Northwest Notes

Newsletter of the
Pacific Northwest Chapter of the Medical Library Association

Volume 13, Number 3   May-June 1992

"The Pacific Spirit: Information Without Boundaries" PNC to Meet in Vancouver

Submitted by Jim Henderson, 1992 Programme Chair

Cooperation across the international boundary has always been strong in our Chapter. Stranded on the edge of the continent together, we have shared resources, skills, and good company to overcome our isolation. As the world shrinks and the Pacific Rim gains importance, we find we are closer to the centre rather than the edge; and our spirit of cooperation serves us well in the drive to break down boundaries of geography, tradition, discipline, and culture. It is this spirit that we will celebrate in Vancouver at the PNC/MLA 1992 Annual Meeting, **Pacific Spirit: Information Without Boundaries,** September 30-October 2, 1992.

The programme reflects our Canadian privilege and the multicultural outlook of Vancouver. **Fran Groen** comes from Quebec, the province of the "distinct society", to link her international activities to medical libraries. **Tom Perry**, a physician and a cabinet minister in the BC government, will look at health information from a political viewpoint and as an expert on our unique Canadian health care system. Other speakers will examine the boundaries to more widespread distribution of health information; and exhibits and CE sessions will explore some of the means medical libraries can use to overcome these boundaries.

The meeting site is the Robson Square Conference Centre in the heart of Vancouver. From there, our multicultural city and its natural setting will be readily accessible. Our geography and a local theatre sports team will be featured at the banquet, overlooking the city from Grouse Mountain. We invite you to come to Vancouver in September to examine and enjoy PNC's Pacific Spirit and our contribution to it.

For a preliminary schedule of Continuing Education courses, please see **page 5.**

News From Around the Region

Thanks to all who submitted items for this column! I'm delighted to have so much material to include! --Ed.

Idaho

Submitted by Nancy Van Dinter, Health Information Consultant, Idaho State Library

LIBRARIES

In Pocatello the **Idaho Health Sciences Information Center**, a cooperative service of Bannock and Pocatello Regional Medical Centers and the Idaho State University College of Pharmacy is now in operation. Their phone number is 236-4686. The FAX number is 236-4687.

GRANTS

Three hospital libraries are participating in cooperative collection development grants under LSCA, Title III. Proposals to improve health and fitness collections in their communities were written by **Magic Valley Regional Medical Center** and **Twin Falls Public Library, American Falls District Library, American Falls School District** and **Harms Memorial Hospital**. A third grant was written by the **VALNet library network** in north central Idaho which includes **St. Joseph's Regional Medical Center.** This project is being duplicated by the Washington libraries participating in the VALNet system as well.

SALARY SURVEY

A 1992 Idaho Hospital Libraries Salary Survey was published in May. Copies are available from Nancy Van Dinter at the Idaho State Library.

Oregon

Ford Schmidt has left Emanuel Hospital to be at Willamette University. **Carolyn Olson** is now half time at Emanuel and half time at Meridian Park Hospital. **Susan Westmoreland** (of Emanuel) is at Holladay Park 40% and Emanuel 60%.

Peggy Burrell of Providence Medical Center in Portland has changed "back" to her "old" name, and is now **Peggy Baldwin.** (She hopes that she and **Peggy Burt,** of Providence Medical Center in

Seattle, will no longer be mistaken for the same person, though they can still both be referred to as "Peggy B. at Providence!")

Ann Willman is now working full-time at St. Vincent's library.

Carol Jones, of Salem Hospital, has recently returned from a four week stint at St. Michael's Hospital in Bristol, England. While there she worked in an office which provided library services worldwide on a fee-for-service, not-for-profit basis. She has some interesting things to say about the comparison between the British and U.S. health library systems.

Washington

The 1992 Annual Meeting of the **Washington Medical Librarians association (WMLA)** was held at the Washington Park Arboretum Visitors' Center on April 24. Among the highlights of the program were a presentation on seasonal affective disorders, by **Dr. Carla J. Hellekson, M.D.,** Providence Medical Center, and a session by **Laura Larsson,** UW health services research librarian on "Managing Health Statistics." **Neil Rambo** gave an update on the RML program, and **Debbie Ketchell** was the facilitator for the OWL Network session, which serves as a forum for the exchange of information on miscellaneous professional topics. **Maryanne Blake** chaired an Internet panel, whose members, **Peggy Burt, Neil Rambo** and **Dan Jordt,** discussed health sciences librarians use of the Internet and its implications for our organizational roles. Peggy Burt demonstrated the Internet. **Sherry Dodson** and **Linda Milgrom** served as Planning Committee co-chairs for the meeting. **Janet Schnall** and **Lou Pray** developed and presented a pre-conference continuing education course at HSLIC on April 23 entitled, "Finding the Figures: an Introduction to Selected Health Related Statistical Sources."

PEOPLE

Pia Fish has left her position at Harrison Memorial Hospital in Bremerton to become the Public Health Services Librarian at the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center in Seattle. She will continue to fill in at Harrison as needed until a replacement has been hired.

Donna Patsfield is the new director of the VA Medical Center Library in Seattle.

She comes to the Pacific Northwest from the VA Library in New Orleans.

Montana

PEOPLE

Connie Lavoy is the new librarian at Parents Let's Unite for Kids (PLUK). PLUK is the newest member of the Billings Area Health Sciences Information Consortium (BAHSIC).

Laurel Egan is the new librarian at St. James Community Hospital in Butte. She replaces **Carole Ann Clark**.

Rocky Mountain Laboratories Library has a new part-time library technician, **Julie Faucher.**

Susan Long, Medical Librarian, Kalispell Regional Hospital, Kalispell, Montana recently received an Award for Excellence & Achievement in Hospital Librarianship. This award was presented to her at the annual Awards Luncheon at the Medical Library Association annual conference held in Washington, D.C. on May 20, 1992. Congratulations Susan!!!

PLACES:

Several Billings area libraries have **new fax numbers**. They are: Mental Health Center, 406/248-8272; Deaconess Medical Center, 406/657-3870; and Yellowstone Treatment Centers, 406/656-8189.

Recently **St. Patrick's Hospital**, Missoula, Montana was awarded an LSCA grant and CA grant and will be adding their holdings to WLN via LASERCAT.

BAHSIC

The **Billings Area Health Sciences Information Consortium (BAHSIC)** is a group of 15 medical libraries and other libraries with health sciences collections. The Consortium is dedicated to the improvement of library services through communication and sharing of resources. Begun in 1982, BAHSIC has been the recipient of several large grants. The latest of these, a $108,000 Information Access Grant from the National Library of Medicine, was received in March. Monies from this grand have been used to purchase computer systems and fax machines to aid member libraries in better, quicker service to the Billings and Montana health care communities.

While some of the larger libraries in the Consortium have been computerized for some time, this grant is providing the first computer access for 7 member libraries. All participating libraries have set up these computer systems with GRATEFUL MED. Thirty librarians and library representatives participated in a GRATEFUL MED workshop which will teach them how to instruct physicians and other health care providers to use the new computer systems to do their own computer searching, if they so choose. The workshop, held at Eastern Montana College, was given by **Maryanne Blake** of the RML and **Mary Rainwater** of the University of Washington Health Sciences Library.

The new computer systems were carefully chosen so that those libraries not already equipped with computer systems can also use the new systems for other important library functions. Equipping all BAHSIC libraries with fax machines means quick, inexpensive communication among members even though some of the smaller libraries are staffed only part time.

Profile & Perspective

Submitted by Susan Long, Kailspell Regional Hospital, Kailspell, Montana

Otilia Goode finished her career in health sciences librarianship in 1970, retiring from the American Dental Association library. Her career, which began more than 30 years earlier at a VA Hospital in Columbia SC, spanned the decades from when NLM was the Library of the Surgeon General through the development of MEDLARS and the birth of NLM as a branch of NIH. I got to know Ms. Goode when she came into the Medical Library as a hospital "pink lady" and knowing her has given me a new perspective and appreciation for medical librarianship.

Trained initially as a teacher (French and Latin), she completed a "5th year" degree in library science at the State University of North Carolina's Women's College in Greensboro in 1931 just in time to have the Depression eliminate many library positions. She taught for another 4 years until, quite out of the blue, she was notified of her qualification for a Columbia (SC) VA position as a result of exam scores she'd taken while in school.

In 1949, about 5 or 6 VA posts later, she was sent to a three-week intensive course in medical library research at the University of Chicago. There, she confirmed what she had known all along, that she had a "knack" for this aspect of librarian-

ship; from then on it was her main focus. The patient service component of her VA position now became secondary to services to staff. Ultimately, she left a Milwaukee VA to work at the library of the American Medical Association.

At that time, the AMA Library provided members with a "package library" on requested topics for a nominal charge. Ms. Goode learned a lot of medicine during her 5 years at the AMA, but was eventually wooed away by Dr. Donald Washburn who headed the ADA Library.

During her tenure at the ADA (which sounds like a wonderful employer), she recalls the coming of MEDLARS. She no longer remembers the topic of her first MEDLINE search, which was actually run at NLM and mailed back to Chicago. The printout was more that 150 citations, but it contained four really pertinent citations; these were the same four she'd uncovered weeks earlier through a hand search of Index Medicus and the Dental Literature Index.

When NLM was formally dedicated, Ms. Goode along with a contingent of ADA colleagues was present. It was an unforgettable weekend, she says, with all the big names "you'd never hoped to meet." On Sunday, Washington was hit with horrible sleet and rain storms, so no one was able to fly home. The Chicago group took the train, arriving in the wee hours of Monday morning and going to work a short time later.

Ms. Goode held a variety of posts in the Midwest Chapter of MLA including the Chair "at least once." In 1962 MLA held its Annual Meeting in Chicago with Dr. Washburn (her boss and later MLA president) in charge. The ADA staff never forgot the hectic year of preparations before that meeting.

For Ms. Goode, the most memorable MLA meeting was in 1961 in Seattle. Though the specifics of the program have faded, the extracurricular activity - including a salmon bake and midnight ride through the locks - have not. Another highpoint was attending the first international meeting of medical librarians in Amsterdam. Ms. Goode recalls that postconference activities were always the best way to get to know colleagues, and "you know, have some fun." (I think she would have enjoyed the PNC!)

The ranks of her library colleagues have begun to thin out now, she noted recently after browsing a current MLA Directory. But she still hears from Dr. Washburn each year and from Aletha Kowitz who

was hired to fill her position and now heads the ADA Library. Having a network of colleagues enabled Ms. Goode to move and grow with new library positions throughout her career.

Upon retirement, her friends had a pool, betting on how long she would stay out of work. They knew her well; only six months later, and now living in El Paso, Texas, she was enticed to work at a private girls school (the initial contact was the result of a collegue's introduction to the headmistress), cataloging a collection of Napoleonic memorabilia. It was the first of varied retirement projects which capitalized on the skills developed over a lifetime in libraries.

New Nursing Index Published

by Bob Pringle, ICNE Library, Spokane, WA

Just published: the *Cumulative Index to 25 years of Communicating Nursing Research*, by **Mary Wood**, of the ICNE's Betty M. Anderson Library. This cumulative index offers author and subject access to the annual research conference reports of the Western Society for Research in Nursing (formerly an arm of WCHEN). Recognized as one of the foremost clinical nursing research conferences in the country, the WSRN meetings offer hundreds of posters and research presentations each year. The annual reports, *Communicating Nursing Research*, have been sporadically indexed by CINAHL and NLM. This 25th anniversary index offers full access to all papers and abstracted presentations in each annual volume, from 1968 through 1992.
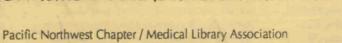
Announced and released at the 25th Conference, as part of the Western Institute of Nursing/WSRN silver anniversary celebration, the index was used (in draft form) to help several researchers prepare "state of the art" papers presented at the meeting. Mary Wood was invited to attend the conference and recognized at the Institute's annual Awards Presentation Luncheon, in appreciation of her work in analyzing the material, developing subject indexing (from the lists used by Sigma Theta Tau, the nursing research society, and *the Cumulative Index to Nursing and Allied Health Literature*), and designing the index.

The index will be available, for $25, with your subscription to CNR, or from the Western Institute of Nursing, PO Drawer P, Boulder, CO 80301-9752

Pacific Spirit

Information Without Boundaries

Pacific Northwest Chapter / Medical Library Association
ANNUAL MEETING
September 30 - October 2, 1992
Vancouver, Canada
(604) 733-6671

Preliminary program

Tuesday, September 29
1:00 - 5:00	Regional Medical Library Working Committee
6:00 - 7:00	Registration Desk open

Wednesday September 30
8:00 - 5:00	Continuing Education courses
6:00 - 8:30	Reception, Vancouver Art Gallery
8-10,12-2,4-6	Registration Desk open

Thursday Oct 1
7:15 - 12:00	Registration Desk open
7:30 - 8:45	MLA Breakfast
	Jacqueline Bastille, MLA President
9:00 - 9:15	Welcome
9:00 - 10:30	Libraries without walls: riding the crest of the wave
	Frances Groen, Redpath Library, McGill
10:30 -11:00	Exhibits open
11:00 -12:15	Overcoming political boundaries: the politics of health information
	Tom Perry , Minister of Higher Education, B. C.
12:00 - 2:00	Lunch with exhibitors
2:00 - 4:00	Extending technical boundaries: roundtable
	Nancy Start, MEDLIB-L, and others
4:00 - 5:00	Understanding cultural boundaries
	Nancy Waxler-Morrison, Social Work/Sociology, UBC
7:00 - 10:00	Banquet, Grouse Mountain Chalet

Friday Oct 2
7:30 - 8:45	MEDLINE Breakfast
	Judy Consales, Online Coordinator,PSRMLS
9:00 - 10:00	Mapping the boundaries of disease
	Dr. Harry Foster, Geography, University of Victoria
10:15 -12:30	PNC/MLA Chapter Business Meeting
12:30 - 2:00	Interest group lunches
2:00 - 2:45	Contributed Papers
3:00 - 4:30	Beyond boundaries: outreach experiences
	Leslie Beattie, Medical Information Service, Calgary
	Susy Holt, HEALTHCON, Montana
	Tim Atkinson, B.C. Indian Chiefs
	Linda Howard & Helen Chow, Fiji experiences
	Patrick Gannon, Continuing Medical Education, UBC

Calendar of Events

1992

July 16-19   **Animal Health Information: Planning for the 21st Century.** First International Conference of Animal Health Information Specialists, University of Reading, Reading, England. Contact Mitsuko Williams, Veterinary Medicine Library, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, 217/333-2598.

August 24-26   **Fundamentals of MEDLARS searching,** Seattle, WA. FREE*

August 27   **CHEMLINE/CHEMID/TOXLINE/TOXLIT,** Seattle, WA. $65*

August 28   Morning - **AIDSLINE/AIDSDRUG/AIDSTRIAL** $45* Afternoon - **BIOTECHNOLOGY** module $45*

September 30-
October 2   **The Pacific Spirit: Information Without Boundaries.** 1992 PNC/MLA Annual Meeting, Vancouver, British Columbia.

October 18-21   **Building Partnerships in Community Health throuth Applied Technology;** International Conference: Information Technology in Community Health. Victoria, BC. Contact Dr. Malcolm Maclure, School of Health Information Science, University of Victoria, PO Box 1700, Victoria, BC, Canada V8W 2Y2.

November 8-11   **Supporting Collaboration,** 1992 Symposium on Computer Applications in Medical Care (SCAMC), Baltimore, MD.

1993

May 14-20   MLA Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL.

1994

May 19-26   **MLA Annual Meeting,** San Antonio, TX.

* For more information, contact Western Online Training Center at 1-800-338-7657; Press 2 to speak to trainers at UCLA.

MLA Slide Set Purchased

by Linda Milgrom, Pacific Northwest Region, NN/LM

The RML has recently purchased "The Library's Contribution to Quality: The Bottom Line," MLA's recently published set of scripts and slides. The materials in the set were developed by Bernie Todd Smith and Susan Grossman and are suitable or adaptable for presentations to managers, medical staffs, and boards of directors. The set includes 62 slides and three targeted scripts for presenting the program to various audiences. Phone or e-mail the RML if you would like to borrow the set.

MLA Meeting Cassettes Available

by Nancy Press, Pacific Northwest Region, NN/LM

The Regional Medical Library has again purchased the entire cassette tape set from the MLA Annual Meeting. The meeting was May 17 through May 21 in Washington, DC. The entire list of topics and speakers for all 61 tapes is in a shared OnTyme file named MLA92. To read the file, type :get ** MLA92. Instructions for requesting the tapes are also in the file.

PNC Lending Library

Submitted by Kathleen McCrory, Children's Hospital Medical Center, Seattle, Washington

The PNC/MLA Lending Library contains books, software, and A/V material on a variety of library-related subjects. It is available for the use of all library staff members. The loan period is one month. To borrow an item, contact Kathleen McCrory at Children's Hospital, Seattle. Requests should be made by Ontyme, Docline, or ALA form. In an emergency, phone or FAX requests will be accepted.

COMPUTERS:

How to Use Your IBM PC in 10 Easy Video Lessons
Learning DOS - older version
Learning DOS - version 4.0
DS Tutor (DOS and system tutor)

SOFTWARE PACKAGES

Individual Training for Lotus 1-2-3
Teach Yourself dBase III Plus

ONLINE SEARCHING

BRS After Dark CAI Simulation Program
BRS Colleague: introduction to searching
Dialog Training Videos: introduction to searching
Online Searching on Your Computer
CHEMLEARN
TOXLEARN

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

MLA DocKit #1: position descriptions in health sciences libraries
MLA DocKit #2: evaluation instruments for health sciences libraries
Review of Medical Monograph Cataloging
RX for Success: effective organizational communication
Standards for Canadian Health Care Facility Libraries (1989)
Time Management in the Small Library Leadership Development Seminar (manual)
On Becoming a Leader, by Warren Bennis
Copyright Balancing Act (Audio tapes and handouts)

Kathleen McCrory, Hospital Library
Children's Hospital & Medical Center
P.O. Box 5371
4800 Sand Point Way NE
Seattle, WA 98105
Phone: 206-526-2098; FAX: 206-527-3838
Ontyme: COHMC
Docline: COS, 98105a

"Information Without Boundaries" - Preliminary CE Course Schedule

Tuesday, September 29, 1992

Introduction to Docline: Demonstration and Discussion. Half day.
Nancy Press, Univ. of Washington/Pacific Northwest NN/LM.

Wednesday, September 30, 1992

Winning With Words: Improving Your Written Communication With Managers. Full day. Bonita Stableford, UBC Science Division. (MLA credit approval pending)

TIPS Teaching Skills Workshop: Developing a Lesson Plan. Full day. Jenny Craig and Bill Godolphin. UBC and Vancouver General Hospital Div. of Clinical Chemistry (6.5 credits)

Total Quality Management: What Health Science Librarians Should Know About TQM and How They Can Participate. Half day. Johann van Reenen, UBC Woodward Library. (MLA credit approval pending)

Health Care Compare: Canada and the U.S. Half day. William Roberts, Alberta Legislature, NDP Health Critic. (MLA credit?)

Saturday, October 3, 1992

Biotechnology Information: The NLM Databases. Half day. Judy Consales, Pacific Southwest NN/LM. (4 credits)

Grateful Med Version 6 Due

by Linda Milgrom, Pacific Northwest Region, NN/LM

NTIS has started the distribution of GRATEFUL MED, Version 6. All registered PC users should receive the new version in the next few weeks. The distribution is planned in zip code order (East Coast to West), so we may not see our copies immediately. If yours do not arrive promptly, you may contact NTIS (703-487-4660; 1-800-336-4700). Version 6 has several improvements, including Internet access option, the ability to edit print commands, and online viewing of MeSH trees. Macintosh users should not expect a new edition until December or January.

Professional Development Funds Available

The PNC Professional Development Fund is designed to encourage participation in professional programs and courses by our members. The Board recognizes that meetings and courses are often too far away for many members to attend; those who live in the major metropolitan areas have a distinct advantage. The aim of the fund is to improve access for members, and to equalize opportunities for attendance at programs and courses which improve members' professional development.

Copies of the application form for PNC Professional Development funds may be obtained from Leza Hamby, PNC Membership Secretary, at Rocky Mountain Laboratory, Biomedical Research Library, 903 S. Fourth Street, Hamilton, MT 59840-2999 (phone 406/363-3211 x211).

All applications must adhere to the criteria listed below. The applications will be reviewed by the Executive Board, and all applicants will be notified of the Board's decisions. The deadline is at least

two months before the event and grants will be funded in the order in which they are received. If two or more are being considered and there is not sufficient funding for all, the application with the earliest postmark that meets the criteria will be funded first. The number of applications funded will be limited by the amount of funds set aside by the Board at the beginning of each budget year. This year the budgeted amount is $500.

CRITERIA:

Criterion 1: PNC Membership
Applicant must be a current member of PNC/MLA.

Criterion 2: Number of Grants per Applicant
Applicants are eligible for a maximum of one grant per year.

Criterion 3: Number of Scholarships per Institution
No institution may receive more than one

grant per event per year.

Criterion 4: Dollar Amount
A maximum of $100.00 may be awarded per applicant. The grant will not exceed the actual expense associated with the meeting or program or continuing education course(s) for which the grant is requested.

Criterion 5: Matching Funds
No matching funds will be required of the applicants. However, it will be assumed that the applicant has requested funding from their institution before applying for these grants.

Criterion 6: Subject Content of Program/Meeting/Course
Professional Development funds are limited to professional programs, meetings, or continuing education courses sponsored by or co-sponsored by PNC and may not be requested or used for any other purposes.

But -- Can They "Do Windows"?

by Peggy Burt, Providence Medical Center Library, Seattle, Washington

Microsoft announced its first version of Windows in 1985. Despite the industry hype, that first version was considered a dismal failure. Subsequent versions were famous for UAEs ("unrecoverable application errors" - ugly system freeze-ups) and Windows became the program people loved to hate!

The good news is that most of this dramatically changed with the release of Windows 3.0 in May 1990. The current release, Windows 3.1, contains a number of new features and improvements, but it is not a significant change over version 3.0. With the disclaimer that I am certainly not a Windows expert, I will attempt to outline my opinions concerning adopting Windows in the library environment, and a few tips that I have learned (the hard way!) about this exciting and sometimes frustrating environment.

Windows provides what is known as a graphical user interface (GUI). This means that programs are launched by using a mouse to click on icons (small pictures) rather than typing in DOS commands, and concepts are represented much more visually than in the text-based DOS world that we are most familiar with. When Windows first came out we said, "it sort of looks like the Macintosh"; now we just call it a GUI whether it's a MAC or Windows.

It's important to remember that Windows is **not** an operating system; DOS is still the operating system. Instead, Windows is an environment that rides on top of DOS. It is the job of Windows to manage the memory, control the screen display, monitor access to the printer and communication ports, and, because this is a multitasking environment, act as the "judge" in conflict resolution!

In the April 28, 1992 issue of PC Magazine there was a series of articles on Windows 3.1. I extracted the following list to provide a point of departure in your consideration of whether or not to go with Windows. I have also laced it liberally with my own editorial comments:

Five reasons to buy Windows:

1. You can create documents rich with fonts, graphics, and more. This is the fun part, and is especially useful for creating hand-outs and signs in the library.

2. You can run multiple applications. Most librarians I know are expert jugglers, so this fits right in!

3. You can combine applications. The jargon is DDE (Dynamic Data Exchange) which basically means that all of your Windows software can talk to each other and share information.

4. If you don't like Windows, you can ignore it. At the going rate of $99.00 for 3.1, I'd say it was worth a try. (We'll talk about hardware requirements later...)

5. Most developers are focusing their resources on Windows. At MLA, both CD Plus and REMO were showing Windows versions of their user interfaces. ProComm is also working on a Windows version.

Five Reasons Not to Buy Windows

1. You have to relearn your applications. Yes, but it's usually not a steep learning curve. Windows programs have standardized pull-down menus, scroll bars, etc., so they look the same no matter what application you are using. Windows programs also have "context-sensitive hypertext help systems," which means that at any point in an application, you can click "Help" and find yourself in the Help program at the point that should answer your question.

2. Windows is slower than DOS. Yep.

3. There are still more DOS applications than Windows applications. You betcha, especially in library land.

4. You do not have the hardware. This is probably the biggest stumbling block of all. Microsoft says the minimum requirements for Windows are a 286 with 1MB of RAM for standard mode or a 386 with 2MB for 386 enhanced mode. In practice, this is a gross underestimation. Plan on at least 2MB of RAM, with 4MB being much preferable. Some people say a 40MB hard disk is just fine, others say you're crazy to use less than a 60 or 80MB hard disk.

5. If you want multitasking there is a DOS-based alternative called DESQview. This is something I have only heard about - never seen.

As you can probably tell by now, I am a Windows convert, although at first, I did my share of exiting out to DOS at the drop of a mouse! One of the other really nice features of Windows is that you get a whole bunch of "tools" like Cardfile, an automated rolodex; a Calculator program; Notepad, an ASCII text editor; Paint-Brush, a simple graphics program; and others. Although a lot of people think the File Manager of Windows is clunky, I really like the visual depiction of the directories, subdirectories and files and I use it quite a bit to manage the hard disk.

At Providence, the new 486 machines that we recently purchased came pre-loaded with DOS 5.0 and Windows. They also included Microsoft Works - a handy integrated program with word processing, database and spreadsheet. In the future you may find that you get Windows even if you didn't ask for it!

So now, the decision is up to you. Yes, you can easily move in and out of Windows to run DOS-based programs. Yes, it will take some time to become comfortable with Windows, but getting out of the comfort zone can definitely be worth the trip!

1. Dykhuis R. No Windows Here! Why Windows is unnecessary, according to a DOS-aholic. Computers in Libraries; Oct 1991; 11(9): 14-16.

2. Hall WS. Windows 3.0 Under the Spotlight. PC Magazine; Sept 11, 1990; 9(15): 181-220.

3. Marmion D. Windows 3.0: Confessions of a Convert (Part II). Computers in Libraries; Nov 1990; 10(10): 18-21.

4. Marmion D. Windows Program Information Files. Computers in Libraries; Apr 1992; 12(4): 10-16.

5. Mendelson E. Making the Most of Windows 3.0. PC Magazine; Feb 26, 1991; 10(4): 102-104.

6. Miller MJ. Windows Enters Its Prime; OS/2 is a Fascinating Technology but a Dubious Challenger. PC Magazine; Apr 28, 1992; 11(8): 112-115.

7. Stevenson T. Windows Tips to Treasure. PC Magazine; Apr 28, 1992; 11(8): 195-235.

8. Venditto G. Windows 3.1 Brings More of Everything. PC Magazine; Apr 28, 1992; 11(8): 123-126.

9. Willmott D. Tips, Tricks and Hints for Windows 3.0. PC Magazine; Feb 26, 1991; 10(4): 105-130.

Message from the Chair

by Dolores Judkins
PNC/MLA Chair
Health Sciences Library, Oregon Health Sciences University, Portland, OR

Well, I just returned from MLA, and as usual, am energized by all the people I talked to there. I find that the best part of the annual meeting is finding out what people all over the country are doing, and seeing that we, in the Pacific Northwest, are as active as any other group, and more active than some. We have a lot to be proud about in PNC.

The first item we can be proud about is that for the second year in a row a librarian from this region, Susan Long, won the award for Hospital Librarian of the Year. We can all be very proud of Susan, and those of us who know her, know that she certainly deserves it.

We can also be proud about the fact that there are so many people in PNC who are willing to be active. During the meeting at least three PNC members approached me and told me they are willing to run for a PNC office, or get involved in PNC committee work (and there were not very many PNC members at the MLA meeting). At the Chapter Chairs Roundtable discussion, I learned that some chapters have as much as $47,000 in their treasuries, but even with our small treasury, we are able to do almost as much as they do.

And we now will have a new way to keep in better contact. MLA is signing up subscribers for IN-MLA, Internet access through LIFENET, for anyone who wants to access Internet, but up to now has not been able to. You can get information about IN-MLA from Katie Corcoran at MLA, or I can send you an order form if you contact me.

It was a good MLA meeting. The RML has copies of the tapes and I encourage you to listen to those that sound interesting to you. Meanwhile, prepare yourself for a great PNC meeting in Vancouver.

Chapter Council Update

May 17 and May 21, 1992, Washington, D.C.

Sylvia E. MacWilliams, PNC/MLA Chapter Representative

Chapter Council meetings at the 1992 MLA meeting were busy as usual. Topics of discussion included dues, format, MLA Code of Ethics and the Platform for Change. Over the next year you will be hearing more about these topics.

The MLA Board of Directors and our new MLA Director, Carla Funk, are stressing communication and a more efficient, streamlined governing structure for MLA. Improved communication with members and advocacy are being stressed.

Last year I reported that MLA was planning implementation of an information network on Compuserve. This has been replaced with Lifenet and is being tested at this time; more on this later.

We discussed the Chapter Treasurer Survey and the need for assistance with such issues as incorporation and tax exempt status for chapters. Ray Naegale will be following up and reporting on progress at a later date. Many chapters expressed a desire to obtain assistance and guidance.

A pilot project will be implemented in 1992-93 by Chapter Council to assess and evaluate the need to establish Chapter credentialing liasons in each chapter.

Other items of business included election of Mary Kay Givens as Vice-Chair of Chapter Council, election of members to the MLA nominating committee, Chapter histories, a reminder to work with MLA model bylaws when making bylaws changes and discussion on a possible chapter of the year award was tabled.

We were required to report chapter compliance this year; all chapters were in compliance.

Chapter Sharing Roundtables were held for the fourth year. Again, over 150 people attended and they were well received.

I have been involved as a member of the planning committee and facilitator for the last 3 chapter sharing roundtables. They have proved to be an excellent forum for networking and sharing information.

This is my final year as Chapter Representative for PNC. Thank you to PNC members for your support. I have enjoyed representing the region. Your new representative is Cliff Cornish and alternate Marcie Horner. If you have questions about this Chapter Council report please call me at 206-256-2004.

Governmental Relations

Submitted by Susan Long, PNC Governmental Relations Committee Chair

During MLA's Annual Meeting last week in Washington, DC, approximately 60 members participated in PEOPLE POWER. This lobbying effort gave small groups of MLA members the opportunity to visit with members of Congress about the NIH Reauthorization Bill and the FY93 NLM Appropriation. Each group included at least one person from the home district of the congressman we were visiting and an MLA/GRC member with previous lobbying experience. Each group had two or three appointments with individual representatives or a designated staffer. One group met with Senator Ted Kennedy's staff assistant for health care and this was considered a real coup!

In our meetings we had a chance to discuss how the proposals would effect our libraries or how we had been affected by previous budgets. I was impressed by how familiar the representatives my group visited were with NLM, the regional medical library network,

and program specifics such as the current focus on outreach. PEOPLE POWER was an invaluable learning experience for all!

On Wednesday, we learned that the Reauthorization Bill had cleared its committee (largely due to MLA lobbying, I'm sure!!) and was expected to pass both houses of Congress during the next week. However, a presidental veto is expexted. The PNC/GRC will keep you updated on the status of this legislation using electronic mail.

WHCLIS. One session on the White House Conference on Libraries and Information Services was presented during the Annual Meeting. A core group of MLA members who have been involved in WHCLIS discussed the final report and the role of MLA in working towards the implementation of key resolutions.

UPDATE ON GPOWINDO (HR 2772). Since the last issue of Northwest Notes, MLA has joined other library associations by signing on in support of this bill. MLA is still concerned about "database integrity" but now intends to clarify these issues in testimony on the bill. When writing Repr. Charles Rose (NC, bill sponsor) or your own representative, continue to ask for assurance about maintaing the accuracy and timeliness of MEDLARS databases.

Treasurer's Report

The following is a budget summary report for PNC/MLA from January 1, 1992 Through May 28, 1992.

Income

Dues	2,704.08
CE,meetings,etc	2,758.99
Interest income	61.02
Total Income	**$5,524.09**

Expenses

Annual Meeting	1,000.00
Board Meeting	1,571.02
Newsletter printing & postage	1,029.79
Postage	138.66
Printing&Copying	31.23
Supplies	67.05
Expenses - Other	0.00
Total Expenses	**$3,837.75**

Total Income - Expenses	**$1,686.34**
Total Balance Forward	**$3,918.23**
Overall Total	**$5,604.57**

At the meeting of the Executive Board on April 21, 1992 it was recommended that an audit of the PNC/MLA treasury be done in the next few months. It would save money for the organization if we did not have the audit done by a professional auditor, but had it performed by PNC/MLA members. If anyone is interested in volunteering for this necessary task, please contact Maryanne Blake, Treasurer at (206) 543-82262. Perhaps two or more people in the same institution or city would want to share the auditing responsibilities. This would lighten the workload and make it more fun.