From the Editors

Dear Chapter Members,

New Chapter Chair Mahnaz Tehrani recaps recent chapter events and offers a glimpse of things to come in 2014. Claire Joseph provides a detailed look last year's annual Chapter meeting. The Kudos column reports the awards given to members at that meeting and other news from members.

Renae Barger introduces new funding opportunities from the Middle Atlantic Region and highlights upcoming activities in our area. Cathy Boss explains what the new spending bill means for the NIH. Claire Joseph writes her first column on Nursing and Allied Health. Thank you for joining us, Claire!

We include a profile of one of our Chapter members and an invitation to free CE opportunities. Jackie Heller describes a clinical practice guideline development system, and we end with a book review.

We hope you are looking forward to spring! Please send any suggestions and contributions for future issues to the newsletter editors, Sarah or Karen.

Happy Reading!

The Editors

February 2014
Greetings NY-NJ Chapter and Happy New Year! I’m honored to be able to serve as Chair for the coming year.

I would like to begin by thanking Racheline G. Habousha for her hard work as last year’s Chapter Chair. Also, I would like to reflect on a few accomplishments under her great leadership in 2012-2013. On September 30, 2013 MLA CE course “Demystifying Molecular Biology” was taught by Helen-Ann Brown Epstein and Colette Saccomanno. Aditi Bandyopadhyay received a Professional Development Award from NN/LM MAR for the course on behalf of the Chapter. Through this collaboration and a team effort of the Chapter members, this class was offered at no cost to the attendees. The Chapter supported two seats at the Chapter Round Tables at MLA 2013 in Boston. Also, the board approved financial support in the amount of $195 for first-time AHIP applicants and $350 to support Friends of NLM (FNLM).

I’d like to extend my appreciation to Claire Joseph and Aurelia Minuti for co-chairing the Chapter's annual meeting. The theme for the program was "Batten Down the Hatches! Safeguarding our Libraries and Responding to Disaster." For details, be sure to read Claire's recap of the meeting below.

Moving forward, the CE Committee has developed a few MLA CE Courses in March 2014. See Melissa Spangenberg's article in this issue. Don’t miss this great educational opportunity.

The most important tool for building our Chapter’s future is our members. It’s your passion and energy that makes us a great Chapter. Stay tuned for the Spring Dinner announcement and the annual meeting in Fall! It’s going to be another great year for the Chapter and I’m excited to be part of it.

Wish you all a prosperous and healthy New Year!

Best,
Mahnaz A. Tehrani
NY-NJ Chapter Chair 2013-2014
On a windy Wednesday morning, 60 chapter members and 10 vendors gathered at the Michael F. Price Center for Genetic and Translational Medicine /Harold and Muriel Block Research Pavilion at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine in the Bronx for our annual meeting. “Batten Down the Hatches: Safeguarding Our Libraries and Responding to Disaster” focused on the experiences of local hospital and medical center libraries during and after the devastation of Hurricane Sandy which occurred nearly one year ago.

Co-Chairs Aurelia Minuti and Claire Joseph arranged the meeting with the outstanding assistance of Arpita Bose and Lita Anglin, who worked on Vendor Relations; Melissa Spangenberg, our web guru; Marie Elias, who handled meeting registration and also joined with Helen-Ann Brown Epstein, and Mary K. Joyce for onsite registration.

After a lovely breakfast, attendees gathered in the comfortable auditorium. At the end of our chapter business meeting, NY/NJ leadership was transferred from the capable hands of Racheline Habousha to the equally capable hands of Mahnaz Tehrani. Many thanks to Racheline for her leadership; we look forward to the next year with Mahnaz.

Our keynote speaker, Neil Rambo, Director of the NYU Health Sciences Library & Knowledge Informatics, New York University School of Medicine, spoke on “Hurricane Sandy Recovery One Year Later: One Library’s Experience.” NYU’s library was severely impacted by Sandy, and Neil shared their experiences during the storm and how they worked to recover services and collections.

Dixie Jones, MLA President, graciously traveled to our meeting to give us an MLA Update. Lydia Collins, NN/LM MAR Consumer Health Coordinator informed us of the many RML activities and programs.

Helen-Ann Brown Epstein, Chair of the Hospital Libraries Section of MLA, informed us of HLS’ Initiative to Save Hospital Librarians and invited interested attendees to join her at lunch for an impromptu meeting.

After a delicious lunch, we were able to take guided tours of the D. Samuel Gottesman Library at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine. This was insightful and enjoyable, and we thank the staff for their efforts.

Our afternoon program began with Laraine Tursi, Director of the Medical Library at Coney Island Hospital in Brooklyn who spoke on “Thinking Fast on Your Feet,” her first-hand
experience with handling disaster management in the aftermath of Hurricane Sandy. Coney Island was also severely impacted by Sandy, and Laraine shared her experiences and the knowledge she gained as a result of them.

The final speaker was Claire Joseph, Director of the Medical Library at South Nassau Communities Hospital in Oceanside, NY. While the immediate area surrounding South Nassau had relatively mild damage (trees down and loss of power) the devastating impact of Sandy on nearby communities, especially Long Beach, had a major impact on the operations and employees of South Nassau; a number of employees lost their homes to flooding. Long Beach Memorial Hospital closed due to flooding, so their patients, outpatients, and residents transferred to South Nassau. Because of the influx of patients, federal clinical personnel were set up in tents in the ER parking lot. In addition, the main lobby was inundated with local residents seeking power and warmth.

Claire spoke of her role as the New York State Liaison for NN/LM MAR Emergency Preparedness; the New Jersey liaison is Nancy Forsberg at Bristol-Myers Squibb Children’s Hospital at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital, New Brunswick, NJ, who was unable to attend. Claire recommended attendees look into MLA’s Disaster Information Specialization Program, Levels I & II, a series of online, free courses.

An interesting and informative program, along with the chapter’s usual cordial collegiality, was enjoyed by all in attendance! Many thanks to Aurelia Minuti and the library staff at Albert Einstein for making arrangements to hold our meeting at this beautiful venue.

Chapter Membership Dues Reminder

Chapter membership dues are $15.00 a year, and can be paid using PayPal or by check. They are due at the beginning of the calendar year. To become a new member, or renew your membership for 2014:

- Complete our online [PayPal form](#) and pay by credit card or PayPal account; OR
- Complete the [2014 Membership Form](#) and mail it with your check for $15.00, made payable to “NY-NJ Chapter of MLA”.

**Address to send check:**
Patricia Gallagher  
3379 Beaverwood Lane  
Silver Spring MD 20906

NOTE: The mailing address to submit dues payments and membership forms has just changed. If your institution’s accounts payable department sends in your dues check, make sure they update the address in their system. Please verify that the correct address is being used, or switch to PayPal instead!
Congratulations to our members who won Outstanding Achievement Awards at the NY-NJ Chapter of MLA Annual Meeting held at Albert Einstein Medical College’s Michael F. Price Center for Genetic and Translational Medicine/Harold and Muriel Block Research Pavilion, on October 9, 2013:

**Lifetime Achievement Award**

Mary K. Joyce  
Retired  
Morristown Medical Center  
Shinn-Lathrope Health Sciences Library

**Outstanding Contribution by a New Member**

Antonio DeRosa  
Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center  
Nathan Cummings Library

**Outstanding Contribution by a Member**

Nancy R. Glassman  
Albert Einstein College of Medicine  
D. Samuel Gottesman Library

**This year’s recipient for the Chapter Research Grant**

Nancy R. Glassman  
Albert Einstein College of Medicine  
D. Samuel Gottesman Library  

For her study, “Access to Peer-Reviewed Journal Literature for Unaffiliated Health Professionals at a Federally Qualified Health Center.”

**Publications**


Keydi Boss O'Hagan had an article published in the October-December 2013 issue of the Journal of Hospital Librarianship.


Jackie Heller had two articles published in HealthLine, the Newsletter of the Hospital Library Services Program of the Long Island Resources Council.


Colleen Kenefick co-authored an article with Dr. Rachel Boykan and Dr. Maribeth Chitkara, Assistant Professors in the Department of Pediatrics at Stony Brook University Hospital that was recently published in Medical Reference Services Quarterly.


**A Special Thank You**

A special thank you is due to Aditi Bandyopadhayay from Adelphi University. Aditi worked very, very hard with METRO and NN/LM MAR to secure a Professional Development Award to fund Helen-Ann Brown-Epstein's and Colette Saccomanno's Demystifying Molecular Biology CE workshop held at METRO on September 30, 2013. The award made it possible to offer the CE course for free.

**NN/LM Mid-Atlantic Region Update**

**Renae Barger**

NN/LM MAR Executive Director

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I’d like to take the opportunity in this issue to highlight our upcoming funding opportunities as well as some spring activities of interest to NY/NJ chapter members.

Each year NN/LM MAR offers a variety of funding opportunities for medical, public and school libraries, information centers, and organizations providing health information services. Funding supports projects designed to improve health information services; increase awareness and
access to biomedical information for health professionals and educate and empower health care consumers. In this contract, we are particularly looking for projects that provide information services and education to target:

- Health professionals, including mental health, clinical health and public health workers that do not have access to library services;
- Minority health professionals;
- Faculty, librarians and/or students affiliated with health sciences programs at community colleges;
- Health and science teachers, nurses and/or students in K-12 settings; and
- Healthcare consumer groups, including soldiers, veterans and military families; seniors and caregivers.

Last year we also introduced the Medical Library Project award designed specifically for projects that promote librarian involvement in institution-wide health information initiatives and stimulate collaboration within the organization to address local health information problems. Projects may include, but not be limited to, programs surrounding health literacy, patient safety, patient education, electronic health records or patient portals, order sets and clinical guidelines. Finally, if your institution’s mission does not extend to health professionals or consumers outside your organization, you may wish to consider a Technology Improvement award to allow the purchase of technology to enhance electronic health information services to your patron population.

Projects are eligible for $10,000-$15,000. Funding is an excellent way to get support for a new service or project and get recognition within your institution or community. Interested in applying? Applications will be accepted until March 15. Visit our funding page to learn more about the different award types. Contact us if you have questions or wish to discuss potential projects. We are here to discuss your project ideas and provide consultation on bringing your ideas to fruition.

Here are additional resources to get you started:

- **Grants and Proposal Writing class**: Designed for beginning grant proposal writers and being offered online (February) and in person at Albert Einstein College of Medicine (March).
- **NN/LM Outreach and Evaluation Resource Center**: A division of the National Network of Libraries of Medicine (NN/LM), providing publications and resources in developing an effective evaluation plan.
- **Developing a Program: Planning and Evaluation Methods / Grant and Proposal Writing**
- **MAR Lunch with the RML**: This series of webinars highlights previously funded MAR projects. Primary investigators present their MAR-funded projects and lessons learned.

**MAR staff in the NY/NJ area:**

I would like to highlight some upcoming MAR activities in the NY/NJ area:
1. Health Information Services for Youth- Pratt Institute, Information & Library Science (Webinar)
   February 26, 2014

2. New Jersey Environmental Health Association (presenter)
   Title: Educating the Public on Environmental Health Issues Where They Live, Work and Play: Resources from the National Library of Medicine
   Atlantic City, NJ
   March 3, 2014
   Conference home

3. Four classes co-sponsored with NY/NJ chapter:
   Albert Einstein College of Medicine, D. Samuel Gottesman Library
   March 27-28, 2014
   
   Grants and Proposal Writing
   Public Health Information on the Web
   PubMed and Beyond: Clinical Resources from the National Library of Medicine
   PubMed for Experts

   For more details, see http://1.usa.gov/14QIoYY

4. Workshop: Navigating Health Information for Academic Libraries co-sponsored with Virtual Academic Library Environment (VALE) of New Jersey
   Alexander Library
   Scholarly Communications Center auditorium, 3^rd floor
   169 College Avenue
   Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ
   April 25, 2014, 10 am – Noon

   For more details, see http://nnlm.gov/ntcc/classes/class_details.html?class_id=707

5. NYLA -- Central NY School Librarians Conference (exhibitor and poster presentation)
   Syracuse, NY
   April 24-26, 2014

   The Rockefeller University, New York, NY
   April 28-29, 2014
   Agenda and registration forthcoming

7. Visit our class page for all of our online and in-person trainings.

Don’t be a stranger! Join us online or at one of our in-person events.
The federal government began a new budget year with the release of the FY 2014 omnibus spending bill. This bill includes all twelve FY 2014 spending bills and provides $29.926 billion for NIH. While this is a $1 billion (3.5%) increase over the FY 2013 budget after sequestration, it is $714 million less than the FY 2013 pre-sequestration appropriation.

The National Library of Medicine will receive $327,723,000, of which $4,000,000 will be available until September 30, 2015, for improvement of information systems. In addition, $8,200,000 is provided for National Information Center on Health Services Research and Health Care Technology. The bill also provides $633,267,000 for the National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences. This amount will allow the NIH to continue all current research programs and begin approximately 385 additional research studies and trials. The bill will also require public access policies across the Departments of Labor, HHS and Education, and maybe more.

“The agreement includes new funding for the Brain Research through Application of Innovative Neurotechnologies [BRAIN] Initiative, a multi-agency effort that also involves the National Science Foundation and the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency as well as several private sector partners. The BRAIN Initiative will help catalyze work to accelerate the development and application of new technologies that will help explain how the brain records, processes, stores, uses, and retrieves information.

“In addition, the bill includes sufficient funding for the proposed initiative to study new ways to prevent and cure Alzheimer’s disease. The total payments for healthcare, long-term care, and hospice for people with Alzheimer's and other dementias are projected to increase from $203 billion in 2013 to a staggering $1.2 trillion in 2050. Without a medical breakthrough to prevent, slow, or stop the disease, Medicare and Medicaid costs related to Alzheimer's could rise an estimated 500 percent. Research is desperately needed to bring those costs under control.”

http://www.appropriations.senate.gov/news.cfm?method=news.view&id=5aa8e660-f52e-4074-945f-9618eb963ae9

The complete text of the omnibus is at: http://docs.house.gov/billsthisweek/20140113/CPRT-113-HPRT-RU00-h3547-hamdt2samdt_xml.pdf.
NIH is in Division H, Title II, beginning on page 902.

First of all, I’d like to thank Sarah Jewell and Karen Sorenson for accepting my offer to take on this column; I look forward to keeping our membership apprised of nursing and allied health news and will strive to maintain the high standards Mary Doherty set for this column!

I want to share with you that my hospital, South Nassau Communities Hospital in Oceanside, NY, just received MAGNET recognition from the ANCC! We are now one of 21 New York State hospitals to achieve Magnet status.

I was privileged to be a part of the Magnet process. The Magnet committee included in their report a section on the Medical Library, its services, and its importance to the nursing staff. In addition, as a longtime member of the Nursing Research/Evidence-Based Practice Council I was a participant in the Council’s meeting with the Magnet team.

I would like to encourage all of you to be proactive (if you aren’t already!) and look for such opportunities to raise the visibility of your library and its personnel and services.

I also want to let you know that I’m editor of the “Author! Author!” section of the NAHRS newsletter; please let me know if you’ve written an article or made a poster/podium presentation so you can share your accomplishment with your colleagues!

I’ll end my first column with a recommendation of an excellent book, *A Man’s Guide to a Nursing Career* by Chad E. O’Lynn (NY: Springer, 2013, ISBN: 978-0-8261-0685-8). O’Lynn offers a well-written comprehensive work for men looking to enter nursing, complete with how to make it happen and all that can be expected from their career; included is an extremely interesting chapter on the history of men in nursing.
Get to Know Your Chapter:  
Diana Delgado  
Sisalee Hecht, MSLIS, AHIP  
Eastwick Education  
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Our NY/NJ Chapter is pleased to introduce you to Diana, a lifelong New Yorker. As an undergraduate, Diana attended New York University for one year before transferring to SUNY Albany where she earned a degree in English. She received her graduate degree in library science from Pratt Institute in Brooklyn.

Except for the time she worked as a freelance model selling men’s cologne and women’s perfume in Bloomingdale’s, Diana has always been employed in libraries. Her first library job at age 16 was as a shelving page in the Epiphany Branch of The New York Public Library on 23rd Street and 2nd Avenue. Diana’s subsequent library jobs ranged from being a shelving page in government documents in a college library, a library assistant in a bank library, a clerk in a VA Medical Library and an interlibrary loan coordinator at a hospital library.

Diana is currently employed at Weill Cornell Medical College as Associate Director, User Support, Research and Education. She teaches medical students, clinicians and allied health professionals while overseeing and assisting with the implementation of programs and services. Diana also works in varying capacities in a range of areas, including systematic reviews, college curriculum, assessment, and marketing.

Diana would like to remain in the medical field and sees herself continuing in academic health librarianship or hospital librarianship. She hopes to return to graduate school within the next five years and earn a second master’s, perhaps in public administration. In the next ten years Diana hopes to continue developing in the area of leadership and management, becoming the director of an academic health sciences library.

For pleasure, Diana enjoys creating (scented body scrubs, lotions, and candles) and gifting things to help people relax. As a New Yorker she has lived in one New York city borough or another all of her life and as a Brooklynite Diana loves her neighborhood in Park Slope.
Continuing Education:  
Spring Training with the NN/LM

Melissa Spangenberg  
Winthrop University Hospital  
MSpangenberg@Winthrop.org

Brush up your skills for the upcoming season with NN/LM!

When: Thursday, March 27, 2014 & Friday, March 28, 2014  
Where: Albert Einstein College of Medicine  
Cost: Free!

Lineup includes:

Thursday, March 27, 2014
9am-12pm: Grants and Proposal Writing – 3 MLA CE Registration
1pm-5pm: Public Health Information on the Web – 4 MLA CE Registration

Friday, March 28, 2014
9am-12pm: PubMed and Beyond: Clinical Resources from the National Library of Medicine – 3 MLA CE Registration
1pm-4pm: PubMed for Experts – 3 MLA CE Registration

Questions about the classes can be directed to Kate Flewelling: flewkate@pitt.edu.
Grades of Recommendation, Assessment, Development, and Evaluation (GRADE) is a clinical practice guideline development system that addresses the complexity of evidence and the inherent problems of bias and subjectivity. The GRADE framework ensures that the process of rating evidence and recommendations is systematic, rigorous, and transparent. GRADE has important implications for risk of bias incorporated into statistical analyses in evidence summaries in systematic reviews and in clinical trials. The relevant part of GRADE for librarians is to learn about the distinction between quality of evidence and strength of recommendations. This is especially significant when teaching clinical researchers, guideline developers, and systematic reviewers how to assess and evaluate the harms and benefits of healthcare interventions. The National Center for Biotechnology Information (NCBI) (http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/) provides web-based interfaces to explore the use of GRADE to develop clinical practice guidelines.

The issues and problems associated with recommendations:

PMID: 18456631 “What is quality of evidence and why is it important to clinicians?”

PMID: 23993312 “Interrator reliability of grading strength of evidence varies with the complexity of evidence in systematic reviews.”

PMID: 22536612 “Validity and inter-rator reliability testing quality assessment tools.”

PMID: 22981249 “Testing the risk bias tool skewed low reliability between individual reviewers and across consensus assessments of reviewer pairs.”

PMID: 22945832 “Influence of reported study design characteristics on intervention effect estimates from randomized, controlled trials.”

PMID: 23975265 “Incorporation of assessment risk of bias of primary studies in systematic reviews of randomized trials: a cross-sectional study.”

PMID: 20181324 “Dissemination and publication of research findings: an updated review of related biases.”

PMID: 15615589 “System for grading the quality of evidence and the strength of recommendations I: critical appraisal of existing approaches The Grade Working Group.”
From evidence-informed research to recommendations:

PMID: 15788089 “System for grading the quality of evidence and the strength of recommendations II: pilot study of a new system.”

“Cochrane reviews and summary of findings tables.” [http://cebgrade.mcmaster.ca/]


PMID: 22496843; PMC 330617 “From the trenches: a cross-sectional study applying the GRADE tool in systematic reviews of healthcare interventions.”

PMID: 15615589; PMC545647 “Developing and evaluating communication strategies to support informed decisions and practice based on evidence (DECIDE): protocol and preliminary results.”

PMID: 23294803; PMC3546302 “Current experience with applying the GRADE approach to public health interventions: an empirical study.”

Reader to Reader
Sarah Jewell, MLIS
Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center Library
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Richard Dawkins, renowned author of *The Selfish Gene* and *The God Delusion*, offers some personal background with his first book of memoirs. The first part of the book, detailing his early days in Africa, is not particularly enthralling, unfortunately. The book does include some surprising early accounts of religious zeal for a non-denominational god, alongside Elvis worship. Despite his early doubts about the power of natural selection, he does consider himself an atheist by the age of 16. Dawkins’ account of his studies at Balliol College, Oxford, is enlightening, and the pace of the book picks up at this point. The tutorial system that students followed, according to which they read recent papers in their fields and researched and discussed special topics, instead of rote memorization, was a key part of his educational foundation. The final stretch of the book details how the ideas came together as Dawkins wrote the classic *The Selfish Gene*. The behind-the-scenes look into Dawkins’ mind alone makes this worth a read. Stay tuned for part 2 of his memoirs, scheduled to come out in another two years, for more on his later career and his anti-religious crusade.