


THLA NEWS

NOVEMBER 1996 VOL. 16, NO. 2

IN THIS ISSUE

Information Centre Profile	2
President's Message	2
The Internet: A Clinician's Perspective	3
Web Health Watch	3
Corrections	3
OHLA/UNYOC Conference Reports	4
Continuing Education/ Upcoming Events	5
Job Opening	6
THLA 1996/1997 Events	6
Newsletter Deadlines	8
THLA Executive	8

Congratulations to
Teresa Helik and
husband Jim on the
birth of their son
Owen Thomas,
6 lbs. 13 oz.



THLA Holiday Party

Monday, December 9, 1996
6:00 pm
University of Toronto Faculty Club
Main Lounge
41 Willcocks Street

(1 block S. of Harbord, E of Spadina) Parking is available behind
the Faculty Club for \$4.00 after 5 pm (coins required)

Hot & Cold Hors D'Oeuvres Desserts
Eggnog Cranberry Punch

Door Prizes

\$15 per member at the door / \$12 for students
\$17 for non-members

For more information,
contact THLA President-Elect Brian Cameron
Tel: 340-3429 af331@torfree.net

TORONTO HEALTH LIBRARIES ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 94056, 3332 Yonge Street Toronto, ON M4N 3R1 (416) 485-0377

An official chapter of the CHLA/ABSC

INFORMATION CENTRE PROFILE: OMA

Recently, an interesting message appeared on the SLA-Toronto listserv. It was a summary of responses to a request from Karen Melville who invited people in non-traditional jobs to send in a brief description of what they do.¹

The 20-plus responses ranged from authorized software reseller and trainer to internet/intranet manager. I'm excited to learn about how our colleagues are able to transfer their library training to non-traditional areas. This prompts me to share with THLA our non-traditional roles here in **Corporate Information of the Ontario Medical Association**.

The department has two major functions: to implement a records management programme and to maintain a resource centre. The records programme designates Corporate Information as the depository of corporate documents. This means minutes of the Board, Council and committees and their accompanying documents, OMA publications, news releases, and other official documents all end up in Corporate Information. We set up retention schedules and manage the documents accordingly. That is the traditional side of what we do. The non-traditional aspect is that instead of simply maintaining the documents, we turn these documents into resources and use them to build a knowledge-base.

Minutes of the Board, Executive Committee and Council are indexed in a policy database using controlled vocabulary. They are also on FOLIO for full-text searching. These tools enable the department to quickly and effectively identify the decisions and deliberations of the elected bodies. Since the policy database also has a document field, staff can pull out the accompanying documents easily by noting the file

information in the field. Examples of questions these tools help us answer are: What is the OMA's policy on a certain issue and did it change through time?; What was our legal opinion on the issue?; and What was the process the Executives discussed for forwarding a related document to an outside party?.

The staff resources for providing the service involve information specialists with indexing, records management and research skills. Since managing corporate knowledge is a key service provided by the department, staff in both the records and library areas work together to develop the databases, index minutes, classify documents and perform searches. At the same time, each person develops his or her specialty in records and library functions. To provide the current level of services, the department has four professionals with MLS degrees, two technicians, and one assistant.

Personally, it is a privilege for me to be able to work with a team of dedicated workers. It is also gratifying to see how the department has broadened its role through time because of foundations laid in the past. Like many libraries facing fiscal pressure, we have to constantly evaluate our programmes and communicate with senior management on the issue of user needs and resources. Maybe THLA can be the forum for members to share their insight and experience, and to have mutual support.

- Vivian Hung, Manager, Corporate Information, Ontario Medical Association

¹The summary message was posted by Karen Melville on Nov. 8, 1996. To subscribe to the SLA-Toronto listserv, send subscription message to majordomo@world.mmltd.com. The web site of the Toronto Chapter is at www.infomart.ca/sla.

UP WITH THLA MEMBERSHIP

This presidential message, like Clinton's, contains no real surprises.

Enclosed with this issue of the THLA NEWS is something I've always found very useful; it sits close to hand at my desk, right near the phone - the **THLA Directory**. Congratulations to **Dorothy Davey** for another splendid job in its production. And the good news is that membership is up to a record high, 162 members!

Check out p.35 of the November 12, 1996 issue of *The Medical Post* for an article by **Dr. Bill Green**, the guest speaker at our Annual Dinner Meeting in May.

I was pleased to see us getting some press, and at least he got the Association name right.

I'm very happy to announce that THLA will be nominating **Carol Morrison** of the Ontario Cancer Institute as a contender for the next **CHLA Hospital Librarian of the Year** award. Carol is a valued member of our small community and has been a role model for the profession for many years.

I encourage everyone to attend our upcoming **Holiday Party**, always a popular event, in the gracious atmosphere of the Faculty Club. Come out and socialize!
- Colleen Mulloy, President

THE INTERNET: A CLINICIAN'S PERSPECTIVE

The World Wide Web is like a giant library with no due dates, late fines, or guilt.

THLA's first General Meeting was hosted at The Toronto Hospital on October 7th. **Dr. John Doyle**, an anesthesiologist affiliated with the departments of Anesthesia and Biomedical Education at the University of Toronto, and the department of Anesthesia at The Toronto Hospital, presented a "gentle" introduction to the Internet for medical librarians. His presentation covered the basics, such as What is the Internet? ("information treasures"); Key Reasons to Use the Internet; and Internet Resources, as well as highlighting medical applications in the year 2000 and beyond.

Clinical resources that would be of interest to health sciences professionals include electronic peer-related journals; educational resources such as virtual textbooks with links to other sites or chapters; forums or discussion groups to discuss cases, which Dr. Doyle calls "virtual coffee lounges"; and educational materials for patients.

A site called Interactive Frog Dissection allows students to complete the process without the smell

of formaldehyde or the killing of yet another frog. Technology has advanced in the field of Radiology to the point that radiologists can dial into a hospital's network, download a CT scan or x-ray, make their diagnosis, and send it by a voice attachment or e-mail. Video conferencing and telepresence surgery allow doctors from different parts of the country or the world to collaborate on difficult cases.

The future holds amazing medical applications. It's possible that people will either have a microchip imbedded on their person or wear a medical alert bracelet (with a password) with access to a web site address that has their complete medical history.

Dr. Doyle also briefly discussed customizable news services (PointCast); VRML; and information philanthropy ("copyleft" vs. copyright).

Due to the proliferation of Internet developments and applications, Health Sciences librarians and information professionals will be needed to locate relevant information, evaluate the quality of the information, and present the information in a way that suits a client's needs.

- Terri Rothman and Brian Cameron

WEB HEALTH WATCH - ANESTHESIOLOGY SITES

GASNet (<http://gasnet.med.yale.edu>) is a suite of services provided by a number of sponsors and located in the Yale Center for Medical Informatics. Its target audience is the international anaesthesiology community. The Home Page includes access to abstracts of journal articles, an online journal of anaesthesia, a video library and to a variety of other online resources. This is a well developed resource with firmly established connections and well thought out links.

Anesthesiology Digest (<gopher://gasnet.med.yale.edu:70/1m/Digests/Info>) is (currently) an unmoderated list which welcomes contributions about any aspects of anaesthesiology from practitioners, anaesthesiology attendings, residents and nurses. The list tends to be somewhat eclectic with a sprinkling of personalized messages, but not so that the professionalism of the list is compromised.

Educational Synopses of Anesthesiology and Critical Care Medicine (<http://gasnet.med.yale.edu/esia/>) - the online journal of anesthesiology publishes scholarly reviews and original research in the relevant fields. To access this file the user will need a "plug-in," however, the on-line instructions on down-loading and implementing the software are easy to follow and are available for a variety of operating systems (Windows 3.1, Windows 95, NT, etc.)

Please send Web Site suggestions to Mary Robinson mrobinson@metrolinx.com

DIABETES HISTORY

I sometimes wonder if we are helped by too full a knowledge of medical literature. I must frankly confess that, had I read all that was written on diabetes and known all of the conflicting views and theories, I would probably never have tackled the problem.

- Sir Frederick Banting, address, March 6, 1924, Chicago.

CORRECTIONS

Apologies to **Zuzka Hora** for the incorrect presentation of her name in the September issue. Zuzka can be contacted at the Industrial Accident Prevention Association Information Centre.

Ellina T. Chernyak, a self-employed information specialist, reports that she has been a member of THLA since 1992.

OHLA CONFERENCE MOVING AHEAD... MEETING THE CHALLENGE

The OHLA Annual Conference took place at the Ontario Hospital Association (OHA) Convention on November 4, 1996. This year's convention recognized the efforts Ontario hospitals are making as they proceed with one of the most significant public sector restructuring initiatives ever undertaken in Canada.

The OHLA program began with a keynote address by **Jane Dysart** of Dysart & Jones Associates. Jane's talk was entitled "Taking Charge of Your Future." She stressed the need to know your environment -- have industry foresight; recognize opportunities and capitalize on them; segment the market -- provide service at different levels to meet different user needs; look for strategic partners; use technology for the enabler it is; leave something behind when you move ahead; and finally, take risks. Jane outlined many ways in which library staff can add value in the process of linking people to knowledge, suggested new potential roles, and gave us some example case studies showing common threads illustrating the directions we could be taking.

Bogusia Trojan, Manager, HealthSearch@TTH at The Toronto Hospital Libraries, presented "HealthSearch@TTH: Developing a Fee-Based Service for the 21st Century." Bogusia explained the factors that motivated the library to consider this service two years ago and its establishment last April. She outlined in detail the steps required to build a reliable business case for a fee-based service, and emphasized the importance of being aware of all your costs, not just the ones you are responsible for recovering.

Next on the program was the presentation "The Ontario Health Care Evaluation Network (OHCEN) - Enhancing Health Care Research in Ontario by Promoting Partnerships and Providing Access to Evidence Based Health Care Resources" by **Robert Hayward** and **Anna Gagliardi** of McMaster University's Department of Clinical Epidemiology & Biostatistics. OHCEN started in late 1993 with the Institute of Evaluative Sciences (ICES) and other partners. Its headquarters is at the University of Western Ontario with the informatics development taking place at McMaster. Robert Hayward started by giving us a whole series of questions (many, typical library reference queries) that are meant to be answered by using the Internet web-based tools developed by OHCEN. Their key tool is the OHCEN Inventory which gives access to people, projects and resources. Anna Gagliardi demonstrated the HIREx Viewer software used to browse and search the

UNYOC CONFERENCE THE MYSTERY UNFOLDS

The 32nd Annual Conference of UNYOC took place in Buffalo September 29 - October 3, 1996 at the Sheraton Inn Airport. Highlights of the program included the keynote address from **Clifford Lynch**, Director of the Division of Library Automation at the University of California Office of the President, where he is responsible for the MELVYL information system, one of the largest public access information retrieval systems in existence, as well as the computer network linking the nine UC campuses. He emphasized the importance of the user interface and how to interact with other huge players in the distributed technologies sector.

A Health Care Reform Panel was presented. We heard a variety of views from librarians, physicians and nurses. **Jennifer Bayne** was the only Canadian-based member of the panel and she described some of the Canadian healthcare issues that would be of interest to the large number of American members in the audience as well as the Canadian members of UNYOC.

There was a nice selection of contributed papers. For example, "Internet Rx Office Visits" outlined the program rationale, the preparation, a typical visit, concerns and how they were overcome, evaluation, and the benefits to the library putting on such a program. The user-centred, rather than library-centred service, approach was an important motivation for this initiative.

After an MLA update and UNYOC AGM, the conference ended with a presentation entitled "Motivation for Change" by **Dean Reinhart**, University of Buffalo. This presentation was the core of his Success in Life Seminar Series which he has given many times over the last four years. He easily kept our attention for an hour with an interesting and amusing overview of his theories.

- Submitted by Elizabeth Reid, Library & Information Services, The Toronto Hospital

inventory. The database can be used locally to build up one's own inventory and it allows output in web format, ready to publish on the Internet.

The program ended with the AGM, a highlight of which was the presentation of the **OHLA Award of Outstanding Achievement** to **Jan Greenwood**. Other details of the AGM are covered in the *OHLA Newslines* v.11 no.4, December 1996.

- Submitted by Elizabeth Reid, Library & Information Services, The Toronto Hospital; President-Elect and 1996 Annual Conference Chair, OHLA.

CONTINUING EDUCATION / UPCOMING EVENTS

Faculty of Information Studies, University of Toronto Continuing Education Courses

For more info, contact Marcia Chen (416) 978-7111; Fax: (416) 971-1399; e-mail: conted@fis.utoronto.ca; or www.fis.utoronto.ca. FIS courses cost from \$85 - \$395. There is a discount for early registration.

Nov. 29/96 **Creating Partnerships: Advantages and Pitfalls**

Nov. 29/96 **Designing and Delivering Effective Internet Instruction**

Nov. 29/96 **Dewey 21: Changes and Updates**

Dec. 6/96 **Operating Your Own Information Service Business**

Dec. 6/96 **Authoring Your Own Web Page Using HTML**

Dec. 13/96 **Internet Basics**
Jan. 31/97

Jan. 10/97 **Advanced Search Tools on the Internet**

Jan. 17/97 **The Power of One: Tactics for One-Person Librarianship**

Jan. 17-18/97 **Websites: Design and Management**

Feb. 7/97 **Re-Creating Your Information Services With New Technology**

Feb. 14/97 **Making Sense of Making Dollars: Practical Aspects of Fee-Based Services**

Feb. 15/97 **Internet Basics: Focus on Medicine & Health**

OLA

The **Ontario Library Association's Super Conference 1997** will be taking place February 6-9, 1997 at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre. On Feb. 7th **Joanne Marshall** will be talking about *Today's Work Force Tomorrow*. Sessions will cover a wide variety of topics. For more information call (416) 363-3624 or check the web site AccessOLA: www.OLA.ca.dynix.com

To list your event in this column, please contact Andrea Shier at (416) 978-7068 or by e-mail: shier@library.utoronto.ca

Telemedicine Canada Teleconferences

For booking information and a complete list, contact by Tel: (416) 599-1234; Fax: (416) 598-1848.

Dec. 2/96 **Libraries Responding to the Changing Health Care Environment**

Instructors: J. Hatton, A. Kilfoil & B. Poluha

Dec. 13/96 **MIS at Work: Analysis and Application**
Instructor: Donna Thomson

Jan. 20/97 **Putting the Library on the Critical Path for Patient Care: Strategies for the Small Health Library**

Instructor: Cheryl Martin

Consumer Health Information Service Metro Toronto Reference Library

CHIS is hosting a free educational health presentation series called **You & Your Health**. All sessions will be in the Elizabeth Beeton Auditorium, 789 Yonge Street.

Nov. 27/96 **Cancers in Men**
6:30 - 7:30 pm Speaker: Bev Johnson, RN

Dec. 4/96 **What a Pharmacist Can Do For You**
6:30 - 7:30 pm
Speaker: Dr. Barry Phillips, B.Sc.Ph, F.R.S.H.

Jan. 15/97 **Naturopathic Medicine: The Medicine of the 21st Century** 6:30 - 7:30 pm

CASLIS - Toronto Chapter

Feb. 5/97 **Resource Sharing: The Public and Private Partnership**

Metro Reference Library, 5:30 pm.

For information, contact Gwen Harris, (416) 762-7645. gharris@the-wire.com

SLA-Toronto Chapter

Dec. 3/96 **Holiday Social**

Jan. 9/97 **Internet, Intranet, and Knowledge Management**

Feb. 20/97 **Technology Fair**

For more information, contact Sean Forbes TEL: (416) 947-7898; sean.forbes@ArthurAndersen.com; or Erika Steffer TEL: (416) 867-5516; esteffer@bis.bmo.com

Canada Internet World 97, January 7-10, 1997 Metro Convention Centre. To receive a conference brochure, call 1-800-500-1959, or write to iwcanprogramme@mecklermedia.com

THLA 1996/1997 EVENTS

Monday December 9, 1996

Holiday Party, Faculty Club, U of T

Monday February 10, 1997

General Meeting, T.B.A.

Monday, April 7, 1997

Dr. Jozef Krop, Environmental Medicine

Monday, May 5, 1997

Annual Banquet

Why Are We Doing Women's Health Research?

Dr. Donna Stewart, MD, FRCP(C),
Lillian Love Chair in Women's Health, TTH
Professor, Faculty of Medicine, University of
Toronto

LIBRARY TECHNICIAN, HEALTH SCIENCES LIBRARY (Part-time, 2 days/week)

The Salvation Army Scarborough Grace Hospital Health Sciences Library, located in north-west Scarborough, is seeking a **Library Technician**. The Library Technician will be responsible for the acquisition, organization, maintenance and provision of library materials; will assist in the processing of interlibrary loans; will perform a variety of organizational and clerical procedures necessary to the efficient functioning of the library; will assist the Librarian on special projects; and will be responsible for the library during the Librarian's absence.

Qualifications and skills required:

- Diploma from a recognized Library Technician Programme
- Experience in a Health Sciences Library an asset
- Knowledge of WordPerfect
- Typing speed of 50 words/minute
- Familiarity with integrated library systems and bibliographic search software including CD-ROM
- Work experience in interlibrary loans an asset
- Ability to work independently
- Good interpersonal skills

Only applicants who will be interviewed will be contacted. Please submit your resume in writing by **December 16, 1996** to the attention of:

The Personnel Department
The Salvation Army Scarborough Grace Hospital
3030 Birchmount Road,
Scarborough, ON M1W 3W3



1996 - 1997 THLA EXECUTIVE

PRESIDENT: Colleen Mulloy

T: (416) 601-7964

F: (416) 868-1790

cmulloy@mccarthy.ca

PAST PRESIDENT: Elaine Wright

T: (416) 233-1542

wright@library.utoronto.ca

PRESIDENT-ELECT: Brian Cameron

T: (416) 340-3429

F: (416) 340-4384

af331@torfree.net

SECRETARY: Vivian Hung

T: (416) 340-2914

F: (416) 599-9309

vivian_hung@oma.org

TREASURER: Marietta Forster-Haberer

T: (416) 486-8584, ext. 228

F: (416) 484-6821

NEWSLETTER EDITOR: Terri Rothman

T: (416) 657-1144 (new number)

F: (416) 657-1144 (call first)

terri_rothman@tvo.org

SECRETARIAT: Dorothy Davey

T: (416) 485-0377

F: (416) 485-0377

ddavey@inforamp.net

THLA NEWS DEADLINES for submissions

January Issue:	January 14
March Issue:	March 11
May Issue:	May 12