Integrating the Use of Palm Devices into a Third Year School of Medicine Curriculum
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Over the years, the Spencer S. Eccles Health Sciences Library has provided leadership in initiating, supporting and promoting leading edge technologies for educational efforts. This past academic year, librarians partnered with University of Utah School of Medicine (SOM) faculty to integrate the use of handheld devices into an existing third year pediatric clinical rotation. This proved to be an excellent opportunity for the library to advance the use of emerging technologies in the SOM curriculum.

The initial planning team consisted of the two SOM course masters and three librarians. We identified a course of action, distributed assignments and worked together to
• establish a timeline for implementation
• explore ways handheld devices could be integrated into the pediatric clinical rotation
• select pertinent hardware and software
• outline costs and potential funding sources

RSS: It’s Not Just for Geeks Anymore
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Do you surf to several web sites to catch up on news items that cover a wide range of topics that interest you? Maybe you do it during your lunch hour, or half hour? How many sites do you visit to accomplish this and how much time does it take you to check out all of these web sites, either at work or at home?

What if I told you there was a way for you to read the news items from several sites at once? Did you ever notice if those sites had a little rectangular red icon with white letters that read either XML or RSS on them? If they did, those sites provide their news items via an alternate method of distribution called RSS news syndication.

RSS, which stands for Really Simple Syndication, provides a format for news syndication. RSS identifies a news channel and organizes news items for that channel and distributes these items using the Web. RSS is used at news-oriented web sites, community web sites, and for personal weblogs.

For our purposes, RSS is broken down into two parts: Users and Content Providers.

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A Note from our Chair
Lenora Kinzie
MCMLA Chair, 2004

BE BOLD. You may remember this has been the
quasi-theme of my MCMLA Chapter Chair year.
Once again I am in awe of the boldness of our
chapter members. I attended MLA for the first
time in a number of years. Of course, just being in
Washington, D.C. made everything seem just a bit
more official and important. I was impressed with
the awards, achievements, and hard work of our
chapter members on behalf of MLA and our
profession. Coordinating meetings, leading
sections, facilitating roundtable discussions,
posters, paper sessions, CE
presentations...everywhere I went, one, two, or
more of our members were involved...speaking
out on issues, pushing the envelope...members
from every state. I had thought about listing all the
names but I am afraid I might unintentionally
overlook someone’s bold efforts, so I will only
focus on two for this column.

Rick Forsman, MSLS, MPA, AHIP, FMLA
Denison Memorial Library, University of Colorado
Health Sciences Center – Denver, Colorado
MLA Janet Doe Lecture, 2004
Life and Death on the Coral Reef: An Ecological
Perspective on Scholarly Publishing in the Health
Sciences

Gayle Willard, MS, MLS, AHIP,
Veterinary Medical Library, College of Veterinary
Medicine, Kansas State University, Manhattan, KS
Louise Darling Medal for Distinguished
Achievement in Collection Development in the
Health Sciences

I was impressed with Rick Forsman’s presentation,
his knowledge, poise and composure...not to
mention envious of his journeys and experiences.
As a Kansan, I was so very proud to see Gayle
Willard on stage and recognized. I have watched
Gayle quickly become a leader in our state, chapter
and nationally. As I have stated before, I am
inspired by the work and achievements of all the
outstanding professionals in our region. Thanks to
all of you for being BOLD and an inspiration for
us!

Come to Kansas City and congratulate this year’s
MCMLA Award winners too! ☀

____________________________
To learn more about MLA Awards, Fellowships,
Grants and Scholarships, check out announcements in
this issue and the MLA or MCMLA web sites.

Kudos to MCMLA Members!
Margaret Bandy from Exempla St. Joseph’s
Hospital in Denver published:
Bandy M, Fosmire B. The hospital library and the
enterprise portal. Med Ref Serv Q. 2004
Spring;23(1):63-72. PMID: 15119841

MCMLA Election Results
The 2004 MCMLA Nominating Committee would
like to thank all the talented and dedicated Chapter
members who were willing to run for office this year.
The slate was strong and the election results were
close. Congratulations to our new officers
and chapter representative.

Chair-Elect 2004-2005 Jim Bothmer
Recording Secretary Liz Workman
MCMLA Nominee to MLA Nominating
Committee Anna Beth Crabtree

Keep these Dates Open
2005 MCMLA Annual Meeting
Joan Stoddart
2005 Annual Meeting Co-Planner
Salt Lake City, Utah
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I’ve had a number of inquiries about the dates for the
2005 MCMLA Annual Meeting in Salt Lake City.
Below is the general schedule, for further information
contact me.

Saturday Sept 17th CE
Sunday Sept 18th CE, Board Meeting and
Welcome Reception
Monday Sept 19th General Sessions and Exhibits
Tuesday Sept 20th Business Meeting, General
Sessions
Health Literacy Videoconference

Pat Hamilton
Medical Library, Rapid City Regional Hospital
Rapid City, South Dakota

Rapid City Regional Hospital Medical Library was one of the many sites across the U.S. whose 'eyes were opened' and who got 'turned on' by the 2003 MLA videoconference on Health Literacy. We discussed the issue with various colleagues in our hospital, system, local private medical clinics, and the community. Everyone shared interest in the concern over clear communications with patients verbally and in writing. This was a major problem at the clinics and Indian health hospital as well, and we had little difficulty recruiting individuals to help us develop some educational in-services for area health professionals and physicians.

We started by identifying the size of the problem at our hospital. We wanted to get a base-line of sorts and identify the stakeholders in the process. We conducted a sampling of brochures and patient consent forms produced by our facility and rated their readability. Key forms and brochures that were some of the most utilized at our hospital we identified. That included patient-consent forms, health care power of attorney, most popular web site page, and miscellaneous patient education brochures.

The material fell into two categories: Informational/Legal and Patient Care – Instructions/Education. Most ‘patient care’ materials scored between 7-9th grade levels with the SMOG tool. The ‘legal’ materials scored higher, ranging between 12-18th grade levels. We also looked at our patient satisfaction scores and tried to identify questions that might be influenced by clear communication and health literacy. Those questions often had the lower scores.

We talked with various groups and individuals responsible for producing or using patient education materials: Forms Specialist/Designer, Patient/Community Education Assistant, Physician Medical Education committee, Patient Safety/Risk Management Committee, Patient and Family Education Committee and line staff.

As a result, we determined there was a need for staff & physician education. We identified key players from across the patient care continuum within our hospital, from the medical offices and other hospitals in the area. Our ‘curriculum’ team had volunteers from social work, nurse education, physician clinic office managers, dieticians, patient accounts l, case managers, nurses, clinical trials, diabetes educators, home health, and education.

“This feedback was very favorable. Many comments in follow-up surveys indicated that individuals already had made changes in how they communicated verbally and in writing with their patients.”

This ‘curriculum team’ held a couple of conference calls with Sandy Cornett (one of the panel members on MLA’s 2003 Health Literacy video conference) and identified four distinct training sessions targeting different personnel: 1) Patient care professionals, 2) Individuals who write for patients, 3) Administrative/Leadership, and 4) Physicians. We received a grant from our NN/LM to conduct the training and offered it free-of-charge to all attendees in June 2004.

Feedback was very favorable. Many comments in follow-up surveys indicated that individuals already had made changes in how the communicated verbally and in writing with their patients.

Our NEXT STEP challenges lay with identifying some institutional guidelines for any materials that touch the patients’ hands. We are establishing a Performance Improvement team from across several disciplines to help with this next stage. Wish us luck! And good luck to all of you who want to make a difference at your institutions! ☼
2004 Annual Meeting
Kelly Kline
2004 Annual Meeting Co-Planner
Kansas City, MO

The time to register for MCMLA ’04 in Kansas City, MO is here! Visit the meeting Web site for the registration form and full details:

MCMLA ’04 will be September 29-October 2 at the Sheraton Four Points Hotel, located on the historic Country Club Plaza in Kansas City, MO. Visit the MCMLA ’04 Web site above for hotel information.

The opening reception will be Wednesday, September 29 at the Kemper Museum of Art, http://www.kemperart.org/.

Scheduled speakers and topics include: Jonathan Eldredge on evidence-based librarianship; Michelynn McKnight on promoting the value of libraries; Dr. Stephen Barrett of QuackWatch.com on fraud in consumer health; and Mary Copley from Matthews Medical Books on the state of publishing today.


Questions may be directed to MCMLA ’04 meeting co-planner Kelly Klinke, library@libertyhospital.org, #(816) 415-7778.

We look forward to seeing you in Kansas City for MCMLA ‘04!

Proposed Chapter Bylaws Changes
MCMLA Bylaws Committee

The following changes to the MCMLA Chapter Bylaws will be presented at the Annual Business Meeting in Kansas City this September. These proposed changes, as well as the current Bylaws, will be posted at the chapter website in the next few weeks. If you have any questions, please contact Mary Helms, Bylaws Committee Chair at mhelms@unmc.edu.

1. Article VII Section 2 Elections. Part f.
CURRENT:
forward results of final tabulations to the Chair, Executive Secretary, Chapter Council Representative, and the Editor of the EXPRESS.

CHANGE TO:
forward names of those elected to the Chair, Executive Secretary, Chapter Council Representative, and the Editor of the EXPRESS.

2. Article VIII Section 3 Quorum
CURRENT:
The quorum shall be 10% of the members in good standing and eligible to vote.

CHANGE TO:
The quorum shall be those members, eligible to vote, present at the annual meeting.

3. Article XIII Amendments
CURRENT:
These bylaws may be amended at the Annual Meeting by a two-thirds vote of those members present and voting, provided an announcement of any proposed amendment shall have been distributed to members at least thirty days prior to the meeting at which the amendment is to be voted upon.

CHANGE TO:
These bylaws may be amended at the Annual Meeting by majority vote of those members present and eligible to vote, provided an announcement of any proposed amendment shall have been distributed to members at least thirty days prior to the meeting at which the amendment is to be voted upon.
EBSCO/MLA Annual Meeting Grant

The EBSCO Annual Meeting Grant is sponsored by EBSCO Information Services and enables MLA members to attend the association's annual meeting. Each year awards up to $1,000 for travel and conference-related expenses will be given to four librarians who otherwise would be unable to attend the meeting. To be eligible an applicant must be currently employed as a health sciences librarian and have between two and five years experience in a health sciences library. Priority consideration will be given to the applicant who is the following:

1. Attending the annual meeting for the first time
2. Presenting a paper or poster at the annual meeting
3. Having a MLA committee, jury or section/SLG assignment
4. Being an MLA member

The application deadline is DECEMBER 1.

Applicants must complete an application form including a 200-word statement answering the question, “What do you expect to gain professionally and/or personally by attending the MLA annual meeting?” The application is available at http://mlanet.org/pdf/grants/ebso_app_20030730.pdf.

The completed application should be sent to the Medical Library Association, Professional Development Department, 65 East Wacker Place, Ste. 1900, Chicago, IL 60601-7298.

For more information contact Lisa Fried at MLA headquarters (mlapd2@mlahq.org) or Sandra L. Canham, Chair of the EBSCO/Annual Meeting Grant Jury (scanham@ufl.edu).
Users – These are the people who read the RSS news feeds. They must have RSS-capable software to read the RSS files and make use of the information.

Content Providers – These are the developers who code the RSS files. They are the ones worried about which version of RSS they are using, uploading the files to the server, and publishing the service.

Users

In order to read the RSS feeds, a user must have a piece of software installed in their computer called a News Aggregator. These programs convert the RSS file into readable text, typically using a Web browser. At the end of this article is a link to a list of news aggregators.

This article will use examples from AmphetaDesk, one of several news aggregators. See References for links to AmphetaDesk and other aggregators. From AmphetaDesk’s main page,

“AmphetaDesk is a free, cross platform, open-sourced, syndicated news aggregator - it obediently sits on your desktop, downloads the latest news that interests you, and displays them in a quick and easy to use (and customizable!) webpage.”

Once installed, AmphetaDesk puts an icon on the desktop. Double click on the icon and a window opens (Figure 1).

The program checks for a new version of itself, and then checks for the channels (news feeds) you have selected for new information. Once it completes the checks, it will launch your default browser with the current news feeds from the channels you have selected during setup. Figure 2 shows the web page with news feeds.

The news feed gives you the title, description, and a link to get more information about the news item. This reduces the clutter of the web page where the news item originated.

Users can customize their channels and settings by clicking on the links in the top and bottom left side of the page. They are Channels Home, My Channels, Add a Channel, and My Settings. AmphetaDesk comes with several general information channels pre-selected. Use the My Channels link to edit and/or add to these selections.

Content Providers

RSS, like most emerging technologies, has two parallel standards. Both have gone through several revisions during RSS’ brief history. I am going to cover RSS 2.0. An excellent discussion of RSS’ history can be found in Mark Pilgrim’s article at XML.com entitled “What is RSS” at http://www.xml.com/pub/a/2002/12/18/dive-into-xml.html.

RSS files are written in XML. Even though they are written in XML, there:
followed so that the information can be read and interpreted as an RSS syndication file. The format is:

```xml
<?xml version="1.0" ?>
<rss version="2.0"
xmlns:dc=http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/>
<channel>
  <title></title>
  <description></description>
  <link></link>
  <language></language>
  <item>
    <title></title>
    <description></description>
    <link></link>
  </item>
</channel>
</rss>
```

The main element is the `<channel>` element. This describes the originator of the news items that are part of this channel. The `<title>`, `<description>`, `<link>`, and `<language>` are children elements of the `<channel>` element and help define that element.

The `<item>` element is also a child element of the `<channel>` element but is the only one that can repeat. It repeats as many times as there are news items. It also has child elements. They are `<title>`, `<description>`, and `<link>`. These tags can be repeated because they are children of the `<item>` element.

Below is an example of an RSS file.

![Figure 3 – feed.xml – Becker’s RSS source file](image)

Once you have added all of your news items, you can save the file with either an `.rss` or an `.xml` extension. The file should be saved somewhere in the directory structure of your web site.

The next step is to publicize your RSS feed. Send out messages about your news feed to listservs, newsletters, and other distribution sources. You can place an icon on your main page showing that you have an RSS feed. The icon can be downloaded from the RSS 2.0 Specification link below. Use this icon to create a link to your RSS file to show visitors that you have an RSS file. They can then point their news aggregators to that URL to view your news feeds.

RSS is most useful for medium-to-high volume news sites and organizations. An efficient way to streamline and automate your RSS file would be to create a Web application for the creation of news items using a dynamic web technology such as ASP, ASP.NET, PHP, or JSP and some database. The have applications that generate the RSS file automatically.

I have not used or could not recommend any of the many other news aggregators. I’m sure they work in a similar manner and work as well if not better than AmphetaDesk. Many are web-based and others require you to install software on to your computer, similar to AmphetaDesk.

If you have recommendations for other news aggregators, please send them to me. I will compile them and send out a follow-up message with those recommendations to the Listserv.

References

RSS 2.0 Specification - [http://blogs.law.harvard.edu/tech/rss](http://blogs.law.harvard.edu/tech/rss)


MCMLA Member's Corner: Profiles of New MCMLA Members

Brian S. Alper, M.D., M.S.P.H.
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Dr. Alper is the founder and Medical Director of Dynamic Medical Information Systems, LLC. The company developed Dynamed, an interactive, up-to-date point-of-care clinical reference tool with information on 1808 topics. He also serves as editor-in-chief which he finds exciting because, “[he is] notified early about new developments in medicine; interact with hundreds of dedicated reviewers, authors, editors and librarians working in clinical medicine and medical education; and can rapidly make changes in a database used around the world. It is also satisfying to provide free access in developing countries.”

Dr. Alper also has numerous research and teaching interests and activities including all aspects of Evidence-Based Medicine. His work has been published in Journal of Family Practice, Family Practice Management, and JAMA.

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Janet Ashwell was born in Dublin, Ireland and raised near Belfast, Ireland. Janet has an undergraduate degree in Sociology and Cultural Anthropology. Prior to working on her MLS, she studied Rural Research and Policy at the University of Sussex in Britain and then embarked on a community development project with Unicef in the Middle East for a few years.

She completed her MLS at the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor. After completion of her library degree, she worked for a few years at the University of Maryland in Baltimore until her visa ran out and she returned to Ireland. Upon returning to Ireland, Janet retained a position with the University of Bournemouth in England, where she worked in a variety of positions for nine years. Most recently, she was the Liaison Subject Specialist for the Institute of Health and Manager of the Bournemouth House Library. Janet has recently joined the National Networks of Libraries of Medicine as the part-time Outreach Coordinator for the Kansas Region, working with Whitney Davison-Turley. She is very familiar with MLA as she was professionally involved with the organization when she was in the United States in the past.

Janet is a newlywed of nine months. Her husband Bill, an engineer, is from Cape Town, South Africa. With private support, he has aspirations of developing a Tilapia fish farm here in Kansas. As you can imagine, she loves to travel and enjoys the outdoors. In her spare time Janet relaxes by experimenting with cooking ethnic dishes.

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Heather was born in Pittsburgh, NY. Her father was in the Air Force and they lived in Germany for three years. When her dad retired from the military, the family moved back to his hometown of Joplin, MO, where Heather finished her schooling. She worked at St. John's Regional Medical Center for ten years in various positions: laboratory secretary, medical records specialist, and library assistant.

Cutbacks at the hospital caused layoffs, so Heather took the opportunity to go to Library School as a distance student at the University of Missouri-Columbia. During this time, she got the opportunity to return to the hospital's consumer health library as Associate Medical Librarian. She recently graduated in December 2002. In February 2004 she started a new job as Distance Education/Outreach Librarian at the University of Nebraska Medical Center in Omaha. Her duties include coordinating library services for distance students and faculty and being the liaison between the library and Nebraska Medical Center. Heather says she enjoys being in a bigger city, but not a BIG city, as there are more opportunities and things to do.
Heather loves to travel, and being single has allowed her to enjoy a dozen Caribbean cruises with her family plus trips to Las Vegas and New York City. This fall she will travel to Heidelberg, Germany to visit her parents and take a side trip to Paris. At home Heather takes special care of her two thirteen-year-old cats.

Valeri Craigle, MLS  
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Valeri is an Adjunct Librarian and Project Coordinator for the Neuro-opththalmology Virtual Education Library (NOVEL) project at Eccles. She has been at the Eccles library for eight years, and is a member of the education team, a multimedia/ Web designer, multi-media artist and instructor.

Valeri has a bachelor’s degree from the University of Utah in anthropology, and worked for a time as a forensic anthropologist before coming to the Eccles library. She is currently pursuing a master of library science degree from Emporia State University, and plans to graduate in December, 2005.

Valeri and her husband Zack have a two year-old daughter McKenzie, two dogs and one cat. In her free time, she loves to study forensic anthropology, and also likes doing various outdoor activities. Valeri enjoys going bicycling, hiking, skiing, walking...anything, really, as long as she's spending time with her family, she's happy!

Liz Delfert, MLIS  
Reference Librarian  
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Liz was born and raised in the St. Louis metropolitan area. She obtained her BA in Biology from the University of Missouri - St. Louis, her post-graduate certification as an elementary school science teacher at Northeastern Illinois University, and her MLIS at Dominican University.

Immediately after graduation from college, she worked as a respiratory therapist. She then held a position for over five years at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign as a biomedical researcher. Her most extensive experience at Abbott was in the corporate library, first as a biomedical research information scientist, and then as the trainer and content manager of business and biomedical/technical electronic resources.

For the past three years, she has been a reference librarian at the headquarters of St. Louis County Library. She is the webmaster for the reference department portion of the library Web site and teaches a number of classes, included a popular class on Health Information on the Internet.

Liz met her husband Dennis in college and they have been married for 26 “wonderful years.” He is currently an associate professor in the biology department of a local community college, after having worked many years in R&D and management in the diagnostics division at Abbott Laboratories. Their daughter, Jessica, is in the mathematics doctoral program at Oregon State University. Their son, Patrick, is in the BS/MS Computer Science program at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign.

Liz enjoys reading and nature. Her main 'hobby' these days is helping her parents navigate through the trials and tribulations of growing older. She loves to travel, and her most memorable trip was a three week tour of China in 2001.

Shona Dippie, MLIS  
Research Assistant Librarian  
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Shona hails from and still has family in Edmonton, Alberta. Hence she is enjoying the “milder” weather of Utah.

Prior to joining the Eccles Health Sciences Library, Shona worked in the Edmonton Public Library system and University of Alberta Libraries in circulations, interlibrary loans and shelving.

She received her undergraduate degree in comparative literature from the University of Alberta, as well as her MLIS, which she completed in 2002.

In her current position as a Cataloger or Metadata Librarian on the HEAL project (Health Education Assets Library – http://www.healcentral.org/index.jsp) project, Shona has plenty of work ahead. She is using MeSH and UNMLS
concept IDs to catalog, quite literally, thousands of images that have been contributed by more than 20 different institutions, projects, and faculty, to date. The focus for this digital library is Web accessible resources for use in health sciences education, and patient education. Just to mention a few of the current contributors, images have been contributed by the Slice of Life, Pathology Education Internet Resource, and the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland. In addition, Shona is working on policies for both Collection Development and Metadata. When asked about hobbies, Shona answered “reading.” A good answer for a librarian!

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Ellen was born in upstate New York and attended Potsdam College, SUNY. She taught fourth and fifth grade students in Smithtown, Long Island and White Plains, NY. Ellen received her MLS from the University of Denver and worked as a marketing manager for Clinical Reference Systems, a patient education software company. She is very pleased to come back to the library world and currently works part-time as a reference librarian in the consumer health library at Exempla Saint Joseph Hospital in Denver. Ellen has a daughter, Jessica, who recently earned a Masters degree in Community Counseling and uses biofeedback techniques to help patients manage chronic pain. Ellen’s hobbies include over twenty years as a member of a local book club, and fifteen years singing soprano with the Colorado Symphony Chorus.

Dale Gustafson, MLIS
Systems Librarian
Dykes Library,
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Dale Gustafson is currently the Systems Librarian at KU Medical Center--Dykes Library in Kansas City, Kansas. Dale has been at the library since November 2002. He is now part of a 4 member IT team providing computer support to staff and students in the library. His primary role is providing application support, including various database and library specific applications, the online catalog system, and the website.

Dale grew up in the western suburbs of Chicago. What a wonderful coincidence; Dale went to high school with Kelly Klinke, Liberty Hospital Librarian and member of MCMLA. Since his 1996 graduation from Rosary College in Riverforest, Illinois with a Masters in Library and Information Science, Dale has held a variety of other librarian positions; including Reference Librarian for the Olathe Public Library, Systems Librarian for St. Paul School of Theology Library, and the Assistant Information Technology Librarian for the Information Technology Department at the Kansas City Public Library.

Dale is married and has three young children between the ages of 7 to 18 months; he lives in western Shawnee, Kansas. Needless to say, he is very busy spending time with his family. He does find time to enjoy his hobbies of gardening and being a “National Public Radio junky.” MCMLA is happy to welcome Dale Gustafson to our organization.

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Erica Lake was born in Bangor, Maine in 1967, but grew up in northern Virginia, just outside Washington, D.C. She earned her B.A. in Fine Arts (painting!) from Virginia Tech, and her M.L.S with an emphasis on art librarianship from Indiana University in 1992.
Erica says she has been lucky enough to have had some wonderful jobs. Her first professional position was administering a dance library and archives in New York City. In addition, she has held both reference and technical services positions in an art museum, a university, and in public libraries. One can tell she likes variety!

Erica moved to Salt Lake City in 1998, and began her current position as a medical librarian for LDS Hospital in December of 1999. Erica admittedly loves what she does, as it is both challenging and rewarding. She says the patrons she serves and the medical librarians with whom she works are fantastic.

Erica has a nine-year-old son, Ethan, who is a true renaissance "man." He loves arts AND sciences, and he is equally adept at both. Her family is spread from Connecticut to New Zealand, which is hard, but it means that Ethan and she always have great places to visit. In her off time, Erica loves running. She’s training for her fourth marathon, which will be in Washington, D.C. on Halloween (as if the nation's capital weren't scary enough, she adds!) MCMLA wishes Erica the best of luck in the marathon, and heartily welcomes her (with her wonderful sense of humor) into our membership.

Amanda Lynn McConnell, MA
Information Services Librarian
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Amanda joined the staff at the University of Missouri-Columbia J. Otto Lottes Health Sciences Library as a full-time professional in October of 2003 after graduating with an MA in Information Science & Learning Technologies from the University of Missouri--Columbia.

Amanda grew up in Columbia, Missouri where she graduated from MU. In 1996, she moved to Moab, Utah, “a small, beautiful town” in the southeastern part of the state where she became the first Children's Librarian at the public library. After moving back to Columbia a few years ago to complete her MLS she began working as a library clerk and assistant at the J. Otto Lottes Health Sciences Library.

Among her other projects, Amanda says, “I really appreciate the fact that I've been able to devote some time to consumer health issues; I am pursuing CHIS through MLA. One especially exciting project I've been able to be involved with is Missouri's Go Local project with Community Connection. Although many improvements still need to be made, we're excited to ‘go live.’”

In her spare time Amanda enjoys hiking, reading, dancing, whitewater rafting, cooking, art, music, travel, her dog and two cats.

Erin Palazzolo, MLS
Clinical Medical Librarian
Truman Medical Center – Lakewood
7900 Lee’s Summit Road
Kansas City, MO 64139
816-404-8265 phone
816-404-8266 fax

Erin was born in the Overland Park area of Kansas City, KS. She received her Bachelor of Science in Organismal Biology from the University of Kansas and her Masters in Library Science from the University of Texas at Austin.

She realized her desire to pursue a library degree in college while working at the Anschutz Science Library. While working on obtaining her library degree, she worked at the Texas Rehabilitation Commission/Early Childhood Intervention library. ECI is a statewide program for families with children, birth to three, with disabilities and developmental delays. Gathering health related information for the families and social workers. After graduation, Erin spent one and half years working as the Life Sciences Reference Librarian at Stephen F. Austin State University. Both positions afforded her valuable experience that acted as good stepping stones to her new position as a Clinical Medical Librarian at the Truman Medical Center – Lakewood. She attends rounds three days a week (soon to be five) meeting with the Family Practice faculty and residents gathering information to support their patient care. She prepares information packets daily, gathers and distributes articles on the latest trends in medicine, and does in-depth research for daily noon conferences. Erin loves knowing that the information she provides can make a difference in the outcome of the patient’s care. Currently, she is exploring providing consumer health information to the patients as well.

Erin is a member of ALA and the Health Sciences Library Network of Kansas City (HSLNKC). She is excited about being a member of MCMLA and is eager and ready to get involved!

She has two children – a three year old son and soon-to-be two year old daughter. They keep her busy, and she enjoys spending time with them.
Linda Schuyler, MA  
Health Education Specialist  
Self-Care and Healthwise  
Kaiser Permanente  
10350 E. Dakota Avenue  
Denver, CO 80247  
303-344-7361  
303-344-7721 Fax  
Linda.Schuyler@kp.org  
Linda was born in Schenectady, NY, and grew up in the Southern Adirondacks. She received her RN from Albany Medical Center School of Nursing. In 1975 she moved to Colorado, where she obtained her BS in Health Care Management from Metropolitan State College of Denver, and her MA in Health Education from the University of Northern Colorado.  
Linda was an Occupational Health Nurse for 18 years and also the Public Education Coordinator for the Poison Control Center. She has worked at Kaiser Permanente for the last 13 years in the Emergency Department, the Pulmonary Clinic and now as Health Education Specialist. She is currently developing their first staffed patient education resource center in their new Rock Creek Medical Office, which will open in December 2004.  
Most of Linda’s aunts, uncles, and cousins still reside in Upstate New York, but she has two nearly 10-year-old cats, Simon and Taz, to keep her company. Linda’s main hobby is collecting Depression Glass. She also loves to read, as most do in our profession. She walks for exercise and is happily learning to play golf.  
MCMLA warmly welcomes Linda Schuyler into our organization, where we’ll help her to find excellent educational programs, great networking, answers to her questions and new friends.  

Julie Stetson, MLS  
MEDLARS Management Section, NLM  
8600 Rockville Pike  
Bethesda, MD 20894  
301-496-7907 (work)  
stetsonj@mail.nih.gov  
Julie is hoping to move into our region in the near future, as her husband is an Air Force physician and may be transferred to Colorado Springs. So she’s looking forward to meeting some of the wonderfully warm folks our region is famous for! She has been monitoring the MCMLA list-serv and is delighted about the warm nature of the communications. She is currently co-editor of the NLM Technical Bulletin and teaches some monthly PubMed classes. Julie has worked for NLM for 1 year and enjoys it immensely; the employees are passionate about their jobs.  
Julie loves everything about her job. Many employees are long-timers who offer a warm ‘family’ environment in which to work. She enjoys the writing that she does and the teaching (although the teaching can be a bit intimidating for her), she feels that she makes a difference. The opportunity for ‘detective’ work is there when she receives questions from seasoned folks that she must research and she finds herself learning as she guides others.  
Julie shared that she’s a 15-year veteran of marriage and although doesn’t have any children, she’s devoted to her dogs. As an avid knitter, she’s hoping to link up with some other librarians in some classes when she moves to Colorado.  
Librarianship wasn’t Julie’s first career choice. She was in the middle of her dissertation work in the field of Russian linguistics and literature, when her advisor died and she reevaluated her options and desires, and chose librarianship.  
Colorado Springs was home to Julie and her husband during their first 4-years of marriage so it’s a bit like ‘coming home’ and she’s SO looking forward to the warm weather! Julie is also looking forward to joining the ranks of the MCMLA members. Keep your eye open for any medical reference jobs in clinical, academic, or consumer health settings or a public library, as Julie can’t wait to jump in with both feet in her new state!  

Elizabeth Tweed, MLIS  
Denison Memorial Library, UCHSC  
4200 E 9th Ave., A003  
Denver, CO 80246  
303-315-1221 phone  
Elizabeth.tweed@uchsc.edu  
Beth recently graduated from Denver University in 2003 with her MLIS. She has worked at Denison for three years, 2.5 years as a Library Tech 2 and almost one year as a faculty member. Beth is doing FPIN searches for the Family Practice Inquiry Network; these are evidence based searches for clinical inquiries that are published in the Journal of Family Practice. Beth also provides medical reference and clinical support.  
Prior to becoming a medical librarian, Beth was an intensive and coronary care nurse in both in Colorado and Minnesota. Beth was also a school librarian for 13 years. She is originally from Wisconsin, and obtained her nursing degree in Rochester, Minnesota.  
Beth’s daughter, Gretchen, is currently in the Physician Assistant Graduate School Program at UCHSC. Beth’s son is also living in Denver. She and her husband enjoy the outdoors a great deal and travel whenever the opportunity arises. In her next iteration, Beth would like to be a naturalist. ☼
Planning began in March of 2003, with the goal of starting the course in July 2003.

In the initial meetings we discussed ways handheld devices might be used by the students. In addition to the basic functions (calendar, addresses, to do and memo features and beaming) we wanted students to use the devices to find and evaluate information resources and tools that would help them with their pediatric rotation. Because the University of Utah has campus-wide access to a wireless network, we selected the Tungsten C, a device with wireless capability, high resolution color display and 64 mega bytes of memory.

Appropriate software identified for the pediatric rotation included the:

- American Academy of Pediatrics Red Book for PDA (fee-based)
- Riley Hospital for Children Kidometer (fee-based)
- PedsBase (requires iSilo, fee-based)
- ePocrates
- EBM Calculator
- MedMath
- Documents To Go
- Acrobat Reader for Palm OS.

Licenses for the fee-based software were negotiated with the providers, and logins and passwords assigned for each device.

In order to fund the devices and software, we applied for funding from the School of Medicine Educational Resource Development Council, the Educational Computing Committee, and the library.

The course master and library faculty worked together to develop the course goals, objectives and content. Over the academic year, we met with eight groups of students. Each group attended five two-hour sessions over a six-week rotation. Sessions were outlined as follows:

- Session I: Building your Palm
- Session II: Assigned application evaluation
- Session III: Student selected application evaluation
- Session IV: Searching the literature for evidence
- Session V: Evaluating the literature

As it turned out, the most challenging task was configuring the PDA’s for Session I. Devices were hard reset to ensure that any private information that had been entered onto the device was removed before issuing devices to the next group of students. Then the software was reinstalled and licensed applications were assigned their appropriate login and password. This entire process required eight to ten man-hours to complete.

Another challenge was providing training to library instructors. Our skill levels ranged from novice to expert and some faculty were unsure that they could provide adequate instruction. We initiated one-hour training sessions where we taught one another the ins and outs of using the device. These “Training Tuesday” sessions improved our comfort level and gave us the confidence we needed to explore the full potential of the device.

Another strategy was to rotate instruction responsible between the eight instructors. The lead instructor was supported by an assistant who would observe and then become the lead instructor for the next rotation with a subsequent assistant in training.

In Session I, students were issued a Palm device and software for their six-week rotation. They signed a loan agreement stating they were responsible for returning the device in good condition. During the first year of the course, we had three broken screens and one water-damaged device. Fortunately, all of the repairs were covered under the warranty. At the end of the second rotation we decided to purchase covers as added protection for the devices.

During class, we encouraged the high end users to work with the low end users. This peer to peer instruction was an important component of the course. Library and SOM faculty taught the sessions together, learning from one another as well. Overall the students indicated that the program was worthwhile.

As we begin the second year of the Topics In Medicine Pediatrics PDA course, we have revised the course content, added and subtracted applications, and significantly reduced the amount of time spent setting up the devices for Session I. This was accomplished with a Secure File PDA Backup Memory Card.

The project to integrate the use of Palm devices into the School of Medicine third year curriculum is one of many activities the Eccles Library has championed. This coming year we plan to explore educational possibilities with tablet PCs and work with faculty to incorporate this tool and other technologies in their teaching.
NOW ACCEPTING NOMINATIONS

Lois Ann Colaianni Award for Excellence and Achievement in Hospital Librarianship

Application Deadline: **November 1, 2004**

Do YOU know a hospital librarian with these attributes?

* Outstanding service in hospital librarianship
* A dynamic and exceptional librarian
* A visionary!

Nominate and apply now for the Lois Colaianni Award.

For further information and an application visit [http://www.mlanet.org/awards/honors/index.html](http://www.mlanet.org/awards/honors/index.html) or contact Lisa C. Fried, Coordinator, Credentialing, Professional Recognition and Careers at [mlapd2@mlahq.org](mailto:mlapd2@mlahq.org) or 312-419-9094 X28.

Lucretia W. McClure Excellence in Education Award

Each year, the Medical Library Association honors individuals who have rendered distinguished service to health sciences libraries and furthered the purposes of health sciences librarianship. The Lucretia W. McClure Excellence in Education Award, established in 1998 in honor of one of MLA's most respected members, honors outstanding practicing librarians or library educators in the field of health sciences librarianship and informatics who demonstrate skills in one or more of the following areas: teaching, curriculum development, mentoring, research, or leadership in education at local, regional, or national levels. The recipient receives a certificate at the annual meeting and a cash award of $500 after the annual meeting.

Take this opportunity to nominate an outstanding colleague for MLA's Lucretia W. McClure Excellence in Education. The deadline for applications is November 1, 2004. Complete information and application forms for all MLA awards and honors may be found at: [http://www.mlanet.org/awards/honors/index.html](http://www.mlanet.org/awards/honors/index.html)

If you have any questions, please contact Beth Layton (beth@library.health.ufl.edu), Margaret (Peggy) Richwine (mrichwin@iupui.edu), or Sarah Kirby (sarah.kirby@providence-health.org).

Ida and George Eliot Prize

This prize is awarded annually by the Medical Library Association for a work published in the preceding calendar year, which has been judged most effective in furthering medical librarianship.

The Ida and George Eliot Prize was established by Ida and George Eliot, friends of the Medical Library Association and owners of Eliot Health Sciences books, Inc., Long Island City, New York. In the mid 1980's Login Brothers Book Company acquired the company and continued to support the prize. The recipient receives a cash award of $200.00 and a certificate at the association's annual meeting.

Application Deadline: **November 1, 2004**

A nomination form and further information is available at: [http://www.mlanet.org/awards](http://www.mlanet.org/awards)

Please send nominations to: Lisa Fried, MLA Professional Development Dept.
65 East Wacker place Suite 1900
Chicago, IL 60601-7298
Hello! MLA Chapter Council is already thinking about the Chapter Roundtables for MLA ’05 in San Antonio. The following is a list of potential topics. Pick your top 30 (no - they do not need to be ranked) and send your results back to me. Please feel free to suggest other topics as well. The topics or suggestions receiving the most votes will be offered.

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<td>Other Suggestions?</td>
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Feel free to email, fax, or snail-mail your selections to me by October 1.

Thank you so much for your time. Your input on the topics to offer is one reason the roundtables continue to be one of the highlights of the MLA annual meeting.

Marie Reidelbach
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Publication statement

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