Midwest Chapter
Medical Library Association

Awards and Scholarship Committee
Spring 2005 Board Report

Committee Members:

Elaine Skopelja, Chair, 2005-2006
Melinda Orebaugh, Past President, 2005
Pam Bradigan, 2005-2006
Amy Hatfield, 2005-2006

Committee Charge:

1. Re-evaluate the Award for Health Information Management.
2. Create two other awards that would recognize outstanding Chapter members and/or institutions.
3. Review the Conference Scholarship requirements and application date.
4. Create and maintain a list on the Chapter website of all previous award winners.
5. Publicize the awards and conference scholarships availability.
6. Review and award two Conference Scholarships.
7. Review and award other awards as applications are received.

Activities related to the Committee Charge:

1. After review by the committee, it was our opinion that the Award for Health Information Management should be completely reconfigured as a different award, with less emphasis on the awardees as “health sciences associations” and on restricting an award to “enhancing programming” See #2 below.

2. The two awards that the Committee would like to submit in outline are:

Midwest Chapter Distinguished Librarian of the Year
- Awarded to individuals who have displayed exceptional leadership, collaborative skills, organizational abilities, work ethic or mentoring efforts in either the Chapter or their State health science association.
- Must be a member of the Chapter.
- Requires a current CV or resume, nomination letter, and 2-3 letters of support for their overall “lifetime” efforts, and/or projects or accomplishments within the last two years.
- Depending on the applicant, this could be kind of a “lifetime achievement award” but does not have to be (don’t want to scare away newbies).
- Award is $500 to the winner.

**Midwest Chapter Information Innovation Award**
- This is a reworking of the Award for Health Information Management award.
- Awarded to **individuals, teams or libraries** that have displayed creativity and/or problem solving skills that have resulted in new or improved methods, projects, products, organizational innovations or publications for health information management, within their institution, state association or the Chapter.
- Does not have to be an MLS, but does have to be a Chapter member.
- Samples of types of projects include:
  - Technological solutions
  - New technological applications
  - Publications that break new ground, propose new methods, etc.
  - Software development or new applications
  - New or improved teaching applications
  - New organizational innovations
  - New marketing initiatives
  - Successfully combining a new job or job skill with traditional library work.
  - Example: Hospital librarian who now has to handle the CME work at his/her hospital; or academic or special librarian who has incorporated other responsibilities into their current job.
- Requires a detailed description of the project and a written explanation of the original “problem” the proposed “solution” and the outcome of the project. This could also apply to a publication. Also requires a nomination letter and 2-3 letters of support.
- Award is $500 to the winning individual, team or library.

3. The Conference Scholarship pages on the Chapter website have been updated. The new deadline for applicants is listed as July 1 instead of August 1, due to the early date of the Chapter annual meeting in 2005.

4. We will be working on establishing this page.

5. The committee will publicize these awards to the Chapter, individual state health science library associations, SLIS schools and other groups.

6. The committee will review and award.
7. The committee will review and award.

Respectfully submitted,

Elaine Skopelja, Chair
Awards and Scholarships Committee