

PACIFIC NORTHWEST CHAPTER of the MEDICAL LIBRARY ASSOCIATION, Inc. (PNC/MLA)

The Pacific Northwest Chapter includes the states of Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Washington and the two Canadian provinces of Alberta and British Columbia.

This report covers the period from May 2008 through April 2009.

Goal 1: Recruitment, Membership, and Leadership in the Profession

- Current membership (as of March 10, 2009) stands at 117, down from 125 in September 2008. The Membership Committee will be contacting individuals who did not renew. Non-renewing institutional members will also be contacted. Membership categories include: Individual, Institutional, Student, Lifetime, and Emeritus/Non-working. The Chapter continued its early membership renewal drive with a prize drawing for those who renew by the stated deadline for the contest.
- The membership application was revised for Chapter members to be able to indicate interest in serving on two committees that are being “revived” – Group Purchasing and Technology.
- Committee Charges for the Group Purchasing and the Technology Committees were developed, chairs were appointed, and members have begun their tasks in 2009. The Technology committee has been reformed after a few dormant years. Their first charge is to find online meeting software that could be used by committees, the Board, and even for online courses. We expect a recommendation to be made from the committee to the Board in May.
- Free student memberships continue to be offered to students of area library schools. Three of four library schools responded.
- Two of our Chapter members were elected to the MLA Nominating Committee: Michele Spatz for 2008 and Dolores Judkins for 2009.

Goal 2: Life Long Learning

- In February through May of 2008, the Chapter partnered with the NN/LM Pacific Northwest Region to host a series of web-based seminars: “Awakening the Searcher Within” that focused on expert searching strategies. This activity won the Majors Chapter of the Year award which will be announced during the MLA Awards Luncheon in Hawaii.
- The Chapter did not hold an annual conference in 2008, but hosted CE courses in Seattle – October 3-4, 2008. Courses that were offered were:

- Electronic Health Records and the Health Sciences Librarian: a Forum – an NN/LM sponsored event including a panel of experts
- Collecting and Analyzing Evaluation Data by Susan Barnes – cancelled due to instructor illness
- Web 2.0 by Greg Notess
- Value-Added Searching by Mary Ellen Bates

We used RegOnline to allow members to use credit cards when registering for the classes. This was successful and the same company will be used for our meeting registration in the Fall of 2009.

All classes were well-attended and well-received as indicated by course evaluations.

- The Chapter also continues to offer Professional Development and Student Scholarships for people to attend annual conferences and CE events.

Goal 3: Advocacy

- Our Government Relations committee has been keeping regional librarians apprised of advocacy issues and activities by posting messages on the regional listserv.
- The NN/LM Pacific Northwest Region has an Advocacy page on their web site and has a staff member dedicated to keeping track of hospital library advocacy issues in particular - <http://nnlm.gov/pnr/advocacy/index.html>
- The current Chapter Chair's primary initiative is to create an advocacy section for our Chapter's website. The outcome will be a list of graphical designer contacts, sample promotional materials, and a grant funding form to help offset the cost of creating graphics, printing color materials, and even mailing information to the library's patrons. The Board approved this goal at their March 12, 2009 meeting. The Chair will work with members, vendors, and the Publication Chair to build to make this a reality during the remainder of 2009.

Goal 4: Creating and Communicating our Knowledge

- The Chapter MAP was updated in May 2006 and is due for review/updating in 2010.
- The Chapter continues to use a blog as its newsletter and communication vehicle with the membership. Complementary messages are also posted to the HLIB-NW listserv and refer people to the blog for the full story. HLIB-NW is a very active listserv in the Pacific Northwest.

- The blog has been opened so members no longer have to login to comment or read messages. Logins will still be required to post a message.
- This year's Executive Board is communicating using Google Groups. The intent is to have a record of discussions and action items so that new Board members can more easily "catch up." Google Docs is being used to edit documents like the Board minutes.
- We also had our first State of the Chapter online meeting on January 22, 2009. *lluminate Live!* was used and about a quarter of our membership logged in for the one-hour update. Firewall issues prevented some hospital librarians from participating. A copy of the recorded meeting is available on the Chapter website.
- As noted above, we co-hosted an Electronic Health Records Forum that highlighted the roles that librarians can and do take in the development and deployment of Electronic Health Records.
- The past Chapter Chair focused on "growing our profession" by encouraging members to serve as mentors or field work supervisors for students and other up-and-coming professionals.

Goal 5: Building a Network of Partners

- PNC/MLA continues to have contact with NCN/MLG & MLGSCA. All three chapters plan to meet together occasionally to foster communication and knowledge sharing among us. We had considered an every three year rotation to meet as a whole, but one of the Chapters felt this was too frequent. We will continue to extend invitations to each other's conferences and events and offer the member rate to attendees from other Chapters.
- We are partnering with Meetings-To-Go to help locate and finalize the hotel for our 2010 meeting which will be held in Portland.
- Our 2009 annual meeting will be held in Seattle from October 17-20.
- We have contracted with a new librarian to serve as our Group Purchasing Coordinator: Robin Braun who is in Spokane, WA

This report is informational and requires no action by the Board of Directors.

Respectfully submitted, Kathy Murray, PNC/MLA Chair 2009

**PNC/MLA
Elected Officers 2009**

Kathy Murray, Chair
Gail Kouame, Past Chair
Noelle Harling, Chair-Elect
Susan Barnes, Membership Secretary
Ann Madhavan, Recording Secretary
Judith Hayes, Treasurer
Kim Granath, Chapter Council Rep.
Rose Jackson, Chapter Council Alt.

Leilani St. Anna, Chair, Publications Committee (Ex Officio)

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Elected Officers 2008**

Gail Kouame, Chair
Heidi Sue Adams, Past Chair
Kathy Murray, Chair-Elect and Chair, Publications Committee (Ex Officio)
Susan Barnes, Membership Secretary
Ann Madhavan, Recording Secretary
Judith Hayes, Treasurer
Kim Granath, Chapter Council Rep.
Arleen Libertini, Chapter Council Alt.