

# MHSLA NEWS

No. 102

Summer 2014

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE MICHIGAN HEALTH SCIENCES LIBRARIES ASSOCIATION

## MHSLA Annual Conference 2014



The **2014 Michigan Health Sciences Library Association Annual Conference** will be held October 15-17, 2014 at the Soaring Eagle Resort in Mount Pleasant, Michigan. For more information please visit the MHSLA conference page at the following URL:

<http://www.mhsla.org/2014conference.htm>

**Registration is now open!** Go to the following URL to register:

<http://www.mhsla.org/home/2014/2014Registration.html>

Abstracts for posters and lightning rounds are being accepted through July 30; email Melanie Bednarski ([Melanie.Bednarski@gynesys.org](mailto:Melanie.Bednarski@gynesys.org)). See the following page for more information:

<http://www.mhsla.org/home/2014/2014CFPs.html>



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## *MHSLA 2013 Annual Conference: Reports from Scholarship winners*

### *Sherri McConnell:*

I attended the MHSLA conference as a scholarship recipient, and I thank the association for the opportunity to attend. Besides the interesting sessions, the people I



met helped me better understand the role of health science librarians in providing training to health professionals and the possibilities for providing health information in public libraries. On Wednesday Oct. 16, I attended two continuing education classes: Tablets and eReaders: Info at your Fingertips; and Healthy Aging at Your Library: Connecting Older Adults to Health Information. Both of these sessions are helpful to me as I work in a public library. Patrons often ask for assistance downloading books onto tablets and eReaders, and learning the capabilities of each enables me to give better technical support. Because I do programming at a local senior center the

session on healthy aging gave me more resources to serve library patrons in the community. On Thursday the keynote speaker, Erika Oliver was fun as well as thought-provoking. Turning negative thoughts into positive thoughts and actions is a skill that can be used in any situation, and is a particularly valuable one in a library setting where the unpredictable is a predictable part of daily work. I also enjoyed the poster sessions because I was able to speak with the presenters about their projects and learn how to create a poster presentation of my own for next year. In the vendor area I spoke to Holly Burt and Samantha Hewakapuge about National Network of Libraries/National Library of Medicine resources that I can use at a public library, and funding opportunities for consumer health information outreach. Dinner at the B.O.B. was a great way to meet people and have fun, although I didn't stay around for the dancing. Friday was an opportunity to share ideas and discuss issues faced by librarians in general and health sciences librarians in particular as we talked about core competencies. Again, thank you for the opportunity to attend the 2013 MHSLA conference.

## *Evan Sprague:*

When I was selected as a scholarship winner to attend the MHSLA 2013 annual conference in Grand Rapids, I was elated. As a student working my way towards my MLIS, I had never been to a library conference, and now I had this fantastic opportunity. I was uncertain what to expect at my first conference, but I hoped I would have many opportunities to meet new people and learn new things. I would not be disappointed.

The first day started with a CE course that provided me with the chance to explore tablet devices I've been dying to get my hands on, and ended with a meet and greet where I met many wonderful librarians. The days that followed continued to present equally enriching events.

Over the course of three days I met many welcoming, energetic and insightful librarians. I also feel I left with a better understanding of what to expect once I obtain my MLIS, and gleaned many insights that will assist me in my current position. This experience helped solidify an already strong desire to become a librarian, and proved to me that I'm on the right course. I look forward to my next opportunity to attend a library conference. I want to express my gratitude to MHSLA for this opportunity and to thank all the librarians who were so welcoming to me. Thank you!

## *Emily Byrnes*

Not having been to a professional conference before, I was ecstatic to receive the news that I had been selected as a scholarship recipient! Even though I was nervous about going, I mustered up the courage and made the drive to Grand Rapids. Finding the hotel was easier than I thought it was going to be, and everything was off to a great start. Everyone I met was so incredibly kind and considerate – beginning with the evening before the conference even began! The first day, as we know, was a full day of earning CE credits – I took the business communications and patient safety classes; and took copious notes from both courses, since much of the material was new to me (and not to mention incredibly valuable to a budding librarian!). The second day provided me with ample networking opportunities, and I tried to have a conversation with as many people as I could! I was reminded why it is so important to maintain a positive attitude, met with some vendors and added to my pen collection, won some caffeine courtesy of Starbucks, and learned about electronic health records. Finally, on the third day, I sat in on some discussions about leadership and management, and saw the lightning round presentations. I rounded out the conference with some more networking, and then headed back home. I cannot thank the members of MSHLA enough for the experience you provided me with. I was blown away by how accommodating and willing to share people were; and my passion for this profession was reinforced many times over. I am so thankful that my first conference experience was successful and a smaller size than some of the other mega-conferences!



## **Munson Library to host exhibit**

Munson Healthcare's Community Health Library and The Dennon Museum, both located in Traverse City, are scheduled to host the National Library of Medicine's traveling exhibition *Harry Potter's World: Renaissance, Science, Magic, and Medicine*

from October 26, 2015, through December 5, 2015.

The exhibit uses historical information to explore Harry Potter's world and its roots in Renaissance, Science, Magic, and Medicine. Although a fantasy story, the magic in the Harry Potter books is partially based on Renaissance traditions that played an important role in the development of Western science, including alchemy, astrology, and natural philosophy.

