



# NLM NEWSLINE

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## Going by the Books

*In the Design of Research Protocols,  
Earlier Literature Should Not Be Overlooked*

*Could it have been prevented? In June of 2001, Ellen Roche, a healthy 24-year-old volunteer in an asthma study at Johns Hopkins University, died unexpectedly. Apparently a chemical she inhaled led to the progressive failure of her kidneys and lungs. In the article that follows, Sheldon Kotzin, Head of NLM's Bibliographic Services Division and a medical librarian by training, examines the situation.*

Too often, articles published prior to the coverage of MEDLINE (1966 to the present) are overlooked by researchers. As Faith McLellan pointed out in a recent issue of *The Lancet*, "The hexamethonium case at Johns Hopkins is not the first to highlight the value of the older medical literature" [*Lancet*. 2001 Aug 25;358(9282):646]. Many of us can recall: studies in the 1950s that tested human subjects with radioactive compounds; research on tuberculosis or malaria that ceased before 1965; and of course the thalidomide disaster of the 1950s and 1960s. While there are many sources of recent references – among them NLM's MEDLINE database, which can be searched

with ease using the PubMed interface, or TOXLINE, the NLM database of toxic substances, or other Web-based products – there is no doubt that in certain circumstances contemporary medical questions can only be answered by consulting the older literature.

Searching the pre-1966 literature should be a routine part of any clinical trial research process. Some of this information has been made available electronically through NLM's OLDMEDLINE database, while some can only be retrieved through meticulous "hand searching" of printed products, such as *Index Medicus*. OLDMEDLINE now contains over one million references to journal articles published from 1958 to 1965. The Library expects to add records back to 1957, shortly. NLM's goal is to make printed citations searchable electronically back to at least World War II.

*continued on page 2*

Category	Items Found	Actions	
Journal Citations	159	Display Results	Details of Search
Books / Serials / A/Vs	0	Display Results	Details of Search
Consumer Health	0	Display Results	Details of Search
Meeting Abstracts	0	Display Results	Details of Search
Other Collections	0	Display Results	Details of Search
<b>Total</b>	<b>159</b>		

## INSIDE

Sec. Thompson Visits NLM . . . . .	3	Associate Fellows 2001-2002 . . . . .	14
"Biological Warfare" Website . . . . .	4	Profiles in Science Adds McClintock	15
NLM's Budget . . . . .	4	Products & Publications . . . . .	16
"Breath of Life" on DVD . . . . .	5	Names in the News . . . . .	16
Edgar Allan Poe Visits NLM. . . . .	6	NLM Honor Awards 2001 . . . . .	17
Norway is MEDLARS Partner . . . . .	7	Jablonski Receives NLM Director's Award . . . . .	18
Mainframe Shut Down . . . . .	8	Mary Moore to Head Reference Section . . . . .	19
Internet Connection Grants . . . . .	9	Ken Niles Named Head of CAS . . . . .	21
Greek Medicine . . . . .	10	NLM in Print . . . . .	26
MEDLINE Turns 30 . . . . .	11		
Arctic Health Website . . . . .	12		
National Outreach Mapping Center Established . . . . .	13		

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## Going by the Books

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continued from page 1

In the aforementioned clinical trial at John Hopkins, a healthy, 24-year-old woman who participated in the study was asked to inhale hexamethonium to induce asthma. She died shortly thereafter. A literature search performed by a trained librarian would likely have resulted in retrieving references to articles that might provide clear-cut evidence of pulmonary disease occurring immediately after inhalation of hexamethonium. However, a relatively simple search of the older medical literature, by one less well trained, would have yielded several references that should have at least cast some suspicion on the use of hexamethonium in this trial.

The NLM Gateway system (at <http://gateway.nlm.nih.gov/gw/Cmd>) allows one to enter search terms that will locate relevant references in both MEDLINE and OLDMEDLINE. A search performed in December 2001, by typing “hexamethonium” and “lung,” retrieved a total of 159 references; 157 were from MEDLINE and two were from OLDMEDLINE.

Two of the MEDLINE references stand out because they cover the adverse effects of hexamethonium compounds as well as a number of lung-related problems. They are:

- Stableforth DE. Chronic lung disease. Pulmonary fibrosis. *Br J Hosp Med*. 1979 Aug;22(2):128, 132-5; and
- Brettner A, Heitzman ER, Woodin WG. Pulmonary complications of drug therapy. *Radiology*. 1970 Jul;96(1):31-8.

Other references could have been selected as well.

The two OLDMEDLINE records retrieved were:

- Lloyd TC Jr. Effect of Alveolar hypoxia on pulmonary vascular resistance. *J Appl Physiol* 1964 Nov;19: 1086-94; and
- Heard BE. Fibrous healing of old iatrogenic pulmonary edema (“hexamethonium lung”). *J Path Bact* 1962 Jan;83:159-64.

The Lloyd article mentioned hexamethonium but not adverse complications; the Heard article, however, cited several examples where hexamethonium caused respiratory complications.

While searches could have been performed using other terms combined with hexamethonium, such as “toxicity,” “adverse effects,” and “inhalation,” the simpler search works fine. If one were searching MEDLINE records only, it would be wise to add “human,” to eliminate animal studies; however, that nulls the OLDMEDLINE retrieval, since NLM indexing policy prior to 1966 did not require use of the term “human.”

A third, valuable OLDMEDLINE article (reference follows):

- Petersen AG, Dodge M, Helwig FC. Pulmonary changes associated with hexamethonium therapy. *AMA Arch Int M* 1959 Feb; 103(2):285-8.

was found by using the search terms “hexamethonium” and “pulmonary.” While this article was not indexed with the words “lung” or “pulmonary,” it was retrieved because “pulmonary” is in its title. The Petersen reference as well as many other articles that were published before OLDMEDLINE coverage could have been located by perusing the references at the end of the Stableforth and Brettner articles. One also could do a hand search of “hexamethonium” in *Index Medicus*.

For a precise retrieval or a more elaborate search strategy using OLDMEDLINE, consult a medical librarian. Librarians also can assist in offering advice on less complex searches or you can try it yourself. You may have to review a number of references to find the most useful ones, but often it will be worth the effort.

*Sheldon Kotzin wishes to thank NLM Reference Librarian Ronald L. Gordner, MLS, AHIP, of the Public Services Division, and Susanne M. Humphrey, Information Scientist in the Lister Hill Center's Computer Science Branch, for their invaluable help with this article.*



# HHS Secretary Gets to Know NLM from the Inside

*Thompson's Tour Features Consumer Resources, Biotechnology*

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Health and Human Services Secretary Tommy G. Thompson spent four fully packed days on the NIH campus August 20th through 23rd, getting to know the place from inside out. He closed his first day with a visit to NLM.



Secretary Thompson and NLM Director Lindberg in the NLM Visitors Center.

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The Secretary was treated to a tour of the Library led by NLM Director Dr. Donald A.B. Lindberg. This included stops at the "Turning the Pages" display (with a digital method for viewing historical books) and the "Breath of Life" DVD exhibit. (See related story in this issue of *NEWSLINE*.) His walking tour also included stops at NLM's computer room and main reading room.



The Secretary and Dr. Lindberg chat with Karen Patrias, Senior Resource Specialist, Public Services Division, in the NLM Reading Room.

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Next, Secretary Thompson heard a briefing on the work of the National Center for Biotechnology Information from its director, Dr. David J. Lipman. Finally, he got a hands-on demonstration of MEDLINE and ClinicalTrials.gov led by Lister Hill Center Director Dr. Alexa T. McCray.



Dr. Lindberg makes a point about the NLM computer room to Sec. Thompson.

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Sec. Thompson and Dr. Lindberg pay a call on the NLM Reading Room. Standing between them is Acting NIH Director Dr. Ruth Kirschstein.

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# Division of Specialized Information Services (SIS) Launches “Biological Warfare” Website

*Links to NLM Resources and Other Federal Sites*

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Like it or not, the American public has had to school itself in recent months about anthrax, smallpox and other instruments of biological warfare. Now, a new NLM website culls the best resources on the topic and makes them available at no charge to computer users everywhere.

The site, located under “Special Topics” at [www.sis.nlm.nih.gov](http://www.sis.nlm.nih.gov), features a short description of biological warfare in general. It then examines eight specific agents: anthrax, botulism, brucellosis, bubonic plague, Q fever, smallpox, tularemia and viral hemorrhagic fevers. Under these subheads, users will find descriptions of transmission, symptoms and treatment of the diseases.

There are also links to online resources at the National Library of Medicine (such as the MEDLINE, MEDLINE<sub>plus</sub> and TOXLINE databases), plus those compiled by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), and the U.S. Army.

The SIS “Biological Warfare” site includes references to recent journal articles on the topic, all part of the NLM collection and available via interlibrary loan. This timely site concludes with a listing of public and private Internet resources on the general topic of biological warfare, and selected online resources in Spanish.

## NLM’s Budget Picture Remains Rosy

*Bush Proposal Would Double NIH Funding by 2003*

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NLM has enjoyed some of its healthiest financial years recently and, if Congress concurs with the Administration, that pattern will continue. President George W. Bush has requested that Congress appropriate \$315.2 million for the Library in Fiscal Year 2003. This represents an increase of \$37.9 million over the previous year’s funding level.

Fulfilling a campaign promise in which he pledged to double the budget of the National Institutes of Health by 2003 to \$27.2 billion (from the 1998 level of \$13.6 billion), the President has asked for \$27.3 billion for NIH in FY 2003. That figure includes a \$91 million adjustment for the accrual of employee pension and annuitant health benefits.

The following are notes on recent appropriations:

### **FY 2001**

NLM has completed the closeout of the FY 2001 budget. Of the \$246.4 million appropriated in FY 2001, NLM transferred \$7.2 million to NIH to fund the design of a new building and utilized \$239.1 million.

### **FY 2002**

NLM’s FY 2002 appropriation is \$277.3 million, an increase of \$30.9 million (12.6%) over the comparable FY 2001 appropriation. The appropriation contains the same language as the FY 2001 appropriation, continuing NLM’s authorization to use personal services contracts and provides for the availability of \$4.0 million without fiscal year limitations.

*continued on page 23*



# The Asthma Exhibit That Fits in Your Pocket

*“Breath of Life” Now Available on DVD*

When the time comes to close a popular exhibition, you don't want to discard the fruits of the hard work that went into its creation. On the other hand, sending all those books, rare artifacts, video kiosks and explanatory panels on tour has always seemed a daunting – and expensive – task. That is, until now.

For NLM's "Breath of Life" exhibit, the show will go on because, with support from the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI), this comprehensive look at asthma now "lives" on a DVD-Video disk.

The DVD contains more than two hours of full-screen, full-motion video, graphics, audio, and animations, as well as open captioning for the hearing-impaired. There are segments in which a physician tells patients how to use asthma inhalers and peak flow meters properly. There's a video that shows what happens in the lungs during an asthma attack. There are statements from Olympic Gold Medallists Jackie Joyner Kersee, Nancy Hogshead and Tom Dolan, and Pittsburgh Steeler Jerome Bettis, telling what it's like to live with asthma. One section focuses on the history of asthma. Another follows the experiences of a family with an asthmatic child. When you click on the "Virtual Tour" segment, you even hear the background murmurings of other exhibit tourists.

The DVD version of "Breath of Life" is on display in NLM's Visitors Center, located on the first floor of Building 38A, the Lister Hill Center. In that setting, the exhibit comes to life on three independently running, touch-screen kiosks. Large plasma screens and a Dolby sound system make the experience of "touring" "Breath of Life" even more vivid.

But you don't have to come to the National Institutes of Health campus to experience "Breath of Life." The DVD version is now on sale to the public for \$8.50. It will play in any DVD player.

"The National Library of Medicine pioneered this unique use of DVD technology," said Donald A.B. Lindberg, MD, Director of the National Library of Medicine. "Now anyone – asthma patients, parents, health professionals and teachers – can learn more about asthma in an entertaining and informal way right from their comfort of their own home."

The NLM project officer for the "Breath of Life" DVD was Anne Altemus, a medical illustrator in the Audiovisual Program Development Branch. "This has been a truly fascinating and challenging project to research and develop – the product of which represents the world's first DVD exhibit," she said.

*continued on page 9*

**NLM medical illustrator Anne Altemus and the product she helped bring to life, "Breath of Life" in DVD format.**



# To Diagnose His Disease, Edgar Allan Poe Visits NLM

*“Historic Grand Rounds” Has Surprise Ending to Rival Any of the Writer’s Own*

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NLM gets its share of famous guests – prize-winning scientists, HHS Secretaries, TV reporters. But a visit from the late writer Edgar Allan Poe? Quoth the Raven, “Never before.”

On December 3rd, the father of the mystery story (played by actor David Keltz) sought help in solving the mystery of his own morbidity and death. This riveting session was the first in the History of Medicine Division’s “Historic Grand Rounds” series at NLM.

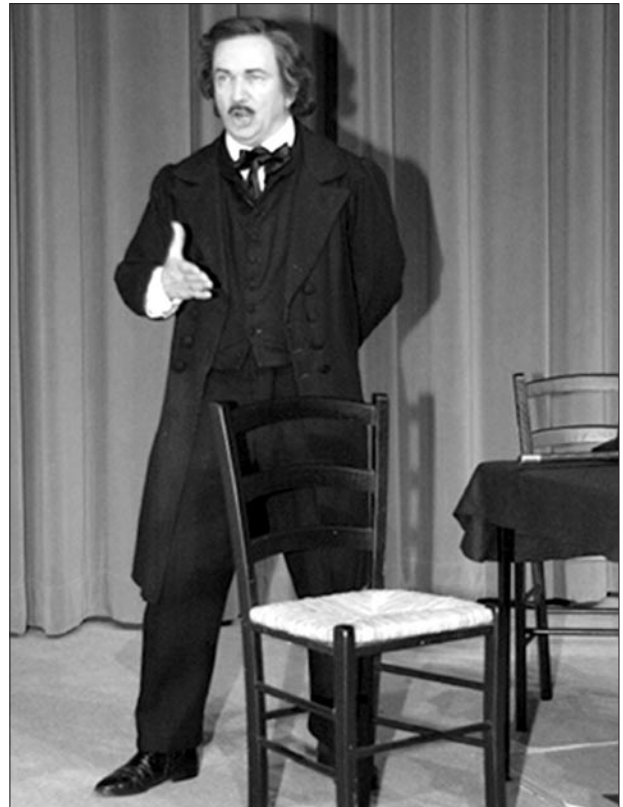
“How and why, you may well ask, have I now made this heroic leap from the grave – out of space, out of time – to be with you today at the National Library of Medicine?” Poe asked, pacing about in a black frock coat and cravat. “Let it suffice that I am here through the sheer force of my will, for the singular purpose of imploring you, learned researchers and librarians, to determine the mysterious cause of my recurring illness and death.”

Mr. Poe then put forth his symptoms in a spellbinding, 40-minute solo turn. Drawing from his writings, the author whose words have haunted us all told how he had been haunted by all manner of health problems.

In the aptly named tale, “Loss of Breath,” for example, he noted, “The sensations of my illness were much like those of a man upon the gallows: I heard my heart beating with violence – the veins in my hands and wrists swelled to nearly bursting – my temples throbbed tempestuously – and I felt that my eyes were starting from their sockets... Confusion crowded upon confusion like a wave upon a wave.”

Next, with a piercing gaze and florid gestures, Poe acted out his indelible masterpiece, “The Tell-Tale Heart.” The audience heard the story differently than ever before, this time listening for clues about the author’s health. For example, this revelatory passage: “TRUE! – nervous – very, very dreadfully nervous I had been and am; but why will you say that I am mad? The disease had sharpened my senses – not destroyed – not dulled them... And have I not told you that what you mistake for madness is but over-acuteness of the senses?”

Poe described other physical sensations – dull lethargy, hemi-syncope or half swoon, numbness, chills, dizziness, inertia. One of his doctors said he had



Posing as Poe, actor David Keltz tells the tale of the author’s ailments.

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“excessive nervous prostration and loss of nerve power, resulting from exposure” – although to what he did not say. One said Poe’s “disease affected the encephalon, a sensitive and delicate membrane of the brain.” Others theorized about heart disease.

Whatever his health problems, the writer revealed, they always grew worse when he lived in urban areas. During those periods, he felt “horrors haunting my mind, body and soul,” a state of mind similar to that of Roderick in “The Fall of the House of Usher.” When Poe lived in relatively rural Richmond, Virginia, or moved to upstate New York, his symptoms abated.

In his later years, Poe lived in Baltimore. When he died there on October 7th, 1849, no autopsy was performed. However, the City Health Commissioner listed the cause of death as “congestion of the brain.”

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# Norway Becomes International MEDLARS Partner

*University of Oslo Library Will Team with NLM*

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Norway has become NLM's most recent International MEDLARS Partner.

Last August 23rd, in Boston, a memorandum of understanding was inked between Norway and the U.S. The agreement made the Library of Medicine and Health Sciences at the University of Oslo the newest International MEDLARS Center. Through its collaborative arrangement with NLM, the Oslo library will provide online search assistance, training and document delivery to health professionals and libraries in Norway and in the Baltic countries. Library staff there will also translate NLM's vocabulary, known as Medical Subject Headings (MeSH), into Norwegian. The web address for the new Center is [www.ub.uio.no/umh/](http://www.ub.uio.no/umh/).

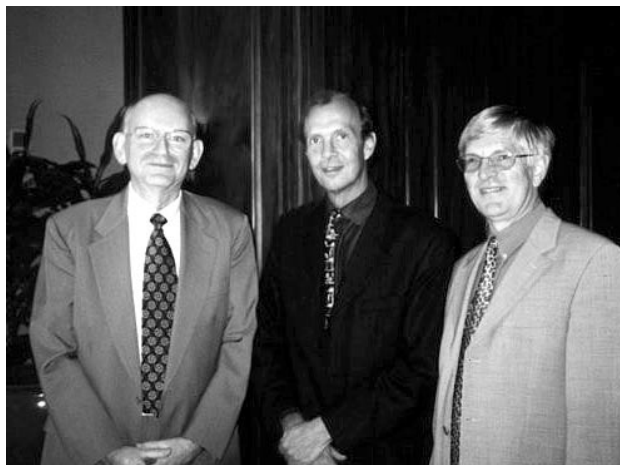
NLM's "Long Range Plan 2000-2005" emphasizes the need to establish new international partnerships to leverage its resources. (The web address for access to all the Library's planning documents is [www.nlm.nih.gov/pubs/plan/index.html](http://www.nlm.nih.gov/pubs/plan/index.html).) "The establishment of future Centers will be guided by the opportunity to benefit from the international initiatives of others," observed NLM Director Dr. Donald A.B. Lindberg.

"It is particularly fitting that the University of Oslo become the newest MEDLARS Center," commented Dr. Elliot R. Siegel, NLM Associate Director for Health Information Programs Development, "As their outreach initiatives mirror in many important ways the objectives of NLM's own programs."



**The Library of Medicine and Health Sciences,  
University of Oslo**

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**Pictured left to right, NLM's Elliot R. Siegel joins the University of Oslo's Arne Jakobsson and Jan Erik Røed at Boston signing ceremony cementing Norway's MEDLARS partnership.**

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"As the national, central library of medicine in Norway, we share a common goal with NLM – to acquire, organize, and disseminate health-related information and to provide near-instantaneous, reliable access to high-quality health information resources when and where decisions are made," said Arne Jakobsson, Director, Library of Medicine and Health Sciences. "Becoming an International MEDLARS Center will strengthen the link between our library and NLM and also nationally and internationally strengthen our ability to fulfill our common goals." Jan Erik Røed, Library Director, University of Oslo, accompanied Jakobsson to the signing ceremony and signed the memorandum of understanding on behalf of Norway.

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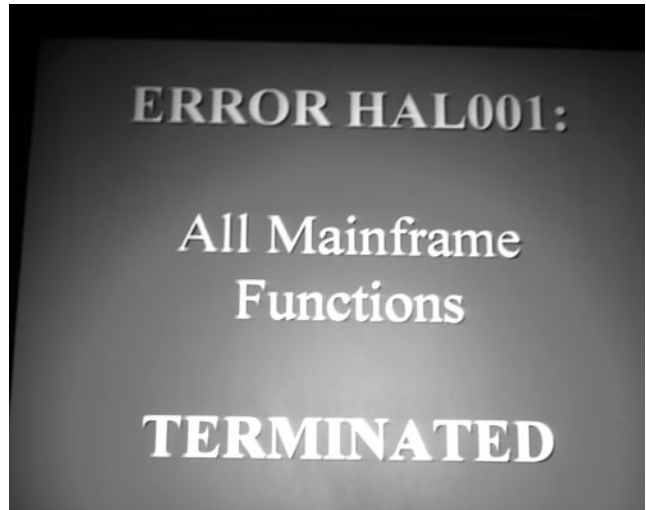
# NLM Mainframe Shut Down for the Last Time

*System Provided 37 Years of Faithful Service*

Talk about a rite of passage. On Friday, September 28th at 5:00 p.m., the last IBM mainframe in service at NLM was shut down for all time. At that point all access to Internet Grateful Med was suspended, too.

The system had been in use for 37 years. For those who had helped design, program and maintain this emblem of NLM's computer operations, the occasion must have seemed akin to retiring the Statue of Liberty or the Washington Monument.

A ceremonial shutdown was performed for an audience of NLM staffers in the Lister Hill Auditorium, October 16, 2001. Office of Computer and Communications Systems (OCCS) Director Dr. Simon Liu looked on as NLM Director Dr. Donald A.B. Lindberg did the honors. That event was part of OCCS's segment of the Diversity Council's "Getting to Know NLM" series. You can learn more about that Diversity Council project in the next *NEWSLINE*.



The computer screen tells the tale – "All Mainframe Functions TERMINATED."

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## Edgar Allan Poe Visits NLM

*continued from page 6*

Next, the house lights came up and Edgar Allan Poe put the audience to work. Was the Health Commissioner right? Were any of Poe's doctors on the mark? Did the author likely die of some other cause?

Audience members took a stab. Heavy metal poisoning? Drugs? Alcoholism? Encephalitis? A brain tumor or lesion? Bipolar disorder? (One even suggested, as delicately as possible, syphilis.) Mr. Poe patiently dismissed each one based on his previous research or experience. Then a tall, bearded man raised his hand.

He said he was Albert Donnay, an environmental health engineer, and told Poe he believed he was poisoned by repeated exposures to gas lighting in Baltimore, Philadelphia and New York. Donnay said he first presented the theory at a meeting of the American Chemical Society in 1998 and first published it in the *International Journal of Toxicology* in December 1999.

This was the big "ah ha!" The one-man show had been a two-man show from the beginning, with Keltz and Donnay in cahoots. Now Donnay took the podium and presented his findings, complete with slides.

Carbon monoxide (CO) poisoning was unnamed in Poe's day, its symptoms not recognized as a distinct disorder in American medicine until 1869. Its discovery was claimed independently by two physicians, who proposed the same new name, "neurasthenia," from the Greek roots meaning "nervous weakness," to describe it.

Donnay revealed a map of the United States comparing cases of neurasthenia with the average number of gas companies. The correlation looked indisputable.

Some of the most engaging moments came when modern-day Donnay interacted with 19th century Poe. Poe asked whether neurasthenia existed in the 21st century, since gas lighting has gone away. Donnay said that, unfortunately, the syndrome persists even though we

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# NLM Funds 34 Internet Connection Grants to Health-related Organizations

*Funding Initiates or Expands Access, or Upgrades Quality of Existing Service*

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Since 1996, when the Internet was still in its infancy, the National Library of Medicine has made Internet Connection grants to health-related institutions that wish to provide Internet access to the professionals and clients of their organization. The latest awards were announced in November.

They will benefit health professionals, scientists and citizens in 24 states in the U.S. and in eight countries in Central Asia, Africa and the South Pacific. The list of awardees, plus project summaries, can be viewed online at [www.nlm.nih.gov/news/grantstohealth01.html](http://www.nlm.nih.gov/news/grantstohealth01.html).

“Internet Connection grants are an invaluable tool for addressing the digital divide for health information,” commented Milton Corn, MD, Director of Extramural Programs at NLM. “Many smaller organizations, particularly in rural, inner city and other underserved areas, lack the means to establish useful connections to the Web. These NLM grants are a way of providing professionals and consumers with access to high quality information from ‘digital’ libraries all over the world,” he concluded.

The Internet has become an essential infrastructure in the health environment. It provides an abundance

of resources such as: communication services, including electronic mail and discussion groups; direct access to scientific and health-related information resources, including digital libraries, MEDLINE via PubMed, a host of federal and private sector databases; direct telehealth services; and access to supercomputers and remote scientific sensing instruments. NLM encourages all kinds of health institutions to use the Internet to gain access to these vast and rich resources, and to one another.

NLM’s Internet Connection program was created in recognition that many health-related organizations, particularly smaller ones and those in rural or urban health-underserved areas, lack the resources to initiate Internet access or to enhance low-bandwidth dial-up connectivity. The NLM Internet Connection grant supports the purchase and installation of equipment and services for connectivity to the Internet for one year. The 100th NLM Internet Connection grant was awarded earlier this year. Awardees may use the grant to initiate Internet service, to extend service to other centers or field locations, or to expand the bandwidth of their existing service.

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## The Asthma Exhibit That Fits in Your Pocket

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“With more than one million DVD players currently in American homes,” Altemus continued, “we hope that many will want to take advantage of this opportunity to learn more about asthma.” More than 17 million people in the United States have asthma, and this NLM DVD program will add to efforts to increase awareness and management of the disease.

DVD technology will continue to be the focus of development and program distribution for future NLM and Lister Hill Center programs.

Altemus was joined in this effort by Jim Main, Chief, APDB, Elizabeth Fee, Chief, NLM’s History of Medicine Division, Patti Tuohy and Beth Mullen, HMD Exhibition Programs, MadisonFilm, Inc. and MetaMedia Training International, Inc. Sonalysts Studios of Waterford, Connecticut designed and fabricated the displays.

To purchase a copy of the “Breath of Life” DVD, please consult the NHLBI online catalogue page at: <http://emall.nhlbihin.net/product2.asp?sku=56-022N>.

# Greek Medicine in All Its Glory

*Exhibition Examines Classical Greece's Enduring Influences*

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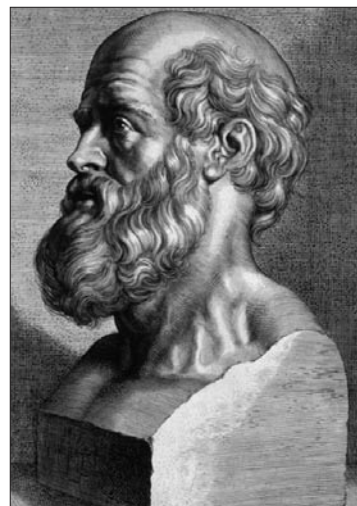
NLM's History of Medicine Division (HMD) has installed an exhibition on Classical Greek medicine entitled, "I Swear by Apollo Physician ...': Greek Medicine from the Gods to Galen."

The exhibition is on display outside the HMD Reading Room and in two cases just inside the Reading Room until April 26, 2002. Its curator, Michael North, is a Rare Book Cataloger in HMD.

The exhibition focuses on the history of Greek medicine and Classical Greek contributions to modern medicine. Included are items from the Library's collection, including early printed editions and medieval manuscripts of works by physicians such as Hippocrates, Galen, Artemidorus, Aristotle and Dioscorides.

"The Library's collection of important manuscripts and early printed editions of Greek medical texts is outstanding, and I wanted people at NIH and out in the real world to be able to see and appreciate them," said North, describing the inspiration for the exhibition. "Many people know the names Hippocrates, Galen and Dioscorides, but few know how important they were in establishing modern methods of scientific and medical research."

Many foundations of modern Western medicine lie in Classical Greece, in the era from about 800 B.C.E. to about 200 C.E. During this period Greek medicine departed from the divine and mystical and moved toward observation and logical reasoning. These ideas spread throughout the Mediterranean world and as far east as



Hippocrates, shown in an engraving by Peter Paul Rubens, 1638

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India, and their influence has remained strong in much of the West to this day.

NLM, and therefore this exhibit, is open: 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday; 8:30 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. on Thursday; and 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on Saturday. Because of heightened security, parking on the NIH campus is difficult. Go to [www.nlm.nih.gov/about/visitor.html](http://www.nlm.nih.gov/about/visitor.html) for directions and information about security measures. Metro service (Medical Center Station on the Red Line) is convenient.

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## Norway Becomes International MEDLARS Partner

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Bilateral agreements between the Library and more than 20 public institutions in foreign countries allow them to serve as International MEDLARS Centers. As such, they assist health professionals in accessing MEDLINE and other NLM databases, offer search training, provide document delivery and perform other functions as biomedical information resource centers. Norway joins such varied company as Australia, Japan, Kuwait and South Africa as an active site of training and information sharing.

# Happy Birthday, MEDLINE and MEDLINEplus

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Without a doubt, the phrase “You’ve come a long way, baby” can be applied to MEDLINE, NLM’s premier bibliographic database of references to 4,500 biomedical journals published in the United States and 70 foreign countries. In October, MEDLINE celebrated its 30th birthday. Its younger relative, MEDLINE<sub>plus</sub>, a source of reliable online consumer health information, celebrated its third birthday in October, too.

The pioneering MEDLINE project, begun in the early seventies, evolved from the computerized system used to produce the Index Medicus, which NLM installed in 1964. MEDLINE was the first successful marriage of a large reference database with a national telecommunications network.

The eighties saw the introduction of “Grateful Med,” a software program created by the NLM that one could load onto a PC and, equipped with a modem and

a password, search MEDLINE right from one’s home, office, or laboratory. Due in large part to outreach efforts by librarians in the National Network of Libraries of Medicine, Grateful Med was eagerly snapped up not only by librarians but also by health professionals, scientists, students, lawyers, medical journalists and others, who saw the average charge of \$2 per MEDLINE search as a bargain.

Today, in the age of the Internet and the World Wide Web, the National Institutes of Health Web site is the second most heavily trafficked site in the federal government, and the NLM databases account for the major share of that use.

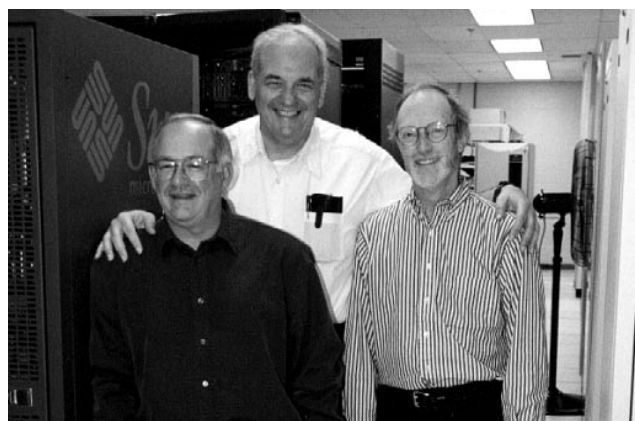
MEDLINE searching via “Internet Grateful Med” was introduced in 1996. The following year, free MEDLINE searching via the Web began using a new system called PubMed. Now, for the first time, anyone

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A physician requesting a search of MEDLINE works with search analysts on the query (1972).

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Three NLM staff members who helped create and enhance MEDLINE pause for a moment in the NLM computer room. They are (l. to r.): Joseph W. Hutchins, Chief, Applications Branch, Office of Computer and Communications Systems (OCCS); David Kenton, Staff Scientist, National Center for Biotechnology Information; and Tuck Arnold, Computer Specialist, Software Support Section, OCCS. Together they have more than 90 years of service at NLM. Of course, many other NLM employees, living and deceased, have contributed to the development of this treasured database.

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# “ArcticHealth” Website Addresses Health Concerns in the Polar Regions

*Site Reflects Continuing Commitment to Special Populations*

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If you're reading this article in winter, you may think you live in an arctic climate yourself.

But for those whose address actually is the Arctic – the geographic area extending from the North Pole to the northern timberline – NLM has created a special website, ArcticHealth. The Web address is <http://arctichealth.nlm.nih.gov/>.

ArcticHealth provides access to evaluated health information from hundreds of local, state, national and international agencies, as well as from professional societies and universities. The new site has sections devoted to chronic diseases, behavioral issues, traditional medicine, the environment/pollution, and environmental justice.

According to NLM Director Dr. Donald A.B. Lindberg, “For the last several years we have been connecting Native American communities in Alaska and the Pacific Northwest to the Internet. Now the communities in the far north — the hospitals, clinics, libraries, and

remote villages — will have a website devoted to those health issues of greatest concern to them.”

The Library has in the past three years created several Web-based information services for the general audience of health consumers. MEDLINE*plus* (accessible at [MEDLINEplus.gov](http://MEDLINEplus.gov)) and ClinicalTrials.gov are two notable resources that together are receiving some 100 million page hits per year. ArcticHealth was created for a much narrower audience. It is the first in what may become of series of health information websites designed for special populations and the health professionals who serve them.

The National Library of Medicine now plans to work with the Regional Medical Library at the University of Washington in Seattle to have ArcticHealth hosted and maintained by a university already working with issues important to the Arctic region.

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## Happy Birthday, MEDLINE and MEDLINE*plus*

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*continued from page 11*

with access to the Web could search through an immense database of references and abstracts to 11 million medical journal articles. The response was immediate and startling: from 7 million MEDLINE searches (1996), the usage climbed dramatically and now stands at 400 million searches annually.

Improvements to PubMed continue to be introduced, and today it offers a high degree of flexibility to users. For example, there are now Web links to about a quarter of the publishers represented in MEDLINE, allowing users to have access to the full text of articles referenced in the database. As it turned out, with the simplification of MEDLINE searching, about 30 percent of all MEDLINE searches were being done by consumers, and this presented a wonderful opportunity for the NLM.

In October, 1998, NLM introduced a service that not only provided selective MEDLINE results that are useful to the consumer, but that also linked the Web user to authoritative, full-text health information. Because the name “MEDLINE” had a quarter-century exposure to the health professions, and because that database was now also increasingly known to the public, the Library called the new service MEDLINE*plus* (<http://medlineplus.gov>).

MEDLINE*plus* is the Library's consumer-friendly source of up-to-date health information, with countless resources on health and wellness topics. Consumers and health professionals are using MEDLINE*plus* as the source of the most reliable and most accurate health information available on the World Wide Web. It now receives some 70 million hits each year.



# National Outreach Mapping Center Established

*Will Help Track Efforts to Educate Health Professionals, Consumers*

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“Mapping” these days isn’t just about the genome, or about longitude and latitude. Mapping is a popular term when it comes to online information, too. The word refers to the ability to sort through the wide array of information on the Web and cull the material of greatest interest and usefulness.

The National Library of Medicine has established a new National Outreach Mapping Center as an aid to ensuring the effective distribution of outreach services by the NLM and the National Network of Libraries of Medicine. The new Center, at Indiana University, is being developed by IU’s Ruth Lilly Medical Library and the Polis Center, a multidisciplinary urban analysis organization.

Now that the NLM and many NN/LM members have information services aimed at the general public (in addition to the traditional library services they provide

to the biomedical community), it is important to be able to identify and track the special outreach efforts being made on behalf of both consumers and health professionals. The equitable geographic distribution of services and resources is one goal. Another is to be able to “see” which demographic groups are being served, including seniors, people with AIDS, rural citizens and their providers, inner city populations, minority populations, and other underserved groups.

There are a variety of outreach efforts by both the NLM and NN/LM Network member libraries aimed at improving the access of biomedical professionals and consumers to reliable health information. Examples are: cooperative programs between medical libraries and public libraries to improve health information services for the public; training special populations (for example, seniors and people with AIDS) on how to use the Web

*continued on page 20*

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## Edgar Allan Poe Visits NLM

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*continued from page 6*

have switched to using less toxic natural gas. “We also stupidly started installing ovens without exhaust flues and building attached garages without exhaust fans,” Mr. Donnay observed. “As a result, millions are still being gas poisoned in their homes.” Donnay is a carbon monoxide specialist working to develop CO detectors for use in motor vehicles. He is also affiliated with the HUD-funded Healthy Homes project at the University of Maryland School of Nursing.

Donnay said he had painstakingly analyzed the symptoms described in Poe’s writings; all seemed consistent with gas light poisoning. He also examined the U.S. presidents who lived in the White House when it was gas lit, from 1848 to 1891. Eleven of the 12 showed a neurological abnormality associated with CO poisoning,

in which one eye droops lower than the other, while the mouth slants down on the other side. (President Abraham Lincoln, a “drooper,” complained of some of the same symptoms that bedeviled Poe: chronic fatigue, recurring headaches and blurred vision.) Pictures of Edgar Allan Poe show the same facial droop.

Poe couldn’t resist asking Donnay whether anything could have saved him from death by carbon monoxide poisoning. The researcher said that, if his case had been detected in time and diagnosed correctly, he probably could have been saved by today’s standard treatment for the condition – moving patients to fresh air immediately and providing 100% oxygen as soon as possible.

Albert Donnay then commended Poe for writing the first and many subsequent detailed descriptions of carbon

*continued on page 17*

# Meet the NLM Associate Fellows

*Class of 2001-2002 Brings Variety of Training, Interests*

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As sure as the swallows returning to Capistrano every March, a new group of talented library school graduates arrives at NLM each September to begin a one-year, on site Associate Fellowship.

Through intensive training sessions and independent research projects, Associate Fellows gain an in-depth understanding of the National Library of Medicine. They also get a rare glimpse of the concepts, skills and technologies that are shaping the future of the library and information fields.

Biographical sketches of the current class of Associate Fellows follow.

**Laura Hileman** has been working as an assistant at the AIDS Administration Resource Center in Baltimore, Maryland. She also completed field studies in consumer information and e-journal collection management at the Baltimore Health Sciences/Health Services Library. Laura was the web developer for an outreach project there, providing health information resources to parish nurses in Maryland. Laura received her BS degree in psychology from the College of William and Mary and her MLS from the University of Maryland. Her professional interests include consumer and community health information, clinical medical librarianship and user education.

**Claire Twose** has worked for several years in a variety of nonprofit community information settings, including community information services. In Asheville, North Carolina, she provided reference services at the Health Sciences Library of the Mountain Area Health Education Center. She also maintained a consumer health collection and provided administrative support for a wellness center in Asheville. Claire's professional interests include consumer health information, bioethics and health information outreach to rural and underserved areas. Her BA in psychology is from Queen's University in Ontario. Her MLIS is from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro.

**Cynthia Vaughn's** desire to become a health sciences librarian resulted from a field experience at the Woman's Hospital in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. There she helped oversee the implementation of a new online catalog and participated in collection development, serials management and reference. Cynthia received her undergraduate degree in English from the University of Tennessee in



**The 2001-2002 NLM Associate Fellows. Back row (l. to r.): Laura Hileman, Cynthia Vaughn, Teresa Lee; front row: Claire Twose (l.) and Nancy Kamau.**

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Knoxville and her MLIS from Louisiana State University. Throughout graduate school she worked in the university's computer lab. Her professional interests include the analysis of usage statistics and interlibrary loan operations.

Before coming to the NLM, **Nancy Kamau** was in charge of library and information services at the Kenya Medical Research Institute, where she has been involved in training and outreach to other health sciences libraries. She started her career at the Kenya National Archives and Documentation Service. She received her BA with a major in sociology from the University of Nairobi. Her MA in information studies is from the University of Sheffield, in the United Kingdom. Nancy's interests are in information access and retrieval and capacity building for health information providers. She is a member of the Association of Health Information and Libraries in Africa (AHILA) and the Chapter of Documentalists of Kenya.

**Teresa Lee**, a native of Vancouver, Canada, received her MLIS from the University of British Columbia, where she specialized in health information and children's services. She worked as an assistant in two of UBC's libraries: Koerner Library (humanities and social sciences) and Woodward Library (biomedical). She has also been a research assistant at a women's health policy research center, the British Columbia Centre of Excellence for Women's Health. Teresa is especially interested in consumer health information and services for underserved populations.

# Papers of Nobel Laureate Barbara McClintock Added to Profiles in Science

*Kernels of Genius Abound in Her Study of Corn Cytogenetics*



**Dr. Barbara McClintock, working with maize in the laboratory, April 1963. Courtesy of the American Philosophical Society.**

It was so valuable that early settlers used it as money and traded it for meat and furs. It was the cause of the 1792 Whiskey Rebellion. It kept the early colonists from starving. Moonshiners hoard it, and cars can use it as fuel. And for one woman, Barbara McClintock, the study of the genetics of this product resulted in her winning the 1983 Nobel Prize. The object of all this attention? Corn.

Barbara McClintock, PhD, is the seventh scientist, and first woman, to be included in NLM's *Profiles in Science* website (<http://www.profiles.nlm.nih.gov>). Created in 1998, the site is dedicated to the lives and works of prominent 20th century biomedical scientists, including Nobelists Joshua Lederberg, Julius Axelrod and Marshall Nirenberg. In an unusual joint effort, the National Library of Medicine is collaborating with the American Philosophical Society, the repository of the McClintock papers, to digitize them and make them available over the World Wide Web for use by educators, researchers, and the public.

Barbara McClintock was born June 16, 1902, in Hartford, Connecticut and received her PhD in botany at Cornell in 1927. She became one of the founders of the field of maize (corn) cytogenetics, the genetic study of maize at the cellular level.

"Barbara McClintock is recognized as one of the most distinguished scientists of the 20th century," said Dr. Alexa McCray, Director of the Profiles in Science

Project. In 1944, McClintock became the third woman elected to the National Academy of Sciences. President Nixon awarded McClintock the National Medal of Science and, in 1981, she became the first recipient of a MacArthur Foundation Grant, now known informally as the "genius grant." That same year, she received the Albert and Mary Lasker Award, the nation's most distinguished honor for outstanding contributions to basic and clinical medical research.

Beginning in the late 1920s, McClintock showed how genes in chromosomes move during the breeding of maize plants. Later, during the 1940s and 1950s, McClintock demonstrated how certain genes were responsible for turning on or off physical characteristics, such as the color of leaves or of individual corn kernels. Her theories to explain the suppression or expression of genetic information from one generation of maize plants to the next went counter to the common wisdom of molecular biology prevalent during the 1950s.

In 1957, McClintock received funding from the National Science Foundation and the Rockefeller Foundation to study different varieties, or races, of maize in South and Central America. She and her colleagues spent two decades assembling data on differences in South American maize, which were finally published in 1981 as *The Chromosomal Constitution of Races of Maize*.

In 1983, at the age of 81, McClintock received the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine for her work on "mobile genetic elements," that is, genetic transposition, or the ability of genes to change position on the chromosome. McClintock was the first woman to receive an unshared Nobel Prize in that category.

The online exhibit features laboratory notes, correspondence, unpublished manuscripts, lecture notes, photographs, charts, illustrations, and audiovisual materials documenting the life and career of Dr. McClintock. Visitors to the McClintock site can view, for example, her handwritten notes from a series of lectures at Caltech University in 1954. Visitors can also see photographs of McClintock during her many years of genetic research at Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory.

# Products & Publications

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- You can now sign up to receive weekly e-mail announcements from MEDLINE<sub>plus</sub> containing links to new topics and sites containing consumer health information.

You may choose from two kinds of e-mail announcements:

(1) MEDLINE<sub>plus</sub>-NEW

All new resources, health topics, and announcements from the National Library of Medicine's consumer health Web site, MEDLINE<sub>plus</sub>.

To sign up:

Point your browser to <http://list.nih.gov/archives/medlineplus-new.html> to join

OR

Send a message to [listserv@list.nih.gov](mailto:listserv@list.nih.gov)

Leave the subject line blank

In the body of the message, type: *subscribe medlineplus-new* [your name]

(2) MEDLINE<sub>plus</sub>-NIH

New and updated consumer health information from the National Institutes of Health only, plus announcements and new health topics from the National Library of Medicine's consumer health Web site, MEDLINE<sub>plus</sub>.

To sign up:

Point your browser to <http://list.nih.gov/archives/medlineplus-nih.html> to join

OR

Send a message to [listserv@list.nih.gov](mailto:listserv@list.nih.gov)

Leave the subject line blank

In the body of the message, type: *subscribe medlineplus-nih* [your name]

- The **2000 Cumulated Index Medicus**, Volume 41 (Books 1 Through 18) is now available. The price for the set is \$524.00 (U.S.) and \$655.00 (non-U.S.) for the 18 hardbound books. U.S. Government Printing Office stock number is 617-052-00315-5. For ordering information, consult the NLM website: [www.nlm.nih.gov/pubs/pubcat.html#ordering](http://www.nlm.nih.gov/pubs/pubcat.html#ordering).

- A new search filter, **Systematic Reviews**, was added to PubMed, NLM's interface for searching MEDLINE. This feature is targeted at health professionals and is available on PubMed's Clinical Queries screen. This screen has been modified so that users can apply either a "Clinical Queries" filter or a "Systematic Reviews" filter to their search terms. The Systematic Reviews filter retrieves citations for systematic reviews, meta-analyses, reviews of clinical trials, evidence-based medicine, consensus development conferences, guidelines, and citations to articles from journals specializing in clinical review studies. An article about this new feature will appear in a future issue of the NLM Technical Bulletin ([www.nlm.nih.gov/pubs/techbull.tb.html](http://www.nlm.nih.gov/pubs/techbull.tb.html)).

- A new subject subset, "**History of Medicine**," is available on the Subset pull-down menu on the PubMed "Limits" screen. The History of Medicine subset contains citations to articles on the history of health-related professions, sciences, specialties, individuals, institutions, drugs, and diseases in all parts of the world and all historic periods. This subset can also be used in a search as "history [sb]." (Example: tuberculosis AND history [sb]) The History of Medicine subset is a joint project between NLM's History of Medicine and Bibliographic Services Divisions and the National Center for Biotechnology Information (NCBI). Please see the article, History of Medicine-related Journal Citations Added to PubMed. NLM Tech Bull. 2001 Sep-Oct;(322):e4, for more information on the conversion of history citations. The History of Medicine subject subset strategy is also available from the NLM website at: [http://www.nlm.nih.gov/bsd/pubmed\\_subsets.html](http://www.nlm.nih.gov/bsd/pubmed_subsets.html).





# NLM Awards Salute Excellence and Innovation

*Staff Assembles for 2002 Annual Honor Awards Ceremony*

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Because NLM is so strongly tied to computer technology, it sometimes seems as if the only constant here is change. But one reliable ritual each November is the annual NLM Honor Awards Ceremony.

As always, this year's standing-room-only event, held November 14th in the Lister Hill Auditorium, saluted excellence, innovation, special achievement and length of service.

One element was different, though. This year's red, white and blue program booklet, complete with stars and stripes, captured the upsurge in American patriotism following the events of September 11th.

Individual and group awards for sustained superior performance or special acts or service went to 186 employees. Forty-six NLM staffers received length-of-service awards.

Other staff members who had received prizes from prestigious organizations outside the Library were also acknowledged for their achievements.

The awards ceremony affords NLM Director Dr. Donald A.B. Lindberg a chance to give a brief "state of the Library" address each year. After welcoming the audience and awardees, he sized up the year since November 2000 as a period filled with remarkable accomplishments.

The following employees received awards in 2001:

## NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH MERIT AWARDS

**Richard A. Banvard**, for continuing support and leadership of the Visible Human Project.

**Jana S. Brightwell**, for her consistent, exemplary performance, which significantly contributed to the success of various important projects and products produced by the Public Services Division.

**Reginald J. Frazier**, for his diligence in improving the infrastructure that allows the MEDLINE database to expand and be more valuable to health professionals.

**Alice E. Jacobs**, for leadership on projects which contributed to a 25 percent growth in bibliographic records in NLM's online public access catalog, Locatorplus.

**Frederick B. Wood, DBA**, for extraordinary achievement in developing and evaluating NLM outreach and web metrics initiatives.

## PHILLIP C. COLEMAN AWARD

**Anthony J. Pirrone, III**, for his continued efforts in furthering Equal Employment Opportunity at the NLM and inspiring others to do the same.

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## Edgar Allan Poe Visits NLM

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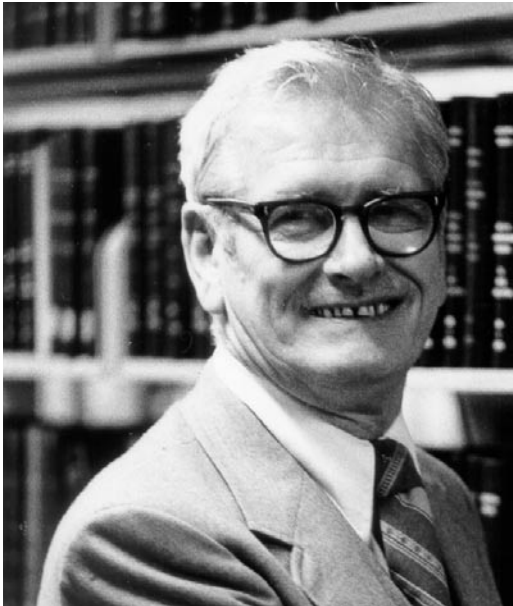
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monoxide poisoning. "Unfortunately, doctors still have trouble assessing symptoms such as these that they cannot see or hear for themselves. But thanks to you, we now know that chronic CO poisoning has a unique Tell-Tale Face, which should make it much easier for doctors to recognize this syndrome from now on," said Donnay in closing. Edgar Allan Poe seemed pleased to have been of help and grateful for Donnay's diagnosis.

The session was jointly sponsored by the NLM History of Medicine Division, headed by Dr. Elizabeth Fee, and the NLM Diversity Council, chaired by Julia Royall, Chief of NLM's Office of International Programs.

# Stanley Jablonski Receives NLM Director's Award

*Body of Work Makes Important Medical Information Available to the Public*



The energetic Stanley Jablonski, pictured near the time of his so-called retirement from the NLM in 1976.

Many of NLM's treasures are books and journals, but some come in human form. One such person is Stanley Jablonski, the former head of the Index Section who, in retirement, puts in eight-hour days in his NLM study, creating or updating widely used reference works for the medical and scientific communities.

In fact, to some users of the printed and online reference works he's created, "Jablonski" is synonymous with a treasured reference text. When you pull your "Jablonski" off the shelf, you might be grabbing the popular Jablonski's *Dictionary of Syndromes & Eponymic Diseases*. Or you might be consulting his *Dictionary of Medical Acronyms & Abbreviations*, a fourth edition of which was published in 2001. He's also produced a Russian-English medical dictionary, a dictionary of dental terms, and an index of Russian drugs, among other works.

Jablonski received the prestigious NLM Director's Award at the November 14, 2001 NLM Honor Awards Ceremony. He was recognized "For continuing scholarly achievement in developing the 'Online Multiple

Congenital Anomaly/Mental Retardation Syndromes' database and making this important resource available worldwide through the National Library of Medicine's Web site."

"When we looked at the top used resources on the NLM home page, Stan's Syndromes database was near the top of the list – it was used over a half million times in the first year alone," said friend and colleague Eve-Marie Lacroix, Director of NLM's Public Services Division. "He had already published two printed editions of his *Dictionary of Syndromes* and had started to create the next edition when I suggested to him that it not be printed again but made more widely available, on the NLM website," she continued. "This meant that he wouldn't get royalties for its use, but he didn't care, really. He worked with our office to get this new database covering mental retardation syndromes ready for the Web, and he will continue to maintain and expand it," she explained.

Jablonski has had a long and distinguished career at the National Library of Medicine and its antecedent, the Library of the Surgeon General's Office.

Born in Poland (he prefers not to divulge his age), he lived for a while in New York City but then decided to seek employment in Washington, DC. He met Dr. Claudius Mayer, the celebrated physician, scholar and bibliophile who was the last editor of the *Index-Catalogue of the Library of the Surgeon General's Office*. Mayer must have sensed the young man's potential. He advised Jablonski to brush up on his Latin and to broaden his knowledge of subject matter a bit, and hired him for a one-year conditional position as an assistant cataloger in 1949.

Jablonski stayed at the Library until his retirement in 1976, witnessing its metamorphosis into the National Library of Medicine. By that time, he had established an international reputation as a bibliographer and indexer.

What could he do for an encore, in retirement? Jablonski decided to take a different tack and pursue a full-time writing career.

"In the Indexing Section of NLM, you work entirely with tools," Jablonski recently explained. "My writing

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# Dr. Mary Moore Appointed Head of Reference and Customer Service

*Distinguished Career Includes Teaching, Library Management*

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**Mary Moore, PhD**, former Dean of Library and Information Resources at Arkansas State University, has been named to head the Reference and Customer Service Section at NLM. For the past 18 months, Dr. Moore has served as coordinator of the NLM Associate Fellowship program under an intergovernmental personnel exchange arrangement with Arkansas State University.

In her new position, Moore will oversee the operations of NLM's main Reading Room, its telephone and e-mail customer services system and an expert staff of 16 professional librarians. The librarians are charged with assisting researchers in using the Library's resources, including its collections, used by onsite patrons, and its computer-based information services, available to Library patrons all over the world.

Dr. Moore has a BA and MA in Library and Information Sciences from the University of Missouri, Columbia. She received her PhD in Library and Information Science from the University of Texas at Austin in 1995.

Mary Moore comes to this position with extensive experience in both systems and public services in health sciences libraries. From 1991-1992 she was Senior Associate Director for Public Services and Assistant Professor in Health Communications at Texas Tech in Lubbock. In the latter post, she directed reference, online services, circulation, interlibrary loan and document delivery, as well as collection development. She also served as Health Care Program Manager for VTEL Corporation, a major manufacturer of interactive video technology, from 1994 to 1996. Additionally, Dr. Moore has taught courses on information networks, Internet issues and World Wide Web tools to graduate library students at the University of Texas at Austin. She has published and lectured widely on telemedicine and the role of the library, and the use of technology in continuing education and outreach.



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Dr. Mary Moore

Mary Moore will assume her new duties in mid-January. At the same time, the Reference and Customer Services staff will say goodbye to Joyce Backus who has been serving as Acting Head of the Section since the sad loss of former Head, Pamela Meredith, in June of 2001. Backus will not be going far, as she is returning to her former office to manage the PSD Web Team and oversee the development of MEDLINEplus and the NLM website.

*Thanks to Martha Fishel, Deputy Chief of the Public Services Division, for assistance with this article and the one on Kenneth Niles (page 21).*

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## Stanley Jablonski Receives NLM Director's Award

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*continued from page 18*

is usually a reaction to a lack to tools. If there's a gap that I've noticed in the medical reference materials," he explains, "I ask myself, 'Why doesn't somebody do this work?,' and then I realize that I should do it myself."

Amassing and organizing such detailed information can be a painstaking process. Jablonski toiled for a decade on his dictionary about concepts in dentistry.

After his dental book came out, Jablonski produced his celebrated *Dictionary of Syndromes and Eponymic Diseases*, first published in 1969.

He then sensed a need for a dictionary of multiple congenital anomaly and mental retardation syndromes.

"With advances in the field of dysmorphology [the branch of clinical medicine concerned with malfunctions of or serious deviations from the normal human organism] medical genetics, capsule definitions are no longer considered adequate for describing syndromes," Jablonski noted. "Any attempt by an individual working alone to write a book containing good descriptions of syndromic entities – there are now more than 25,000 diseases which are designated 'syndromes' – would thus be less than realistic. When limiting the scope to syndromes in which mental retardation is the key element," he continued, "I did so to narrow the project to a reasonably manageable scope."

Even when you narrow your focus, the work can be tedious and time-consuming. "When writing for major medical publishers, such as Saunders," Jablonski noted, "I was usually provided with the assistance of experts, some of whom were recognized as world authorities in their respective fields. Now, I am on my own."

The reviews of his books have been very positive. Writing in *The Yale Journal of Biology and Medicine* (Nov.-Dec. 1991), L.E. Krieger wrote, "Stanley Jablonski has outdone himself. The second edition of his text, Jablonski's *Dictionary of Syndromes and Eponymic Diseases* [published in 1991], is a massive expansion of his previous work. He has hit upon a useful and imaginative enterprise and, with the assistance of the National Library of Medicine's MEDLARS data base, improved and refined it."

Jablonski has savored the positive comments from medical students, health professionals and scientists who refer to his books constantly. These make the many hours of hard work worthwhile.

Despite widespread praise and undisputed accomplishment, Stanley Jablonski is not resting on his laurels and certainly is not resting in retirement. His latest work, *Understanding Cholesterol and its Role in Coronary Heart Disease*, from Dorrance Publishing Company of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, is due out in February or March. He wrote this one because his wife has high cholesterol.

"I have a natural curiosity," says Stanley Jablonski, "And I like to go into depth with something."

"I'm a methodical writer," he comments. "I get a plan, I get my materials organized, and I stick to the plan. But I do have a habit of taking on too many things at the same time."

His many fans in the realms of medicine and science, and the medical library community, can't wait to see what he takes on next.

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## Mapping Center Established

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*continued from page 13*

as a source of good health information; and exhibits and demonstrations at a wide range of venues, from professional meetings to shopping centers and churches.

"With the establishment of the National Outreach Mapping Center, NLM will have an enhanced ability to track, map, and assess these efforts," said Angela Ruffin, PhD, Head of the Library's National Network Office. "The information that the Center will provide will aid the Library in evaluating our efforts and in identifying potential areas to target."

The Director of the National Outreach Mapping Center is Julie McGowan, PhD,  
Indiana University School of Medicine,  
The Ruth Lilly Medical Library,  
975 W. Walnut Street, IB 100,  
Indianapolis, IN 46202-5121,  
Jjmcgowa@iupui.edu  
Phone: 317-274-7183,  
fax: 317-278-2349



# Kenneth Niles Named Head of Collection Access Section

*New Post Caps Decade of Service to Library Patrons*

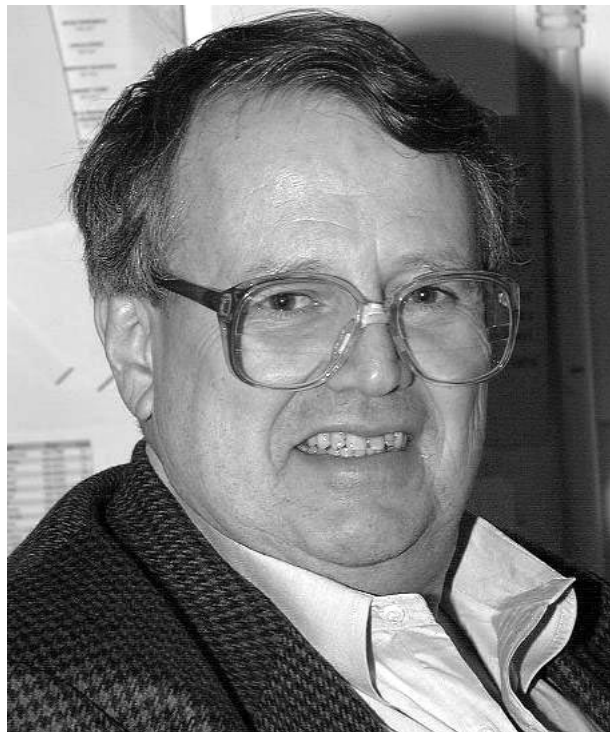
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NLM is pleased to announce the appointment of **Kenneth E. Niles** as Head of the Collection Access Section (CAS), part of the Public Services Division. A vital department at NLM, CAS provides onsite service to Library patrons from its closed stacks, and manages an interlibrary loan network that provides worldwide access to NLM's vast collection of biomedical literature.

Niles joined the NLM Reference staff in 1991 and was appointed Head of the Onsite Unit in CAS in 1995. Originally from Massachusetts, he received his undergraduate degree in English at American International College in Springfield, Massachusetts. While working as a library technician at the Veterans Administration Medical Center, Niles attended the State University of New York, where he received his MLS in 1989. He started his professional librarian career in Technical Services at American International College just prior to coming to NLM.

In the spring of 2000, Ken Niles received NLM's prestigious Frank B. Rogers Award, in recognition of his innovative and substantial contribution to improved onsite services to Reading Room patrons. Niles has seen the Reading Room through a variety of changes, all to keep up with the increasing demand for both the retrieval of materials from the closed stacks and to provide patrons with copying services that incorporate new technologies.

Niles has a passion for all quality things made of wood and enjoys woodworking and carpentry. Visitors to the Reading Room may see his craftsmanship on display in the form of a beautiful wooden wall clock hanging over the main circulation desk. Niles salvaged the face of the clock, originally built into the wall when the building was erected in 1963, from the trash in the midst of last year's Reading Room renovation.



**Kenneth Niles**

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Ken Niles succeeds Cassandra Allen, who left CAS in September 2000 to accept a position with NLM's Division of Specialized Information Services. While NLM, like all federal agencies, weathered the hiring freeze imposed with the new administration in January 2001, Martha Fishel filled in as Acting Head, CAS, and has now returned to her position as Deputy Chief of the Public Services Division.

# 2001 Annual Report Available

*Free Publication Provides a Panoramic Snapshot of NLM*

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- How many items (and what kinds) did NLM add to its collection in fiscal year 2001?
- Which staff members were hired and who retired?
- What was the Library's budget and how was it allocated?
- How much did NLM award in extramural grants and contracts?

The answers to these questions, plus many other interesting pieces of information, can be found in a new publication titled the "National Library of Medicine Programs and Services 2001."

Each year the NLM publishes a progress review of work accomplished in the fiscal year, which ends September 30. The Fiscal Year 2001 edition (110 pages)

is available without charge to the medical library community. It contains: chapters about each major NLM program, the planning function, and administration; a series of workload tables; and 7 appendices listing advisory committee members and the Regional Medical Libraries. In the front is a preface by the NLM Director. Cover 3 has an organizational chart. Covers 1 and 4 show a map of the regions and photos of the eight RMLs.

To receive a free copy of the FY 2001 report, e-mail your postal address to [publicinfo@nlm.nih.gov](mailto:publicinfo@nlm.nih.gov), or call the NLM Office of Communications and Public Liaison at 301-496-6308. The Fiscal Year 2000 edition of "NLM Programs and Services" is still available. If you'd like the 2000 edition also, please let us know that, too.

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## NLM's Annual Awards

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*continued from page 17*

### EEO SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

**George W. Franklin** and **Pierre Levermore**, for initiative and dedication, as part of NLM's and NIH's outreach initiative to Native Americans, in promoting NLM's unique information services for the public, especially MEDLINEplus and ClinicalTrials.gov.

### NLM DIRECTOR'S AWARDS

**Stanley Jablonski**, for continuing scholarly achievement in developing the Online Multiple Congenital Anomaly/Mental Retardation Syndromes database and making this important resource available worldwide through the National Library of Medicine's website. (Please see related article on Jablonski, in this issue.)

**Becky J. Lyon**, for her sustained contributions to the development and enhancement of NLM's outreach programs for the general public.

**Robert B. Mehnert**, for his intellectual contributions linking the NLM to the press and public, and his graceful navigation of the Office of Communications and Public Liaison through new territory.

### NIH DIRECTOR'S AWARD

**Ronald F. Stewart**, for outstanding initiative and persistence in marshalling generic clearance from OMB to conduct customer surveys for the National Library of Medicine.

### QUALITY OF WORK LIFE AWARD

**Deborah G. Katz**, for expert management, communication and personal skills in creating and fostering an environment that encourages personal growth, creativity, flexibility, and a truly enjoyable workplace.

### SUGGESTION AWARD

**James C. Charuhas**, in recognition of his initiative and constructive idea for the enhancement of the Library's services to the NIH community at large through the submission of a suggestion, which contributed, to the overall renovation plan of the lobby of Building 38A.

### FRANK B. ROGERS AWARD

**John R. Butler**, for technical achievement in software development that has substantially improved NLM's processing of bibliographic material.

# Pat on the Back

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**This e-mail message was sent to MEDLINEplus in November, from a 41-year-old satisfied customer in Ontario, Canada.**

Next week I face a biopsy of my right breast. I am frightened of what they might find. Due to the mistakes made at my family lab, I have waited five months for a proper diagnosis. Somehow, the x-ray dept. missed a 8.7cm, 3 nodule mass. Your excellent site was very

comprehensive about what procedures I face in the near future. I need to familiarize myself for whatever I will face in the future so that I can remain calm in front of my family. Your site touches upon the most frequently asked questions that are most often missed by medical personnel because of their simplicity - it is same old, same old to the staff but not to the patient. . I am better informed now after reading your site and "Carpe Diem" is what I will live for. Thank you.

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## NLM's Budget Remains Rosy

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*continued from page 4*

In their appropriations committees' reports, both the House and Senate highlighted a number of NLM initiatives. The House showed particular interest in NLM's outreach activities. The Senate's report noted additional areas including space needs and PubMed Central, a digital archive of life sciences journal literature managed by the National Center for Biotechnology Information (NCBI).

The appropriation allows for increases for a number of NLM activities, including genetics information, consumer health information, AIDS information ser-

vices, extramural training and research support and basic library services.

Meanwhile, the National Institutes of Health as a whole will get nearly \$3 billion more in FY 2002 than it did in 2001, thanks to an appropriation bill signed by President Bush January 11th. House and Senate conferees approved a \$23.3 billion budget for '02, a 14.7 percent increase over the previous year's funding level.

*Special thanks to Susan Levine, Financial Management Officer, for assistance with this article.*

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## Quote, Unquote: On Research

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*"You would be surprised at the number of years it took me to see clearly what some of the problems were which had to be solved.... Looking back, I think it was more difficult to see what the problems were than to solve them."*

—Charles Darwin, 1859

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*"You do one experiment in medicine to convince yourself, then 99 more to convince others."*

—Alphonse Raymond Dorchez,  
circa 1966

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*"Yet, when we content ourselves with their discoveries\* and calmly believe (which is mere sleepiness) that there is now no more place for new inventions, the spritely edge of our own wit languisheth, and we extinguish the lamp which they lighted to our hands."*

—William Harvey, 1653

\*i.e., those of ancient Greece

# NAMES IN THE NEWS

RECOGNIZING  
AND HONORING  
NLM ASSOCIATES

**Martha (Marti) Szczur** has been named Acting Associate Director for NLM's Division of Specialized Information Services (SIS). Szczur joined NLM in July 2000 as Associate Deputy Director of SIS. Her appointment as Acting Director fills the void created by the departure of Acting Associate Director Steven J. Phillips, MD.



**Marti Szczur**

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Former Special Expert in the Office of Health Information Programs Development **Julia Royall** has been named Chief of that Division's Office of International Programs. Among other responsibilities, Royall is NLM's coordinator for the Multilateral Initiative on Malaria, a multinational effort to reduce incidence of the disease in sub-Saharan Africa.



**Dr. Alexa McCray.**

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**Alexa T. McCray, PhD**, Director of the Lister Hill National Center for Biomedical Communications, was elected a member of the Institute of Medicine in 2001. Members, chosen on the basis of their professional achievement, serve without compensation in the conduct of studies, conferences and other Institute inquiries into matters of national policy for health. Election is both an honor and a commitment to serve in Institute affairs.



**Julia Royall**

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## NAMES IN THE NEWS....



Nine NLM employees were elected to the American College of Medical Informatics' Class of 2001. They are: **Stephen Altschul, PhD**, Senior Investigator, National Center for Biotechnology Information (NCBI); **Dennis Benson, PhD**, Chief, Information Resources Branch, NCBI; **Stephen Bryant, PhD**, Senior Investigator, NCBI; **William T. Hole, MD**, Research Medical Officer, UMLS Metathesaurus, Computer Science Branch, Lister Hill National Center for Biomedical Communications; **Eugene V. Koonin, PhD**, Senior Investigator, NCBI; **David J. Lipman, MD**, Director, NCBI; **Stuart Nelson, MD**, Head, Medical Subject Headings, Division of Library Operations; **James M. Ostell, PhD**, Chief, Information Engineering Branch, NCBI; and **John Wilbur, MD, PhD**, Senior Scientist, Computational Biology Branch, NCBI. This year, ACMI had a special emphasis on increasing representation of leaders in the field of bioinformatics.

## NAMES IN THE NEWS...



Patti Tuohy (l.) and Jiwon Kim.

Two History of Medicine staff members received a "Montgomery's Best" Honor Award (Honorable Mention) from the Montgomery County (Maryland) Government. HMD Exhibition Program Manager **Patricia Tuohy** and Exhibition Educator **Jiwon Kim** were recognized for their work with Montgomery AIR, a coalition of asthma-related organizations. The pair did extensive outreach for the Library's asthma exhibit, "Breath of Life."



**Tina McGuire**, Contracting Officer and Team Leader in the Office of Administrative Management, has been elected Vice President of the Bethesda/Medical Chapter of the National Contract Management Association. The NCMA is a professional society whose goal is to foster the professional growth and educational advancement of its members.

The following references cite works that discuss the products and services of the NLM. If you know of other appropriate citations for this column, please send reprints or references to Melanie Modlin, Editor, NLM *NEWSLINE*, Office of Communications and Public Liaison, NLM, Bethesda, MD 20894, or e-mail to: mm354i@nih.gov. (NOTE: Some of the articles listed may be outside the scope of the NLM collection and therefore are not available from the Library on interlibrary loan.)

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## NLM NEWSLINE

Donald A.B. Lindberg, M.D.  
Director, NLM


Robert B. Mehnert, Director  
Office of Communications and  
Public Liaison

Melanie Modlin, Editor  
(301) 496-7771  
mm354i@nih.gov

Judith Folkenberg, Writer  
Karlton Jackson, Photographer

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