

## Meetings '97: Professional Growth, Scholarship, and Friendship

by Jean Sayre, Associate Director

**H**ealth sciences librarians throughout the Greater Midwest Region (GMR) met this year for a variety of purposes. We met to share ideas, concerns, and suggestions. We met to work on specific projects. We met to communicate professional triumphs and to learn from the experiences of other librarians, good or bad. We met to provide guidance to our professional organizations. We met to understand our evolving role in the changing workforce. We met to be heard, and we met to share.

Taking advantage of technology, health sciences librarians met in a variety of ways. We met via teleconference, videoconference, and satellite broadcasts. Just as importantly, we met face-to-face in large meetings and in smaller, more focused groups. We supplemented these meetings with ongoing discussion via listservs and newsgroups.

This issue of *3 Sources* focuses on some of the meetings that took place this year. On the national level, you'll find a report of the annual National Library of Medicine (NLM) Update, presented during the Medical Library Association (MLA) Annual Meeting in Seattle. On a regional level, you'll find articles on the GMR Regional Advisory Council (RAC) and its subcommittees, where health sciences librarians help direct the programs and services provided from the GMR office to the region. Another article focuses on the Midwest Chapter/MLA's annual meeting in Des Moines. Karen Graves reports on HealthWeb, the cooperative effort among many libraries in our region to provide organized access to evaluated, non-commercial, health-related Internet-accessible resources.

Librarians also met this year on state and local levels. This issue features summaries of some state association meetings held

this fall, including meetings of the Health Sciences Librarians of Illinois, the Michigan Health Sciences Library Association, and the Ohio Health Sciences Library Association. The *3 Sources* calendar includes dates of upcoming meetings.

In this issue we are also delighted to introduce two new GMR staff members, Sheila Brown and Charniel McDaniels, who bring to our office rich experiences and fresh ideas. Because we are now fully staffed, your state contact librarian may have changed, so be sure to check on page 2. We also try to address some questions brought to our attention at these meetings by publishing the 1998 schedule of the National Online Training Center (NOTC) for PubMed and IGM training.

Finally, we'd like to thank everyone who has offered suggestions, support, and feedback to our office as we get ready to move into next year. ♦

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3 Sources is produced under  
National Library of Medicine  
Contract  
NO1-LM-6-3523

# Warm Bodies Heat UP GMR Office

For the first time in months, the GMR office is fully staffed. The latest addition to our staff is Charniel McDaniels, who joined the office as Network Coordinator on September 15, 1997. Charniel has worked as a professional librarian at UIC Library of the Health Sciences for over two years, and previous to that was a paraprofessional here for several years. Charniel's long experience in health sciences libraries will serve the region well as we tackle some of the tough issues remaining with SERHOLD and DOCLINE, and look toward the future.

On August 25, Sheila Brown joined the GMR office as the new Outreach Coordinator. Sheila has been a hospital librarian, and also has experience setting up medical libraries throughout the Caribbean. We hope Chicago won't be too cold for her! Sheila also was a nurse before entering library school, so she brings a solid understanding of the medical field to this position.

Welcome Charniel and Sheila! ♦

## Who Ya Gonna Call?

How do I change my DOCLINE routing table? When and how do I apply for an exhibit subcontract? A new librarian just joined my consortia, and would like to get on DOCLINE. Who should she contact? My library is interested in applying for an Internet Connections Grant from NLM... where can I find more information?

The GMR office is where you can find the answers to these questions, and much more. To serve you better, the office has designated contact librarians for each state. With the addition of two new staff members, you may have a new state contact librarian. See the table to find out who to contact with your questions and concerns. ♦

Sheila Brown	Charniel McDaniels	Chris Shaffer	Cara Wilhelm
Michigan	Kentucky	Illinois	Minnesota
North Dakota	Indiana	Iowa	Ohio
South Dakota			Wisconsin

Each state contact librarian can be reached by phone at  
**800-388-7657** or email at [<gmr-info@uic.edu>](mailto:gmr-info@uic.edu).

## SERHOLD Data on the Web

Your SERHOLD data is now available FREE on the GMR web site at <http://www.nnlm.nlm.nih.gov/serhold/>. Included is the NN/LM GMR Union List of Serials (1997) and an individual library holdings file for each GMR SERHOLD library.

1997 OCLC tape upload. For a small charge, specialized union lists can be created at the same time. Please contact your GMR State Contact librarian at 800-338-7657, [<gmr-info@uic.edu>](mailto:gmr-info@uic.edu) for more information. ♦

State union lists will be available this winter when the files are updated to reflect the Fall

# Committees, Committees...

## How the RAC is Working for You

by Cara Wilhelm, Communications Coordinator

The GMR has a network structure that provides program development and support by actively involving health sciences librarians and healthcare professionals. A Regional Advisory Council (RAC) provides guidance in developing programs that meet the needs of the region. The total membership of the RAC consists of five Working Committees and one Oversight Committee. Committee members are librarians and healthcare professionals from the region. This year, each committee has met, either in person or by teleconference, to discuss their charges and to help the GMR develop programs and services.

### Oversight Committee

In January 1997, the Oversight Committee met in Chicago to review the recommendations of each Working Committee, review ongoing programs, and to develop goals and objectives for the GMR. These goals and objectives form the basis of the planning document, available via the Web at

<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/gmr/rac/>.

The next Oversight Committee meeting will be held on December 12 in Chicago.

### Consortia/Local Group Committee

The Consortia/Local Group Committee (C/LG) assists the GMR office in providing support to existing C/LGs and with forming new C/LGs if needed. The committee met via teleconference in January 1996 and developed plans to assist in the maintenance of the GMR C/LG directory, as well as identify network members not aligned with a C/LG.

### Education and Training

The Education and Training Committee provides guidance and makes recommendations to the GMR office regard-

ing the education and training needs of healthcare professionals and health sciences librarians in the region. This year, the committee met in July to review the committee charge, review the RFQ for librarian training, and review the applications for the GMR Fellow. The GMR Education and Training Committee is co-sponsoring an MLA CE class on Evidence-Based Medicine on May 8, 1998. Watch for registration materials in the early spring.

### Health Professionals Committee

The Health Professionals Committee is an ad-hoc committee that will meet for a day-long brainstorming session in Chicago to discuss issues relevant to the needs of health professionals. The GMR is seeking diverse representation from various health professions and geographic areas within our ten-state region. If you know someone who would like to serve on this committee, contact the GMR office.

### Resource Sharing Committee

Charged with monitoring and identifying new developments in resource sharing on a state, regional, and national level, the Resource Sharing Committee

met on July 25, 1997 at the GMR office. The committee reviewed its charge, discussed the Online SERHOLD implementation plan, barriers to providing Loansome Doc service, and future plans to publish the GMR Document Delivery Manual and membership directory on the GMR Web site.

### Technology Awareness Committee

The Technology Awareness Committee monitors and identifies new developments and new applications of health information technology. On May 16, 1997, the committee met to review Technology Awareness Award proposals and plan publication of articles in GMR publications. The committee also held an open forum at the Midwest Chapter/Medical Library Association meeting in Des Moines. Network members from throughout the region participated in lively discussion on topics such as the barriers to using NLM services on the Internet, communications with NLM, and technologies they'd like to hear about in GMR publications. Another hot topic mentioned was the Rural Telecommunications Access Universal Service program, which will be offering telecommunications subsidies beginning in 1998 for qualifying institutions. ♦

# Meetings... State...

## MHSLA

by Sheila Brown, Outreach Coordinator

During September, the Michigan Health Sciences Libraries Association (MHSLA) held its 24th annual education conference in Dearborn. This three day conference was well attended and discussions - both formal and informal - were dynamic, thought-provoking, and raised issues of concern to librarians throughout the state. Two main issues were the effects of free MEDLINE access via Internet Grateful Med/Pub Med on health sciences libraries, and the National Online Training Center's 1998 training schedule for these programs.

In regards to free IGM/PubMed access, administrators are questioning their librarians as to why money

should be spent on MEDLARS, Ovid, SilverPlatter, etc. when MEDLINE is now free via the Web. The second issue pertains to NOTC's 1998 schedule, and the concern that this schedule for IGM/PubMed cannot meet the large demand for the course. "Even if I attend the training, for the one day they're in Michigan, I don't have the time to effectively train my staff. My hospital just merged with another hospital that's across town and I'm now the director of both. I simply don't have the time," was one librarian's explanation. Interestingly, these two issues would be raised again - this time during Midwest Chapter/MLA by librarians from 9 states within the GMR.

What is GMR doing to help address these issues? Forwarding your concerns and requests to Angela Ruffin and Becky Lyon at NLM, along with our support and ideas as to how we can contribute. The key is to voice your concerns and requests to the GMR so that NLM can gain an understanding of issues important to you. Email. Fax. Phone. Write. Employ any or all of these communication devices. Remember also to use your consortia and associations. Now that the GMR is fully staffed, we can provide more services and support than in the past. We want to understand your needs. ♦

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## Technology to Highlight HSLI Annual Meeting

"InfoPower," the Annual Meeting of the Health Sciences Librarians of Illinois, was held November 6-7 in Matteson, IL. Six continuing education courses focused on ways to take advantage of the opportunities

presented by new technologies. There were many opportunities for librarians to improve their technical skills. Program highlights included "History of Library Technology, Gadgets, & Paraphernalia" and

"Technostress." At the conclusion of the conference, a DOCLINE/SER-HOLD presentation was made by Chris Shaffer and Charniel McDaniels of the GMR. Jean Sayre presented the GMR update. ♦

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## Business and Education Mix at the OHSLA Fall Meeting

The Ohio Health Sciences Library Association (OHSLA) held its fall meeting October 23, 1997 at the Prior Health Sciences Library of Ohio State University (OSU) in Columbus. The one-day event

featured two MLA Continuing Education opportunities and a business luncheon. Eric Schnell of the Prior Health Sciences Library of OSU presented a hands-on session entitled "Health Sciences Web

Resources for the Novice User." Jean Sayre and Cara Wilhelm of the Greater Midwest Region presented "NLM Funding: Step-By-Step to a Winning Proposal." ♦

# and Regional

## Midwest Chapter/MLA in Des Moines

by Chris Shaffer, Internet Coordinator

The Midwest Chapter of the Medical Library Association held its annual conference September 27-30 in Des Moines, Iowa. The program theme "Kaleidoscope" was reflected in the variety of successful programs and continuing education courses attended by over 130 librarians. Technology and the Internet, evidence-based medicine, copyright, alternative medicine, legal resources, library marketing, and telemedicine were among the many topics on the meeting's agenda. Network members had opportunities

to get to know the new members of the GMR staff at the exhibits and the NLM and GMR updates. An open forum held by the GMR RAC Technology Awareness Committee was well attended, with participants voicing concerns about PubMed, the NLM System Reinvention Initiative, DOCLINE via the Internet, and the Rural Telecommunications Access Universal Service program.

Plan now to attend the Joint Annual Meeting of the Midwest Chapter/MLA and the Southern Chapter/

MLA October 10-13, 1998 in Lexington, Kentucky. "Weaving our Future '98" will focus on how the many aspects of today's environment and the past interweave to provide a glimpse of the future. ♦

For more information, contact Jane Bryant at 606-323-5715  
<jbyrant@pop.uky.edu>  
or Deb Ward 573-882-7033  
<muldward@shomwe.missouri.edu>  
or visit the Midwest Chapter/MLA web site at  
<www.uky.edu/OtherOrgs/MCMLA>

## HealthWeb Wins Award, Adds New Partners

by Karen Graves, University of Illinois at Chicago

HealthWeb, the award winning project of health sciences libraries of the Committee on Institutional Cooperation (CIC), recently received the 1997 Midwest Chapter Award for Achievement in Health Information Management. The award was accompanied by a \$500 cash prize.

The expressed goals of HealthWeb are "to work cooperatively to develop an interface that will provide organized access to evaluated, non-commercial, health-related Internet-accessible resources." Relevant resources for HealthWeb are identified and evaluated with

input from subject experts provided an evaluated, rather than an exhaustive index of health-related Internet information.

HealthWeb was conceived in 1994 by librarians at Indiana, Michigan State, Northwestern, Ohio State, Penn State, and Purdue Universities, plus the Universities of Chicago, Illinois, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota and Wisconsin-Madison Health Sciences Libraries. Since inception, 50 evaluated subject pages have been produced. Nine new partners from the Health Sciences Libraries at the Mayo Clinic Foundation, Medical College of Ohio, Medical

College of Wisconsin, Southern Illinois University, Universities of Kentucky, North Dakota, and Minnesota-Duluth, plus Wayne State and Wright State Universities will help complete and additional 28 planned pages.

HealthWeb pages are currently maintained and updated on a regular basis by project members. Support for the project is also provided by the CIC and the National Network of Libraries of Medicine/Greater Midwest Region. A complete list of subject areas, from AIDS to Women's Health, can be found at <<http://healthweb.org/>>. ♦

Other state meetings will be held throughout the spring.  
Don't miss these exciting opportunities!  
Check the GMR calendar on the last page for more details.

# Highlights from the NLM UPDATE at the Medical Library Association Annual Meeting in Seattle

(Reprinted with permission from *Latitudes*, Newsletter of the Pacific Southwest Region, National Network of Libraries of Medicine (NN/LM), volume 6, number 4, July/August 1997)

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*“We think that our prime responsibility is to do whatever we can to get the most high quality information to the user, to the public, and to the healthcare professional. The medical librarian’s role in that is absolutely critical. No way could we have achieved what the country has achieved were it not for the help of the medical librarians in all of the institutions plus the [Medical Library] Association, and that’s critical.”*

*- Donald A. Lindberg, M.D., Director, National Library of Medicine.*

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This statement marks just one of the themes brought out at the NLM Update at MLA. The Update was divided into three parts: announcements from Dr. Lindberg; a demonstration of PubMed by Dr. David J. Lipman, Acting Chief, Computational Biology Branch; and Library Operations news from Lois Ann Colaianni, Associate Director of Library Operations. Another theme was the expansion of NLM’s programs and services to include health care consumers and patients.

The following are highlights of information presented Monday May 26, 1997.

## Library Operations:

The appropriations for Library Operations increased this fiscal year. Older computers and software are being replaced. NLM is doing its best to respond to the speed of change, and reduce the FTE consonant with President Clinton’s promise to reduce the number of government employees. The number of staff working at NLM has been reduced by 65 in the last 2-3 years.

## High Performance Computing and Communications (HPCC):

HPCC money is being used for grants to institutions, hospitals, libraries, and schools. After five years, there is now a presidentially appointed HPCC advisory committee with members who understand the promise of librarianship and medical informatics (among the advisory committee members is Sherrilynn Fuller, Director of the Pacific Northwest Region’s RML).

## Library Operations:

NLM and the NN/LM are working collaboratively with Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) and the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO) to improve public health professionals access to information technology and information services. After an initial orientation meeting at NLM in January, a Steering Committee, consisting of representatives from each of these groups, was appointed to direct the joint program. The Steering Committee held its first meeting in May to set the focus for the first year of the program. The Regional Medical Libraries are involved in identifying network members that provide training for public health personnel who are interested in doing more with information. Outreach projects will result. If you have programs that involve public health personnel or are interested in collaborating on such a program, please notify the GMR office.

## Consumer Health:

NLM has developed a working group that will formulate procedures for consideration of certain consumer health journals and newsletters for inclusion in MEDLINE. Titles to be considered will be evaluated by outside reviewers, including MLA’s Section on Consumer and Patient Health Information.

## Informatics:

Informatics grants and training opportunities are available for health science librarians. NLM is encouraging librarians to participate in these training programs and take advantage of these opportunities.

## Feedback:

NLM is interested in receiving feedback from you - both positive and negative - on the services you find useful. They often get suggestions about things that don’t work, but in fixing them may undo other things which in fact work really well. Please try to provide feedback about the good things and the things you wish would be changed. There is a new toll-free customer service for your feedback: 888-FIND-NLM (888-346-3656). ♦

# Evolution of the National Online Training Center Classes

by Cara Wilhelm

The National Online Training Center (NOTC) announced that it will no longer be offering the "Fundamentals of MEDLARS Searching" course after December 1997. A self-instructional workbook and computer-based tutorials are available via the NOTC website at <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/mar/online>.

In place of the "Fundamentals" class, the NOTC will be offering two new classes:

"Introduction to Web-Based Searching for the Librarian and Information Specialist: Using PubMed and Internet Grateful Med to search NLM's Databases," a two day class designed

for individuals new to searching MEDLINE.

"Making the Transition: Converting to PubMed and Internet Grateful Med to search NLM's Databases," a one-day class designed for experienced MEDLARS or MEDLINE searchers.

A nationwide training schedule and registration form is available via the NOTC website. You can also register by calling NOTC. Dial 800-338-7657 and press 2. A list of training locations and dates within the Greater Midwest Region are listed below.

## **Introduction to Web-based Searching for the Librarian and Information Specialist: Using PubMed and Internet Grateful Med to search NLM's Databases**

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February 25-26, 1998	Indianapolis, IN
March 23-24, 1998	Ann Arbor, MI
June 8-9, 1998	Lexington, KY
June 17-18, 1998	Chicago, IL
July 20-21, 1998	Louisville, KY
September 9-10, 1998	Minneapolis, MN
November 12-13, 1998	Chicago, IL

## **Making the Transition: Converting to PubMed and Internet Grateful Med to Search NLM Databases**

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February 27, 1998	Indianapolis, IN
March 25, 1998	Ann Arbor, MI
June 10, 1998	Lexington, KY
June 19, 1998	Chicago, IL
July 22, 1998	Louisville, KY
September 11, 1998	Minneapolis, MN
November 10, 1998	Chicago, IL

*If you do not have net access and would like print copies of PubMed tip sheets, call your GMR state contact librarian at 800-338-7657.*

# Important Dates...

<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/gmr/calendar>

**November 30-  
December 5, 1997**  
Radiological Society  
of North America  
**Chicago, IL**

**April 15-17, 1998**

Indiana State Health  
Librarian Association  
Meeting  
**Nashville, IN**

**April 26-28, 1998**  
Wisconsin Health  
Science Libraries  
Association (WHSLA)  
Annual Conference  
**Madison, WI**

**May 22-27, 1998**

Medical Library  
Association,  
Annual Meeting  
**Philadelphia, PA**

**September 1998**

Midwest Chapter,  
Medical Library  
Association  
(MC/MLA)  
Annual Meeting  
**Lexington, KY**

*(Joint meeting with Southern  
Chapter/MLA)*

**September 1999**

Midwest Chapter,  
Medical Library  
Association  
(MC/MLA)  
Annual Meeting  
**Grand Rapids, MI**

*\* To inquire about the Online Training Center classes,  
call 800/338-7657 and choose 2 from the menu.*

## New DOCLINE Members

The following libraries are new to  
DOCLINE this year.

Lake Forest Hospital  
Medical Staff Library  
Interlibrary Loan  
Lake Forest, IL  
847-234-5600 X6847  
60045C

Berea Hospital  
Southern Kentucky AHEC  
Health Sciences Library  
Berea, KY  
800-711-3676  
40403A

Porter Memorial Hospital  
Medical Library  
Valparaiso, IN  
219-464-8611  
46383A

Beaver Dam Community  
Hospitals Inc  
Medical Library ILL  
Beaver Dam, WI  
414-887-7181  
53916A

VA Medical Center  
Medical Library 142d  
St Cloud, MN  
612-252-1670  
56301A

## 3 Sources

**UIC** University of Illinois  
at Chicago

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Library of the Health Sciences  
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1750 West Polk Street  
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