not available. You never know who will be an advocate or ally. From the book by Anne Barber & Lynne Waymon, Make Your Contacts Count:

Advocates speak well of you and your business, refer customers or clients to you, and create opportunities for you. Allies are trusted advisers. Your trust in the confidentiality of the relationship and the value of the relationship is so high you feel comfortable sharing frustrations and trade secrets, and celebrating successes. Developing that level of trust takes time.

I hope each of you will take time to celebrate special events and create celebrations that will have significance for your clientele. The 30th anniversary of the Atlanta Health Science Libraries Consortium (AHSLC) was held on November 17th, under the leadership of President Amy Harkness. A jeopardy game focusing on AHSLC history was led by Marilyn Barry and Steve Koplan, with host Paula "Alex Trebek" Christian. Trivia from the (continued pg. 3)

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ELECTED OFFICIALS

Chair
Sandra Franklin
Emory University School of Medicine
Atlanta, GA
librsf@emory.edu

Chair-Elect/Program Chair

Pam Neumann Univ of Florida Health Science Center Jacksonville, Fl

PNeumann@library.health.ufl.edu

Secretary/Treasurer

Helvi McCall Univ of Mississippi Medical Center Jackson, MS hmccall@rowland.umsmed

Past Chair/Nominating Chair Mary Fran Prottsman VA Medical Center Jackson, MS

mf@entercomp.com

MLA Nomin Comm Candidate

anet Fisher
East Tennessee State Univ - Quillen
College of Medicine
Johnson City, TN
fisherj@etsu.edu

Chapter Council Rep

Jan LaBeause Mercer University School of Medicine Macon, GA labeause.j@gain.mercer.edu

Chapter Council Alternate

Danny O' Neal
Univ of S Florida - College of Medicine
Tampa, FL

doneal@hsc.usf.edu

APPOINTED OFFICIALS

Archivist
Mary Lynch
Emory University School of Medicine
Atlanta, GA
libmcl@emory.edu

Benchmarking Linda Markwell

Emory University - Grady Hospital Atlanta, GA

liblgm@emory.edu

Bookkeeper Marilee Creelan Medical College of Georgia Augusta, GA mcreelan@mail.mcg.edu

MLA Credentialing Liaison
Jan Orick

St. Jude Children's Research Hospital Memphis, TN

jan.orick@stjude.org

Membership Database Manager Linda Flavin Charleston, SC Iflavin@aol.com

Parliamentarian/Historian Jane Bridges

Memorial Health Univ Medical Center Savannah, GA

BridgJa1@memorialhealth.com

Southern Expressions Co-Editors Clista Clanton Justin Robertson (for more information see below)

SoChap-IModerator
Nell Williams
Univ of Alabama School of Medicine

Tuscaloosa, AL nwilliam@cchs.ua.edu

Web Site Coordinator
Justin Robertson

Univ of South Alabama College of Medicine

Mobile, AL 36688-0002 jroberts@bbl.usouthal.edu

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Benchmarking Linda Markwell Emory University - Grady Hospital Atlanta, GA liblgm@emory.edu

<u>Bylaws</u>

Jie Li Univ of South Alabama College of Medicine Mobile, AL 36688-0002

Communications

jli@jaguar1.usouthal.edu

Judy Burnham Univ of South Alabama College of Medicine

Mobile, AL

jburnham@jaguar1.usouthal.edu

Cookbook (Ad Hoc)

Tom Williams Univ of South Alabama College of Medicine

Mobile, AL

twilliams@bbl.usouthal.edu

Governmental Relations

Roz McConnaughy Univ of South Carolina School of Medicine

Columbia, SC

roz@dcsmserver.med.sc.edu

History of the Southern Chapter

Richard Nollan

Univ of Tennessee Health Sci Center Memphis, TN

rnollan@utmem.edu

Honors & Awards

Mary Cassanova Centers for Disease Control & Prevention

Atlanta, GA zmy5@cdc.gov

<u>Hospital Libraries</u> Marilyn Teolis

Medical Library, Baptist Hospital

Nashville, TN

marilyn.teol is @baptist hospital.com

Membership

Brenda Faye Green

Univ of Tennessee Health Sci Center Memphis, TN

bfgreen@utmem.edu

Nominating Mary Fran Prottsman VA Medical Center Jackson, MS mf@entercomp.com

Professional Development Co-Chair

Sue Felber

Moffit Medical Library

Tampa, FL

felbers@moffitt.usf.edu

Professional Development Co-Chair

Sandra Canham

Univ of Florida College of Medicine Jacksonville, FL

scanham@ufl.edu

Program Committee

Pam Neumann Univ of Florida College of Medicine

Jacksonville, Fl

PNeumann@library.health.ufl.edu

Public Relations

Laura Kane

Univ of South Carolina School of Medicine

Columbia, SC

laura@med.sc.edu

Research

Rita Smith

Mercer University School of Medicine

Macon, GA

smithr_b@mercer.edu

Strategic Planning

Jocelyn Rankin CDC Information Center

Centers for Disease Control & Prevention

Atlanta, GA

czr6@cdc.gov

Southern Expressions

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Justin Robertson

Baugh Biomedical Library University of South Alabama Mobile, AL 36688-0002 Voice:251-460-7045 Fax: 251-460-7638 jroberts@bbl.usouthal.edu

Clista Clanton

Baugh Biomedical Library University of South Alabama Mobile, AL 36688-0002 Voice:251-414-8210 Fax: 251-460-7638 cclanton@bbl.usouthal.edu

Content policy for Southern Expressions

Statements and opinions expressed in Southern Expressions do not necessarily represent the official position of its coeditors 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.

Message from the Chair (continued from pg. 1)

AHSLC was cleverly embedded in clues from songs of the 70's -90's delivered by vocalist Beth Poisson. The teams competing for the grand prize were the Conquering Consorters, Righteous Reciprocators, Borrowing Bruisers, Shrieking Searchers, Blazing Bibliographers, and the Barnstorming Bookworms. The Conquering Consorters were the jeopardy champions, but all who attended, including some retirees, were winners of a fun filled celebration after 30 years as a group.

-Sandra Franklin, Chair

Puerto Rico: October 2005 SC/MLA Destination

As SC/MLA approaches its 55th anniversary as a Society, experiences maturity, rejoices in past accomplishments, and feels ready to depart in search of new venues, it seems there is not a better place to hold next years meeting than in Puerto Rico and follow on the meeting's theme: "Exceeding Our Boundaries: Advocate, Rejuvenate, and Celebrate"

It has been almost ten years since a SC/MLA Annual Meeting was held in Puerto Rico. Those of you who attended that meeting know that we had a great time. As we prepare to host next year's meeting, we promise you an even better one. So mark your calendars for the 55th SC/MLA Annual Meeting to be held, *October* 21-25, 2005 at the *Intercontinental Hotel* in the beautiful Isla Verde beach.

We want you to remember this meeting both for the quality of the program and why not, for the fun you have. As is a tradition in Southern Chapter meetings, we are planning an exciting professional program where we will address current issues, trends, innovative practices and concerns in our field. The meeting will also provide ample opportunities to exchange and share views and ideas. But above all, we want you to feel at home, enjoy our Island and feel "bienvenidos" with our hospitality.

Rich and diverse with its more than 500 years of history, with a mixture of Spanish, African, Taíno and American cultures that create its distinctive traditions, Puerto Rico offers visitors many interesting options in history, art, music, food, sports, and sightseeing. Our island is so diverse in places to see and things to do that we promise you a truly unique experience. So start working on your paper or poster presentation and don't forget to prepare your list of things to do and see during your visit.

See you all in Puerto Rico next October for the SC/MLA annual meeting!

-Submitted by Victoria Delgado (Local Arrangements Chair)

SC/MLA Website News

The SC/MLA Communications Committee is pleased to announce the selection of a new SC/MLA Web Site Administrator and SC/MLA Assistant Web Site Administrator. **Justin Robertson** will serve as the SC/MLA Web Site Administrator. Justin is the Education Coordinator at the University of South Alabama Biomedical Library and is the webmaster for USA's Biomedical Library. He has recently become webmaster of the ALHeLA web page as well. (Please contact Justin with updates to the web page at jroberts@bbl.usouthal.edu)

Victor Jenkinson will serve as the SC/MLA Assistant Web Site Administrator. Victor is the Head of Systems at the University of South Carolina School of Medicine. Victor contributes to the web pages of USCSOM and is the webmaster of the GeriatricWeb web page at that site.

Thanks to both for agreeing to serve SC/MLA in this capacity. The Communications Committee and all of SC/MLA wants to express their appreciation to **Taneya Koonce**, Vanderbilt, for her work as Web Site Coordinator!

-Submitted by Judy Burnham

Around the South:News from Our Regional Libraries



ALABAMA

University of Alabama at Birmingham, Lister Hill Library of the Health Sciences

Ted P. Gemberling has recently joined the faculty of the Lister Hill Library of the Health Sciences at the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB). Gemberling is the new Historical Collections Cataloger and has been appointed at the rank of Assistant Professor. Originally from Tacoma, Washington, Gemberling received a bachelor's degree and an M.A. in history from Western Washington University in Bellingham. He received an M.L.S. from Indiana University and was previously employed as the Monographs Cataloger at Wichita State University. Ted says he is excited to be cataloging medical books, using MeSH, and exploring this part of the United States.

Pat Higginbottom of Lister Hill Library has reached the Distinguished level of membership in the Academy of Health Information Professionals.

University of Alabama Health Sciences Library

of Alabama Health Sciences Library moved to a new location in June of this year. The library was previously located in DCH Medical Center and is now located in the new University Medical Center on the corner of Fifth Avenue East and University Boulevard in Tuscaloosa.





FLORIDA

Universty of Miami, Louis Calder Memorial Library

Henry L. Lemkau, Jr. was awarded honorary membership in the Southern Chapter/MLA at the SC/MLA Annual Meeting in Biloxi in October, 2004.

The University of Miami School of Medicine announced on December 6, 2004 that it will be renamed the Leonard M. Miller School of Medicine in recognition of a historic \$100 million gift from the family of the late Leonard Miller, a longtime South Florida businessman and philanthropist. The gift will be used to establish four Miller professorships initially, to recruit the next generation of biomedical scientists, to enhance the medical school's academic mission, and to meet other pressing needs of the school.

Around the South

University of Florida Health Science Center Libraries

Beth Layton was one of only five people chosen for the 2005 NLM / AAHSL Leadership Fellows Program. The program includes a year of educational events with the goal of preparing emerging leaders for director positions in academic health center libraries. One aspect of this program pairs fellows with leaders in the academic health center library field. Ms. Layton's mentor is William Garrity, Director of Biomedical Libraries Dartmouth College / Dartmouth Medical School and Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center.

Lenny Rhine attended the 9th Conference of the Association for Health Information and Libraries in Africa (AHILA), held in Mongochi, Malawi October 25-29. He conducted workshops on 'Health Information on the WWW', 'Evaluation of Health Sites on the WWW' and 'WWW Users' Tutorials'. Rhine also participated in the data-gathering process for the 'Global Review on Access to Health Information' and 'Training Needs Assessment for AHILA' programs.

The HSC Libraries held a food drive recently called 'Restock the Shelves' after the last of four hurricanes battered the state (hurricane season just ended this week!). Thanks to the generosity of the University of Florida's Health Science Center faculty, staff and students food drive, 224 lbs. of canned goods were collected and delivered to some of Gainesville's neediest families before the holidays.

On October 19, **Dr. Victor McKusick** of Johns Hopkins Hospital met informally with librarians from the Health Science Center Libraries to discuss his many contributions to the literature of medical genetics. Dr. McKusick was at UF to present the Department of Pediatrics' 2nd Annual DeBusk Lecture entitled 'The Legacy of Jonathan Hutchinson (1828-1913): Syndromology and Dysmorphology meet Molecular Genetics.' Dr. McKusick, a 2002 National Medal of Science awardee, is widely regarded as the 'father of medical genetics', and is the creator of the seminal work 'Mendelian Inheritance in Man' and its online counterpart 'OMIM'.

Michele Tennant taught the module on phylogenetics at the NAWBIS (NCBI's Advanced Workshop for Bioinformatics Information Specialists) workshop August 2-6. The classes were held at the National Center for Biotechnology Information at the National Institute of Health in Bethesda, MD.

Beth Layton and **Faith Meakin** attended the Association of American Medical Colleges / Association of Academic Health Sciences Libraries meeting in Boston November 5-9.

Beth Layton and **Pamela Sherwill-Navarro** recently received a grant from the University of Florida Office of Academic Technologies, enabling them to work with an instructional designer in the UF Center for Instructional Technology & Training to create an online tutorial on the Cumulative Index to Nursing and Allied Health Literature. They officially unveiled the project on November 16, during their presentation at a University-wide Information Technology faculty showcase. The tutorial may be viewed at www.library.health.ufl.edu/help/cinahl/.

At that same Information Technology showcase on November 16, **Linda Butson** and **Mary Edwards** presented a poster, brochures and bookmarks highlighting the HSC Libraries' Distance Learning Service, available at www.library.health.ufl.edu/distance/.

Rae Jesano presented the paper 'Library Instruction for Distance Students: Learning from Past Experiences' which she wrote with fellow UF Health Science Center librarians Linda Butson, Mary Edwards, Nita Ferree, George Hack and Nancy Schaefer at Southern Chapter / Medical Library Association, October 21-25. www.library.umc.edu/sc/UF HSC Distance Learning presentation.ppt



Around the South (continued from pg. 5)

Amy Buhler and **Pam Sherwill** presented the poster 'Professional Development on Your Lunch Hour', which they prepared with **Nancy Schaefer** for Southern Chapter / Medical Library Association, October 21-25. www.library.health.ufl.edu/presentations/RLS/RLSposter_Oct04.htm

Nancy Schaefer devised search strategies for the 'Injury and Violence Prevention' objectives of Partners in Information Access for the Public Health Workforce's Information Access Project http://phpartners.org/hp/, which seeks to provide public health workers with preformulated searches on PubMed for select Healthy People 2010 objectives.

University of South Florida, Shimberg Health Sciences Library

Beverly Shattuck, Rose Bland, Danny O' Neal, and John Orriola represented the Shimberg Health Sciences Library at the 54th Annual Meeting of the Southern Chapter/Medical Library Association held in Biloxi, MS. John Orriola co-presented the poster "Communicating differences and similarities among teaching librarians in undergraduate medical education."

Rose Bland attended the Tampa Bay Library Consortium's Annual Meeting held November 9, 2004, at the University of South Florida, St. Petersburg campus. This year TBLC celebrated its 25th Anniversary of providing programs and services to the Tampa Bay library community.

Karen Keene participated in the Great American Teach-In on November 17th. She delivered her presentation on medical librarianship and the importance of continuing education after high school to three classes at Van Buren Middle School in Tampa.

Danny O' Neal, formerly the Coordinator of Reference Services, is now the Assistant Director of Information and Outreach Services.



GEORGIA

Magnolia Coastlands AHEC Learning Resource Center

The U.S. National Commission on Libraries and Information Science has bestowed its Blue Ribbon Consumer Health Information Recognition Award for Georgia on the Coalition of Regional and Academic Libraries, i.e., Henderson Library, the Statesboro Regional Library, and the Magnolia Coastlands Area Health Education Center. In the words of the commission's chairperson, Dr. Beth Fitzsimmons, the award "is being presented to CORAL to recognize the coalition for its efforts, particularly with the creation of the Health Education Network (HEN), in providing accurate, useful consumer health information to the people of Georgia. The program exemplifies the role libraries can play in increasing awareness of consumer health-related issues and encouraging healthy lifestyles." The NCLIS was established in 1970 as an independent federal government agency charged with advising the executive and legislative branches on national library and information policies and plans. For more information on NCLIS, see www.nclis.gov. To see Coral's Health Education Network website, go to http://library.georgiasouthern.edu/coralhen/.

"A book is a garden, an orchard, a storehouse, a party, a company by the way, a counselor, a multitude of counselors."

-Charles Baudelaire

Around the South (continued from pg. 6)

Centers for Disease Control, Atlanta

Robert Swain, RN, MLIS, currently an ORISE fellow at the CDC Information Center, has received an NLM Informationist Fellowship that will start in early 2005. Johns Hopkins University will serve as the training site with the practicum being conducted at two CDC Global AIDS Program field operations in Africa. The fellowship will prepare Robert for a career as a public health informationist and also intends to contribute to a clearer definition of the role of the informationist in public health practice. Kate Oliver, MLS, MPH, along with an advisory group drawn from both Johns Hopkins and CDC, will serve as the mentor.



MISSISSIPPI

University of Mississippi Medical Center's Rowland Medical Library

Sarah Adcock, formerly a Reference Librarian, has filled the position of Head of Lending Services for the University of Mississippi Medical Center's Rowland Medical Library.

Friends of Rowland Medical Library hosted its annual Dessert by Candle-light event on November 12 at the Colonial Country Club in Jackson, MS. The fund-raiser included a silent auction that showcased over 80 items made by University of Mississippi Medical Center faculty and staff, including portraits, quilts, ornaments, and jewelry. The event raised more than \$2,100 to benefit the library endowment.



Mississippi Baptist Medical Center Health Science Library, Jackson

Katie Blair is the new Librarian/Educational Support Coordinator for the Mississippi Baptist Medical Center Health Science Library in Jackson, MS.

Library, VA Medical Center, Jackson

Mary Fran Prottsman, formerly Director of the US Army Aeromedical Center Library, Fort Rucker, AL, was recently appointed the Chief, Library Service, VA Medical Center, Jackson, MS.



SOUTH CAROLINA

Medical Library, Moncrief Army Community Hospital, Fort Jackson

Steven Leap, Medical Librarian, attended the 24th Annual Charleston Conference: Issues in Book and Serial Acquisitions on November 3-6, 2004 in Charleston, SC.

"This was my first Charleston Conference and it was a wondrous event! The Conference began in 1980 with approximately 25 attendees, this year there were over 800 registered. It is an informal mix of librarians, publishers, vendors, aggregators and consultants communicating about the issues that impact us from day to day. The Vendor Showcase included health sciences conference regulars OVID, EBSCO, Elsevier, Thomson, ProQuest, NEJM and others. The lively session topic discussions included: Open Access publishing; link resolution systems; the stereotypical librarian; reading habits and patterns; the blending of electronic and paper collections; the COUNTER initiative; adapting to technological change; legacy content; and of course, the future role of libraries and librarians."

(continued pg. 8)

Around the South (continued from pg. 7)

News from University of South Carolina School of Medicine Library

Roz McConnaughy and Allison Duncan exhibited at the South Carolina Chapter of the American Association of Mental Retardation meeting in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, October 27-29. Exhibit funding was provided by the National Network of Libraries of Medicine Southeastern/Atlantic Region.

National Medical Librarians Month was observed in October with the following activities: a website was developed and loaded onto the Library's web page; a "Meet the Staff" display was mounted in the lobby featuring faculty/staff photos and each person's job description; a Trivia Contest was held; Comment Cards were collected; and a Digital Showcase open house was held, featuring medical library resources. Activites were coordinated by **Laura Kane**.

Staff from the Medical College of Georgia Library visited us in September to learn about our ILL operation.

Ellen Reynolds and **Lisa Antley-Hearn** attended the annual meeting of the South Carolina Library Association in Greenville October 27-29.

Sarah Gable, **Laura Kane**, **Roz McConnaughy**, and **Ruth Riley** attended the annual meeting of the Southern Chapter of MLA in Biloxi October 21-25.

Victor Jenkinson coordinated an internship in medical library systems librarianship for Mingyan Li, a student from the University of Illinois School of Library and Information Science, during October and November.

Karen Rosati retired from the Library on September 30, 2004 after 20 years of distinguished service as Head of Serials from 1984-2004. Karen oversaw the growth of the Library's serials collection from 909 print journals in 1984 to a collection of electronic journal titles that now exceeds over 2,500 titles. She maintained the Southeastern Medical Periodicals Union List (SEMPUL) from 1982-2001 for 140 medical libraries in the Southeast. She is also a Distinguished Member of the Academy of Health Information Professionals. Congratulations, Karen!

Ruth Riley was elected Secretary/Treasurer of the Association of Academic Health Sciences Libraries (AAHSL) for 2004-2007 at the AAHSL annual meeting in Boston, November 5-9.

Dr. Larry Faulkner, Dean, USC School of Medicine, presented Ruth Riley with the Dean's Distinguished Service Award at the annual School of Medicine Faculty Reception in October.



TENNESSEE

East Tennessee State University College of Medicine Library

Rick Wallace, Suresh Ponnappa, Recia Taylor, Kathy Brooks, and Jamie Price exhibited at the Rural Health Association of Tennessee annual conference on December 1-3 at the Chattanooga Convention Center. Sixty participants attended the classes offered on "PDA for Health Professionals" and "Health Information on the Net." The conference was attended by 240 people.

"The covers of this book are too far apart."
-Ambrose Bierce



Around the South (continued from pg. 8)

University of Tennessee Health Sciences Center, Health Sciences Library

Several of UTM's librarians presented on results of research and outreach projects at the Biloxi meeting. Congratulations to Steve Golanka, Brenda Green, Gwen Jackson, Richard Nollan, Priscilla Stephenson, and Lin Wu for their papers and poster presentations.

Richard Nollan has recently completed a new online exhibit featuring the UTHSC Historical Collections. The exhibit of postage stamps from around the world is from the collection donated to the library by **Dr. Simon Rulin Bruesch**, a former member of the UT College of Medicine faculty. Visitors are invited to visit the exhibit at http://library.utmem.edu/HSLBC/History/stamps/StampExhibit.htm to see this collection of stamps illustrating physicians fighting disease. All the stamps in this exhibit are part of the Bruesch Collection in the UTHSC Historical Collections.

Lin Wu has published a review of hospital library websites in the recent issue of *Journal of Hospital Librarianship* (Fall 2004; 4(3): 101-108). Her report shows the variety of hospital library websites in the Montreal, Quebec area where she worked prior to coming to Memphis. The reviewed websites include Center for Nursing Research, Research & Clinical Resources for Evidence Based Nursing, Montreal Children's Hospital Family Resource Library, and Montreal Neurological Hospital Neuro-Patient Resource Center. Three of these libraries are affiliated with McGill University.

Tom Singarella, Ph.D., professor and director, UT Health Sciences Library and Biocommunications Center, has been appointed to the Library Advisory Board for the *New England Journal of Medicine*, beginning in 2005. This board has a significant impact on policies governing electronic access to *NEJM* for institutions.

In response to several requests from campus faculty, **Lois Bellamy** has implemented an institutional repository where UTHSC faculty can self-archive their papers and research reports. Lois used Eprints, an open source UNIX program that allows users to register and deposit their papers in an archive.

The library is the recipient of some \$12,000 in books, journals, and videos as part of our partnership with the College of Pharmacy Center of Excellence Minority grant for which **Dr. Jim Eoff** is the PI. The collection will be further developed with additions in 2005 and 2006. **Naseem Amarshi**, Pharm. D., director of UTHSC's Drug Information Center, has spearheaded this project to develop new library resources. **Brenda Green** worked with Dr. Amarshi to develop the list of selected titles, with the assistance of **Jennifer Watson**, **Anne Bunting**, and **Priscilla Stephenson**. Priscilla developed a baseline evaluation study of the existing collection. The grant has enabled us to significantly increase resources related to minority health issues, especially with regard to African Americans. Another focus of the grant is to support diversity training among health care professionals for improved intercultural communication.

From November 17-19 the library hosted three days of database training sessions with **Dale Prince** from the SE/A RML in Baltimore and **Cora Sevilla**, Dialog . The two taught back-to-back sessions, attracting librarians from public, corporate, college, and university libraries. Dale's classes on using wireless PDAs to searching PubMed were a hit with campus faculty and residents.

UT Graduate School of Medicine Preston Medical Library

The UT Graduate School of Medicine Preston Medical Library held an open house on October 29 for National Medical Librarians Month. Library staff demonstrated technology and drew for door prizes. Over 160 faculty, staff, and students attended. Attendees enjoyed refreshments and informational brochures on library resources. Follow-up classes on PDA Powertools and EBM Powertools kept the electricity flowing.

Sandy Oelschlegel, **Martha Earl**, and **Jenny Cole**, UT Preston Medical Library, received the SC/MLA Research Award for their project "Data Analysis of Consumer and Patient Health Questions using Geographic Location and NLM Medical Subject Headings." Read more about in the Research Committee news.

Amputee Coalition of America Adds Easy Read Materials to Web Site

With ACA's audience being one of rich diversity, the need to present educational materials in multiple formats—to reach and address the specific concerns and needs of its audience is apparent. To do this, the ACA has created the Easy Read Materials Web page http://www.amputee-coalition.org/nllic_easyread.asp, which presents many of ACA's educational materials in two distinct formats: Easy Read and Large-Print materials.

Easy Read materials are rewrites of original ACA material, revised to 8th grade level, to ensure that all people, despite reading or comprehension levels, can read and understand the information. The new Easy Read versions are more concise, less detailed, and easier to comprehend, while maintaining the information presented in the standard versions. They are also presented in 14 point font instead of the standard 12 point font with more bulleting and white space utilized in the layout and design.

Large-Print materials are reproductions of standard fact sheets and inMotion/FirstStep articles—reproduced word for word. The only difference is that the materials are presented in a 16 point font instead of the standard 12 point font for people with vision problems.

For more information regarding these and other issues, please visit the ACA Web site at http://www.amputee-coalition.org/nllic_easyread.asp or contact an ACA information specialist for further details.

Amputee Coalition of America

900 East Hill Avenue, Suite 285 Knoxville, TN 37915-2568

Phone: 888/267-5669 Fax: 865/525-7917 Contact: Leslie Duncan

Phone: 888-267-5669 Fax: 865-525-7917

E-mail: Iduncan@amputee-coalition.org

www.amputee-coalition.org



New Member Spotlight...Lauren M. Young

Rowland Medical Library is home to a librarian with an interesting background and an interest in a genre of English political drama called the Lord Mayor's pageant. This librarian credits her father's service in the ARMY Medical Corps with her dual Brazilian and United States citizenship and her childhood homes all over the United States and in Nairobi, Kenya. Her more recent travels take her to Oxford, Mississippi for Ole Miss football games.

Her position of Outreach Services Librarian at Rowland Medical Library at the University of Mississippi Medical Center (UMMC) involves work with the Consumer Health Education Center and with the Base Pair program, a grant-based high school health sciences program. Our featured librarian, Lauren M. Young, MLIS, MA, feels edified that she contributes to placing health information into the hands of audiences that might not otherwise have access to good, reliable resources.

Please join SC/MLA's Membership Committee in welcoming another new member to the chapter.



"From the moment I picked up your book until I laid it down, I was convulsed with laughter. Some day I intend reading it."

Recognition, Awards & Grants...Oh My!

Health InfoNet wins 2004 NCLIS Consumer Health Information Award

Health InfoNet has been named the 2004 National Commission on Libraries and Information Science (NCLIS) Blue Ribbon Consumer Health Information Recognition Award-winner for Alabama! The UAB Lister Hill Library of the Health Sciences, and the Jefferson and Shelby County Public Libraries have been recognized for their efforts as founding partners in this collaborative health information project. The NCLIS letter of congratulation noted that, "the Health InfoNet program exemplifies the role



libraries can play in increasing awareness of consumer healthrelated issue and encouraging healthy lifestyles, resulting in a healthier, well-informed community of users." Alabama Public Library Service Director, Rebecca Mitchell, nominated the project for this award.

Pictured to the left (from left to right) receiving the award are: **Pat Ryan**, Director of the Jefferson County Library Cooperative; **Barbara Roberts**, Director of the Shelby County Library System; **Kay Hogan Smith**, Project Director of Health InfoNet and UAB Lister Hill Librarian; and **Rebecca Mitchell**, Director of the Alabama Public Library Service.

CONBLS Distinguished Library Award 2004

The Medical University of South Carolina Library has been awarded the Distinguished Library Award for 2004 by the Consortium of Southern Biomedical Libraries (CONBLS) in recognition of the success of Hands on Health-South Carolina, the library's consumer health web site.

Hands on Health "promotes healthier lifestyles for citizens and healthier communities in South Carolina, addresses the health issues of particular importance to the people of South Carolina and provides reliable health information for all ages, education levels, and reading abilities."

CONBLS is a professional organization of Biomedical Library Directors from the Southeastern United States. The award recognizes innovation, sustainability, and programs that contribute to the library's mission of service to the academic institution or the community. It is presented at the annual meeting of the Southern Chapter of the Medical Library Association.

-Submitted by Nancy C. McKeehan

Apply Today! HLS/MLA Professional Development Grant Available

Hospital and clinical librarians: Are you seeking funding to attend a meeting, further your professional education or conduct research? The HLS/MLA Professional Development Grant is intended to encourage participation in professional programs or to support reimbursement for expenses incurred in conducting scientific research; to aid librarians working in hospitals and other clinical care institutions in developing and acquiring knowledge and skills delineated in Platform for Change (MLA's Educational Policy Statement) and Using Scientific Evidence to Improve Information Practice (MLA's Research Policy Statement).

The deadline for the next grant award is February 1, 2005. Up to \$800.00 is available to the recipient.

Further information including application forms and eligibility is available at http://mlanet.org/pdf/grants/hlsapp_2002_1112.pdf. For more information, please contact **Lisa Fried** (312) 419-9094, Ext. 28 or email at mlapd2@mlahq.org.

Hospital Library News

We had fun

October's Hospital Library Luncheon is now only a fond memory. A record number of us heard Rosalind Lett's enlightening and encouraging presentation, "More Than Just a Game of Chance: Delivering Healthcare Knowledge in the Midst of Hospital Library Virtual Takeovers." (Her talk will be posted on the web site in the near future.)

We were proud

The Hospital Library Committee was thrilled that **Addajane L. Wallace** was chosen as the Hospital Librarian of the Year. It is not too early to be thinking about nominating a deserving colleague as the 2005 Hospital Librarian of the Year. The award was established to recognize a hospital librarian who exemplifies excellence, promotes leadership, and pursues high levels of achievement in the field of library science. The award recipient must be someone who has worked in a hospital library for at least five (5) years preceding the award as well as being a member of MLA and SC/MLA. The rating form is at: http://www.scmla.org/docs/hospawa_ratingcriteria.doc.

Who's new?

The Hospital Library Committee members for 2005 are **Marilyn Teolis**, TN, Chair; **Diana F. Akins**, FL; **Brenda Curry-Wimberly**, GA 1 Year; **Janice Debose**, MS; **Lyn Ashby**, SC 1 Year; **Pat McGee**, Alabama 1 Year; and **Elsa Lopez-Mertz**, PR. Since the next annual meeting is in Puerto Rico, Elsa is working with the Committee to make the 2005 Hospital Library Event memorable for everyone.

Committee needs input

Are you a good long-range planner? The Hospital Library Committee needs to hear from you! The cost of the meeting room, food and other items associated with the Hospital Librarian Luncheon had the committee sweating it out until the day before the luncheon. They didn't want to burden the Chapter with expenses, which we couldn't cover. We actually broke even. (Whew!)

The committee had considered replacing the banquet with a dessert social featuring pie, or cake and coffee or tea at a cost of \$18.00 a person. However, they hated to be forced to make a change due to costs without hearing from the membership.

Would members prefer having a different type of event? Would hospital librarians want to pay a fee or have a project to help defray the costs of a hospital library activity?

One librarian suggested the name of the event be changed because hospital administrators would be more likely to pay for a symposium or workshop rather than a luncheon.

The Committee asked the Chapter Council Representative, **Jan La Beause**, to solicit other chapters regarding how they pay for Hospital Library Activities.

This is one place where your opinions will make an impact. Please email your suggestions to the committee chair, **Marilyn Teolis**. Her email is marilyn.teolis@baptisthospital.com. She will share your ideas with the Committee, which will in turn make recommendations to the Executive Board.

-Submitted by Marilyn Teolis





Alabama Health Libraries Association (ALHeLA) Holds Annual Meeting in Huntsville



The Alabama Health Libraries Association (ALHeLA) met in Huntsville, Alabama November 14-16.

The meeting program included three CE courses: 1)Health Information Literacy—Consumer Health Information and Clients with Low Reading taught by **Kay Hogan Smith**, 2)Clinical Trials & the Drug Development Process taught by **Toni Yancey**, and 3)Understanding Botanicals as Dietary Supplements by **Mike Flannery**.

The main program centered on the program's theme of **Charting Futures Together**. The group examined possible new partnerships and

the future promise of bringing better health information to Alabama, specifically through the Alabama's GoLocal project with the guidance of panelists, **Janice Kelly** (Executive Director, National Networks of Libraries of Medicine, Southeastern Atlantic Region), **Rebecca Mitchell**, (Director, Alabama Public Library Service & a former ALHeLA president), **Tracy Powell** (Past-President ALHeLA, planning meeting moderator) and **Kay Hogan Smith** (Project Director of HealthInfoNet of Alabama and the Alabama GoLocal Initiative).

Geneva Bush Staggs presided on the Association's business meeting. **Ms. Hong Ma**, a graduate student at University of Alabama School of Library and Information Studies and recipient of the ALHeLA student award, presented her awarding winning paper.

The Association's first meeting in the Rocket City was originally set for September but was reschedule when Hurricane Ivan made an unwelcome appearance that month.

-Submitted by Martha Verchot

Members Reporting In...

Scott Plutchak (UAB) was the keynote speaker at the North Atlantic Health Sciences Library Association annual meeting, held at Sebasco Harbor, Maine, October 3 - 5, 2004. His topic was "Our Revolution is Just Getting Started" on the future of medical librarianship. Scott also lead the discussion for a mini-course on Creating the Model Library of the Future.

On September 8, 2004, Scott was the keynote speaker for the Health Libraries Group of the Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals (United Kingdom) at their annual meeting held in Belfast, Northern Ireland. Scott delivered The Bishop & Lefanu Memorial Lecture on the topic: From clinical librarian to informationist: developing specialized expertise. Two days earlier (Sep 6th) Scott, and his fellow Bearded Pig, Bruce Madge, entertained party-hearty conference goers at the legendary (and much-bombed) Europa Hotel.

Also at the North Atlantic Health Sciences Library Association, **Lynn Fortney** (EBSCO) taught a mini-course on Collection Development: Challenges in the Electronic Era. This was an expansion of Lynn's brief segment on the September 20th MLA satellite teleconference, The Art and Practice of Electronic Journal, Book, and Database Licenses: Practical Tips for Healthcare Organizations. Lynn also served on a pre-teleconference panel for the GaIN meeting held on the same day.

Lynn Fortney won the MidContinental Chapter's first award for the best research poster for her poster entitled "Price History for Core Clinical Journals in Medicine and Nursing". Financial sponsorship for the awards was provided by the NN/LM MCR and several members of the MCMLA Research Committee served as judges. The MCMLA annual meeting was held in Kansas City, September 29 - October 1, 2004.

Chapter Council Report: Chapter Sharing Roundtables at MLA 2005 in San Antonio, Texas

If s not too early to make your plans to join your colleagues for lunch and informal discussions on Monday, May 16, 2005 from Noon until 2:00 PM. The roundtables have become an eagerly anticipated part of the annual MLA meeting. 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 (\$25).

Full details will be included in the meeting registration packets. However, there are a few noteworthy changes this year:

- You MUST REGISTER IN ADVANCE. There will be NO ONSITE REGISTRATION any more.
- This year MLA is making available a limited number of free seats for new members (i.e., MLA member for less than 5 years). This will be available with online registration ONLY.
- · In addition, Southern Chapter will also sponsor a couple of free seats for new members at the Roundtables Luncheon. If you are a new member of Southern Chapter (member for less than 5 years), and interested in this opportunity, please contact Jan LaBeause at the email address below.

Facilitators will be at each table to initiate discussion, encourage participants, and collect evaluations. Recorders will be available to document the discussion for posting on the Chapter Council Website. Facilitators and recorders can earn one AHIP point for completing these activities! If you would like to share your skills and expertise as a facilitator or a recorder, please email Jan LaBeause, Chair, Chapter Council Roundtables Committee at labeause_j@mercer.edu

TOPICS FOR 2005 ROUNDTABLES

- 1 Archives Traditional & Electronic
- 2 Assessment & Evaluation
- 3 Budgeting
- 4 Consortial Arrangements & Resource Sharing
- 5 Consumer Health
- 6 Copyright Issues with Ejournals & Ebooks
- 7 Cultural Diversity
- 8 Curriculum Integration
- 9 Digital Depositories
- 10 Distance Education
- 11 EBM Evidence-Based Medicine
- 12 Expert Searching
- 13 Informationists
- 14 Interlibrary Loan in the Electronic Environment
- 15 -Knowledge Management

- 16 License Negotiation
- 17 Marketing & Public Relations
- 18 Medical Images
- 19 Open Access/Scholarly Publishing
- 20 -Organization of Electronic Resources
- 21 -Outreach -Rural & Community
- 22 PDAs & Healthcare
- 23 Recruitment, Retention & Staff Development
- 24 -Research Methods
- 25 Strategic Planning
- 26 Survival Strategies for Hospital Librarians/Libraries
- 27 Technology Issues for Hospital Librarians/Libraries
- 28 Virtual Reference Services
- 29 Web Design
- 30 -Wireless Technology



-Submitted by Jan LaBeause



Research Spotlight:

Award Winners 2004: MORE Research Projects, Papers, and Posters (oh my!)

The Research Committee made several awards at the annual meeting in Biloxi in October. First, the winners of our annual Research Project Grant are **Sandy Oelschlegel**, MLS, Director; **Martha Earl**, MSLS, AHIP, Reference Coordinator; and **Jenny Cole**, Library Assistant; University of Tennessee Graduate School of Medicine, Knoxville, TN. They received \$730 for their proposed research project "Data Analysis of Consumer and Patient Health Questions using Geographic Location and NLM Medical Subject Headings."

The purpose of their research project is to answer the question of whether outreach programs conducted by Preston Medical Library have an impact on the subsequent number of consumer health questions received from that geographic area, and to prove the theory that questions are most often related to the major disease states of East Tennessee. The following hypothesis will be explored:

- 1. Outreach increases the number of questions
- 2. Consumer questions received by the library are most often related to the following disease states: heart disease, cancer, stroke, chronic lower respiratory disease, accidents/unintentional injury

Also, as those of you who attended the annual meeting in Biloxi know, there was an outstanding group of papers and posters presented. Please join me in congratulating the winners of the SC/MLA 2004 Research Paper and Poster Awards listed below.

RESARCH PAPER –First place (\$300)

Publication Patterns of Academic Health Sciences Librarians

AUTHORS: Patricia C. Higginbottom, Tracy E. Powell, Jack Smith; Lister Hill Library of the Health Sciences, University of Alabama at Birmingham PURPOSE: Describe the publication patterns of faculty librarians in a health sciences library setting to determine the number of publications and to identify other trends in publishing by faculty health science librarians. DATE SOURCES: Journals: BMLA, Medical Reference Services Quarterly, and Technical Services Quarterly. DATABASES: MEDLINE, CINAHL, LISA, Library Lit. STUDY SELECTION: Articles published in the years 1990 through 2002 from the journals listed in the Data Sources. Excluded were letters to the editor, editorials, reviews of books, media or software, obituaries, proceedings of annual meetings, introductions to symposia, prefaces and oral histories. Authors identified as academic health sciences librarians were compiled into a master author list. Those names were then searched in the databases listed in Data Sources to compile a comprehensive listing of publications by the authors in question. DATE EXTRACTION: A Data Collection Sheet was developed to gather descriptive elements of the article and each author connected with that article. EndNote was used to keep track of the articles included in the study. Spreadsheets were developed for analysis of the data. Data about the number of academic health sciences faculty was collected from the AAHSL Statistics. MAIN FINDINGS: The researchers are continuing to collect and analyze data.

RESEARCH PAPER –Second place (\$200)

Data Analysis of Consumer and Patient Health Questions Using NLM Medical Subject Headings AUTHORS: Sandy Oelschlegel, Martha Earl, Jenny Cole; Preston Medical Library, University of Tennesee Graduate School of Medicine PURPOSE: This paper will report on the use of Medical Subject Headings and an Access database to analyze consumer health questions received by the Preston Medical Library from 2001-2004. SETTING/PARTICIPANTS/RESOURCES: The Preston Medical Library has provided a Consumer & Patient Health Information Service to the Knoxville area and beyond since 1993. An average of 60 questions are answered monthly on a variety of topics. A form is filled out for each question received. Statistics have been kept on the number of questions, but no other information has been analyzed.



Research Spotlight (continued)

BRIEF DESCRIPTION: This paper will report on the use of Medical Subject Headings and an Access database to analyze consumer health questions received by the Preseton Medical Library (2001-2004) **RESULTS/OUTCOME:** The development of this database allowed librarians to analyze questions for the purposes of collection development, staff training and web site development for the Consumer & Patient Health Information. It was also be used to correlate questions to demographics. Data analysis resulted in plans for follow-up surveys, further collection analysis, web site changes, and development and marketing iniatives. **EVALUATION METHOD:** Staff expressed satisfaction with additional data to improve web site coverage, collections, reference services, and development and marketing plans.

RESEARCH PAPER –Third Place (\$100)

Integrating User Values into the Development of a Customized Digital Library of Resources for Tennessee's Public Health Community

AUTHORS: Nila A. Sathe, Annette M. Williams, Taneya Y. Koonce, Patricia Lee, Nunzia B. Giuse, M.D.; Eskind Biomedical Library, Vanderbilt University Medical Center **PURPOSE**: To describe qualitative methodologies for customizing a digital library for Tennessee public health professionals. SETTINGS/SUB-**JECTS:** Public health practitioners from 3 partner regions. **METHODOLOGY:** To inform digital library development, investigators employed surveys and focus groups to assess public health professionals' resource use and information needs. The team developed a survey to investigate information seeking and perceived usefulness of resources. To further refine investigators' understanding of the community's information use and assess unrecognized needs, the team convened focus groups with professionals from partner regions. Focus group participants undertook ranking exercises and open-ended questions to delineate information behaviors and barriers. **RESULTS:** Of 115 surveys distributed, 65 (57%) were returned; among the resources judged useful by more than 50% of respondents were statistics (54%), local directories (53%), and United States health data (52%). Specific Web sites used by more than 50% of respondents included Internet search engines (59%) and the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) (56%). Focus group data substantiated these preferences with participants ranking the CDC and health statistics as the most useful resources. Focus groups also revealed that time required to locate information was highly variable, ranging from minutes to a few days, and that participants tended to rely on known sources for information.DISCUSSION/CONCLU-SIONS: Results confirmed and extended the library's knowledge of resource use in the community and demonstrated again the well-known utility of focus group/survey methods for assessing opinions, practices, and values. Categories of information consistently judged relevant included Statistics/Data, Literature/Guidelines, Mass Media, and Legislation; these categories, along with a title and subject listing, comprise the digital library's primary navigation. Information locating and needs data also guided the development of targeted metadata records incorporating resource formats and descriptions tailored to the community's information seeking style and needs. Preliminary site testing indicates that its organization facilitates and speeds location of relevant resources.



RESEARCH POSTER –First place (\$200)

Communicating Differences and Similarities Among Teaching Librarians in Undergraduate Medical Education: Results Gathered From the Medical Literature Searching Skills Inventory

AUTHORS: John J. Orriola, Shimberg Health Sciences Library, University of South Florida; **JoLinda Thompson**, Himmelfarb Library, George Washington University **PURPOSE:** To quantify teaching librarians' perceptions of the relative importance of the instructional activities in which we engage regularly. Identifying these values will provide criteria for prioritizing and standardizing selected instructional activities. **SETTING/PARTICIPANTS/RESOURCES:** The SCMLA funded this project in 2002 to survey medical librarians as part of a larger, more ambitious attempt to gather data on a national level. We selected the SCMLA organization, a viable representative group, as a starting point. In early 2004 we mailed the survey instrument to the entire membership (346) and received close to 100 responses.

(continued p. 16)

Research Spotlight (continued from pg. 15)

BRIEF DESCRIPTION: We created an instrument called the Medical Literature Searching Skills Inventory in which we selected 35 items from a pool of skills, knowledge, and resources that we typically address in library instruction in undergraduate medical education. Each of these was evaluated on 4 criteria: importance to lifelong learning, importance to the activity of medical literature searching, mastery level that should be attained while in med school and whether or not librarians should be teaching the specific item. **RE-SULTS/OUTCOMES:** Initial observations call attention to the differences among us with regard to what is valuable to lifelong learning, what skills should not be taught by librarians, and how we identify the importance of specific instructional items with regard to level of mastery.

RESEARCH POSTER –Second place (tie - \$50 each)

Price History for Core Clinical Journals in Medicine and Nursing

AUTHOR: Lynn M. Fortney, EBSCO Information Services Purpose: To measure the rate at which "core clinical journals" have increased in price over the past five years, and demonstrate that there is a difference between prices for journals published in the United States and journals published in other countries. METH-**ODOLOGY:** Although NLM no longer produces Abridged Index Medicus as a print publication, the value of the 118 titles as a core list of "selected titles of biomedical journal literature of immediate interest to the practicing physician" is still recognized and can be used on MEDLINE as a search subset limit. The least expensive, annual retail print subscription rates available to non-membership institutions in the United States as of February of each year (2000 –2004) was recorded for each of the 118 journals in this subset. RE-**SULTS:** The total price increase for the 103 titles published in the United States from 2000 –2004 was 42.3%. The average price of a "core clinical journal" published in the U.S. in 2004 was \$404.70. However, the average price of a title published outside the U.S. in 2004 was \$568.10. The total price increase for the 15 "core clinical journals" published outside the United States in the same time period was 33.4%. Overall, for the total sample, the increase was 40.7% and the 2004 average price per title was \$425.47. **DISCUSSION**/ **CONCLUSIONS:** Clinical medicine and nursing titles comprise the majority of a typical hospital library's journal list and are of critical importance to large academic medical and research centers. While high rates of increases are often discussed in relation to the price of research journals, price increases on clinical titles are also part of the problem. It is essential that medical librarians are aware that journal price inflation has a very long history and communicate this to administrators and financial officers.

RESEARCH POSTER –Second place (tie - \$50 each)

From Theory to Practice: How School of Information Studies Classes Have Enhanced the Library Website at FSU College of Medicine by Applying Textbook Theory

AUTHORS: Suzanne Nagy, Nadine Dexter, Barbara Shearer; Medical Library, Florida State University PURPOSE: This poster demonstrates how graduate Information Studies students at Florida State University have used fundamentals learned in class to contribute to enhancements of the architecture, design, and usability of the College of Medicine Library Website. **SETTING:** The Florida State University College of Medicine is a community-based medical school established in 2001 to educate the next generation of physicians, with a legislative mandate to serve minority, geriatric and other underserved populations in Florida. As the first academic medical library established since the Internet, the FSU CoM Medical Library has made delivery of full-text electronic books and journals both practical and preferred by faculty, students and staff. At the same time, new electronic resources and delivery methods are redefining the virtual library to include any digital information accessible from any laptop, personal data assistant (PDA) or workstation at any time and place needed. Therefore, remote access to current medical information is of the highest priority to the Medical Library, and the website as the portal to that information is essential for that access. **BRIEF DE-SCRIPTION:** In creating a new virtual library, the staff chose to take advantage of the resources of the FSU School of Information Studies by involving selected graduate classes in the design of the website.

Research Spotlight (continued)

The first challenge was given to students in classes in Information Architecture classes. Many online resources do not fall into the traditional categories of print resources. Also, users of a virtual library come from different backgrounds than users of print libraries and they use the resources differently. The students were challenged to design a site architecture to meet these information needs. Next a class in Usability Analysis performed a systematic study of the site to determine how closely the chosen architecture was meeting user needs, and to recommend modifications for improvement. **RESULTS/OUTCOME:** The site was redesigned to reflect some of the ideas of the students based on principles taught in the class in information architecture. The results of the usability analysis revealed areas of strength and weakness of the implementation, enabling appropriate decision making for revision and enhancement. A process for recurring analysis and enhancement was identified to assure continued high quality and relevance of the site.

RESEARCH POSTER – Third Place (\$50)

Ace in the Hole: Using Virtual Reference Chat Transcripts to Improve Public Services

AUTHORS: Clista Clanton, Geneva Bush Staggs; Baugh Biomedical Library, University of South Alabama **PURPOSE:** This poster discussed trends and themes evident in transcripts of questions received on a virtual reference chat service. The findings will be used to make recommendations on improving public service functions. SETTING/PARTICIPANTS/RESOURCES: The Baugh Biomedical Library at the University of South Alabama primarily serves three hospital sites and the Schools of Medicine, Nursing, and Allied Health. In July of 2003 the library began offering a virtual reference chat service. BRIEF DE-**SCRIPTION:** The "hole" in seven-card stud and hold' em poker is the first two facedown cards. Having an ace in the hole is a very powerful hidden advantage. The virtual reference chat service, initially targeted at distance education students within the College of Nursing, has now been extended to all users of the library. In addition, this service is being offered to a group of rural hospitals as part of a two-year grant on digital libraries. A substantial number of questions have been received via the service, allowing for an analysis of the questions. The chat transcripts will be analyzed and categorized according to type of question (directional, instructional, ready reference, extended reference), time received, user affiliation, and length of chat, with particular attention given to any trends and themes within the chats. **RESULTS/OUTCOME:** The results of this project will be used to make recommendations and implement changes that will improve the public service functions within the library and online. EVALUATION METHOD: Transcripts of each chat session from the period of July 2003 to July 2004 will be analyzed by the head of the public services department and a reference librarian.

Special thanks to those who helped judge papers and posters: Judy Burnham, Cheryl Dee, Kay Hogan Smith, Tamera Lee, Scott Plutchak, Jocelyn Rankin, Suzanne Stemler, and Priscilla Stephenson, and again, congratulations to our winners!

-Submitted by Rita Smith

Professional Bridge Mix! Jacksonville FL, Home to 7 bridges, hosts 2005 FHSLA Annual Meeting

The year's meeting theme, Bridges to Knowledge, reflects the variety of professional learning opportunities we're planning for the meeting-from plenary, posters and the business meeting to CEs and networking over food & drink! Continuing Education classes to choose from (will) include: "Communicating with Physicians: For Librarians", taught by a librarian-physician team, "Media and Learning: Using Sound, Graphics, Text and Animation to Enhance Learning from Presentations," "Introduction to Public Health for Librarians" and "Super Searcher", hands-on training in getting the best out of the Internet.

Details available now and registration soon to come at http://www.library.health.ufl.edu/fhsla/ See you on the Bridge to Knowledge in Jacksonville April 20-22, 2005!

-Submitted by Sandra L. Canham

Three Southern Chapter Members Chosen for the 2004-2005 NLM/AAHSL Leadership Fellows Program

In a survey of current AAHSL directors, 16% of respondents indicated they plan to retire by 2005 and 49% by 2010. In response to a perceived need to recruit and develop future directors for academic health center libraries, AAHSL developed a leadership development program that includes a mentoring component and allows participation without disruption of professional and personal lives. Fellows are paired with mentors who are academic health center library directors. The NLM/AAHSL Leadership Fellows Program comprises six components over a one-year time frame:



- 1. a one-day opening orientation session
- 2. an ongoing mentoring relationship
- 3. a half-day leadership institute
- 4. a two-week library site visit
- 5. three short, self-paced Web-based courses on leadership topics
- 6. a three-day capstone event.

The three Fellows for 2004-2005 from the Southern Chapter and their mentors are:

- Judy Burnham, Univ of South Alabama / Brett Kirkpatrick, Univ of Texas Medical Branch
- Beth Layton, Univ of Florida / Bill Garrity, Dartmouth College
- · Jett McCann, Medical Univ of South Carolina / Pat Thibodeau, Duke University

Other fellows for 2004-2005 are **Susan Bader**, Baylor University School of Nursing and **Dawn Littleton**, Mayo Clinic College of Medicine.

All fellows and mentors met for a one-day orientation during the AAMC meeting in Boston in November.

Pat Higginbottom was a 2002-2003 Fellow and Scott Plutchak was a 2003-2004 Mentor.

More information on the NLM/AAHSL Leadership Fellows Program can be found at http://www.arl.org/olms/fellows/info/index.html



"Happy Mardi Gras and Laissez les bon temps rouler, y'all!" -the editors



"It [Mardi Gras] is a thing that could hardly exist in the practical North....For the soul of it is the romantic, not the funny and the grotesque. Take away the romantic mysteries, the kings and knights and big-sounding titles, and Mardi Gras would die, down there in the South."

-Mark Twain, "Life on the Mississippi" (1896)

Dr. Martin B. Raskin Rare Book Collection

The Louis Calder Memorial Library of the University of Miami School of Medicine is pleased to announce that its rare book collection was named the **Dr. Martin B. Raskin** Rare Book Collection, in memory of its greatest benefactor who passed away on August 7, 2004. Dr. Raskin was an extraordinary individual, whose passion for books and whose generosity combined to make the collection named for him the largest collection in Florida, one of the largest in the Southeastern United States, and perhaps the largest collection at one of the nation's younger medical schools.

Born in New York City in 1921, Dr. Raskin began collecting medical books during his medical school days at the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine. Following his graduation in 1945 and a residency at Baptist Hospital in New York in obstetrics and gynecology, Dr. Raskin continued to collect books as he rose to medical director at Baptist Hospital, delivered close to 5,000 babies over a period of almost 50 years, was appointed professor of obstetrics and gynecology at New York College of Osteopathic Medicine, and became a member of the Kings County Medical Society Peer Review Board.

He also became, in his own modest words, "a good book hunter." He would visit bookstores wherever he traveled; he advertised for books and was known to every antiquarian bookseller who dealt in medical books; and, in his heyday, "he hit every auction in New York City." His life-long quest saw the development of a collection of more than 5,000 books in pristine condition and representing all medical specialties.

Almost half of the collection was published before the Civil War ended in 1864 and is therefore classified as 'Rare' by the Calder Library. Of these, almost 200 were published in the 16th, 17th and 18th Centuries. An Italian translation published in 1549 of a book by the famous Greek physician Galen is the oldest book donated by Dr. Raskin. More than 400 titles are listed in the 5th edition of the classic Medical Bibliography known as 'Garrison-Morton,' which lists all significant titles in the development of medicine since ancient times.

In 1985, Dr. Raskin and his wife, **Dr. Gladys F. Raskin**, retired to Lake Worth, where he created a warehouse for his collection and continued adding to it. In 1996, following his wife's successful spinal surgery at the School of Medicine, he decided to donate his collection to the Louis Calder Memorial Library where "I know everything will be given a fine home and care." This began what became an eight-year relationship between the Drs. Raskin and the Calder Library.

His gift to the Library is extraordinary in its size, scope and quality and brings depth and prestige to the University, its School of Medicine and its Library. The famous first edition of William Beaumont's *Experiments and Observations on the Gastric Juice*, and the *Physiology of Digestion*, is represented by no less than two copies. Among the books by William Harvey is an important 1648 edition of his *Exercitatio Anatomica De Motu Cordis & Sanguinis*, originally published in 1628. And Dr. Raskin's field of obstetrics and gynecology is particularly well represented with first editions by William Smellie (1697-1763), the "master of British midwifery;" by Andre Levret (1703-1780), the "founder of rational operative obstetrics;" and by Sir James Y. Simpson, noted for a forcep design and the introduction of anesthesia to obstetrics.

-Submitted by Suzy Burrows







NCLIS Cites UT Preston Medical Library & Learning Resource Center for Excellence: National Commission Recognizes Consumer Health Information Role

The U.S. National Commission on Libraries and Information Science (NCLIS) announced today that the University of Tennessee Graduate School of Medicine's Preston Medical Library & Learning Resource Center Consumer and Patient Information Service has been chosen to receive the 2004 NCLIS Blue Ribbon Consumer Health Information Recognition Award for Libraries for Tennessee. Outstanding libraries in thirty-eight states have been recognized for their contribution to health awareness and health education.

"The purpose of the awards is to help increase awareness of healthy lifestyles," said NCLIS Chair **Beth Fitzsimmons**, of Ann Arbor, MI. "Millions of American are diagnosed each year with chronic diseases, which in many cases could have been avoided, had the individuals followed healthier lifestyles."

Fitzsimmons continued, "For many individuals, we now know how to prevent or delay the onset of the major chronic diseases, and we know a lot about how to slow the progress of these diseases for the 175 million Americans who already live with these chronic conditions. Libraries are a natural location for disseminating health information, and the efforts of the Preston Medical Library & Learning Resource Center Consumer and Patient Information Service have been outstanding in carrying out this function."

Nominations for the NCLIS Blue Ribbon Award came from the Tennessee State Librarian and Archivist **Edwin Gleaves**, and the final decision was made by NCLIS on the basis of the program's potential impact, innovativeness, and replicability. The library won the award for its efforts in providing accurate, useful consumer health information to the people of Tennessee, exemplifying the role libraries can play in increasing awareness of consumer health-related issues and encouraging healthy lifestyles. Both the direct delivery of health information to the consumer by the librarians at the Preston Medical Library & Learning Resource Center, and library's marketing efforts in bringing consumer health information to the community have enabled Tennessee to strengthen and build its consumer health information services, resulting in a healthier, well-informed community of users. Additionally, through the Preston Medical Library & Learning Resource Center's training efforts for consumers and its train-the-trainer programs, the library staff serves as a resource and shares its expertise with a large body of users, epitomizing the concept of knowledge development and knowledge sharing, one of the basic tenets of professional librarianship.

"Tennessee is a state in which information professionals take seriously their role as information providers for the state's citizens," said State Librarian Gleaves. "At the Preston Medical Library & Learning Resource Center, the staff actively promotes consumer health information. Any consumer may call or email the library with a request for information on a diagnosis or preventive health topic. Librarians will do the search, find quality health information, and mail or email the information directly to the patron. There is no charge to the consumer."

Jon S. Parham, Associate Professor and Predoctoral Director at the University of Tennessee Graduate School of Medicine echoed Gleaves' enthusiasm about the Preston Medical Library & Learning Resource Center's Consumer Patient Information Service. Dr. Parham also commented about the quality of the service. "As a full-time faculty physician I have seen the Preston Medical Library & Learning Resource Center excel as a health information resource for healthcare personnel and for laypersons. The library is a convenient and patient-friendly source of consumer health education information for my patients." Dr. Parham is also pleased about the services the Preston Medical Library & Learning Resource Center provides to students. "Since the

UT Preston Medical Library & Learning Resource Center(continued)

family physician is a trusted source of health information," he says, "the information given to patients must be relevant and valid. The library has provided training in evidence-based medicine for medical students in our family medicine clerkship since 1999 and helped to develop assessment tools for the evaluation of this educational effort."

State Librarian and Archivist Gleaves agrees. "This level of professional leadership clearly establishes the Preston Medical Library & Learning Resource Center Consumer and Patient Information Services as a leader in the field of consumer health information, and the library richly deserves this prestigious award. All of us in Tennessee are proud of this work, and it is our honor to be recognized at the national level for what is being done in here."

The NCLIS is a permanent, independent agency of the Federal government created to advise the President and Congress on national and international library and information policies, to appraise and assess the adequacies and deficiencies of library and information resources and services, and to develop overall plans for meeting national library and information needs.

Areception was held at the UT Preston Medical Library & Learning Resource Center on August 10. Assistant State Librarian **Jane Pinkston** presented the award to **Sandy Oelschlegel**, Library Director and **Dr. Caudle**, Dean of the Graduate School of Medicine. Speakers included Jane Pinkston, Sandy Oelschlegel, Dr. Michael Caudle, Dean of the Graduate School of Medicine, **Martha Earl**, and President and CEO of the UT Medical Center, **Mickey Bilbrey**. Sandy and Martha thanked the donors, community members, consumer organizations, and public librarians who have so consistently and enthusiastically supported the service. The Consumer and Patient Information Service began in 1989 from a TSLA grant awarded to **Doris Prichard**, former Preston Medical Library & Learning Resource Center director.



Sandy Oelschlegel, **Jane Pinkston**, and **Dr. Michael Caudle** celebrate the UT Preston Medical Library's receipt of the NCLIS Blue Ribbon Consumer Health Information Recognition Award for Libraries at a reception on August 10 in Knoxville.

The Back Page: "Take Away the Candle and Spare My Blushes"



During the course of our professional lives we attend many meetings during which honors and awards are bestowed upon a deserving person. Most of these honors and awards are earned through hard work, although a few are given because of an established protocol or out of mere politeness. Once in a while, though, an occasion arises when an honor is bestowed on a person out of a communal sense of fraternity, esteem or actual affection. These rare awards are certainly the greatest honors of all, because they are given from the heart and reflect a very real emotional bond.

During the recent 2004 Southern Chapter Meeting in Biloxi, I was presented with an Honorary Membership in the Southern Chapter. Taken completely by surprise, I was both puzzled and embarrassed because no

one deserved this honor less than I, yet I immediately realized that this was that last, rare type of honor that was given truly from the heart. Because of that realization I was profoundly touched, and I would like to reflect that sincere affection back onto you, the members of Southern Chapter, and thank both the membership in general, and the Executive Committee in particular, for this wonderful honor.

The "roast" that preceded the presentation of my Honorary Membership, also touched me in ways that I find difficult to describe. How so many detail-oriented researchers could come up with so many inaccurate stories about my life is difficult to imagine. And how so many photos of me in compromising situations could have been preserved in this day of increasingly limited space and declining budgets is certainly perplexing and something that should be quickly investigated. But, now that it is over I would like to thank each participant for their amusing (although fabricated) tales, and most of all for their incredibly kind words. It was truly a night to remember, and I only wish I could have found words to adequately thank each individual member of Southern Chapter at the time.

The Southern Chapter of MLA has always been unique, and a great part of that uniqueness is the professional and emotional closeness that runs through this extended family. I feel blessed that I have been accepted as an adopted son, even though my limited contributions to the Chapter pale in comparison to those of so many others. Even so, I consider my Honorary Membership to be the greatest of honors, although I feel as Henry James did after being presented with such an award, "Take away the candle and spare my blushes."

-Ken Robichaux

The Final Word. Welcome to our inagural, "All Electronic, All the Time" issue!

There's a great Talking Heads song that goes "Facts all come with points of view/Facts don't do what I want them to." Well, they could just as easily have been singing about Adobe Pagemaker, because it rarely does what I want it to do (and this after four years of "learning" how to use it).

What I wanted to do was create a fully-linkable pdf version of Southern Exasperations, er I mean Expressions. This way internal links would work (like linking the content list to specific articles) as well as all external links included in the newletter's text. Well, I also want world peace, but after a couple of hours tearing my hair out (and those of you who know me, know I haven' t much to spare) I think the latter might be more reasonable to expect. So, consider this my apology for the issue's slight tardiness (Clista had all her work done well ahead of time, so I' m accepting all the blame on this one). Still, never say die! I know I can figure it out...I' m a librarian for Pete's sake! Perhaps next time.

If anyone has any suggestions how we can make the new electronic Southern Expressions a better publication please don't hesitate to contact either Clista (cclanton@bbl.usouthal.edu) or myself (jroberts@bbl.usouthal.edu). Happy Mardi Gras!

-Justin

