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Editors of this issue:

From the Editors

One year ago Bill and I were excited to debut the online version of the New York-New Jersey Chapter Newsletter. At the same time, we were all grappling with the aftermath of possibly the most significant event of our lifetime. This issue, our final issue as newsletter editors, one year later, pays special tribute to those who remember 9/11. To those who lost friends and family, our thoughts will always remain with you.

As Bill and I welcome the new newsletter committee, we would like to thank all who took the time to offer feedback, comments and praise this past year. We would especially like to thank all of the columnists who responded so quickly to our call for contributors and whose contributions made this one of the most useful, engaging and innovative newsletters around.

In this issue:

- **Pat Gallagher's *Web Watch*** continues to survey the best of the net
- **Joanne Jahr** provides news about NLM and RML listservs
- One year later . . . **9/11**
- **Kathel Dunn** keeps us up-to-date with what we need to read professionally *In the Literature*
- **Dorice Vieira** presents *Kudos to Chapter Members*
- **Nancy Glassman's *Technology Report*** offers tips on how best to communicate with your IT department
- **Paul Barth** lists new Chapter members
- **Elaine Wells** delivers an *Advocacy Committee Report*
- **Richard Faraino** sets an agenda with *From the Incoming Chair*
- **Kris Alpi** delves into the science behind the medicine in *Brave New World*

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Thanks for your continued support and all best for the New Year.

Please call or e-mail with your comments or questions.

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Editors of this issue:

Greetings from the Incoming Chair

Richard Faraino

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Dear Colleagues,

In the Autumn of the year the air is crisp and fresh and apple sweet. The angle of the sun's light seems to infuse the out of doors with the season's golden glow. It is the harvest celebration, the end of nature's year. It is the beginning of a new term for the Executive Board, Committee Chairs and volunteers and the Chapter Chair too. As I respectfully step up to the role as Chapter Chair, I first of all want to thank those who have served, and those who serve on the board, as committee chairs, and all the member volunteers who have given the Chapter a year of valuable programming, communications, special events and hard work in support of the chapter membership and the profession. I also want to thank **Kathel Dunn** for her leadership and creativity over the past year and for bringing the Chapter into the next year in solid form.

With special appreciation I welcome those members who are new to the chapter and encourage you participate in chapter activities at any level. As incoming Chair my main work, thus far, has been in the co-planning of the first ever five chapter "**Quintessential**" **Conference** to be held in Philadelphia October 26 - 28th, 2003. The hotel, the **Sheraton - Society Hill**, in the heart of historic Philadelphia, combines urban sophistication and country club elegance in one central location. You will certainly enjoy mingling with your colleagues while being inspired by programming that rivals that of national conferences. I acknowledge chapter members who have, as of the date of this writing, volunteered to work with us (I expect more of you to volunteer soon!):

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- **Micki McIntyre** and **William Self** - Program Committee
Co-Chairs
- **Kathel Dunn** - Steering Committee
- **Michael Huang** - Continuing Education
- **helen ann brown** - Publicity
- **Janie Kaplan** - Publicity
- **Luda Dolinsky** - Finance

There are numerous activities that our chapter can sponsor on behalf of the membership! It all depends on your involvement. I would like to take the opportunity to offer you some ideas and thoughts that could be developed into projects, presentations, or avenues of expression for our membership.


- Our profession is affected by trends in science and medicine, allied health, and driven by technology and economics. How can we educate ourselves and support each other in an ever-changing environment?
- What issues surround, and how can we manage, the complexities of virtual collections, metadata, and beyond?
- Developments in Translational Medicine, Proteomics, Genomics directly effect our collaboration with our clients. How can we learn to work with them?
- What is needed from us to support Evidence-based healthcare, the clinical librarian or, more broadly, the Informationist?
- How can we document and quantify our impact on patient care and research?
- What programs can we offer to the mid-career health science librarian and to the recent graduate?
- What is our role in a society where web-based consumer health continues to rise?
- Is the news media our friend, foe or both?

"Celebrating Librarians - Celebrating Friends" - I must thank **George Wahlert** and **Maria Astifidis** for making this the theme for last year's Spring Dinner. We care about our work, work hard, and have a unique role in society. We should celebrate ourselves and each other. The Chapter can provide a venue for information sharing and entertainment. We have the Spring Dinner, how about a Winter Tea? New York and New Jersey are home to a vast diversity of libraries. How about tours or day trips to visit and

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learn about some of them?

In closing let me say that for our Chapter to continue to be a viable forum for our community we need you. I encourage you to express to me your wishes and concerns and thoughts for the direction you believe that our Chapter should take. My email address is listed above. I look forward to hearing from and working with you.

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Editors of this issue:

Kudos

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

Dorice Vieira
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Congratulations to our Fellow Chapter Members

For **Outstanding Contribution by a Member(s)** we congratulate **Gail Hendler** and **William Self**. The Chapter *Newsletter* is now available in an electronic format; and with the hard work that it took to make this a reality, the Chapter is most appreciative. Through their untiring efforts, they have given us high-quality issues that will serve as a standard for future newsletter editors.

Congratulations to **Theresa Cuddy** and **Nicole Cooke** for **Outstanding Contribution by a New Member(s)** for their tireless work on facilitating the Scholarship award. From brainstorming and all throughout the project, they were always quick to respond and follow up on assignments helping to bring the award to fruition.

We thank all of you for your contributions to the New York/New Jersey Chapter of MLA and wish you continued success as we acknowledge your generous contributions.

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Editors of this issue:

Brave New World

How does the Human Genome represent me? And what's next in the fascinating world of genomics?

by Kristine M. Alpi, MLS, MPH, AHIP

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The genome of an organism comprises its chromosomes, consisting of all of its genes and associated DNA. The map of all the genes is also known as the genome.

Three types of research by the **Human Genome Project** ¹ help come up with a representative genome:

1. Determining the order, or "sequence," of all the bases (ACTG) in our DNA;
2. Making maps that show the locations of genes for major sections of all our chromosomes; and
3. Producing linkage maps through which inherited traits (such as those for genetic disease) can be tracked over generations.

The current human genome sequencing efforts are being carried out on DNA that has been obtained from cells of a number of different donors. Donors from the Celera project self-identified as different ethnic groups. From human sequences assembled to date, two unrelated people will on average have one different

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nucleotide per 1000 base pairs of their total DNA sequence, a percentage of difference of about 0.1%. These single nucleotide changes are called SNPs (Single Nucleotide Polymorphisms). Despite the presence of polymorphisms, the genome project should still be very useful, because the majority of the protein-encoding DNA information will be the same in all people.

As the genome reaches "completion," scientific explorations have already branched out into transcriptomics, proteomics, structural genomics, and comparative genomics.

Transcriptomics

involves large-scale analysis of messenger RNAs from active genes to follow when, where, and under what conditions genes are expressed.

Proteomics

the study of protein expression and function, can bring researchers closer to what's actually happening in the cell.

Structural genomics


generate the 3-D structures of one or more proteins, thus offering clues to function and biological targets for drug design.

Comparative genomics

analyzes DNA sequence patterns of humans and well-studied model organisms side-by-side-has become one of the most powerful strategies for identifying human genes and interpreting their function.

In order to do comparative genomics, the genomes of other organisms need to be available. See the list of model organisms at **NCBI Genomic Biology** page at

<http://www.ncbi.nih.gov/Genomes/>. The **National Advisory Council for Human Genome Research** has recommended adding the cow and the dog to a growing group of high priority organisms (including chimpanzee, chicken and honeybee) that should be considered for genome sequencing as capacity becomes available. Read more about the decision process at <http://www.genome.gov/page.cfm?pageID=10004650>.



Genome Research Institute.

<http://www.genome.gov/page.cfm?pageID=10001772>

Background Resources:

- Genome Mapping: A Guide to The Genetic Highway We Call The Human Genome
<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/About/primer/mapping.html>
- To Know Ourselves: U.S. Department of Energy, Human Genome Project. <http://www.ornl.gov/hgmis/publicat/tko/index.html>

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In The Literature

A review of recent publications in medical informatics and librarianship

by *Kathel Dunn, MSLS*

Bachmann LM, Coray R, Estermann P, Riet GT. Identifying diagnostic studies in MEDLINE - reducing the number needed to read. *JAMIA*; preprint <http://www.jamia.org/cgi/reprint/M1124v1.pdf>

A welcome article to librarians, physicians and others interested in improving search retrieval in evidence-based medicine searches. The study focuses on the research conducted by Haynes et al ¹ and currently used as part of PubMed's clinical queries feature. The authors note that the precision of the clinical query of diagnostic studies is much lower than that of the clinical query on therapeutics. The authors sought to develop a more robust and precise search statement for diagnostic studies. They used the gold standard of a hand-search of medical journals for three separate years and then identified appropriate search words through a frequency analysis. They found that using the truncated terms (diagno*, predict* and accura*) in combination with the MeSH term "sensitive and specificity" produced high sensitivity and precision rates. The authors also coined the term, "number needed to read" to describe the number or irrelevant references someone must read in order to find one of relevance. The authors do not mention plans to contact either Dr. Haynes or the National Library of Medicine to implement suggested changes within the Clinical Queries feature but for librarians working in the area of evidence-based medicine, this publication provides insight and a useful approach to obtaining diagnostic studies.

1. Haynes RB, Wilczynski N, McKibbon KA, Walker CJ, Sinclair JC. Developing optimal search strategies for detecting clinically sound studies in MEDLINE. *J Am Med Inform Assoc* 1994;1:447-458.

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Florance V, Moller MT. Better_Health@here.now. [Internet]. Association of American Medical Colleges. Available from <http://www.aamc.org/programs/betterhealth/betterhealthbook.pdf>.

If you haven't yet read this report, now is the time to do so. A quick read at 32 pages, the report is a series of recommendations made by the Association of American Medical Colleges' (AAMC) **Better Health 2010 Advisory Board**. The article updates, in part, the 1982 report (Matheson NW, Cooper JA. Academic information in the academic health sciences center. Roles for the library in information management. *J Med Educ* 1982;57(10 Pt 2):1-93) that influenced the National Library of Medicine's Integrated Advanced Information Management Systems (IAIMS) program. (The other report just out from AAMC addresses IAIMS specifically. It is the **Integrated Advanced Information Management Systems (IAIMS): The Next Generation (TNG)**. The complete report is available in PDF format at <http://www.aamc.org/programs/betterhealth/start.htm#iaims>.)

The report made recommendations in the following areas:

- Optimize the health and health care of individuals and populations through best-practice information management.
- Enable continuous, life-long, performance-based learning.
- Create tools and resources to support discovery, innovation and dissemination of research results.
- Build and operate a robust information environment that simultaneously enables health care, fosters learning and advances science.

Llewellyn RD, Pellack LJ, Shonrock DD. The use of electronic-only journals in scientific research. *Issues in Science and Technology Librarianship* 2002; Available from <http://www.istl.org/02-summer/refereed.html>.

This piece is an examination of the state of e-only journals in scientific research. The crux of their survey is in assessing the presence of e-only journals in traditional library access points: cataloged in library catalogs, indexed by indexing services and cited by scholars in their own work. The authors also include the results of a brief survey of indexing services as to why they did or did not index an e-only journal. The authors compiled a list of e-only journals (defined by them as journals that exist only electronically and not as an electronic counterpart to a print journal) in the sciences. Of the 144 identified titles, 45 were in biology/medicine (27 identified as "clearly medicine" and the other 14 were more biology in nature). Most of the e-only journals were free but a few (22/144) required paid subscriptions. MEDLINE indexed 7 (50%) of the e-only

journals. Ninety-seven percent of the e-only journals were cataloged in OCLC and 66% of the titles were cited in other publications (Web of Science search). Overall, the authors found that the age of the e-only journal as well as its presence in indexing services and OCLC were indicators of use. Two interesting anomalies were the journals *Psyche* and *J.USC: the Journal of Universal Computer Science*, which were both heavily cited but not indexed in any service.

Solomon David J. Talking past each other: making sense of the debate over electronic publication. *First Monday* 7(8).

http://firstmonday.org/issues/issue7_8/solomon/index.html

The article unfortunately does not live up to its enticing title. While *First Monday* articles are usually quite informative and entertaining reads, in this instance, the article seems more of an opinion piece than it does a well-argued and rational case for the wide, electronic dissemination of scholarly literature. But the reader seeking insight on the debate over electronic publication would do better to consult the references the author cites as dissemination models. **BioMed Central** in the biomedical sciences is a familiar one, but the author also references **H-NET** in the humanities and the **Public Knowledge Project** in education. One would expect a more rigorous approach from an editor and founder of an online publication: in this case, **Medical Education Online** (<http://www.med-ed-online.org>).

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Technology Review

Librarians are from Venus . . . The MIS Staff is from Mars, Or, How to get the most out of Technical Support

by Nancy Glassman, MLS, AHIP

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Sophisticated computers and the software and equipment that go along with them are more important than ever in the daily operations of a library. When something goes wrong, or new equipment needs to be set up, librarians rely more and more on their institution's computer support departments.

Technical support departments are known by many names such as MIS (Management Information Systems), IT (Information Technology), RIT (Research Information Technology), Scientific Computing, or Systems. In some organizations, the department is part of the library. Often it is under completely different administration. Librarians are often frustrated in their dealings with their institution's technical support staff.

I cornered a few MIS and RIT staff members at my home institution, the Albert Einstein College of Medicine (AECOM), and asked them what librarians could do to better help them to help us. (Big thanks to Bob, Carlos, and Paul!) This is what they suggested:

- **Learn their names.** It's a good start to building a solid working relationship.
- Take some time to **learn about your equipment** so you can do some basic troubleshooting. For example, make a note of the operating system, memory size, and hard drive size of a computer. It

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is also helpful to keep a record of the history of a piece of equipment, so you know when it was upgraded, or new parts or hardware were installed.

- **Send brief, descriptive e-mail messages describing a problem.** Include the error message that you are receiving. If you can, attach a screen shot illustrating the problem. Keep voicemail messages brief and succinct.
- Even if you feel you did something stupid or embarrassing, **tell them exactly what you did when the equipment began to malfunction.** You are probably not the first person to experience this problem, and you probably will not be the last. It will save time when troubleshooting, and facilitate communications with you IT colleagues.
- **IT folks really need access to passwords for computers they need to fix.** Passwords can always be changed later on, if this idea leaves you a bit uncomfortable. However, MIS related that they encountered numerous problems while working on computers while the person is out to lunch. They may need to reboot the computer only to be confronted with a login screen, and no way to get beyond it.
- **Avoid "surprises".** If you call MIS for one problem, don't spring other problems on them when they arrive. Schedule a time for them to return and work on the problems that have come up in between.

Things I've learned (often the hard way). Note: The term MIS staff here is used as a generic term for any technical support personnel.

- Learn the hierarchy and responsibilities of the people your MIS department. If you **know who's who**, and who's responsible for what, you'll know whom best to contact when there's a problem. Keep a cheat sheet with names, telephone numbers, and e-mail addresses at the reference desk.
- **Keep a record of encounters with MIS staff.** Save e-mail messages and record any tracking or ticket numbers. Keep a record of dates, times of phone calls and office visits by MIS.
- When scheduling a "house call" from MIS staff, **let other library staff members know.** This way, they can alert you when the MIS person arrives or is ready to leave, or at least find out if the job has been completed.
- For frequently recurring problems, **ask MIS to show you how to troubleshoot.** This will save everyone's time. Ask questions. Take notes. Stand between MIS and the door if need be.
- One final suggestion. **Lure your MIS techies with food.** As with anyone, occasional gifts of baked goods, or invitations to the library's holiday party go a long way as a gesture of good will.

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RML Update

**". . . I've got a little list, I've got a
little list . . ."**

*by Joanne Jahr, MLS
Network Programs Coordinator
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There must be countless discussion lists available nowadays, and most of us are way oversubscribed. However, I would like to recommend that you sign on to the following **National Library of Medicine (NLM) lists** if you haven't already done so.

First, of course, is the Regional Medical Library's (RML) very own **MARL**, a read-only, low-traffic list for NLM and RML postings. Recently, notices about funding opportunities; the availability of MEDLINEplus "en español;" the promotion of DOCLINE 1.4, and a new PubMed Central project revolving around access to back issues were among the postings that appeared. Information on how to sign on to MARL can be found at <http://nml.gov/mar/listserv.html>.

It is highly recommended that at least one person in every DOCLINE institution subscribe to **DOCLINE-L**. This discussion group provides NLM with a means of broadcasting messages to DOCLINE users, and also provides a forum for DOCLINE users to communicate with each other and with NLM about issues related to DOCLINE, SERHOLD, or document delivery. Traffic flow on DOCLINE-L depends heavily on the number of messages subscribers post on a given topic. There are days when there are no messages, and there are others when it seems as though many subscribers flood the list with postings and the traffic becomes almost as heavy as MEDLIB-L. If that is a problem for you, use the "Digest" function. To join DOCLINE-L, go to http://www.nlm.nih.gov/docline/newdocline_l.html for subscription details.

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MEDLINEplus offers a weekly announcement-only email list at **MEDLINEplus-NEW** of new resources, health topics, and announcements. **NLM-Announces** is another weekly read-only list of new and updated files on the NLM Web site. Information about these and other NLM email lists can be found at <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/listserv/emaillists.html>.

While there are currently about 400+ libraries nationwide listed as **LinkOut** participants (with the numbers growing daily), those of you who are current participants or thinking of participating might find it prudent to sign up with one or both of the LinkOut announcement-only lists, **LinkOut-news**, which covers general announcements about LinkOut at <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/mailman/listinfo/linkout-news>, or **Library-linkout**, which covers the development of LinkOut related to libraries at <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/mailman/listinfo/library-linkout>.

Finally, EFTS has begun **EFTS-L** as a forum for discussion about the system and as a means for the EFTS office to distribute information. As EFTS spreads further across the continent, signing up more participants, the list may be the fastest and easiest way of keeping abreast of the most current developments. Instructions for signing on can be found at <http://efts.uchc.edu/efts/listserv.html>.

A nice feature of almost all of these lists is that they can be set to digest format, lessening the impact of large number of messages in your inbox, and most have searchable archives.

These are just a few lists that impact directly on the NLM and the NN/LM. For a broader listing of library-oriented lists and electronic serials, the best starting point is, as always, e document currently compiled by **Wei Wu** and available at <http://liblists.wrlc.org/liblists/>.

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Editors of this issue:

Special Feature

9/11: Tributes and reflections one year later . . .

Writing this reflection is one of the hardest tasks I've had. Words of wisdom fail me so I will just tell what I witnessed on September 11, 2001 and how I chose to commemorate that witness on September 11, 2002.

On September 11, 2001 I went to the polls early in the morning with Dotty Schwartz and Mary Doherty (three medical librarians in our building in Brooklyn; must be a record). I waved goodbye to them at the subway and returned home preparing to go to Rutgers that day to talk to my advisor. I had the television on and heard the Today show interrupted for news of a crash or fire at the World Trade Center. I saw the Towers fall on television and then, horrified, went to the balcony of my apartment to look out at lower Manhattan but could only see smoke. And later, all day long, I watched people from the balcony of my apartment as they walked up Flatbush Avenue, closed to traffic but filled with the thousands of people who walked home from the City that day.

On September 11, 2002 I walked across the Brooklyn Bridge into the City to commemorate all those who walked home that terrible day and all those who would not walk home again.

- Kathel Dunn

Walking downtown toward the bridge with Dorice Vieira through the most swollen New York City streets I have ever experienced, the endless sound of emergency sirens, the dazed and ash covered people walking toward us and my desperate yearning to be home with Joel and Dino.

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Posted 1/17/03
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- Richard Faraino

I was finishing my breakfast at the St. Vincent's Hospital cafeteria, when the announcement came over the loudspeaker system that a plane had hit the WTC. I thought oh one of the disaster drills, held periodically. The year before the scenario was that a helicopter had crashed at the Chelsea Piers. I knew that as soon as I got to the library if I heard sirens, this was the real thing and so it was. I turned on the little radio we kept in the library and of course it was on all day. The library became a safe quiet place where people could come and talk, be quiet, pray or sleep. I think all of us librarians did great service on that day.

- Dennis Gaffney


How does one sift out only a few memories of 9/11 to share with colleagues? For most of us, the memories are still too fresh, too close and too poignant. Pictures that might previously been considered too graphic for movies laden with violence, have become our local news reports in our daily newspapers and on television.

Today, I share with you the goodness of our neighbors. Every day, I get out of the subway at First Avenue and 14th Street. Last Sept. 11; I climbed up the stairs to be assaulted with the sight of burning towers, the smell of uncontrolled fire and First Avenue devoid of anything but emergency vehicles.

Went I reached 14th Street and Avenue A, law enforcement officers from all over - New Jersey State Police, Turnpike Authority, National Guard, Westchester Police were manning the barricades at the corner. Chico, our local street artist, surrounded by spray paint cans, was painting over the wall painting he had done of Princess Diana and Mother Theresa. Now a more tragic event claimed the wall.

Later the first week, a neighbor told me about the little boy in a stroller who had given his toy plastic shovel to the fireman at our local house on 14th Street. The child heard that they needed shovels.

Christmas came sooner and much quieter than any other I could remember. On Christmas morning, everyone in my church got a present. The good people of Wisconsin had sent our Church hundreds of hand made angel ornaments. They wanted us all to know that we were not forgotten. This was my most treasured gift this year.



Last week, parked on Second Avenue and 20th Street was a gleaming, new police car. The lettering on the door said, "Gift to the people of New York City from the people of Ohio."

We are all neighbors.

- **Elizabeth Franck**

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

Editors of this issue:

Advocacy Committee Report

*by Elaine Wells, Chair,
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Committee Members:

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

As always, the members of the Advocacy Committee kept watch on issues affecting libraries both here in our NY/NJ "backyard" and nationally. We stay up-to-date by checking on web sites and monitoring listservs. When items require action (impending votes, etc.) we let you know as soon as possible, and we hope to hear from you if there is any action we need to promote. September 11, 2001 changed many things, among them beliefs about accessing information. We will continue to keep a close watch on how these beliefs may impact policy.

Here's a summary of the latest "calls to action":

September 2002

The New Jersey Library Association urged us to call our representatives so that a vote on H.R. 3784, the **Museum and Library Services Reauthorization**, could be scheduled as soon as possible.

August 2002

An **ALAWON** issue update alerted us to S2395, an **anti-counterfeiting bill**, that would create liability for trafficking in illicit authentication features such as watermarks or symbols. This bill could adversely impact our rights to conduct interlibrary loan activities and make preservation copies of works. We were also urged to contact our representatives about the **Database Protection Act**. While this act has been languishing for some time, rumors indicated that passage of a bill that would be highly restrictive to libraries was moving forward.

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A final point of information: New York Library Association President **Carolyn Giambra** wrote to the candidates for governor asking them about their positions on increasing state aid to libraries. **Governor Pataki** and **H. Carl H. McCall** responded, and their answers are in the September 2002 *NYLA Bulletin*.

Thanks to Committee members Tom Angelo and Luda Dolinsky for their timely updates to the Chapter listserv.

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

Editors of this issue:

News and Announcements

From the Recruitment Committee

Please join us in welcoming our newest members:

Anthony Artale <u>anthony@nymc.org</u>	New York Medical College
Keydi Boss <u>k-boss@holyname.org</u>	Holy Name Hospital
Patricia Carroll-Mathes <u>carroll@senylrc.org</u>	Southeastern New York Library Resources Council
Indrajeet Chauhan <u>ujjain@hotmail.com</u>	Helene Fuld College of Nursing
Marina Chilov <u>mz84@columbia.edu</u>	Columbia University
Ed Ciborowski <u>ciborowskie@leukemia-lymphoma.org</u>	Leukemia & Lymphoma Society
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Catherine Gastrich <u>catherine_gastrich@nymc.edu</u>	New York Medical College

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