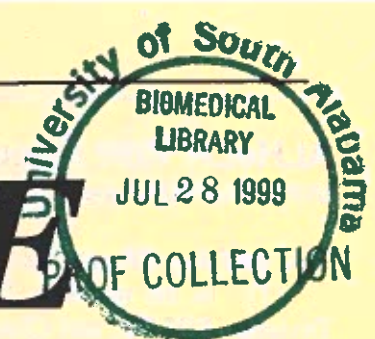




# SYNAPSE



NEWSLETTER OF ALABAMA HEALTH LIBRARIES ASSOCIATION INC.

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Summer 1999

## PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

What a busy and productive year for ALHeLA! It's only half way through the year, and ALHeLA has finished all five classes on *Nursing and Allied Health Resources on the Web*. Scheduled around the state, these classes were co-sponsored by Network of Alabama Academic Libraries. Thanks to our hardworking members Lisa Russell, Nelle Williams, Martha Verchot, Lee Taylor, Judy Burnham and Sally Murray, ALHeLA has brought its expertise to our fellow librarians in other colleges, universities and hospitals in the state.

Judy Burnham will never stop surprising us! She is this year's Medical Library Association Ida and George Eliot Prize winner. Judy is one of the authors of the series of articles entitled "Mapping the Literature of Allied Health" published in the *Bulletin of the Medical Library Association*, Volume 85, Issue 3, 1997. Judy wrote two articles, "Mapping the literature of radiologic technology" and "Mapping the literature of respiratory therapy", in this series. The Ida and George Eliot Prize is presented annually for a work published in the preceding calendar year that has been judged most effective in furthering medical librarianship. Congratulations, Judy!

Joan Lukins, President-Elect and Program Chair, is working hard to ensure everything goes smoothly at this year's ALHeLA annual meeting at StillWaters Resort on August 12-13. Working closely with her are Jay Harris and Susan Deming, Continuing Education Co-Chairs; they will bring great speakers to the meeting. See Joan's article for details of the speakers. Please watch your mail box for the annual meeting packet.

*Jie Li, ALHeLA President*

## INFORMATION :

### *Available ~ Accessible ~ Manageable*

ALHeLA 1999 Annual Conference

The ALHeLA Annual Conference will be held at StillWaters Conference Center in Dadeville, Alabama on Thursday and Friday, August 12-13, 1999. The Center is located on Lake Martin on Alabama Route 49.

**Thursday - two half day CE courses:**

- ◆ The Use and Management of Electronic Serials
- ◆ NLM Toxicology Database Resources

**Friday morning - the keynote speaker:**

Dennis MacDowell, Director, Division of Media Training Services, Public Health Practice Program Office - Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

- ◆ Knowledge Management

**Excellent recreational activities:**

- ◆ golfing      ◆ swimming      ◆ walking trails
- ◆ boating      ◆ fishing      ◆ water sports
- ◆ kayaking

Details on the Annual Meeting are found on the next page.

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## ALHeLA 1999 Annual Conference

*INFORMATION: Available - Accessible - Manageable*

### Two half day CE courses on Thursday, August 12:

(1) In the morning, Lynn M. Fortney, Biomedical Division, EBSCO, and Chuck Leachman, Sales Manager, EBSCO will host *The Use and Management of Electronic Serials*, a subject near and dear to all of our hearts currently!

(2) In the afternoon, Philip Wexler, Technical Information Specialist, Toxicology and Environmental Health Information Program, NLM, will present *NLM Toxicology Database Resources*. The new interface, with the latest databases configuration, will be released or near to it, and he will use that interface for the session. We will be among the first to have a look at this wonderful new resource!

### Keynote speaker on Friday, August 13:

Dennis MacDowell, Director, Div. of Media Training Services, Public Health Practice Program Office - Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), will discuss *Knowledge Management* - as it will be done! Dennis is involved with a partnership group formed by some representatives of the CDC, NLM, and NN/LM to address information technologies and public health education issues. Judging from a Grand Rounds presentation he did this year at UAB's School of Public Health, you'll be on the edge of your chairs!

### StillWaters Conference Center and Resort Community on Lake Martin:

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. StillWaters has excellent recreational opportunities: golfing, swimming, boating, fishing, kayaking, water sports, and walking trails. A large comfortable conference room has been reserved for the meeting. Three 3-bedroom condos and twenty-one 2-bedroom condos have been reserved. The 2-bedroom units have 2 double beds in each room. The 3-bedroom units have one king room; one queen room; and a room with 2 double beds. Both the 2- and 3-bedroom arrangements have a private bath for each bedroom; a living room; an equipped kitchen; a balcony. Parking spaces are at each condo.

Please note that StillWaters won't book individual beds or rooms - only the condos themselves. The Conference Committee will accumulate the reservations and must notify StillWaters by Monday July 26 of the number of condos we need. Your room reservation forms will be in the conference packets. Those forms will have to be returned to the Committee (not to StillWaters), according to the directions found in your conference packet. If you plan to share a room or condo, please firm up your plans so you can complete your conference reservation forms.

Doesn't it sound like an ideal place to come for a conference and for a weekend getaway? Wouldn't it be great to enjoy having your family come with you, or arrange to stay for the weekend and visit with friends?

Registration information should reach ALHeLA members in early July.

*Submitted by Joan Lukins*

## ALHeLA Member Wins National Award

Congratulations Judy Burnham, co-winner of the Ida and George Eliot Prize from the Medical Library Association!

The Ida and George Eliot Prize, sponsored by Login Brothers Book Company, is given annually for a work published in the preceding calendar year that has been judged most effective in furthering medical librarianship. Barbara F. Schloman, Ph.D., AHIP, is director, Library Information Services, and associate professor, Libraries & Media Services, at Kent State University, Kent, OH. She received her library degree from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, and her doctorate in health education from Kent State University. Judith F. Burnham, AHIP, is assistant director for administrative and regional services at the University of South Alabama Biomedical Library in Mobile. She received her M.L.S. From the University of Southern Mississippi-Hattiesburg. Linda G. Slater, is a reference/collections librarian at the John W. Scott Health Sciences Library, University of Alberta-Edmonton. Eileen M. Wakiji, AHIP, is nursing and allied health librarian at California State University-Long Beach where she is a tenured, associate librarian. She received her M.S.L.S. From the University of Southern California-Los Angeles. All received this year's award for their work on "Mapping the Literature of Allied Health" (Bull Med Libr Assoc 1997 July;85(3):269-302).

*From MLA News (Online): June/July 1999*

## ALHeLA Directory Update

The newest edition of the ALHeLA Directory (3-ring binder format) has been well received. The Directory Committee is in the process of updating the institutional listings section by sending out inquiries to the members for updates/corrections. Updated sections will be distributed at the Annual Meeting or mailed to those members unable to attend. If you did not receive a copy, please contact Jan Burns:

Phone: (205) 933-8101, x5415

Email: BURNS.JAN\_P@FORUM.VA.GOV

Extra copies can be purchased for \$15.00.

*Submitted by Jan Burns*

## Summary of ALHeLA/NAAL Teaching Project

At the request of Sue Medina, director of Network of Alabama Academic Libraries (NAAL), Alabama Health Libraries Association (ALHeLA) and NAAL have co-sponsored a project to teach *Nursing and Allied Health Resources on the Web* throughout the state. These classes were offered to librarians at universities and junior colleges with nursing and allied health programs but without health sciences libraries. NAAL handled the publicity and registration, NAAL member libraries supplied the facilities, and ALHeLA developed and taught the classes. Jie Li developed the resource webpage and coordinated the project. Six ALHeLA members participated in the development and teaching of the classes. The classes were as follows:

Date:	March 2, 1999
Instructors:	Lisa Russell and Nelle Williams
Location:	Univ of Ala, Tuscaloosa
Date:	March 15, 1999
Instructors:	Judy Burnham and Sally Murray
Location:	Spring Hill College, Mobile
Date:	March 16, 1999
Instructors:	Judy Burnham and Sally Murray
Location:	Auburn Univ at Montgomery, Montgomery
Date:	March 30, 1999
Instructors:	Martha Verchot and Lee Taylor
Location:	Univ of Ala at Huntsville, Huntsville
Date:	May 25, 1999
Instructors:	Martha Verchot
Location:	Univ of Ala at Birmingham, Birmingham

The workshops were all hands-on. Evaluation indicated that all of the workshops were well received, with most participants noting an increase in knowledge of the subject as a result of the workshops. Some of the evaluations include that instructors are great, helpful and knowledgeable, instructors really know their subjects very well, logical presentation, course contents alone worth the price, excellent workshop-well presented, webpage assistance and HTML information good asset, particularly appreciated search engine information and website list of resources, etc.

NAAL member libraries which hosted these workshops were very helpful, and good in technical support. We realized that at locations where there is an academic health sciences library, the attendance was low, while at locations where there is no academic health science library, the attendance was high. For instance, Montgomery and Huntsville classes had much higher attendance than the other three classes. We also feel that there should have been a workshop to cover east Alabama. I am very grateful to the members who participated this project. They have contributed to the

medical librarianship by reaching out to our fellow librarians and definitely increased the visibility of ALHeLA.

*Submitted by Jie Li*

## Letter from SC/MLA Governmental Relations Committee

Dear Alabama Medical Librarians:

I am writing as chair of the Southern Chapter Governmental Relations Committee to invite you to join a Southern medical library advocacy network as a "district contact" in your legislative district. As a district contact in Alabama, I would inform you whenever a key piece of legislation comes before congress that is of concern to librarians (particularly medical librarians). You would then be expected to contact your congressperson and/or Senators to express your concerns surrounding that piece of legislation. In this way, we hope to mobilize stronger grassroots support for medical libraries in Alabama. If you would like to be involved in this effort, or if you know of someone else who might be interested, please contact me as instructed below. Thank you!

Kay Hogan Smith, Chair  
SC/MLA Governmental Relations Committee

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## Electronic and Internet-Based Resources Survey

Jan Burns, Administrative Librarian at the VA Medical Center in Birmingham, is conducting a survey on electronic and Internet-based resources. The survey consists of two parts: 1) a survey of the end-users at the VA Medical Center; and 2) a survey of other health science libraries. The ALHeLA Executive Board voted to place the library survey on the ALHeLA webpage to offer a wider range of libraries a chance to participate.

<http://www.uab.edu/lister/alhela/survlet.htm>

A copy of the survey will also be distributed to the Jefferson County Hospital Librarians Association and the VA Library Network (VALNET).

Surveys need to be returned by September 1. Results of the study will be submitted to the professional library journals for publishing.

*Submitted by Jan Burns*

## Alabama Health Libraries Association 1999 Executive Committee

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# Alabama Health Libraries Association

## Executive Committee Meeting - MINUTES

June 11, 1999

Jie Li, President, called the meeting to order at 10:32am.

I. The minutes from the March 1999 Executive Meeting were approved as written.

### II. ANNOUNCEMENTS :

Tracy Powell announced that Judy Burnham is the co-winner of Elliott Award for a series of articles in the Bulletin of the Medical Library Association. This award, sponsored by Login Brothers, is very selective. Also, Beverly Johnson announced that Baptist Medical Center Downtown in Montgomery is closing this month.

### III. OLD BUSINESS :

- A. ALHeLA/NAAL workshops on Allied Health and Nursing Resources on the Web: Jie Li reported that all five workshops have been completed, with all receiving good evaluations. The attendance was significantly lower in the cities which have a local academic medical library. An additional workshop was given at the Alabama Library Association meeting; Judy Burnham and Sally Murray conducted this class.
- B. Student Annual Meeting Award : Jie Li reported that she has talked with Steven MacCall about this year's award. Essays, which were papers from the medical libraries class, will be submitted to Lisa Russell in the next few days. It was recommended that an electronic flyer be added to the SLIS listserv so that all interested students have an opportunity to apply. The decision will be made soon.

### IV. NEW BUSINESS :

- A. ALHeLA Achievement Award : Jie Li opened discussion on the selection procedures given in the bylaws. This year's award recipient was selected by the executive committee.
- B. Survey of electronic/Internet-based resources of core health library collection : Jan Burns distributed surveys to all the committee members. The survey will be available on the ALHeLA website and included in the next issue of Synapse.
- C. Donation soliciting form : Jan Burns suggested a form to assist us in soliciting donations, which should be especially in following up with those vendors who are reluctant to donate to ALHeLA. Also, it would provide the vendors an opportunity to provide feedback to us. Jan Burns will develop a draft form for review at a later meeting.

### V. TREASURER'S REPORT :

Lisa Rains Russell reported that ALHeLA's treasury continues to do well with a balance of over \$9,000.

### VI. COMMITTEE REPORTS :

- A. Bylaws : Jie Li discussed the contents of Article 7. Technically, this should be changed every year, but it's an expense each time. Currently the executive committee is the Board of Directors. Lisa Rains Russell will check on procedures and cost for updating this section. This will be discussed further at the next meeting.
- B. Continuing Education : Susan Deming reported that Lynn Fortney and Chuck Leachman, both of EBSCO, will teach the morning class, "The use and management of electronic serials." Joan Lukins is working on arranging an afternoon class entitled "Toxicology resources at the NLM and beyond", which was taught in May at MLA; the instructor for this class will be Philip Wexler from the NLM.
- C. Directory : Jan Burns reported that she will be contacting everyone in the index to make any necessary changes in the entries. Hopefully the updates will be ready for distribution at the annual meeting. New members will also receive a survey.
- D. Liaison : No report.
- E. Membership : Carolyn Holmes distributed new membership lists. She reported that ALHeLA currently has 59 members (40 individual memberships, 19 institutional memberships), with the deletion of Montgomery's Baptist Medical Center Downtown.

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- F. Synapse : Diane Williams announced that the next deadline is in two weeks.
- G. Union List Coordinators : Robert Avant reported that the state legislature has approved funding for the Virtual Library. Much of the \$3 million will go to licensing agreements. The AULS advisory committee recommended to Dr. Veatch that a statewide resource sharing committee be created. Changes in the union list have led to the need for this committee to address issues beyond the union list. Robert also outlined the proposed changes and issues with AULS, including decentralization of data entry. More information on changes will be available at the annual meeting.
- H. Nominating Committee : Pat Higginbottom reported that the nominating committee will present the new slate of officers at the annual meeting.

VII. 1999 ANNUAL MEETING :

Joan Lukins distributed flyers on StillWaters Report. The committee discussed the MLA CE credit application procedures. The keynote speaker will be Dennis MacDowell from the CDC; he will discuss knowledge management. As in the past, the keynote speaker and CE instructors will participate in a panel discussion on Friday. The reservation / information packets will be mailed soon; contact Joan with room reservations as soon as possible after receiving your packet. More information on the annual meeting can be found on the ALHeLA website.

VIII. ANNOUNCEMENTS :

Pat Higginbottom reminded the committee that our 2000 meeting is a joint meeting with SC/MLA in Mobile. The Georgia health libraries group has expressed interest in a joint 2001 meeting. The committee discussed potential locations in eastern Alabama for additional NAAL workshops.

IX. ADJOURNMENT :

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:06pm.

*Respectfully submitted, Marian Morris, Secretary*

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*Synapse*

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