

As 2020 comes to an end, this *Express* issue reminds us that despite all the challenges of the year, MCMLA Members are resilient, creative, and talented.

We celebrate this year's accomplishments as we look ahead to the possibilities of 2021.

In this issue:

New MCMLA Chair, Melissa De Santis, [discusses the Chapter's 2020–2021 goals](#).

Susan Swogger and Elizabeth Frakes, 2020 Annual Meeting Co-Chairs, [take a look back at the conference and share highlights](#).

MCMLA Secretary, Dana Abbey, [provides a detailed summary of October's Annual Business Meeting](#).

We celebrate [Teri Hartman and Heather Brown who were honored with awards at the conference](#),

Amanda Sprochi reports on the [papers and posters presented at the 2020 Conference](#) and spotlights the award winning presentations.

Cindi Flanagan introduces us to [new MCMLA Members Laura Lipke and Amy Masek](#).

Dave Castelli provides some much-needed levity with [library-inspired haiku](#).

We close this final issue of 2020 by [highlighting the work and accomplishments of our Members](#).

On a final note, **Amanda Sprochi**, J. Otto Lottes Health Science Library, University of Missouri, is handing over the reins after 10 years as *The Express* editor. Thank you, Amanda, for all your work and dedication. Luckily, Amanda has agreed to remain on as a member of the Publications Committee and will continue to help keep Members informed of MCMLA happenings. Thanks again, Amanda.



Warmest
wishes this
holiday season!



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Notes from the Chair

By Melissa De Santis, MCMLA Chair; edited by Katie Dayani

November 2020 was the beginning of my one-year term as Chair of MCMLA. As I mentioned when I received the virtual gavel from Shandra Knight, I'm honored to have this opportunity, and I'm looking forward to working with you.

As Chair, I'm responsible for making sure MCMLA continues making progress with our Strategic Plan. MCMLA's current strategic plan was approved by the membership at our Annual Meeting in October 2017 and has seven areas of focus. This year MCMLA will be focusing on two areas: Member Engagement and Continuing Education & Professional Development.



Member Engagement

- Complete the addition to the Policies and Procedures Manual where every MCMLA Committee describes in-detail the work of the committee. This will make it easier for the next committee chair as well as make committee work less intimidating.

- Implement MCMLA's instance of Office 365 as a central location for

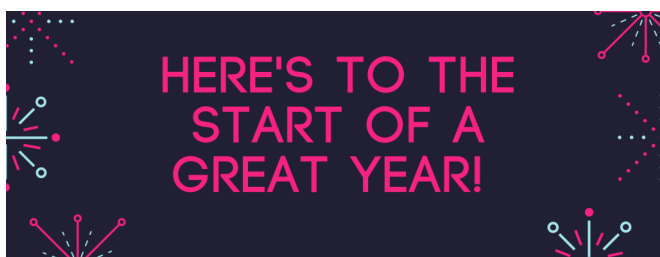
MCMLA Officers and Committees to save their work. This will aid with communication and continuity of operations.

- As Chair, I will send a monthly update to MCMLA. This will aid in communication to the membership of work the Chapter is doing.
- The Membership Committee will relaunch the Mentoring program. This will help members connect with each other.
- The Diversity & Inclusion Task Force will build on the work they started last year. They make recommendations to assist MCMLA on potential actions to make everyone feel included.

Continuing Education & Professional Development

- The Education Committee will survey the membership to learn what topics are of interest to members for professional development.
- The Education Committee will also look at options to provide professional development in new ways, possible shorter sessions, or at a variety of times throughout the year.

All of us get to determine what MCMLA is. As members, we get to shape the activities and resources the Chapter provides. I encourage you to respond to Chapter surveys and provide feedback so that MCMLA will meet your needs.



2020 Annual Meeting Recap

By Susan E. Swogger, MLIS, and Elizabeth Frakes, MSIS, AHIP, 2020 Chapter Meeting Co-Chairs;
edited by Nina McHale

The 2020 Joint Chapter Meeting of the Midcontinental and Midwest Chapters was held on October 14-16 via Zoom. A total of 249 registered participants, all of whom enjoyed a registration fee of \$25. The conference website is hosted on the Midwest Chapter's web space at <http://midwestmla.org/virtual2020/>

The 2020 annual meeting was always intended to be virtual for MCMLA, but the sudden arrival of the pandemic sparked a number of changes. The Midwest Chapter joined us in May 2020 to plan a joint virtual conference. Their original plan to hold an in-person conference became impossible, and fortuitously, the two chapters were already in the planning stages of a joint conference for 2021. It was therefore an easy decision to invite them to join us online for 2020, and the addition brought a great deal of positive energy and an expansion of programming. The subsequent changes in format to accommodate an expanded number of participants encouraged the planning committee to innovate with broadened programming. This included recruiting nationally-recognized speakers; to enabling wider attendance by drastically reducing registration costs; and developing a model that can be repurposed and applied to future virtual conferences as either individual or joint ventures for both chapters.



Some key features of the conference:

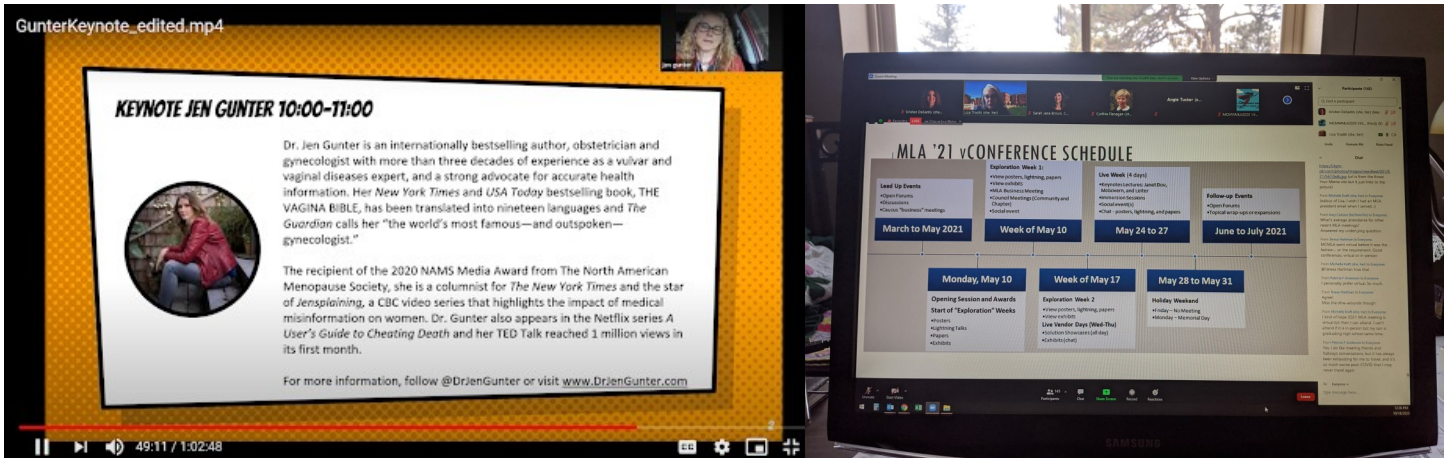
The registration fee included the single credit CE course *Librarian to the Rescue! Serving your Emergency Management Team's Information Needs before, during, and after a Disaster*, offered by Teri Hartman. This session was held the first day of the conference and was well-attended, as could be expected for such a timely topic.

The conference was headlined by keynote speaker Dr. Jen Gunter. Dr. Gunter is an internationally bestselling author and obstetrician and gynecologist with more than three decades of experience as a vulvar and vaginal diseases expert. Her New York Times and USA Today bestselling book, *The Vagina Bible*, has been translated into nineteen languages, and The Guardian has named her “the world’s most famous—and outspoken—gynecologist.” Dr. Gunter graciously waived her speaker fee in lieu of purchasing digital copies of *The Vagina Bible* for all attending library school students, and a drawing was offered for copies for all other participants.

Other programming of note included updates from Lisa Traditi, current President of the Medical Library Association, and from the National Library of Medicine Regional Medical Libraries, presented by representatives for the Greater Midwest and Midcontinental Regions. There were two paper sessions, two lightning talk sessions, and a poster session. The poster session was offered via the collaborative workplace Flipgrid, with scheduled time for viewing.

Two well-attended panel sessions were offered by a mix of librarians and other professionals. The first, a panel presentation on health sciences librarianship for early career librarians and library students, quickly evolved into an open conversation about the topic with broad participation. Nena Schvanaveldt acted as moderator for librarians Lisa Traditi, Kate Anderson, Nicole Strayhorn, and Elizabeth Kiscaden. The second panel focused on health information literacy and addressing health disparities, with panelists Christian Minter, Anna Wirta Kosobuski, Emily Vardell, and Lakesha Kinnerson.

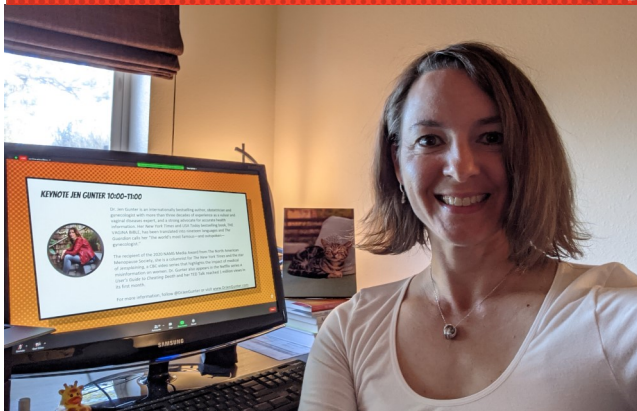
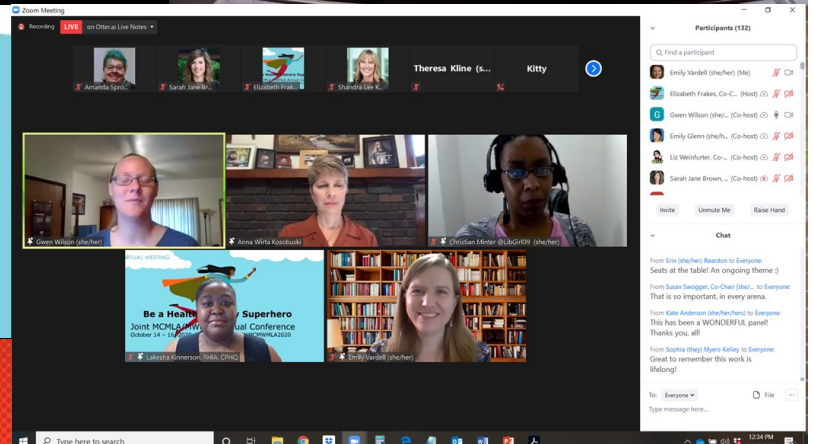
The conference proceedings will be archived in MCMLA's archival space in the Strauss Health Sciences Library's Mountain Scholar repository (<https://library.cuanschutz.edu/mountain-scholar>), where they will be accessible to both participating conferences.



VIRTUAL MEETING

Be a Health Literacy Superhero
 Joint MCMLA/MWMLA Annual Conference
 October 14 – 16/2020 #MCMWMLA2020

VOTE FOR THE VIEWER'S CHOICE AWARDS!
<http://bit.ly/mcmwmla2020viewerschoice>
 Voting closes at 2:00pm Central



MID-CONTINENTAL CHAPTER OF THE MEDICAL LIBRARY ASSOCIATION
 ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING
 16 OCTOBER 2020

Shandra Lee ...

Wladimir Lab...

Cynthia Flanaga...

MIDWEST CHAPTER
MLA
 ILLINOIS • INDIANA • IOWA • KENTUCKY • MICHIGAN
 MINNESOTA • NORTH DAKOTA • OHIO • WISCONSIN

Annual Business Meeting Highlights - October 16, 2020

By Dana Abbey, MCMLA Secretary; edited by Jerry Carlson

Chair Shandra Knight welcomed the members, especially new members, thanked conference co-chairs Elizabeth Frakes and Susan Swogger; conference consultant Emily Glenn; Nancy Woelfl as the Chapter's Parliamentarian since 1993, and Gwen Wilson as incoming Parliamentarian (2021); Amanda Sprochi, *Express* editor for the last 10 years, and Katie Dayani as incoming editor; and our exhibitors and sponsors.

Honors & Awards Committee member Dave Castelli presented the Bernice M. Hetzner to Heather Brown and the Outstanding Achievement Award to Teri Hartman. There were 7 nominations for the Star Program (<https://www.mcmla.org/stars>): Melissa De Santis*, Kristen DeSanto*, Alissa Fial, Debra Loguda Summers, Lisa Traditi*, Gwen Wilson, and Nancy Woelfl. (* = winners in the random drawing for a \$20 Amazon gift card)

More winners:

MCMWMLA Viewers Choice Winners (winners receive \$50 check)

Best Research Poster: Authors: Jennifer Brady, Shandra Knight, Brenda Linares, Emily Vardell, Yumin Jian, and Maggie Shawcross – *Distinctiveness in MCMLA: A Regional Study by the Diversity and Inclusion (D&I) Task Force*.

Best Research Paper: Author: Donna Ziegenfuss - *Revisiting the Value of Qualitative Research Strategies in the Time of COVID-19: Using Public Narrative Data as a Lens for Understanding Health Literacy Challenges*.

Best Lightning Talk: Author: Kristen DeSanto - *Using Spreadsheet Formulas for Translation of Search Strategies*.

MCMLA Research Program winners (Presented by Wlad Labeikovsky):

Best Poster/Lightening Talk: Author: Cynthia Flanagan – *Big Things in Small Packages: Using Data from Targeted Emails to Facilitate More Concise and Impactful Information Delivery*.

Best Research Paper: Authors: Emily Vardell and Ting Wang – *Health Insurance Literacy Superheroes: Exploring Public Librarian Affordable Care Act Outreach*.

Research Stipend: Christi Piper and Samantha Wilairat for their project "MLIS Graduate Students' Interest in and Perception of Graduate Employment in Health Sciences Librarianship (1st year this has been awarded.).

Advocacy Drawing Winners for Advocacy Challenge: (selected at random) Diane Johnson, Liz Kellermeier, Brenda Linares, and Nena Schvaneveldt will each receive a \$100 Amazon gift card.

MLA/MCMLA Free Membership Drawing

MLA Membership: Sara Motsinger (certificate will be sent)

MCMLA Membership: Lisa Traditi (certificate will be sent)

The Diversity & Inclusion Task Force gave a presentation on their work over the last year, which was followed by discussion and unanimous adoption of the D&I Statement published in the summer *Express*. Task Force chair Brenda Linares stated that data collection and a follow up survey will determine where change occurred.

Shandra reported that we had some great committees and committee members:

Advocacy – Led by Emily Eresuma, the committee did a great job getting membership involved with their advocacy challenges (\$25 Amazon gift card winners included Jennifer Brady, Prasanna Vaduvathiriyen, and Shawn Steidinger). Ongoing projects include improving and marketing the website, creating a toolbox advocating for travel and professional development, starting an Instagram account for MCMLA, revising the Advocacy goals and updating the Policies and Procedures document.

Annual Business Meeting Highlights, cont.

Archives Working Group – Led by Jessica Gerber, they digitized and processed MCMLA physical archive. The group continues to ingest MCMLA born digital materials and started making MCMLA PDFs accessible. The group is planning to publish the MCMLA Proceedings in Mountain Scholar. Ongoing they continue to process and digitize remaining documents and photographs from the MCMLA archive.

Bylaws – Co-chaired by Danielle Westmark and Holly Hubenschmidt, the committee continues to monitor MCMLA and MLA business for future bylaws changes. In the process of creating a helpful FAQ document for Committee Chairs and member use.

MLA Chapter Credentialing Liaison – Shawn Steidinger contributed to the MCMLA Express newsletter. She notified MCMLA membership of the Chapter's AHIP award program (Christy Piper achieved Senior AHIP level). Going forward, she wants to develop a regular schedule for the newsletter, email and blog contributions to highlight AHIP program to MCMLA members, continue to market the AHIP First Time Applicant Award and Renew at a Higher Level Award, and recognize awardees.

Diversity and Inclusion (D/I) Task Force – Executive Committee Representative Jennifer Brady worked to send out a survey to MCMLA membership and the Task Force entered a poster for presentation of the survey results at the Annual Meeting. Ongoing work includes a second survey with possible incentives to garner more participation, and to build on the answers to recommend D/I focused education and member engagement.

Education – Chaired by Karen Newmeyer. The committee organized this year's CE taught by Teri Hartman titled *Librarian to the rescue! Serving your emergency management team information needs before, during and after an emergency.*

Finance – Chaired by Jackie Hittner. The committee worked with the website manager to provide an option to donate to the endowment fund when renewing membership. They also created a marketing plan for the annual endowment fundraising drive to be held prior to the chapter's annual meeting. They published three Express articles highlighting members who made endowment donations, and two articles explaining MCMLA finances. The committee submitted necessary IRS forms, but postponed the audit of the chapter finances to the pandemic. Three members received \$20 Amazon gift cards for donating to the endowment fund - Dana Abbey, Danielle Westmark, and Jeanne Burke.

Honors and Awards – Chaired by Rose Frederick, they bestowed 2 awards at the annual meeting and randomly selected free meeting registration winners.

MCMLA Discussion List – Lead by Holly Henderson, the committee continued maintenance and management of the chapter discussion lists – one for membership and one for the executive committee.

Membership – Chaired by Alissa Fial. The committee has done a great job of getting new members and revamping the Mentorship program. They developed a check list for mentor/mentees to provide guidelines for expectations. They continue to reach out to new members and share their stories in the Express. And they developed a webinar for students and early career librarians about a career in the health sciences.

Member/Committee Engagement Task Force – Chaired by Heather Brown. The group took on the monumental task of compiling membership survey results in order to make several recommendations for revising and updating the Policies and Procedures Manual.

Nominating – Chaired by Rebecca Graves. The committee ran a successful election, filling five positions (Chair Elect, Secretary, Chapter Council Representative, Chapter Council Alternate, and MLA Nominating Committee).

Publications – Chaired by Amanda Sprochi. Three issues of the Express were published. The committee prepared a template for publishing the Annual Meeting Proceedings and recruited a new Editor, Katie Dayani.

Research – Chaired by Wlad Labeikovskiy. The committee put together a great slate of presentation, posters and lightning talks. In total, there were 3 papers and 8 lightning talks. The committee also created a committee manual for inclusion into the Policies and Procedures manual and updated relevant chapter web content.

MCMLA Web Editor – Tisha Mentnech worked to update the payment system through Wild Apricot, and she arranged for a pilot with Microsoft 365 for use as a document sharing tool for committees.

Annual Business Meeting (cont.)

In her Chair Report Shandra acknowledged the many struggles and challenges we are living through. With many dark events, there were many bright lights. The priorities she outlined back in October 2019:

- Priority 1: Community Engagement – build on work started by Heather with the Community Engagement survey, committee assessments, and recommendations.
- Priority 2: Annual Meeting – work in progress, rotation to include a rotation of a combined meeting, reviewing the recommendations for the 2021 annual meeting and regular rotation for a joint meeting. Need to appoint a long-term meeting advisor. Adopt annual meeting policies and procedures. Brenda Linares will decide on the structure of next year's conference.
- Lisa Traditi. asked if we could have or plan a meeting with all the chapters in the new NNLM regions.
- Priority 3: Advocacy – The Advocacy Committee moved away from a focus on national issues and library closures to a model of self-promotion at the institutional level.
- Priority 4: Diversity and Inclusion (D/I) Task Force – Established the Task Force, developed and proposed the MCMLA D/I Statement, and adopted annual meeting statements and policies.

Shandra passed the gavel to Incoming Chair Melissa De Santis, who thanked Shandra for her leadership this year and has sent a virtual gift certificate, and outlined her 2020 – 2021 Priorities, aligned with 2 of the 6 areas of our strategic plan:

Member Engagement – declining member numbers are not unique to us, it's universal across member organizations. We are all busy and stretched thin, and we may wonder what benefits MCMLA brings. Melissa wants members and potential members to know the relevancy of the work MCMLA is doing and how they can contribute. Focus on survey results, continue to act on recommendations from the survey. With the update to the Policies and Procedure manual, committees will have a way to share more about the work they are doing. Also implementing Office 365 for continuity of committee documents. Melissa plans to connect with the membership frequently. She sees the Mentorship Program as a way to engage new and existing members and would like to see the work of the Diversity and Inclusion Task Force continue and perhaps transition to a standing committee.

Continuing Education and Professional Development – Melissa would like to survey members to find out what topics are of most interest to them, and the most preferred time and format for the education.

She closed with remarks that MCMLA is not one person, we get to shape the organization. She encourages members to connect with her via [email](#).

Brown, Hartman Awarded at Annual Meeting

By the MCMLA Honors and Awards Committee; edited by Nina McHale

Members Teri Hartman and Heather Brown were honored at the 2020 Joint MCMLA & MWMLA Virtual Meeting.

The Hetzer Award, established in 1991 in honor of Bernice M. Hetzner, Library Director and Professor Emeritus at the University of Nebraska Medical Center, recognizes an academic health sciences librarian who has achieved a high level of professional accomplishment, displaying leadership and innovation at local, chapter, and national levels.

Heather Brown, this year's recipient of the Bernice M.



Hetzer Award, has been a member of our chapter since 2004, serving on numerous committees as member, chair, and as an elected officer, co-chairing MCMLA's first virtual meeting and serving as Chapter Chair. She has also been recognized on a national level, having served as member and chair on 12 MLA

committees and juries, been awarded a Certificate of Advanced Studies in Health Sciences Librarianship, recognized as an MLA Rising Star, and earning AHIP Distinguished Member status. Her dedication through teaching, research, and service has led to her promotion to Associate Professor and Associate Dean for Collection Services. Her hard work and leadership have advanced our chapter and our profession. Congratulations, Heather!

The Outstanding Achievement Award honors an MCMLA member for contributions to the profession, to the goals and objectives of the chapter, and to health sciences or hospital libraries. This year's recipient, Teri Hartman, is known for her innovation and leadership in discovering new opportunities for library involvement. Just a few examples include being a founding co-chair of the Education Technology Collaboration, serving on the Editorial Board of the *AMA Journal of Ethics*, and her involvement with UNMC's iLead initiative, the UNMC Faculty Senate, and the Association of American Medical Colleges. She notably worked with the UNMC Disaster Information Management Research Center in the wake of the 2019 floods, ultimately becoming a member of the UNMC Incident Command Team. She is known for her networking and deep involvement as a library liaison, such as taking the lead in integrating the library and information literacy into the College of Medicine's new curriculum. The breadth of her accomplishments is impressive and represents significant contributions to the profession and health sciences libraries. Congratulations, Teri!



MCMLA Research Shines at Virtual Conference

By Amanda Sprochi, MCMLA editor

The hard work of MCMLA members was on display at the 2020 Virtual Meeting. Here is a listing of papers and posters given by members this year.

Papers and presentations:

“Health Insurance Literacy Superheroes: Exploring Public Librarian Affordable Care Act Outreach.”

Emily Vardell and Ting Wang, Emporia State University School of Library and Information Management.

This study explored how public librarians across the US in a variety of contexts (i.e., rural, suburban, and urban settings) help their patrons improve health insurance literacy by hosting health-related events in their libraries and promoting easy-to-read resources on the Affordable Care Act.

*Winner of the MCMLA Research Program Best Research Paper

“A Hospital Library Partnership to Develop Diversity and Inclusion Programming.” Liz Kellermeyer, National Jewish Health.

The purpose of this project was to build a partnership between a hospital library and a larger health institution to enhance diversity-related educational opportunities and resources for their communities. The hospital librarian received a grant that supported two related projects: 1) funding for educational sessions on diversity, inclusion, and equity topics, and 2) a Diversity & Inclusion (D&I) print collection.

“Revisiting the Value of Qualitative Research Strategies in the Time of COVID-19: Using Public Narrative Data as a Lens for Understanding Health Literacy Challenges.” Donna Ziegenfuss, University of Utah.

COVID-19 exposes serious gaps and inequity in our healthcare and support systems. In order to navigate this explosion of medical and scientific COVID-19 information, rethinking strategies for health literacy skills development becomes even more important. Scientists and healthcare workers focus on fighting the pandemic quantitatively, but as a qualitative research, I view COVID-19 through a different lens. My research questions focus on people’s perceptions and lived experiences of COVID-19 impacts, and how these sociocultural findings could be used to help librarians improve health literacy outreach.

*Winner of the Viewer’ Choice Award for Best Research Paper

Lightning Talks:

“Establishing a Cross-Departmental, Team Based Oral History Program.” Heather Brown and Larissa Kraye, University of Nebraska Medical Center.

This paper describes the development of a team approach in building an oral history program that is focused on the history of the institution and its people and retrospectively process previously conducted histories in to current ar-

chival and oral history standards.

“Intermountain Librarian Avengers Assemble – Combining Libraries to Create a More Accessible and Relevant Library Space.” Ashley Bassett, Emily Eresuma, and Dave Castelli, Intermountain Healthcare.

How can a unified library system at Intermountain Healthcare more effectively serve its patrons? By creating a unified system and a better virtual environment, the library is more nimble and prepared to support the organization as it grows.

“Digital Repository Initiatives for Researchers, Students, and Faculty.” Jessica Gerber, University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus.

The Mountain Scholar Working Group has been working on different initiatives to increase use of materials and amount of materials deposited into the Strauss Library digital repository, Mountain Scholar . This lightning talk discusses these initiatives and also will cover the largest current project, accessibility changes for digital repositories.

“Addressing Systemic Racism through Collection Development: Providing Social Justice Education Resources Pertaining to BIPOC Communities.” Jessica King, University of Nebraska Medical Center.

The McGoogan Health Sciences Library sought ways to support the black community and provide education on the experiences of Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC). One of the many responses from our library was the creation of an online Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion guide to educate our users and ourselves on anti-racism and the racism that BIPOC communities experience daily. The results to date have included positive feedback through email, positive verbal feedback during various unrelated campus meetings, and more than 1,200 guide views in the less than two months since its creation (making it one of our most viewed library guides). Considering these preliminary results, we believe that our users have a high level of interest in these topics and consider our guide a success.

[Eds. Note: Jessica has shared her list of titles with MCMLA due to overwhelming interest. You can [access it here.](#)]

“Using Spreadsheet Formulas for Translation of Search Strategies.” Kristen DeSanto, University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus.

This lightning talk demonstrated a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet template that uses concatenation formulas to add database-specific syntax to free text search terms, in order to translate search strategies across different databases.

*Winner of the Viewer’s Choice Award for Best Lightning Talk

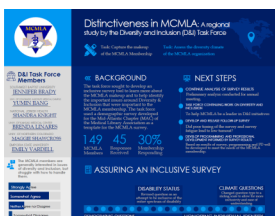
Papers and Posters (cont'd)

“Big Things in Small Packages: Using Data from Targeted Emails to Facilitate More Concise and Impactful Information Delivery.” Cynthia Flanagan, University of Missouri Kansas City.

As a clinical medical librarian at the University of Missouri Kansas City, I send regular targeted emails to medical students on their internal medicine docent rotation in Truman Medical Center. I would like to determine the types of article or information the students find most relevant and clinically useful, in order to create more compact targeted emails with greater impact.

*Winner of the MCMLA Research Program Best Poster/Lightning Talk

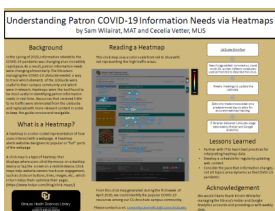
Posters: (click to enlarge)



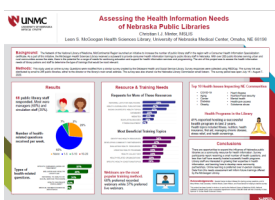
“Distinctiveness in MCMLA: a regional study by the Diversity 7 Inclusion (D&I) Task Force.” Jennifer Brady, Southwest Baptist University, Yumin Jiang, University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus, Shandra

Knight, National Jewish Health, Brenda Linares, University of Kansas Medical Center, Maggie Shawcross, University of Northern Colorado, Emily Vardell, Emporia State University.

*Winner of the Viewer's Choice Award for Best Poster



“Understanding Patron COVID-19 Information Needs via Heatmaps.” Sam Wilairat and Cecelia Vetter, University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus.



“Assessing the Health Information Needs of Nebraska Public Libraries.” Christian I.J. Minter, University of Nebraska Medical Center.

Panelists:

Early Career Panel: Kate Anderson, University of Missouri, Elizabeth Kiscaden, Creighton University, Christian I.J. Minter, Emily Vardell, Emporia State University.

MCMLA Research Stipend Awardees:

Christi Piper and Samantha Wilairat, for their project **“MLIS Graduate Students' Interest in and Perception of Graduate Employment in Health Sciences Librarianship.”** (1st year this has been awarded.).

**MCMLA AND THE
MIDWEST CHAPTER ARE
JOINING FORCES AGAIN
FOR THE 2021 ANNUAL
VIRTUAL MEETING**

**LOOK FOR A CALL FOR
VOLUNTEERS AND
MORE DETAILS SOON!**

**SAVE
THE
DATE(S)**

**CLEAR YOUR
SCHEDULE FOR THE
WEEK OF
OCTOBER 11-15,
2021**

New Member Spotlight

By Cindi Flanagan, Membership Committee; edited by Nina McHale

Laura Lipke, MS, MLS



What is your position title?

Medical Liaison Librarian, Kirksville College of Osteopathic Medicine at AT Still University (ATSU-KCOM).

What do you like most about the library and information science field so far?

I love that I learn something new every day! The field of information science is challenging and ever evolving, which provides continual opportunities for learning.

What do you like most about MCMLA so far?

I have only become a member in October, but I look forward to meeting members and gaining new colleagues.

What do you hope to gain from being a new or returning member of MCMLA?

Mentorship and learning from other members.

Are you interested in a specific area of libraries?

Medical librarianship.

What is your educational background?

I have an MS in Occupational Therapy and an MLIS.

What made you want to work in libraries?

I have found that I am quite fond of research and have enjoyed building my skills as a researcher. I enjoy teaching students in an academic environment how to perform their research.

What is your previous work experience?

I worked as an occupational therapy clinical specialist for Medstar Health in Baltimore, Maryland, for over 15 years and decided to pursue an additional degree in library science. After graduation from the University of Maryland, College Park, I worked as a Research and Instruction librarian for Towson University.

What is a fun/unique/interesting tidbit about you?

I have spent all of my life living on the East coast and will be moving to the Midwest by Thanksgiving. My partner Brian and I enjoy hiking with our dog Cole. I am also a history buff, enjoy searching for antiques, love to read, and enjoy a wide variety of music, but especially like blues music.

Amy Masek, MLS



What is your position title?

Access Services Librarian, Clarkson College Library

What do you like most about the library and information science field so far?

I have been working in libraries for over 3 decades. I love organizing information and helping people research.

What do you like most about MCMLA so far?

This group is a perfect fit for my passion for health sciences librarianship. The topics are always interesting and the group seems very welcoming.

What do you hope to gain from being a new or returning member of MCMLA?

As a new member, I would like to network with other members and learn from their expertise in medical librarianship. Plus add to my knowledge of health science librarianship.

Are you interested in a specific area of libraries?

Academic and Health Sciences libraries

What is your educational background?

I have a BA in History from Nebraska Wesleyan and an MLS from University of Missouri-Columbia. I enjoy taking CE courses in many topics, as well.

What made you want to work in libraries?

I started out as a library assistant in high school, and my mother also has her MLS. I worked as a work study in college and was mentored by a wonderful librarian. I knew early on that libraries were my passion. I enjoy helping people find information. My specific interest is in searching databases and instructing students.

What is your previous work experience?

I was a Reference/Systems Librarian at Columbus (NEBR) Public Library; Outreach Services Librarian at Bellevue University Library, Reference Librarian at Offutt AFB Library, and currently serve as Access Services Librarian at Clarkson College Library. Non professional roles include Falls City Public Library, Columbia Public Library, and Nebraska Wesleyan University Library.

What is a fun/unique/interesting tidbit about you?

My family is active with dog rescue groups. We love dachshunds and have rescued 3. My hobbies include my family, recycling, traveling to the Ozarks, and dogs!

Chapter Membership Dues Reminder

By Jackie Hittner, MCMLA Treasurer; edited by Katie Dayani

In an effort to have our membership dues collected to coincide with the fiscal year of the Chapter, the following schedule will be used to notify the membership that it is time to pay 2021 dues.



On January 2, 2021 all current MCMLA members will receive their first notice to pay their 2021 dues. Reminder notices will go out January 16 and February 1.

Members who have not paid their 2021 dues by February 15, 2021 will go into lapsed status and will not get to vote in the 2021 Chapter elections.

Thanks for paying your membership dues promptly after you receive the January 2 notice.

Library Haiku

By Dave Castelli, Intermountain Medical Center, Murray, UT; edited by Jerry Carlson

Where's the evidence?
Alternative facts online!
Medlineplus.gov

AND operator
Who really uses XOR?
OR operator

Dave Castelli is the Senior Medical Librarian at Intermountain Med Center in Murray, UT.



*Thank you for your contribution to the
MCMLA Endowment Fund*

The Finance Committee would like to thank the chapter members who contributed to the MCMLA Endowment Fund during the 2020 annual meeting. \$595.00 was collected for the endowment and a member matched that amount.

Three members who donated to the endowment at the Annual Meeting won an Amazon.com gift certificate. The winners were: Dana Abbey, Danielle Westmark and Jeanne Burke.

A big **THANK YOU** to chapter members who generously gave to the endowment in October 2020:

Dana Abbey
John Bramble
Jeanne Burke
Nicole Caskey
Melissa De Santis
Kristen DeSanto
Alissa Fial
Lori Fitterling
Holly Henderson
Jackie Hittner
Elizabeth Kiscaden

Laura Lipke
Amy Masek
Euem Osmera
Cindy Schmidt
Margarita Shawcross
Amanda Sprochi
Shawn Steidinger
George Strawley
Lisa Traditi
Danielle Westmark
Gwen Wilson

MCMLA Member Highlights

By Amanda Sprochi and Katie Dayani, MCMLA editors



The STARS recognition program allows members to share, at the annual conference, what they've done throughout the year to go above and beyond their regular duties. The 2020 MCMLA STARS recipients are:

Melissa De Santis, Strauss Health Sciences Library, University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus, Aurora, Colorado

Kristen DeSanto, Strauss Health Sciences Library, University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus, Aurora, Colorado

Alissa Fial, Raynor Memorial Libraries, Marquette University, Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Debra Loguda Summers, A.T. Still Memorial Library, A.T. Still University, Kirksville, Missouri

Lisa Traditi, Strauss Health Sciences Library, University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus, Aurora, Colorado

Gwen Wilson, Department of Family and Community Medicine, University of Missouri, Columbia, Missouri

Nancy Woelfl, Retired, McGoogan Library of Medicine, University of Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha, Nebraska

Congratulations to all who helped make the Annual Conference a success. A special shout-out to all who presented and to the [MCMWMLA Presentation Winners](#).

Lisa Traditi, AHIP, Strauss Health Sciences Library, University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus—Aurora, was added to the Hospital Library Caucus (HLC) Scroll of Exemplary Service.

The following MCMLA members achieved AHIP membership:

Liz Kellermeyer, AHIP, National Jewish Health, Senior Level

Emily Vardell, AHIP, Emporia State University, Distinguished Level

Angela Spencer, AHIP, Medical Center Library, Saint Louis University, received the HLC Professional Recognition Award in Technological Innovation for the work with a group that created MLA COVID-19 Resources for Medical Librarians & Other Health Information Professionals.

Angela Spencer also received HLC's Professional Recognition Award in Leadership for her guidance in transitioning the Hospital Libraries Section into the Hospital Library Caucus.

Brenda Linares, AHIP, A.R. Dykes Library, University of Kansas Medical Center, served as Chair of the MACMLA Diversity Task Force. The group was awarded MAMCLA's 2020 Marguerite Abel Service Recognition Award.

Brenda Linares co-authored the presentation, "Understanding Interprofessional Professional Identity: Commonalities and Connections Among Nursing, Medicine, Veterinary Medicine, and Pharmacy" at #NexusSummit2020. She also was a co-presenter of "Innovation for your Health: Librarians and Health Professionals Address Health Information Needs Through Podcast and Other Digital Technologies" Kansas Library Association's 2020 Annual Conference.

Karen Wells and **Margaret Bandy**, AHIP, SCLHS Saint Joseph Hospital Library, co-authored the article, "Historical Digital Archives at Saint Joseph Hospital" that was published in October's issue of *The Journal of Hospital Librarianship*.



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Committee Members:

Katie Dayani, editor
Jerry Carlson
Nina McHale
Amanda Sprochi

