



the *Chronicle*

Philadelphia Regional Chapter
Medical Library Association, Inc.
Volume 25, Number 3, Fall 2007

From the Chair



Where does the time go? Summer is but a memory and the holiday season is upon us.

This fall, members of the board have been hard at work making things happen. Our Web Committee, chaired by Gary Kaplan, has our new website up and running. I am really pleased with the job the committee has done and continues to do with the website. We are so proud of our new website that we have entered it into the Majors/MLA Chapter Project of the Year Award competition. We will find out

early next year if we are winners. Keep your fingers crossed!

Our Program Planning Committee is busy working on an exciting program for the spring. You will hear more about it in the coming months. The board has contracted with Acteva to facilitate web-based registrations from our chapter's homepage for our chapter programs. By the time you read this, many of you will have used it to register for the November MLA Webcast.

In closing, I encourage you to participate in the development of our website by sharing information with your colleagues. ☺

Jackie Knuckle
Chair, 2007-2008

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From the Editor



*Rachel R. Resnick
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2007-2009*

Welcome to the fall issue! I hope that by the time you read this, the fall weather has not rushed into winter weather; I'm hoping that fall will last at least as long as summer did. There have been a few changes over the summer—and now I'm not talking about the weather.

As I mentioned in the last issue, Barbara Henry is handling the formatting of *the Chronicle* now—please join me in welcoming her to the team. Barbara works for the Christiana Care Health System. This is the first issue she has put together for us, and I hope her tenure will be a long one. You may have read about Barbara previously, as she has been profiled in *the Chronicle* (Summer 2005, Vol. 23, no. 2) <<http://mlaphil.org/wp/wp-content/uploads/2007/01/summer2005.pdf>>. Barbara also serves as our Chapter Council Alternate.

Another change is that the position of webmaster has been promoted to an officer on the board, so you will be receiving regular reports from Website Committee Chair Gary Kaplan, beginning with this issue.

Lastly, Maura Sostack needed to step down from her position as chair of the Communications Committee, due to other commitments (and I hope she will provide us with the details of her upcoming project in future issues). She stays on the board as Government Relations Chair. I thank her for her leadership of the Communications Committee during her tenure.

I was asked to complete Maura's term of office, and have accepted the responsibility, so if there is anything you would like to contact me about concerning *the Chronicle*

or the email discussion list, please do not hesitate to do so.

Occasionally, time-sensitive items posted in *the Chronicle* may show up as reminders in the News or Calendar sections of the website. Similarly, items deemed to be important for the history of the chapter will be published here after they appear on the website, so that *the Chronicle* remains an adequate chronicle of the comings and goings of our members.

There are several "goings" reported in this issue's Member & Library News column. And regarding our chapter history, Joan McKenzie has done an outstanding job highlighting the last ten years of our history for this issue. The last time a history had been written was back in 1998, so I thought an update was merited.

In MLA national news, there are requests to participate in the MLA Social Networking Software Taskforce, and to recommend continuing education courses and symposia for MLA '09 (I hope you're one of the lucky ones who can go to Hawaii that year!).

Locally, you get to "meet" two more chapter members: Lynne Joshi and Barbara Kountouzi. Our TechnoHumanist, Carlos Rodriguez, tries to keep us (or at least our computers) safe this holiday season. Janet Clinton tells me there isn't much going on, but I'm sure you'll be able to find something interesting on the Calendar. And then we have our usual reports from our board members. Enjoy this issue, and enjoy the upcoming holidays! 🍷

**The next deadline is March 1
for Vol. 26, No. 1, Winter 2008.**

Member & Library News

Karen Albert, Director of Library Services, Talbot Research Library, Fox Chase Cancer Center, Philadelphia, was a presenter in MLA's educational webcast, "Scholarly Publishing and Open Access: Straight Talk," on November 20, 2007.

Further, she has received acceptance to the CARLI (Consortium of Academic and Research Libraries) Institute on Scholarly Communication, to be held December 5-7, in Chicago. Sponsored by the Association of Research Libraries and the Association of College and Research Libraries, along with CARLI, the Institute is an immersive learning experience to prepare participants as local experts within their libraries and to equip them with the tools for developing campus outreach strategies.

In addition, Albert's article "Integrating Knowledge-Based Resources into the Electronic Health Record: History, Current Status, and Role of Librarians," appeared in the Fall 2007 issue of *Medical Reference Services Quarterly*.

Nina Long, Director of Library Services and Archivist Curator of The Wistar Museum Collections, The Wistar Institute, Philadelphia, submitted a successful application to the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission's (PHMC) historical marker program for The Wistar Institute, established in 1892. PHMC unveiled the marker on Wednesday, November 14,

2007, which was also the 180th birthday of Isaac J. Wistar, founder of the Institute.

Jenny Pierce, Public Services Librarian, University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey- Health Science Library, Stratford, NJ, participated in the 2007 World Dragonboat Competition. Teams from eighteen countries met in Sidney, Australia, in September 2007. Team USA won the Nation's Cup, and the USA Open Team set a new world record in the 500 meter distance. Pierce is a member of the Schuylkill Dragons and practices on the Schuylkill River. For more information about dragonboating, go to www.schuylkilldragons.org.

Rachel Resnick, Research Librarian, Polisher Research Institute, Madlyn and Leonard Abramson Center for Jewish Life, North Wales, PA, competed in the first *Philadelphia Inquirer* Sudoku National Championship, held October 20, at the Pennsylvania Convention Center, Philadelphia.

Anne Seymour, Interim Director, Health Sciences Libraries, and Associate Director, Information Services, Biomedical Library, University of Pennsylvania, completed a year-long fellowship in the NLM/AAHSL Leadership Program on November 1, 2007. The fellowship concluded with a capstone program in Washington, DC, which in-

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Chapter member Jenny Pierce is the fourth rower from the left.



Rachel Resnick competed in the recent Sudoku competition in Philadelphia.

involved meeting with leaders in health care policy, library advocacy and development, and academic health science centers from organizations including the Association of American Medical Colleges, National Library of Medicine, Association of Research Libraries and the Association of Academic Health Sciences Libraries.

The Talbot Research Library, Fox Chase Cancer Center, Philadelphia, has a new look. By acquiring additional electronic resources and taking advantage of a reduced footprint for shelving, the library created a variety of appealing, multi-functional areas. The library was totally redesigned, with renovations taking three months to complete. The highlights are upholstered chairs with moveable side-tables for laptops, carrels and round study tables, and a public computer area with Internet-connected desktop workstations. The entire library is wireless-enabled for staff. In addition, the library now boasts a training/interactive room that will be used to educate staff to use the library's electronic collection.



A view of the recently renovated space at The Talbot Research Library, Fox Chase Cancer Center.

Staff Changes

Mignon Adams, Director of Library and Information Services, Professor and Chair, Department of Information Science, University of the Sciences in Philadelphia (USP), retired July 31, 2007, after twenty years of service.

During her tenure, Adams led the library and the university into the Internet age. Locally, she served as President of the HSLC Board from 1991 to 1993 and as Chair of the MLA Philadelphia Regional Chapter from 1993 to 1994. She has mentored many librarians, and her cooperative managing style as well as her sense of humor stood her in good stead.

Not quite ready to retire completely, she is currently serving as Part-time Interim Chair of the USP Humanities Department for the 2007-2008 academic year.

Laura Koepfler has joined the Information Center Staff, ECRI Institute, Plymouth Meeting, PA, as hotline response team leader. She had been librarian, Medical Library, Magee Rehabilitation Center,

Philadelphia. In her new position, Koepfler and her team of three provide customized rapid review reports in response to client inquiries about diagnostic and treatment approaches, including drugs, technologies, and health policy. ECRI is an independent nonprofit healthcare research institute that has been designated as an Evidence-based Practice Center by the U.S. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality.



Rod MacNeil assumed the position of Deputy Library Director, Academic & Instructional Support Services (AISR), Thomas Jefferson University, Philadelphia, on October 15, 2007. Previously, he managed computer and customer service support at the University of Pennsylvania Medical School.

Charles Myers is the new Director of Library and Information Services, and Chair of the Department of Information Science, University of the Sciences in Philadelphia (USP). He joins USP from Saint Peter's



Another view of the recently renovated space at the Talbot Research Library, Fox Chase Cancer Center.

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College in New Jersey, where he served as Library Director. He previously worked at several other university and college libraries in the region, including those at Arcadia University, Franklin & Marshall College, and the University of Pennsylvania. He succeeds Mignon Adams, who retired on July 31, 2007.

After twenty-eight years, **Linda Rosenstein** retires as Associate Director, Information Resources, Biomedical Library, University of Pennsylvania, effective January 2, 2008.

Her previous positions were at Paley Library, Temple University, where she was Head of the Post-cataloging Department, and then Serials Cataloger. In 1980, she took a position as Head of Technical Services at Penn's Biomedical Library. In 1992, she assumed her current position and became responsible for collection management at the Biomedical Library. She was later named the Coordinating Bibliographer for Penn's Health Sciences Libraries.

Throughout her professional career, Rosenstein has been involved in both local and national library organizations. Within the Penn Libraries, she served on various committees and task forces. In addition, she served as President of Penn's Librarians' Assembly. She has represented the Biomedical Library on the Health Sciences Libraries Consortium's Collection Development and Interlibrary Loan Committees. She has been a member of the Philadelphia Regional Chapter of the Medical Library Association and actively participated in its programs. She has also been an active member of the Association of College and Research Libraries, Delaware Valley Chapter, and served a term as President.

Her interest and involvement in the national debate concerning the cost of scholarly, technical, and medical (STM) publications and the development of electronic products resulted in invitations to speak at both library- and publisher-sponsored programs relating to STM publica-

tions. In addition, she has served on the library advisory councils for several publishers.

Rosenstein has been quilting for nearly twenty-five years; in retirement, she intends to develop a quilting business.



Eileen Smith, a hospital librarian for over twenty years, retired from her position as Librarian, Frankford Hospital School of Nursing, Philadelphia, on August 14, 2007.

She had been at Frankford for the past five years, and previously worked for many years at Parkview Hospital's medical library. Smith received her master's in library science from Clarion University of Pennsylvania, and held a number of leadership positions in the Delaware Valley Information Consortium (DEVIC).

In retirement, she and her husband plan to spend most of their time at their new home near Myrtle Beach, SC. [A related item was previously published on the mlaphil blog, available at <<http://www.mlaphil.org/wp/member-news/2007/08/14/eileen-smith-librarian-at-frankford-hospital-school-of-nursing-to-retire/>>]

Diane Wolf has retired as Associate Director, Christiana Care Medical Libraries, Newark, DE, after twenty-eight years at the Christiana Care Health System. Her previous positions included work at the Mid-Eastern Regional Medical Library Service, Philadelphia, PA, and at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey—Newark.

At Christiana Care, she developed the clinical library program for the Department of Family Medicine and Community Health. Through that close collaboration,

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she was able to demonstrate the value of library services to a generation of family practitioners and coauthored Clinical Inquiries for the Family Physicians Inquiries Network.

Active throughout her career in the Philadelphia Regional Chapter, MLA, Wolf served as Chapter Chair in 1994-1995. Her most recent MLA (national) position was as Chair, Task Force on the Information Specialist in Context; she also served on Chapter Council and on the board of the Hospital Libraries Section. She has received service awards granted by Christiana Care and the Philadelphia Regional Chapter, MLA, and is a Distinguished Member of

MLA's Academy of Health Information Professionals (AHIP).

In retirement, she plans a long trip to China, care of aging parents, increased participation in the lay leadership of her religious congregation, and development of a consulting business. [A related item was previously published on the mla-phil blog, available at <<http://www.mlaphil.org/wp/member-news/2007/09/25/diane-wolf-bids-farewell-to-christiana/>>] 🌱

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MLA Social Networking Software Task Force

by
Marie Kennedy,
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Are you wondering what social networking tools are all about, and if they can help you in your daily work activities?

The new MLA Task Force on Social Networking Software is here to help!


Charged by MLA president, Mark Funk, to identify, evaluate, and recommend appropriate social networking tools for MLA groups, this energetic Task Force is currently evaluating as many tools as it can, to guide you to the best ones available. The Task Force is documenting how to use these tools successfully, and is interested in engaging with the MLA community while doing so.

The Task Force encourages members to read and respond to the posts at its blog

<<http://sns.malnet.org/blog>> so that your enthusiasm and concerns are incorporated into its work.

The Task Force has already completed a survey of MLA members about their current use of social networking software, and the summarized results may be found on the blog

<<http://sns.mlanet.org/blog/2007/09/24/what-mla-members-told-us-about-social-networking/>>.

If you have questions about how to apply these tools to your MLA group, or just want to know more about what we're doing, drop us a line! Use MLA-SNSTF as your subject line so that your message gets the proper attention. 



Keep up with the Task Force online at:

<<http://sns.mlanet.org/blog>>

Task Force Members

Regular Members:

Bart Hagon, Chair, (br5n@virginia.edu)
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Liaisons:

MLA Fellows - Jim Shedlock
Section Council - Mary Plorun
Chapter Council - Sue Ben-Dor
MLANET - Melissa DeSantis
MEDLIB-L - Tina Kussey
Headquarters - Kate Corcoran
Board - Connie Schardt, Mark Funk

Member Profiles

Lynne Joshi



Present Professional Position: I have served as Medical Librarian and Library Department Head at Nemours, Alfred I. duPont Hospital for Children (AIDHC) in Wilmington, Delaware, since 2004.

Past Professional Experience: From

1996 to 2004, I was an Information Specialist with Uniqema, a member of ICI, Imperial Chemical Industries PLC, in Wilmington. At Uniqema, I worked as a solo librarian and managed the Information Center where I conducted technical, patent, regulatory, and business information retrieval.

Before joining Uniqema, I worked at Delaware Academy of Medicine as a Circuit Medical Librarian for two Wilmington-area hospitals.

Librarianship is a second career for me. I received my M.S. from Drexel in 1992. When I first enrolled at Drexel, I had not settled on the type of library work that I wanted to do. Within a couple of weeks, I got a job as the Library Assistant at Alfred I. duPont Hospital for Children. Working as a medical librarian was something that had never occurred to me. I was a little intimidated by the thought of it, but found that I really enjoyed the challenge and loved the feeling that I was helping people who were doing such important work. And now, a decade later, I'm back in a professional position at duPont.

What do you find most interesting about your work? The challenge of finding answers to difficult questions and the satisfaction I feel when I've helped someone. I do clinical rounds in intensive care on Friday mornings and it's the best part of my work week.

What qualities or traits do you find

most helpful in your work? I enjoy learning and never get tired of helping people find the information they need.

What do you enjoy doing "for fun"? My husband and I belong to a local trail club and enjoy hiking on the weekends. For the last few years, we have also tried a little cross-country skiing with the club. We aren't that good, but it's fun.

Is there anything about you that others might be surprised to know? My husband, Madan, is from India. We met while in college at Auburn University. Alabama is my home state. We have one daughter who married last year. In February 2008, my husband, daughter, new son-in-law, and I are spending two weeks visiting my husband's home in India.

Why would you encourage members to become actively involved in the Philadelphia Regional Chapter and/or MLA national? I would encourage members to become involved because it's an opportunity to work with and get to know a lot of nice people. It's also a great way to hone skills and stay current in the profession.

Barbara Kountouzi



Present Professional Position: Coordinator of Education and Research Services, Biomedical Library, University of Pennsylvania.

Past Professional Experience: Research Assistant, Interlibrary Loan Clerk, Library Assistant, Pharmacy Assistant, Waitress.

What do you find most interesting about your work? Patrons and their ques-

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Member Profiles continues on page 12

Calendar

*Compiled by
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PALINET Workshops

December 5 Technical Services Workflow Analysis

December 12 Using CONTENTdm

Location: PALINET
3000 Market St., Suite 200
Philadelphia, PA 19104

Registration & Information for all locations: (215) 382-7031 or
http://www.palinet.org/ep_workshops_results.aspx?Type=FTF

[The 2008 calendar is not available. Please consult the website closer to the new year.]

To register for online workshops:

http://www.palinet.org/ep_workshops_results.aspx?Type=Live

November 20, 2007

Scholarly Publishing and Open Access: Straight Talk (MLA WebCast)

Location: Thomas Jefferson University, Herbut Auditorium, College Bldg., lower level

Information: Sharon Easterby-Gannett at seg@christianacare.org (302-733-1164)

or Ellen Justice at ejjustice@christianacare.org (302-733-1179)

Additional Information: http://www.mlanet.org/education/distance_ed/scholarly-pub/index.html?home_20071002

November 28, 2007

Finding the Evidence: Evidence-Based Practice in Nursing

Sponsor: HSLANJ, HRET, & ONE/NJ

Location: New Jersey Hospital Association Conference Center, Princeton, NJ

Directions: <http://www.njha.com/conferencecntr/html/mc.directions.aspx>

Information & Registration: <http://www.hslanj.org/findingevidence.pdf>

Additional Information: Jeannine Creazzo (732) 745-6647; jcreazzo@saintpetersuh.com

December 7, 2007

Managing Change, or, Step Away From the Ping-Pong Ball

Sponsor: SE Chapter, Pennsylvania Library Association

Location: Free Library, Northampton Township, Richboro, PA

Information & Registration: <http://www.palibraries.org/events-conf/seplameet.pdf>

January 11 – 14, 2008

2008 Midwinter Meeting

Sponsor: American Library Association

Location: Pennsylvania Convention Center, Philadelphia, PA

Information: <http://www.ala.org/ala/eventsandconferencesb/midwinter/2008/geninfo.htm>

Registration:

<http://www.ala.org/ala/eventsandconferencesb/midwinter/2008/registration.htm>

March 10 – 12, 2008

Summit on Translational Bioinformatics

Sponsor: American Medical Informatics Association

Location: InterContinental Mark Hopkins, San Francisco, CA

Information & Registration: <http://www.amia.org/meetings/stb08/#>

April 7 – 9, 2008

Computers in Libraries

Sponsor: Information Today, Inc.

Location: Hyatt Regency Crystal City, Arlington, VA

Information: <http://www.infotoday.com/cil2008/>

April 10 – 14, 2008

Experiencing Information [ASIS & T Summit 2008]

Sponsor: American Society for Information Sciences & Technology

Location: Hyatt Regency Hotel, Miami, FL

Information: http://www.asis.org/Conferences/IA08/ASIST_IA_SUMMIT_2008.pdf

Ongoing Educational Opportunities

DIALOG training workshops in the United States are now web-based.

For upcoming classes: http://training.dialog.com/sem_info/calendar/webtraining/#us

Health Sciences Libraries Consortium [HSLC]

Location: 3600 Market St., Suite 550, Philadelphia, PA

Information: (215) 222-1532 or http://www.hslc.org/classes_intro.html

NN/LM workshops

For locations, dates, topics & registration: <http://nnlm.gov/ntcc/classes/schedule.html>

For all educational opportunities: <http://nnlm.gov/mar/training/#A2>

Special Libraries Association online courses <http://www.sla.org/calendar/>

Webmaster Report: 2000 Views



Gary Kaplan
Webmaster, 2007-2009
Thomas Jefferson
University,
Philadelphia

Your new website has been live for a couple months, seeing its 2,000th visitor in early November. Fourteen chapter members have registered for accounts, authoring twenty-eight posts since August.

Recent posts include:

- Rebecca Raszewski on the end of Healthweb, the Drexel Libraries fielding a team to race in the Dash for Democracy, and local efforts to celebrate National Librarians Month
- Maura Sostack on Diane Wolf's retirement, and the latest in government relations
- Lynne Joshi on the upcoming webcast about open access publishing
- Jen de Richemond on Laura Koepfler's new position at ECRI Institute
- Stephanie Ferretti on Acteva, our new online registration tool

Dan Kipnis prepared video tutorials on how to register on the site and how to post. Watch them here and you'll be posting in no time: <<http://www.mlaphil.org/wp/web-dev/2007/11/08/getting-started/>>. After

you watch, leave a comment answering the question: Have you used WordPress before?

Following a call for volunteers, we formed a web committee: Gary Kaplan (chair), Jen de Richemond, Dan Kipnis, Maura Sostack, Nina Long, and Rachel Resnick (ex-officio). The committee hit the ground running, preparing an application for the Majors/MLA Chapter Project of the Year Award and a poster abstract for MLA '08 about the redesign.

We've been dealing with the vicissitudes of commercial, shared hosting. Several outages resulted in mailing list delays and website downtime. We'll continue to monitor our level of service with Bluehost.com, which we engaged last spring after HSLC, our longtime host, got out of the ISP business.

Please consider sharing your voice on the website. It's a great opportunity to try out WordPress, share news and views with your colleagues, and expose our chapter's good work on the web. 🌱

Member Profiles continued

tions! They give me the opportunity to learn something new every day. There are no boring days at work.

What qualities or traits do you find most helpful in your work? Perseverance, for sure. There are so many things that librarians have to struggle with that it is sometimes tempting to just give up and go with the flow. But we can't do that. Once we do that, we're finished as librarians. We need to do what it takes, even if that means banging our heads against the wall every single day, in order to bring about change.

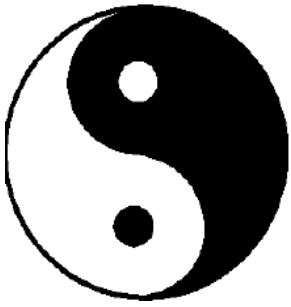
What do you enjoy doing "for fun"? I take my dogs for long walks, I cook like an alchemist, I travel as much as my librarian's salary permits, and I dance.

Is there anything about you that others might be surprised to know? I am a librar-

ian by day, tanguera by night :).

Why would you encourage members to become actively involved in the Philadelphia Regional Chapter and/or MLA national? Because no matter how good you are at your job, getting involved in MLA, regional and national, is the best way to get in touch with colleagues in our field, and this is a priceless experience. 🌱

TechnoHumanist Corner



In Chinese culture, Yin and Yang represent opposite forces in the universe. Yin is the negative or dark side of nature, while Yang symbolizes nature's light or positive side.

These forces constantly interact with each other so that there can be balance in the universe.

Computing has a Yin and Yang. The Yin of computing are hackers, viruses, malware, spyware that try to prevent us from being able to use our computers, while the Yang is that computers make life easier by enabling us to instantly communicate with people anywhere, do research, shop, and work from home. If you want to maintain a harmonious balance in your computing universe, then you must actively pursue computer security.

Basic computer security requires a computer have three programs—an antivirus program, a firewall, and spyware. It is not safe to travel the Internet without protection against viruses. You may be saying, "Of course, you need an antivirus program. That's common sense. Everyone knows that!"

But, here is where many people abandon common sense. They do not update their antivirus programs!! Most of us would not drive without car insurance or making sure it had been renewed. If you make the effort to protect your car, then why not do the same for your computer?

In a survey done by Harris Interactive of more than 2,097 adult computer users, 88% had antivirus programs on their machines, 65% said they put off updating their program, and 42% of those who did not update their programs were infected with malware. (See <http://www.internet-news.com/security/article.php/3620331>). Those few minutes you save by not updating may cost you money, lost files, and

hours of work. The updates written by companies such as Norton and McAfee are immunizations for your computer against new viruses that have been identified.

How often should the antivirus program be updated? I recommend you update at least once a month, but decide how often is best for you. These programs have an automatic update function, which allow you to choose when and how often to update. If you choose not to use the program's automatic update function, you can always go to the company site and update manually.

When trying to decide how often to update, keep this in mind. Right now, there is someone in cyberspace working on a bug to cause havoc or damage to computers. Antivirus software companies start to write updates as soon as a security threat is identified. So, if you do not update, how lucky do you feel?

In addition to antivirus programs, you need a good firewall. A virtual firewall is similar to a real firewall. In the real world, buildings are sometimes built with firewalls sandwiched in between adjacent buildings. For example, if buildings 1 and 2 are adjacent to each other with a firewall between them, then it is the job of the firewall to prevent the fire in building 1 from spreading into building 2.

In the virtual world, your firewall program is the barrier between your computer and the Internet. Its job is to filter information that is trying to gain access to your computer. If it encounters information that it considers a security threat, then it flags it and denies it access to your computer. A good analogy of how a virtual firewall works is Star Trek, when the starship Enterprise is under attack and the Captain shouts, "Shields up!"

Most of us already have a firewall on our computer and may not know it. Firewalls come in two varieties: one-way and two-way firewalls. A one-way firewall filters in-

By
Carlos Rodriguez
University of
Pennsylvania

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formation coming into your machine. If your PC is running Windows XP or Vista, then you already have a one-way firewall. However, you do have to activate it so that it boots up with Windows. A two-way firewall filters information being sent out as well as information coming in.

Why is it important to block or flag information going out of your computer? No antivirus or firewall program is invincible. There are times when a malware program has gotten on your machine. The job of the malware program is to gather information about you, e.g., credit card number, online passwords, search history, etc., and send it back to the malware's home.

In this case, the firewall analyzes characteristics of information previously sent from behind the firewall to the outside. If these characteristics do not match, then the outgoing information is flagged and blocked. If you are looking for a two-way firewall, both Norton and McAfee sell bundled security suites that include the firewall, antivirus, and antispyware programs, and protection against other security threats such as phishing or spam, etc. If you want a good free firewall, you can download ZoneAlarm <http://www.zonealarm.com/store/content/catalog/products/sku_list_zs.jsp?dc=34std&ctry=&lang=en> or PC Tools <<http://www.pctools.com/firewall/>>. Of course, for a price you can buy an enhanced version of either of these programs.

As I mentioned earlier, spyware sometimes can get through your defenses and install itself on your machine. Spyware is one of several malicious software programs known as malware.

Malware can hijack your browser and redirect it to another site, count keystrokes, and steal your personal information, e.g., passwords, credit card numbers, etc.; send you e-mail, send annoying pop-up advertising to your browser, and report your browsing habits. In addition to attacking your personal privacy, malware can slow down your machine, make it crash or hijack and use it as a server to attack other computers.

Malware gets installed on your computer in various ways. It can piggyback on a program that you downloaded such as a toolbar, mp3 file, demos, etc. Or, you may have authorized the installation of malware when you accepted the licensing agreement of the program you just downloaded. Some licensing agreements contain clauses stating that the company can download third party software onto your computer.

If you want to defeat malware, you need to install anti-spyware programs on your computer. Since anti-spyware programs do not cover all malware programs, it is recommended that you run at least two programs. These programs should be run and have their malware definition lists updated weekly. You can get the anti-spyware program as part of a security suite or as a standalone program. If you want to purchase a standalone anti-spyware program, I would speak with your local IT or Tech Support person and ask for recommendations, or read some software reviews. If you are looking for free programs, Lavasoft Ad-Aware <http://www.lavasoftusa.com/products/ad_aware_free.php> has an excellent free version for personal use. Another free product which reviewers have liked is Windows Defender <<http://www.microsoft.com/athome/security/spyware/software/default.mspx>>.

These security measures apply to both desktop and laptop computers. Laptops, which now outsell desktop computers, have additional security considerations because of their wireless function. Although this function gives us the freedom to work anywhere that there are public or private Wi-Fi networks, it creates a security problem. One such problem is that there are no standards or recommendations for computer security for these Wi-Fi networks; therefore, strangers can access the network and intercept your wireless communications. Hence, laptop security basically rests with the user.

How do you secure your laptop? You can begin by password protecting your com-

Continues on page 15

puter. Create passwords to log into your computer and another password for your screen saver. When creating a password, use an alpha-numeric sequence rather than a word or name. Passwords deter theft rather than prevent it. Thieves may want your laptop, but they do not want to work for the information in them. If a thief sees you logging into your computer and your screen saver, there is a good chance that they will pass on your computer and find one they can instantly access.

If you do laptop computing in public places such as Borders or Starbucks, you may not want people to see your data. Passwords guarantee that information on your laptop stays private. Another rule of laptop security is to never leave it unattended. I am always amazed at how many laptops are left unattended for passersby to look to see what is on the screen. Also, a good thief can steal your laptop in less than fifteen seconds.

Another security measure you should implement is to disable the automatic wireless connections. Most laptops are set up so that they connect to any available network. This is a security problem because you do not know to whom you are connecting. You may be connecting to a phantom network set up by an identity thief. For instance, you are at the airport and use your laptop to book a hotel room. Of course, you submit your credit card number to guarantee the room. Unfortunately, the person, ten feet away from you, working on his laptop, has set up a phantom network. You just gave that person your credit card number.

If you plan on doing public computing, consider getting a wireless broadband account with Verizon, Sprint or AT&T and getting a wireless broadband card. Use the card to connect via cell modem. This connection method is more secure than public wireless networks.

An alternative to public wireless networks is using a Virtual Private Network (VPN). A simplistic explanation of a VPN is that it is a tunnel within an existing network. Think of VPNs as security tunnels which carry information data. They mostly exist in the corporate environment, but

they are beginning to be used outside of the business world.

If you do public computing, then you might want to consider disabling the file sharing utility. Many public wireless networks allow peer-to-peer networking, which allows other computers to connect directly to your computer and see your computer files. This easy access to other computers also enables malicious users to spread worms, trojans, and other viruses.

Finally, realize that public computing may require that you develop a different set of habits from the ones you have when you use your computers at work or home. For example, since your home environment is more secure, you may restrict computing that uses sensitive or personal information, e.g., online banking or using a credit card to shop, to your home desktop rather than your laptop.

I leave you with a true story about why one should be cautious about using wireless communications.

During World War II, the Germans sent all military and diplomatic communications coded. A machine called Enigma did the encrypting and decrypting of the messages. It was an electro-mechanical rotor machine with three or four rotors. Each rotor had letters, numbers, and symbols and could be independently repositioned inside Enigma. The different positioning of the rotors meant there were 10,114 possible configurations to create new code.

The Germans were so confident the code could not be broken that they sent full battle plans over the radio waves. Naturally, the Allies intercepted the messages. Unknown to the Germans, the Allies broke the Enigma codes. The Allies plucked the Enigma messages from the airways, read the German battle plans and countered them. As the Germans were transmitting messages over the airwaves, the Allies could read them. Once the Germans started using landlines and couriers, the Allies' ability to intercept messages dropped dramatically.

I hope these security tips will help you maintain a safe computing balance.

Happy Holidays and a Happy New Year to all! C U in 2008. 🍷

The Philadelphia Regional Chapter of MLA — our story continues



Joan R. McKenzie,
Archives Committee
Chair,
2006-2008
College of Physicians,
Philadelphia

In preparation for the MLA Centennial Celebration held in Philadelphia in 1998, a committee of dedicated researchers headed by Judy Baker and Sara Richardson perused the chapter's archives to prepare a history of the chapter from its founding in 1951. This document, "Forty-seven years and counting: A History of the Philadelphia Regional Chapter," is available on the MLA website <<http://www.mlanet.org/archive/history/united-history/philadelphia.html>>.

Since 1998, the chapter celebrated its fiftieth anniversary at our 2006 Annual Meeting, held at the College of Physicians of Philadelphia, the site of the initial meeting. Now preparing to begin its fifty-eighth year, the chapter continues to evolve in response to new opportunities, technologies and challenges in the field of medical and healthcare librarianship. Here are some of the highlights of the past ten years:

We have reached beyond our local chapter:

- The MLA Centennial Meeting in 1998 and the return to Philadelphia for MLA '07 benefited from the Local Assistance Committees drawn from the chapter.
- Plans initiated in 2001 for a joint meeting with the New York-New Jersey Chapter morphed into the enormously successful "Quint" meeting (Collaborations, Partnerships, and Solutions: The QuintEssential Conference) held in October 2003, with additional participation by the Mid-Atlantic and Pittsburgh Regional Chapters of MLA, and the Philadelphia Chapter of SLA.
- The program "The Medical Informationist & Other Roles for the Librarian in the 21st Century," was held in October 2000. This led to a project that resulted in the publication of "Patient-centered librarianship: the informationist and beyond: a symposium to honor the fiftieth anniversary of the Philadelphia Regional Chapter of the Medical Library Association," a special section in the January 2002 issue of *Journal of the Medical Library Association*

edited by Barbara Shearer, Anne Seymour and Cheryl Capitani. They and several other members of the chapter, contributed some articles to this section. See <<http://www.pubmedcentral.nih.gov/tocrender.fcgi?iid=1740>>. [As this issue of *the Chronicle* was being prepared, we discovered that page 21, containing the title to this section, is missing. However, the articles in the section are available online. The *JMLA* editor has been alerted to the omission. — Ed.]

- In December 2006, the chapter joined with our colleagues in the Philadelphia Chapter of SLA to sponsor a festive holiday celebration at the Jenkins Law Library.

- Discussions are currently in progress for a proposed joint meeting with the Mid-Atlantic and NY-NJ Chapters to be held in Atlantic City in 2009.

Chapter advances:

- The membership directory became available online in 1999, providing more up-to-date information.
- The *Chronicle* moved to an electronic format in 2000. Web-based publication not only saves printing and mailing expenses, but also makes it possible to include more information – and many more photographs.
- Our website, which made its debut at the annual meeting in 1996 and had been revised in the ensuing years, has been replaced by a completely new version which was introduced at the 2007 annual meeting.
- We now have a new, more dynamic logo for chapter publications, merchandise, and the website.
- The position of Development Coordinator, established in 1997, has proved to be a valuable addition. The efforts of Marjorie Smink and her successors in maintaining personal contact with our valued donors have provided support for the programs we are able to offer to our members.
- In 2007 the position of Webmaster was

promoted from a member of the Communications Committee to a separate committee chair.

We have continued to provide a variety of programs and continuing education courses for our members and prospective members:

- Programs have been presented on topics such as the spiritual dimension in medicine, HIPAA, intranets, creating web pages, PDAs, the USA Patriot Act, and improving speaking skills.
- Continuing education courses have been offered on evidence-based medicine, electronic document delivery, licensing electronic resources, and allied health professionals. Among the most memorable programs were the Mini-Medical School for Librarians, held in March 2003, and its successor, the Mini-Public Health Forum, in April 2005.
- The popular annual meetings and dinners have gathered our members in locations such as the Wharton Sinkler Estate and Conference Center, the Inn at Penn, the Downtown Club, Loews Hotel, the City Tavern, and most recently, the Independence Visitor Center.

Membership:

Our membership has decreased from 224 in 1998 to 116 currently listed in our membership directory. Changing conditions in medical libraries have led to the loss of some positions and the realignment of others. Some members have moved to other areas of the country, or have undertaken new endeavors. Others have retired from the profession, while still others now remain only in our memories. All have left their mark on the chapter, their colleagues, their libraries, and the profession, and they are missed, but new members have stepped up to serve the chapter in various capacities.

The achievements of our chapter members are too numerous to list here, but a few national honors should be noted:

- Sandy Wood in 1999 and June Fulton in 2000 were selected as Fellows of the Medical Library Association.
- Christine Chastain-Warheit was awarded the 2004 Lois Ann Colaanni Award for Excellence and Achievement in Hospital Librarianship
- Linda Katz was appointed editor of *MLA News* beginning with the January 2006 issue.

The individual achievements of our members (promotions, papers published, courses presented, national committee work, etc.) are a source of pride for all of us, but the continued success of the Philadelphia Regional Chapter rests on many others. Those who serve as officers, committee chairs, and committee members; those who plan programs, design websites, write articles, write letters, make telephone calls, and invite new members are all a vital part of our chapter as we continue to move forward. 📖

Treasurer's Report

The Philadelphia Regional Chapter of MLA Citizen Bank account, as of July 5, 2007, has a balance of \$10,158.09, with all transactions recorded in a Quicken database.

Funds invested in the PA Treasury currently total \$5513.10. 📖



*Stephanie Ferretti,
Treasurer,
2006-2008
Philadelphia
College of
Osteopathic
Medicine*

Call for MLA '09 CE Course and Symposia Ideas



By
Dan Kipnis
CEC Liaison,
2009 National
Program Committee,
Thomas Jefferson
University

MLA is now accepting ideas for exciting and innovative courses and symposia to offer at MLA '09 in Hawaii. Courses and symposia will be held on May 15, May 16 and May 20, 2009. Suggestions must be submitted by Friday, December 14, 2007, for consideration by the MLA Continuing Education Committee (CEC) at its Mid-winter meeting, in January 2008.

Courses

The CEC would like to present a variety of courses, covering the seven Professional Competencies for Health Sciences Librarians described in MLA's Educational Policy Statement. MLA CE courses are four, six, or eight hours in length. Active participant involvement must be built into the course to qualify. For ideas, look at MLA's Education Clearinghouse <<http://www.mlanet.org/education/cech/>> or offerings at other meetings.

What new topics or courses have caught your eye? Who is teaching a class or has expertise you would like to tap into? What classes from past meetings would you like to see offered again? The committee wants to hear from you! Are you currently a course instructor or would you like to create a new course? You may nominate yourself.

For more information, check out the MLA annual meeting course selection process <<http://www.mlanet.org/education/teachce.html>> or contact Kathleen

Combs, continuing education coordinator, at mlapd1@mlahq.org.

Symposia

Sections, chapters, or other MLA groups may choose to cosponsor (with MLA) a symposium at the annual meeting. MLA defines a symposium as a "learning opportunity organized for the purpose of providing a forum for discussion of a well-defined topic." Typically, it consists of a series of presentations by experts, followed by an exchange of opinions among participants. Active involvement of the attendees must be built into the symposium schedule to qualify as an educational opportunity.

If your idea is chosen by the CEC, you will be asked to submit a proposal, using the official MLA Symposium Guidelines <<http://www.mlanet.org/education/sympos.html>> for final consideration at its May 2008 meeting.

Send in Your Ideas

Ideas for courses or symposia must be submitted by Friday, December 14, 2007, to ensure consideration.

Send your submission form to:

Dan Kipnis, MSI
Thomas Jefferson University
Scott Memorial Library
1020 Walnut St Suite 410
Philadelphia PA, 19107
dan.kipnis@jefferson.edu
Fax: 215.923.3203

See the simple forms at:

<<http://www.mlanet.org/education/callcourses2009.html>>

Course Idea Submission Form for MLA '09

<http://www.mlanet.org/pdf/ce/course_submission_09.doc>

Symposia Ideas Submission Form for MLA '09

<http://www.mlanet.org/pdf/ce/symp_submission_09.doc>

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