

MAHSLIN Network News

A Message from the President

Cara Marcus, MAHSLIN President

This year has been a memorable and challenging year. Over two feet of snow blanketed Massachusetts during the Blizzard of 2013, postponing our consortia meeting and damaging homes and libraries. The tragic events of the Marathon and lockdown affected all of us personally, and our annual meeting was also abruptly postponed. We were shocked by announcements of libraries closing and longstanding and talented librarians losing their jobs. We feel deeply for these individuals who invested so much of themselves into building outstanding services, and join in support as they embark on their searches for their next ventures.



In their dramatic and inspiring keynote presentation at the 2013 MAHSLIN Annual Meeting, Dr. James Matarazzo and Dr. Toby Pearlstein spoke of the turbulence within our profession and how today's librarians should take control of their destinies to educate and align themselves with the evolving needs of their organizations. Our professional organizations, MAHSLIN, NAHSL, NNLM/NER, and others, are all working to provide resources and support for librarians who have or may be losing their jobs and/or libraries. While these decisions are unfortunately sometimes out of anyone's control, here are some simple things you can do now to show your organization your value:

1. **Collect data** – especially on services you *personally* provide, such as the departments and job titles you supply resources to, lists of reference questions you answer, and individual trainings you provide. Compile professional reports and share them with your supervisor and administrators on a regular basis.
2. **Have external presence** – Ask for bulletin board or glass case space in other areas of the hospital to post flyers and display resources and information from your collection. Submit articles about library resources or search tips tailored to specific departmental newsletters. Ask to sit on committees where research is one of the group's goals. If you offer a new service, tell everyone who may have an interest.
3. **Educate yourself** – take as many classes as you can through professional associations, your organization, and externally. In addition to library related education, consider clinical, nursing or allied health topics. Let your supervisor know what you've learned and ask how this new knowledge can benefit the organization.
4. **Network** – get to know as many people at your hospital as you can. When you attend people's presentations, complement them and ask them if they would like any additional research from the library.
5. **Use every opportunity to promote the library** – ask users if they would like you to attend their departmental meeting and give a talk on searching in a specific subject area, start opt-in library email lists with announcements, search tips, etc., or create a business card or bookmark with a list of your key services.
6. **Create a unique environment** – keep your library as clean and clutter-free as possible, treat all collections as attractive displays, showcase new or special resources prominently, add personal touches like artwork or flowers if you are able to. Smile, greet every visitor you can, and thank people for using the library.

Please mark your calendars for these upcoming e-Science continuing education opportunities for librarians in the New England region:

- 1. Webinar: Overview of Research Data Management and Librarian Roles in Data Management Planning by Regina Raboin, Science Librarian and Data Management Services Coordinator, Tisch Library, Tufts University
October 31, 2013 from 12-1 pm.**

This one hour webinar will provide an introductory overview of key concepts in research data management, the research data lifecycle, funders' policies, and examples of how librarians work with faculty to write data management plans for research grants.

- 2. Professional Development Day: Scientific Research Data Management Class
November 8, 2013**

This is a one day class on Scientific Research Data Management that is intended for librarians who are interested in teaching concepts and best practices for research data management to faculty and students. The class will provide attendees an opportunity to experience a case-based data management curriculum as learners, and familiarize them with the data management curricular materials that they can then use for teaching at their own institutions. The class will be held at the Beechwood Hotel, 363 Plantation St., Worcester (across from the UMMS campus) and will be limited to 40 attendees who will be accepted on a first come, first serve basis.

Registration for the class will be announced on the MAHSLIN listserv and will open in mid-September.

- 3. Sixth annual University of Massachusetts and New England Area Librarian e-Science Symposium: April 9, 2014**

Please note that this upcoming symposium is being held on the 2nd Wednesday of April (a week later than previous symposia). We will be hosting it on our UMMS campus in Worcester. The theme for this symposium is "Librarians working with Data". To view preliminary symposium details see the [2014 e-Science Symposium conference page](#).

Registration for the e-Science symposium will be announced on the MAHSLIN listserv and will open in mid-December.

For further information, please contact Donna Kafel, e-Science Project Coordinator at the Lamar Soutter Library, University of Massachusetts Medical School at donna.kafel@umassmed.edu

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Transforming Health Care through Mobile Technologies: Information on the Run

This joint program sponsored by NECHI and MAHSLIN on 9/13/2013 was a great opportunity to learn about the growth of mobile technology in health care environments from several different perspectives.

Michael J. Docktor, M.D. gave a great presentation entitled "Mobility: the Clinician's Perspective" Based on the use of iPads and other mobile devices at Boston Children's Hospital, it was full of information and ideas. Education of patients and families topped the list of the value of mobile technology in the hospital along with productivity and communication. Children's has a robust mobile device initiative called BCH Mobility. Although required to bring their own devices, staff is provided with strong support for use, with recommendations, suggestions, and technical assistance. Dr. Docktor presented scenarios for three types of users: patients, support staff, and clinicians. The slides from this presentation may be found at: <http://nahsl.libguides.com/loader.php?type=d&id=879456>

Michelle Kraft from the Cleveland Clinic presented "Doing the iPad Dance: Fancy Footwork of Apps and Circulating iPads." When the Clinic moved from Blackberry to Apple, the library decided to purchase 5 iPads for circulation and one for library staff. Michelle worked with the IT department and spent a year on justification, funding and logistics. She presented her library's policies and procedures for circulating iPads and shared a great wealth of resources for investigating how to set up a program, find policies and procedures, and possible apps. Although the slides from this presentation have not been received at press time, they will be posted on the MAHSLIN website when available at <http://nahsl.libguides.com/loader.php?type=d&id=880349>.

Evelyn Breck Morgan and Jessica Kilham from the Lyman Maynard Stowe Library at UConn Health Center presented "Mobilizing the Academic Medical Library." First they demonstrated the disparity in the use of mobile technology in hospitals by standing us in groups to indicate how mobile our institutions were, whether we were comfortable teaching about mobile devices and resources, and whether we had support from our IT departments. Then they outlined the history of mobile device use at UConn Health. The medical school at UConn has required the use of some form of mobile device since 2001 with a PDA mandate. The Library became the education and troubleshooting bridge between IT and users. They highlighted a wealth of resources, both app and web-based and explained the differences between content centered and device centered approaches to mobility. In addition, they showed examples of enhanced productivity for library staff who used mobile devices. The slides from this presentation may be found at: <http://nahsl.libguides.com/loader.php?type=d&id=879461>

BWFH Medical Library Now Loans Books

The BWFH Ingersoll Bowditch Medical Library recently started to loan a select book collection that includes over seventy clinical, nursing, management and history of medicine titles. Available titles are listed in our [library catalog](#) or by [request](#). Books will be loaned for two week periods with no cost to MAHSLIN member libraries through DOCLINE (our libid is MAUFHB). Hope to be able to loan to you soon! Submitted by Cara Marcus

SAVE THE DATE!

For the next MAHSLIN Annual Meeting, which will be held at the Massachusetts Medical Society on April 11, 2014. The MAHSLIN Planning Committee is currently hard at work on the next conference theme, which will be announced shortly. Stay tuned for more details!

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