

NEWSLETTER

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The Newsletter is published for the members of the New York – New Jersey Chapter of the Medical Library Association.

Editorial Information:

Aileen McCrillis
NYU Health Sciences Libraries
E-mail: aileen.mccrillis@med.nyu.edu

Sarah Jewell
Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center Library
E-mail: jewells@mskcc.org

Website maintained by:

Vicki Sciuk
E-mail: vsciuk@dover.edu

From the Editors

Dear Chapter Members,

In this issue, we start with an invitation to attend the MLA Quad Chapter meeting from our Chapter Chair, Nancy Glassman, and Joey Nicholson on the Publicity committee. Mary Doherty reviews how Cochrane can be of value to nursing. There are many happy announcements in Robin Wright's *Kudos* column.

Renae Barger talks about exhibitions in this issue's Mid-Atlantic Region update. We reflect on Connie Schardt's excellent EBM course and also the enjoyable Spring Dinner. Mahnaz Tehrani shares with us some MLA tools for library advocacy. We get the chance to meet Jeff Williams, the new Associate Director of Research & Education Services at NYU Health Sciences Libraries, and finally we have a few reviews of the latest nonfiction in science and medicine.

We hope you have had a relaxing summer and are refreshed and ready to tackle a busy fall alongside your Chapter members. Please send any suggestions and contributions for future issues to the newsletter editors, Aileen or Sarah.

Happy Reading!

The Editors
August 2012

From the Chair

Nancy R. Glassman, MLS, AHIP
Albert Einstein College of Medicine
nancy.glassman@einstein.yu.edu

Dear Chapter Members,

I hope you are having a good summer and are finding ways to keep cool. Autumn will be here before we know it, and perhaps we will look back fondly on our warm summer nights, or not...

The Chapter had an eventful spring, hosting Connie Schardt's "EBM and the Medical Librarian" workshop at the end of April. The workshop was offered to members at no cost thanks to a Professional Development Award from NN/LM MAR. Not to worry if you missed the spring workshop. We hope to be able to offer similar workshops in the not too distant future. Abundant thanks go out to Dina Matsoukas and the CE Committee (Aditi Bandyopadhyay, Keydi Boss O'Hagan, Jackie Heller, Irina Meyman, and Tanya Shkolnikov) for their hard work pulling it all together. I realize it can be difficult to travel to attend Chapter events. The CE Committee is planning to host a series of lunchtime webinar talks for Chapter members. Watch the Chapter's website and keep an eye out for email updates.

The Spring Dinner moved uptown this year, taking place at Coogan's. A good time was had by all. As always, a huge thank you goes out to Trina Keith and her team for coordinating everything. There has been some discussion about jumping to the other bank of the Hudson next year. Can anyone suggest a nice restaurant in Hoboken?

The Chapter is exploring new collaborations with other library organizations. Aileen McCrillis is representing us on the NN/LM MAR Regional Advisory Committee. Joanne Jahr is representing us on METRO's Regional Professional Leadership Network. Exciting opportunities and programs will surely arise from these collaborations.

I hope to see all of you at the Quad Meeting in Baltimore this October. The Chapter is well represented in the planning process. Racheline Habousha is on the steering committee. Helen Ann Brown-Epstein and Diana Cunningham are on the Program Committee. Joey Nicholson is on the Publicity Committee. Dina Matsoukas is on the CE committee. Looking into the future, please mark your calendars for October 9, 2013, the date of our next Chapter Meeting. I invite you all to my home turf, the Bronx, for a one-day meeting to take place at Albert Einstein College of Medicine. Claire Joseph and Aurelia Minuti have signed on as meeting co-Chairs. Planning will get underway soon. Please let me know if you have any ideas or would like to volunteer.

Another way to connect with Chapter members is through social networking. Facebook users can join our Group at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/37010985494/>. For those of you who use Twitter, or are just interested in learning how to tweet, look out for our Twitter-interest survey -- coming soon!

Enjoy the rest of the lazy, hazy days of summer. See you in Baltimore!

Connections: MLA Quad Chapter Meeting

Joey Nicholson, MLS, MPH

NYU School of Medicine

Joseph.Nicholson@nyumc.org



Not only is Baltimore charming, but it is the City of Firsts! Amazing world-changing firsts regularly happen there, including: the first YMCA in 1859; the first synthetic sweetener (saccharine) in 1879; the first Ouija board in 1892; and the first Quad Chapter Meeting of MLA in 2012!

The MLA Quad Chapter Meeting, Connections, will take place in Baltimore from Oct 13-16, 2012. Come join us for this next great Baltimore first and connect with your colleagues from other chapters in the Charm City!

The historic Tremont Plaza Hotel is hosting the Quad Chapter Meeting and offering very reasonable rates for their comfortable rooms. You can get a Jr. Suite for as little as \$159.00 per night or a Signature 2-Bedroom Suite for only \$389.00 per night. The hotel features complimentary wireless Internet, workout facilities, kitchenettes in every suite! Not only will the meeting be bustling, but the hotel is located right by Baltimore's premier destination, the Inner Harbor, with all the shopping, eating, drinking, and excitement one could want.

Check the [conference web site](#) for full details about what to expect. As more plans are made, the web site will be updated with the latest information.

Be sure to start making your travel plans now!

See you there!

Quad Chapter Printing/Publicity Committee

Nursing and the Cochrane Database

Mary Doherty

Medical Research Library of Brooklyn

Downstate Medical Center

mary.doherty@downstate.edu

It is useful to be aware of the use of the Cochrane Database in relation to nursing research. Systematic reviews gather studies, including randomized controlled trials, concerning a topic.

Although we often think of Cochrane as a source of systematic reviews in medicine, it also covers topics in nursing.

The Cochrane database is divided into 11 fields by subject. One of these is the Nursing Care Field. Its purpose is to encourage evidence based nursing research. It is coordinated from the Joanna Briggs Institute at the University of Adelaide, Australia.

The Joanna Briggs Institute has members from all over the world interested in promoting nursing research. In 2006 it began discussing forming a nursing research field in Cochrane. After several years of formation, it was formalized under its current name in 2010. Participants come from over 35 countries.

An interesting study was published by Mistiaen, et al, which looked at the usefulness of the Cochrane Database in nursing research at that time and found that nursing interventions were investigated in addition to medical issues.¹ The study pointed out that Cochrane can be useful for several reasons to nurse researchers:

- It gathers studies that show whether an intervention has had a positive or negative effect on patient care.
- It can conclude that there is insufficient evidence of either positive or negative effect.
- It can show that a particular issue needs to be researched more thoroughly, showing a potential researcher that this topic might be fruitful for them to pursue.

I did a more recent, less scientific search of the Cochrane database under “nursing.” It showed a number of recent reviews of nursing interventions. This shows that the Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews can be a useful source in nursing research.

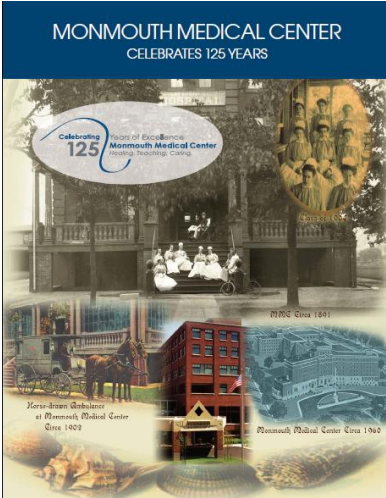
1: Mistiaen P, Poot E, Hickox S, Wagner C. The evidence for nursing interventions in the Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews. Nurse Res. 2004;12(2):71-80. PubMed PMID: 15636007.

Monmouth Medical Center Anniversary

Frederic Pachman
 Monmouth Medical Center
fpachman@barnabashealth.org

The Monmouth Medical Center, Long Branch, New Jersey is celebrating its 125th anniversary with a year-long series of events; including an anniversary convocation, dedication of a historic plaque, lectures for local historical societies, and exhibiting at the Monmouth County Archives Day. Elsalyn Palmisano, working as consulting archivist, is developing an official archives for the hospital, preparing documents and photographs for digitization, and collecting artifacts for an exhibit.

[Download](#) a copy of the 125th Anniversary brochure.



Kudos for Members

Robin Wright, MSILS
Lehman College/CUNY
Robin.Wright@lehman.cuny.edu

Congratulations to fellow Chapter members:

George Wahlert
Morgan Health Sciences Library
SUNY Downstate at Long Island College
Hospital

George was presented with the 2012 Honorary Physician of the Year Award by the hospital's Medical Board on March 5, 2012. This award, to non-physicians, was given to George for his contributions to the education of the residents and for 25 years of service managing the library.

At this year's Flag Day Celebration, June 14, 2012, at SUNY Downstate at Long Island College Hospital, George donated the flag originally flown at the US Capitol building to commemorate the Ohio homecoming of astronaut Neil Armstrong and the issuance of the moon landing stamp. The flag was given to George by his father on his 20th birthday to celebrate the astronauts landing on George's birthday in 1969.

At the ceremony George read a letter from the Architect of the US Capitol and displayed an etching of the moon landing stamp, which was signed by the three astronauts and Paul Calle, the artist of the stamp.

Aileen McCrillis, MSLIS
Rich McGowan, MLS
Alisa Surkis, PhD, MLS
Karen Hanson, MLIS
NYU Health Sciences Library

Congratulations to our colleagues at NYU Health Sciences Library who were recently awarded two NLM Informationist Supplement Grants. These grants are awarded to NIH-funded researchers, in order to bring needed information expertise into the research team.

Jackie Heller

Jackie Heller recently published the following article in HealthLine, a publication of the Hospital Library Services Program of the Long Island Library Resources Council: *Selected resources on cancer genetics*. LILRC HealthLine. 2012 May/June; 25(3): 2.



NN/LM Mid-Atlantic Region Update

Renaë Barger

NN/LM MAR Executive Director

rbarger@pitt.edu

One of the many exciting roles of a regional medical library is exhibiting at national, regional, state and local meetings and conferences. Exhibiting offers the opportunity to demonstrate NLM products to health professionals, consumer groups and public, school and health sciences librarians. It is also a great way to promote membership and services of the National Network of Libraries of Medicine. In our first year as a regional medical library, NN/LM MAR staff promoted NLM resources to over 1,000 health professionals, public health workers, community-based leaders and librarians through exhibiting at 4 national and 8 regional or state meetings. Staff also reached a large population of health consumers during a local employee health fair. For instance, staff highlighted [drug information resources](#) to pharmacists during the American College of Clinical Pharmacy annual meeting; [emergency response tools](#) and [public health resources](#) during the NJ Environmental Health Association meeting and [K-12 resources](#) to school librarians at the New York City School Library Association annual conference.

MAR also offered [exhibit awards](#) to allow Network members the opportunity to exhibit at a state or local level. Drexel University public health librarians attended and exhibited during the Pennsylvania Public Health meeting held in Philadelphia, PA; whereas, Mid-Atlantic Behavioral Health received an award to exhibit and present mental health services and resources to area seniors in Newark, DE.

The regional medical library 2012-2013 contract year began on May 1. So far, MAR has exhibited at the following national, regional and state meetings:

- American Psychiatric Association
- American Diabetes Association
- National Association of Counties
- Delaware/Maryland Joint Library Association
- New Jersey Library Association
- Pennsylvania Mental Health Consumers Association
- State University of New York Library Association (SUNYLA)

Information professionals located in public libraries, community colleges and institutions offering 2-year and 4-year academic programs in the health sciences will be able to stop by the MAR exhibit booth at the upcoming NY and PA state library association meetings. Those in K-12 libraries and science teachers will benefit from MAR exhibits during the NJ Association of School Librarians, NY City School Library System and the NJ Science Convention meetings.

Outreach to public health workers and unaffiliated health professionals will occur through exhibiting at the Migrant and Immigrant Health in Rural Pennsylvania Conference, as well as 3 state public health association meetings: New York Public Health Association, Pennsylvania Public Health Association and New Jersey Public Health Symposium. And finally, MAR plans to exhibit to mental health professionals and consumers during the Delaware Community Mental Health

Conference, Delaware Psychological Association Mixer, Pennsylvania Mental Health Consumers and New Jersey Association of Mental Health and Addiction Agencies annual conferences.

Are you looking for an excuse to get out of the library and mingle with a community organization that provides health information to consumers, health professional association, emergency response personnel or perhaps caregivers in your local community? Then consider applying for a [NN/LM MAR Exhibit Award](#) to support registration fees, travel and other related expenses. MAR will provide the exhibit structure, educational and printed materials and consultation on applicable NLM resources for your target group. Exhibiting is a great opportunity to promote your library services while promoting free, reliable resources provided by the National Library of Medicine!

Continuing Education

Nihat Ispahany, MLS
ni12@columbia.edu
Columbia University

Marina Chilov, MLS
mz84@columbia.edu
Columbia University

On April 30, 2012 Connie Schardt, Associate Director for Public Services at Duke University Medical Center Library, gave a one-day CME course on evidence-based medicine (EBM) at the Metropolitan New York Library Council. The course was funded by the National Library of Medicine and offered 6 contact hours of CME credits to attendees. The goal of the course was to familiarize librarians with EBM concepts in order to assist patrons doing systematic reviews or involved in the EBM process in other ways. In her presentation, Connie covered all aspects of EBM. Topics included creating a PICO question, identifying relevant study designs, searching techniques and critical appraisal. Connie combined lecture with interactive and visual elements to create a fun and stimulating learning environment.

As attendees, we felt that the class deepened our understanding of EBM and provided new techniques for teaching these concepts to others. Well done, Connie!

2012 Spring Dinner

Latrina Keith
New York Academy of Medicine
LKeith@nyam.org

This year's NY-NJ Chapter Spring Dinner took place on June 14, 2012 at Coogan's Restaurant in Washington Heights during a cool and breezy night. The atmosphere inside Coogan's was upbeat and energetic with the beats of rock n' roll, rhythm & blues and other popular tunes amidst nostalgic memorabilia on the walls. We all enjoyed a delicious buffet assortment and treated to luscious NY Cheesecake and 3 layer chocolate cake for dessert, while engaging in a door prize drawing of Barnes & Noble gift cards and other fun gifts. The servers and staff at Coogan's treated us so warmly and courteously, I think quite a few of us will become "regulars." Everyone had a fabulous evening connecting with old friends and making new friends, and most of all, a really good time was had by all.

Government Relations

Mahnaz A. Tehrani, MLS, MSIT, AHIP
New York College of Osteopathic Medicine
Co-Chair, Government Relations Committee

MLA Advocacy ToolBox: A Practical Guide to Communicate Your Value

Medical librarians support the information needs of their users in different nature either in academic or clinical base every day. Due to socio-economy situations, libraries (in general) also health sciences libraries have been facing many problems such as: justifying the need of library services; defending budget against proposed cuts; maintaining or expanding the staff, space or collections; and so forth. Meanwhile, the closure of a few hospital libraries both in NY & NJ has drawn our attention in the past couple of months. Not all of these closures were based on the library staff and the director decisions ([case of the John Hopkins Medical library](#)) but due to the administration!

What could be done? Is there anything that we as “librarian”, could do to avoid situation of such? How could we keep the library visibility high among the administrators? Is there any effective way to communicate with the administrators and the users? Is there a systematic method to follow? MLA has created a desktop reference kit called “Advocacy Toolbox: A Practical Guide to Communicate Your Value.” The guide includes problem-based scenario, and the tools that can be used to solve the problem. To view the toolbox, please go to:

<http://www.mlanet.org/members/advocacy/communicate.html>

Get to Know Your Chapter

Sisalee Hecht, MSLIS, AHIP

Eastwick Education

shecht@eastwick.edu

Get to Know Your Chapter is a new column intended to introduce new or existing chapter members and highlight their professional and personal interests to facilitate networking within the Chapter. If you or someone you know would like to be interviewed for the Get to Know Your Chapter Column, contact the column author, Sisalee Hecht.

California’s loss is New York’s gain! Meet Jeff Williams, MLIS, AHIP, the new Associate Director, Research & Education Services at NYU Health Sciences Libraries. Prior to NYU Jeff spent 11 years at the Biomedical Library at the University of California, San Diego where he worked in a variety of positions. He started as a liaison librarian to the biology department and later added some collections and operational management responsibilities. Finally Jeff became an assistant director responsible for collections, access and clinical services before moving cross country, with his wife and daughter, to make the Big Apple his new home.

As Associate Director, Research & Education Services at NYU Health Sciences Libraries, Jeff’s main responsibilities are to work with his public services colleagues to plan and evaluate services

supporting research and education at the Medical Center including developing a new liaison program, to ensure his colleagues have the support, guidance, and resources to achieve their goals and develop professionally, and to collaborate with his senior management team colleagues to create and refine strategic priorities for the libraries. Jeff thrives on leadership opportunities and his new position at NYU is a perfect fit.

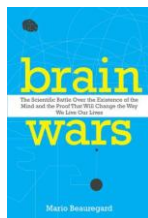
Jeff is currently a fellow in the NLM/AAHSL Leadership Fellows Program and he is exposed to all of the challenges library directors face. Born and raised in California, he is a graduate of UCLA's masters in library science program. Jeff was an active participant in the MLA's Southern California and Arizona chapter and he's looking forward to becoming an involved and committed member of the New York-New Jersey chapter. Jeff enjoys hiking, gardening (a bit of a challenge in New York City!) and reading, especially non-fiction (currently, his chosen topic of interest is ... New York!). We wish Jeff much success in his new position and send him a warm welcome to our NY-NJ Chapter.

Reader to Reader

Sarah Jewell, MLIS

Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center Library

jewells@mskcc.org



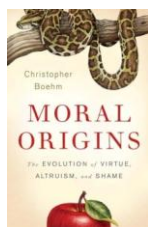
Brain Wars

Beauregard offers a refreshing take on the mind-body debate, arguing that the current reductionistic and materialistic view of the mind does not account for all the properties of consciousness.



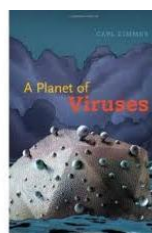
Living Architecture: How Synthetic Biology Can Remake Our Cities and Reshape Our Lives

Armstrong imagines the future of our cities to be more like an ecosystem than sets of lifeless buildings. The protocell is the building block of new living material that promises to change our lives.



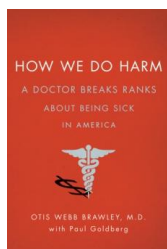
Moral Origins: The Evolution of Virtue, Altruism, and Shame

Unlike Dawkins's selfish gene theory, **Boehm** argues that altruists are those selected for survival, and that our moral sense has developed to allow our species to thrive in groups.



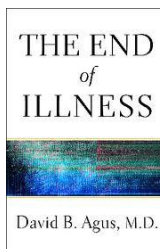
A Planet of Viruses

Zimmer offers us a tour of our virus-laden world, where humans hold more DNA from viruses than our own genes, and the oceans are swimming with loads of unique viruses.



How We Do Harm: A Doctor Breaks Ranks About Being Sick in America

Brawley exposes the flaws in the current healthcare system that allow the financial interests of certain parties to take precedence over the patient.



The End of Illness

Agus, a renowned oncologist, addresses health issues as systemic, whole body problems, and makes recommendations on how to prevent disease and improve health. He covers the dangers of supplements, why frozen fruit may be better than fresh fruit, and the importance of the flu vaccine.