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What An Honor!

To all the members of the NNLM MidContinental Region, it has been an honor to know and work with you! Sixteen years ago I moved to Utah to manage the operations of the MidContinental Region (MCR) of the National Network of Libraries of Medicine (NNLM)). At that time, we were piloting a new operational model for the Regional Medical Library program, a distributed model.

On my first day of work I sent out the following message:

"Today is my first day as your Associate Director for the MidContinental Regional Medical Library program. I am thrilled to be here and am energized to be part of the team that will implement a new way of providing NN/LM services." I went on to encourage you, our members, to talk to staff and suggest ideas on how the RML can support you, knowing that our programming could only be improved with input from you. I also expressed an eagerness to meet you and to learn about your issues in providing services.

With the distributed model, key libraries in the region became partners in carrying out the mission of the NNLM and hired librarians whose responsibility was to plan and implement NNLM activities. The NNLM is essentially an outreach program and we knew that effective outreach is dependent on understanding the issues going on in each of our states, knowing

who can help address those issues, and building relationships to work on those issues together. Having a coordinator in each of our six states supports each of those outreach stages. A local coordinator increases the opportunities of meeting face-to-face. In these face-to-face meetings, which may be in your home library, the NNLM MCR coordinators get to know you better and you get to know them. I believe in the distributed model for this region. It is evident in our annual planning meeting that state coordinators assess whether the project area plans will work in their state and contribute changes necessary to make the plan work locally. All this helps when the NNLM MCR is trying to figure out how we can best support information access in the region. This has proven to be a successful model for providing NNLM services to the region.

Getting to know you was one of the best parts of my job. I have been impressed with the librarians in the region who have turned the challenges of a changing healthcare system and new technologies into opportunities to demonstrate how the expertise of librarians can improve their organization. A parting recommendation is to take advantage of the human strengths of the region. As a former solo hospital librarian, I know that I didn't always know what I should be doing. However there were innovators whose practices I could adopt to better work with my user population. The profession increases in strength when we share our expertise. The MidContinental Region has an abundance of innovative librarians. These librarians have facilitated the access to information by going all digital so that the library collection is available at the desktop, by increasing their search skills and learning what it takes to contribute to systematic reviews, by adding their expertise to institutional teams or committees charged with developing protocols and institutional guidelines to ensure quality patient care, by adding their research to help with cost effectiveness, by helping their organization capture and share their internal expertise through knowledge management and repositories, by partnering with their electronic health record team to integrate information resources, including the librarian, into the EHR. The list is inspiring. My wish for each of you is that you succeed in making yourself valuable to your institution and that you use your expertise, experience and energy to help your colleagues do the same. Innovating, seeking out ideas tested by your colleagues to implement in your own institution will help assure that my wish will come true. I have confidence that you are capable of tackling the challenges of the future and turning them into opportunities!

-Claire Hamasu

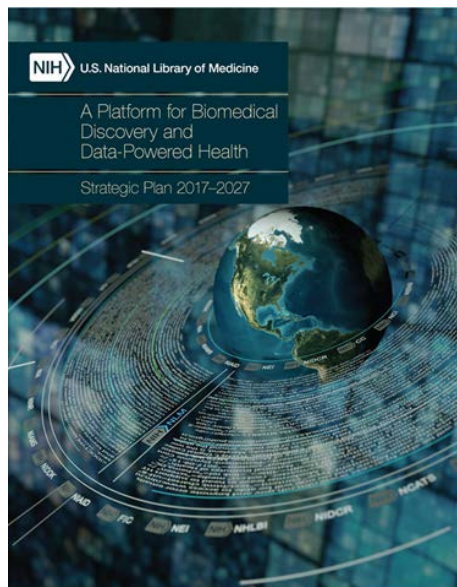## New NNLM MCR Associate Director Named

John Bramble has been named as the Associate Director of the NNLM MidContinental Region effective April 1, 2018.

Many of you already know and have worked with John through the MidContinental Region in one of his many roles, including, most recently, Interim Associate Director. Though his many years of experience are an asset, John also brings fresh eyes to our region. For those of you who aren't lucky enough to have worked with John yet, here's a brief bio!

John Bramble received his Bachelor of Sciences in Sociology at the University of Utah in 1999 and his Masters in Library and Information Science from Florida State University in 2003. He is currently in the Masters of Biomedical Informatics program at the University of Utah, with anticipated

graduation in 2019. John began his employ at the Spencer S. Eccles Health Sciences Library in 1998 as a staff member, became an adjunct faculty member in 2001, entered the faculty in 2003, and joined the National Network of Libraries of Medicine MidContinental Region (NNLM MCR) in 2006. He has worked for the NNLM MCR since that time, and was promoted to Research Associate Librarian in 2011 and full Research Librarian in 2016. Since January 2018, he has been serving as the Interim Associate Director of the NNLM MCR.

NLM Strategic Plan for 2017-2027

Dear Network Member:

I am pleased to present you with *A Platform for Biomedical Discovery and Data-Powered Health*, the NLM Strategic Plan for 2017-2027.

As it approaches its third century, the National Library of Medicine will do for data what it has done for the literature – create the tools to make it FAIR, guide the development of repositories to store it in a safe and accessible manner, and develop the linkages that makes seamless pathways between the literature, models, data, visualization tools, and people. The NLM will   play a critical role in driving the shift to data-powered research and the inherent growing demand for access to our resources. We will foster new kinds of scientific communication while preserving the world's biomedical knowledge in sustainable ways. In partnerships across NIH and around the world we will bring together the people and processes that create biomedical knowledge for health care, health, and economic growth.

This plan will guide us as we expand and enhance our research, development, training, and or literature and data resources to make more biomedical data easier to find, use, and understand. In doing so, we are fully committed to partnership with the National Network of Libraries of Medicine, the NIH Institutes and Centers, NIH grantees, scientists, health professionals, and members of the public.

Over 1700 NLM staff members, hundreds of national and international librarians, informatics professionals, biomedical scientists, data scientists, clinicians, public health specialists, and other stakeholders advised us as we charted a pathway for the next ten years. The National Network of Libraries of Medicine plays a key role in bringing the NLM to the scientific, clinical, and lay communities. We value its members as collaborators and look to a future of growth in outreach and impact.

Even though the plan is now in final form, I welcome your comments and advice, too, as we begin its implementation. I invite you to be our partner in the adventure.

Patricia Flatley Brennan, RN, PhD
Director
National Library of Medicine

GOAL 1	GOAL 2	GOAL 3
Accelerate discovery and advance health through data-driven research	**Reach more people in more ways through enhanced dissemination and engagement**	**Build a workforce for data-driven research and health**
1.1 Connect the resources of a digital research enterprise	2.1 Know NLM users and engage with persistence	3.1 Expand and enhance research training for biomedical informatics and data science
1.2 Advance research and development in biomedical informatics and data science	2.2 Foster distinctiveness of NLM as a reliable, trustable source of health information and biomedical data	3.2 Assure data science and open science proficiency
1.3 Foster open science policies and practices	2.3 Support research in biomedical and health information access methods and information dissemination strategies	3.3 Increase workforce diversity
1.4 Create a sustainable institutional, physical, and computational infrastructure	2.4 Enhance information delivery	3.4 Engage the next generation and promote data literacy

Introducing George Strawley

The NNLM MCR has named George Strawley as Community Engagement Coordinator for the All of Us National Program in the MidContinental Region.

Strawley will link interested community groups and others with public libraries to develop health information programs that primarily serve medically disadvantaged populations.

The All of Us Research Program is an ambitious, groundbreaking project that aims to gather health records, biomedical samples and real-time data from a million or more participants from populations typically underrepresented in biomedical research. The list of qualifying subjects include racial and ethnic minorities, those without insurance, residents of rural communities and seven other categories of people.

Their information will be kept in a privacy-protected database and tracked for at least 10 years. The data will be made available to researchers ranging from universities to citizen scientists.

Volunteers will be recruited through health provider organizations serving these communities. Interested people can also join directly at https://allofus.nih.gov/.

The National Library of Medicine and the NNLM are partnering with the National Institutes of Health, which oversees the entire program, to provide health information.

"Many in these communities need access to reliable information and help with health-literacy skills as much as they need research on the illnesses and conditions that affect them," said John Bramble, associate director of the MidContinental Region.

Strawley is the former director of the Uinta County Library in Evanston, Wyoming. He has also served as a community college librarian and in public library roles. He is an MLIS

graduate of the School of Communications, Information and Library Science at Rutgers University and also holds master's degrees in liberal arts and journalism.

A celebration kicking off the program will take place in seven cities across the country on Sunday, May 6, from noon to 5 p.m. The events will be linked by a single webcast. NNLM is hosting the launch event to take place at Union Station in Kansas City.

The Kansas City celebration will include free health screenings, music and dancing, and discounted admissions to the adjoining Science City, a family-friendly interactive science center.

View the launch celebration at https://launch.joinallofus.org/ or on Facebook Live.

Internet Security and Online Privacy Tools

Privacy and confidentiality are core values of health science librarians, but defending our patron and personal information from attacks has become increasingly difficult as technology advances. Health care networks are especially valuable targets for hackers – these systems collect personally identifiable information including health records, social security numbers, dates of birth, addresses, and much more. While our information security teams are the main defense against malicious actors, there's much we can do to protect our patrons and ourselves.

Sophisticated data breaches, like the one targeting the Equifax credit reporting system, are often in the news. However, it turns out that one of the biggest threats to internet security is right in your inbox. A recent study found that victims of a data breach are 10 times likelier to have their accounts hijacked than a random user, but phishing victims are 400 times as likely to have their account hijacked.

Phishing is the use of fraudulent websites or e-mails that trick individuals into providing secure information or access to their system. A phishing e-mail may look like a request from a reliable source such as your bank, a colleague, even the IT department. These e-mails may provide a link to a login page that only appears to be legitimate or ask you to download an attached file that gives scammers access to your computer or network. A Verizon report found that over 10% of health care employees are susceptible to phishing. Once scammers have access to your email or other accounts, they can then use that to access additional accounts, target your colleagues, family and friends, and/or infect your computer or network. You likely won't know you've been compromised until it's too late.

Most organizations have filters that block obvious phishing attempts and questionable websites, but vigilance is the best defense from these attacks. The following tips and tools can be used to protect yourself and your patrons:

General Email Safety – Be cautious when opening email attachments or clicking on a link. If you're unsure whether an email is legitimate, reach out to the company or individual directly instead of following the link in their email.

Secure Passwords and Password Management Software – Use strong passwords and never reuse a password across accounts. This protects your other accounts when one account is compromised. Password management tools help you generate and securely save your passwords.

Multi-factor identification – Instead of only requiring passwords or the answer to security questions when logging in, many sites can now turn on a feature with an additional layer of security called multi- or two-factor identification. This way, you will receive a text or call with a code that must be entered before allowing you to access your account. It's strongly recommended that you utilize this feature whenever available.

Ad Blockers – These browser extensions not only stop annoying pop up ads and hide visible ads from web sites, but they also stop the ads from using cookies to track your online activities.

Private Search Engines – Unlike most search engines, these sites don't track your history to create a user profile or send you targeted ads. Some examples of private search engines include:

- DuckDuckGo
- Searx
- StartPage

HTTPS Everywhere – This browser extension is a collaboration between the The Tor Project and the Electronic Frontier Foundation. It forces sites to use a more secure HTTPS connection if available and warns you if a site is not using HTTPS.

Secure Browsers – Web Browsers like Internet Explorer, Google Chrome, and Safari often make it easy for users to be profiled and tracked based on their online activities. A secure browser, like Mozilla Firefox or Tor, is instead built with privacy as the top concern. The Library Freedom Project has many resources online to learn how to use the Tor browser and even set up a Tor Relay at your library.

Virtual Private Network (VPN) – A VPN encrypts your internet connection so that your online activity is not linked to your IP address. Some free VPNs have been linked to commercial tracking and more malicious behavior, so use caution when considering this approach.

For additional information, review the Online Safety page from USA.gov.

-Alicia Lillich, Kansas/Technology Coordinator

Member Services Musings

NNLM members have lots of things on their minds and we've arranged reminders for a few things that Member Services think would be helpful:

Membership Renewals

You probably know that this past spring the MidContinental Region began its online renewal drive. We recently finished the drive after follow-up contacts by state coordinators. We were able to renew almost 200 members. Those memberships will remain current until the end of our cooperative agreement period on May 1, 2021. If you missed the renewal opportunity you still may do so by contacting your state coordinator or Jim Honour, Member Services Coordinator. There is no fee to renew and your active participation is not required.

NNLM Members Directory

All NNLM member organizations now have ability to access and edit their data in the NNLM Members Directory . We encourage every member organization to authorize a liaison to login, review and update their record. All members who renewed online were provided with information on how to access their organization's data. If you have not yet received access and wish to edit your organization's record, please read on.

Review your organization's record:

Go to the NNLM Members Directory home page to search for your organization and review its information on the "public" side. Each organization's record may include address, county, telephone, website, organization type and contact (liaison) and their email address.
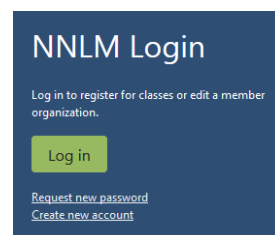
Each member organization should designate an individual to act as the official contact or liaison.

If you aren't able to locate your organization in the Members Directory, please contact the RML for assistance.

Create a user account:

To make updates to your organization record you will need an individual User Account.

- Click here to create a User Account. You will also find a link to create an account at the bottom of every NNLM web page.
- Complete the form.
- Organization Field – find your organization typing in the field. If you aren't able to find your organization, contact the RML for assistance.
- Role/Position – check all appropriate categories. You must select "NNLM Liaison" to have organizational record editing access.
- You will receive an email confirmation message a few days after submitting your application for approval. You will then be prompted to create and submit a password.

The NNLM User tutorials page contains a video with instructions for editing your organization's data in the directory. You'll be able to edit your organizational record by logging in.

DOCLINE users please note that any edits done in DOCLINE institutional records no longer automatically update their organizational data in the Members Directory.

Training

Your NNLM User Account also allows you to register for NNLM classes (all free.) Consult the Training Schedule for upcoming classes offered by the NNLM.

Involvement

We stated at the beginning of this article that members are not required to participate. For those who want to actively participate we have many opportunities to be involved in support of NNLM MCR programming. Members can collaborate in many projects and areas. Some

members teach, write articles, make presentations, conduct research, serve on working or leadership groups, exhibit, etc. Working in our program areas is a handy way to perform service and also earn AHIP points. Contact your state coordinator to see how you can be involved. We always are glad that members are finding ways to participate in our programs!

MedPrint

The U.S. National Library of Medicine (NLM) and the National Network of Libraries of Medicine (NN/LM) are continuing their partnership in the quest to preserve print copies of biomedical journal titles through the medical serials print retention program (MedPrint.)

Medical libraries and publishers adjusted to user demands for immediate access to articles around the clock by providing digitized articles with ease by providing robust electronic access. Pressure is also being applied to medical libraries to cede space by their hosting institutions and thus forcing libraries to reduce or completely eliminate their print holdings in favor of electronic only subscriptions. While this development of easy electronic access was and is celebrated by users, it also alarmed those in the library community. Libraries across the country have committed titles to MedPrint. The NLM needs at least 12 libraries committed to each title and regrettably many titles have commitments from fewer than 10 libraries. There are 3 titles on the list with no libraries committing to them.

What does a non-participating library need to do to sign-on to the program? Review the information on the MedPrint homepage. DOCLINE libraries are able to participate. You may have been thinking about participating for a while. Now is the time to take action! We're always happy to answer any of your questions!

If you have questions about any content, in this article, I'm more than happy to help you.

–Jim Honour, NN/LM MCR Member Services Coordinator

Immersive Workshops

MCR has funding available for Immersive Workshops. The funding seeks to support a library (up to $14,000) in developing and hosting a multi-day professional development event that trains participants to improve health information access. The event must be interprofessional and include librarians. The event should reach out to multiple institutions and have regional (or even national) appeal.

The workshop activities should achieve the following:

1. Increase the awareness of how different professionals can contribute to addressing a health information access challenge.
2. Increase knowledge and skills in a significant area of health information access.
3. Enable workshop participants to immediately implement the content of the workshop
4. Enable workshop participants to be change agents within their institution.

For more information, visit the Immersive Workshop funding page.

Thus far this fiscal year, MCR has awarded funding for two immersive workshops – one to Children's Mercy Kansas City for a April 2018 workshop and one to Eccles Health Science

Library for a June 2018 workshop. Each workshop organizer has put together a quick summary on their upcoming event…

Health Literacy Challenges and Opportunities: Bringing Children's Mercy and Kansas City Together

Submitted by Jennifer Lyon

Children's Mercy Kansas City (CM) hosted an immersive, interprofessional workshop in April, 2018 designed to educate participants on health literacy, improve the delivery of health information to healthcare consumers, and foster collaborative opportunities. Day One of the 2-day workshop was open to the Kansas City community, with over 25 healthcare, literacy, public health, public library and other related organizations invited to send representatives to join Children's Mercy personnel. Dr. Ruth Parker of Emory University will be the keynote speaker, accompanied by local speakers on literacy in the Kansas City context, the social determinants of health, and the impact of cultural, religious, language, numeracy and digital access factors. Additionally, large and small group activities provided attendees with opportunities to meet and interact with each other. The open community day will be followed by a second day that focuses on targeted groups of hospital employees for whom the application of health literacy practices in patient care is a vital responsibility. These include quality care coordinators, unit and allied health educators, library staff, and Health Literacy and Patient Education Committee members. Their additional training wasbe supplemented by interactive, hands-on practice sessions and brainstorming exercises intended to develop and initiate internal hospital-supported health literacy pilot projects. Hospital employees involved in conducting these projects were encouraged to reach back out to the previous day's external participants to create community-wide health literacy initiatives.

Building Research Integrity Through Reproducibility

Submitted by Mellanye Lackey and Tisha Mentnech

The Eccles Health Science Library at the University of Utah is hosting a 5-day immersive course on Building Research Integrity Through Reproducibility June 11-15, 2018. Days 1-4 of the course will provide an opportunity to explore the issues of research reproducibility in-depth in a seminar-type setting, followed by hands-on sessions where participants will learn actionable, practical solutions to make their own work more reproducible. Day 5 will be a conference with internationally-known guest speakers, panelists, a poster session, networking and more. Participants will include librarians and interdisciplinary researchers from biomedicine, basic sciences, philosophy, engineering, informatics, clinical practice, nursing and many more. This is a unique opportunity for librarians to engage in the dynamic, rapidly-evolving conversation around reproducibility so that they may be leaders in efforts to increase reproducibility on their campuses.