This time last year we were putting the finishing touches on our meeting here in Birmingham and now a whole year has already gone by and my time as Chair is almost up. I remember the last Southern Chapter meeting in Memphis. I was still fairly new to the organization but felt so welcomed and included in the events both work and play. I hope to see many of you in Memphis this year. I know our hosts will welcome us all to their city, but I hope that we as members provide that same level of hospitality and friendship to our friends and to our new members. I think that is the beauty and the goal of our association, to bring together people from all over the region to meet and talk and learn together. I hope that I have done it justice over my year as chair. Here are some of the highlights over the last few months:

- We approved funds for a new member, first time attendee reception at the annual meeting
- We approved the purchase of an association SurveyMonkey account [more on that later]
- Leslie Duncan stepped up to take on the role of Governmental Relations Liaison and you’ve all see her email about relevant issues
- The nominating committee presented a stellar slate of candidates for election, putting into place the Program Chair elect position to provide more meeting planning time
- Bylaws updates were presented for consideration and discussion
- Job descriptions were drafted for officer positions; these will be posted and updated yearly
- A small task force was created to determine how to use web tools and how to manage passwords

And those are just NEW things. Officers, committee chairs and members continue to manage the work of the organization as always. Please join me in thanking everyone for their dedication to making this the best chapter by far. As I said, I hope to see you in Memphis where I’ll turn the gavel over to incoming chair Danny O’Neal. Contact either of us anytime with your questions, comments or suggestions.
Southern Expressions
Published quarterly by the Southern Chapter of the Medical Library Association (SC/MLA). Send contributions to:

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A L A B A M A

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

Congratulations to the Lister Hill Library of the Health Sciences at the University of Alabama at Birmingham for its Express Technology Improvement Award from the National Library of Medicine. This award enabled the Library to digitize the Birmingham Medical College collection.

This digital collection showcases the records of the Birmingham Medical College, 1894-1915. The archival collection provides an interesting glimpse of early medical education in the South before and after the seminal Flexner Report of 1910, which marked a watershed transformation in American medical education. These materials housed at University Archives consist of a variety of materials, including photographs, published bulletins, class schedules, matriculation and admission cards, diplomas, commencement programs and invitations, and correspondence.

The digital collection has been posted online in the UAB institutional repository thus providing valuable primary resources for historical researchers worldwide. The Lister Hill Library has graciously given permission for AlabamaMosaic to link to this collection so it will be included in the Alabama history resources searchable via http://www.alabamamosiac.org.

The support by an Express Technology grant from the National Network of Libraries of Medicine, Southeastern/Atlantic Region, has enabled the Library to inaugurate an ongoing program of Institutional Repository development focused on the history of medicine and healthcare in Alabama and the South.

Send request information about the Birmingham Medical College, 1894-1915, collection to Elizabeth Lorbeer, Principle Investigator of award.

Baugh Biomedical Library, University of South Alabama, Mobile, AL

Judy Burnham, Director, spoke about Web 2.0 tools at the Alabama Chapter American Physical Therapy Association meeting in Birmingham August 21 to 22, 2009. This presentation was also given by Ms. Burnham at the national American Physical Therapy Association meeting in Baltimore in June, 2009. Dr. Dennis Fell, Chair of the University of South Alabama Physical Therapy Department was a co-presenter with Ms. Burnham in Baltimore. Lee Vucovich of the Lister Hill Library of the Health Sciences at the University of Alabama at Birmingham assisted Ms. Burnham at the Alabama Chapter American Physical Therapy Association meeting in Birmingham.

Andrea Wright, Beverly Rossini, and Judy Burnham provided library instruction for the second year this summer to high school students enrolled in the 2009 STARS (Student Training for Academic Reinforcement in the Sciences) and STRIPES (Special Training to Raise Interest and Prepare for Entry into the Science) programs. These enrichment programs are managed through the University of South Alabama Center for Healthy Communities’ Center for Excellence and are funded through a grant from the National Center on Minority and Health Disparities. Lee Ann Kendrick, Project Manager at Center for Healthy Communities, facilitated the program; Dr. Hattie Myles, Southern Expressions vol. 25 no. 3/4
Assistant Dean for Educational Enrichment in the Department of Special Programs at the USA College of Medicine served as director. Thirty students from Mobile County Public School successfully competed for an opportunity to participate in this year’s program. These students demonstrate an interest in math and science and a desire to become health care providers. The 2009 curriculum focused on researching diseases and chronic conditions prevalent in family health histories and presenting the research to peers. Students also used their newfound research skills to write public service announcements about dating violence and teen obesity for Cumulus Broadcast Systems in Mobile, Alabama. Two students later recorded the announcements at the radio station. The PSAs will air on local Mobile radio stations (WDLT 98.3 and WGOK Gospel 900) during the remainder of 2009 as part of a health awareness campaign initiated by the University of South Alabama Center for Healthy Communities.

The Library also served as a resource for the College of Medicine’s DREAM (Diversity, Recruitment, and Education for Admission into Medicine) program. The second and third year college students have a DREAM of becoming a physician and are work in an intense and rigorous summer preparatory curriculum in the basic medical sciences and the Medical College Admission Test (MCAT). The Library provided a tour of the facility, instruction in and access to library resources, and study/computer lab space for the twenty students participating in the 2009 program.

Clista Clanton, Education Coordinator, has received tenure and has been promoted to Associate Librarian.

Trey Lemley was awarded the EBSCO/MLA Annual Meeting Grant from EBSCO Subscription Services to defray his expenses for attendance at the Medical Library Association’s (MLA) 2009 meeting in Hawaii in May, 2009.

Interlibrary Loan Supervisor Beverly Rossini was awarded the $1,000 Stars Atlas Mentoring Award from Atlas Systems. This award is made to one library practitioner who is new to the field of interlibrary loan and enabled Beverly’s attendance at the 2009 American Library Association (ALA) Summer Conference in Chicago where she participated in continuing education and was mentored by another medical librarian.

The Library hosted the National Library of Medicine’s traveling exhibit “Frankenstein: Penetrating the Secrets of Nature” from April 26, 2009 through June 21, 2009. The library housed the exhibit at the Gulf Coast Exploreum and partnered with the The University of South Alabama Physicians’ Group Med School Café lecture series. The May series featured USA researchers Drs. Glenn L. Wilson and Mary Townsley. Their lecture, “How Every Patient Benefits from Medical Research,” featured specific examples of medical research conducted at USA to illustrate how all patient care is improved through scientific discovery. The June lecture series was given by USA College of Medicine faculty members Dr. Jeffery Sosnowski, assistant professor of pathology, and Dr. Anthony L. Gard, professor of cell biology and neuroscience. Their lecture described the anatomy and pathology of Parkinson’s disease and emphasized how pioneering treatments of this neurodegenerative disorder have led to our current understanding of the regenerative potential of stem cells transplanted into the brain. The series was free and open to the public and included lunch and a tour of the Frankenstein exhibit. Door counts for this exhibit exceeded 15,000 viewers.
Charlotte Edwards Maguire Medical Library, Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL

Susan Epstein has been appointed Head of Public Services at the Florida State University College of Medicine (FSUCOM) Maguire Medical Library. Susan holds a B.A. degree in Spanish and a B.S. degree in Family and Community Development from the University of Maryland, and an M.S.L.S. in Information Technology from FSU. She plans to complete her Specialist Certificate in Web Design from FSU in December 2009. Ms. Epstein was the chief librarian of the FSU Career Center Library for 15 years, creating the library and its services. Prior to her library career, she taught high-school Spanish, managed community and international education programs, and counseled young adults.

Martin Wood has been appointed Head of Electronic Resources and Technical Services. He holds a B.S. degree in Mass Communication from FSU and a Master of Library and Information Studies from the FSU College of Information. Martin served as the Coordinator of Computer Applications and Webmaster for the Florida Center for Prevention Research at FSU, and most recently was the Supervisor of Technology Solutions and Research Librarian at Franklin Templeton Investments in Fort Lauderdale.

Shimberg Health Sciences Library, University of South Florida, Tampa, FL

Rose Bland has been awarded a 2009 Leadership Scholarship from the Association of Academic Health Sciences Libraries (AAHSL). The scholarship provides recipients with funding to further their leadership goals with the purpose of preparing for future leadership positions. Rose will use the funding to conduct site visits of two academic health sciences libraries to expand her knowledge of health science library administration and organization. She will be visiting Duke University and the Medical University of South Carolina.

This past winter, the Suncoast Gerontology Center, a part of the University of South Florida, moved their offices into the Johnnie B. Byrd Alzheimer’s Center and Research Institute building which is also now a part of USF. However, their new home did not provide enough space for their library. The collection was donated to the Shimberg Health Sciences Library and has been cataloged as a separate collection and is available to be borrowed. The Shimberg Library plans to add to the collection in this important field of Alzheimer’s Disease and geriatrics. For more information contact Allison Howard.

The First Friday Journal Club, as the name suggests, meets the first Friday of every month at Shimberg Health Sciences Library. Librarians from a variety of science and technology libraries maintain regular attendance. Meetings are open discussions which center around a common article and often guiding questions. Through a discussion of recent and scientific literature FFJC
offers excellent opportunities for expanding the breadth of your knowledge and to network with other professionals. Discussions are excellent opportunities for professionals to move beyond their libraries and develop future projects and ideas. If you are interested in starting a journal club or joining the mailing list please email Barbara Wood bawood@healthlib.usf.edu or Kristen Morda kmorda@health.usf.edu

Shimberg Health Sciences Library has been awarded an American Library Association Grant to publish a pathfinder entitled “Clinical Trials 101: Resources for Alzheimer’s Patient and Their Caregivers.” The project team includes, Rose Bland, Allison Howard, John Scott, and Barbara Wood.

GEORGIA

Robert B. Greenblatt Library, Medical College of Georgia, Augusta, GA

Darra Ballance, AHIP, was promoted to Assistant Professor, effective July 2009. Darra also wrote an article that has been accepted for the July 2009 issue of Journal of Rural Health: “Factors that Influence Physicians to Practice in Rural Locations: A Review and Commentary.” Denise Kornegay, MSW, Director of the Statewide AHEC Network, and Paul Evans, DO, Dean and Chief Academic Officer of the Georgia Campus—Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine, are co-authors.


Christina Yau, Systems Librarian, gave a poster presentation at the ELUNA Conference (Ex Libris Users of North America) May 6-8. The title was “SFX3 customization experience: MCG’s extensive work on SFX v3 search interface, A-Z list, and SFX Menu.”

Darra Ballance, Lindsay Blake, and Kevin Bradford were recently notified that their CE course, Evidence-based Nursing: Integrating Literature Clinical Practice and Patient Education” has been selected for the 2010 MLA Annual Meeting in Washington, DC. This course will also be presented at the 2009 Southern Chapter/MLA meeting in Memphis, TN.
PUERTO RICO

University of Puerto Rico, Medical Sciences Campus, Conrado F. Asenjo Library

Dr. Irma Quiñones has recently been appointed as the Director of the Conrado F. Asenjo Library, University Of Puerto Rico Medical Sciences Campus. She has an Ed.D, MLS, MPA and BA all from the University of Puerto Rico. Her professional experience as a Librarian includes working at a Correctional Services Center, at a Labor Relations Institute, at Women and Health Center, also at the Reference section before becoming Acting Director of our Library October 2008. Dr. Quiñones has also been very active in different committee appointments such as University of Puerto Rico Libraries System Evaluation Project, Institutional Assessment, and Medical Sciences Campus Library’s Evaluation Committee Coordinator, among others.

We also congratulate Irma Quiñones, for being among the fellows selected for the NLM/AAHSL Leadership Fellows Program (2009-2010).

We are pleased to announce that the first phase of the Conrado F. Asenjo Library remodeling was completed and opened to the public this past July. This new concept of our Medical Sciences Library (MSC), includes: “La Veranda” at the main level and entrance of the building, a mezzanine style study area, which is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week; various group study rooms, multiple cubicles for individual study, a computer room and two multi-use rooms with A/V and laptops for conferences and workshops. We also have a Virtual Reference Services (Ask your librarian - Pregútale a tu bibliotecario in Spanish) http://refvirtual.upr.edu/, an electronic Reserve section, loan of fifteen laptops and Wireless Internet access throughout the library for our community.

Even though it’s in Spanish please see related video: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SOh-kF-bREGA. You just might recognize some of our staff: Carmen Santos, María Lina Collazo, Margarita Gonzalez and Rogelio Lugo. You’ll also see several of the remodeled sections includ-
ing: Special Collections, Circulation and Reserve, Reference, computer workstations, and “La Veranda,” the 24/7 study area.

La Veranda, 24/7 study area

Librarians Efrain Flores, Charles Seguí, and Francisca Corrada, accompanied by Professor and translator Pierre Trevant form the Río Piedras Campus offered Evidence-Based Medicine workshops in Haiti from December 1-4, 2008. This activity was possible mainly from a proposal that was submitted to the Atlantea Project of the UPR, which promotes academic exchange between the UPR and the rest of the Caribbean.

The UPR-MSC Library has held since 1996, collaborative projects with the Library of the Faculty of Medicine and Pharmacy of the State University of Haiti (FMF-UEH), when it signed agreement International collaborations between the UPR and the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Haiti also received funding from the National Library of Medicine (NLM) for revitalizing it. Recently, in March 2008, at the request of the new Dean of the FMF-UEH, Dr. Gladys T. Prosper, Prof. Corrada visited the faculty and the Library with the purpose of analyzing the current situation of the library to jointly develop the best strategy and opportunity for cooperation to revitalize it once again. The evaluation and recommendations for restructuring took place within the context of the role of the library in developing information skills for students and their integration into the curriculum. Prof. Corrada had the opportunity to share with two people from Belgium and one from the University of Montreal, which were also providing support to the FMF-UEH, and we established that each University would provide support, the Belgian and Canadians provided equipment and infrastructure, but not training; and the UPR offered workshops and support in other areas. Dr. Prosper requested among other possible collaborations, student workshops, Incorporating Information Searching Skills for Evidence-Based Medicine (EBM).
The workshop methodology consisted of three primary parts: 1) discussion of the definition of EBM, published articles which demonstrate different types of studies ( "randomized control trials", "case studies", "cohort studies" etc.) regarding the case under discussion, 2) how to use PubMed, and 3) practice exercises, which participants constructed focused clinical questions, identifying the type of question (etiology, prognosis, diagnosis, etc.), what would be the most appropriate study type to answer this question, find and recover information from PubMed. Each workshop had a duration of six contact hours. The workshops were offered to ninety (90) fourth year medical students, divided into groups of thirty, for three days. The faculty and students were all so grateful towards us. The experience was a profound for all of us from Puerto Rico, one we will cherish for years to come.

Efrain Flores, Charles Segui, and Francisca Corrada with workshop participants

Efrain Flores and Pierre Trevant during the workshop
SOUTH CAROLINA

University of South Carolina School of Medicine Library, Columbia, SC

Roz Anderson, Assistant Director for Education & Outreach, and Steve Wilson, Coordinator, Center for Disability Resources Library, authored the article “Quantifying the Effectiveness of Interactive Tutorials in Medical Library Instruction” in Medical Reference Services Quarterly, 2009 Spring, 28 (1): 10-21.

Roz Anderson and Steve Wilson won first place in the research paper competition at the Annual Meeting of the Southern Chapter of the Medical Library Association in Birmingham, Alabama, October 26-30, 2008, for their paper, “Quantifying the Effectiveness of Interactive Tutorials.” Congratulations!


Christine Whitaker, Collection Development Librarian, attended the Special Libraries Association Leadership Summit in Savannah, January 14-16, 2009 as Past Chair of the Science-Technology Division.

Medical University of South Carolina Library, Charleston, SC

Dr. Mary Mauldin, associate professor, Department of Library Science and Informatics and Director of the Center for Academic and Research Computing, is expanding her role to lead the MUSC Library’s development of a Student Learning Commons. Dr. Mauldin has contributed significantly to the education mission of MUSC, building strong partnerships at all levels across the university. She is respected as one of MUSC’s learning leaders with over 30 years of experience in integrating technology into teaching and learning. Drawing on her doctorate in educational technology, Dr. Mauldin has managed the development, implementation and evaluation of over 200 computer-based instructional programs. She has chaired numerous committees related to teaching and learning and currently co-chairs the Interprofessional Faculty Development Institute.

Under Dr. Mauldin’s leadership, the Library and our campus partners will envision and establish a state-of-the-art technology and information center with programs and services devoted to supporting the study, learning, and research needs of all MUSC students. Flexibility, innovation, collaboration, and responsiveness to the changing educational environment and the perceived and expressed needs of students and faculty will characterize the Learning Commons.

As the Learning Commons develops, students will find a wide selection of work and study areas: private study carrels in quiet spaces, comfortable lounge areas for social interaction or relaxation, rooms for group projects or study, open areas with tables, computer workstations config-
ured for private or group study, wireless networking, rooms and equipment to create and practice presentations. A staff with expertise in the use of technology, information management, graphic design, Web-building, and more will provide support, teach classes, and create online learning opportunities for students - and for faculty.

The Library introduced a new service called Digital E @ MUSC Library at the Library Technical Fair. This service offers MUSC students, staff, and faculty the opportunity to discover new technology that will enrich their presentations, grants, and class projects. Digital equipment available under the Digital E service for checkout are: two Flip Video Ultra camcorders, two Cannon Powershot 10 mega-pixel digital cameras, three Amazon Kindle 2 e-readers with pre-loaded books, and one 3M Pro 110 micro projector. These items circulate for one week. This service was made possible through grant funding by the National Library of Medicine’s Express Technology Library Improvement award.

The Library is participating in Teen Health Leadership Program (THLP). Johns Island, the site of the THLP, is adjacent to mainland Charleston, SC and has remained poor and isolated for years with a large proportion of African American residents and a growing Latino population.

In collaboration with the Charleston County School District, MUSC’s College of Nursing, MUSC Library, and Communities in Schools, THLP seeks to empower high school students to assist and serve their community. The project provides health literacy training as well as leadership development skills, enabling the students to design and implement outreach projects to improve the awareness and use of quality health information in their community. Through a series of experiential opportunities and mentorship, the THLP also seeks to encourage young people of diverse backgrounds to become health professionals.

Funded by the National Libraries of Medicine, the THLP has produced relevant results related to health literacy, youth engagement and pipeline development. First, the Internet is a critical component to the field of health literacy when working with adolescents. The ability to evaluate a website for credibility and navigate proper health websites are keys to success for teaching health literacy to adolescents. Second, teens understand the complexity of their community, are able to identify health concerns and engage in their community to promote health. Finally, partnering with the academic health center in Charleston, SC provides unique opportunities for health careers promotion for students in this rural community.

THLP is a model program for other Title I schools in South Carolina to promote a diverse health care workforce of educated leaders in the future.

The Waring Historical Library at MUSC will digitize the minutes of the Medical Society of South Carolina (MSSC) The minutes consist of typescripts and original handwritten ledgers compiled in approximately 30 volumes (upward of 10,000 pages) spanning the years 1789 to 2000. The digitization of the minutes will include optical character recognition (OCR), which will enable full-text keyword searching of all minutes.
This project will take two years to complete and will cost $35,000 each year for a total of $70,000. Funding will pay for project-specific equipment (including an overhead camera designed to digitally photograph bound ledgers), staff effort, long-term storage of digital media, creation of a web portal on the MSSC website, training for MSSC staff in search and retrieval of items, and special projects designed to promote the collection, including but not limited to workshops for MSSC members, web exhibits, and more.

The digital products will be made available via MEDICA (MUSC E-Documents Initiative and Collected Archives). By using MEDICA, researchers—scholars, students, media, and more—will be able to access many of the collections from their desktop any day, any time, thus removing the barrier of geographic location and increasing access to the collections of the Society and the Library.

Dr. Tom Basler, MUSC Director of Libraries and Learning Resource Centers and Member of the Off-Site Review Team for the Commission of Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS/COC), will be reviewing the University Texas Health Science Center at Houston, the University of North Texas Health Science Center, and the University of Texas School of Health Professions, for 2009.


With publication of the report, PICO completes nearly two years of programmatic activities on the role nuclear energy may play in securing America’s energy independence. The program included multiple planning sessions, a national meeting in Charleston in August 2008, and a televised dialogue on nuclear energy, co-produced by South Carolina Educational Television (ETV) and distributed nationwide by the National Educational Television Association (NETA) in December 2008. Each copy of the final report includes a DVD version of the televised dialogue.

The report addresses specific areas of concern, with articles authored by experts on such topics as the potential health impacts of nuclear energy, the permitting and construction costs associated with nuclear energy, the transportation and ultimate disposition of nuclear waste, the need to train and educate a nuclear workforce, federal regulatory issues and Environmental Justice.

PICO previously produced Securing Our Future television programs on hydrogen fuel cell technology and domestically grown and refined “biofuels,” such as biodiesel and ethanol.

For more information, contact Richard Jablonski at (843) 792-5548 or jablonsr@musc.edu.

University of South Carolina School of Medicine Library, Columbia, SC

The Library welcomed Victor Jenkinson as Systems Librarian on July 1. Victor was previously Technical Programs Coordinator with PASCAL, Partnership Among South Carolina Academic Li-
braries, where he successfully coordinated the implementation of Innovative Interfaces, Inc. INNREACH’s consortial borrowing system for 56 academic libraries and managed Innovative Interfaces Millenium systems for thirteen academic libraries in South Carolina. Many of you will remember Victor from his time in our library from 1999-2005. Welcome back to Southern Chapter, Victor!

The Library welcomed Laura Kane, Assistant Director for Information Services, back from maternity leave in August 2009. Congratulations to Laura on the birth of her third son, Peter, on May 14, 2009!

The Library is hosting a student intern from the USC School of Library and Information Science, Ms. Tamara Law, during the Fall 2009 semester.

T E N N E S S E E

University of Tennessee Health Sciences Center Library, Memphis, TN

A research-based paper presented at the 2009 Annual Meeting of the Medical Library Association in Honolulu by Tom Singarella and Paul Schoening was awarded 1st place for research papers.

Authors: Thomas Singarella, Professor and Director, Health Sciences Library and Biocommunications Center, University of Tennessee Health Science Center, Memphis, TN; Paul Schoening, Associate Dean and Director, The Becker Medical Library, Washington University School of Medicine, St. Louis, MO

Title: Trends in Institutional Repositories in Health Sciences Libraries

has been awarded 1st place paper by the research awards judging team. These awards will be announced in the summer issue of Hypothesis: The Journal of the MLA Research Section and via MLA Focus. The prize for the first place award is $100. The award acknowledges high-quality research.
Lois Ann Colaianni Award for Excellence and Achievement in Hospital Librarianship
Application Deadline: November 1, 2009

We ALL know or work with someone that is a dynamic and exceptional hospital librarian. Someone who is a visionary that deserves to be recognized for his or her outstanding service in hospital librarianship. Now is the time to nominate them. Self nominations are welcome! Visit http://www.mlanet.org/awards/honors/index.html for further information or to download an application. Please email Deb Miller, Jury Chair, at drmiller@summithealth.org for additional questions.

Murray Gottlieb Prize
Application Deadline: November 1, 2009

Established in 1956 to recognize and stimulate the health sciences librarians' interest in the history of medicine, the Murray Gottlieb prize is awarded annually for the best unpublished essay on the history of medicine and allied sciences written by a health sciences librarian. For submission information, please see: http://www.mlanet.org/pdf/awards/gottlieb_nom_20090707.pdf. Previous awardees are listed at http://www.mlanet.org/awards/honors/gottlieb.html. The author of the winning essay receives complimentary registration to the 2010 annual meeting, where they will be presented with their certificate and a cash award of $100 after the annual meeting. Also, unless under consideration for publication elsewhere, the winning paper will be submitted to the Journal of the Medical Library Association for consideration if its subject matter falls within the scope of the JMLA. Please contact jury chair Lee Vucovich at lvucovi@uab.edu with any questions.

Lucretia W. McClure Excellence in Education Award
Application Deadline: November 1, 2009

The Lucretia W. McClure Excellence in Education Award was established in 1998 to honor an outstanding practicing librarian or library educator in the field of health sciences librarianship and informatics who demonstrates skills in one or more of the following areas: teaching, curriculum development, mentoring, research, or leadership in education at local, regional, or national levels. The recipient receives a certificate at the annual meeting and a cash award of $500 after the annual meeting. For award instructions and nomination criteria, please see the award application located at http://www.mlanet.org/pdf/awards/mcclure_nom_20090707.pdf. For questions, please contact Mandy Meloy at bayeral@gmail.com. All nominations must be received by November 1.

Create Change – Make a Name for Yourself:
Offer a Health Information Literacy Session

Want to create change in your organization? Want to be recognized as a leader? Want to help
educate health care providers about the benefits of health information literacy? It’s easier now than ever to accomplish all of these by using the curriculum developed for you by the Medical Library Association. A complete PowerPoint program (short and long versions) are available along with a talking script on the MLANET site - see http://www.mlanet.org/resources/healthlit/hil_project.htm. There’s even a tool kit of handouts on the site as well. And soon there will be a web-based self-guided tutorial available at the same site for individuals to take at their convenience.

Don’t delay - help your hospital or academic medical center learn the importance of promoting health literacy and what you as a librarian can do to help improve patient care as a result. Prove your value!!

Any questions, contact Jean Shipman at jean.shipman@utah.edu or 801-581-8771.

Meeting for Research Mentors and Mentees at SC/MLA 2009

There will be a meeting for members who would like to be research mentors or would like to be research mentees during the Research Committee meeting at the upcoming conference. Members can look at the conference program to find the meeting.
variety of food from burgers or fancy dining to cheesecake or Mexican. While you are there, visit The Arcade. Although, it is the oldest restaurant in Memphis, its décor is that of a hip, 50s diner. The Arcade has been featured in movies, magazines, on TV, and Elvis even ate there. They have a great brunch, and the cuisine is Greek. A Greek diner in Memphis, Tennessee? Don’t miss that!

If you want to get away from downtown, head to Overton Square for Bosco’s Squared, Le Char-donnay, Paulette’s, Side Street Grill, or Bari Ristorante e Enoteca. Or to the Cooper-Young District, which offers a variety of eating experiences. Try the cool Young Avenue Deli, Café Ole, Tsu-nami, The Beauty Shop, Soul Fish Café (best catfish around), or Celtic Crossing Irish Pub. There is also a coffee bar and funky stores. Visit Cooper-Young and you will see why people love Midtown.

There is a lot for families to do in Memphis! We have history and museums. For spooky fun on Friday Oct 30, you can visit the #1 zoo in the country for the annual ZooBoo. Take a tour of the Civil Rights Museum, Ormamental Metal Museum, Stax Museum of American Soul Music, or Sun Studio. No trip to Memphis is complete without a pilgrimage to Graceland!! A planetarium and Imax theater await you at the Pink Palace Museum, and close by is the Children’s Museum. Want to stay downtown for your culture? Check out The Belz Museum of Asian and Judaic Art or The Center for Southern Folklore. A. Schwab’s on Beale Street is a quirky store to visit. On the first floor, which is a little smaller than a football field, you will find a little of everything from voodoo candles to overalls. It has been on Beale Street for over 120 years. Before you head out to explore, don’t miss Lansky Brother’s in The Peabody. The store that Elvis made famous by wearing the gold lame coat he bought there on the Ed Sullivan Show. Within walking distance, you will find the Mississippi River. Visit Mud Island, or take a riverboat cruise.

If live theatre is your passion, check out The Orpheum Theater for national/Broadway shows, Playhouse on the Square/Circuit Theater for professional regional theatre, and Theatre Memphis, our award winning community theater. The Cannon Center is the home of the Memphis Symphony Orchestra, the site of a variety of events, and one of the most acoustically superior venues in the region. FedEx Forum, home of the Memphis Grizzlies and the University of Memphis Tigers, is a world-class arena that hosts sporting events, concerts, and family shows.

For even more information, visit the Memphis Convention and Visitors’ Bureau website.

If you can make it to only one conference this year, the Southern Chapter Annual Conference in Memphis is the one to attend!
Whether you need an image manipulation program for work or pleasure choosing one and then learning the ins and outs of the program can be a daunting task, especially considering how much most of the commercial packages cost. Luckily, there are a number of economical choices and simple advice that can make choosing the right program for you a bit easier.

First, before you do anything else check out what you already have! If you are a Windows user, you should already have Microsoft Picture Manager. One of Microsoft’s best kept secrets, Picture Manager is a great tool for doing simple photo editing. The program’s features include brightness and contrast, color, cropping, rotate and flip, red-eye removal, resize, and compression capabilities. For many folks this tool will do everything needed to manage and manipulate photos. To access the program go to Start ➔ Programs ➔ Microsoft Office ➔ Microsoft Office Tools ➔ Microsoft Office Picture Manager. Before you spend any money see if Picture Manager meets your needs.

If you want to do more than manipulate photos, however, you may find that you need something more powerful. The first thing you need to do is to try and determine what sort of features you need to accomplish your goals. For instance, do you need to create images and banners for a website, make images for handouts or tutorials, what file formats need to be supported, will you be editing old photos for printing? By mapping out your goals and needs you will be in a much better position to pick a tool that will work best for you. Once you have your program requirements outlined you can compare all the different image software, both commercial and open source.

If you already know you want a powerful ‘as close to professional’ image manipulation program as you can get but don’t want to shell out the money for a commercial product, give GIMP (http://www.gimp.org) a try. GIMP stands for The GNU Image Manipulation Program and it is one of the best and most powerful free programs available. GIMP has been around since 1995 and continues to have a large and loyal following. Keep in mind, however, that GIMP is designed to compete with professional commercial software programs like Photoshop CS4 so it will take some effort to learn. The good news is there are tons of tutorials available free on the web. All you need to do is Google the name of your software program and “tutorial” or the task you need to complete, like ‘GIMP red eye removal,’ to get more online help than you can stand. YouTube is also a really good resource for tutorials (check out this video http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d9EfZFeFhyg). If you do want to invest in a commercial product, make sure that you take advantage of any trial they offer before you spend any money. Most all software will allow for a thirty-day trial and it is well worth the time to make sure you making a wise choice.

But, whatever you choose, try and remember that it takes time to learn how to use any software package and image editing packages seem to be especially challenging. So give yourself plenty of time to learn and don’t get frustrated. My advice is to pick a couple of tasks that you need to do regularly and work to get really good at those things then move on to more difficult ones. Also, spend the time to learn the basic interface layout. Learning the proper names for the tools and features will help you find help when needed. Another good idea is to invest in a good reference book for the program. I’m fond of Peachpit Press’s Visual Quick Start guides. I usually can find what I need on Amazon used. While these software packages can be expensive and have a steep learning curve, with a little effort anyone can learn the basic steps to any program, commercial
or open source, to be an efficient photo editor!


Like what you see here? Have an idea or question you’d like to see covered? Email Lisa, Systems Librarian at Lister Hill Library, at lennis@uab.edu.

**The Final Word**

Jason and I have enjoyed putting this issue together. If there’s anything you’d like to see in Southern Expressions, please let us know. Enjoy reading the technology column? Want to write a column of your own? Let us know! We look forward to seeing many of you in Memphis!

Nicole & Jason