



# SYNAPSE

NEWSLETTER OF ALABAMA HEALTH LIBRARIES ASSOCIATION INC.

Vol. 22, No. 2

Spring 2003

## PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Well, it's May already, and plans are well under way for our annual meeting this fall! Genny Staggs and Jie Li have been hard at work planning a superb meeting for us at the Island House in Orange Beach. This year's theme is "Future Splash: the Information Wave". I know Genny and Jie have great plans, and we can all look forward to another fun, informative, and educational meeting in the wonderful ALHeLA tradition.

ALHeLA offers two great opportunities for assistance in attending the annual meeting, and I encourage you to help us spread the word! The ALHeLA Student Grant provides assistance to an MLS student to attend the ALHeLA annual meeting. This year, the Executive Committee has recommended that this grant be expanded to include permanent residents of Alabama who are enrolled in an accredited MLS program, as well as students at UA's SLIS. The second opportunity is the Scholarship for Librarians with Limited Institutional Support (SLLIS), which helps make it possible for health sciences librarians who are ALHeLA members to attend the annual meeting. If travel funds are limited or unavailable at your institution, I strongly encourage you to apply for this scholarship and take advantage of the unique educational and networking opportunities afforded you at the ALHeLA annual meeting. Information on both of these programs is available at <http://alhela.org>.

The SE/A NN/LM in Baltimore is looking to fund interdisciplinary statewide meetings for outreach planning in our region, and ALHeLA will be working on a proposal to submit in June. A team of ALHeLA members will be putting together the response to the RFQ, and we'll be calling on other members for information as we plan the meeting for early 2004. If you have questions or suggestions, please contact me at [trapow@uab.edu](mailto:trapow@uab.edu). Stay tuned for more information!

Look for your annual meeting registration packets in early July, and mark your calendars for September 10-12. We hope to see you all in Orange Beach!

*Tracy Powell, ALHeLA President*

## *Future Splash: The Information Wave*

**What:** Annual Meeting of the Alabama Health Libraries Association

**When:** September 11-12, 2003

**Where:** Island House Hotel  
Orange Beach, Alabama  
(1-800-264-2642)  
<http://www.islandhousehotel.com/>

**Who:** Keynote Speaker,  
Dr. Konrad M. Kressley

**Cost:** Hotel, \$86 Plus Tax  
Friday (includes Thursday Banquet  
and Friday Business Meeting  
Lunch, \$75 member and \$100  
non-member  
CE Registration (each course),  
\$60 member and \$85 non-member

Pre-registration materials will be mailed by June 30. Contact Geneva Bush Staggs (251-460-6890, [gbush@jaguar1.usouthal.edu](mailto:gbush@jaguar1.usouthal.edu)) for more information.

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

<b>Annual Meeting</b>	
<b>Keynote Speaker</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>CE Courses</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Hotel</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>ALHeLA Executive Committee 2003</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>ALHeLA Executive Committee Meeting</b>	<b>4</b>

*Synapse* (ISSN 0829-5283) is the official publication of the Alabama Health Libraries Association, Inc. (ALHeLA) and is published quarterly. Please send contributions to the editor: Diane Williams, Charles M. Baugh Biomedical Library, University of South Alabama, BLB 316, Mobile, AL 36688-0002, phone: (251) 460-6893, fax: (251) 460-6958, E-mail: [dnwillia@jaguar1.usouthal.edu](mailto:dnwillia@jaguar1.usouthal.edu)

---

## Annual Meeting Keynote Speaker

Konrad M. Kressley, Ph.D. "Ready for the Information Age? Professional and Survival Skills for Knowledge Workers"

Our keynote speaker is a first generation American. He emigrated to the United States from Germany as a young child and grew up in a suburb of Washington, D.C. He earned a bachelor's degree in History from Western Maryland College. After military service during the Vietnam era, he earned masters degrees from the University of Maryland, Boston University and Harvard University. His doctoral degree was granted by the University of New Orleans.

Dr. Kressley has recently retired as Professor of Political Science at the University of South Alabama. His specialization areas are Future Studies and Forecasting. In 1998 Kressley published a book, Living in the Third Millennium, which describes how mainstream forecasts will impact peoples' lives in the next century. His other major interests are Gerontology, particular generational issues, and International Studies.

Besides membership in the World Future Society, Dr. Kressley is an institutional representative for the Atlantic Council of the United States and the Association for Gerontology in Higher Education. Within the state, he is affiliated with the Alabama Academy of Science and the Alabama Political Science Association.

Other activities include service as a Lieutenant Colonel with the U.S. Army Reserve. Recent assignments included tours as Defense Attache to France and adjunct faculty duties with the National Defense University in Washington, D.C. His other interests include international eco-tourism, endurance sports, nature study and gastronomy. He is an avid SCUBA diver.

## Annual Meeting CE Courses

The ALHeLA Continuing Education Committee has planned three CE courses for this year's annual meeting. All CE courses will be on Thursday, September 11, 2003.

In the morning, Scott Plutchuk, Editor of the *Journal of the Medical Library Association* and Director of the Lister Hill Library of the Health Sciences, University of Alabama at Birmingham, will teach a course on **Writing for Publication** (exact title will be announced later). In the afternoon, Mary Fielder, Outreach Librarian, Three Rivers Area Health Education Center (AHEC) and Susan

Poorbaugh, Statewide AHEC Learning Resource Center Director, Georgia Statewide AHEC Network, will teach a **Successful NLM Grant Writing** course and Penny Dendy, Executive director of Volunteer Mobile and internationally recognized trainer for USAID will teach **Customer Driven Service for the 21st Century**.

In deciding whether two or three courses would be offered, the CE Committee conducted a survey on the ALHeLA listserv. Almost everyone who responded to the survey chose "Writing for Publication" as the course they planned to take. There were equal numbers of people expressing interest in "Grant writing" and "Customer driven services". By arranging the courses this way, almost everyone may take the courses that they are interested in.

## Annual Meeting Hotel

The Island House Hotel:

- ❖ Private balconies on all rooms
- ❖ 336 feet of private beach
- ❖ The Island Grille open daily for casual fare
- ❖ Game room & Outdoor pool
- ❖ Sand Bar Lounge open daily
- ❖ Cable TV, high speed internet access, and in-room movies
- ❖ Guest laundry facilities



**Alabama Health Libraries Association**  
2003 Executive Committee

**OFFICERS**

**President**

Tracy E. Powell  
UNIV OF ALA AT BIRMINGHAM  
LISTER HILL LIBRARY AT UAB  
UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL  
WP P235  
619 19<sup>TH</sup> STREET SOUTH  
BIRMINGHAM, AL 35249-6806  
Phone: (205) 934-2275  
Email: [trapow@uab.edu](mailto:trapow@uab.edu)  
Fax: (205) 934-1316

**Past President**

Marian Morris  
McMahon-Sibley Medical Library  
BAPTIST PRINCETON  
701 Princeton Avenue, SW  
Birmingham, AL 35211  
Phone: (205) 783-3078  
Email: [mmorris@bhsala.com](mailto:mmorris@bhsala.com)  
Fax: (205) 783-7076

**Vice-President / President-Elect**

Geneva Bush Staggs  
University of South Alabama  
Charles M. Baugh Biomedical Library  
Mobile, AL 36688-0002  
Phone: (251) 460-6890  
Email: [gbush@jaguar1.usouthal.edu](mailto:gbush@jaguar1.usouthal.edu)  
Fax: (251) 460-7638

**Secretary**

Inga Moten  
Levi Watkins Library  
Alabama State University  
P.O. Box 271  
Montgomery, AL 36101-0271  
Phone: (334) 229-1074  
Email: [imoten@asunet.alasu.edu](mailto:imoten@asunet.alasu.edu)

**Treasurer**

Martha Verchot  
UNIV OF ALA AT BIRMINGHAM  
LISTER HILL LIBRARY OF THE  
HEALTH SCIENCES  
LHL 119  
1530 3<sup>RD</sup> AVENUE SOUTH  
BIRMINGHAM, AL 35294-0013  
Phone: (205) 934-2230  
Email: [mverchot@uab.edu](mailto:mverchot@uab.edu)

**Members-At-Large**

Michael S. Fitts  
UNIV OF ALA AT BIRMINGHAM  
LISTER HILL LIBRARY OF THE  
HEALTH SCIENCES  
LHL 115  
1530 3<sup>RD</sup> AVENUE SOUTH  
BIRMINGHAM, AL 35294-0013  
Email: [fitts@uab.edu](mailto:fitts@uab.edu)

Kay L. Fowler  
Troy State University Montgomery  
252 Montgomery Street  
Library  
Montgomery, AL 36104-3425  
Phone: (334) 241-9576  
Email: [kfowler@tsum.edu](mailto:kfowler@tsum.edu)

Susan Gambill  
Medical Center East  
Library  
50 Medical Park Drive East  
Birmingham, AL 35235  
Phone: (205) 838-3393  
Email: [sggambill@ehs-inc.com](mailto:sggambill@ehs-inc.com)  
Fax: (205) 838-3773

**COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

**Bylaws/Handbook**

Ellen Sayed  
University of South Alabama  
Charles M. Baugh Biomedical Library  
BLB 212  
Mobile, AL 36688-0002  
Phone: (251) 460-7850  
Email: [esayed@jaguar1.usouthal.edu](mailto:esayed@jaguar1.usouthal.edu)  
Fax: (251) 460-7638

**Continuing Education**

Jie Li  
Medical Center Library  
University of South Alabama  
2451 Fillingim Street  
MOBILE, AL 36617-2293  
Phone: (251) 471-7855  
Email: [jli@jaguar1.usouthal.edu](mailto:jli@jaguar1.usouthal.edu)  
Fax: (251) 471-7857

**Directory**

Jana Slay  
Troy State University at Montgomery  
252 Montgomery Street  
Montgomery, AL 36104  
Phone: (334) 241-8602  
Email: [jslay@tsum.edu](mailto:jslay@tsum.edu)

**Liaison**

Robert Avant  
Alabama Public Library Service  
6030 Monticello Drive  
Montgomery, AL 36130  
Phone: 1-800-723-8459  
Email: [rvant@apls.state.al.us](mailto:rvant@apls.state.al.us)  
Fax: (334) 213-3993

**Membership**

Susie Corbett  
UNIV OF ALA AT BIRMINGHAM  
LISTER HILL LIBRARY OF THE  
HEALTH SCIENCES  
1530 3<sup>RD</sup> AVENUE SOUTH  
BIRMINGHAM, AL 35294-0013  
Phone: (205) 934-6322  
Email: [scorbett@uab.edu](mailto:scorbett@uab.edu)  
Fax: (205) 934-3435

**Synapse Editor**

Diane N. Williams  
Biomedical Library  
University of South Alabama  
BLB 316  
Mobile, AL 36688-0002  
Phone: (251) 460-6893  
Email: [dnwillia@jaguar1.usouthal.edu](mailto:dnwillia@jaguar1.usouthal.edu)  
Fax: (251) 460-6958

**Web Coordinator / List Moderator**

Pat Higginbottom  
UNIV OF ALA AT BIRMINGHAM  
LISTER HILL LIBRARY OF THE  
HEALTH SCIENCES  
LHL 110  
1530 3<sup>RD</sup> AVENUE SOUTH  
BIRMINGHAM, AL 35294-0013  
Phone: (205) 934-2230  
Email: [phiggin@uab.edu](mailto:phiggin@uab.edu)  
Fax: (205) 975-8313

---

## *ALHeLA Executive Committee Meeting*

**Friday, April 11, 2003  
Alabama Public Library Service  
Montgomery**

Present: Judy Burnham, Susie Corbett, Michael Fitts, Jie Li, Marian Morris, Inga Moten, Tracy Powell, Ellen Sayed, Jana Slay, Geneva Staggs

1. **Call to Order:** Meeting was called to order at 10:35 a.m. by Tracy Powell, President.
2. **Approval of Minutes:** Minutes for the Business Meeting on January 24, 2003 were approved as written.
3. **Treasurer's Report:** As of April 11, 2003, the balance was \$5126.73. Membership renewals are a little slow for this time of year.
4. **Committee Reports**
  - a. **Bylaws:** No Report.
  - b. **Continuing Education:** Jie Li reported that there are three suggested workshops for the Annual meeting: "Writing for Publication" by Scott Plutchak, Editor, JMLA, Lister Hill Library; "Successful Writing of NLM Grants" by Mary Fielder and Susan Poorbaugh; "Customer Driven Service" by Penny Dendy, Executive Director of Volunteer Mobile. The latter workshop has a target audience of hospital librarians. The possibility of offering a workshop on Wednesday afternoon was discussed. Jie Li will get a survey posted to the ALHeLA discussion list for preferences of which combinations of workshops for Wednesday and Thursday.
  - c. **Directory:** No Report.
  - d. **Liaison:** No Report.
  - e. **Membership:** Susie Corbett, Chair, circulated a newly formatted membership list with one student and 2 newly added members. Current and complete information was requested of membership so that membership list would reflect Library, Institution, Work location (Room), and Address.
  - f. **Synapse:** No Report.
  - g. **Web Coordinator:** No Report.
  - h. **Nominations:** Marian Morris announced that at the next meeting June 20, 2003, she will report on the Nominating Committee selected to prepare a slate of nominations for the Executive Committee for the September business meeting.
  - i. **Members-At-Large:** Report incorporated in ALHeLA scholarships discussion below.
5. **Old Business**
  - a. **ALHeLA Scholarships:** Publicity flyers and article for inclusion in next Synapse were circulated. Publicity packets to be mailed June 28, registration deadline is August 11. Packet information will be posted to the Solo Librarians list and ALHeLA web site and possibly student listserv at Troy State University Montgomery. Publicity will be posted during time of spring semester of UA and again before the deadline. For the ALHeLA Student Grant, a change in wording to include, "or be a permanent resident of Alabama enrolled in an ALA-accredited MLS program" will be added to the first requirement. For the SLLIS application, the word "librarian"

---

will be retained in #2 of the SLLIS Fact Sheet that reads "Applicant must be a health sciences librarian and a current member of the Alabama Health Libraries Association." This wording will be reviewed for the 2004 Annual Meeting. It was suggested that packets mailed to hospital librarians contain SLLIS brochure. Maximum of two SLLIS candidates can be approved for funding; financial need is the basis for the grant.

- b. **Invitation to meet with Florida in 2005:** Tracy Powell emailed to FHSLA officers that ALHeLA could not commit to a joint conference at this time, but is interested in reciprocal registration rates for meetings. A suggestion was made that ALHeLA link to the FHSLA discussion list and the Mississippi Health Librarians group with the 2003 Annual Meeting publicity.
- c. **MLANet:** Marian Morris will report back about the link of the ALHeLA web site to MLA's list of affiliated organizations.
- d. **2003 Annual Meeting:** Geneva Bush Staggs reported with handouts of meeting plans and price comparisons to the 2001 and 2002 meetings. Registration packet with all enclosures will be mailed on June 28. Donors have been asked to contribute in one or more ways of three ways, monetarily, door prize, or promotional materials. Keynote speaker is Konrad Kressley, a futurist, who spoke at ACRL on "Information Age Survival Skills". From a choice of 15, the Committee adopted the theme, " Future Splash: the Information Wave." Cost for the hotel is reduced from last year, CE fees are the same, and the Banquet will be based on actual cost.
- e. **Other:** The NN/LM grant received by Geneva Bush Staggs for the recruitment of medical librarians and promote medical librarianship at the Alabama Libraries Association will be fulfilled at next year's meeting in Montgomery, April 2004. She has 2 panelists named at this time.

## 6. New Business

**RFQ from NN/LM for Statewide Planning Meetings:** The Southeast/Atlantic (SE/A) as part of its outreach program is requesting a proposal from SE/A network member, state library or health sciences library association to convene and facilitate a multi-disciplinary state planning team meeting in their state in years 2002 and 2003 of the current contract. A proposal will be submitted on behalf of ALHeLA for a meeting to be held early 2004. This endeavor could lead to membership growth for the NN/LM network and increase the awareness for the organization. A 5-member planning team including Tracy Powell, Jie Li, Judy Burnham, Ellen Sayed and Kay Hogan Smith will complete the preliminary work via email. Deadline for submission will be in June.

## 7. Announcements.

- a. Jie Li will attend the NLM sponsored Medical Informatics School at the Marine Biology Laboratory, Woods Hole, MA.
- b. UAB Lister Hill Library had positions available. Descriptions are available on the library's site, <http://www.uab.edu/lister/>.

## 8. Adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 11:55 a.m.

*Respectfully submitted,  
Inga Moten, Secretary*

---

*Synapse*  
Newsletter of ALHeLA Inc.  
Charles M. Baugh Biomedical Library  
University of South Alabama  
BLB 316  
Mobile, AL 36688-0002