

MIDLINE

Newsletter of the Midwest Chapter / Medical Library Association

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President's Message

By Kellie Kaneshiro

The start of the New Year is an opportunity to look back at the accomplishments of the past year and to look ahead to new challenges. I'm happy to have this opportunity to thank our fellow librarians who made 2002 a memorable year for the Chapter, especially Jim Lander for his thoughtful leadership as President, outgoing Board members, and everyone who made the annual meeting in Minneapolis a success.

The Indiana Conference Coordinating Committee is working hard on our next annual meeting, entitled "Information@thecrossroads," which will be held September 19-23, 2003 in Indianapolis. Mark your calendars (or enter those dates into your PDA) and look for upcoming articles featuring the program, special events, and some fun things to do while in the Hoosier state!

At the Fall Board Meeting in Minneapolis, the 2002 Board members worked alongside incoming Board members to identify several objectives for 2003. These include:

- 1) Explore ways to encourage and mentor Chapter members who would like to conduct publish library research.
- 2) Look for ways to provide opportunities for members to learn about and effectively use new technologies.
- 3) Recruit the next generation of health sciences librarians into the profession.
- 4) Explore opportunities to partner with other health entities, such as health educators on shared interests, and to expand the Chapter's membership base by promoting membership to other health information professionals, such as public librarians who handle consumer health for their libraries.

Our Spring Board Meeting will be held March 7, 2003. You can find contact information for the Chapter officers and committee chairs at the Chapter's Web site <http://www.midwestmla.org>. We appreciate hearing from you! The Web site is maintained by the members of the Technology Committee and has links to the Chapter newsletter, information on how to join MIDWEST, the Chapter discussion list, as well as online updates to the print Chapter Directory. The Midwest Chapter also offers a \$500 Health Information Management award and two \$500 scholarship awards (for library science students to attend the annual Midwest Chapter/MLA

meeting). Look for information on these awards in upcoming newsletters and the Web site.

Our Newsletter editor, Mary K. Taylor, will be stepping down as editor after this issue in order to pursue another graduate degree. Mary has been the editor of MIDLINE for the past two years. We wish her well in her new endeavor! Cathy Perley, who co-edited this issue, will be the new editor beginning with the Spring MIDLINE issue.

The MLA annual meeting is fast approaching. Each year the MLA Chapter Council presents sharing roundtables. Roundtables are a great way to network with colleagues to discuss mutual professional concerns and chapter activities. This year there are thirty different topics to choose from. I hope to see many of you at MLA.

I'm looking forward to working with you to make 2003 a great year for the Midwest Chapter!

Call for Papers and Posters: 2003 Annual Meeting

By Marla Baden
2003 Conference Program Chair

The Midwest Chapter/Medical Library Association's Annual Meeting will be held September 19-23, 2003 at the Omni Severin in Indianapolis, and will feature a keynote address by Julie McGowan from Indiana University. More information on the conference can be found at <http://midwestmla.org/2003conference>.

The 2003 Program Planning Committee invites proposals for contributed papers that support this year's conference theme, "Information@thecrossroads." Each paper will have a presentation time of approximately 20 minutes. Proposals should be submitted in the form of a 200-250 word abstract that clearly states the proposed topic and its relevance to this year's theme. Also include your name, position title, address, phone number, and e-mail address.

The following are suggested topics, but should not limit proposal submissions:

- Changing from paper to electronic collections
- Forging new partnerships
- Managing technology change
- Managing digital collections
- New roles for librarians
- Re-evaluation of traditional practices

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***Statistically Speaking: 2002
Annual Meeting***
By Mary K. Taylor/MIDLINE/Editor

Before I start with the numbers (provided by Sherry Anderson, Co-Chair of the 2002 Conference Coordinating Committee) I would like to thank everyone who worked on the conference. By any measure, the conference was a great success!

Registration

- * Total Registrants: 220
- * Full Conference (early registration): 135
- * Full Conference (late registration): 4
- * One-Day (Sunday): 13
- * One-Day (Monday): 9
- * Student: 3
- * CE Only: 7
- * Speakers/Instructors: 12
- * Exhibitors: 37

CE Registration

- * Virtual Collection Development: 20
- * Re-Creating Your Services with New Technologies: 20
- * Keeping Up with NLM's PubMed: 12

***2002 Annual Meeting Scholarship
Winner Report***

By Cara Sparks
*Graduate Research Assistant, University of Kentucky
Medical Center Library, Lexington, KY*

My friends thought they were being funny. "Oh, you're going to a conference of librarians?!? Are there gonna be some fascinating lectures on shushing and bun-making?" I knew it wouldn't be worth explaining to them that I was actually thrilled to have the opportunity to attend the annual Midwest Chapter/MLA conference in Minneapolis - it's a library thing, they wouldn't understand.

Any illusions that a library conference would be less than exciting were shattered by Eugenie Prime's exhilarating keynote address that challenged us all to question our future as librarians and to find a way to

make it happen our way. I then experienced how the library community dialogues to create change when, after Eva Perkins spoke about expert searching in the health sciences context, the MLA Task Force to Promote the Importance of Expert Searching asked the audience to contribute their thoughts on developing search guidelines and/or certification for searchers. Other interesting sessions included a technology forum, a collection of presentations about PDAs and their applications, and a discussion of the need for libraries to develop a business rationale for existence. Poster sessions allowed me to review current research from a variety of libraries in the Midwest, and vendor exhibits showcased the latest in library resources (and I got some great pens as well!). Finally, the delicious food and hilarity of Dale Connelly at the Weisman Art Museum Reception were further proof of the expertise of the planning committee, as was evident throughout the conference.

Overall, this conference provided a chance for inspiration and education that far exceeds anything I have yet to experience in library school. I thank the Midwest Chapter/MLA for providing the scholarship to attend this conference and I also thank all of the folks who were so welcoming and amicable. Now, I just have to go work on those librarian stereotypes with my friends...

Call for Papers and Posters...

(Continued from page 1)

- Supporting physician and staff use of technology
- Uses of wireless technology

At this time, the Program Committee also invites proposals for poster sessions. Posters are an excellent way to share innovative ideas, new applications of technology, research studies, or problem-solving efforts of interest to the library community. Proposals for poster presentations should be submitted as a 200- word abstract that includes your name, position title, address, phone number, and e-mail address. The submission deadline for papers and posters is **May 1, 2003**. Decisions regarding acceptance will be made by May 31, 2003, and participants will be notified by e-mail.

Submit paper and poster abstracts to Marla Baden via e-mail (badenm@ipfw.edu), fax (260-481-6509), or mail (Marla Baden, Indiana University Purdue University, Fort Wayne Helmke Library, 2101 E. Coliseum Blvd., Fort Wayne, IN, 46805).

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Serials Management Project

*By Barbara A. Gushrowski
Librarian, Garceau Library
St. Vincent Hospitals and Health Services
Indianapolis, IN*

The Garceau Library Serials Management Project (SMP) began in fiscal year 1998/99. The Manager of Library Services proposed to the Hospital Executive Committee that the library coordinate all journal subscription purchases for departments, physician offices, outpatient clinics, and other off-site facilities owned by St. Vincent Hospitals and Health Services.

At that time there was no mechanism for determining the amount of money the hospital was spending annually on non-library journal subscriptions. Each cost center determined the sub-account used to track these purchases, and the cost of the subscriptions was buried in a line item along with continuing education.

The purpose of the project was twofold: obtain an accurate accounting of the dollars spent on subscriptions and reduce that spending by eliminating duplicate or unnecessary subscriptions. The library realized an added benefit in an increased awareness and use of the library print and online subscriptions.

THE PROCESS

A letter from a senior vice president was distributed to all cost center fund managers, announcing the plan to redirect all subscription requests through the library. The Accounting Department created a new sub-account for subscriptions, and the Accounts Payable Department was notified that no payment for a serial publication could be processed without the signature of a librarian.

The next step was to create a database containing subscription data. The cost center managers forwarded to the library a list of titles, the ship-to name and address of the recipient, and the cost center number. (For this initial phase, many of the waiting room magazines for the physician's office were not included.) The software chosen was Microsoft Access.

Once the data was loaded, reports were run and sent to the journal vendor for processing. The titles were divided into two groups based on expiration date: January-June and July-December. A renewal checklist was generated by the vendor and checked against the database. An email

notification message was sent by the librarian to subscribers, the renewal checklist amended based on the subscribers' requests, and the final list returned to the vendor.

The library did not dictate which titles would be renewed and which would not. The librarians provided information about the library's holdings, suggested use of the table of contents service offered by the library, and kept track of all departments subscribed to the same titles. The department fund managers were then able to make informed decisions about the necessity of separate subscriptions for their cost centers.

TAKING IT TO THE NEXT LEVEL

The creation and use of the database was an important component in the process. The librarians were able to organize and coordinate all the subscription information and provide reports to management on the status of the SMP. However, the data resided on a computer in the library office and was not readily available to anyone other than the librarians. Fund managers needed access to this data to track their spending, plan the budget for subsequent years, and make informed decisions about their subscriptions. The start/renewal/cancellation process would also be facilitated by online access to the database.

The librarians met with a programmer in the Information Services Department and provided him with all the requirements for the project. He then created an interface template and added, deleted, or modified design features over several iterations until the librarians were satisfied that the product was ready for use by the hospital associates. In the fall of 1999 the Web site was unveiled on the hospital's intranet in time for the January-June renewal process.

The site was met with much enthusiasm due to its simplicity. The user selects the "subscription" icon from the library's intranet site and enters a cost center number. A page is displayed with all the titles subscribed to by that department. Then the user selects the "renew" or "cancel" option for each of the titles and a report is generated to the administrator side of the database. The librarians then approve the renewal or cancellation online and the database reflects these changes.

There have been subsequent design modifications to the Web site, though the functions remain the same. The users can query the database to determine subscription status for each department, request new subscriptions, and renew or cancel existing ones.

(Continued on page 4)

Serials Management Project *(Continued from page 3)*

When a new subscription is requested, the user gets a listing of all the departments in the hospital that already subscribe to that title, along with a message suggesting that sharing or borrowing a copy might be an alternative to purchasing. The one feature we would like to add is to include the library's holdings and suggest that the requester use the library copy.

RESULTS

The project met its initial goals in dramatic fashion. For the first time, the hospital personnel were aware of the number, type, and cost of subscriptions. Processing all subscriptions in a central location eliminated a great deal of unnecessary spending. Multiple-year subscriptions were not allowed, "subscription creep" was stopped by disallowing "early renewal" offers, and "continuation-notice-itis" was completely cured. The number of titles dropped by approximately 150 and dollars spent by the hospital on serials dropped nearly \$10,000.

KEYS TO SUCCESS

This project could not have been successful without the support of the hospital's top management. Two full ordering cycles (one year) were completed before the process really became a part of the corporate consciousness. Constant education by the librarians on the rationale for the process, dialogue, and updates with the Executive Committee on the progress and the savings afforded by the SMP have guaranteed its continuation and its success.

The process of renewing all institutional subscriptions through a central location is a good cost-saving strategy and does not require extensive technical knowledge or use of the institution's intranet. But the easy access to the subscription information on the intranet has been a popular feature of the SMP. A good working relationship with the information services of the institution is essential for this aspect of the project. It is through the support of St. Vincent Hospital Information Systems, most notably the creative vision of Jason Wallace, that Garceau Library is able to offer hospital associates the convenience of online renewal.

This project provided an opportunity for the librarians at the Garceau Library to impact the bottom line for St. Vincent Hospital. With our skills in serials management, organizing, and disseminating information, we are able to provide service and value at little additional cost of time or

material. The project is now in its fourth year and continues to be very successful.

Editor's note: Barbara won the Midwest Chapter/MLA 2001 Award for the Advancement of Health Information Technology for the project described in this article.

New Member Profiles

By Jennifer Friedman,
MIDLINE Contributor

Denise Britigan is a Reference and Education Librarian at the Hardin Library for the Health Sciences, University of Iowa. She coordinates the education program there. She received her Masters' in Library Science from the University of Iowa SLIS, and also has an undergrad degree in medical technology from Saint Louis University. In her professional life, Denise is interested in information literacy and finding information to fit people's needs. When not at work, she enjoys gardening, friends, food, and fellowship. She also shares her home with two teenagers, her husband, a dog, two cats, and a Rotary International exchange student from Puebla, Mexico.

Ruey Rodman is the Head of Access Services at the Prior Health Sciences Library at The Ohio State University in Columbus. Her job responsibilities include managing circulation and document delivery, as well as reference, teaching, and research work. Her masters' degree is from Kent State University's library school. She also has a musical background, with an undergraduate degree in Piano from Marietta College in Ohio, and an M.A. in Piano Pedagogy from Ohio State. Ruey is intrigued by all aspects of access to information and library services. Her hometown is Lancaster, PA.

Susan Suess's position of Medical School Librarian at the Pikeville College School of Osteopathic Medicine in Pikeville, KY, has her directing the medical library, supervising library staff, and providing just about every kind of library assistance to faculty, staff, and students. She holds a library degree from Western Michigan University and a bachelor's degree (also in Library Science) from Central Michigan University. Originally from Walker, Michigan, Susan is especially interested in consumer health information. In her spare time, she can be found doing needlework, sailing, or flower gardening.

Other Conferences

Joint Meeting: Ohio Health Sciences Library Association and Central Ohio Health Sciences Library

By Ximena Chrisagis

On March 31 the Ohio Health Sciences Library Association (OHSLA) and the Central Ohio Health Sciences Library Association (COHSLA) will co-sponsor "Finding the Best Evidence to Meet Nursing Information Needs," a four-hour MLA continuing education course taught by Margaret (Peg) Allen, MLS, AHIP, at Ohio State University in Columbus from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The registration cost is \$50 for OHSLA members and \$65 for non-members. For additional information, contact OHSLA President Elect and Program Chair Linda DeMuro at 614-722-3203 or demuro.l@osu.edu or visit <http://www.ohslanet.org/events/announcement.html>.

Wisconsin Health Sciences Libraries Association 2003 Annual Meeting

By Barbara Benisch Sisolak
WHSLA 2003 Planning Committee

Mark your calendars! The Wisconsin Health Sciences Libraries Association will hold its 2003 annual meeting on April 27-28 at the Concourse Hotel in Madison, WI. The conference theme is "Collaboration: Building Bridges to Better Care." Continuing education opportunities include "Return on Investment (ROI) Tools for Library Management," "Legal Research for Non-Law Librarians," and "Evidence Based Practice in Nursing and Allied Health." The keynote speaker will be Zorba Paster, M.D., a local physician and radio and television speaker on health issues. In addition, roundtable discussions will address benchmarking and collaborating with other professionals in educational and clinical projects. See <http://www.whsla.mcw.edu/upcoming.html> for program and registration information, to be posted soon.

Medical Library Association 2003 Annual Meeting

By Cathy Perley/MIDLINE Editor

Catch the wave at the Medical Library Association's Annual Meeting scheduled for May 2-7 at the Town and Country Resort and Convention Center in San Diego, CA.

Plenary speakers include Lawrence Lessig, J.D., Stanford law professor and noted authority on copyright, technology, and the Constitution; Frieda O. Weise, Executive Director of the Health Sciences and Human Services Library at the University of Maryland-Baltimore; Roz Diane Lasker, M.D., Director of the Division of Public Health and the

Center for the Advancement of Collaborative Strategies in Health at the New York Academy of Medicine and clinical professor of public health in the Division of Health Policy and Management at the Joseph L. Mailman School of Public Health of Columbia University; and Karen Garman, Ph.D., consultant and nationally known expert on mentoring, health care education, leadership, and performance.

Continuing education courses are offered before and after the conference. A number of the courses offer hands-on experience, including "Providing and Evaluating Electronic Full-Text Information Delivery," "Measuring and Reporting Usage of Electronic Resources," and "Developing Your Own Web-Based Course: A Hands-On Workshop." See conference details at:

<http://www.mlanet.org/am/am2003/index.html>.

Technology and Bioinformatics Programs at MLA 2003

By Jean Sayre,
Incoming Chair, Medical informatics Section, MLA

There are two programs at the upcoming MLA meeting that I would like point out to Chapter members. I believe you will agree with me that they both are "hot topics" for all health sciences librarians in 2003.

The first includes a panel of experts who will discuss trends in technology. The session is entitled "Surf Report: Forecasting Technology Trends." The speakers include Cheri Pancake, a professor at Oregon State University who works on issues related to software usability and digital libraries; Scott Garrison, Library Systems Supervisor, University of North Carolina Chapel Hill Health Sciences Library and MLAnet Editor, an advocate of open source technologies; and Daniel Masys, Director of Biomedical Informatics, UC San Diego, a long-time medical informaticist who previously worked at NLM. Join this fabulous panel for an interesting discussion about the future!

The second program is a contributed paper session called "Bioinformatics: A New Wave of Research, a New Wave of Service." Bioinformatics is an interdisciplinary field that intersects information science and biology research. Today, bioinformatics includes genome mapping, molecular modeling, molecular genetics, pharmacogenomics, and a host of other disciplines. Where do librarians fit in these new disciplines? How do we work with the scientists and informaticists doing this cutting-edge research? How do we define the knowledge and skills needed to work in this field? In this session, librarians and educators actively involved in this field will examine bioinformatics from a librarian's perspective.

I hope to see you in San Diego at these very informative programs!

Point of Care to Their Palms: LSTA Grant Enables PDAs to Play in Peoria.

***By Carol Galganski, MSLS, AHIP
Manager, Library & Resource Center
OSF Saint Francis Medical Center, Peoria, Illinois***

As handheld computing devices—PDAs or personal digital assistants—have entered the pockets and palms of healthcare professionals, librarians have been interested in how these devices can be incorporated as another component of their knowledge-based resources, and what support they should be providing to clinicians with this new technology. OSF Saint Francis Medical Center in Peoria, IL, had a chance to look at these issues when it was awarded a \$50,221 LSTA grant in October, 2001, entitled “Point of Care to Their Palms: Medical Libraries Provide Critical Knowledge-Based Resources, Technology, and Training to Medical Professionals.” The idea and support for the LSTA grant developed from our participation in a Department of Internal Medicine hospital committee named the Technology Application Group or TAG. This committee consists of clinicians from OSF Saint Francis Medical Center, teaching faculty from the University of Illinois College of Medicine, and medical librarians from both the Medical Center and the UIC Library of Health Sciences at Peoria (LHS-Peoria).

Building on the success of a previously funded grant project to the UIC LHS P by our local library system (the Alliance Library System) that provided handheld devices to third-year medical students at the University of Illinois College of Medicine, this grant sought to bring knowledge-based information to the bedside through the circulation of PDAs that had been preloaded with software covering a variety of specialties, and to provide training and support to clinicians who were interested in using this technology. The Library & Resource Center at OSF Saint Francis worked collaboratively with the UIC Library of the Health Sciences at Peoria in this endeavor.

The LSTA grant covered an eight month period—October 1, 2001 through May 31, 2002—and featured the circulation of PDAs that were loaded with software specific to the following specialties: pediatrics, emergency medicine, surgery, internal medicine, nursing, obstetrics & gynecology, pharmacy, and psychiatry. Twenty-nine Handspring Visors were purchased (22 for OSF and 7 for LHS-Peoria), 2 Compaq IPAQs, and a variety of accessories such as cameras and voice recorders. Over 60 pieces of software, including Ovid@Hand, were purchased. Software covered a variety of medical specialties, as well as general-use software for word processing and printing. In addition to hardware and software, activities supported by the grant included:

- A staff position at 64 hours per month at OSF Saint Francis
- Development of a Web site:
<http://pdagrants.osfsaintfrancis.org/>

- Hosting of a conference for health science librarians on June 7, 2002, that included a four-hour continuing education course accredited by the Medical Library Association, “PDA Medical Applications and Content”
- Creation of a library blog entitled “The Handheld Librarian” (<http://www.handheldlib.blogspot.com/>)
- Poster presentations at both the 2002 Illinois State Library Association Annual Meeting and the 2002 Midwest Chapter/MLA meeting held in Minneapolis.

LIBRARY IMPACT

This grant was a true learning experience for all members of the library staff. From purchasing to circulation and technical processing, as well as training and support, implementing a new technology impacted every staff member. Purchasing the hardware and software, as well as loading the handhelds, took more time than anticipated, delaying circulation for a few months longer than we would have liked. We were very happy to see library vendors—Rittenhouse and Majors—begin to stock PDA versions of books that could be ordered through routine library procedures. Circulating the handhelds and accessories required original cataloging records for our online catalog in order to track circulation. The creation of a Microsoft Access database was necessary to keep track of the various pieces of hardware and software, the unlock codes for the software and document readers, IDs and passwords for Ovid@Hand, and numerous other details associated with this material. Once the handhelds were returned, they needed to be checked for problems, recharged for the next use, and personal data erased. Training and support was very labor intensive: sessions were usually one-on-one, averaged about 1 hour of staff time, and most of the time were not scheduled. On a more positive note, the LSTA grant enabled us to promote the library as a leader in new technologies and applications, brought new users into the library to check out the technology, and provided professional staff with opportunities for publication, presentations to both library and hospital groups, and increased networking with other library professionals. One of the most exciting results from this grant project will be a visit to both of our Peoria libraries in the spring of 2003 by a hospital librarian from Australia, who received a scholarship to investigate setting up a PDA program in her hospital library, and contacted me after seeing our grant Web site.

LESSONS LEARNED & POST-GRANT ACTIVITY

Clinicians were overwhelmed by the variety of software on the specialty handhelds. For the most part, they wanted a good drug resource—Epocrates was most heavily used—and an easy-to-use textbook like the 5 Minute Clinical Consult. We circulated the devices for a week during the grant period, and discovered it wasn’t enough time for users to investigate all of the software and actually use it in practice. We now circulate the handhelds for a 4-week period.

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**Billie Broaddus, Academic
Information Technology &
Libraries, University Of
Cincinnati, Retires**

Billie Broaddus, a former President of the Midwest Chapter MLA, retired February 3, 2003. Billie began her work in medical libraries in 1961 as secretary to Alfred N. Brandon, then Director at the University of Kentucky Medical Center Library. Upon obtaining her BA degree in history in 1973 and her library degree in 1974 from the University of Kentucky, she accepted the position of Head of Reference at the University of Cincinnati. For the past 29 years she has served in several positions in that organization, first under Dr. Nancy Lorenzi, and then Roger Guard. She became Director, Cincinnati Medical Heritage Center, in 1982. A farewell party, which included family, friends, and colleagues, was held on January 24, 2003.

Important News and Dates

ARL's Leadership and Career Development Program (LCDP)...is seeking applicants. MLA will sponsor and provide funding for two minority, lower-to-middle management health information sciences professionals. Applications for the 2003-2004 program are due April 11, 2003. For more information see: <http://www.arl.org/diversity/lcdp/2003/lcdp03.html>.

EBM for Librarians: Appraising the Evidence for Validity...is a two-day workshop that will be held March 13-14, 2003, at the Library of the Health Sciences, University of Illinois-Chicago. The cost is \$200. The class has been approved for 14 MLA CE hours. Contact Sandy Degroote (sgroote@uic.edu) or Marci Doranski (marci@d@uic.edu) for more information or if you need a registration form.

Faxon/Rowecom/divine users...can keep track of news about the situation at the MLA Web site: http://www.mlanet.org/resources/faxrowe_updates.html. MLA also suggests monitoring news via the discussion group, Liblicense-L (liblicense-l@lists.yale.edu; archives at <http://www.library.yale.edu/~liblicense/ListArchives/>), and registering to read minutes of meetings by the ad hoc creditors group at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/rowecomcreditors/>. You may send comments to the creditors group at adhoccommittee@nyc.rr.com.

Get HIP to HIPAA: Health Information Professionals and the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act...is a satellite workshop sponsored by MLA on March 12, 2003. CE credit is available. For the agenda and registration information, see: <http://www.mlanet.org/education/telecon/hipaa/index.html>.

NLM and the American Medical Publishers Association...are co-sponsoring a one-day conference, "The Archiving Forum: Preserving Digital Content (and the Opportunities It Holds for the Long Haul)," March 4, 2003, in

Philadelphia. The meeting will also be broadcast via the Internet. For a more information see http://www.ampaonline.org/annual_upcoming_seminars_030202.htm.

The NN/LM will be holding several NLM database workshops...in our area in the next few months. "PubMed" (a one-day session) will be held on April 2 and 3 in Cleveland Ohio, and April 14 in Chicago, IL. The half-day "NLM Gateway & ClinicalTrials.gov" workshop will be held April 15 in Chicago, IL. "TOXNET" training will be held February 25 in Ann Arbor, MI. For more information see: <http://www.nlm.gov/mar/online/regions.html#Greater>.

Cathy Perley...is the new editor of *MIDLINE* and co-edited this issue. Please send all future submissions to her via email at cperley@cableone.net.

The Spring 2003 Midwest Chapter Board Meeting...will be held March 7 at the Radisson Hotel & Suites-Chicago, from 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

Kara Thompson...is the new Communications and Outreach Coordinator for the NN/LM, GMR. She previously worked as Outreach Librarian for the Southwest Wisconsin AHEC. She may be contacted via phone (1-800-338-7657 in the region or 312-996-7634) or by email (karalt@uic.edu).

Two Midwest Chapter/MLA members...J. Michael Homan, Director, Mayo Medical Library, and Connie Poole, Associate Dean for Information Resources, Southern Illinois University School of Medicine, were elected to the MLA Nominating Committee for 2003/2004. Congratulations!

Point of Care to Their Palms...
(Continued from page 6)

Clinicians weren't really interested in purchasing software for their own handhelds - they wanted to know about software that was either free or made available through the library. We had anticipated more interest and use in Ovid@Hand, but found that it required too much interactivity with a personal PC for most patrons to use with any frequency. Clinicians most appreciated having someone to call when they had problems with hot syncing, downloading software, or demonstrating the basics of using a handheld device.

POST-GRANT PDA SUPPORT

Since the grant period ended May 31, 2002, both libraries have continued to circulate the specialty PDAs purchased with these grant monies, as well as provide training and support. Rather than continue to update all the PDA software purchased, our next step will be to look at the value of institutional licensure of handheld knowledge-based resources like PEPID, and continue to promote the use of Ovid@Hand as a current awareness resource. Of course, we are looking forward to our Australian visitor in May or June and for any further PDA projects or teaching opportunities that might come our way. For more information on the grant project, including the final report and the June 7 conference presentations, please visit the Web site at <http://pdagrants.osfsaintfrancis.org>.

MIDLINE

Cathy Perley, Editor
524 Pelletier Drive
Sioux City, IA 51104

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MIDLINE is published in print and electronic formats four times a year by the Midwest Chapter/Medical Library Association. Statements and positions expressed in this newsletter do not necessarily represent the official positions of the Chapter, the Chapter Board, or the Editor. Contributions from all Chapter members are welcomed and encouraged. Copy deadlines for 2003-2004 are as follows:

<u>Issue</u>	<u>Copy Deadline</u>	<u>ListServ Posting/Member Receipt</u>
Spring 2003	April 15, 2003	May 15, 2003
Summer 2003	July 15, 2003	August 15, 2003
Fall 2003	October 15, 2003	November 15, 2003
Winter 2004	January 15, 2004	February 15, 2004

Contributions may be edited for brevity, clarity, or conformance to style. The preferred method for copy submissions is e-mail. All copy should be sent to the Editor, Cathy Perley (email: cperley@cableone.net).

Mailing address changes should be reported to: Bettye Sydelko, Membership Secretary, Midwest Chapter/MLA, Fordham Health Sciences Library, 125A Medical Sciences Bldg., Wright State University, Dayton, OH 45435 (email: bette.sydelko@wright.edu).

Midwest Chapter Web address - midwestmla.org