



*A publication of the National Network of Libraries of Medicine MidContinental Region*

## Two Projects from MCR Receive Internet Access to Digital Libraries Funds

The National Library of Medicine has announced the first round of funding for the Internet Access to Digital Libraries (IADL) awards, including two projects from the MidContinental Region. The Mid-Missouri Area Health Education Center was awarded \$133,000 for their project *Health Resources for AHEC Community Preceptors*, and the Utah AIDS Foundation was awarded \$47,799 for *Sharing Digital Resources: An Interlibrary Partnership*.

The Mid-Missouri Area Health Education Center project involves creating a health education digital library with access to NLM databases and evidence-based healthcare resources for preceptors and health profession students in central and northeast Missouri. They will be delivering the information through a customizable portal and evaluating the use of the resources. Partners from the Health Sciences Library and the School of Medicine at the University of Missouri-Columbia will provide training to users, including rural health systems or clinics and those who provide services to under-served populations.

The Utah AIDS Foundation has developed a partnership with the Eccles Health Sciences Library and the Salt Lake City Public Library to provide access to library materials and to develop a custom portal of local and national HIV/AIDS information.

The IADL awards are designed to assist organizations that provide consumers, health professionals and health staff with access to digital health information resources and information services. In the current award cycle, 40% of the awards went to organizations serving rural populations, 17% to inner-city settings, and 28% benefit minority populations and people with special health needs. In total, 52 projects were funded, with over \$4 million going to more than 330 communities in 25 states and Puerto Rico.

The IADL awards can be used to support a broad range of activities and services. IADL projects will be funded on a regular basis, and proposal deadlines are February 1, June 1, and October 1. For further information about the next submission deadline and more detailed information about these grants go to <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/ep/iadl.html>.

Please feel free to contact your state liaison if you have an idea you would like to develop that might be eligible for IADL funding. Your state liaison would be happy to advise you, refer you to useful

resources, and provide feedback on your proposals before you submit them to the National Library of Medicine.

—D. Sommer

## Membership Renewal Information

By the time you receive this newsletter, the membership renewal packets will have been mailed. Please take a moment to locate the packet, complete the forms and return them to us. We want to renew your membership as soon as possible and get your new membership certificate in the mail to you! Your certificate will be good through 2006.

Please pay close attention to the instructions accompanying your membership renewal. Full Members will receive an agreement form to sign and return, a Network inventory to complete and return (or complete online at <http://nmlm.gov/mcr/assessment/netinv/>), and will need to update their DOCUSER records. Affiliate Members will receive an agreement form to sign and return along with instructions on how to review their DOCUSER record. Affiliate members should call their state liaison at 1-800-338-7657 in order to update their DOCUSER records.

All members are encouraged to call their state liaison with any questions about their membership or the membership renewal process.

—RML Staff

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## Regional Advisory Board Meeting—2002

Each year, the location of the Midcontinental Chapter of the Medical Library Association (MCMLA) annual meeting determines where the Regional Medical Library will hold its Regional Advisory Board meeting. Since this year's MCMLA was in Kansas, the Archie R. Dykes Library, located at the University of Kansas Medical Center in Kansas City, Kansas, hosted the board meeting.

The KU Medical Center made available a state-of-the-art boardroom in their School of Nursing building. With cameras built into the ceiling, microphones built into the conference table, and the ability to bring in guest speakers through video conferencing, it was just the type of facility the MidContinental Regional Medical Library (MCRML) dreams of for a Regional Advisory Board meeting. On November 8, 2002, MCR staff and the advisory board gathered in the Nursing School building for an intense meeting.

The primary purpose of the meeting was to initiate the strategic plan for the RML. The timing was right, positions were filled, and the staff had been working long enough to grasp the potential of their state outreach and special project responsibilities. In addition, each liaison has a counterpart on the Regional Advisory Board whose interests and experience relate to the liaison's responsibilities. We took this opportunity to tap the expertise of our board members while looking at our end-of-contract goals and the steps necessary to reach those goals.

During the meeting, participants formed small discussion groups. The liaisons reviewed their accomplishments and the groups brainstormed goals and objectives. Through this process they started a list of objectives for the next year of the contract. Here is a sampling of objectives that may be of interest to Network members:

- Create an information access training product to support and encourage life-long information literacy training for health professionals.
- Expand the Colorado Consumer Health Libraries concept to other states by scheduling meetings where librarians interested in consumer health information services from all types of libraries can gather for continuing education and networking.
- Begin the implementation of a regional licensing plan for electronic health information resources.
- Develop a workshop on hospital library standards based on the standards created by the Medical Library Association Hospital Libraries Section.
- Begin implementation of a plan that would integrate a knowledge skills course in public health schools in the region.

### Members of the MCR Regional Advisory Board:

Carolyn Anderson, Johnson County Public Library, Overland Park, KS  
Margaret Bandy, St. Joseph Hospital Medical Library, Denver, CO  
David Brunell, Bibliographic Center for Research, Aurora, CO  
Susan Centner, Mid-Missouri Area Health Education Center, Rolla, MO  
Cathy Perley, Emporia State University School of Library and Information Management, Emporia, KS  
Mary Beth Stepan, University of Wyoming School of Nursing, Laramie, WY  
Sharon Talboys, Utah Department of Health, Salt Lake City, UT  
Deborah Ward, J. Otto Lottes Health Sciences Library, Columbia, MO  
Nancy Woelfl, Ph.D., McGoogan Library of Medicine, Omaha NE

Advisory board members also heard presentations on the National Outreach Evaluation Center, the Tribal Connections project (a collaborative effort working to improve access to health information for Native Americans in the Four Corners area), new initiatives at the National Library of Medicine, a multi-agency health information web site coordinated by the Johnson County Library, and the progress of the Virtual Reference Cooperative Pilot. PowerPoint slides and minutes of the meeting are available in the Administration area of the MCR website at <http://nmlm.gov/mcr/admin/>.

The meeting was broadcast through streaming video over the Internet, and feedback from Network members who dropped in indicated that it was "almost like being there". We had approximately 100 hits on our meeting link, although the unique IP addresses indicated that these hits represent a repetitive group attending at different times of the day. We hope that in the future more Network members will find the time to join us, either in person or through our web cast. Next year's meeting will be in South Dakota, where we will broadcast from the Sheraton Inn and Convention Center. Stay tuned!

—C. Hamasu



Regional Advisory Board members and MCR staff present at the 2002 RAB Meeting:

Front row: Mary Beth Stepan, Whitney Davison-Turley, David Brunell, Kathleen McCloskey, Carolyn Anderson  
Back row: Wayne Peay, Teresa Hartman, Betsy Kelly, Stephanie Weldon, Claire Hamasu, Margaret Bandy, Deborah Sommer, Deborah Ward

## New Liaison at the RML



Hello everyone! I am Siobhan Champ-Blackwell, the Inner City Services and Special Populations Outreach Liaison, located at Creighton University's Health Sciences Library. My main objective is to help reduce health disparities faced by minority and inner city populations by providing individuals and health care providers access to health information resources.

I am excited to be a member of the innovative MidContinental Region. I recently earned my MLS through the University of Illinois' distance program, and stepping into the MCR program has been an exciting transition. I have worked in academic and special libraries for many years, including the Kripke Library and the College of Saint Mary, both

in Omaha. I also provided parenting outreach in the state of Nebraska as a leader, instructor, and conference chair with La Leche League of Nebraska. I look forward to combining my interest in outreach and information access in this position.

One question I am frequently asked is how exactly to pronounce my name. It is Irish, and the easiest way to pronounce it correctly is to think of saying "chiffon" with a 'v' instead of an 'f.'

If you have any questions about this position or would like to talk about inner city services and minority outreach, feel free to email me. I can also be reached using the RML's toll-free number. I would love to hear from you and to find out if there is any way I can support programs in your library.

## The Rocky Mountain EBHC Workshop and the Medical Librarian

*Lisa Traditi, MLS, AHIP,  
Head of Education and Learning Resources Center  
Denison Memorial Library [lisa.traditi@UCHSC.edu](mailto:lisa.traditi@UCHSC.edu)*

It must be a dream. An entire room of health care providers is giving me a standing ovation. As I look around the room, I realize they are applauding not only me, but seven other librarians as well.

With a thrill of relief, I realize I am awake! This is real. Over 100 clinicians, policy makers, and journalists are cheering our work. As the librarians around me catch my eye, grinning like madwomen, we take a deep breath of relief. We have just completed another week at the Rocky Mountain Evidence Based Health Care Workshop.

And, the participants like us. They really, really like us!

Where is this librarians' nirvana? It is the Rocky Mountain Evidence Based Health Care (EBHC) Workshop, held annually since 1999, and presented by the Colorado Health Outcomes Department of the School of Medicine at the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center. Employing self-directed, small group, problem-based learning, the Rocky Mountain Workshop includes in its faculty many of the "big names" in evidence-based health care—Andy Oxman, MD, PhD; Lisa Bero, PhD; Kay Dickersin, PhD; Martha Gerrity, MD, PhD; Lee Greenfield; Alejandro Jadad, MD, PhD; Scott Richardson, MD; John Steiner, MD; and Peter Tugwell, MD.

Each year, librarians from Denison Memorial Library participate as faculty for the workshop. The librarians teach searching skills (PubMed, Cochrane Library, ACP Journal Club, etc.) in pre-session courses and, as needed, during the small group times. They also provide support to the small groups and staff two computer labs. Over the years, various Denison Library faculty have participated in the workshop, including: Sandy Arnesen, Martha Burroughs, Liz D'Antonio-Gan, Lynne Fox, Marla Graber, Sandi Parker, Catherine Reiter, and myself. This year, Denison's troupe of faculty librarians also included Margaret Bandy of Exempla Saint Joseph's Hospital.

By participating in the workshop, the library originally intended to support a University-sponsored workshop and to be seen as a collaborative partner with the planning faculty. However, many other benefits were immediately realized, and these continue to grow as the librarians' participation increases. One of the major outcomes of participation has been that Denison librarians are treated as professional colleagues rather than as "handmaidens" by the clinical

and research faculty. The expertise of librarians is viewed as a vital part of patient care and education.

Each year, the library faculty encourages the participants and faculty to use their own local medical librarians. "Wouldn't it be great," we thought, "if more librarians could attend the workshop as participants?" So, we wrote an Impact Award proposal, which was funded by the NN/LM MidContinental Region in order to include three health sciences librarians from the region. The purpose of the grant proposal was to "spread the wealth."

After reviewing applications, three librarians were selected: Jeanne Le Ber, Education Services Librarian from University of Utah; Michelle Beattie, Clinical Medical Librarian at University of Missouri-Kansas City; and Susan Meadows, Librarian for the Department of Family and Community Medicine and the Family Practice Information Network (FPIN) at the University of Missouri-Columbia.

Jeanne, Michelle, and Susan were each assigned to a small group, and they participated as equal members with the clinicians and others in the group. They were impressed by the honesty with which their group members expressed limitations and knowledge gaps. They learned how to critically appraise research and evaluate statistical representations of the results. "Number needed to treat" and "relative risk" started to actually make sense.

Each small group collaborates to determine how they will focus their learning during the week. This allows for more learner-directed outcomes. It also increases the work required of individuals and insures deeper understanding of the concepts identified. Because of this intensive process, each of the librarians experienced different learning issues and group dynamics.

All three participants agreed that they received more than they expected out of the workshop—and they had expected a lot!

- Michelle has started using the PICO (Patient, Intervention, Comparison, Outcome) outline to help residents identify their true clinical questions and continue to review whether or not they have answered the question.
- Susan is using her enhanced knowledge of concepts such as sensitivity and specificity, predictive value, confidence intervals, etc. to build more effective search hedges for diagnostic and prognostic FPIN Clinical Inquiries questions.
- Jeanne has identified meaningful techniques and tools to improve her teaching methods, noting that the workshop overall is a model for how to teach evidence-based skills.

As this MCR-funded award goes through its evaluation process, major consideration is being given to requesting additional funding for the 2003 workshop. We are exploring a multi-year option that will allow for continuity and for even more librarians from the region to participate in this rewarding experience.

For more information about the EBHC Workshop, visit <http://www.uchsc.edu/ebhc/> or contact Lisa Traditi.

## Contract Goals of the NN/LM MidContinental Region

Building on the discussion started at our Regional Advisory Board meeting, RML staff met in Salt Lake City in November to determine our goals for the contract and our objectives for the next year. Below we

present our overall, special project, and state goals for this contract. This is also available from our website <http://nnlm.gov/mcr/admin/>. As always, we welcome your comments.

## Overall Goals of the MidContinental Regional Medical Library

By the end of the contract:

1. We will have investigated, developed, incorporated, and promoted new technologies that assist health sciences librarians to serve their patrons.
2. We will have assisted librarians and individuals working in the capacity of librarians, especially health sciences librarians, to advance health information to the people who need it.
3. We will have increased the awareness of and access to biomedical information resources for health professionals and the public.
4. We will have developed collaborations with NN/LM libraries, especially our Resource Libraries, to improve access to and sharing of biomedical information resources throughout the nation.
5. We will understand how to work using this distributed model and show that it is effective using both qualitative and quantitative data.
6. Assessment and evaluation will be intrinsic to all regional projects and services.
7. The liaisons will be able to effectively demonstrate the use of all NLM databases to find biomedical information.

## Assessment and Evaluation

By the end of the contract:

1. We will be able to show that the distributed model is effective in reaching target communities and changing information access behaviors.
2. Liaison and Network/Affiliate Members will understand and use assessment and evaluation for services and projects.

## Consumer Health and Colorado

By the end of the contract:

1. Librarians and individuals, who work in the capacity of librarians, providing health information in the state of Colorado, will know what the NN/LM is, who their liaison is, and where to go for additional resources pertaining to health information.
2. Each state in the MCR will have collaborative groups of medical and public librarians meeting on a regular basis to form partnerships in order to provide consumer health information to the public more effectively.
3. The consumer health web page will be a known resource for all individuals wishing to start consumer health libraries or provide consumer health education within the MCR.
4. There will be demonstrable results reported on the public librarians' ability to provide consumer health information within the MCR.

## Education and Nebraska

By the end of the contract:

1. Health professionals, librarians, and consumers in Nebraska will be aware of and using health information resources to answer their information needs.
2. The RML will be viewed by health professionals, consumers, and network members in the region as a source of instruction and instructional assistance on health information resources.
3. Medical and public librarians will collaborate as they offer instruction on using NLM resources to their audiences.

4. We will identify the optimum level of support necessary for the education component to assist liaisons and Network members.
5. Network members and health educators will utilize asynchronous as well as synchronous education offerings developed by or promoted by the RML to instruct health professionals and consumers on using health information resources.

## Inner City Outreach and Special Populations

By the end of the contract:

1. We will have contributed to the reduction of health care disparities between the majority population and the ethnic/racial minority populations.
2. We will have worked with existing community organizations and with established, effective community gatekeepers to provide access to health information to minority populations.
3. We will have assisted in the recruitment and retention of minority racial/ethnic health care students.

## Library Improvement and Missouri

By the end of the contract:

1. We will have begun implementing a regional resource sharing and licensing plan that will provide broader access to medical and health-related electronic resources available to Resource Libraries and all members.
2. We will have a clear understanding of who our members are and how to better serve their needs.
3. We will have identified non-members, particularly hospitals that do not have libraries or access to information resources, and assist them in gaining access to needed resources and services.
4. We will provide current and new members adequate training on and technical support for DOCLINE and interlibrary lending, as well as the technologies to best utilize these services.

## Public Health and Utah

By the end of the contract:

1. We will have established relationships with and become a presence in the regional public health community.
2. We will have institutionalized the integration of knowledge skills in public health graduate programs.
3. We will have positively impacted access to public health information.

## Technology and Kansas

By the end of the contract:

1. All Network members in the state of Kansas, as well as other librarians and those involved in the transmission and dissemination of health information throughout the state, will know:
  - What the National Network of Libraries of Medicine is,
  - Who their NN/LM State Liaison is and how to contact this individual,
  - What services the NN/LM can provide,
  - What health information resources are available and how various groups can best use them.
2. Network members throughout the region will understand the ways in which technological change is transforming libraries and health care, including how these changes intersect and interact, and will have the skills and knowledge necessary to become technology leaders in their institutions.
3. Network members throughout the region will utilize both



synchronous and asynchronous communication technologies to improve communication and collaboration across the region.

4. The RML will be seen as a high-quality, responsive resource for technology information, projects, and questions.
5. The RML will connect people and institutions with compatible needs and knowledge.

## Wyoming

By the end of the contract:

1. Every Wyoming health organization and every library will know about health information resources and the services of the NN/LM-MCR.
2. In Wyoming, SERHOLD and DOCUSER records will be current, with training supplied to new personnel.
3. In Wyoming, regional centers for training sessions will be coordinated and utilized.
4. Health organizations will be able to access health information resources through links on their web sites.
5. Wyoming medical librarians and other information providers will be aware of networks to facilitate their information access.

—RML Staff

## Join the Wagon Train—Participate in LinkOut and EFTS

Network members across the MidContinental Region are blazing a trail to the future by participating in the PubMed LinkOut program and the Electronic Fund Transfer System (EFTS). Currently, 22 MCR libraries are connecting their patrons to their materials through LinkOut, and 21 libraries are saving time and money by using the EFTS system for their DOCLINE interlibrary loan invoices.

These pioneering librarians have scanned the horizon and seen that the future holds increasing demands on their services and staff. LinkOut and EFTS are two programs that can help libraries meet these new challenges.

If you would like to join the wagon train, your RML staff is available to be your scout along the way. If you have questions about either LinkOut or EFTS, please contact your state liaison or visit <http://nnlm.gov/mcr/technology> for LinkOut information and <http://library.uchc.edu/efts/> for more information on EFTS.

—RML Staff

## RML Activities at MCMLA 2002 Annual Meeting

Although the RML and the Midcontinental Chapter of the Medical Library Association (MCMLA) are two completely distinct and different entities, the MCMLA Annual Meeting is always a busy time for the RML staff. In addition to the Regional Advisory Board meeting, which is held the day before the MCMLA conference (complete story on page 2), RML staff are very active throughout the meeting as presenters, exhibitors, and participants.

### Three Continuing Education Classes

Three RML staff developed and taught continuing education classes during the conference. Stephanie Weldon, Consumer Health and

Colorado Liaison, taught a four-hour class titled Consumer Health Information to an enthusiastic group of librarians. Participants left class excited and armed with the information they needed to begin work in the growing consumer health area. Class materials for Stephanie's class can be found at <http://nnlm.gov/train/chi/sws.html>.



Stephanie Weldon leads consumer health class

learned about changes and updates to DOCLINE, DOCUSER, and SERHOLD, and found out more about the Electronic Fund Transfer System (EFTS). The class included a panel discussion and a question and answer session where participants learned from each other as well as from the instructor.

Whitney Davison-Turley, Technology and Kansas Liaison, led a two-hour class on personal digital assistants titled PDAs from A to Z: Personal Digital Assistants in the Medical Library. The class covered PDA hardware, software, and trends as well as highlighting a number of available health care applications. Library support of PDAs was also covered, with a "You can do this!" emphasis. Class materials for Whitney's class can be found at <http://nnlm.gov/mcr/technology/>.



Whitney Davison-Turley emphasizes a point during the PDA CE

had to link the names and titles of the various RML staff to twelve pictures on the board. Not only did the game help participants recognize the RML staff, but because the pictures were not the usual boring headshots, they also provided some insight into the RML staff's lives. From Michael Carr (Technology Director) rock climbing to Deb Sommer looking industrious at her desk, the photos provided a glimpse into the real people who staff the RML.

Visitors to the booth were also encouraged to update their DOCUSER records at the available computer station, and everyone who did received a MEDLINEplus screen sweep. DOCUSER records should be

Deb Sommer, Library Improvement and Missouri Liaison, taught DOCLINE: An Expert's Guide to Document Delivery, a four-hour class dealing with interlibrary loan issues. Class participants

### Interactive Exhibiting

Visitors to this year's RML booth had an interesting and interactive experience. First, all visitors were encouraged to play the *Who Does It in the RML?* game, where players

checked and updated each year, but this year a number of new fields had been added, making reviewing and updating the information even more important.

## RML Update

The RML Update was an interactive experience this year as well. Of course, since it was scheduled for 7:30 Tuesday morning—after the terrific “Western Fun Night” Monday evening—the Update had to be lively to keep attendees awake. The room was divided into two teams, and the liaisons each highlighted one of their major projects from the last year through a trivia game. Although the format only allowed for the briefest introduction to the RML’s current work, it provided an overview of the wide variety of projects currently underway.

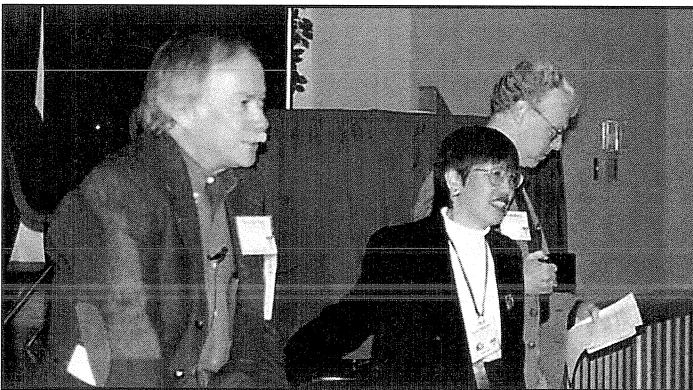


*RML Liaisons wait their turn at the RML Update*

## Participation

On top of all their official RML duties, the staff participated in the meeting in other ways. Teri Hartman, Education and Nebraska Liaison for the RML, was the 2001-2002 Chair of MCMLA, running meetings and carrying out the business of the Association. Claire Hamasu, Associate Director of the RML, tossed out beach balls and enticed everyone to attend the 2003 MLA conference in San Diego. And, throughout the conference, staff attended meetings and networked with colleagues—taking advantage of the same opportunities the MCMLA conference provides to everyone.

—W. Davison-Turley



*Wayne Peay, Claire Hamasu, and Jim Bothmer from Creighton wait for the RML Update to start. Jim announced that Siobhan Champ-Blackwell had been hired as the new Minority Outreach Liaison, located at Creighton.*

## Partner with Your RML to Offer CMEs

Thanks to joint sponsorship by the National Institutes of Health Foundation for the Advanced Education in the Sciences and the NN/LM Regional Medical Libraries, two PubMed courses and two consumer

health courses have been approved for continuing medical education credit by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education. With their efforts, even health science librarians not affiliated with a medical school or other CME accrediting organization may now offer these CME-approved courses.

The process to offer one of these courses is a structured one. To make the procedure easier, there is a step-by-step Checklist for CME Events available at <http://nnlm.gov/train/nlmsys/checklist.htm>. This list outlines the entire CME course process, from before the class is publicized until after the final packet of materials are gathered and sent in to the RML. Every step is necessary, making up the total educational event.

Complete materials for the CME-approved courses; including publicity, handouts, evaluations, and more are available at <http://nnlm.gov/train/nlmsys/>. The courses themselves are available in the Education Clearinghouse at <http://nnlm.gov/train>. In the Clearinghouse; Click on Search, Enter CME as a keyword, Click Search again.

There are many benefits to offering CME accreditation for PubMed or consumer health classes. The courses include outlines, objectives, publicity, and evaluations—everything needed to teach the complete class. Offering CME units can be an attendance booster. Finally, when librarians offer CME accreditation for their courses, they show health professionals the importance of participating in a health information learning event.

The accreditation process requires the Regional Medical Library to review and process the paperwork, but RML staff are also available to assist Network members throughout the entire process. For more information on conducting these courses or to begin the process of offering a CME-approved class, contact Teri Hartman, Education and Nebraska Liaison or talk with your state liaison.

—T. Hartman

## Training for NLM Databases Coming to MCR in 2003

In 2003, the National Training Center and Clearinghouse will offer training in the MidContinental Region on PubMed, the NLM Gateway, ClinicalTrials.gov, and TOXNET. Classes, dates, and registration deadlines are listed on page 7. Classes will be cancelled if the minimum required registration of 12 is not met by the registration deadline.

For more information on classes and content, visit the NTCC online at <http://nnlm.gov/mar/online/>. To register for classes, click on the Register Online link on the NTCC page, or call 1-800-338-7657 and select option two from the menu.

If there is a suitable lab in your city where NTCC training could be held and enough people are interested to make the training a success, please let us know. The NTCC requires at least ten computers for class participants and one computer for the instructor, all with Internet access. Projection equipment is also required. To suggest a location, please email Claire Hamasu.

—RML Staff