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June Fulton Inducted as MLA Fellow

by
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June H. Fulton was inducted as a Fellow of the Medical Library Association at the MLA Annual Meeting in Orlando, FL in May 2001. Fellowship is conferred on regular MLA members in recognition of outstanding and sustained contributions to the advancement of the purposes of MLA. The Association limits the number of new Fellows to five per year.

June Fulton is a past President of MLA and past Chair of the Philadelphia Regional Chapter. In presenting Fulton with her award, President Michael Homan described her as “one of the Association’s most revered leaders.” June has served MLA in many capacities, including Chair of the Bylaws and Centennial Coordinating Committees, Chair of Section Council and member of the Board of Directors. She coordinated a major revision to the MLA Bylaws and was a key force in the development of MLA’s Strategic Plan. Fulton, a Distinguished Member of the Academy of Health Information Professionals, was the recipient of the 1999 President’s Award, given for her hard work and leadership during the MLA Centennial Celebration.

June began her career in medical libraries in 1971 at the College of Physicians of Philadelphia. She held increasingly responsible positions with the College’s Regional Medical Library program, and from 1976 to 1983 she was Director of the RML. From 1983 to 1989 she was Associate Director of the Library and Director of the Medical Documentation Service at the College. When MDS was purchased from the College by the Institute for Scientific Information in 1990, June guided the transition to a corporate environment. June held several positions with ISI since 1990, and in February 2000, she became the co-founder and Vice-President of PeerView, Inc.

At the awards presentation in Orlando, June was characterized as “dedicated, gracious, calm, and persistent.” June Fulton has been a major influence on the lives of many members of the Philadelphia Chapter and, through her contributions to the Medical Library Association, has helped to shape the future of our profession. Those who know June realize that this was a long overdue recognition. Numerous Chapter members, along with June’s husband, Jim, were on hand at the Awards Luncheon in Orlando to watch and cheer as June was honored as one of MLA’s newest Fellows. §



MLA President Michael Homan with MLA Fellow June Fulton

Retirement Profile: Judith M. Baker, M.S., AHIP

Judy Baker, Site Coordinator at the Hahnemann Library, MCP Hahnemann University, is retiring on June 29. It's hard to believe. Judy's energy and interest in new technologies keeps her staff on their toes. She is enthusiastic about sharing her extensive knowledge and expertise with her colleagues. According to Kathleen Turner, Education Librarian at the Hahnemann Library, "What stands out about Judy is her mentoring of her staff. If you look at where people who worked at the Hahnemann Library have gone, you will find many in managerial positions, including directors. [Judy is] professionally and personally nurturing."

Judy's 26 years at the Hahnemann Library have included a stint as Acting Director, in addition to positions as Head of Circulation; Reference Librarian/Search Analyst; Associate Director for Public Services; Interim Archivist; and Site Coordinator. Prior to coming to the University, she indexed, abstracted and translated (French/English) at the Medical Documentation Service at the College of Physicians.

Her unfailing good humor and positive outlook have been critical during many institutional upheavals at the University, not to mention four name changes! The staff will miss her encyclopedic knowledge of programs, faculty and institutional history. During the last few years at MCP Hahnemann, Judy played a key role in library project management, most recently shepherding migrations from the DRA system to Innovative Interfaces to III's Millennium platform. (Special thanks for that, Judy!)

As a member of our Chapter, Judy has been on the Executive Board, and has chaired and participated in numerous committees. In 1989, she received a Certificate of Appreciation from the Chapter for her role as Chair of the Education and Credentialing Committee, for expanding and upgrading the Chapter's CE program. In 1998, Judy received another Certificate of Appreciation, in recognition of her work as Chair of the committee that prepared our Chapter History.

Judy says that a very rewarding aspect of her career was "working with students and faculty and seeing them learn how to search and find the information they wanted." She sums it up by saying that her career has been "a blast," that she thoroughly enjoyed it, and that it was "a LOT of fun."

Judy's future plans are numerous. She is certainly not *retiring*. She is President of the Philadelphia Chapter of Parents of North American Israelis (PNAI), a non-profit volunteer group of Americans whose families live in Israel. She is secretary of her synagogue, Melrose B'nai Israel Emanuel, and yes, she will be taking charge of its library. She plans to pursue her interest in sketching, and perhaps will even knit a bit. She will join a fitness program. She will definitely be traveling. Perhaps most importantly, Judy will be spending more time with her family, including those residing in Israel; she has three children, three children-in-law, four grandchildren and three grandcats.

Judy, your contributions to our field and to our lives have been enormous.
Congratulations on a job exceedingly well done and on your retirement! §

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Retirement Profile: Gail Gill

Gail Gill's contributions to the medical library profession have been varied and extensive. As she retires, she leaves behind an impressive legacy that includes her trailblazing work in outreach services for the state of Delaware. In particular, Gail instituted TELMED service for the state of Delaware in 1981. She established the Circuit Riding Medical Librarian Program in 1982 which now extends from Friends Hospital in Philadelphia to Nanticoke Memorial Hospital in Seaford, DE. In 1992, Gail founded the Delaware Academy of Medicine Consumer Health Library and worked in conjunction with the Delaware State Library to recommend reliable consumer health web sites.

Gail's grantsmanship and fundraising capabilities are also impressive. She secured an NLM Grant to provide health professionals in rural and under-served areas with access to Grateful Med as well as AIDS education grants at three sites, one in each Delaware county.

In addition, Gail has given back to the profession through her participation in numerous organizations including: President of the Wilmington Area Biomedical Consortium; Editor of the *Delaware Library Director*; Board Member and Librarian for the Women and Wellness Center; Membership Chair for the Philadelphia Regional Chapter/MLA; Secretary of the MLA Medical Society Libraries Section; and Treasurer of the MLA Consumer and Patient Health Information Section. She is also active in the Delaware Library Association, the Medical Library Association, and the National Network of Libraries of Medicine as an area representative.

Gail Gill has been a mentor, teacher, advisor, energizer, collaborator, colleague and friend to many in the Philadelphia Chapter. She is an incredible resource for library colleagues, always willing to share experiences and knowledge with others. If Gail sets her mind to doing something, there is no doubt that it will get done. Gail exemplifies how one can overcome the obstacles that we all face in our careers -- inconsistent funding, sometimes unreasonable administration, staffing crises, lack of time, and overwhelming agendas. In addition, she has a wonderful sense of humor and is not afraid to make a mistake and learn from it.

Gail Gill epitomizes collegiality and library collaboration in the Delaware library community, always seeking the best in library services for her customers and the citizens of Delaware. Her staff and colleagues join in thanking her for her contributions and wishing her the best of luck in her retirement. §

Andrea Kenyon
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Retirement Profile: Carol Hansen Montgomery, Ph.D. **(From the Philadelphia Regional Chapter's MLA Meeting, April 3, 2001)**

What an extraordinary career! Carol Montgomery is one of our most distinguished members. She served our Chapter as President and received the first Robert Preston Lee Award for outstanding contributions in information technology. She has excelled as a director, educator, and grantswoman, not to mention athlete and scholar.

Working in management roles at the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy and Science, Hahnemann University, MCP-Hahnemann, and Allegheny University of the Health Sciences, Carol has been a leader in medical library administration and informatics. Several years ago, she moved from the medical to the university library environment as Dean of Libraries at Drexel University---an unusual, challenging, and, of course, successful transition.

Carol is prolific in her publications. Her early primers on online searching trained several generations of searchers. Her books on women in medicine are special favorites of the historians among us. Her most recent articles on electronic journals are practical, analytical, and enlightening.

As a grantswoman, Carol received major awards from the National Library of Medicine, National Science Foundation, National Endowment for the Humanities, and the Medical Library Association. Her research efforts have been wide ranging: informatics, women's health, AIDS information dissemination. The Institute for Museum and Library Services provided support for her current investigations into the operational and economic implications of e-journals. Carol has served on many national boards and committees (NLM, MLA, PALINET, OCLC, AAHSL, among others).

I believe it is true that in adversity we show our true colors. When serving with Carol under a corrupt and mendacious leadership, I admired her unflinching honesty, fierce dedication to mission and staff, and trenchant, sanity-saving humor. That admiration evolved into a deep affection for a remarkable woman and friend.

Carol plans to devote time to Andrew, her beautiful grandson. That such a talented workaholic will quit the field is perhaps the greatest tribute to grandparenthood I have

heard. She has also mentioned her interest in "senior fitness." May God protect the poor senior in her age bracket who tries to keep up!

One fact about Carol I find particularly illuminating: her high school sport was the high jump. Her career has been a wonderful example of vertical reach attained. Congratulations, Carol! We wish you all the best. §

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Two Retirements from Penn

May 31, 2001, marked the last day of work for two librarians at the University of Pennsylvania Library. Lillian Bryant and Mary Pat Wilhem served the University and the profession for many productive years, and their colleagues at Penn are sad to see them leave, but wish them well in their retirement years.

Lillian held medical librarian positions at various institutions in the Philadelphia area, including Children's Hospital of Philadelphia and the Tri-NEB Library (nursing collection). For the last nearly 20 years, she served as the librarian for the School of Veterinary Medicine at Penn. She served as our Chapter's Treasurer between 1968 and 1971.

Mary Pat began her career as a nurse at the U.S. Naval Hospital in Massachusetts, and focused on pediatric nursing. She eventually shifted to librarianship, first at Children's Hospital of Columbus, Ohio, then several years in Hartford at Hartford Hospital and Mount Sinai Hospital. She came to Penn's Biomedical Library in 1990 as Coordinator of Reference Services and UPHS Liaison. We are looking forward to seeing Mary Pat in the fall when she begins a part-time job with the Patient Education Library at HUP. §

Anne Seymour
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Letter from the Chair

It is hard to believe that June is nearly over. Yikes! I have so many plans both at work and home that I intend to complete before the fall—I better get busy! Hopefully the new PDA device (a Visor Deluxe) that I won at MLA in Orlando will help me get organized.

It was fun to see many of you in Orlando, and I hope you were as lucky as I was with my surprise win. I enjoyed seeing even more of you at our own annual meeting in April and I was pleased with the turnout. I love the Down Town Club—it's such a nice setting for

a meeting and I was glad we could host MLA's President, Michael Homan. We must have made quite an impression on Michael. He mentioned the Philadelphia Chapter four times in his opening address in Orlando, commenting on his visit to Philadelphia and our fall program and resulting symposium on the informationist. More on that later.

Those of you who attended our annual meeting heard about the new and outgoing officers of the Chapter's Board. I would like to recognize the departing officers and thank them for their service and dedication. Outgoing: Mary McCann, Secretary; Eric Delozier, Communications Committee Chair; and Marjorie Smink, Development Coordinator. Incoming: Eric Delozier, Chair-Elect (we didn't let him get far!) and Barbara Shearer, Secretary. THANK YOU and WELCOME! Also, congratulations to all the awardees and retirees. You can read about them in this newsletter.

I am especially excited about our Chapter's activities in response to the informationist article in the *Annals of Internal Medicine*. Our fall program featuring the authors of the article and other nationally known experts was a great success, as Michael Homan noted in his address at MLA. The outgrowth of the panel, a symposium of articles titled, "Patient-Centered Librarianship: the Informationist and Beyond," to be published in the *Bulletin of the Medical Library Association*, is well beyond the planning stages. In fact, the chief editor of the symposium and primary author of the lead article, Barbara Shearer, has sent the eight contributed articles (three by Philadelphia chapter members, Nancy Calabretta, Cheryl Capitani, Christine Chastain-Warheit, Marion Chayes, Sharon Easterby-Gannett, Bradley Long, Diane Wolf, myself and, of course, Barbara Shearer) to the BMLA editor for peer review. The symposium will be published in the January, 2002 issue, the first issue with the new title, *Journal of the Medical Library Association*. Barbara and Cheryl Capitani (a co-editor along with me) deserve much praise for this notable achievement. I know we'll all be waiting with anticipation for the January issue.

Finally, I've thoroughly enjoyed my year as Chair and couldn't have succeeded without the help of so many of you, both officers and members. I thank you and look for your help as I begin my year as past-Chair and Chair of the Nominating Committee. I will look to you to identify candidates for office and potential awardees in 2002.

Enjoy the summer! §

Anne Seymour
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From the Editors

This issue is filled with laudatory pieces on individual Chapter members. We have an unusually high number of prominent members retiring, each of whom is profiled. Our lead article is devoted to June Fulton, in honor of her receipt of MLA Fellow status at the

recent Annual Meeting. It is gratifying to be able to pay tribute to so many outstanding Chapter members in one issue.

This is our fourth web-based issue, and we wanted to share with you the results of an informal survey of member satisfaction with this new format. Since we replaced print with electronic format for the *Chronicle*, we sensed a possible diminution in the readership and wanted to test our theory. Along with our last issue's e-mailed notification, we sent a request for comments and views of the new format. Twenty-three responses were received, most of which were very complimentary of the new web version. However, this is a relatively small response, so we're not at all certain that we're reaching the majority of the members.

In this electronic era, there is probably no going back to the older format – so we are resigned to working with the new medium and continually seeking ways to stimulate interest in this publication. As always, we welcome your comments and suggestions. §

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Annual Meeting and Dinner – 2001

Throughout the upcoming year, we will be celebrating our Chapter's 50th Anniversary! We kicked off the celebration by inviting MLA President J. Michael Homan to speak at our Annual Meeting. Mr. Homan's topic was "Our Next 50 Years: Thoughts on the Strategic Issues Facing the Profession". It was a pleasure to listen to Dr. Homan's thoughts about the many issues and projects currently facing medical librarians, as well as his reflections on the relevance of these same projects 50 years previously, and 50 years hence.

Along with our distinguished speaker, we were also pleased once again to honor our colleagues. Abington Memorial Hospital Librarian Marion C. Chayes received this year's Chapter Achievement Award for her work, which included serving as Chapter Chairperson and Benchmarking Project Educator. Philadelphia Chapter Certificates of Appreciation were presented to Judith M. Baker of MCP/Hahnemann University for compilation of the Chapter History; Joan McKenzie of the College of Physicians for her work as Archivist; and Carlos Rodriguez of the University of Pennsylvania Biomedical Library for his delightful and informative *Chronicle* column, "TechnoHumanist Corner."

We also honored five retirees this year: Judy M. Baker, from MCP Hahnemann University; Lillian Bryant, from the University of Pennsylvania Veterinary School Library; Gail P. Gill, from the Delaware Academy of Medicine; Carol Hansen Montgomery, from Drexel University; and Mary Pat Wilhem, from the University of Pennsylvania Biomedical Library. Congratulations and best wishes to all of the retirees as they venture forth into new, exciting, and, perhaps, relaxing activities.

Held at the Down Town Club on April 3rd, the 2001 Annual Meeting had one of the largest turnouts in recent history, drawing 90 members and guests. The setting was lovely, the dinner delicious, and the company high-spirited and congenial. I would like to thank the Program Committee members including Anne Seymour, Gina Kaiser, Barbara Shearer, Cheryl Capitani, Linda Rosenstein, Martha Kirby, and Jo-Ann Babish for making the meeting such a success! And I would also like to thank Frank Campbell, Barbara Cavanaugh, and the whole Reference staff from the University of Pennsylvania Biomedical Library for their assistance in the creation of the program guide! §

Pat Heller
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A special thank you to Melanie Cedrone, Reference Librarian at Penn, for the following photos from the meeting!



Andrea Kenyon and Gail Gill



Anne Seymour and Mary Pat Wilhem



Gail Gill



Judy Baker and Carol Montgomery



Carol Hansen Montgomery



Anne Seymour



Margie Smink and Joan McKenzie



Judy Baker and Margie Smink



Judy Govatos, Connie Beattie,
Gail Gill and Karene DeLoatch



Carlos Rodriguez and Nancy Calabretta MLA President Michael Homan



MLA in Orlando

The Philadelphia Regional Chapter received kudos at this year's Chapter Council Meeting for its informationist program and upcoming symposium in the January, 2002 *Journal of the Medical Library Association*. As outgoing MLA President Michael Homan said, it is "quite a feather in their cap." Another topic receiving much discussion was credentialing, in terms of credits for AHIP and paperwork reduction. It appears that each chapter handles credentialing differently, so Chapter Council will work on creating some uniformity among chapters in this area. The Chapter Sharing Roundtables was one of the biggest events at the meeting with 21 topics and over 350 people.

Several themes emerged in the general meeting. Consumer health got the most coverage in sessions, posters and many exhibits. How to evaluate consumer health websites, teaching the end-user to evaluate, delivering consumer health by pairing with other agencies, especially public libraries, and the Consumer Health Credential program were all discussed in detail.

Another popular theme was the delivery of medical information via PDAs such as the "Palm Pilot." PDAs are now required in many hospital residency programs.

Information portals and seamless delivery of internet and intranet information- also loomed large at MLA; – and these themes were echoed later at the Special Libraries Association conference in San Antonio. How to handle electronic resources: e-books, e-journals, site licenses, and dealing with publishers and copyright, of course, had everyone talking and tearing their hair out.

Using new technology and developing the competencies for using new technology coupled with the emphasis on the end-user were the overarching issues of “2001: An Information Odyssey.” §

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Fun in Orlando



Beth Lewis



Nina Galpern, Beth Lewis and friend



Martha Kirby and friends

Member & Library News

Barbara Henry, Community Health Librarian, Health Information Resource Center, Chistiana Care Health System-PMRI, Wilmington, DE, has been elected Secretary of the Hospital Librarians Section of MLA.

Marita J. Krivda, Director of Library Services, Episcopal Division, Temple University Hospital, has coauthored "Pictures of Episcopal Hospital, Philadelphia, PA: Part I (1851-1926)", published in *Transactions & Studies of the College of Physicians of Philadelphia*, Series 5, v. 22, December 2000.

Mindy Paquette-Murphy, Senior Information Scientist at Sanofi-Synthelabo, was Moderator of the Information Technology Forum at MLA/Orlando. This year's topic, "What is an Information Portal and Why Should I Care?," was attended by about 150 people. The speakers' handouts and slides are posted on MLANET at the Hospital Libraries' Section. Mindy is stepping down after an unprecedented three-year term as Chair of the Information Technology Committee/HLS/MLA. Her work at the national level will continue as Web Page Content Editor for the newly formed Corporate Information Services Section (CISS).

Linda M.G. Katz, Library Coordinator, Florence A. Moore Library of Medicine, MCP Hahnemann University, is the author of "Choosing a Nursing Home: Guide to Resources on the Web"; the article is published in *Health Care on the Internet*, v. 50, no.1, 2001. Co-authors are Linda's husband, Ira R. Katz, MD, PhD, Professor of Psychiatry and Director of Geriatric Psychiatry, University of Pennsylvania; and Linda's daughter, Melissa Katz Snellgrove, M.S.W., N.H.A., Administrator, ManorCare, King-of-Prussia.

Cheryl Capitani, Librarian, Pinnacle Health System of Harrisburg Hospital, is the author of "Librarians Become Trustees for Technology," in *MLA News*, June/July, 2001.

Staff Changes:

Mindy Paquette-Murphy has been promoted to Senior Information Scientist at Sanofi-Synthelabo, Malvern, PA. Her promotion is in recognition of her contributions over the past five years, particularly as a member of the Project Team for a New Drug Application.

Deborah Lovett is now Educational Services Librarian at the George T. Harrell Library, Milton S. Hershey Medical Center, Penn State University. She had previously held library positions at Good Samaritan Hospital, Lebanon, PA, and Penn State Harrisburg.

Kevin Block has accepted the position of Manager of Access Services at Scott Memorial Library, Thomas Jefferson University. He comes to Jefferson from the Florence A. Moore Library of Medicine, MCP Hahnemann University, where he was Reference Librarian.

Linda M.G. Katz will be Library Coordinator of the Hahemann Library, MCP Hahnemann University, as of July 2; she is presently Library Coordinator, Florence A. Moore Library of Medicine, MCP Hahnemann University. **Kathleen Turner**, currently Education Librarian at the Hahnemann Library, will become Library Coordinator at the Florence A. Moore Library of Medicine. §

Linda M.G. Katz
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Medical Informationist and Other Roles for the Librarian in the 21st Century: An Update from the Fall 2000 Program

Frank Davidoff and Valerie Florance co-wrote an editorial that appeared in the June 2000 issue of the *Annals of Internal Medicine* entitled, "The Informationist: A New Health Profession?" This editorial immediately sparked discussion within the medical library community and understandably so, since the editorial appeared in a mainstream medical journal sounding a call for a reinvention of clinical librarianship. Both the national MLA and the Philadelphia Regional Chapter of MLA quickly responded to the *Annals* editorial. The October issue of the *Bulletin of the Medical Library Association* contained an editorial by Scott Plutchak encouraging MLA to "be right out front in responding to Davidoff and Florance's challenge." Before the ink was dry, and in fact, before the ink appeared in the *BMLA*, the Philadelphia Regional Chapter had lined up speakers for a panel for the Chapter's fall program. This program included the authors of the *Annals* editorial, who were joined by Ellen Detlefsen, faculty member of the University of Pittsburgh School of Information Sciences, and Julie McGowan, professor of knowledge informatics at the Indiana University School of Medicine and member of the MLA Board.

The panel discussion was attended by approximately 55 people, with lively discussion springing up throughout the program. The panelists granted us permission to audiotape the program and to present notes from the tape on the Philadelphia Regional Chapter's webpage. Thanks to the efforts of our webmaster, Eric Delozier, this summary appears on the web page at <http://www.mlaphil.org/informationist.html> Web statistics that track visits to the Chapter's informationist page show that it has been visited approximately 350 times this year with accesses leveling off at about 50 hits per month.

This program was the result of many members' efforts including Pat Heller, Program Committee Chair, Cheryl Capitani, and Linda Rosenstein. This is the nature of our Chapter -- everyone pitches in and the job gets done! Anne Seymour even jumped off a cliff and is back to work on follow-up efforts spearheaded by our Chapter! Indeed, this is not far from the truth, and not funny! We were all relieved when Anne returned to us after a serious automobile accident in Colorado. Anne's smile and energy are back and we're on to the next phase in response to Plutchak's call for MLA to "be right out front."

Anne Seymour, Cheryl Capitani and I are editing a symposium to honor the 50th Anniversary of the Philadelphia Regional Chapter of the Medical Library Association. The symposium is tentatively entitled, "Patient-centered Librarianship: the Informationist and Beyond," and is scheduled to appear in the January 2002 issue of the newly named *Journal of the Medical Library Association*. This symposium will include articles by leaders within our Chapter and within MLA at large. It will cover such topics as the status of clinical librarianship, the consumer health movement, education and training issues, and will be concluded by an article by Julie McGowan and the 2000/2001 President of MLA, Michael Homan.

At the 2001 Annual Meeting of the Medical Library Association held in Orlando, Homan mentioned the Philadelphia Regional Chapter's fall program and article symposium, along with plans for a national invited symposium on the topic of the medical informationist to be sponsored in part by MLA. We will keep our membership posted about the progress of the printed symposium, as well as details on the national invited symposium. Meanwhile, we'll appreciate any good wishes you would like to extend as several of us work on the *JMLA* symposium throughout the summer. §

Barbara Shearer
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Joint Meeting with the New York/New Jersey Chapter of MLA - 2003

During the recent national MLA meeting, a group of us met informally to discuss plans for a joint meeting with the New York/New Jersey Chapter, to be held in the Fall of 2003. The Philadelphia Chapter was represented by Anne Seymour, Andrea Kenyon, Ruthanne Spatafore, and Pat Heller. William Self, Chair of the New York/New Jersey Chapter, and Kathel Dunn, Chair-Elect, represented the New York/New Jersey Chapter. The Pittsburgh Chapter, members of whom will be included as our guests, was represented by Linda Hartman. The Central Pennsylvania group will also be invited as guests.

The meeting will be held in Philadelphia, and the search for affordable hotel space will begin soon. A meeting planner may be involved. The program will probably begin on a Saturday, with CE courses; a dinner or special event on Sunday evening; followed by meetings all day Monday, and for a half-day on Tuesday morning. Potential dates (Saturday through Tuesday) include:

October 4-7, 2003
October 18-21
October 25-28
November 1-4

For planning purposes, we hope to create an Ad Hoc Committee, which will report to the Executive Committee. If any of you would like to volunteer for the Ad Hoc Planning Committee, please contact Pat Heller (heller@pobox.upenn.edu or 215-898-8978). The upcoming joint meeting promises to be very exciting! Please join us in the planning process! §

Pat Heller
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Membership Committee Report

As of June 1, 2001, a total of 164 people have paid Chapter membership dues for 2001. We are looking for a few Chapter members to join the Membership Committee to help with membership recruitment ideas and other tasks. If you are interested in serving on this committee for the next year, please contact me. Please send any address or other changes to me via regular mail or e-mail. I look forward to working with Chapter members as the new Membership Committee Chair! §

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Consumer Health Credential Program Unveiled

After an initial rollout in January at a conference sponsored jointly by MLA, NLM and PLA, MLA officially launched the Consumer Health Credential Program at the annual meeting in Orlando. Briefly stated, the goals of the program are to improve health information and access for consumers and to create partners for delivering health information to consumers. Librarians and allied health professionals can participate by completing 12 hours (for the basic Level I credential) or 24 hours (for the more advanced Level II credential) of approved consumer health educational activities within a three-year time period. Further details, including a brochure, the application, and the individual participant request form needed for non-MLA approved activities, may be found at <http://www.mlanet.org/education/chc/index.html>.

The program has already provoked some impassioned discussion on MEDLIB-L, with some individuals arguing that we have much to lose by training other, less qualified, librarians and allied health personnel in our specialty. Responders to that concern included Nancy Press, Consumer Health Coordinator at NNLM/Pacific Northwest Region, who provided the following list of varied providers of consumer health information:

“Health professionals of any ilk

Aunty, Oma, Grandmere...

Journalists

Public librarians, community college librarians...

Anyone who works in a pharmacy, health food store, sports equipment store...

Workers in health departments (including support staff)

Employers (example: farmers required to provide info to farm workers)

Anyone who works or volunteers with American Cancer Society, or any health charity,
on national, state, or local level

Science teachers

PE teachers

Ad writers

Personal trainers

My yoga teacher

... and maybe the #1 provider: anyone who says anything about health on the web”

Sharon Lezotte, Consumer Health Coordinator at NNLM Midcontinental Region, followed up in support of Nancy’s posting, noting that one out of four questions in public libraries are related to health or medical issues. She stated that, as PLA and ALA begin a variety of credentialing programs, “MLA will be able to credential for ALA and PLA members in the area of consumer health. It makes sense for us to be the professional leaders in this arena.... This credentialing will secure that medical librarians will be there with a sound knowledge base for the public librarians....” Finally, Jo-Ann Benedetti, a medical librarian who is Head of Health Information Services at Crandall Public Library, Glens Falls, NY, wrote about her experiences training within her library system. “The librarians were thrilled to have the training.... I have been asked to extend this training to other librarians in other library systems in the state...they are hungry for this information. No, they are not training to be medical librarians....”

As someone who has also provided consumer health training for public librarians, I can attest to having met with a similar response from my audience. The fact remains that consumers can and do seek health information from a variety of sources. If they are already public library users, it is likely that they will seek assistance in finding information there, if they seek assistance at all! It seems logical that medical librarians should partner with public librarians, sharing our expertise for the mutual benefit of colleagues and consumers. Just my two cents worth! §

Nancy Calabretta
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Consumer Health: healthfinder® and MEDLINEplus

www.healthfinder.gov and www.medlineplus.gov are both U.S. government Web sites offering health information to the public. They are just two of over 250 public Web sites sponsored by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Each of these sites focuses on a slice of what we all know is a huge audience for health information.

By way of background, healthfinder® was launched in April 1997. It was the first government-wide gateway website for general health information for the public, and provided access to information from over 1,100 organizations at that time. It is managed by the Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion.

healthfinder® is intended to be very easy to use, and today provides basic health information on over 1,000 topics from over 1,800 organizations. It is particularly well-suited for newcomers to the Internet as well as new seekers of health information. Since 1999, healthfinder® has offered the same easy to use interface to one of the largest indexes of Spanish-language health information available from the government. The new healthfinder® site, which was released June 21st, also includes substantially more prevention and wellness information.

The healthfinder® and MEDLINEplus sites complement each other, although each is directed at a different segment of the consumer health audience. Both sites have large audiences, and they cross-link extensively as well. For example, the new healthfinder® links directly to MEDLINEplus's drug information and Adam.com encyclopedia to avoid duplication. (As another example of our cooperation, healthfinder's database also contributes the health resources component of NLM's DIRLINE database.)

The Department seeks to disseminate a broad range of health information to an equally broad audience--and on the Internet, targeting and tailoring are necessary to communicate effectively. healthfinder® and MEDLINEplus don't represent a duplication of effort, but different aspects of a larger framework of Internet activities through which the Department and the U.S. government seek to reach the widest possible audience with reliable health information. §

David Baker
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EASTERN PENNSYLVANIA PSYCHIATRIC INSTITUTE (EPPI) LIBRARY CLOSES ITS DOORS

As of June 29, the EPPI Library is closed. Its many titles in the areas of psychiatry and neuroscience have found new homes at one of MCP Hahnemann's three library sites- the Hahnemann Library, the Florence A. Moore Library of Medicine, or the Queen Lane

Library. EPPI Library staff have similarly been transferred to positions in the other MCPHU Library system.

Duplicate books and journals were offered to other libraries, and, happily, many were relocated to quite a number of libraries in the Philadelphia area. §

Linda M.G. Katz
linda.katz@mcp hu.edu

AIDS Library News

This June was the seventh annual AIDS Education Month. The AIDS Library, part of Philadelphia FIGHT, and the Free Library of Philadelphia joined together to educate Philadelphians about HIV/AIDS. As part of this unique collaboration there were presentations at Free Library branches, an afternoon of video documentaries about people living with AIDS, and displays at the Central Library and the branches. Free Library staff put together a new resource list of books, videos and websites with information on AIDS.

Every Monday in June

The AIDS Library did a targeted mailing to community leaders in four neighborhoods to invite them to "Neighborhood Leadership Forum on AIDS," an educational program about AIDS in Philadelphia. Branches chosen for the educational presentation included Frankford Branch at 4634 Frankford Avenue; Pascalville Branch at 6942 Woodland Avenue; West Philadelphia Regional at 125 South 52nd Street; and Northwest Regional Library at 68 West Cheltenham Avenue.

In the building and on the web

Free Library staff coordinated adopting AIDS Education Month as a theme for the Central Library's lobby "Spotlight" display. The new lobby furniture has a large desk surrounded by display counters and shelves for thematic display. All departments contributed books about AIDS for June's display. All books were listed on the Free Library's Spotlight display web page. Also included on the web page was a link to the special AIDS Education Month page listing a whole month of summits, breakfasts, dinners and more.

Videos in the afternoon

"True Stories+: Videos about AIDS" was the first public presentation of AIDS videos for AIDS Education Month. Free Library staff selected documentaries revealing the personal stories of people living with HIV. These videos were shown from 12-2 on Monday June 11 at the Montgomery Auditorium, Free Library of Philadelphia Central Branch, 1901 Vine Street.

The AIDS epidemic was 20 years old on June 5, 2001. In Philadelphia, 17,000 people have been diagnosed with AIDS since the epidemic began, 9,000 of these have died. 16,000 people are living with HIV in Philadelphia today. Those at greatest risk are young people, gay men of color, and people with a history of substance abuse. Every year the percentage of women living with HIV increases. Many people infected with HIV in Philadelphia don't know that they are infected, and fail to access treatment until late in their disease. There is no cure, but there are effective treatments and promising strategies that may allow people living with HIV to survive and live well. Philadelphia FIGHT's programs can help people survive and thrive until the cure is found. §

Jenny Pierce, AIDS Library
jpierce@aidslibrary.org

Continuing Education Committee News

We wish to recognize the loyal efforts our members who served on the Continuing Education Committee and helped to produce educational opportunities for our membership this year: Jo-Ann Babish, Karen Hoyer, Karen Krasznayvolgyi, Barbara Kuchan, Mindy Paquette-Murphy, Marjorie Smink, and Kathleen Turner. Jo-Ann, who has also been our AHIP Credentialing Liaison, is retiring from the committee. Also leaving the group is Marjorie Smink. Margie has served a dual role as both committee member and our Chapter Development Coordinator. We will miss them both. Many thanks, Jo-Ann and Margie!

We are also welcoming two new committee members: Sheryl Panka-Bryman, Librarian, Polisher Research Library, Philadelphia Geriatric Center, and Melanie Cedrone, Graduate Studies Liaison Librarian, Biomedical Library, University of Pennsylvania.

The committee will meet during the summer to plan for fall and spring CE course offerings. Please contact Ruthanne Spatafore (rcw@pobox.upenn.edu) to suggest topics and/or offer a location.

Please contact Ruthanne if you would like to join us. The committee would welcome an additional member or two. Members are key players in planning and executing CE workshops, publicizing our events, handling the registration process, details on-site, and support for the instructor. Committee membership is a great way to become more involved in Chapter activities! §

Ruthanne Watson Spatafore
rcw@pobox.upenn.edu

Call for Volunteers

Would you like to become more involved in the local chapter of MLA? It's a great way to meet people in your field who share similar interests and challenges! We need your help! Please consider volunteering for one of the following positions/committees:

AHIP Liaison: Act as liaison for AHIP-related activities, and serve as a resource for answering questions from members regarding their AHIP applications.

Bylaws Committee and Parliamentarian: Make sure that our bylaws are in good shape, and correspond well with the bylaws of the national association. Provide advice at Board meetings regarding proper parliamentary procedure and adherence to our bylaws and procedures.

Development Coordinator: Spearhead fundraising activities by obtaining vendor support for meetings.

Continuing Education Committee: Participate in the planning and delivery of CE courses for local Chapter members. The CE Committee Chair is Ruthanne Spatafore (rcw@pobox.upenn.edu)

Membership Committee: Assist Membership Committee Chair, Sue Couch (scouch@mail.nbme.org), with membership activities and responsibilities.

Program Committee: Take part in the planning process for MLA local programs put on throughout the year. The Program Committee Chair is Eric Delozier (epd103@psu.edu).

If you need additional information about any of these positions, or if you would like to volunteer your services, please call or write to Pat Heller, Chair-Elect, 215-898-8978 or heller@pobox.upenn.edu. §

Missing: PRC Chapter History

A dedicated group of Chapter historians wrote Forty-seven Years and Counting : a History of the Philadelphia Regional Chapter for MLA's Centennial Celebration, MLA '98. A limited edition of three copies bound in green with gold lettering was produced. One copy was sent to MLA, a second was given to Judy Baker, Chair of the Chapter History Committee, and the third was placed in the Chapter's Archives. The text of this history is available online at <http://www.mlanet.org/about/history/unit-history/philadelphia.html>, but it is regrettable that the bound copy of this important document is missing from the Archives. Someone had borrowed this volume for display at a meeting, probably late in 1999 or early 2000, and it has not yet been returned. Unfortunately, I do not recall the exact

date or occasion, or to whom I loaned it. If you have this volume in your possession, or if you recall having seen it, please contact me. Thank you. §

Joan McKenzie
Archives Committee Chair
mckenzie@collphyphil.org

Vendor Support for the 2000-2001 Chapter Year

What would we do without our vendor friends who support our programs, many of them on a regular basis? We are very indebted to 14 companies who responded to our request for donations this year. They contributed to Chapter meetings, continuing education courses, and our annual banquet with a total of \$3,400! Representatives from some of these companies demonstrated their wares and shared our annual banquet celebration. Congratulations and thank you to the following vendors:

DIALOG
EBSCO Subscription Services
Faxon/RoweCom Academic Services
Health Sciences Libraries Consortium
Infotrieve
Institute for Scientific Information
J.P. Jay Associates, Inc.
Library Bindery Company
Majors Scientific Books
PALINET
Rittenhouse Book Distributors
Swets Blackwell
TDNet
Wert Bookbinders §

Marjorie Smink
Development Coordinator
msmink@pmi.org

TechnoHumanist Corner

Before I begin the column, I would like to take a moment to thank the Chapter Nominating Committee for honoring me, at the 2001 Annual Meeting, by recognizing my work on *The TechnoHumanist*. It was a pleasant surprise and a kind gesture. This honor was made possible by the support of other persons. Therefore, I would like to thank all the editors of *The Chronicle*, past and present, and my colleagues at Penn. I would especially like to thank Bridget Clancy, now at Thomas Jefferson University, and Andrea

Horne, presently at the University of Virginia, for their support and feedback. Finally, I would like to thank you, the readers, especially those who sent me e-mails or introduced themselves to me at meetings, for your recognition and support. Thank you all!

Now back to the column. The last column was about various aspects of wireless communications – the Wireless Internet, WAP (Wireless Application Protocol), cell phones, and PDAs (personal digital assistants). However, it did not address the question of how students can roam around campus using their laptops to connect to the campus server and surf the Net without physically plugging into an Internet wired outlet. The ability to surf and roam is due to wireless local area networks (WLAN).

The proliferation of laptop computers and PDAs has made mobile computing a reality. With this new reality has come the demand for real-time access to information, from a central source, while on the move. If you doubt the growth of mobile computing equipment or its demand, the next time you are on a hospital floor, notice how many interns and residents are clicking on their PDAs. Better yet, the next time you go to MLA, pay attention to how many of your colleagues are busy tapping on their Palm or Visor devices. To accommodate this demand, wireless local area networks (WLAN) were created.

WLAN use electromagnetic waves to communicate information back and forth. These waves are either infrared or radio frequencies. Infrared technology is limited because it requires direct line-of-sight application. An example of infrared direct line-of-sight application is your television remote control. If you want to change the channel on your television in your living room, you go into the room, aim the remote at the television and punch in the new channel number. Presto! A new program appears. However, if you try to do the same thing from another room in the house, nothing happens. Why? Infrared waves cannot penetrate opaque objects. Wireless LANs have solved the direct line-of-sight problem by using diffuse or reflective technology. This requires another device in the room. However, the only place you do not need direct line-of-sight is in the room with the new device. Using the analogy of the television, if you place a diffuse technology device in the bedroom, you can still only change television channels from the living room and bedroom. Since infrared has challenging limitations, radio frequencies are often utilized in WLANs.

There are different types of technologies in radio frequencies, but I will only mention one – Bluetooth. A company as well as a radio frequency standard, Bluetooth was named after the 10th century Danish king, Harald Bluetooth, who unified a large part of Denmark and Norway under his rule. King Harald also brought Christianity to these areas. Bluetooth, the company, was designed to carry data, voice and video information at the equivalent DSL speed. In an industry where each company has its own unique standard for delivering these various types of information, Bluetooth, like its namesake, promises to be a unifier. Its goal is to create a standard for the entire industry for all types of wireless information. So far, Bluetooth has garnered the support of some powerful corporate giants, i.e., Ericsson, IBM, Intel, Nokia, Toshiba, Microsoft and Motorola.

Regardless of the type of radio frequency WLANs use, they all need a transceiver. A transceiver is a device that receives and transmits information. This device is called an Access Point (AP). Access points are plugged into the hard-wired network. This means that its location is fixed, but its signals can travel through walls. The travel range of these signals varies from several hundred feet indoors to about 1,000 feet outdoors. If you have a large facility or campus, you can install several Access Points. In this case, the signals from the various Access Points overlap. This enables continuous seamless, transparent service from one AP to another. As a users move from one Access Point to another, they never realize they have moved across Access Points. In addition to being able to extend the range of the radio signals, a single AP can accommodate a small group of users.

Access Points make WLANs flexible, but that flexibility can be enhanced by the use of Extension Points (EP). EPs function similarly to Access Points, but they are not plugged into the wired network. Extension Points do just what their name implies. They extend the range of the network signals. Once the user's laptop or PDA sends a signal, it can be sent to an EP, which in turns relays it to another EP or an AP. Many campuses WLANs are combinations of Access and Extension Points. This means I can sit on the college green at one end of campus and e-mail a question to my instructor, who is in his office at the other end of campus. What happens if my instructor is at another campus site that is two miles away? Can I still send my message from the college green? Yes. If a WLAN needs to cover a large distance, it can use a directional antenna on top of the campus buildings. In this instance, my message would be relayed from the college to a building at my end, which has a directional antenna that targets my instructor's building that is part of the WLAN. His building must also have a directional antenna that targets the building from which my message was relayed.

There is one additional piece of equipment you need to be able to function in a Wireless LAN – an adapter. Your laptop or PDA needs to have a wireless LAN adapter card so it can interface with the Access and Extension Points. Some of the new laptops already include the WLAN adapter. If your computer does not have one, you can buy an adapter card.

I expect that, in the next three to five years, wireless LANs will become commonplace in our work environment. One of the reasons for this is cost. Wireless technology can minimize the cost of having to do additional wiring to expand an existing network. This creates flexibility in the network installation options. Wireless technology allows an institution to expand a network into areas where wires cannot go. It also means that networks can be installed relatively quickly. Unlike wired networks, wireless LANs do not require that we knock holes in walls and ceilings in order to run cable through them. Another plus for wireless LANs is their "scalability." This technology allows the creation of a network ranging in size from a network as small as two or three computers to one that has thousands of users. Finally, wireless LANs offer the user mobility. These networks provide the user with real-time information at the point-of-need or point-of-service. This is ideal technology for the health care industry where systems are being integrated and there is demand for real-time information.

If you would like to learn more about wireless LANs, go to The WirelessLAN.com answer page (<http://www.wirelesslan.com/>). Also, visit EduTek Education Solutions, Inc. (<http://www.edutek.com/index2.html>) and read some of their papers in their "File Download" section. Also, if you would like to learn some Danish history as well as learn about Bluetooth technology, please visit the Official Bluetooth Website (<http://www.bluetooth.com/>). For more information about the use of PDAs in medicine and the wireless environment, visit the online magazine pdaMD.com (<http://www.pdamd.com/vertical/home.xml>).

Well, it's time to go now. Have a great summer! Until the next time, Aloha!

If you have any comments or suggested topics for discussion in this column, please send them to me. §

Carlos Rodriguez
rodrigue@pobox.upenn.edu

Calendar

Date: **Summer 2001**

Sponsor: The College of Information Science and Technology at Drexel University

Contact: Avis A. Taylor, Coordinator, Continuing Professional Education

Drexel University, 3141 Chestnut St, Phila, PA 19104, Phone: 215-895-1070

E-mail: Avis.taylor@cis.drexel.edu

Cost: Varies

Additional Information: <http://www.cis.drexel.edu/grad/cpe/summer2001.asp>

Date/Topics

July 9 Databases: Design and Applications

July 11 Accessing and Searching Patents and Trademarks

July 12 The Hidden Web: Finding What Search Engines Miss

July 13 Creating Web Pages With Dreamweaver: Level I

July 16 Knowledge Management: State of the Art

July 17 Web Development with XML

July 18/19 Network Technology: A to Z

July 20 Creating Web Pages With Dreamweaver: Level II

July 24 Data Warehousing for Managers and Executives (Philadelphia)

July 30 Client/Server Technology: How It Works and Why It Works

July 31 Data Mining for Managers and Executives

Date: **July 9-10, 2001 & Sept. 10-11, 2001**

Location: Bethesda, MD

Topic: Introduction to Web-Based Searching: Using PubMed, the NLM Gateway and ClinicalTrials.gov

To register: <http://nnlm.gov/mar/online/request.html>

PALINET Summer Workshops

Full details at: <http://www.palinet.org>

Location: PALINET Headquarters, 3401 Market Street; Suite 262; Philadelphia, PA
(unless otherwise noted)

7/12/01-7/13/01 Book Repair for Circulating Collections

7/20/01 Disaster Can Strike: Writing Your Disaster Plan – Special Summer Session
(held in Pittsburgh)

Date: **July 23, 2001**

Location: Bethesda, MD

Topic: Keeping Up with NLM's PubMed, the NLM Gateway and ClinicalTrials.gov

To register: <http://nnlm.gov/mar/online/request.html>

Date: **July 24, 2001**

Who: DIALOG, Corp.

Time: 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Cost: Free

Topic: Developing DIALOG Searching Expertise, Pts.. 1 & 2: Fast Start & Intermediate

Instructor: Louise Dagit

To register: http://training.dialog.com/sem_info/calendar/penn.html

or call 1-800-334-2564

Date: **Aug. 15, 2001 (1-day class)**

Cost: Free

Location : Philadelphia (exact location to be announced)

Sponsor: The National Training Center & Clearinghouse, New York Academy of
Medicine

Topic: Keeping Up with NLM's PubMed, the NLM Gateway and ClinicalTrials.gov

Register online: <http://nnlm.gov/mar/online/request.html>

Date: **Aug. 16-17, 2001 (2-day class)**

Cost: Free

Location: Philadelphia (exact location to be announced)

Topic: Introduction to Web-Based Searching: Using PubMed, the NLM Gateway and
ClinicalTrials.gov

Register online at <http://nnlm.gov/mar/online/request.html>

Contact: Mary Van Antwerp, Online Analyst
National Training Center and Clearinghouse
New York Academy of Medicine
1-800-338-7657, press 2

Date: **August 16-25th, 2001**

Location: Boston, MA

International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) Council and
General Conference.

Information: <http://www.ifla.org/IV/ifla67/index.htm>

Theme for IFLA 2001: "Libraries and Librarians: Making a Difference in the Knowledge Age"

Date: **Sept. 10-11, 2001**

Location: Reston, Virginia

Topic: Web Search University

Cost: Individual full conference registration is \$495 before August 10; \$595 after

Sponsor: Online Inc., 213 Danbury Road, Wilton, CT 06897-4007

Information: <http://www.websearchu.com/> or call Anita Fabian, 800-248-8466 or 203-761-1466, ext. 505.

Date: **Sept. 11, 2001**

Who: DIALOG Corp.

Topic: Pharma Forum

Location: Philadelphia, PA.

Information: 1-800-334-2564

<http://training.dialog.com>

Date: **Sept. 20, 2001**

CAS/STN User Update: Warren, New Jersey

Cost: Free

Location: Somerset Hills Hotel

Information: <http://www.cas.org/training/warrennj.html>, E-mail: wksp@cas.org

Phone: 1-800-848-6538 ext. 3549

Dates: **October 13-14, 2001**

Who: Association of College and Research Libraries, Delaware Valley Chapter

Topic: ACRL, Delaware Valley Chapter@50 : Fifty Years of Leadership and Service to Academic Libraries

Location: Adams Mark Hotel, Philadelphia

Contact: Tom Karel, Franklin and Marshall College, E-mail:

T_karel@admin.fandm.edu;

Phone: 717-291-3845 Registration: PALA Headquarters; Phone: 800-622-3308 §

Treasurer's Report

The Philadelphia Regional Chapter/MLA Mellon bank account, as of June 6, 2001, has a balance of \$10,456.71 with all transactions recorded in Quicken. §

Linda M.G. Katz
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