

# MHSLA

# NEWS

No. 111

Winter 2017

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE MICHIGAN HEALTH SCIENCES LIBRARIES ASSOCIATION

## President's Corner

by *Elizabeth R. Lorbeer*

Did you know that having a membership in MHSLA makes you smarter? This is not only because we're information specialists with different levels of experience and background sharing new knowledge with each other; it's that merely interacting with our state-wide and Canadian colleagues makes us more creative, more diligent and better prepared to meet the demands in medical education, biomedical research, clinical care and patient safety. We are better together, as we train as information professionals to meet the ever-changing demand of our daily role as information providers in our academic and clinical settings. MHSLA's mission states that we exist to promote excellence in health sciences librarianship by providing its members with opportunities for professional growth, fostering communication between members and their regions, facilitating resource sharing, increasing awareness of new technologies, providing high-quality continuing education, and conducting research in health sciences information services.

We're community. We're each other's neighbor and through our MHSLA membership share everyday experiences and exchange ideas through our annual educational conference, regional groups, and discussion list. We're here to help each other, to renew our commitment to further our professional growth and to reach out to others and make them feel welcomed as new members. Our community is inclusive.

Last, did you know that having a membership in MHSLA will make you healthier? You cannot do your professional job alone, and if you feel lonely at times, you have a group of colleagues to reach out to who understand your everyday experiences, thoughts and feelings, and interests. I am grateful to you, for all your contributions to MHSLA and



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all that you do to make our world a healthier and happier place to live. Wishing you a healthy and happy New Year.

Elizabeth R. Lorbeer  
2017-18 MHSLA President

## **MHSLA Scholarship Recipients' Conference Reports**

### **First Time Attendee Scholarship Recipient**

**Kristin LaLonde, MLIS**

**MidMichigan Health**

When I learned that I was the New Member Scholarship recipient for the joint MHSLA/ MLA Midwest annual conference, I was overjoyed. I was very excited not only to attend the MSHLA conference but also to meet other health sciences librarians from around the Midwest. I felt very lucky to have this opportunity to have my registration, lodging, mileage and meals paid for while I networked and gained skills at the conference. As a new health sciences librarian, I found it very valuable to learn from seasoned professionals and to make new contacts in case I had questions in the future.

One of the greatest things about the MHSLA conference is how tailored it is to my job as a hospital librarian. I've been to several larger librarian conferences and always had a hard time tracking down the one or two presentations dealing with my specific area of work. At the MHSLA conference, everything was relevant and all of the people doing great things were in my neck of the woods, so it was easy to ask them questions about their projects or programs. I didn't have to spend time attending programs that weren't applicable to me so the whole conference felt very useful from start to finish.

My favorite program that I attended was the CE course "Getting Started with Information Outreach in Your Community" on Saturday. My hospital is community focused and we have several locations in rural, underserved areas so providing consumer health information is a goal of my department. I learned a lot about doing demographics research on the areas being served and how to partner with local stakeholder organizations. Overall the entire conference was a very valuable experience and I look forward to the MHSLA 2018 conference in Traverse City.

**Member Scholarship Recipient**  
**Jessica Sender, MLS, MET**  
**Michigan State University**

I was lucky enough to attend MHSLA/Midwest 2017 in Ypsilanti, Michigan. It was a good conference, with lots of opportunities for networking and collaboration. Additionally, I was the recipient of the MHSLA Conference Scholarship, which enabled me to attend the conference and take part in the programming. As part of the scholarship, I worked the registration desk, which was such a great way to meet new people, as well as put faces to names I had seen on email and through listservs. I really enjoyed hearing from colleagues from around Michigan and the greater Midwest about things they were working on, and I look forward to implementing a few new ideas into my own work.

There was a bit of shifting of schedules and presentation on Sunday, which turned out quite well, as I really enjoyed hearing all the updates that had originally been scheduled for Monday. I particularly enjoyed the GMR and NLM/MLA Updates, and learned a lot about all the different programming opportunities coming up in the next year. The time spent with vendors was also great-I appreciate that at a smaller conference like MHSLA/Midwest, you are able to make connections and discuss products with vendors, which is often difficult at larger conferences like MLA.

I also presented at MHSLA/Midwest, which was an excellent opportunity to present and get feedback about projects I have been working on in my teaching and instruction within the College of Nursing. I have been exploring the ACRL Framework and its relation to the College of Nursing curricular goals, and have done a bit of mapping the Framework to curriculum. It was great to present to a friendly crowd and be able to discuss with colleagues about their own instruction and work in the classroom.

There were great presentations and posters as well, and fun networking opportunities Sunday evening. I am so encouraged by all the great work colleagues around the state and region are doing. I look forward to seeing everyone next year at MHSLA 2018 in Traverse City!

**Diane LeBar Memorial Scholarship Recipient**  
**Barbara Platts, MLIS AHIP**  
**Munson Healthcare**

In October, I was fortunate enough to attend the MW/MHSLA joint conference at the Marriott Eagle Crest Conference Center in Ypsilanti. Thanks to funding from the Diane LeBar family, I was able to participate in an excellent CE session on data management as well as attend other events and meet with vendors.

The CE course, taught by two librarians from NYU, focused on the library's role in supporting research in an academic setting. In a hospital setting, library staff may be part of a research team, as well as support research efforts indirectly. This course was particularly meaningful since it provided information that could be used in either scenario. Course content included work flow data collection methods, designing forms for data capture and quality, interview techniques for obtaining data, file storage and naming conventions, and guidelines for data creation.

There were many papers and posters presented on a wide variety of topics. Listening to paper presentations and speaking with poster authors is a great way to cultivate new ideas. It also provides a benchmark; a way to measure programs or services at your own institution.

I was honored to attend the conference in Diane's memory. I remember her ongoing involvement in supporting MHSLA through her many hours of volunteering. She was always kind, compassionate, and willing to step up when needed. A true role model for all of us!

## **Good Changes in the Michigan eLibrary's (MeL) Health & Wellness Resource Center**

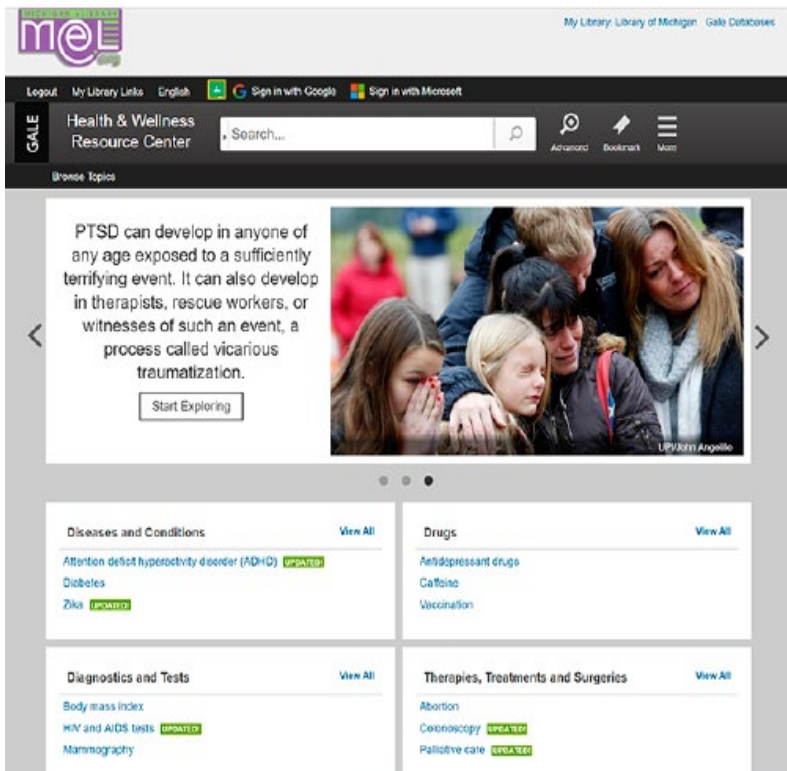
**Deb Renee Biggs, MeL Coordinator  
Library of Michigan**

This Fall [MeL's Health & Wellness Resource Center \(HWRC\)](#) received an upgrade. HWRC is an excellent resource for sharing in patient education and with healthcare professionals as it contains vetted, reliable health information. The "new" HWRC is now mobile optimized so it can be easily accessed on mobile phones and other devices with the screen adjusting to the appropriate size. Also included are updates to Gale's Encyclopedia of Medicine overviews and reference sets. Another important feature is the integration into the Google Suite Education Tools (G-Suite) as well as Microsoft Office 360 (OneDrive) so articles can be easily shared with your colleagues, medical personnel and with patients who use Google or Microsoft OneDrive. Also included are highlighting and note taking within articles, improved translation of articles into 40 languages, a read-speak option and citation tools.

Called out on the HWRC homepage are popular areas within the content of this resource: Diseases and Conditions, Diagnostics and Tests, Drugs and Therapies, Treatments and Surgeries. When you click on the "View All" link you get to see all the coverage in the four categories. Updates to HWRC occur daily, so this resource is as current as possible.

For a more in-depth review of Health & Wellness Resource Center you can listen to a recent webinar at <http://bit.ly/2i9hJEU>. As with all MeL databases, HWRC uses Geo-IP authentication so users get immediate access to the resource and of course it is available at no cost to all

Michigan residents. We hope that you can find ways to use HWRC content in your health sciences/medical/hospital library and with those whom you work.



## LearningExpress in the Michigan eLibrary (MeL) has Career and Test Prep for Health Care Professions

Deb Renee Biggs, MeL Coordinator  
Library of Michigan

[LearningExpress](#) has been part of the subscription (database) content of MeL since 2002, but it is most especially known and used for preparation for college entrance exams and the GED. In the Career Center, however, eBooks and practice tests can be found for careers in Allied Health, Nursing and Emergency Medical Services. In order for prospective students to enter allied health or nursing programs, they need to be able to understand and pass curriculum covered in those fields. LearningExpress has practice exams designed to improve knowledge in the various sciences—general, biology, chemistry—as well as math and reading in the health sciences, so students can pass entrance requirements in order to be admitted to allied health and nursing programs in colleges and universities.

The exam preparation for these fields that require licensure or certification include dental, medical, physician, physical therapy assistant as well as pharmacy tech, radiologic tech, surgery

tech and veterinary tech certification in the allied health specialties. Both emergency medical tech and paramedic certifications are available as well. In the nursing field, those seeking careers in that area of expertise can study for both the NCLEX-RN and PN as well as for certification as a nursing assistant or nurse's aide. While exam preparation using LearningExpress is not "Michigan specific," these nationally administered exams will help prepare Michiganders seeking employment in healthcare fields with the practice to do well and pass licensure or certification exams required by the State of Michigan.

As with all MeL subscription resources, LearningExpress used Geo-IP authentication, to provide a seamless access to the tests, courses and eBooks found therein and it is available at no cost to all Michigan residents. Just choose the Career Center once in the resource, and go from there. In order to use the content, one needs to create a free account so that the tests, courses and eBooks being used can be stored and easily accessed as many times as needed. Please consider recommending this extremely useful resource to those you know who are considering the health profession as a career option!

The screenshot displays the Michigan eLibrary Career Center interface. At the top, there are links for "Login", "Register", and "Contact Us". Below this is a search bar labeled "Find Resources" and a dropdown menu for "In This Center". A navigation menu includes "Home", "Center Home", "Guidance", "Resources", "Other Centers", "Video Guides", and "Help". The main heading is "Prepare for an Entrance Exam". A sidebar on the left lists various resources: "Learn More About a Career", "Prepare for an Entrance Exam", "Prepare for Allied Health Programs Entrance Tests", "Health Occupations Practice Entrance Tests", "Health Occupations Entrance Tests eBooks", "Prepare for Nursing School Entrance Tests", "Prepare for an Occupation Exam", "Join the Military or Become an Officer", "Job Search and Workplace Skills", and "Prepare for the WorkKeys® Assessments and the TOEIC®". The main content area features a banner for "Prepare for Allied Health Programs Entrance Tests" with a sub-section for "Health Occupations Practice Entrance Tests" and an image of two students. Below the banner, there is a "Show me:" dropdown menu set to "All" and a "Showing Pages 1 of 1" indicator. A featured resource is titled "Health Careers Practice Entrance Test: Biology" with a "Register or Login to Use" button. The description for this resource reads: "To get into an Allied Health training program, you need a good score on the entrance exam. Make sure that happens by taking practice tests first. Here, answer 50 questions in biology, then see your score, the right answers, and explanations."

## **New Librarian Spotlight**

Extend a warm welcome to new colleague!

### **Ryan DeCoster, Mercy Health Regional Libraries**

Ryan DeCoster will be starting soon as the new Library Technician for the Mercy Health Regional Libraries. Ryan is a MILS graduate from the University of Wisconsin program. Since then, he has worked as a Librarian and the Learning Services Coordinator at Baker College of Muskegon where he has been involved in nearly every aspect of librarianship. Ryan will work mostly at Muskegon's Mercy and Hackley Hospitals but because the libraries are now regionalized, he will also work with Saint Mary's hospital staff.

## **Upcoming Retirement**

A very happy retirement to Sandy Swanson from all of us in MHSLA!

Sandy Swanson retires November 30th, 2017, from a long and productive career as a Medical Librarian. After receiving her MSL in English and Library Science from WMU in 1984, Sandy continued to be a lifelong learner, going back to school often. She received a Master's in Public Administration with a Health Care Concentration in 1999.

She has been a fixture in the medical/hospital library community for decades. She worked in the Medical Library at Butterworth Hospital, which later became part of Spectrum Health. She also worked at Saint Mary's Health Sciences Library (now part of Mercy Health) and the Grand Rapids Community College library, while working as a trainer in various parts of the state for the Michigan Library Consortium (now MCLS since it combined with Indiana). She has spent the last 12 years at the Mercy Health Muskegon Libraries. During her time at these institutions, Sandy has contributed on every level, especially as libraries moved from print to online. This was very easy for her because Sandy is extremely tech-savvy! She is also the master of collection development.

She has been very involved in MHSLA and WMHSLA for nearly 30 years, serving on numerous committees, in particular, Resource Sharing and Local Arrangements for several conferences. In 2004 she received the MHSLA Librarian of the Year Award. We wish Sandy all the best as she heads into the next stage of her life!

## Member Publication

This issue's member publication features an interview with MHSLA President Elizabeth Lorbeer.

Lorbeer, E.R. (2017, October 19). Creating a digital-only medical library from scratch: director of a digital-only library in a new medical school shares what she's learned. NEJM LibraryHub Featured Librarian. Retrieved from <http://libraryhub.nejm.org/article-hub/2017/10/creating-digital-medical-library-scratch/>

## Book Review

Beginning with this issue, the MHSLA News will now feature reviews of books, articles, and other resources that members have found useful for their work or consider important to include in their collections. If you are interested in writing a review please contact the Editor, Andrea Kepsel, at [akepsel@msu.edu](mailto:akepsel@msu.edu).

### **The bright hour: A memoir of living and dying / Nina Riggs. Simon & Schuster, 2017**

Review by Jennifer Barlow, Borgess Library

Borgess Library has a collection of works on end-of-life, grief and bereavement. It's an important area of focus for a hospital library. Recent additions have included *Being Mortal*, Atul Gawande's exploration of how medicine deals with mortality, and *When Breath Becomes Air*, Paul Kalanithi's profound and poignant memoir of his terminal illness.

Newly published, *The Bright Hour* by Nina Riggs is one of the finest examples of this genre I have ever read. A wife, mother, and published poet, Riggs was only thirty-eight when she was diagnosed with breast cancer. In a little over a year she was gone. But during that time, she chronicled her thoughts, experiences and memories, and produced this heartbreakingly beautiful memoir.

Riggs was a direct descendant of the American literary giant Ralph Waldo Emerson, and clearly inherited his sensitivity and artistic flair. She made connections between the sublime (philosophy, poetry, questions of life and death) and the mundane (dealing with hair loss after chemotherapy, teaching her son to ride a bike). Each brief essay shines with her love of life, her curiosity, her willingness to peer into the void.

Riggs's final year was eventful. Her 8-year-old son was diagnosed with diabetes. Her mother died. She endured rounds of chemo and radiation as well as surgery. She traveled to Paris with her husband. She adopted a dog and wrote a book. Knowing her days were limited, she resolved to appreciate them all – even when they were painful, sad or confusing.



*The Bright Hour* displays Riggs's strength, intelligence and wisdom. She was a bright light, and with this work of art, her spirit endures.

**“I am cheered with the moist, warm, glittering, budding and melodious hour that takes down the narrow walls of my soul and extends its pulsation and life to the very horizon. That is morning; to cease for a bright hour to be a prisoner of this sickly body and to become as large as the World.”**

***-Ralph Waldo Emerson, 1838***

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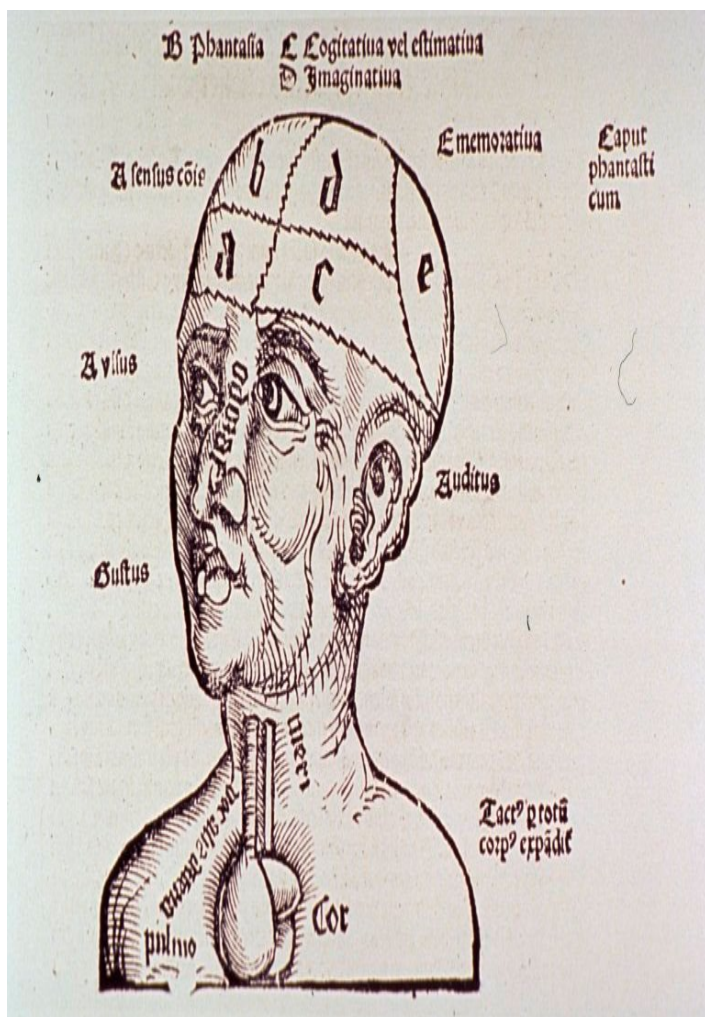
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# MHSLA

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*MHSLA News*, ISSN 1543-0359, is published three times each year by the Michigan Health Sciences Libraries Association, <http://www.mhsla.org>.

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