

# THLA NEWS

## WHY ARE WE DOING WOMEN'S HEALTH RESEARCH?

THLA's annual dinner meeting took place at Massey College on May 5th, 1997. Participants had the opportunity to hear from the perspective and experience of a physician who is at the forefront of advocating women's health research. **Dr. Donna Stewart** is currently head of Women's Health at The Toronto Hospital, Princess Margaret Hospital and the Ontario Cancer Institute. In 1995, Dr. Stewart was appointed the world's first Chair in Women's Health at TTH. As well as being a professor in the Faculty of Medicine at U of T, Dr. Stewart has provided consultation and policy advice on women's health to universities, health care institutions, industries, and governments at all levels. Her presentation explained how research data on women differ from that on men, why there is a need to look at women's health separately, and what is being done currently to address the issue.

Women's health, Dr. Stewart clarified, is more than just reproductive health. It includes the investigation into diseases that are more common or most lethal in women, violence and physical abuse, gender influences on behaviour, women in the health care system, such as access of care by women and health policy related to women, and societal influences on woman's health.

Although women make up 52% of the population and account for 70% of all health care visits and prescriptions, only 5% of Canada's health research budget is dedicated to women-specific research projects. Arguments against using women subjects include legal liability, increased costs for larger sample sizes, effect of menstrual cycle, and the lack of a female database as a reference. Dr. Stewart emphasized that if prescription drugs are going to be marketed to and used by women, they need to be tested on women subjects.

Dr. Stewart substantiated her talk with research figures and examples from TTH programs for women. One difficulty Dr. Stewart acknowledged concerning these programs is how to reach the group that needs help most: women who may not be aware of, or who are unlikely to participate in seminars, or who may not be able to read the educational materials the hospital produces. Ways to embrace this group include translating materials into different languages and involving community workers.

The address was very informative. There was never a lack of audience participation especially when the speech was punctuated with cartoons illustrating, in a humorous way, the various pressures women face.

- Vivian Hung

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TORONTO HEALTH LIBRARIES ASSOCIATION

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## A NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT

As you read this, I hope Spring will have truly arrived. Or will we have leapt directly into Summer? In any case, another THLA season closes.

It's been a rough year! I'm referring, of course, to the closure of government libraries, to hospital restructuring, merging, downsizing - to all the recent activity that has had an impact on our professional community, as well as the community at large. The year before, we saw casualties in the pharmaceutical library field. It's definitely a difficult period for all health science libraries.

Someone mentioned to me at a recent gathering, "I never thought when the Academy of Medicine Library closed [its Huron Street building] that it would be a harbinger of things to come." I'm glad to report, however, that at the May 5th Annual Dinner Meeting this year, we were privileged to have the company of both the retired Academy Librarian, **Sheila Swanson**, and the current Academy Librarian, **Bogusia Trojan**... the Academy has survived, which gives hope to us all.

It's important that THLA survive, too. We need a centre, a core, a vehicle for communication and collegiality, a collective voice. I urge each member to ensure that his or her membership is renewed and to encourage new membership, so that THLA's future may be assured.

I also encourage active participation on the Executive, which really can be quite fun. A big Thank You to **Elaine Wright**, Past-President, for her able continuum of service; to **Brian Cameron**, President-Elect, for organizing the past year's interesting general meetings; to **Marietta Forster-Haberer**,

Treasurer, for keeping the books balanced; to **Vivian Hung**, Secretary, for her careful coverage of our Executive and general meetings; to **Terri Rothman**, Newsletter Editor and her assistants **Mary Robinson** and **Andrea Shier**, for keeping us all in touch by producing the THLA News; and finally to **Dorothy Davey**, Secretariat Extraordinaire, who performs so many services.

We all extend a sincere welcome to the newcomers to the Executive. I'll be Past-President, Brian steps into the Presidency, and **Karen Smith** takes on the challenging position of President-Elect. **Anne Taylor-Vaisey** returns (not that you ever really left, Anne) as Program Planning Assistant to give Karen some support. **John Tagg** and **Marina Englesakis** come on board as Treasurer and Secretary respectively. **Terri Rothman** continues as Editor and welcomes **Gabrielle Fernandes** as Assistant Editor. We look forward to another stimulating year.

I hope to gather with some of you soon in Vancouver at CHLA'97. Those of us who worked on the '96 Conference Committee are going to sit back and enjoy this conference! I've received official notice from CHLA that our nominee for CHLA/ABSC Hospital Librarian of the Year Award, **Carol Morrison**, has been selected to receive the award, and it will be presented at the Conference. I'm sure congratulations from all of us go with Carol.

As a final word, my thanks to all of you (and especially to the Executive) for putting up with me this year... it's been both an honour and a great pleasure for me.

- Colleen Mulloy

## COPYRIGHT UPDATE

Bill C-32 is now law. As of April 23rd, the Senate had passed the Bill after the Government invoked closure. Conservative Senator Kinsella did table three amendments - on the definition of commercially available materials, used textbooks, and a change in the timeline for the proposed review, from five years down to three, but they were defeated without using a recorded vote.

SLA appeared as witness on April 16th, alongside CLA, CARL, ASTED, and CALL. At least they are on public record with their objections to the definition of library in Bill C-32, which offers no protection to libraries (or archives) resident in the for-profit sector.

CLA will be petitioning the Senate to present a brief on the changes required to the bill. CLA and ASTED have applied to Canadian Heritage for funding

to have a lawyer create a guide to the new law for librarians, and the initial response has been positive.

Bill C-32 as introduced offered more than the present version. The not-for-profit sector libraries have won very little, the for-profit sector has lost a lot.

- Compiled by Terri Rothman

### References

1. Karen Adams, Canadian Library Association Executive Director; e-mail posting to CANMEDLIB listserv; April 23, 1997; Tel: 613-232-9625, ext.306; e-mail: ai077@freenet.carleton.ca.
2. Susan Merry, SLA Government Relations Chair, e-mail posting to SLA-TORONTO listserv; April 22, 1997; Tel. 416-980-2899; e-mail: merry@cibc.ca



## 1997 THLA STUDENT PRIZE

**Penney Kirby** achieved the highest grade in Dr. Joanne Marshall's Health Sciences Librarianship course at the Faculty of Information Studies, U of T, and qualified for the 1997 THLA Student Prize. The THLA prize includes: a certificate, a cash award, one year's membership in THLA, and attendance at the annual dinner (May 5th) as a guest.

Penney has a B.A. in Women's Studies and Sociology. During the course of her education at FIS, Penney completed a practicum at the North York General Hospital, under the supervision of Elaine Bernstein. The practicum involved spatial, service and collection planning for a patient library in the new Breast Diagnostic Centre at the hospital. Penney also completed a Research Stream project entitled "A Preliminary Evaluation of the Peer Support, Information and Referral Service at WILLOW; The Ontario Breast Cancer Support and Resource Centre." Penney recently graduated from FIS with a Master of Information Studies.

## HOSPITAL LIBRARIAN OF YEAR

### CONGRATULATIONS to **CAROL MORRISON**

Director of the  
Ontario Cancer Institute Library  
for being selected as **CHLA/ABSC**  
**Hospital Librarian of the Year.**  
This award will be presented at the  
CHLA Conference in Vancouver on  
May 30, 1997.

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# THLA EXECUTIVE 1997 - 1998

## PRESIDENT

### **Brian Cameron**

Brian has been employed at The Toronto Hospital Health Sciences libraries since 1994, where he divides his time between the reference desk, HealthSearch@TTH, teaching Internet courses, and assisting with systems. Brian has been curator of the Hart House Library at U of T and a Lab Advisor at FIS, where he continues to provide assistance with Internet training sessions. He received a BA from the University of Guelph, followed by an MA in Soviet History/International Relations from Wilfrid Laurier University, before graduating from FIS with an MLS.

## PRESIDENT-ELECT

### **Karen Smith**

Born and raised in Quebec city, Karen moved to St. Catharines to attend Brock University. She enjoyed working at the university library so much that she decided to make a career of it. Karen obtained her MLS at U of T and has been a special librarian ever since. She has set up and managed several libraries including one for Bell Canada, Canadian Diabetes Association and three for SNC-Lavalin. Karen's current position as Manager, Corporate Library at Purdue Frederick is the most fulfilling and enjoyable experience of her career.

## PAST-PRESIDENT

### **Colleen Mulloy**

Colleen has been Medical Librarian at McCarthy Tétrault, Canada's largest law firm, since the fall of 1990. Her years of experience in local health sciences libraries includes service as Reference Librarian at the Academy of Medicine, Toronto, and as Documentalist at the Addiction Research Foundation. Colleen is a graduate of Loyola College of Montreal (now part of Concordia University) and UBC's School of Library, Archival and Information Science, and is particularly looking forward to a return to UBC for the CHLA Conference this year. She has served as Treasurer, Secretary, President and Past-President of THLA.

## SECRETARY

### **Marina Englesakis**

Marina is presently the Director of Library Services at the Canadian Memorial Chiropractic

College. There she is responsible for both the CC Clemmer Health Sciences Library and the CMCC Archives. Marina was the Systems Librarian/Archivist at St. Michael's Hospital from 1990 to 1997. Previously, she was Head Librarian at the Alberta Vocational College in Lac La Biche, Alberta, where she was also responsible for the Town of Lac La Biche Archives.

Marina graduated from the University of Western Ontario with a Masters Degree in Library and Information Science (MLIS) in 1987. Her courses at Western piqued her interest in archives and computer applications in libraries, interests which continue to this day.

## TREASURER

### **John Tagg**

John is currently employed as librarian at West Park Hospital, Toronto on a part-time basis and as an assistant librarian at Sunnybrook Health Science Centre, also on a part-time basis. Previously he managed the Ontario Hospital Association Library before its closure in January 1996. Established OHA Library and built it up over a period of 17 years. During this time, the OHA's circulating audio-visual collection became a unique resource, supporting health care management and staff education throughout Ontario. John also worked closely with successive executive members of the Ontario Hospital Libraries Association to ensure that OHLA became a vital link in the health information network.

John is a graduate Loyola College of Montreal, now Concordia University, with an honours BA in history and U of T the coveted MLS.

His current philosophy is, though clichéd it may be, don't take yourself or anything else too seriously, nothing's forever, and don't rush-we're all headed in the same direction.

## PROGRAM PLANNING ASSISTANT

### **Anne Taylor-Vaisey**

Anne, a former editor of THLA NEWS, has rejoined the executive to help with program planning. She is a librarian with U of T's Faculty of Medicine Continuing Education Office, working mainly with physicians who are either planning educational programs or researching various aspects of continuing health professional education. Anne looks forward to continuing her involvement with THLA.



## NEWSLETTER TEAM

### THLA NEWS

#### **Terri Rothman, Editor**

Terri will be continuing as newsletter editor for the next membership year thanks to all the compliments she has received on each issue. She is a graduate from Ryerson, Humber College, and U of T (for her MLS). Since obtaining her MLS, Terri has been freelancing as an Information Services Consultant, providing organizational, research, and communication services to health regulatory colleges and associate consultants. Past library experience includes part-time positions at the Health Sciences Library at The Toronto Hospital (Western Division) and U of T's Criminology Library. Terri also volunteers as the newsletter editor for The Ontario Lupus Association.

#### **Gaby Fernandes, Assistant Editor**

Gaby has a BSc (Biology) from Aston University in Birmingham, England, and an MLIS from the University of Western Ontario (1993). She has worked in both medical and agricultural libraries during her career. Prior to library school, Gaby developed bibliographic databases on marine fisheries in the Caribbean! Gaby joined the library at North York General Hospital in 1995 and is currently the Technical Services Librarian.

#### **Mary Robinson, Associate Editor**

Mary has completed a number of short contract positions at The Toronto Hospital, Addiction Research Foundation, Providence House, and the Canadian Life and Health Association. She has a BSc (Zoology) from the University of Guelph; an MSc (Microanatomy) from the Ontario Veterinary College; and an MLS from U of T. Mary is currently working on a private indexing project and looking for a long-term position that will allow her to combine her biotechnological and information science interests.

## THLA FACES & PLACES

### **THLA Directory corrections and additions**

**Marietta Forster-Haberer** is pleased to announce that she is now connected to the Internet. Her e-mail address is: [mforster@ccnm.edu](mailto:mforster@ccnm.edu).

**Jan Greenwood**, Jan Greenwood Associates, is currently managing a pilot project to test and evaluate an electronic document management system for the Hospitals of Ontario Pension Plan (HOOPP). Part of the project will be customizing and evaluating the SAROS software for possible corporate roll-out. In May, Jan will be teaching two workshops at the CHLA/ABSC Conference in Vancouver: Introduction to Records Management and Reinventing Yourself in the Workplace. Jan may be reached at HOOPP at Tel: 369-9212, ext.3204. Her business access remains the same: Tel:440-1246; Fax: 440-0146; e-mail: [jgreenwo@inforamp.net](mailto:jgreenwo@inforamp.net).

**Elizabeth Reid**, formerly of The Toronto Hospital Health Sciences Library, is the new Manager/Information Specialist at St. Michael's Hospital Health Science Library. She can be reached at 30 Bond Street, Toronto, ON M5B 1W8; Tel: 864-6022; Fax: 864-5296; e-mail: [reid@vax.library.utoronto.ca](mailto:reid@vax.library.utoronto.ca).

**John Tagg** is working part-time at both West Park Hospital and at Sunnybrook. He can be reached at West Park Monday through Thursday at Tel:243-3600, ext. 2048; e-mail: [jtagg@westpark.org](mailto:jtagg@westpark.org).

## ON THE MOVE

On behalf of the THLA membership, I would like to extend very best wishes to the following members who have recently retired, and I want them to know that we recognize their years of excellent service and hold them in high esteem.

- Colleen Mulloy, President

**Verla Empey**, Wellesely Central Hospital Library Services

**Anita Wong**, St. Michael's Hospital Health Sciences Library

**Aileen Fisher**, Toronto East General & Orthopaedic Hospital Health Sciences Library

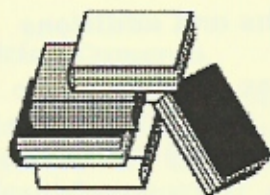
**Marjorie McLeod**, Gerstein Science Information Centre

*To study the phenomena of disease  
without books is to sail in uncharted seas,  
while to study books without patients is  
not to go to sea at all.*

*Sir William Osler  
(1849-1919)*



## REVEYRAND'S LIBRARY LAWS



(with apologies to Murphy)

- Books will remain upright on the shelf until you go to place another book beside them.
- A "missing" encyclopedia will remain missing until the replacement you ordered is placed on the shelf.
- If you made the system foolproof you discover that everybody has suddenly become geniuses.
- When 60% of your book order is back-ordered, you can safely bet that 90% of the back-orders are out of print.
- Make 17 subject headings for a book and you will find that you should have made 18.
- If it's a good book, it's out of stock. If it's an excellent book, it's out of print.
- The "super" syndrome: Libraries are always empty when the supervisor or director comes to visit.
- If you have a system that works you must be doing everything wrong.
- No matter how long you keep an article or piece of information you will never need it till you throw it away.
- If you have lost one issue of a magazine there will be 35 students who will require that issue.
- No books are lost except those that are most needed and hardest to replace.
- The books you need the most always come from your worst supplier or jobber.
- When you re-catalogue a book to correct an error, you automatically create seven new problems.
- The thinnest books have the longest catalogue numbers.

From *The Bookmark*, September 1989, p.48-49  
M.L. Reveyrand, teacher-librarian, KLO Secondary School

## APRIL GENERAL MEETING

### Environmental Medicine (April 7, 1997)

Environmental medicine "assesses the effect of the total load of environmental factors on individual health -- foods, water, indoor and outdoor air quality, the many physical, chemical and biological substances to which we are exposed as well as the psychological stresses that can affect health". **Dr. Jozeph Krop**, a physician who practises Environmental Medicine, led his audience to an interesting journey into the world of environmental medicine with this opening definition. The emphasis was on the inter-relationship among the mind, body, immune system and environment.

Dr. Krop advocated the minimal use of pharmaceutical drugs in treating illnesses. Rather, approaches such as environmental controls, dietary changes, nutritional supplements, immunotherapy and patient education are encouraged.

Apart from giving insights into the topic, Dr. Krop also recommended two journals to the audience: the *Journal of Alternative and Complementary Medicine* and the *Journal of Nutritional and Environmental Medicine*.

The close to two-hour meeting was held at the Ontario Cancer Institute. Thank You to **Carol Morrison** for providing a stimulating environment and refreshments for this gathering.

- Vivian Hung

## LOOKSISM

**Looksism** is a term used to describe the way people are treated based solely on physical appearance. Lynn Romer of Ogden, Utah, founded an organization called The Pinocchio Plot to combat the use of looksism in books, magazines, and films. She believes that the prejudice associated with less than perfect facial features or facial disfigurement caused by disease or disability originated in traditional fairy tales where the villains always were ugly, with scars, warts or long noses to symbolize their evil characteristics.

There is currently a campaign to urge the Library of Congress to create and assign a Subject Heading for the term "looksism." To facilitate the search of appropriate titles related to anti-looksist books, please write to Mr. Paul G. Weiss, Senior Cataloging Policy Specialist, The Library of Congress, Washington, DC 20540-4305, and send a copy to Pinocchio Plot, P.O. Box 10116, Ogden, UT 84409.



## CONTINUING EDUCATION / UPCOMING CONFERENCES

### 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](mailto:conted@fis.utoronto.ca); or [www.fis.utoronto.ca](http://www.fis.utoronto.ca). FIS courses cost from \$85 - \$395. There is a discount for early registration.

- Jun.12-13 **Website Design and Management**  
Jun.20 **Internet Basics**  
Jun.23 **Advanced Search Tools on the Internet**  
Jul.11 **Creating Documents for the WWW**  
Jul.25 **Advanced Search Tools on the Internet**

### Consumer Health Information Service Metro Toronto Reference Library

CHIS continues to host free health education presentations in the Elizabeth Beeton Auditorium, 789 Yonge Street.

- June 18/97 **Sneezes and Wheezes: A Discussion of Allergies and Asthma**  
6:30 - 7:30 pm Speaker: Karen Wood, BSC, Allergy Asthma Information Association

### CHANGE AS OPPORTUNITY

The **88th Special Libraries Association Annual Conference** will be taking place **June 7 - 12** in Seattle, WA. Special guest speaker is Bill Gates, CEO, Microsoft Corporation. For more information call (202) 234-4700 or check out the website at [sla.microsoft.com/](http://sla.microsoft.com/) or [www.sla.org/conf-meet/conf.html](http://www.sla.org/conf-meet/conf.html)

### REINVENTING LIBRARIES

**Canadian Library Association Annual Conference** will take place **June 18 - 22** at the Ottawa Congress Centre, presenting strategies to prepare and plan for the many challenges that lie ahead. For more information, contact CLA at (613) 232-9625; [www.cla.amlibs.ca/ottawa/cia97.htm](http://www.cla.amlibs.ca/ottawa/cia97.htm)

### THE VISIBLE LIBRARIAN

**The Upstate New York and Ontario Chapter (UNYOC) of the Medical Library Association** presents its 33rd Annual Conference on **October 15-17, 1997** in Albany, New York. [panther.acp.edu/unyoc97.html](http://panther.acp.edu/unyoc97.html)

To list your event in this column, please contact Gaby Fernandes at (416) 756-6746 or by e-mail: [fernandes@library.utoronto.ca](mailto:fernandes@library.utoronto.ca)

## WEB HEALTH WATCH

### WOMEN'S HEALTH RESEARCH

The goal of the **Canadian Women's Health Network (CWHN)** is to improve women's health and health services. The promotion of information networking and flow among organizations and individuals is one of this organization's prime initiatives. Its website includes a bilingual newsletter, a forum for the discussion of topical issues pertinent to women's health, and an extensive online resource guide. Unfortunately most of the physical resources are American. This site acts as a clearinghouse of information on new women's health resources as they become available. [www.cwhn.ca](http://www.cwhn.ca)

**Health Canada's Women's Health Bureau** provides extensive information on the mandate and the priorities of the Bureau. It also provides links to a variety of other sites including upcoming conference

agendas, Centres of Excellence for Women's Health, Canada-USA Women's Health Forum, the Canadian Women's Health Network, and a Resource Directory. [www.hwc.ca/datapcb/datawhb/engpage.htm](http://www.hwc.ca/datapcb/datawhb/engpage.htm)

The **Canada-U.S.A. Women's Health Forum** website is divided into two parts: an information brochure which supplies the complete proceedings of 1996 Forum, which was jointly hosted by both countries, and a Resource Directory. [www.hwc.ca/canusa/](http://www.hwc.ca/canusa/)

The **Resource Directory** lists Canadian resources federally, provincially, and as other organizations. American resources are listed alphabetically. A great number of organizations are presented, but only a few represent exclusively women's health. [www.hwc.ca/canusa/resource.htm](http://www.hwc.ca/canusa/resource.htm)

Websites evaluated by Mary Robinson  
[mrobinson@metrolinx.com](mailto:mrobinson@metrolinx.com)



## POSITION AVAILABLE

### MANAGER, TOM LEON HEALTH RESOURCE CENTRE

Centenary Health Centre in Scarborough has a part-time opening for an Information Professional to manage a new Consumer Health Information Centre, scheduled to open July/August 1997.

Responsibilities include training and working with volunteers, as well as taking a leading role in expanding and maintaining links with the community and other health organizations.

An exciting opportunity to work with interactive technology in the field of consumer health.

For further information, please contact Valda Poplak at (416) 281-7101.

## THLA NEWS ADVERTISING RATES

THLA NEWS now accepts advertisements. However, acceptance of an advertisement does not imply endorsement of the product by the Toronto Health Libraries Association.

### 1997 Rates

Full Page .....	\$200
Half Page .....	\$100
Quarter Page .....	\$50
Business Card (2" x 3.5") .....	\$25

Advertisers must provide camera-ready artwork for ads other than the Business Card. Colour advertising is not available.

For more information,  
contact Terri Rothman, Editor.  
Tel: 416-657-1144  
E-mail: Terri\_Rothman@tvo.org

## EDITOR'S ENDNOTE

As this first year comes to a close, I would like to take this opportunity to thank **Mary Robinson, Andrea Shier, and Liz Groskorth** for their help with the **THLA NEWS** this past year. I have met more THLA members and look forward to another year in this role.

- Terri Rothman



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## THLA NEWS DEADLINE for submissions

September Issue: September 12