A Message from the President

Cara Marcus, MAHSLIN President

One of the many outstanding highlights from the recent NAHSL annual meeting was the plenary speech by Clark Merrill, Master Trainer, Dale Carnegie & Associates. “Does your audience care about what you are worried about? No,” said Clark, “they care about what they can get from the presentation.” So this president’s message will be for you, dear readers, all about what MAHSLIN can do for YOU.

Of course, we have our own annual meeting. Next year’s meeting – “Medical Libraries Matter” - will be held on April 11, 2014. You will be hearing more about this groundbreaking meeting from chair Donna Beales and her planning committee, but it is sure to be an event you will not want to miss. And you don’t have to limit your meetings to once a year – please join us for a whole day of education each fall and the spring as the regional consortia host sessions on various timely themes. In September, NECCI hosted a splendid meeting on mobile technologies and we’re in for a treat in March 2014 - BBLC is planning a meeting entitled “Big Ideas, Small Budget”. These joint consortia meetings are free and open to all MAHSLIN members and partners. If you’ve missed any of our meetings, just go to the MAHSLIN website to view the archived presentations.

Want your voice to be heard? We’re always looking for contributors to the MAHSLIN Network News, our blog, and our listserv. What can you write about? A great idea, educational session or tool you want to share with our membership, news about what is going on in your library, a job opening, or simply your opinions about what members of our profession need to know and think about. You can comment on any part of our website directly on the site. You can join the 86 MAHSLIN Twitter followers and tweet to them too. Still not enough communication methods for you? Then go to our membership directory, find who you’d like to chat with, and pick up the phone.

Our partners are listed in the membership directory, and if you have a question about any of their products, they’d be happy to help you or point you in the right direction. Resource sharing chair Jeanie Vander Pyl has coordinated some great discounts on products like STAT!Ref and Rittenhouse R2 for our members, and our partners can also set up demos or trials of products you may be interested in. If funding is an issue (as it is for most of us), consider applying for a MAHSLIN Jay Daly Technology Scholarship, that can fund all or part of a new technology initiative.

If you need advice about budget cuts, space reorganization or any of the issues affecting medical libraries today, our MAHSLIN Mentors can help you with their free and confidential consult service. MAHSLIN includes members and partners from the National Network of Libraries of Medicine, New England Region (NNLM/NER), Regional Medical Library (RML), and Massachusetts Library System (MLS), and we are a member of Massachusetts Health Council (MHC), so we can be your springboard to interaction with these and other regional and national groups too.

So what can MAHSLIN do for YOU? Our goal is to “provide a structure through which members of the corporation may communicate and cooperate to identify needs and pursue opportunities for improvements in the resources and services of health sciences libraries in Massachusetts.” If you have an idea for how we can do that – we want to hear about it. Please contact me or any board member and help us to help you!
Online Learning Opportunities through North Carolina Central University for MLS or MIS degrees

Most of our programs can be completed totally online. There are scholarships available through ALA for Library Science graduate students and also for Information Science graduate students through organizations such as NSF. For those who may be interested in relocating to North Carolina for our program, we do offer some graduate assistantships that cover tuition (excludes fees) and provides a stipend. In order to qualify, you must first be accepted and admitted into the program. You may visit our website at http://www.nccuslis.org for more information about our program.

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Biome Reconstitution Citizen Science Facebook Group Launches

I’m pleased to announce the launch of a medical librarian supported citizen science Facebook group entitled “Biome Reconstitution.”
https://www.facebook.com/groups/BiomeReconstitution

Biome Reconstitution is an exploration of issues focused on the human gut biome and its relation to the current epidemic of inflammatory and autoimmune illnesses in modern society.

The name of the group derives from the work of William Parker, PhD at Duke University, however the group is not affiliated in any way with his research. http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/?term=21741180

I founded this group because of a keen interest in the subject, but also because I believe that such medical librarian supported citizen science efforts can help raise awareness about our profession and its important contributions.

Biome Reconstitution is the volunteer collaboration of myself and two other esteemed colleagues, Melissa De Santis, MLIS out of U Colorado, and Mimi Guessferd, MLIS out of St. Anselm’s College (NH), with the assistance of Liz Estrada, who is a current GSLIS student at Catholic University of America.

It is hoped that medical librarians with an interest in autoimmunity, microbiology, gastroenterology, stress-related disorders, nutrition, probiotics, helminthic therapies, fecal bacteriotherapy, and related subjects will join the group in order to strengthen its contributions.

Submitted by Donna Beales, MLIS
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Lights. Camera. Action!

MAHSLIN Education Chair Sally Gore will be hosting another Action Day in January 2014. This is your chance to work on that important project you haven’t had time for and get it done!
**Member Spotlight – Dan McCloskey**

You probably know Dan McCloskey as the current Treasurer, and former Web Master, of MAHSLIN, as well as the Systems Librarian at Massachusetts General Hospital's Treadwell Library.

What you most likely don't know about Dan is that, prior to making a career change from Logistics Manager to Librarian, he almost became a professional baseball umpire and he turned down job offers from the minor league Williamsport (PA) Cubs and the former Tremont Brewery in Charlestown.

The umpire part is a slight exaggeration, but Dan did attend Brinkman/Froemming Umpire School in 1994 with the goal of becoming a professional baseball umpire. That dream never came to fruition, though, as the highest level of officiating he reached was Division III college baseball.

Today, Dan lives with his wife Karen, their two-year old son, Nolan, and orange tabby, Bruno, in Quincy. His side interests include playing in the Quincy Men's Softball League; writing about baseball, music and beer at [http://left-field.blogspot.com](http://left-field.blogspot.com); and pretending to be a serious brewer of craft beers with his friend and co-founder of the as yet unincorporated AfroDan Progressive Brewers.

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**Announcements from our Partners**

**Nursing Reference Center Plus from EBSCO Coming Spring 2014**

Nursing Reference Center Plus will include core measures, nursing management and leadership topics with CEUs, nursing care plans, nursing informatics topics, risk management topics, videos and skills

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**CoxNet Offers Free Digital Samples**

WT Cox Information Services, offers CoxNet and free digital issue samples of journals and newsletters. Titles span medicine, psychology, science, technology and more, with selected pdf downloads available online.

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MAHSLIN Members Published in JMLA

Two MAHSLIN members have recently published thoughtful and timely articles in the *Journal of the Medical Library Association*: Elaine R. Martin, Director of Library Services and Director, National Network of Libraries of Medicine, New England Region, Lamar Soutter Library, University of Massachusetts Medical School and Lucretia W. McClure, Librarian Emerita, Edward G. Miner Library, University of Rochester Medical Center.

Here are some of the highlights from the articles:


- Change in libraries is not new.
- Library literature is full of articles discussing the impact of new technologies such as automated integrated library systems, non-mediated online bibliographic search systems, the Internet and web on health sciences libraries and health sciences librarian roles.
- The effects of today’s new economy of “doing more with less” has accelerated a new cycle of change in roles of health sciences librarians.
- Job descriptions now are titled clinical informationist, research data informationist, and embedded librarian.
- NLM’s latest call for proposals for data informationists helped in embedding a librarian in a research team.
- Librarians anticipate needs and ask questions.
- This is a transformational time for health sciences librarians. The challenge for librarians is to redefine their identities in light of the changing communities being served and the opportunities presented by the new information (digital, data, and social) landscape.


- The librarian in today’s medical and health fields lives in a fast-paced and ever-changing environment. Keeping pace is the challenge.
- In the past, the major difference between medical and general collections is the need for the medical library to provide more journals than books. Keeping abreast of the best new publications was essential if the library was to serve its users well. Classification of the library’s collection was designed to assist readers in finding like subjects together. The card catalog was the essential guide for readers as it provided the authors, titles, and much needed subject headings. Librarians who cataloged became knowledgeable about the collection, its strengths, and its weaknesses.
- The success of the library depended upon the knowledge and ability of the library director and the qualifications of the professional staff. Policies were established so that all staff member knew the type and depth of assistance to be provided to each category of user.
- As early as the 1930s, librarians hoped that the new technologies would find ways to simplify manual routine tasks in the library. In 1960, specifications for a computer system, the Medical Literature and Analysis and Retrieval System (MEDLARS), was designed for NLM. Frederick G. Kilgore went on to develop OCLC, the international database of library holdings that changed the role of the cataloger.
- Librarians have participated in many advances and changes as the profession moved from the manual to the digital environment. Creating bibliographies by hand from indexes and abstracts took hours or time and required much reading. To put a combination of subjects into a computer and receive a printout in minutes was nothing short of miraculous.
- The roles of the librarian will continue to evolve and change as institutions and practices change to support the needs of faculty, staff, researchers, and students. What will not change is that the fundamental role of the librarian is to seek and discover knowledge and in whatever ways possible to provide that knowledge to others.

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MAHSLIN Annual Meeting 2014: Medical Libraries Matter

The next MAHSLIN Annual Meeting will be held on April 11, 2014 at the Massachusetts Medical Society. Julie Schneider will be our keynote speaker. Her talk is titled "The Wisconsin Experience." Her presentation will look at the advocacy efforts that health science librarians in Wisconsin have taken locally and statewide to build relationships with legislators and others and share stories about the importance of health science libraries. A recent review of Wisconsin's Administrative Code has had Wisconsin libraries rethinking about future roles. Bring your thoughts about the work that Wisconsin has done and the approaches that MAHSLIN can take to meet their mission of "Advocating for its members and their role in the health care industry."

Julie Schneider is the Director of the Ebling Library on the University of Wisconsin-Madison campus. The Ebling Library directly serves the information needs of the faculty, staff and students of the Schools of Medicine & Public Health, Pharmacy, Nursing and Veterinary Medicine on campus as well as the University Hospital and Clinics. She has served as the legislative coordinator for the Wisconsin Health Science Library Association and the Midwest Chapter of the Medical Library Association for a number of years among many other advocacy efforts.

MAHSLIN is also having a logo contest for our 2014 meeting. Get those creative juices flowing! The guidelines are:

- Meeting logo should incorporate the 2014 meeting slogan, "Medical Libraries Matter"
- If logo is in color, please also include a black & white version
- Image resolution should be 300dpi or higher
- Preferred (but not required) file type is eps
- Logo can be original artwork; does not have to be computer generated
- Submit your entries to Lisa Philpotts at philpo@bu.edu by January 31, 2014. Happy designing!

We look forward to seeing you in April! ~MAHSLIN 2014 Planning Committee

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In Memoriam: Lyn Dietrich

Lyn Dietrich passed away on December 13th after a three year battle with cancer. Beginning her career in McLean Hospital libraries in 1982, she stepped into the role of director in 1994 until her retirement in 2007. Her tenure managing the Mental Health Sciences Library was a time of extraordinary change in the library world. She met all challenges with dedication and skill. Lyn was a staunch advocate for libraries and mental health and a mentor and caring friend to other librarians.

Lyn was actively involved in many library organizations, including MAHSLIN, NAHSL, MLA and the Association of Mental Health Librarians. She served on the MAHSLIN board for several years and was a peer reviewer for the journal Behavioral and Social Sciences Librarian.

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