NEW YORK NEW JERSEY CHAPTER, INC. NY NJ MEDICAL LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

Newsletter
Summer 2002

In This Issue

From the Editors

From the Chair

Kudos for Chapter Members

Web Watch

Brave New World

In the Literature

Technology Review

RML Update

To The Editors

2003 Philadelphia Meeting

Special Report: MLA Benchmarking Task Force Focus Groups

Advocacy Report

News and Announcements

Online Newsletter Index

Brave New World

Alphabet Soup: DNA, RNA, mRNA, cDNA and More

by Kristine M. Alpi, AHIP
Weill Cornell Medical Library
kalpi@att.net

Are DNA, RNA and its variants a confusing jumble of biobabble for you? **Francis Crick** makes it simple: "DNA makes RNA, RNA makes protein, and proteins make us." This central dogma of molecular biology can also be represented as

DNA --> RNA --> Amino Acids --> Proteins

Go to **Access Excellence** at http://www.accessexcellence.org/AB/GG/central.html to see a graphic representation of this process. Definitions for most of the terms that follow can be found in the **NHGRI Glossary of Genetic Terms** at http://www.genome.gov/glossary.cfm.

Here are the players in this chain of events:

- **DNA** (deoxyribonucleic acid) is the chemical inside the cell nucleus that carries genetic instructions
- **RNA** (ribonucleic acid) delivers DNA's genetic message to the part of a cell where proteins are made. There are many subtypes of RNA:
    - mRNA (messenger RNA) is the template from which new DNA is made--the deliverer of the genetic message
    - snRNA (small nuclear RNA) helps splice the mRNA to create the template
    - rRNA (ribosomal RNA) participates in making the protein, as

NEW YORK NEW JERSEY CHAPTER, INC. NY NJ MEDICAL LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

Newsletter
Summer 2002

In This Issue

From the Editors

From the Chair

Kudos for Chapter Members

Web Watch

Brave New World

In the Literature

Technology Review

RML Update

To The Editors

2003 Philadelphia Meeting

Special Report: MLA Benchmarking Task Force Focus Groups

Advocacy Report

News and Announcements

Online Newsletter Index

Brave New World

Alphabet Soup: DNA, RNA, mRNA, cDNA and More

by Kristine M. Alpi, AHIP
Weill Cornell Medical Library
kalpi@att.net

Are DNA, RNA and its variants a confusing jumble of biobabble for you? **Francis Crick** makes it simple: "DNA makes RNA, RNA makes protein, and proteins make us." This central dogma of molecular biology can also be represented as

DNA --> RNA --> Amino Acids --> Proteins

Go to **Access Excellence** at http://www.accessexcellence.org/AB/GG/central.html to see a graphic representation of this process. Definitions for most of the terms that follow can be found in the **NHGRI Glossary of Genetic Terms** at http://www.genome.gov/glossary.cfm.

Here are the players in this chain of events:

- **DNA** (deoxyribonucleic acid) is the chemical inside the cell nucleus that carries genetic instructions
- **RNA** (ribonucleic acid) delivers DNA's genetic message to the part of a cell where proteins are made. There are many subtypes of RNA:
    - mRNA (messenger RNA) is the template from which new DNA is made--the deliverer of the genetic message
    - snRNA (small nuclear RNA) helps splice the mRNA to create the template
    - rRNA (ribosomal RNA) participates in making the protein, as

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

Editor of this issue:

William Self, The Medical Library Center of New York, 5 East 102nd St., 7th Floor, New York, NY 10029 S-1, Phone: 212-427-1630, Fax: 212-860-3496, E-mail: wself@mlcny.org.

Site maintained by Webmaster: Robert Dempsey

Posted 7/25/2002

©2002 NY-NJ Chapter of the Medical Library Association

does

- tRNA (transfer RNA)

Why be familiar with these variations? In **Entrez Nucleotides**, you can limit the search to regular DNA or RNA ("genomic DNA/RNA"), mRNA or rRNA using the Molecule pull-down limit or other types using the Properties field in Preview/Index.

What about **cDNA**? cDNA (complementary DNA) is DNA made by researchers from the protein-producing (coding) sections of mRNA. cDNA is more stable than mRNA for experiments and is more useful than the original DNA because the regions that do not code for proteins have been removed. If you search on the term "libraries" in PubMed, you retrieve many molecular biology articles thanks to the existence of cDNA libraries.

Resources:

cDNA Library [definition, spoken explanation and illustration]. *NHGRI Glossary of Genetic Terms*. [Online]. Available: http://www.genome.gov/glossary.cfm

National Center for Biotechnology Information. 2001. *Genetics Review. MLA CE Course Manual: Molecular Biology Information Resources*. [Online]. Available: http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/Class/MLACourse/Genetics/index.html

National Center for Biotechnology Information. 2001. *Molecular Genetics: Piecing It Together. Science Primer: A Basic Introduction to the Science Underlying NCBI Resources*. [Online]. Available: http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/About/primer/genetics_molecular.html

National Center for Biotechnology Information. 2001. *What is a Genome? Science Primer: A Basic Introduction to the Science Underlying NCBI Resources*. [Online]. Available: http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/About/primer/genetics_genome.html

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

Editor of this issue:

William Self, The Medical Library Center of New York, 5 East 102nd St., 7th Floor, New York, NY 10029 S-1, Phone: 212-427-1630, Fax: 212-860-3496, E-mail: wself@mlcny.org.

Site maintained by Webmaster: Robert Dempsey

Posted 7/25/2002

©2002 NY-NJ Chapter of the Medical Library Association

NEW YORK NEW JERSEY CHAPTER, INC. MEDICAL LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

Newsletter
Summer 2002

In This Issue

From the Editors

From the Chair

Kudos for Chapter Members

Web Watch

Brave New World

In the Literature

Technology Review

RML Update

To The Editors

2003 Philadelphia Meeting

Special Report: MLA Benchmarking Task Force Focus Groups

Advocacy Report

News and Announcements

Online Newsletter Index

From the Chair

At a recent Board meeting I was reminded of the vitality and high level of professional activity as Board and Committee Chairs shared their experiences at the Medical Library Association meeting in Dallas (May 2002).

- **Marie Asher** is the Chair-Elect for the **Public Health/Health Administration** section.
- **Patricia Gallagher** has become the Chair-Elect for the **History of the Health Sciences** section.
- **Dorice Vieira** is now the Chair of the **Nursing and Allied Health** section.
- Dorice is on the **Eliot Prize** committee.
- **George Wahlert** was elected Vice Chair of **Chapter Council** and continues to ably represent the Chapter at Chapter Council.
- George also is the Chair of the Majors Chapter Project of the Year award.
- **Maria Astifidis'** work at Beth Israel won 2nd prize at the **Swap and Shop Public Relations**.
- And I am now on the **Continuing Education Committee** and liaison to the **National Program Committee 2004**.

I certainly appreciate the time that it takes everyone to be involved not only on the national level but also to continue to be active locally.

The Board also voted to coordinate the **Mini Medical School** as a proposed symposium at the Medical Library Association meeting in 2004.

We are truly an organization that thinks and acts locally and globally!

Kathel Dunn, Chair

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

Editor of this issue:

William Self, The Medical Library Center of New York, 5 East 102nd St., 7th Floor, New York, NY 10029 S-1, Phone: 212-427-1630, Fax: 212-860-3496, E-mail: wself@mlcny.org.

Site maintained by Webmaster: Robert Dempsey

Posted 7/25/2002

©2002 NY-NJ Chapter of the Medical Library Association

NEW YORK NEW JERSEY CHAPTER, INC. MEDICAL LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

Newsletter
Summer 2002

In This Issue

From the Editors

From the Chair

Kudos for Chapter Members

Web Watch

Brave New World

In the Literature

Technology Review

RML Update

To The Editors

2003 Philadelphia Meeting

Special Report: MLA Benchmarking Task Force Focus Groups

Advocacy Report

News and Announcements

Online Newsletter Index

Kudos

A column featuring and honoring our colleagues in the NY/NJ Chapter of MLA!

Compiled by Xiomara Cruz
NYU Downtown Hospital Medical Library
xiomara.cruz@library.med.nyu.edu.

This quarter we would like to recognize these achievements by Chapter members:

George Wahlert, Morgan Health Sciences Library, Long Island College Hospital was recently elected Vice-Chair of the Chapter Council and is currently the NY-NJ Chapter Council Representative. He was also "selected" to be the Chair of the Majors Chapter Project of the Year Award Jury.

The new (2nd) edition of ***BibKit #5: History of the Health Sciences*** by Stephen Greenberg and **Patricia Gallagher** has been published by MLA. Information on the book is available at:

http://www.mlanet.org/publications/bibkits/bibkit5.html

Tracy Allen and **Patricia Gallagher** had two articles published in *Annals of emergency medicine*:

Gallagher PE, Allen TY, Wyer PC.
How to find evidence when you need it, part 2: a clinician's guide to MEDLINE: the basics.
Ann emerg med. 2002 Apr;39(4):436-40.

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

Editor of this issue:

William Self, The Medical Library Center of New York, 5 East 102nd St., 7th Floor, New York, NY 10029 S-1, Phone: 212-427-1630, Fax: 212-860-3496, E-mail: wself@mlcny.org.

Site maintained by Webmaster: Robert Dempsey

Posted 7/25/2002

©2002 NY-NJ Chapter of the Medical Library Association

Gallagher PE, Allen TY, Wyer PC.
How to find evidence when you need it, part 3: a clinician's guide to MEDLINE: tricks and special skills.
Ann emerg med. 2002 May;39(5):547-51.

Take a look at latest issue of *Internet Reference Services Quarterly* (6:3/4) - ***Web Resources on Bioterrorism and Political Violence***. Articles by **Marie Tomlinson Ascher** and **Patricia Gallagher**, **Roberta Bronson Fitzpatrick**, and **Michelle Volesko** are featured.

The **Information Services Team** (currently, **Kristine Alpi**, **helen-ann brown**, **Daniel Cleary**, **Kevin Pain**, **Antonio Ramos** and formerly **Mary Jo Dorsey** and **Anny Khoubesserian**) of the **Weill Cornell Medical Library** was honored by the Medical Library Association Research Section for their paper, *Accessing the Most Recent Information: Part II*. The paper was presented at MLA2002 in Dallas. The Information Services Team was honored by the Research Section with an honorable mention for their MLA2001 poster, *Accessing the Most Recent Information: Part I*.

Barbara S. Reich has been promoted to Director, Medical Library, **Hackensack University Medical Center**. She has also been awarded membership at the Senior level in the Academy of Health Information Professionals (AHIP).

Jiang Chen (Carole) was appointed Associate Librarian at the Medical Library of **Hackensack University Medical Center**. Ms. Chen joined HUMC from the Brooklyn Public Library, where she was the Assistant Division Chief of the Society, Science and Technology Division.

Congratulations to all of our hard-working Chapter members!

NEW YORK NEW JERSEY CHAPTER, INC. MEDICAL LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

Newsletter
Summer 2002

In This Issue

From the Editors

From the Chair

Kudos for Chapter Members

Web Watch

Brave New World

In the Literature

Technology Review

RML Update

To The Editors

2003 Philadelphia Meeting

Special Report: MLA Benchmarking Task Force Focus Groups

Advocacy Report

News and Announcements

Online Newsletter Index

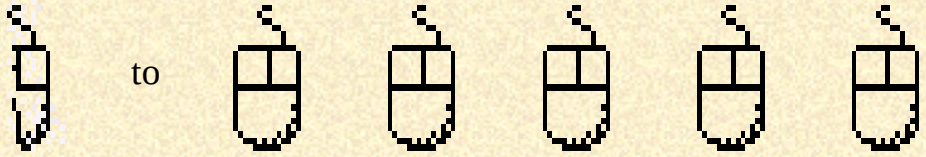
Web Watch

Pat's Picks

by Patricia E. Gallagher, MLS, AHIP
New York Academy of Medicine Library
pgallagher@nyam.org

Rating System

In our review system, websites are rated by mice, from a half mouse to 5 mice, 5 being the highest rating:

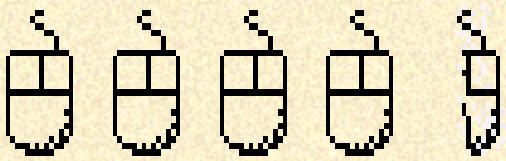


This edition will review a variety of resources.

1. ## Who Named It?

   http://www.whonamedit.com/

   Billed as "the world's most comprehensive dictionary of medical eponyms," **Who Named It?** provides a searchable database of people, diseases, tests and medications. While there have been occassional spelling errors discovered, the webmaster is courteous and quick to respond to any such errors. If you are looking for any kind of historical biographical information, this is a good place to start.

   My rating: 

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

Editor of this issue:

William Self, The Medical Library Center of New York, 5 East 102nd St., 7th Floor, New York, NY 10029 S-1, Phone: 212-427-1630, Fax: 212-860-3496, E-mail: wself@mlcny.org.

Site maintained by Webmaster: Robert Dempsey

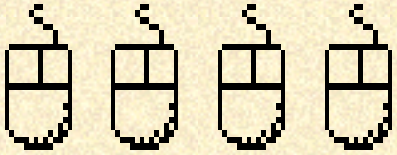
Posted 7/25/2002

©2002 NY-NJ Chapter of the Medical Library Association

2. Evidence-based On Call

http://www.eboncall.co.uk/

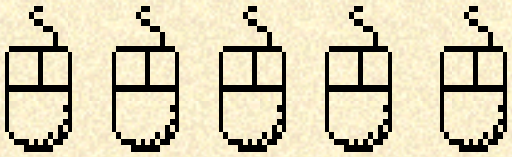
This growing collection of guides and clinically appraised topics (CATS) is maintained by the **Centre for Evidence-based Medicine** in Oxford. It is designed to provide access to the most recent summaries of evidence in specific disease/diagnostic topics. Currently somewhat brief in scope, it promises to continue expansion.

My rating: 

3. Healthy NJ

http://www.healthynj.org/

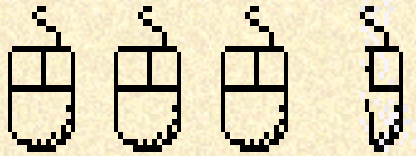
From the **University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey** comes this database of consumer health information. **Healthy NJ** provides the consumer with reference information in English and in Spanish, using the *Merck Manual of Medical Information, Home Edition*, as well as links to further information and resources in New Jersey.

My rating: 

4. Free Books 4 Doctors

http://www.freebooks4doctors.com/

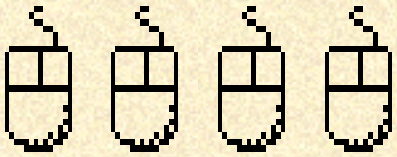
Free books 4 Doctors attempts to perform the same function as **Free Medical Journals.com** - provide links to websites with online textbooks. There is a wide variety of topics included, in English as well as in several foreign languages, and it is browsable by title and by speciality. The down side is that some of the items are not what I would consider a book (*Images in the History of Medicine*??) and some books are actually book chapters.

My rating: 

5. ## FASTATS

http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/fastats/Default.htm

The **National Center for Health Statistics** provides this quick reference tool to statistical information. Culled from a variety of resources, and with links to other statistical sources, this can be a useful first look when you need a number.

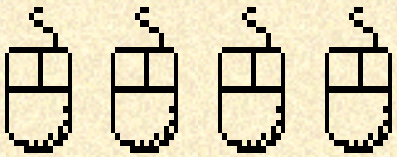
My rating: 

6. *And now for something completely different:*

Major League Baseball

http://mlb.mlb.com/NASApp/mlb/mlb/homepage/mlb_homepage.jsp

Before you leave for your next MLA meeting, find out if the home team is out of town. Or, what player is on the DL (and in your hopital). Useful for information, not only on the major leagues, but on their farm teams as well.

My rating: 

NEW YORK NEW JERSEY CHAPTER, INC. MEDICAL LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

Newsletter
Summer 2002

In This Issue

From the Editors

From the Chair

Kudos for Chapter Members

Web Watch

Brave New World

In the Literature

Technology Review

RML Update

To The Editors

2003 Philadelphia Meeting

Special Report: MLA Benchmarking Task Force Focus Groups

Advocacy Report

News and Announcements

Online Newsletter Index

Brave New World

Alphabet Soup: DNA, RNA, mRNA, cDNA and More

by Kristine M. Alpi, AHIP

Weill Cornell Medical Library

kalpi@att.net

Are DNA, RNA and its variants a confusing jumble of biobabble for you? **Frances Crick** makes it simple: "DNA makes RNA, RNA makes protein, and proteins makes us." This central dogma of molecular biology can also be represented as

DNA --> RNA --> Amino Acids --> Proteins

Go to **Access Excellence** at http://www.accessexcellence.org/AB/GG/central.html to see a graphic representation of this process. Definitions for most of the terms that follow can be found in the **NHGRI Glossary of Genetic Terms** at http://www.genome.gov/glossary.cfm.

Here are the players in this chain of events:

- **DNA** (deoxyribonucleic acid) is the chemical inside the cell nucleus that carries genetic instructions
- **RNA** (ribonucleic acid) delivers DNA's genetic message to the part of a cell where proteins are made. There are many subtypes of RNA:

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

Editor of this issue:

William Self, The Medical Library Center of New York, 5 East 102nd St., 7th Floor, New York, NY 10029 S-1, Phone: 212-427-1630, Fax: 212-860-3496, E-mail: wself@mlcny.org.

Site maintained by Webmaster: Robert Dempsey

Posted 7/25/2002

©2002 NY-NJ Chapter of the Medical Library Association

- mRNA (messenger RNA) is the template from which new DNA is made--the deliverer of the genetic message
- snRNA (small nuclear RNA) helps splice the mRNA to create the template
- rRNA (ribosomal RNA) participates in making the protein, as does
- tRNA (transfer RNA)

Why be familiar with these variations? In **Entrez Nucleotides**, you can limit the search to regular DNA or RNA ("genomic DNA/RNA"), mRNA or rRNA using the Molecule pull-down limit or other types using the Properties field in Preview/Index.

What about **cDNA**? cDNA (complementary DNA) is DNA made by researchers from the protein-producing (coding) sections of mRNA. cDNA is more stable than mRNA for experiments and is more useful than the original DNA because the regions that do not code for proteins have been removed. If you search on the term "libraries" in PubMed, you retrieve many molecular biology articles thanks to the existence of cDNA libraries.

Resources:

cDNA Library [definition, spoken explanation and illustration]. *NHGRI Glossary of Genetic Terms*. [Online]. Available: http://www.genome.gov/glossary.cfm

National Center for Biotechnology Information. 2001. *Genetics Review. MLA CE Course Manual: Molecular Biology Information Resources*. [Online]. Available: http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/Class/MLACourse/Genetics/index.html

National Center for Biotechnology Information. 2001. *Molecular Genetics: Piecing It Together. Science Primer: A Basic Introduction to the Science Underlying NCBI Resources*. [Online]. Available: http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/About/primer/genetics_molecular.html

National Center for Biotechnology Information. 2001. *What is a Genome? Science Primer: A Basic Introduction to the Science Underlying NCBI Resources*. [Online]. Available: http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/About/primer/genetics_genome.html

NEW YORK NEW JERSEY CHAPTER, INC. NY NJ MEDICAL LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

Newsletter
Summer 2002

In This Issue

From the Editors

From the Chair

Kudos for Chapter Members

Web Watch

Brave New World

In the Literature

Technology Review

RML Update

To The Editors

2003 Philadelphia Meeting

Special Report: MLA Benchmarking Task Force Focus Groups

Advocacy Report

News and Announcements

Online Newsletter Index

Brave New World

Alphabet Soup: DNA, RNA, mRNA, cDNA and More

by Kristine M. Alpi, AHIP
Weill Cornell Medical Library
kalpi@att.net

Are DNA, RNA and its variants a confusing jumble of biobabble for you? **Francis Crick** makes it simple: "DNA makes RNA, RNA makes protein, and proteins makes us." This central dogma of molecular biology can also be represented as

DNA --> RNA --> Amino Acids --> Proteins

Go to **Access Excellence** at http://www.accessexcellence.org/AB/GG/central.html to see a graphic representation of this process. Definitions for most of the terms that follow can be found in the **NHGRI Glossary of Genetic Terms** at http://www.genome.gov/glossary.cfm.

Here are the players in this chain of events:

- **DNA** (deoxyribonucleic acid) is the chemical inside the cell nucleus that carries genetic instructions
- **RNA** (ribonucleic acid) delivers DNA's genetic message to the part of a cell where proteins are made. There are many subtypes of RNA:
  - mRNA (messenger RNA) is the template from which new DNA is made--the deliverer of the genetic message
  - snRNA (small nuclear RNA) helps splice the mRNA to create the template
  - rRNA (ribosomal RNA) participates in making the protein, as

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

Editor of this issue:

William Self, The Medical Library Center of New York, 5 East 102nd St., 7th Floor, New York, NY 10029 S-1, Phone: 212-427-1630, Fax: 212-860-3496, E-mail: wself@mlcny.org.

Site maintained by Webmaster: Robert Dempsey

Posted 7/25/2002

©2002 NY-NJ Chapter of the Medical Library Association

does

- tRNA (transfer RNA)

Why be familiar with these variations? In **Entrez Nucleotides**, you can limit the search to regular DNA or RNA ("genomic DNA/RNA"), mRNA or rRNA using the Molecule pull-down limit or other types using the Properties field in Preview/Index.

What about **cDNA**? cDNA (complementary DNA) is DNA made by researchers from the protein-producing (coding) sections of mRNA. cDNA is more stable than mRNA for experiments and is more useful than the original DNA because the regions that do not code for proteins have been removed. If you search on the term "libraries" in PubMed, you retrieve many molecular biology articles thanks to the existence of cDNA libraries.

Resources:

cDNA Library [definition, spoken explanation and illustration]. *NHGRI Glossary of Genetic Terms*. [Online]. Available: http://www.genome.gov/glossary.cfm

National Center for Biotechnology Information. 2001. *Genetics Review. MLA CE Course Manual: Molecular Biology Information Resources*. [Online]. Available: http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/Class/MLACourse/Genetics/index.html

National Center for Biotechnology Information. 2001. *Molecular Genetics: Piecing It Together. Science Primer: A Basic Introduction to the Science Underlying NCBI Resources*. [Online]. Available: http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/About/primer/genetics_molecular.html

National Center for Biotechnology Information. 2001. *What is a Genome? Science Primer: A Basic Introduction to the Science Underlying NCBI Resources*. [Online]. Available: http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/About/primer/genetics_genome.html

NEW YORK NEW JERSEY CHAPTER, INC. MEDICAL LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

Newsletter
Summer 2002

In This Issue

From the Editors

From the Chair

Kudos for Chapter Members

Web Watch

Brave New World

In the Literature

Technology Review

RML Update

To The Editors

2003 Philadelphia Meeting

Special Report: MLA Benchmarking Task Force Focus Groups

Advocacy Report

News and Announcements

Online Newsletter Index

In The Literature

by Kathel Dunn, MSLS
katheldunn@aol.com

This quarter's *In the Literature* focuses on electronic publication, from an overview of electronic medical journals, the challenges of publishing an electronic library newsletter, to the quest to provide an alternative scholarly publishing forum.

Curran, C. The medical journal meets the Internet. *First Monday* 2002; 7(6).

The promising title of this article proves disappointing in the content. It begins with an overview of the development of electronic journals, but instead of providing a comprehensive list of e-journals (or linking to a page of e-journals, as this is an online publication), the author provides only a short table of six e-journals as an example of e-journals. The author does, however, provide an overview of the publication process, and discusses the advantages and disadvantages of medical journals on the Internet and peer review. A light and quick look at medical electronic journals.

Lord, Lissa. Electronic Newsletters: The How and Why of Them. *LLRS.COM* May 15, 2002. http://www.llrx.com/features/e-newsletters.htm

A practical, humorous and hands-on approach to the creation of a library newsletter for the **Leon E. Bloch Law Library of the University of Missouri at Kansas City**. The author provides a detailed description of what choices led to the publication of the newsletter, the choice of software, formatting, displaying and archiving of the publication. In addition, the evaluation and reader comments are enclosed.

Peek, R. SPARC is ready to go mainstream. *Information Today* June 2002;

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

Editor of this issue:

William Self, The Medical Library Center of New York, 5 East 102nd St., 7th Floor, New York, NY 10029 S-1, Phone: 212-427-1630, Fax: 212-860-3496, E-mail: wself@mlcny.org.

Site maintained by Webmaster: Robert Dempsey

Posted 7/25/2002

©2002 NY-NJ Chapter of the Medical Library Association

19(6):38.

The author brings us up to date on what is happening with **SPARC** (***S***cholarly ***P***ublishing and ***A***cademic ***R***esources ***P***ublication). SPARC's goals are encouraging low-cost and alternative publishing options for scholars and libraries. To facilitate this, SPARC has published a series of guides that can assist the new-to-publishing crowd get started. The series are *Create Change*, *Declaring Independence*, and *Gaining Independence: A Manual* (http://www.arl.org/sparc/GI). SPARC also has 20 partners in alternative publishing programs ranging from low-cost alternatives, partnering with non-profits and - in taking the offensive - supporting projects that use new technology or existing technology in an innovative way. The article also briefly mentions three other alternative scholarly publishing initiatives: the **Budapest Open Access Initiative**, the Council on Library and Information Resources' **Scholarly Communication Institute** and the **Open Society Institute**.

Young, JR. Journal boycott over online access is a bust. *The Chronicle of Higher Education*. May 16, 2002. http://chronicle.com/free/2002/05/2002051601t.htm.

This article is an update on the status of the **Public Library of Science's** planned boycott of any journal that did not make its content free online six months after initial publication. Over 30,000 scientists signed the boycott agreeing that after September 2001, they would not "publish in, subscribe to, or serve as an editor for any journal" that did not make its material free after six months. ***The article notes that very few people stuck to their pledge and so the leaders of the Public Library of Science movement have planned to publish their own journals as alternatives to the existing journals.*** The proposed new journals will make their content free online immediately upon publication. The business model they intend to use is shifting the cost of publication to the authors, with an expected author charge of $500 per article. **Harold Varmus**, president of Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, is quoted in the article.

NEW YORK NEW JERSEY CHAPTER, INC. MEDICAL LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

Newsletter
Summer 2002

In This Issue

From the Editors

From the Chair

Kudos for Chapter Members

Web Watch

Brave New World

In the Literature

Technology Review

RML Update

To The Editors

2003 Philadelphia Meeting

Special Report: MLA Benchmarking Task Force Focus Groups

Advocacy Report

News and Announcements

Online Newsletter Index

Technology Review

Bare Naked Actress Palms Pilot: A Review of Wireless Networks and Techology

by Nancy Glassman, MLS, AHIP
D. Samuel Gottesman Library,
Albert Einstein College of Medicine
glassman@aecom.yu.edu

Though not as exciting as a quick scan of the *National Enquirer*, a look at the history of wireless technology is revealing in its own way.

Guglielmo Marconi learned how to communicate with radio waves in the 1890's. The late actress Hedy Lamarr invented wireless technology that is still used in cellular phones and wireless networks today. She and co-inventor, George Antheil, hold U.S. patent number 2,292,387 for "spread spectrum technology," or frequency hopping. Wireless networking is just part of the continuing evolution of this technology.

In this article, I will try to present a brief overview of wireless networking, and illustrate some ways it could be useful in a library setting.

A wireless network functions just like a regular, "wired" network, but information is transmitted through the air using radio frequencies rather than through cables. In order to make a network connection, a computer needs a NIC (network interface card), or a USB (Universal Serial Bus) network

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

Editor of this issue:

William Self, The Medical Library Center of New York, 5 East 102nd St., 7th Floor, New York, NY 10029 S-1, Phone: 212-427-1630, Fax: 212-860-3496, E-mail: wself@mlcny.org.

Site maintained by Webmaster: Robert Dempsey

Posted 7/25/2002

©2002 NY-NJ Chapter of the Medical Library Association

adapter. Wired NICs have RJ-45 ports that are connected to network cables. Wireless NICs have transceivers with built-in antennae instead. Wireless NICs are available for devices such as personal computers, laptops, and PDAs (personal digital assistants).

A computer configured with a wireless NIC communicates with a network through an AP (access point). APs have transceivers with antennae, which let them communicate with wireless devices or other APs. They also connect by cable to a network. Several wireless devices can connect to a single AP at a time, but the more devices that are using the AP, the slower the connection will be. Wireless devices are not very expensive. APs cost from about $150 to $500. Wireless NICs cost around $100. Wireless networks usually use DHCP (Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol). This means that a computer with a wireless NIC does not have to be assigned a specific IP address.

There are several standards for configuration of wireless local area networks in use right now. The **IEEE 802.11** group, **Bluetooth**, and **HomeRF** are commonly used. IEEE 802.11 is becoming the most popular standard. Starbucks is implementing it in some of their coffee shops. 802.11 is a standard developed by the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers. The earliest version of this standard is 802.11b, which is also known as Wi-Fi. 802.11b operates on the 2.4-gigahertz band of the radio frequency spectrum and can transfer data at speeds up to 11 megabits per second over a distance of 100 feet from access point to wireless device. A newer version of the standard is 802.11a. 802.11a operates on the 5-gigahertz band and can transfer data at speeds up to 54 megabits per second. 802.11b has a range of about 60 feet. Since these two standards operate at different frequencies, they are not compatible; an 802.11b NIC will not work with an 802.11a access point. A new standard, 802.11g, which will be available soon, promises to be compatible with 802.11b and transfer data at speeds of up to 54 megabits per second.

There are many uses for wireless networks in libraries.

- Patrons could bring their own laptops into the library to do their research.
- Some libraries require patrons to purchase their own wireless NICs. Other libraries lend wireless NICs or laptops.
- A wireless network would allow Internet access in places that cannot easily be wired. This would be particularly useful in older buildings, or buildings with open spaces.
- Library staff could take advantage of the mobility granted by a wireless network with projects such as inventory control, or remote circulation.
- Bibliographic instruction could "go mobile". Classes could be taught in any area within the range of an AP.

An important consideration when implementing a wireless network is the placement of APs within the library. Speed and performance degrade the farther the wireless device is from an access point. Architecture and furniture are important considerations, because structures like elevator shafts, supporting columns, and metal shelving are very good at blocking signals. Testing must be done to determine the best placement of APs for the widest range of access (like in the cell phone commercial where the man is walking the globe, asking "Can you hear me now?"). Performance will slow down when many devices are trying to connect to an AP at one time.

Users of the IEEE 802.11b standard should keep in mind that other devices such as cellular phones and microwave ovens also use the 2.4GHz radio frequency band. This means interference could degrade network performance and cause it to become unreliable.

Security is still an issue for wireless networks. Because they depend on radio waves, they are vulnerable to outside eavesdropping. Wireless networks do have some built-in security features. IEEE developed a protocol called **WEP** (***W***ired ***E***quivalent ***P***rivacy), which was supposed to make wireless networks as safe as wired ones. Although this protocol has been found to have many flaws, it is a good first step. Its features include several levels of encryption and network access codes.

Other types of wireless connectivity exist. **IrDA** (***I***nfra***r***ed ***D***ata ***A***ssociation) is used by PDAs and laptops, but it has limited usefulness. It is slow, requires line-of-sight contact for the devices communicating with each other, and has a range of about one meter. **WAP** (***W***ireless ***A***pplication ***P***rotocols) is used to provide access to information services and application using the screens of cellular phones.

Traditional, wired networks run at speeds from 10 megabits per second to 100 megabits per second. They are still faster and more secure than wireless networks. Although wireless will not render obsolete wired networks any time soon, they definitely can extend a library's networking capabilities.

Additional Resources:

Wireless Hardware (a sample of what's out there, not a recommendation):

- **Linksys**: http://www.linksys.com
- **Netgear**: http://www.netgear.com

- **SMC**: http://www.smc.com
- **U.S Robotics**: http://www.usr.com

Libraries using Wireless technology:

- Wireless Networking Access in the VCU Libraries. 2002; Virginia Commonwealth University Libraries, http://library.vcu.edu/wireless/
- Wireless access in the library. 2002; UTHSCSA Library Web Team. http://www.library.uthscsa.edu/faq.cfm#WirelessLAN1

Further Reading:

Breeding M. The benefits of wireless technologies. *Information Today* 2002;19(3):42-3.

Ginzburg B. Goin' mobile: Using a wireless network in the library. *Computers in Libraries* 2002;21(3):40-4.

Glover J. Look ma, no wires! Or, the 10 steps of wireless networking. *Computers in Libraries* 2001;21(3):28-32.

A walk on the wireless side. *Bulletin of the American Society for Information Science and Technology* 2002;27(5), http://asis.org/Bulletin/Jun-01/cushing.html

Wireless Computing. *Smart Computing in Plain English Learning Series* 2002;8(5).

Libwireless Discussion Group, http://people.morrisville.edu/~drewwe/wireless/libwireless.html

NEW YORK NEW JERSEY CHAPTER, INC. MEDICAL LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

Newsletter
Summer 2002

In This Issue

From the Editors

From the Chair

Kudos for Chapter Members

Web Watch

Brave New World

In the Literature

Technology Review

RML Update

To The Editors

2003 Philadelphia Meeting

Special Report: MLA Benchmarking Task Force Focus Groups

Advocacy Report

News and Announcements

Online Newsletter Index

RML Update

by Joanne Jahr, MLS
Network Programs Coordinator
NN/LM Middle Atlantic Region
jjahr@nyam.org

For those who were unable to attend the MLA meetings in Dallas this year or who missed the Sunrise Seminar, below are a few highlights of the NLM Online Users session.

Electronic Funds Transfer System (EFTS)

Perhaps the most exciting announcement to come out of that session was the news that EFTS is "going national" and that NLM will be a participant.

For those of you who do not know, the Electronic Fund Transfer System (EFTS), is a transaction-based electronic billing system for ILL and document delivery charges. It has been operational since 1996 in New England, since 1998 in the Middle Atlantic Region, and is currently used in a total of four NN/LM regions.

EFTS provides monthly detailed transaction reports, the ability to handle differential charges such as additional rush or fax charges, the ability to vary charges to members of special groups, and the ability to handle non-DOCLINE transactions. NN/LM members of all types and sizes have found that it reduces the administrative costs associated with billing and paying for ILLs.

NLM is committed to working with the University of Connecticut Health Center EFTS staff to expand the system on a national basis to NN/LM member libraries. Additionally, the plan includes sending NLM billing data for DOCLINE libraries to the EFTS system.

More information about EFTS can be found at http:/efts.uchc.edu/

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

Editor of this issue:

William Self, The Medical Library Center of New York, 5 East 102nd St., 7th Floor, New York, NY 10029 S-1, Phone: 212-427-1630, Fax: 212-860-3496, E-mail: wself@mlcny.org.

Site maintained by Webmaster: Robert Dempsey

Posted 7/25/2002

©2002 NY-NJ Chapter of the Medical Library Association

SERHOLD to OCLC

Eight libraries participated in NLM's SERHOLD-to-OCLC pilot project to add, modify or delete holdings automatically in OCLC based on changes in SERHOLD. By July of this year, NLM expects to offer all DOCLINE participants who also have holdings in OCLC the ability to load their holdings from SERHOLD to OCLC. **Holdings modified in SERHOLD will be automatically updated in OCLC every three months, eliminating redundant keying of data.**

ISO/ILL Protocol

During this past year, NLM has been testing the ISO/ILL Protocol with three vendors: RLG's ILL Manager, Fretwell-Downing's VDX system, and CISTI. The purpose of this protocol is to enable ILL systems to share data so that users of a commercial ILL system can send and receive requests to and from DOCLINE without logging in separately. In April 2002, NLM began testing the protocol with OCLC. NLM's implementation of the ILL protocol with OCLC will allow DOCLINE users who do not have an ISO/ILL compliant system to send unfilled requests to OCLC from DOCLINE. At that point the user will manage the request from OCLC.

SERHOLD and LinkOut

NLM has developed a new programming interface between LinkOut and SERHOLD, currently in beta testing with 77 libraries. The program loads SERHOLD data into LinkOut, enabling users to verify whether their library owns the volume cited in a PubMed record.

Upcoming DOCLINE Release 1.4

In response to customer feedback, NLM will add three new Loansome Doc features that will be implemented in DOCLINE Release 1.4 by the end of the year. Those enhancements include:

1. A message on its DOCLINE Home page notifying a library when a new LD account has been added.
2. Adding the "reason" a request was not filled by the ordering library to the "Loansome Doc Patron Status of Orders"; and,
3. Modifying the message to a patron who is no longer authorized to order documents from his ordering library to be more specific about what his next steps should be to get an authorized account.

DOCLINE Interface Review

For the past six months I have been part of a small team of RML and NLM staff working together on a project to conduct a systematic review of the DOCLINE interface. The initial focus is on changing DOCUSER, but during the course of the next year all modules will be reviewed.

The specific goals of the review include:

- improved usability overall,
- adding requested enhancements received from users, and
- an improved HELP system.

Expected outcomes include a simplified DOCUSER interface to speed data entry as well as eliminate the need for redundant data entry in the Contacts and Address areas, enhanced searching capabilities of DOCUSER, overhaul of the ILL charges and loan policies section, a simplified method of updating Routing Tables, and a means to allow libraries to designate their display in the MEDLINEplus Consumer Health Libraries page.

The entire RML staff joins me in wishing one and all a healthy and refreshing summer and I look forward to sharing updated information with you in the fall.

NEW YORK NEW JERSEY CHAPTER, INC. MEDICAL LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

Newsletter
Summer 2002

In This Issue

From the Editors

From the Chair

Kudos for Chapter Members

Web Watch

Brave New World

In the Literature

Technology Review

RML Update

To The Editors

2003 Philadelphia Meeting

Special Report: MLA Benchmarking Task Force Focus Groups

Advocacy Report

News and Announcements

Online Newsletter Index

To The Editors:

Mini-Leadership Scholarship

by Terry Cuddy, Librarian
Capital Health System/Fuld Campus
tcuddy@chsnj.org

The New York-New Jersey MLA Chapter offered a Mini Scholarship to enable chapter member to attend the meeting symposium "Leadership Reconsidered: Developing a Strategic Agenda for Leadership in Health Sciences Libraries" during the MLA Annual Meeting in Dallas, Texas this year.

Violet Evans, Head, Technical Services, SUNY Downstate Medical Center, Medical Research Library, Brooklyn, NY was selected as the recipient of this scholarship and her experiences are summarized below.

Leadership Reconsidered
Interview for Theresa M. Cuddy
From Violet O. Evans, MLS

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

Editor of this issue:

William Self, The Medical Library Center of New York, 5 East 102nd St., 7th Floor, New York, NY 10029 S-1, Phone: 212-427-1630, Fax: 212-860-3496, E-mail: wself@mlcny.org.

Site maintained by Webmaster: Robert Dempsey

Posted 7/25/2002

©2002 NY-NJ Chapter of the Medical Library Association

SUNY Downstate Medical Center

Q: Did you get a chance to network?

A: Yes, there was great opportunity for networking. During the symposium there were break out sessions and we were assigned to work in groups with colleagues sharing interests in the areas of:

- Qualities, skills, and competencies for leadership
- Unique aspects of health science libraries leaders
- Challenges and obstacles to leadership
- Leadership roles and career paths

The group that I worked in (**Qualities, skills and competencies for Leadership**) had participants in a variety of different levels of library leadership roles extending from directors to heads of departments to librarians who play no formal role in regard to the managerial aspects. Because of this diversity suggestions were taken as to how one could handle situations that may arise within their institution. As a result of this sharing we all look forward to possibly meeting at next year's meeting in San Diego and bringing each other up to date with how we have implemented the knowledge that we took away from the symposium.

Q: Any leadership issues and/or programs you became more aware of?

A:I learned several valuable lessons, most of which came from Maureen Sullivan's (Faculty, ACRL/Harvard Leadership Institute) discussion in regards to leadership where she defines it as *The process of influence; inspiring others to accomplish/achieve results.* Other points that I have found to be helpful to become an effective leader include:

- self awareness (know who we are and where we want to be in the profession);
- self management (how we manage our time and develop a program to enhance our individual leadership/management skills);
- social awareness (become well informed about the political matters that are occurring within our institutions); and
- social skills (interact with individual outside of our libraries, thus establishing relationship).

In addition, it is important to incorporate everyone's viewpoint without letting people feel as if the past is being discarded, or that they are being left out of important decisions, thus making them afraid of implementing change or planning ahead for the future.

Programs which I have become more aware of are as follows:

- **Frye Institute** - consists of an intense 2 week program that is focused towards faculty, academic administrators, information technologists, and librarians who will take on future leadership roles. For more information visit www.fryeinstitute.org
- **ACRL/Harvard Leadership Institute** - to enhance leadership management skills of individuals who make management decisions. The 5 day program covers skills of leadership, organizational strategy, transformational learning and planning. For more information visit www.gse.harvard.edu/~ppe/
- **ARL/Office of Leadership and Management Services** - focuses on identifying and developing skilled library staff and leadership talent that will prepare for future roles by empowering behavioral change, practices and organizational cultures. For more information visit http://www.arl.org/olms/
- **NLM Training Programs** (NLM & NN/LM "CE" Courses, Associate Fellowship Program, Woods Hole Medical Informatics Course) - the purpose of these programs is prepare new librarians and those who have been in the profession for a while for leadership roles in the health sciences libraries. More information may be found at www.nlm.nih.gov/about/training/associate/index.html

Q: Did you get a chance to learn how our library profession responds to leadership challenges regarding critical issues?

A: Yes, regarding leadership challenges to critical issues it is important to have knowledge about the political situations that occur within our institutions and use this knowledge to enhance our social skills, thus building partnerships. The partnerships that we do embrace should include the attributes of being change agents and conducting our partnerships with honesty and integrity, which will be a benefit to all who are connected to the organization as a whole. Overall, to become effective leaders who are able to address challenges of critical issues we must take the time and opportunity to invest in programs that will groom us to become better leaders, give us the ability to handle challenges and implement change.

Q: Any ideas come out of it that may be applied to your particular institution?

A: Ideas presented during the symposium that can be applied to my institution, other library organizations and to my personal life as well are as follows:

- **Realize who I am** in the profession and **where I want to be**
- Develop my **agenda for learning**
- Work with effective mentors recognizing my strengths but **improving my areas of weakness**
- **Encourage self leadership** and encourage to make an ongoing

process thus building opportunities for coaching/mentoring

- **Share the information** that I have gained with others in hopes of making them aware of the leadership knowledge that exists

Finally I will remember what Maureen Sullivan encouraged us to do:

"See life as a learning lab; focus on the importance of mental rehearsal for what you want to do."

NEW YORK NEW JERSEY CHAPTER, INC. MEDICAL LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

Newsletter
Summer 2002

In This Issue

From the Editors

From the Chair

Kudos for Chapter Members

Web Watch

Brave New World

In the Literature

Technology Review

RML Update

To The Editors

2003 Philadelphia Meeting

Special Report: MLA Benchmarking

Task Force

Focus Groups

Advocacy Report

News and Announcements

Online Newsletter Index

Attention All Chapter Members

Your Involvement Is Quintessential!

Planning for the historic five chapter Quint meeting is underway.

The steering committee met in Dallas and I would like to update you on our progress so far and solicit your involvement and participation in this exciting conference event.

We have determined the chapters that will lead each committee. While our Chapter has two renowned co-chairs for the Programming Committee, I encourage your membership on any of the committees listed here. Here is your chance to work with your regional colleagues in a new, exciting and fun way. Please contact me by email to indicate which committee you want to be on:

faraino@library.med.nyu.edu

We need to have the committees in place by July 1, so do not wait or hesitate!

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

Editor of this issue:

William Self, The Medical Library Center of New York, 5 East 102nd St., 7th Floor, New York, NY 10029 S-1, Phone: 212-427-1630, Fax: 212-860-3496, E-mail: wself@mlcny.org.

Site maintained by Webmaster: Robert Dempsey

Posted 7/25/2002

©2002 NY-NJ Chapter of the Medical Library Association

The Conference:	When: October 26-28, 2003 Where: Philadelphia (exact location to be determined)
The Chapters:	• New York/New Jersey • Philadelphia Regional • Philadelphia SLA • Mid Atlantic • Pittsburgh
Conference Co-Chairs:	• Anne Seymour, Philadelphia Regional MLA • Richard Faraino, NY/NJ MLA

The Committees:

Programming	William Self and Micki McIntyre of NY/NJ will co-chair
Local Arrangements/ Hospitality and Financing/ Budget	to be chaired by Philadelphia MLA and SLA
Continuing Education, and Fundraising	to be chaired by Mid Atlantic
Publicity	to be chaired by Pittsburgh

Submitted by
Richard Faraino,
Chair-Elect

NEW YORK NEW JERSEY MEDICAL LIBRARY ASSOCIATION CHAPTER, INC.

Newsletter
Summer 2002

In This Issue

From the Editors

From the Chair

Kudos for Chapter Members

Web Watch

Brave New World

In the Literature

Technology Review

RML Update

To The Editors

2003 Philadelphia Meeting

Special Report: MLA Benchmarking Task Force Focus Groups

Advocacy Report

News and Announcements

Online Newsletter Index

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

Editor of this issue:

William Self, The Medical Library Center of New York, 5 East 102nd St., 7th

2002 MLA Benchmarking Network Initiative Enters Analysis Phase:

Data Helps Create First Snapshot of Health Sciences Libraries, Their Value and Worth

Michelle Mary Volesko
Director, Library and Information Services,
New Jersey Hospital Association,
Princeton, NJ
mvolesko@njha.com

Background and Development

The Benchmarking Task Force was very pleased with final count of participants in the first ever MLA benchmarking initiative. Benchmarking information for **more than 300 hospital libraries** is now available for all MLA members to utilize! Analysis of the data is well underway. Sample charts and tables are in the July issue of *National Network* and a comprehensive portfolio of reports will be mounted on MLANET this summer. Members of the **MLA Benchmarking Task Forces** have reported on the progress in developing and implementing the Benchmarking Network in every issue of *National Network*. An extensive amount of time and creative effort by many MLA members resulted in a successful first year of data collection. The data includes representation from each chapter of MLA. Users of the data can initially compare their own libraries against the aggregate.

Launched in January, the questionnaire closed data submission on March 4, 2002. The final total was 350 individuals entering hospital or system information. One problem noted by the Task Force was systems reported combined data under the individual library reporting section of the survey. Methods to ensure proper reporting will be examined for future surveys.

The NY-NJ Chapter had 36 participants, listed in Table 1. A special thank you to each and every participant on the Chapter who contributed to the success of the project. A quick scan shows our Chapter came in fifth on the list of participation, out of 13 chapters. NAHSL and the Midwest Chapters, each with 50 participants.

To introduce the analysis portion, an educational session was held at the MLA annual meeting, Hospital Library Section program, on Tuesday May 21, Dallas Texas, titled *Benchmarking: A Tool for Library Improvement.* Aggregate results were presented (see charts) as well as the experience of three hospital librarians with the benchmarking network, from large and small libraries and a system.

Methodology

The survey methodology was to collect data on Web-based data entry forms from December 15, 2001 to March 4, 2002. The participants were hospital library and special library members of the Medical Library Association who did not participate in the Association of Academic Health Sciences Libraries (AAHSL) survey. The questionnaire was developed by MLA Benchmarking Network teams and tested in 2001. Approximately 1,500 hospital librarians were solicited by the Benchmarking Chapter Educators to fill out an extensive questionnaire (over 100 questions) on the Web in the "members only" section of the MLANET website. 385 MLA members logged in and filled out parts of the questionnaire. The data was reviewed and 41 libraries were excluded for various reasons to obtain a core of 344 hospital libraries. If there are 1,500 hospital libraries in the US and Canada, a fact that has never been established, the 344 libraries responding to the questionnaire represent a **22.9% return** on the request for data.

Chart 1 shows the **type of hospital** that participated. Chart 2 shows the **size of the libraries** that participated by total Library FTE. The participants were compared to the number of hospitals in the AHA's Hospital Statistics™ 2002. Chart 3 shows the result that **larger sized libraries** participated. Many people are interested in the sample size. Again comparing the data to the AHA's Hospital Statistics™ 2002, Table 2 shows the sample size of our survey for each bed-size range.

Reporting the Results

The Benchmarking Implementation Task Force plans to report the results of the survey in various ways:

Floor, New York, NY 10029 S-1, Phone: 212-427-1630, Fax: 212-860-3496, E-mail: wself@mlcny.org.

Site maintained by Webmaster: Robert Dempsey
Posted 7/25/2002
©2002 NY-NJ Chapter of the Medical Library Association

- Aggregate tables based on hospital or library size will be placed on MLANET.
- Specific questions will be analyzed.
- An interactive site where you can choose your own parameters of size and measures of activity will be developed.
- Finally the entire Excel data file will be available for benchmarking or research.

The aggregate tables under development will cross various hospital and library size parameters with various measures of library activity. Some parameters are hospital FTE, outpatient visits, staffed beds, total library FTE, and total library expenditures. Some measures are reference questions, educational program sessions, expenditures on print serials, and print serials titles with electronic full-text access.

Additionally, there will be aggregate information regarding expenditures for wages and salaries, professional development and travel, monographs, print serials, audiovisual resources, electronic information resources, delivery services, computer or network equipment, etc. Other budget information will include financial support and other income information. The information will also include aggregate statistics on services such as consumer health reference questions, mediated searches, patient care mediated searches. Other services data will include statistics regarding circulation and interlibrary loans. Numbers of resources available (monographs, serials with and without electronic access) will be provided, as well as information on provision of special services (archives, library web page, web OPAC, consumer health and CME services, photocopying, AV equipment circulation, etc.)

Data Sample

An **example of these aggregate tables** is shown in Table 3, comparing current print serials titles to ranges of hospital FTE size. The data for the mean, median, third quartile, minimum, and maximum of the number of current print serials titles are given based on hospital size as measured by number of hospital FTE.

Future Plans

Members of the Task Force will be working over the summer to create the report features of the Benchmarking Network. A FAQ, frequently asked question while out and about with colleagues in New York and New Jersey "Will the survey be done next year, I did not get a chance to participate this time around?" Answer: Yes! The MLA Benchmarking Committee will provide more details in the future.

For now, there are definite plans to open the network for a **second data entry window in early 2003**. There will be some minor revisions to the questions and a number of additions, which will reflect MLA's desire to extend the benchmarking efforts to other types of member libraries. The questions regarding health care systems will also be redesigned based on the first year's experience. The Task Force expects that the revised questionnaire worksheet will be available on MLANET in late fall so that members can anticipate what data is requested and in what formats. The current worksheet is still available. If libraries wish to collect the data now, they can still compare their data against the aggregate, even though they will not be included in it.

It is hoped that many more libraries will participate in the MLA Benchmarking Network next year. As more libraries participate, the breakdown of the data by specific parameters increases in relevancy. The comparative information becomes even more useful to all.

As a special incentive for the first survey, the NY-NJ Chapter offered a raffle and the winner was **Ms. Arlene Mangino**, Librarian, **Clara Maass Medical Center**, Belleville, NJ. Arlene is now the proud owner of a PALM PDA m100 series with a fire engine red faceplate. When telephoned, Arlene was not only thrilled, but also advised that she did not own any PDA and is a quick study learning this one. Enjoy Arlene!

Special Thanks

A special thanks to **Debbie Rand**, Chair of the MLA Benchmarking Committee for her leadership in this endeavor, all of the graphics and major portions of this article. If you have any questions of your BCE, Benchmarking Chapter Educator, please don't hesitate to contact me at: 609-275-4230 or mvolesko@njha.com. Due to the volume of e-mail received kindly note your inquiry concerns benchmarking, in the subject line.

Table 1

NY-NJ Participants to the 2002 MLA Benchmarking Network Survey

Paul E.	Barth	Roosevelt Hospital Center
Catherine Mary	Boss	Jersey Shore Medical Center

Keydi	Boss	Holy Name Hospital
William F.	Casey	Nassau County Medical Center
Virginia I.	Cook	Winthrop-University Hospital
Theresa M.	Cuddy	Capital Health Systems
John Lawrence	Dormer	Cathedral Health Care System
Antoinette	Drago	Metropolitan Hospital Center
Joanna	Faraday	Northern Westchester Hosp. Ctr.
Lena Friedel	Feld	JFK Medical Center
Kathleen	Fiola	Helen Hayes Hospital
Lydia	Friedman	Maimonides Medical Center
Elaine	Goldman	Pascack Valley Hospital
Mary A.	Hicks	Saint Vincent Catholic Medical Centers
Ruth	Hoffenberg	Queens Hospital Center
Mary K.	Joyce	Morristown Memorial Hospital
Josefina P.	Lim	Montefiore Medical Center
Katherine Lois	Lindner	Englewood Hospital & Med. Center
Rita	Maier	NY Hospital Med. Ctr. of Queens
Arlene Dorothy	Mangino	Clara Maass Medical Center
Catherine W.	Marchok	Capital Hlth. Sys./Mercer Campus
Patricia	May	St. Joseph Hosp. & Medical Ctr.
Stuart V.	Moss	Nathan S. Kline Institute
Frederic C.	Pachman	Monmouth Medical Center
Joanne Kay	Papanicolaou	Riverview Medical Center
Joan	Petersen	Union Hospital
Susan S.	Pistolakis	Medical Center of Ocean County
Debra C.	Rand	Long Island Jewish Medical Center
Barbara S.	Reich	Hackensack Medical Center
Dorothy D.	Schwartz	Cabrini Medical Center
Victoria A.	Sciuk	Overlook Hospital
Robin D.	Siegel	CentraState Medical Center
Michelle M.	Volesko	New Jersey Hospital Association
George A.	Wahlert	Long Island College Hospital
Louise M.	Yorke	Medical Center at Princeton
Mary	Walker	Greystone Park Psychiatric Hosp.

Table 2

Sample size of BN survey for each AHA Hospital Statistics 2002

AHA Bed Size	BN Libraries	AHA Hospitals	Sample Size
6-24	0	339	0%
25-49	0	1027	0%
50-99	17	1342	1%
100-199	69	1439	5%
200-299	76	743	10%
300-399	61	391	16%

400-499	36	212	17%
500 or more	85	317	27%

Table 3

Current Print Serials Titles By Ranges of Hospital FTE Size

Current Print Serials Titles (ts02) by Hospital FTE (pa06)	Qualified answers	Mean	Median	Third quartile	Maximum	Minimum
Range 1: 0 to 499.9	9	126	71	131	433	52
Range 2: 500 to 849.9	26	128	112	135	650	6
Range 3: 850 to 1349.9	61	158	135	210	430	6
Range 4: 1350 to 1824.9	61	214	186	279	641	42
Range 5: 1825 to 2599.9	61	256	211	350	640	25
Range 6: 2600 to 4249.9	62	325	328	418	668	50
Range 7: 4250 to 7999.9	27	406	350	488	980	85
Range 8: 8000 and up	9	563	669	737	860	180
N=	316	250	202	335	980	6

Chart 1

Type of Hospital Participating, N=343

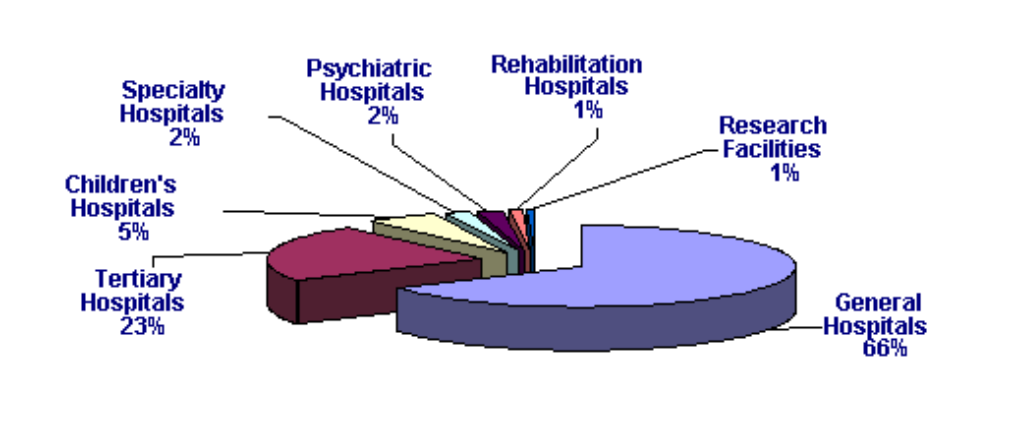


Chart 2

Participant Library Size By Total Library FTE, N=344

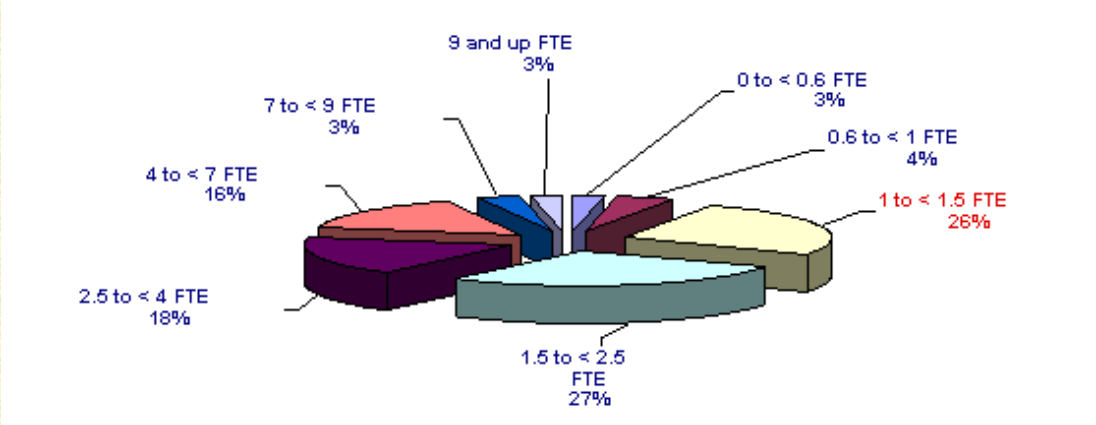
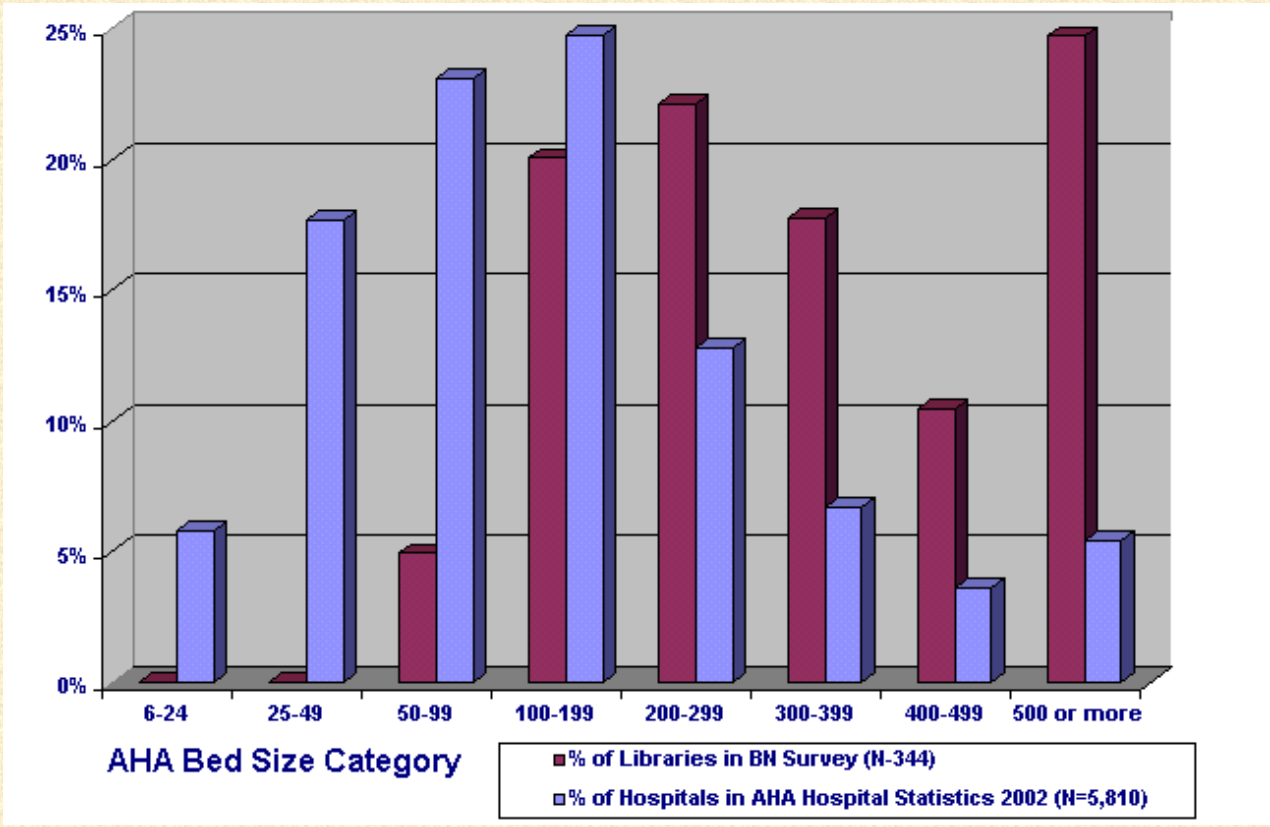


Chart 3

Comparison of BN Survey Participants to the AHA Hospital Statistics™ 2002, By Percentage



NEW YORK NEW JERSEY CHAPTER, INC. MEDICAL LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

Newsletter
Summer 2002

In This Issue

From the Editors

From the Chair

Kudos for Chapter Members

Web Watch

Brave New World

In the Literature

Technology Review

RML Update

To The Editors

2003 Philadelphia Meeting

Special Report: MLA Benchmarking Task Force Focus Groups

Advocacy Report

News and Announcements

Online Newsletter Index

Advocacy Committee Report

by Elaine Wells, Chair, Advocacy Committee
Kohn Vision Science Library
SUNY College of Optometry
ewells@sunyopt.edu

Committee Members:
Luda Dolinsky, Lutheran Medical Center
Tom Angelo, SUNY Health Science Center at Brooklyn

The main activity of the Advocacy Committee continues to be the monitoring of major legislative developments affecting libraries. The committee is set up to monitor national developments as well as issues specific to New York and New Jersey. This is done through electronic updates received from the New Jersey and the New York Library Associations.

While many of the issues that are reported are not specific to medical libraries, we feel it is important to communicate them, since they often reflect the general climate in which libraries are functioning and the efforts being made by legislators on our behalf or contrary to our interests.

Nationally

The Patriot Act has raised a number of concerns about privacy. The National Headquarters of the **Medical Library Association** has responded by joining with other library organizations, namely the American Association of Law Libraries, the American Library Association, and the Association of Research Libraries, and reiterating that very high standards should continue to be required for authorizing the release of library records. They also feel strongly that current laws are sufficient for dealing with "computer crimes."

Also on the national front:

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

Editor of this issue:

William Self, The Medical Library Center of New York, 5 East 102nd St., 7th Floor, New York, NY 10029 S-1, Phone: 212-427-1630, Fax: 212-860-3496, E-mail: wself@mlcny.org.

Site maintained by Webmaster: Robert Dempsey

Posted 7/25/2002

©2002 NY-NJ Chapter of the Medical Library Association

- **Copyright Term Extension Act** (Eldred v. Ashcroft). Library associations and other groups filed a "friend of the court" brief with the US Supreme Court in challenge to the constitutionality of the Copyright Term Extension Act.

- **CIPA (Children's Internet Protection Act).** CIPA was ruled "facially invalid" since the court concluded that CIPA would require libraries to violate the First Amendment rights of their patrons.

Locally

New York

The **New York State Library's Five-Year Evaluation Report** for the period October 1, 1997 - September 30, 2002 is now available on the State Library's website at

http://www.nysl.nysed.gov/libdev/lsta/eval/overall.htm

This report contains an overall evaluation of the impact of federal LSTA-funded library programs and services.

New Jersey

The **New Jersey Foundation for Open Government** sponsored a statewide conference entitled "Fulfilling the Promise of Open Records" on Saturday, June 8, 2002. The two participating panels provided different perspectives on the hoped for benefits of the new open records legislation, and how it fits into the larger movement for open and accountable government.

Also in New Jersey, S1236, a bill to provide **$50 million in construction and technology funding** was released after a unanimous vote of the Senate Education Committee. That is the bill's first hurdle, it still has a long way to go and its next stop will be the Senate Appropriations Committee.

NEW YORK NEW JERSEY CHAPTER, INC. MEDICAL LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

Newsletter
Summer 2002

In This Issue

From the Editors

From the Chair

Kudos for Chapter Members

Web Watch

Brave New World

In the Literature

Technology Review

RML Update

To The Editors

2003 Philadelphia Meeting

Special Report: MLA Benchmarking

Task Force

Focus Groups

Advocacy Report

News and Announcements

Online Newsletter Index

News and Announcements

Congratulations to Patricia Gallagher
on the publication the new edition of her **Bibkit**:

Bibkit#5: History of the Health Sciences, 2nd revised edition. Compiled by Stephen J. Greenberg, Ph.D., and Patricia E. Gallagher, AHIP. MLA, 2002.

The information is available at the MLA web site at:

http://www.mlanet.org/publications/bibkits/bibkit5.html

News from the Recruitment Committee

Please join us in welcoming our newest members:

Jiang Chen **cchen@humed.com**	Hackensack University Medical Center
George Constance **gconstance@nyam.org**	New York Academy Medicine
Heather Finkelstein **hfinkelstein@saintpetersus.com**	St. Peter's University Hospital

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

Editor of this issue:

William Self, The Medical Library Center of New York, 5 East 102nd St., 7th Floor, New York, NY 10029 S-1, Phone: 212-427-1630, Fax: 212-860-3496, E-mail: wself@mlcny.org.

Site maintained by Webmaster: Robert Dempsey

Posted 7/25/2002

©2002 NY-NJ Chapter of the Medical Library Association

Lisa Lin **lisahlin@hotmail.com**	Student - Queens College
Chunwei Ma **Cma2@meridianhealth.com**	Jersey Shore Medical Center
Geeta Mathur **gemathur@chp.org**	St. Luke's/Roosevelt Hospital
Patricia Mongelia **pattiemongelia@hotmail.com**	New York Public Library
Ken Riccardi **kriccard@nshs.edu**	North Shore University Hospital
Kathy Rohr **rohrkat@worldnet.att.net**	Student - Rutgers University
Karen Sorensen **ksorense@aecom.yu.edu**	Albert Einstein College of Medicine
Donna Soultoukis **soultoukisd@lourdesnet.org**	Our Lady of Lourdes
Bharathi Subramanian **bharathi.subramanian@downstate.edu**	SUNY Downstate Medical Center

Of Interest to Our Members

Submitted by Barbara Niss, Mount Sinai Archives

The **Mount Sinai Archives**, a division of the Gustave L. and Janet W. Levy Library of the Mount Sinai Medical Center, has developed an exhibit celebrating the 150th anniversary of The Mount Sinai Hospital. Created in conjunction with the Museum of the City of New York, ***The Mount Sinai Hospital, 1852-2002/Extraordinary People, Extraordinary Medicine*** celebrates the dynamic part the hospital has played as one of the City's leading medical facilities and research

centers. This exhibit is part of the Museum's City Partners Program and is housed in the Museum's City Partner's Gallery. The exhibit opened June 1 and runs until October 6, 2002.

In addition to the exhibit, **Barbara J. Niss**, Mount Sinai Archivist, is also the co-author of a book that is due out in November that recounts the clinical and scientific contributions of the Mount Sinai Hospital staff over the past 150 years. *This House of Noble Deeds: The Mount Sinai Hospital, 1852-2002* (NYU Press) was written with **Arthur H. Aufses, Jr. MD**, former chairman of Mount Sinai's Deptartment of Surgery.