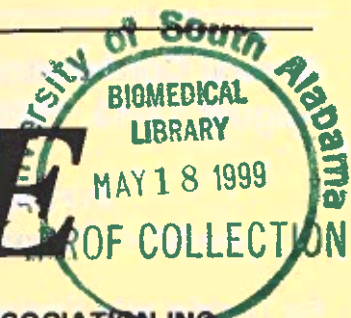




# SYNAPSE

NEWSLETTER OF ALABAMA HEALTH LIBRARIES ASSOCIATION INC.



Vol. 18, No. 2

Spring 1999

## PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Although it is just spring time, ALHeLA has already accomplished a lot this year. ALHeLA members are working hard to raise our visibility and to serve the community.

In March, four NAAL workshops on Allied Health and Nursing Resources on the Web had been taught by ALHeLA members. Lisa Russell and Nelle Williams started the first one in Tuscaloosa in early March. Judy Burnham and Sally Murray conducted one in Mobile and one in Montgomery. Martha Verchot and Lee Taylor did one in Huntsville. A total of 43 librarians and faculty members from universities and junior colleges and other sectors around the state attended these workshops. People were very impressed of the workshops and appreciative of the efforts of the instructors in providing these workshops. There is one more workshop of this series to be held at UAB Lister Hill Library in May. For more information about this workshop, please contact Martha Verchot <mverchot@uab.edu> or check it out at ALHeLA web page <<http://www.uab.edu/lister/alhela>>.

Judy Burnham and Sally Murray also taught a Health Resources on the Internet workshop at the Alabama Library Association Annual Meeting in Orange Beach. Fifteen librarians attended this workshop.

*INFORMATION, Available ~ Accessible ~ Manageable.* Joan Lukins is planning this year's ALHeLA annual meeting around this theme. She will have a keynote speaker addressing information technologies and public health education issues. Please mark August 12-13 on your calendar and join us at Stillwaters Resort at Lake Martin, Dadeville for this year's annual meeting.

*Jie Li, ALHeLA President*

**Come to the Annual Conference to Hear More about.....**

### INFORMATION :

*Available ~ Accessible ~ Manageable*

The ALHeLA Annual Conference will be held at Stillwaters Conference Center in Dadeville, AL on August 12-13, 1999. The Center is located on Lake Martin, about 30 minutes from Auburn, 60 minutes from Montgomery, and 90 minutes from Birmingham, on Alabama Route 49.

For more details see Annual Conference article on page 2.

## Congratulations Kay!

Congratulations to ALHeLA member and new mom, Kay Hogan. Kay's son Henry Nathan was born on February 18, 1999. A few days overdue, Henry weighed in at 9 pounds and one ounce. Kay will be on maternity leave until the end of May. Mom and baby are both doing great. Congratulations again to Kay and her husband.

*Submitted by Pat Higginbottom*

### Inside this Issue

Annual Conference (August 12-13, 1999)	2
Late Breaking News	2
News from Alabama	2
News from National Library of Medicine	3
ALHeLA Executive Committee Members (1999)	4
Executive Committee Meeting (January 15, 1999)	5

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, Biomedical Library, University of South Alabama, BLB 316, Mobile, AL 36688-0002, phone: (334) 460-6893, fax: (334) 460-7638, E-mail: [drwillia@jaguar1.usouthal.edu](mailto:drwillia@jaguar1.usouthal.edu)

## Annual Conference August 12-13, 1999

### **INFORMATION :**

*Available ~ Accessible ~ Manageable*

For Thursday we're planning two ½ day CE courses - final plans are under way with the presenters. The keynote speaker on Friday will be from a partnership group formed by some representatives of the CDC, NLM, and NN/LM to address information technologies and public health education issues. Stay tuned for the late-breaking news on where information is going to take us!

StillWaters is a Conference Center and Resort Community on Lake Martin and has excellent recreational activities available: golfing, swimming, boating, fishing, kayaking, water sports, and walking trails. A large comfortable conference room has been reserved for the meeting. A number of condos have been reserved: three 3-bedroom units and twenty-one 2-bedroom units have been reserved. The 2-bedroom units have 2 double beds in each room. The 3-bedroom units' arrangement is one king room; one queen room; and a room with 2 double beds. In both the 2- and 3-bedroom arrangements there is a private bath for each bedroom; a living room; an equipped kitchen; balcony. Parking spaces are at each condo. Sounds like a great place to come for a conference and a weekend getaway. Wouldn't it be great to enjoy having your family come with you, or have them join you later and stay for the weekend?

You should receive your packet with all of the details in early June.

FYI -- for your preliminary planning information purposes the ALHeLA conference room reservations will have to be completed by JULY 24. All rooms not reserved by conference attendees by that date will be removed from hold-status and returned to StillWaters; otherwise ALHeLA will have to pay for rooms that no participant has reserved.

*Submitted by Joan Lukins*

### **Late Breaking News:**

**Keynote speaker for the Annual Conference in August is Dennis L. McDowell, Director, Division of Media Training Services, Public Health Practice Program Office - Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).**

## News from Alabama

### **University of South Alabama Biomedical Library:**

Jie Li has received notification of renewal of her membership in the Academy of Health Information Professionals (AHIP) at the Senior level. The AHIP is the peer-reviewed professional development program of the Medical Library Association.

Gentry Holbert, Education Coordinator, will present a session entitled, "Determining Quality Web Sites for Research: A Review of Evaluation Criteria for Quality Healthcare Information" at the April Clinical Education Sessions of the Alabama State Nurses' Association annual conference, FACES 99 in Montgomery.

Six librarians from the Biomedical Library are taking part in a Journal Club on Evidence-Based Health Care. By reviewing articles on the topic each month, the librarians are gaining a better understanding of this topic. Evidence based health care is an approach to health care practice in which the clinician is aware of the evidence that bears on the clinical practice, and the strength of that evidence.

Judy Burnham and Sally Murray took part in a joint project of the Alabama Health Libraries Association and the Network for Academic Libraries. This project involves teaching Internet classes throughout the state for librarians at junior colleges and technical schools with nursing or allied health programs. Judy and Sally taught classes in Mobile and Montgomery for this project. Jie Li, President of ALHeLA, was instrumental in developing this project.

Judy and Sally also conducted a session at the annual meeting of the Alabama Library Association in April on Health Resources on the Web. The session was geared to public librarians.

*University of South Alabama Establishes Liaison Program:* The Biomedical Library has established a Liaison Program that will enable better communication with the departments in the Colleges of Medicine, Nursing and Allied Health. A librarian has been assigned to each department and will soon be in contact to make an initial presentation at the department meeting. The liaison will receive input from the department regarding suggestions for additions to the collection, and will also work closely with the department on library instruction and development of the Biomedical Library web page.

*Copyright Teleconference at University of South Alabama:* The Copyright in the New Millennium teleconference will be held May 21, 1999 11-2pm in Room 5 of the University Library. It will address issues that libraries and librarians need to understand about the Digital Millennium Copyright Act and the Copyright Term Extension. For information contact Sally Murray, 460-7044.

*Submitted by Judy F. Burnham*

## National Library of Medicine News

### April 12, 1999: National Library of Medicine Unveils Web-based Online Catalog

(Bethesda, Md.) Donald A. B. Lindberg, M.D., director of the National Library of Medicine, today unveiled the Library's new web catalog, called LOCATORplus, saying it "will allow anyone with Internet access to find out what books, journals, audiovisuals, manuscripts, and other items are contained in the world's largest medical library."

"LOCATORplus is a big step forward for library users," Dr. Lindberg added. For example, users can search by author, subject, title, conference name, keyword and many other specific fields, then e-mail the results to themselves. New receipts of both serial and monograph material are displayed along with information about material that is on order or available electronically. Hotlinks to online journals are available from many records. Direct access to a variety of other resources is available from LOCATORplus including MEDLINE, MEDLINEplus, Images of the History of Medicine, TOXNET, HSTAT, and other U.S. medical library catalogs.

LOCATORplus is part of NLM's new integrated library system (ILS) that is being used for acquisitions, serials control, cataloging, collection management, circulation and preservation. It is the online catalog NLM provides its on-site patrons, and it also serves as the retrieval engine for the Library's cataloging records, replacing existing online access methods, such as Locator, CATLINE, AVLINE and SERLINE. "The Library now has a firm base for its many literature-based operations," said Pamela André, director of the National Agricultural Library and a member of NLM's Board of Regents.

"The system brings together a number of previously disparate databases, along with information formerly available only to staff, using state-of-art information retrieval technology," said librarian Dianne McCutcheon, who coordinated the NLM team that implemented LOCATORplus. "We want librarians, physicians, scientists, scholars, and students to discover the wealth of research materials available to them. In some cases we are the only library in the U.S. to own a book or journal."

Beginning today, NLM's LOCATORplus can be found at: [www.nlm.nih.gov/locatorplus/](http://www.nlm.nih.gov/locatorplus/) The site is updated daily.

The National Library of Medicine, a part of the National Institutes of Health, has more than 5.3 million books, journals, artworks, and other materials in its collection

### MeSH Browser

(<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/mesh/99MBrowser.html>)

The MeSH Browser is an online vocabulary look-up aid available for use with MeSH® (Medical Subject Headings). It is designed to help quickly locate descriptors of possible interest and to show the hierarchy in which descriptors of interest appear. Virtually complete MeSH records are available, including the scope notes, annotations, entry vocabulary, history notes, allowable qualifiers, etc. The browser does not link directly to any MEDLINE or other database retrieval system and thus is not a substitute for the Internet Grateful MED or PUBMED systems.

The MeSH Browser points to the newest version of MeSH and so it will also find new Supplementary Concepts as these are added and updated quarterly. The initial screen of the MeSH Browser displays the date of the latest update so you will know the currency of the vocabulary data being browsed.

The MeSH Browser may be used to find descriptors, qualifiers, or Supplementary Concepts of interest and see these in relationship to other concepts. The browser is part of the MeSH WebPages. It finds descriptors of interest without assuming knowledge of the often-complex vocabulary structure and rules. For example, if you enter male neoplasms as a search, the Browser will display a list of related descriptors including:

- Breast Neoplasms, Male (a MeSH descriptor)
- Genital Neoplasms, Male (a MeSH descriptor)
- Male Breast Neoplasms (an entry term to MeSH)
- Male Genital Neoplasms (an entry term to MeSH) Etc.

The look-up can be restricted or limited with any of the following:

- Main Headings
- Qualifiers
- Supplementary Concepts
- All of the Above

Searching for names of chemicals and other Supplementary Concepts (non-descriptors and non-qualifiers) can be limited to any of the following fields:

- Heading Mapped To (HM) (Supplementary List)
- Indexing Information (II) (Supplementary List)
- Pharmacological Action (PA)
- CAS Registry/EC Number (RN)
- Related CAS Registry Number (RR)

When a single descriptor has been selected, the complete record can then be displayed. Fields or elements within the descriptor are linked to additional sources such as related Indexing Manual sections, definitions and other similar information.

The MeSH hierarchy can also be displayed online and each descriptor is a direct link to the complete MeSH record for that term.

*From NLM Press Release*

## Alabama Health Libraries Association 1999 Executive Committee

### OFFICERS

#### President

Jie Li  
Medical Center Library  
University of South Alabama  
2451 Fillingim St.  
Mobile, AL 36617  
Phone: (334) 471-7855  
Fax: (334) 471-7857  
Email: jli@jaguar1.usouthal.edu

#### Past President

Patricia Higginbottom  
Lister Hill Library of the Health Sciences  
University of Alabama at Birmingham  
1700 University Blvd.  
Birmingham, AL 35294-0013  
Phone: (205) 934-2230  
Fax: (205) 975-8313  
Email: phiggin@uab.edu

#### Vice President/President Elect

Joan T. Lukins  
Lister Hill Library  
University of Alabama at Birmingham  
1700 University Blvd.  
Birmingham, AL 35294-0013  
Phone: (205) 934-2230  
Fax: (205) 934-8313  
Email: jlukins@uab.edu

#### Secretary

Marian Morris  
Birmingham Baptist Medical Center -  
Princeton  
701 Princeton Ave. S.W.  
Birmingham, AL 35211  
Phone: (205) 783-3078  
Fax: (205) 783-7076  
Email: marian.morris@bhsala.com

#### Treasurer/Bookkeeper

Lisa Rains Russell  
Health Sciences Library  
University of Alabama  
P.O. Box 870378  
Tuscaloosa, AL 35487-0378  
Phone: (205) 348-1362  
Fax: (205) 348-9563  
Email: lrussell@cchs.ua.edu

#### Members-at-Large

Susan Seay  
American Sports Medicine Institute  
1313 13th St. South  
Birmingham, AL 35205  
Phone: (205) 918-2131  
Email: susans@asmi.org  
or seay\_asmi@hotmail.com

Susan Deming  
Providence Hospital  
Library  
6801 Airport Blvd.  
Mobile, AL 36685  
Phone: (334) 633-1373  
Fax: (334) 639-2061  
Email: Sdeming@providencehospital.org

Inez Pinkard  
Medical Library 142D  
Dept. of Veteran Affairs Medical Center  
2400 Hospital Road  
Tuskegee, AL 36083  
Phone: (334) 727-0550 x3237  
Fax: (334) 727-0550 x4130  
Email: pinkard.inez@montgomery.va.gov

### COMMITTEE CHAIRS

#### Bylaws Committee

Robert H. Schrimsher  
McWhorter School of Pharmacy  
Samford University  
Phone: (205) 807-2161  
Fax: (205) 414-4012  
Email: rhschrim@samford.edu

#### Continuing Education Committee

Jay Harris  
List Hill Library, UAB  
1700 University Blvd.  
Birmingham, AL 35294-0013  
Phone: (205) 934-2460  
Email: jharris@uab.edu

Susan Deming  
Providence Hospital  
Library  
6801 Airport Blvd.  
Mobile, AL 36685  
Phone: (334) 633-1373  
Fax: (334) 639-2061  
Email: Sdeming@providencehospital.org

#### Directory Committee

Jan Burns  
Medical Library  
VA Hospital Birmingham  
700 19th Street  
Birmingham, AL 35233  
Phone: (205) 933-8101 x6474  
Fax: (205) 933-8101 x6477  
Email: burns.jan@forum.va.gov

Betty Wyman  
Gulf Shores Public Library  
221 W 19th Ave  
Gulf Shores, AL 36542-3055  
Phone: (334) 968-1176  
Email: bwyman@gulftel.com

#### Liason Committee

Tracy Powell  
Lister Hill Library - West Pavilion  
University of Alabama at Birmingham  
615 S. 18th Street, Room P235  
Birmingham, AL 35233  
Phone: (205) 934-2275  
Fax: (205) 934-1316  
Email: trapow@uab.edu

Beverly E. Johnson  
Baptist Health Montgomery  
Baptist Medical Library  
2055 East South Blvd.  
P.O. Box 11010  
Montgomery, AL 36111-0010  
Phone: (334) 286-2925  
Email: BJohnson@bmcmt.hbocvan.com

#### Membership Committee

Carolyn Holmes  
Birmingham Baptist Medical Center Montclair  
Montclair Medical Library  
Birmingham, AL 35213  
Phone: (205) 592-5640  
Email: carolyn.holmes@bhsala.com

#### Synapse Editor

Diane Williams  
Biomedical Library  
University of South Alabama  
BLB 316  
Mobile, AL 36688-0002  
Phone: (334) 460-6893  
Fax: (334) 460-7638  
Email: dnwillia@jaguar1.usouthal.edu

#### Union List Coordinators

Robert Avant  
Alabama Public Library Service  
6030 Monticello Drive  
Montgomery, AL 36130  
Phone: (334) 213-3946  
Fax: (334) 213-3993  
Email: ravant@apls.state.al.us

Sarah (Sally) Murray  
Biomedical Library, 214 BLB  
University of South Alabama  
Mobile, AL 36688  
Phone: (334) 414-8210  
Fax: (334) 460-7638  
Email: smurray@jaguar1.usouthal.edu

---

## Alabama Health Libraries Association

### Executive Committee Meeting – MINUTES

March 26, 1999

The meeting was called to order at 1045am by Jie Li, President.

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM LAST EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING:**

The minutes of the January 15, 1999 meeting were approved as written.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Jie Li circulated a copy of the new version of the Alliance Manual.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

ALHeLA/NAAL workshops on Allied Health and Nursing Resources on the Web : Sally Murray reported that only two classes remain, Huntsville and Birmingham. A total of 30 people attended the classes in Mobile, Montgomery, and Tuscaloosa. Small class size allowed for one-to-one instruction in some cases. Information on the workshops is available on the ALHeLA website.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

Jie Li discussed plans for this year's achievement award.

#### **TREASURER'S REPORT:**

Lisa Rains Russell presented a revised report for August 17, 1998 to January 15, 1999, with additional deposits from meeting registrations and directory donations. The treasury continues to grow, and we should have additional reimbursement monies coming in soon from the SERHOLD libraries. Lisa will mail individual SERHOLD invoices for 1998-1999 after spring break.

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Bylaws :** No report.

**Continuing Education :** Jay Harris reported that he is negotiating with Jett McCann for a 4-hour serials management course. Susan Deming is working on leads for the second course; perhaps an SLA course on adapting to change.

**Directory:** Jan Burns reported that she has one more batch to send out; this mailing will include an updated membership list. She has gotten good feedback on the directory.

**Liaison :** No report.

**Membership :** Marian Morris (for Carolyn Holmes) reported that the current membership is 57 members, 52 renewals and 5 new members. Three new members have joined since the January meeting to Margo Mead from UAH, Yvonne Kozlowski from the Auburn Veterinary Library, and Judy Walton from Mobile Public. Carolyn has contacted those members who have not yet renewed their memberships.

**Synapse :** Diane Williams reported that the next deadline is April 9, 1999.

**Union List Coordinator :** Robert Avant announced that the APLS has a new director, Dr. Lamar Veatch, who comes to Montgomery from Irving, Texas. Dr. Veatch will be the keynote speaker at this year's Alabama Library Association conference. Robert also discussed the changes in technology and what that will mean for future APLS offline products, etc. Holdings information may become somewhat out-dated until a solution is found.

---

**1999 ANNUAL MEETING:**

Joan Lukins announced that an agreement with StillWaters resort has been signed. The theme for the meeting is *Information : Available, Accessible, Manageable*. She is working with Dennis McDowell of the CDC on a "future of CDC information" presentation for the keynote address. As in the past, a panel discussion with the CE teachers and the keynote person will follow the keynote address. Many more details will be announced at the June meeting.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Sally Murray announced that she and Judy Burnham will teach a Health Resources on the Internet class on April 6, 1999, at the Alabama Library Association Annual Meeting at Perdido Beach Resort. This class is sponsored by both ALHeLA and the University of South Alabama Biomedical Library.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1140am.

*Respectfully submitted, Marian Morris, Secretary*

---

**Synapse**

Newsletter of ALHeLA Inc.  
Biomedical Library  
University of South Alabama  
BLB 316  
Mobile, AL 36688-0002

University of South Alabama \*99\*  
Biomedical Library  
Mobile, Al 36688-0002  
Attn. Serials Dept.