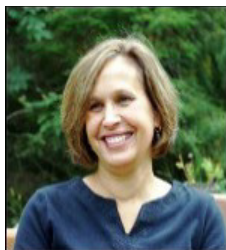


1. *Newsletter of Alabama Health Libraries Association INC.*
2. the point at which a nervous impulse passes from one neuron to another



President's Column

Greetings to all ALHeLA members!



Ellen Sayed, ALHeLA president, accepted the position of Manager, e-Access Services at the Distributed e-Library at Weill Cornell Medical College in Qatar, effective 7/23/07. As Vice-President/President-Elect, it is my pleasure to take office as president early, according to ALHeLA by-laws. On behalf of the executive board and the ALHeLA membership, I would like to thank Ellen for her leadership and contributions to ALHeLA. We wish her much success in her new endeavor! I am also grateful to everyone on the executive board for their support and assistance during this transition.

As summer draws to a close, planning continues for the annual meeting to be held in Tuscaloosa September 26-28th. Our keynote speaker this year is Dr. Elizabeth Aversa, Director of the School of Library and Information Studies, University of Alabama, who will be speaking on the timely topic "Professional Development for the 21st Century - 360 Degree Leadership and Learning." More details about the meeting, the outstanding CE opportunities, and ALHeLA meeting scholarships for librarians and students are provided within this issue of the Synapse and online at <http://southmed.usouthal.edu/library/alhela/2007meeting/2007meetinginfo.htm>.

The goal of our organization is "to promote better health care for the citizens of Alabama as it is affected by the provision of health science information resources and services." Outreach activities continue to be a focus as we look towards fall. Judy Burnham, chair of the ALHeLA liaison committee, and Kay Hogan Smith have worked with the APLS to promote a series of Consumer Health Information workshops for public libraries. These workshops are being scheduled at regional and individual libraries statewide. To find out how you can contribute, please contact Judy jburnham@jaguar1.usouthal.edu. To volunteer to support Health InfoNet, please contact Kay khogan@uab.edu.

Please remember the mentoring "Meet and Greet" reception for the SLIS students on Wednesday, September 26th at 4:00. Afterwards, there will be an informal reception and light supper provided for ALHeLA participants at the University of Alabama Health Sciences Library.

I hope to see you all in Tuscaloosa!

Lee Vucovich
President



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News Around the State

Lots of changes at the University of South Alabama!

Check out the official press release from Judy!

Judy Burnham Named Director of Charles M. Baugh Biomedical Library

Judy Burnham has been named director of the Charles M. Baugh Biomedical Library at University of South Alabama.

“It is a pleasure to announce Ms. Burnham as the new director of the Charles M. Baugh Biomedical Library” said Dean of University Libraries Dr. Richard Wood. “She has consistently shown her dedication to excellence and willingness to go the extra mile.”



Burnham has served with distinction for several years as senior librarian and associate director of the Biomedical Library. Most recently, she served as Interim Director of the Biomedical Library.

Burnham has been involved in many professional librarian capacities, serving as co-chair for the Medical Library Association’s Planning Group for Health Information Literacy Plenary Session and chair-elect for the Southern Chapter of the Medical Library Association among others. She also participated in the National Library of Medicine/Association of Health Science Libraries Leadership Fellows program. Judy serves as College of Medicine Senator for the USA Senate and has served on the COM Curriculum Committee for a number of years.

“Judy has served our organization in several capacities throughout the years,” said Dr. Samuel Strada, interim dean of the College of Medicine. “She has distinguished herself as a manager who leads by example.”

Burnham earned her Master of Library Science degree from the University of Southern Mississippi and her Bachelor of Science degree from USA. She has also earned an associate of arts degree from Western Oklahoma State College in Altus, Oklahoma.

More from USA!

Other Personnel Changes at USA Biomedical Library

Ellen Sayed has accepted the position of e-Access Manager at the Distributed e-Library at Weill Cornell Medical College at Qatar.

Geneva Staggs has assumed the newly created position of Assistant Director for Hospital Services and will supervise the Medical Center Library as well as the C&W Library and will serve as liaison to those hospitals.

Jie Li will move into the newly created Assistant Director for Collection Management position.

Justin Robertson has been promoted to the position of Assistant Director for Public Services.

USA Events!

From August 1 through Oct 29, the USA Biomedical Library is hosting “Opening Doors: Contemporary African American Academic Surgeons,” a traveling exhibit on the first stop of its national tour. This inspiring exhibit details the stories of four pioneering African American academic surgeons and educators who exemplify excellence as well as current academic surgeons from around the country through contemporary and historical images that takes the visitor on a journey through their lives and achievements. The Medical Director of the USA Regional Transplant Center, Dr. Velma Scantlebury, is included in this prestigious exhibit. She is the only African American woman transplant surgeon in the United States. ALHeLA members are invited to join the USA Biomedical Library for an opening reception on August 20 at 7pm in the COM Conference Room. For further details, please contact Judy Burnham, jburnham@jaguar1.usouthal.edu, 251/460-6886. For further information on the exhibit, see <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/exhibition/afram-surgeons/>.

The USA Biomedical Library hosted Jin Cheng, one of the 2007 MLA Cunningham Fellows, from July 16-July 27. During her stay, Jin observed the processes in the various Biomedical Library departments and attended meetings and seminars with the librarians. Jin is the Deputy Director of the Information Service Section of the Medical Library of Chinese PLA in Beijing, China. Jie Li served as Jin’s host during her stay.

ALHeLA News

ALHeLA Members Exhibit for NNLM at Alabama Public Health Association

ALHeLA members **Justin Robertson** and **Kay Hogan Smith** staffed an exhibit table for the National Network of Libraries of Medicine (NNLM) at the recent Alabama Public Health Association/Alabama Environmental Health Association annual meeting in Mobile, May 16-18. They introduced hundreds of public health professionals (including state health officer Donald Williamson) to the many NLM products for public health, including PubMed, Toxnet, and MedlinePlus as well as our own consumer health information website, Health InfoNet of Alabama. (Kay even handed out Spanish MedlinePlus brochures to attendees of a conversational Spanish workshop taught by Health InfoNet advisory board member Julia Sosa of the Alabama Dept. of Public Health.) The exhibit was funded by NNLM with ALHeLA as the grantee organization.



Justin Robertson, Kay Hogan Smith, and state health officer Donald Williamson

More ALHeLA News

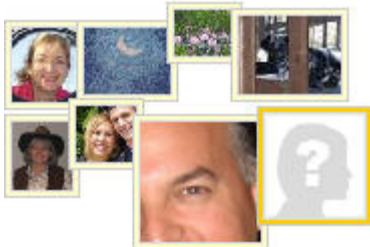
ALHeLA Liaison Committee Seeking Volunteers

The ALHeLA Liaison Committee is working with APLS to provide training on quality consumer health Web-based resources for public library personnel throughout the state. Members of ALHeLA are working with APLS coordinators to speak at district meetings and/or public libraries. Public library personnel are often the first place that consumers go to gather healthcare information. By training the public library personnel, ALHeLA members can help them to identify quality sites and thereby help the consumer to get better information. If you would like to help provide this training in your part of the state, please contact Judy Burnham, jburnham@jaguar1.usouthal.edu, 251/460-6886. PowerPoint slides, exercises, handouts, etc. will be provided to help you develop your presentation, and ALHeLA will provide travel expenses.

Lister Hill Library News

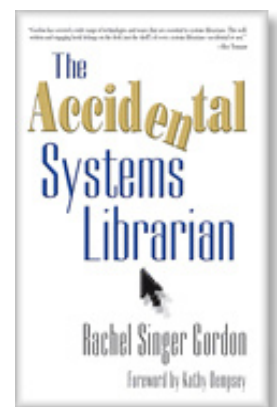
Learning 2.0 Staff Development Activity

The folks at Lister Hill are doing a fun and valuable summer activity. Based on a program developed at the [Public Library of Charlotte & Mecklenburg County](#), this 8- week voluntary program introduces blogs, wikis, podcasts, mashups, and more. Visit the [Learning 2.0 @ LHL wiki](#) to learn more!



Publishing Again!

Congratulations to **Lisa Ennis** and **Nicole Mitchell**! They've just had a book proposal accepted by [Info Today, Inc.](#) The book will be part of the popular "Accidental" series begun by [Rachel Singer Gordon](#). Entitled *The Accidental Health Sciences Librarian*, Lisa and Nicole hope the work will serve as a valuable tool for all librarians as well as providing a big ole plug for health sciences librarianship!



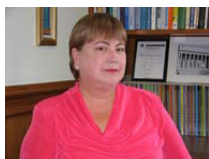
2007 ALHeLA Annual Meeting

Riding the Information Tide Tuscaloosa, AL - September 26 - 28, 2007

Plan to join your colleagues for three fun days of networking, learning new skills, and sharing ideas at the ALHeLA annual meeting, Wednesday, September 26th through Friday, September 28, at the Four Points by Sheraton Tuscaloosa Capstone on the University of Alabama campus. Our conference, ALHeLA 2007: Riding the INFORMATION Tide, will focus on connections, collaborations, and the new communication tools that make these initiatives possible.

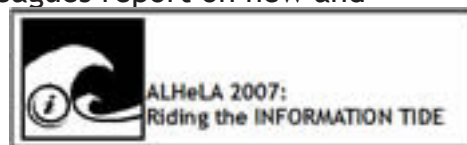
Connect with colleagues at UA SLIS! We will have several opportunities to connect with librarians and future librarians at the School of Library and Information Studies. Please plan to arrive by 4:00 on Wednesday to participate in a “meet and greet” mentoring activity to promote Health Sciences Librarianship to the SLIS students. A networking supper will be provided after the event for all ALHeLA participants as well as those arriving for the annual meeting.

On Thursday, Professor Steven MacCall and joined by SLIS students, will present two exciting, hands-on Continuing Education courses on Web 2.0 tools and their uses. Choose the introduction or the advanced section, or take them both; the morning session will prepare beginners for the afternoon’s more advanced content.



Dr. Elizabeth Aversa, Director of UA School of Library and Information Studies, will present the keynote address, “Professional Development for the 21st Century - 360 Degree Leadership and Learning.” Elizabeth Aversa has been involved in library and information science education for over twenty years, serving as a faculty member, dean, and director. Prior to receiving her doctorate in 1984, Aversa was a librarian in public and state library agencies. Aversa’s interests range from LIS education, state libraries, and humanities librarianship to communication in scholarly disciplines. In this upbeat and interesting presentation, Dr. Aversa will discuss new ways for professional librarians to expand their career development by both learning and teaching. Of course, she will also discuss technology.

Collaboration with our constituents and colleagues will be the focus on Friday. Learn how librarians can become effective agents for patient safety within their institutions in CE 3 presented by Sheila Snow-Croft. At the luncheon and business meeting, learn how you can support the Health InfoNet of Alabama initiative, and hear colleagues report on new and innovative collaborations they have been involved with this year.



The conference hotel, The Four Points by Sheraton Tuscaloosa Capstone, has beautiful rooms with free wireless access, is located on campus, and is just a short walk from Gorgas Library. A bus shuttle service and parking passes will also be available. The conference rates of \$96.00 plus taxes will be available through August 26th, so please make your reservations early.

2007 ALHELA Annual Meeting

ALHeLA offers scholarships to attend our meeting. Please take a look at the scholarships described in your packet or at the links below to see if you qualify. The deadline to apply for scholarships is August 28, 2007.

For questions and additional information, please visit the links below or contact Lee Vucovich, Conference Chair, at lvucovi@uab.edu or (205) 934-2230.

Meeting Website

[2007 Meeting Brochure](#)

[2007 Registration Form](#)

[CE 1A It's Not the Apocalypse: Using the Infrastructure and Basic Content Creation Tools of Web 2.0 Pt. 1](#)

[CE B1 It's Not the Apocalypse: Using the Infrastructure and Basic Content Creation Tools of Web 2.0 Pt. 2](#)

[CE 3 Patient Safety Resource Seminar: Librarians on the Front Line**](#)

[Scholarship for Librarians with Limited Institutional Support \(SLLIS\)](#)

ALHeLA Student Grant

**Required readings for CE 3 are Ulrich R, Zimring C. *Role of the physical environment in the hospital of the 21st century: a once in a lifetime opportunity*. Princeton, NJ: Robert Wood Johnson Foundation; 2004; Kalra J. Medical errors: impact on clinical laboratories and other critical areas. *Clin Biochem*. 2004(Dec);37(12):1052-1062; Turnbull JE. *Systems approach to error reduction in health care*. *Japan Med Assoc J*. 2001(Sep); 44(9): 392-403.

We hope to see you all in Tuscaloosa!

Please continue to send us your news and ideas! The newsletter is only as good as we make it!

Send ideas and comments to:
Jason Baker jbb42@uab.edu and
Lisa Ennis lennis@uab.edu

Don't forget to nominate someone for the Achievement Award and Student Scholarship!



Tuscaloosa Links

[Four Points by Sheraton Tuscaloosa Capstone \(conference hotel\)](#)

[University of Alabama Interactive Map](#)

[University of Alabama Health Sciences Library](#)

[Tuscaloosa Convention and Visitors Bureau](#)

[Online Tuscaloosa](#)