



## Speaker Biographies - MAHSLIN 2011

### Panel Presenters:

**Lisa Palmer, MSLS, AHIP**, is Institutional Repository Librarian at the Lamar Soutter Library, University of Massachusetts Medical School, where she oversees eScholarship@UMMS, a digital repository offering worldwide access to scholarly output of UMass Medical School. Prior to joining UMass in 2003, Lisa was a corporate librarian for Digital Equipment Corporation, Compaq Computer Corporation, and Hewlett-Packard. Lisa is an active member of ALA, MLA, ACRL-NE, NAHSL, and NELA. She is also an avid Red Sox fan (Do not speak ill of Jacoby Ellsbury around her.) and has a bit of an over-the-top love of the English band, Muse.

**Kathleen Biebel, PhD**, is a research faculty member in the Department of Psychiatry, School of Medicine, University of Massachusetts Medical School. Kate has served as a principal investigator, co-investigator, and evaluator on many projects funded by the Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Administration, US Department of Health and Human Services and the National Institutes of Mental Health. Her research focuses primarily on families living with mental illness. Kate spends time away from work chasing after a couple of little folks, trying not to kill the grass in her small yard, and helping her sister-in-law with her internet dating life by responding to the emails for her. She reports that trying to sound like her sister-in-law is all the more challenging, as she's British.

**Gail Hendler, MLS**, is currently Head of Information and Access Services and **Amy Lapidow, MLS**, is the Information Services and Circulation Librarian at the Tufts University Hirsh Health Sciences Library where they enjoy teaching information literacy and mentoring tomorrow's leaders. Gail is active in MLA and currently serves as co-convenor for the Clinical Librarians and Evidence-Based Health Care SIG. Amy is a hand book binder specializing in cookbooks, photo albums and boxes and teaches her craft in Boston and in her Somerville studio. Her latest exhibit was held at the Open Studios in Somerville last month. Check out her work on her website: <http://www.thethreeringbinders.com/>

**Jeanie Vander Pyl, MLIS** has been the Director of the Frazier-Grant Medical Library at Cape Cod Hospital for the past 14 years. Prior to transitioning to the health science field, she worked in public libraries for 21 years, as a Director at the Osterville Free Library and a Systems Librarian at the Sandwich Library. She has continued her involvement in public libraries as the Chair of the Trustees in Sandwich and also as the Building Committee Chair of the South Sandwich Village Library, currently awaiting grant approval. At Cape Cod Hospital, Jeanie has served as the Chair of the Patient Education Committee, is a member of the Ethics Committee, serves on the Process Improvement Team and on the Joint Commission Information Management Team. Originally from Bath, Pennsylvania, Jeanie grew up on a dairy farm and attended a one room schoolhouse. She has been a resident of Sandwich, MA since 1970 where she and her husband restored a 200 year old house which had been abandoned for 30 years. Obviously, Jeanie enjoys challenges and can envision possibilities where none seem to exist.

**Keynote Speaker:**

**Suzy Becker**, is an author, artist, educator, entrepreneur, and successful fund-raising bike-a-thon organizer and rider. Like great, curious explorers before her, she founded the Widget Factory, a greeting card company, and also had her hand in founding the Parker Charter School in Ayer, MA. Suzy is an international bestselling author whose book, "All I Need to Know I Learned from My Cat", landed her on the NY Times Bestseller List. She has also written and illustrated "My Dog's the World's Best Dog", "Manny's Cows", "Books are for Reading", "Kids Make it Better: A Write-in, Draw-in Journal", and her illustrated memoir, "I Had Brain Surgery, What's Your Excuse?" Suzy has received a gazillion well-deserved awards for her work and service, including the Anti-Defamation League's "A World of Difference" Award for her Ride for AIDS Resources (Ride FAR) which has raised over \$1,000,000 for HIV/AIDS service organizations. Besides being a White House Fellow, Bunting Fellow, and perennial finalist in the Publisher's Clearing House Sweepstakes, Suzy can now also claim perhaps her greatest achievement to date, serving as keynote speaker at MAHSLIN's 2011 Annual Meeting.