

## **2006 Annual Meeting: *Think Globally, Act Locally***

MAHSLIN's 2006 Annual Meeting, *Think Globally, Act Locally* was a resounding success. We had record attendance, including 14 Simmons LIS students whom we hope were inspired by the program to consider careers in health sciences librarianship.

The morning speakers, Dr. Christopher Gill, Dr. Alice T. Coombs and Dr. Earnest Wu, were dynamic, passionate and knowledgeable. Each topic - avian flu, healthcare disparities and medical care in Ghana - gave us a global view of public health. Some of the more sobering images evoked - a cockroach in an asthma inhaler and a baby with an IV line in the only available vein in his skull - were quite memorable. (So was the hypothetical image of Vice-President Cheney culling the wild bird population to control avian flu!)

In the afternoon, focusing locally, we were privileged to see and hear about the projects of four very talented colleagues, Sally Gore, Cara Helfner, Brandy King and Eric Albright, who have made a difference here in Massachusetts with their diverse projects. They showed us four very different approaches to public health problem-solving: [Go Local](#), [SPIRAL](#), [Children & Media](#) and Assistive Technologies at the [Kessler Health Education Library](#)

In between the sessions, a slide show of public health issues and campaigns set to music ("Time Starts Now") ran in the auditorium, setting the mood for the day. Slides ranged from the sobering (wild birds with Avian Flu transported by men in white biohazard suits) to the amusing (a 1940's era VD awareness poster that cautions men, "Don't visit houses of ill-fame.")

The 2006 Annual Meeting program was so successful, the planning committee composed a [poster with the same title](#), *Think Globally, Act Locally*, which we displayed at NAHSL 2006 in Hartford CT. The poster captured the essence of the meeting with colorful slides and descriptive paragraphs. Whoever missed the poster at NAHSL will have a chance to see it displayed at the MAHSLIN 2007 Annual Meeting.