

NEWSLETTER

NEW YORK
NEW JERSEY
CHAPTER, INC.



MEDICAL
LIBRARY
ASSOCIATION

In this Issue:

From the Editors	1
From the Chair	2
Changing Currents	3
Kudos for Chapter Members	4
Advocating at Capitol Hill	5
Nursing and Allied Health	6
NN/LM MAR Update	7
Continuing Education Committee Update	8
Need to Give a Presentation?	
Tips to Knock 'em Dead	8
Reader to Reader	9
Remembering Reginald Smith	10
Remembering Ursula Poland	10

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

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From the Editors

A very Happy New Year to all! The New York/New Jersey MLA Chapter Newsletter has two new editors, Aileen McCrillis, from NYU Health Sciences Libraries and Sarah Jewell, from Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center Library. We hope you enjoy reading about the Chapter's activities and your colleagues in the area.

This issue begins with a message from the Chapter Chair, Claire Joseph. Tim Roberts provides a thorough recap of the Chapter's Annual Meeting, Changing Currents and Christina Rivera updates us on policy and MLA activities in the 'Advocacy' column. Make sure you check out the updates from the NN/LM MAR and Continuing Education Committee. In 'Reader to Reader' Sarah Jewell reviews several non-fiction titles relevant to medicine. The editors are happy to welcome a new contributor, Karen Erani, who shares important tips for public speaking. Robin Wright highlights accomplishments by Chapter members in the Kudos column.

We hope you enjoy this issue. Please send any suggestions and contributions for future issues to the newsletter editors, Sarah or Aileen.

Happy Reading!

The Editors
February 1, 2011



From the Chair

Claire B. Joseph, MS, MA, AHIP
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As I write this I am preparing for the first Board Meeting of my tenure as your Chair. When I was literally (and symbolically) handed the gavel from Marie Ascher at our interesting and informative Annual Meeting in Yonkers on October 6, 2010, (kudos to Tim Roberts and his Committee!), I was struck by the sheer magnitude of leadership skills, talents and dedication of our membership. I pledge to continue the high level of service the Board of the NY—NJ Chapter of MLA has consistently provided over the years.

We live in extremely difficult economic times; in fact, many of our colleagues have lost positions due to downsizing. Now more than ever we must band together as the vital and vibrant professional organization that we are, prove our resilience to change, and work to continue to promote the indispensable services we provide.

As stated in our strategic planning mission, we will accomplish our goals through advocacy, recruitment, networking, professional development, communication, and recognition of professional accomplishments. Our Chapter has a rich history of dedication, commitment, involvement, and volunteerism which continues in full force.

Last year, under the able guidance of Continuing Education Committee Co-Chairs Rich McGowan and Jamie Graham, we launched Lunch & Learn webinar sessions which enabled many of our members to continue their education with minimal interruption to their job responsibilities. Nancy Glassman (our Chair-Elect) and Nighat Ispahany resigned as Editors of this Newsletter; Sarah Jewell and Aileen McCrillis have taken on this necessary and much appreciated work.

In 2011 we'll have a Joint Chapter Meeting with NAHSL, "Taming Information Chaos," to be held at Mohegan Sun in Uncasville, Connecticut, October 30th-- November 1st.

Winter is a time of transition for all of us. The New Year, with all its unknowns, offers us a new beginning of hope.

I urge each and every one of you to continue in your Chapter membership and get and stay as involved as your life allows. The Board is here to serve and we welcome your suggestions and concerns.

Happy New Year!!!





Changing Currents

Timothy Roberts, MLS, AHIP

Hospital for Special Surgery

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“You cannot step into the same river twice, for fresh waters are ever flowing in upon you”
- Heraclitus

The Annual Meeting of the New York New Jersey MLA Chapter at the Yonkers Public Library centered on the theme *Changing Currents*. Held on the banks of the Hudson River, the hope was that participants walked away empowered to embrace the fluidity of our times.

Betsy Humphreys, the Deputy Director of the National Library of Medicine, provided the keynote address, *Changing Currents: Finding Opportunity in Turmoil*. Her talk focused on four key areas where librarians can continue to add value to their institutions:

- Selecting and supporting public access to information and data
- Helping their institutions define and comply with the regulation for “meaningful use” of Electronic Health Records
- Statutory requirements surrounding government funded and regulated research/researchers
- Creating opportunities for community engagement, by participating in health information outreach, health literacy cooperatives, even being part of your communities disaster preparedness planning

In the afternoon session we relied on the membership as a whole to run the show. Our entire afternoon program consisted of attendees participating in small group discussions. The topics (below) were generated from issues identified in the 2009 chapter survey as being of interest to the membership. At the end, we came back together as a group to share collective wisdom.

Changing Roles: *How are librarians embracing new roles within their institution and reinventing their models of service?*

Changing Stewardship: *What can different generations of librarians teach each other?*

Changing Economic Issues: *How are librarians doing more with less, creating innovating purchasing arrangements, and finding new funding resources?*

Changing Technology – Social Media: *How are librarians implementing social media?*

Changing Technology – Educational Media: *How are librarians implementing new, educational media?*

Changing Technology – Electronic Medical Record: *Are librarians a part of their institutions' electronic medical record development and/or implementation?*

Changing Perceptions: *What are librarians doing within their institution to demonstrate their library's value and the institution's return on investment?*

Changing Spaces: *What does the library space look like now and what will it look like in the future?*

Based on the feedback from our evaluation survey, the meeting was a success. Many members commented that they appreciated the small group discussion format as it encouraged collegiality and gave folks the opportunity to meet other chapter members. It is a safe bet that our group will, indeed, be able to sail the *Changing Currents* with some navigational help from their friends.

Kudos for Chapter Members

Robin Wright, MS
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robinwright78@hotmail.com

Congratulations to our members who won Outstanding Achievement Awards at the Chapter Annual Meeting, October 6, 2010, held at the Yonkers Riverfront Public Library.

Lifetime Achievement Award
Laura P. Barrett, MLS, AHIP (D)
Retired
UMDNJ University of Medicine & Dentistry of New Jersey
University Libraries

Carolyn Anne Reid, MA, AHIP (D)
Retired
Weill Cornell Medical College of Cornell University
Weill Cornell Medical Library

Dorothy Schwartz, MLS
Retired
New York Methodist Hospital

Outstanding Contribution by a New Member

For their work on the Continuing Education Committee

Rich McGowan, MLS
New York University Health Sciences Libraries
Ehrman Medical Library

Jamie Graham, MLS
New York University Health Sciences Libraries
Ehrman Medical Library

Outstanding Contribution by a Member

Timothy Roberts, MLS, AHIP (D)
Hospital for Special Surgery
Kim Barrett Memorial Library
For his work on the Program Committee 2010

Vickie Sciuk, MLS, AHIP (S)
Dover Business College
Dover Campus Library
For her work on the Web Committee

This year's recipient for the Chapter Research Grant

Dorice Vieira, MPH, MLS, MA
NYU Health Sciences Libraries
For her study "Fighting Obesity--Kids Who Cook, Kids Who Kick: A Pilot Study in Health Information Literacy among African-American Adolescents."

Advocating at Capitol Hill

Christina Rivera

Long Island Library Resources Council, Bellport, NY

crivera@lilrc.org

It seems as though it were only yesterday, when I found myself among fellow colleagues running through the endless maze of hallways that make up the underground network of building connections on Capitol Hill. It was Tuesday, May 25, 2010, the last full conference day at the 2010 Medical Library Association's Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C.—and what a way to spend that day.



(Left to Right), Christina Rivera (LILRC), Mahnaz Tehrani (NY College of Osteopathic Medicine), Heather Loneck, Mary Lou Glazer (Northport Veterans Affairs), and Diana Cunningham (NY Medical College).

Our day began early, with the MLA Government Relations Committee's discussion of issues relevant to medical librarians. Our mission—which we chose to accept—was to show our support for increased funding for the NIH and NLM in the Appropriations Bill and to promote the Federal Research Public Access Act (FRPAA) with our New York State legislators.

Our First Stop:

Office of Senator Chuck Schumer (D-NY).

I should note here that, at our earlier meeting, one of the points mentioned was the importance of being punctual. Keeping this in mind, we arrived at the building and checked through security with plenty of time to spare. And good thing because, little did we know, we were actually in the wrong Senate office building! Luckily, we found the correct office and managed to arrive with plenty of time to spare—calm, not so cool, and collected.

We met with Ariel Simon, one of Senator Schumer's staff members. Diana led our discussion, and much to our delight, Ariel informed us that Senator Schumer is a co-sponsor of increased funding for the National Library of Medicine. Pointing out that our group members had received grant money for various projects supported by NIH/NLM funding, we expressed our appreciation of Senator Schumer's support.

Our Second Stop:

Office of Senator Kirsten Gillibrand (D-NY).

We had only 15 minutes to wend our way through the maze of hallways connecting the Russell and Hart Senate Office Buildings and to find Senator Gillibrand's office. Upon entering the office, and seeing few empty seats, I realized that we were only one of many groups eager for a chance to discuss our cause.



*Aerial view of Washington, D.C.
(Photo by Mahnaz Tehrani)*

We meet with Heather Loneck, one of Senator Gillibrand's staff members, out in the hallway. I wasn't kidding when I said her office was packed. Diana again led the group. Our efforts were even more important in this case, as Senator Gillibrand had not yet made her decision on the Appropriations Bill.

Mission Accomplished:

In both offices, we left staff with an MLA information packet, business cards, and our sincerest thanks. We also followed up with thank you e-mails, reiterating the importance of increased funding and support for the FRPAA.

Participating in MLA's Capitol Hill Day was truly a valuable learning experience. Diana's leadership and our collaborative teamwork made our advocacy efforts a great success. Although I may have missed out on the Magic Johnson appearance, I'd say learning about important issues in our field, showing support, and making new friends is definitely a more worthwhile way to spend the day. And I'm sure you'd all agree!

Group New York Members:

Diana J. Cunningham,
NY Medical College, Valhalla

Mary Lou Glazer,
Veterans Affairs, Northport

Christina Rivera,
Long Island Library Resources Council,
Bellport

Mahnaz A. Tehrani,
NY College of Osteopathic Medicine,
Old Westbury

Nursing and Allied Health

Mary Doherty, MLS, MSN, AHIP
Medical Research Library of Brooklyn
Downstate Medical Center
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In our institution, nursing and allied health students often ask to search for peer reviewed journals. These are journals where the research papers are reviewed by experts in the field, other than the author, before they are published. It is an extra step to obtain feedback on the article. The author can use this information to improve the article prior to publication. The journal website will have this information. However, what is the most efficient way of doing a search with this limit?

CINAHL has a limit for peer review and also for research papers. PubMed does not have a specific limit for peer review. However, limiting to Core Clinical Journals or randomized controlled trials will generally include peer reviewed articles.

Ulrichs also indicates whether a journal is peer reviewed. Please let me know if you have any other techniques that you utilize to answer this type of question.

National Network of Libraries of Medicine (NN/LM), Middle Atlantic Region (MAR) Update

Kate Oliver, MLS, MPH

National Network of Libraries of Medicine, Middle Atlantic Region

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Please welcome Neil Rambo, newly appointed Director of the NYU Health Sciences Libraries and Knowledge Informatics and Director of the NN/LM Middle Atlantic Region. Neil comes to us

from the University of Washington (Seattle) where he served as Acting Director of the Health Sciences Library and NN/LM Pacific Northwest Region. He also served as Associate Director of the NN/LM Pacific Northwest Region for many years, initiating and shaping many innovative programs.

MAR is happy to announce that there are now 38 libraries in the region using *MARdelivery*, a free service that enables users to send links to Inter-library loan documents via email instead of sending large attachments. All files are stored for two weeks on a central server at no cost to participating libraries. You can read more about MARdelivery and sign up for the service at

<http://nnlm.gov/mar/rsdd/mardelivery.html>

From October through December, MAR staff exhibited at nine meetings and conferences including New York Library Association (NYLA), NYC School Librarians Conference, the Pennsylvania Library Association, the American Speech-Language Hearing Association Annual Conference, and the Greater New York Dental Meeting.

Helen Tannenbaum taught four classes on “Healthy Aging in Your Library” in various locations in New Jersey in November under the auspices of the Health Sciences Library Association of New Jersey (HSLANJ). Close to 90 librarians attended these classes, including 70 public librarians.

MAR staff and guest presenters offered nine online classes this fall. Several of these were recorded and can be accessed at <http://nnlm.gov/mar/training/classes.html>

MAR also hosted a viewing of MLA’s webcast “The ABC’s of E-Books.” A DVD of the presentation has been ordered and will soon be made available to all who were not able to attend in person.

MAR funded more than 30 awards this fall, many of which were for technology improvement. Five health literacy initiatives were among the 30, and included awards to UMDNJ (University of Medicine and Dentistry, New Jersey), the Health Literacy Volunteers of New Jersey, and East Brunswick Public Library.

The MAR Technology Committee, under the leadership of Chair Nancy Glassman, has hosted two technology roundtables. The recordings are available at:

<http://nnlm.gov/mar/technology/>

Continuing Education Committee Update

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 NYU Health Sciences Libraries
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Richard McGowan and Jamie Graham hosted a half-day continuing education course at NYU Ehrman Medical Library on September 20, 2010.



*L to R: Jamie Graham, Peter Jucovy,
Bradley Long, Richard McGowan*

The course, entitled "*Communicating with Physicians: For Librarians*," was designed to help librarians understand the viewpoint of physicians during library transactions. Led by Bradley Long of SUNY Upstate Medical University and Dr. Peter Jucovy of the Philadelphia Veterans Affairs Medical Center, the course explored how to work with a variety of patrons by understanding their diverse information needs and communication styles.

The course was attended by librarians from several institutions including Weill Cornell Medical College, Beth Israel Medical Center, Staten Island University Hospital, and NYU Langone Medical Center. The NY/NJ Chapter Continuing Education Committee looks forward to providing more educational opportunities for librarians in the future.

Need to Give a Presentation? Tips to Knock ‘em Dead

Karen Erani

As librarians, we often are asked to speak; we teach, attend meetings, and we give presentations. The content of what you are saying is very important, but so is the delivery. Many of us make common public speaking mistakes, such as using filler words (“um”, “uh”, “like”), not speaking clearly, or reading off presentation slides. Poor public speaking habits make us seem less professional, less knowledgeable and can undercut our credibility. There are some things that we can do overcome those common mistakes and become more effective speakers:

1. Be Conscious of Your Speaking Habits

Have someone listen to your presentation and tell you if you use too many filler words

2. Know Your Message

Consider the main points you want to get across. It may help organize your thoughts to write down everything you want to say and then condense the information into a detailed outline.

3. Practice, Practice, Practice

You don’t want to sound like you memorized the presentation; you do want to speak fluidly and professionally. Practice the presentation out loud. Try practicing in front of a mirror.

4. Pauses

It is ok if there is a bit of silence at times when you give a speech. Resist the temptation to fill the silence with an “um” or other filler words. Momentary pauses can add emphasis to your statements.

5. Join a public speaking program

[Toastmasters International](#) has many clubs in the area and can help members learn communication and leadership skills.

Reader to Reader

Sarah Jewell, MLIS

Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center Library

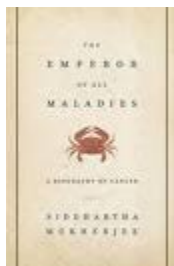
jewells@mskcc.org

Here are a few recent popular nonfiction titles related to medicine that you might enjoy.



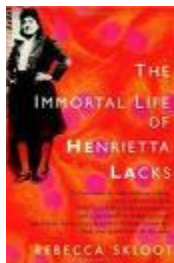
[The Checklist Manifesto: How to Get Things Right](#)

Atul Gawande, of Harvard Medical School, explains how a simple checklist of essential procedures can prevent deadly mistakes and routine failures, in medicine and beyond.



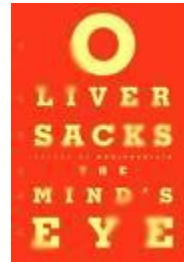
[The Emperor of All Maladies: A Biography of Cancer](#)

Siddhartha Mukherjee, a Columbia professor of medicine, has written a comprehensive chronicle of mankind's struggle against cancer, tracing the development of modern treatments and delving into the motivations of scientists, doctors, and patients.



[The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks](#)

Rebecca Skloot uncovers both the personal and the scientific sides of the story of how cancer cells taken from a black woman in the 1950s transformed modern medicine.



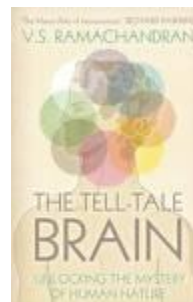
[The Mind's Eye](#)

Oliver Sacks, best-selling neurologist, addresses the biological complexities of human vision, alongside the personal details of interesting cases. One story is about a classical pianist who is forced to play by ear after losing her sight, and another tells of a novelist who can no longer read. Sacks's even shares his own struggles with face blindness and a tumor in his eye.



[Radioactive: Marie & Pierre Curie: A Tale of Love and Fallout](#)

Lauren Redniss has crafted a glowing (literally!) tale of love and lab work through beautiful illustrations and historical excerpts.



[The Tell-Tale Brain: A Neuroscientist's Quest for What Makes Us Human](#)

V. S. Ramachandran connects neurological cases into a theory of how our brains may have evolved to be distinct from the rest of the animal kingdom.

Remembering Reginald Smith

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We're saddened to let you know of the passing of Reginald ("Reg") Smith on October 28th, 2010. Reg served as Associate Director of the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey - George F. Smith Library of Health Sciences for twenty years, retiring in 1988.



*Reginald Smith and his partner
of 39 years, Robert Herbert*

Dubbed "The Answer Man" because of his uncanny ability to answer far-ranging and difficult reference questions, Reg established a wide network of friends and colleagues while at UMDNJ. Because of his wealth of experience, thorough knowledge of the biomedical field, and his innovative teaching ability, Reg's talents were well known and deeply appreciated. Phil Rosenstein stated at Reg's retirement celebration: "A list of those he has helped would be endless: thousands of students, many hundreds of faculty, and countless visitors to the University made use of this Library through Reginald Smith."

As the creator and first instructor of the Medical Bibliography course offered by Rutgers University Graduate School of

Library Service in 1973, Reg inspired many of us in New Jersey to develop our careers as health sciences librarians. As the catalog at the time read: "The course objective will be to develop in librarians an awareness of the scope, development, and context of medical bibliography as relates to the past, present and future of health sciences libraries." The course today bears a different title, but its description still holds true.

Following Reg's retirement from the UMDNJ Library, he devoted himself to God's Love We Deliver, where he served as a dedicated volunteer and Board member, delivering over 70,000 meals to clients in Brooklyn for over twenty years. A beautiful tribute to Reg appears on the [God's Love We Deliver Website](#). Donations in memory of Reg Smith may be made to God's Love We Deliver.

Remembering Ursula Poland

Erich Meyerhoff, Librarian Emeritus
Weill Cornell Medical College



What follows is a personal tribute to a friend, a wonderful, exceptionally bright and loving human being, Ursula. A longer remembrance with footnotes can be found on the [MLA UNOC website](#).

Characteristically, the context and content of our meetings and her unfailing sense of propriety were confined to library matters and her professional concerns. Although I sensed how deeply she cared for her three children, she never shared with me that one of them, Judy Anker Plotz, managed a school for circus performers, and that all three, Judy, David and Janet, had written and published a tribute to their mother's culinary accomplishments — "Recipes from Ursula's Cafe or... The Copper Kettle". Once she mentioned that after the death of her first husband, Dr. Anker, a biochemist, she did not consider another marriage until her children were along in age. Eventually she married Professor Orville F. Poland, Ph.D. of the State University of New York at Albany.

She gave her care and helpfulness to others freely, effectively, without ostentation. In her contribution to the history of the Upstate New York & Ontario Chapter of the Medical Library Association, Luretia McClure writes: "She was the most kind and generous in offering friendship to a beginner in the field. She has been a mainstay of the chapter and a good friend to dozens of young people over the years. I count it a privilege to have been her colleague and friend since that first encounter." At her memorial service, Gail Bota of the staff of the Library of the Albany Medical College spoke movingly how Ursula had helped her in her career, and how they became neighbors, with her help.

She accomplished her goals with enviable discipline and determination. She completed her graduate education, taught a course in Medical Librarianship, compiled and edited an international directory of biological medical science libraries, planned a new library building, and developed a responsive information system with a capable staff.

It is a measure of her significance in her chosen profession that Dr. Estelle Brodman, an icon of Medical Librarianship, conducted her oral history interview. It is an extensive account of Ursula's career and thinking, and the projects she undertook in her professional life. The planning of the new library is one example, her views of the international role and activities of the Medical Library Association, her role in legislative activism and others.

Her writings reveal a dependable accuracy and felicity of expression. In her Janet Doe Lecture she writes: "The barrage of news that daily assaults us about events in Iran, Poland, El Salvador, the Falklands and the United States appears to move us further apart from the long cherished ideals of cooperation and mutual understanding anywhere in the world".

After her retirement from the Albany Medical College our contacts were more sporadic. One day some seven years ago she told me that she been diagnosed with a pulmonary cancer. She was treated with chemotherapy and the treatment seemed successful. She traveled, continued her swimming, and it seemed a miracle was occurring. A meeting of the Upstate New York and Ontario Chapter was scheduled for end of September 2009 in Albany which I planned to attend and meet with Ursula. My e-mail messages to her remained unanswered. I arrived in Albany on Sep. 30. I reached her and learned that she had just returned from England, but was not feeling well and could not meet. Later I learned she had been hospitalized and died of cancer on Oct. 5.

Dear Ursula, those who knew you will never forget you, a great, handsome woman who received deserved recognition for your accomplishments and your humanity.