

2016-17 Annual Report

Midwest Chapter of the Medical Library Association

Submitted by: Debra A. Werner, President, Midwest Chapter/MLA

Leadership Roster:

- Deb Werner, President, 2016-2017
- Chris Childs, Immediate Past President, 2016-2017
- Karen Hanus, President Elect, 2016-2017
- Liz Kiscaden, Treasurer, 2016-2017
- Stephanie Schulte, Membership Secretary, 2016-2018
- Jennifer DeBerg, Recording Secretary, 2015-2017
- Janna Lawrence, Representative to the MLA Chapter Council 2016-2019
- Nancy J. Allee, Alternative Representative to the MLA Chapter, 2016-2019
- Patricia Lunsford, Representative-at-Large, 2016-2018
- Megan Keller Young, Archivist, 2017-2018
- Ramune Kubilius, Candidate for Membership on the MLA Nominating Committee 2017-2018
- Clare Leibfarth, Annual Meetings Chair, 2015-2017
- Nicole Theis-Mahon, Awards & Scholarships Chair, 2016-2017
- Elizabeth Huggins, Communications Chair, 2015-2017
- Angie Tucker, Professional Practice Chair, 2016-2017

Executive Summary:

The focus of the Midwest Chapter in 2016/2017 is to strengthen Midwest Chapter's finances after having lost considerable savings to an unscrupulous vendor. The Chapter implemented many cost-cutting measures and initiated fundraising activities. These efforts, coupled with a highly successful 2016 Annual Meeting partnership with the Midcontinental Chapter, have stabilized the situation and the Chapter is beginning to restoring its financial health. The Chapter is migrating to a new, more attractive website, scheduled to be completed this fall. Finally, the Midwest Chapter is the proud recipient of the Majors/MLA Chapter Project of the Year Award for its Resume/Interview Practice Program.

Strategic Plan:

- Goal: Strengthen Midwest Chapter's finances.
- Strategies:
 1. Minimize Chapter expenses.
Status: Beginning with the 2016 Annual Meeting and until further notice, suspended the Travel Reimbursement Policy, which reimbursed travel costs to some Board members.

Substantially reduced the number of Chapter Annual Meeting awards for the 2016 meeting; have reinstated some, but not all, of the awards for the 2017 meeting.

2. Minimize expenses for Chapter's Annual Meeting.

Status: The 2016 Annual Meeting, a joint meeting with the Midcontinental Chapter, was very profitable owing to the cost-conscious budget adhered to by the meeting co-chairs (Janna Lawrence, Midwest Chapter; Melissa DeSantis, Midcontinental Chapter) and good attendance by Chapter members.

3. Implement fundraising activities.

Status: Held a 50/50 raffle at the Chapter's 2016 Annual Meeting and plan to continue fundraisers at Annual Meetings. There are plans for a Silent Auction at the 2017 Annual Meeting. Revised the online renewal page to include an option to donate to the Chapter.

- Goal: Migrate to new website to improve online experience of Chapter members by organizing content in intuitive fashion, removing content that is no longer relevant, etc.
- Strategies:
 1. Select a new web hosting platform. The Communications Committee investigated options for new web hosting, WordPress and Wild Apricot, delineated advantages and disadvantage of each platform, and submitted information to Chapter Board for discussion and selection.
Status: Completed.
 2. Communications Committee Chair to move content from old web hosting platform to the new platform, WordPress. Old web content to be archived.
Status: Move planned to be completed prior to the Chapter's Fall Board Meeting in October.
- Goal: Review the Chapter's annual meetings and recommend changes to their planning and execution in order to increase year-to-year continuity and planning effectiveness.
- Strategies:
 1. Form an Annual Meetings Special Committee to undertake the work.
Status: Completed.
 2. Review the current meeting planning procedures, activities/tasks, and partnerships.
Status: In process.
 3. Make recommendations.
Status: Scheduled to be completed by the Chapter's Fall Board Meeting in October.

MLA Strategic Plan:

- Area 3: Education
Robust CE courses are offered at Annual Meetings. In 2016, offered six continuing education courses that had 73 registrants.

- Area 4: MLA Technology
The Midwest Chapter's planned migration to a new website aligns with MLA's Technology goal.
- Area 5: Research
The Midwest Chapter encourages its members to conduct research, and incentivizes it with its annual Research Paper/Poster Awards.

Facts and Data:

- Chapter Membership
The Midwest Chapter currently has 258 regular members, 12 retired members, and 21 student members.
- Annual Meeting
The Midwest Chapter's Annual Meeting, a joint meeting with Midcontinental Chapter, was held in Des Moines, Iowa October 21-25, 2016 and had 156 attendees.
- Resume/Interview Practice Program
The Chapter continues its Resume/Interview Practice Program, which was piloted in 2015, and this year won the Majors/MLA Chapter Project of the Year Award. 11 mentor/mentee pairs have gone through the program over the last two years. Stephanie Schulte conceived of and implemented the program. Details about the program are in the Chapter's newsletter MIDLINE at: <http://midwestmla.org/midline/?p=2537>.
- Spring Board Meeting
A virtual Board Meeting was held on April 11, 2017. Participants could call in or attend online via Zoom, a web conferencing service.

People Update:

- Election Results, 2016-2017
 - President-Elect - Karen Hanus, 2016-2017
 - Membership Secretary - Stephanie Schulte, 2016-2018
 - Representative-at-Large, Patricia Lunsford, 2016-2018
 - Potential Candidate to the MLA Nominating Committee - Ramune Kubilius, 2017-2018
- New Appointed Officers
 - Archivist - Megan Keller Young, 2017-2018
- New Committee Appointments

Awards and Scholarships Committee

- Nicole Theis-Mahon, Chair (Oct 2016-Oct 2017)
- Sheila Beale (Oct 2016-2018)
- Matt Hoy (Oct 2016-2018)
- Anna Beth Morgan (Oct 2016-2018)
- Karen Hanus, President-Elect (Oct 2016-Oct 2017)

Communications Committee

- Lauren E Robinson (Oct 2016-2018)
- Matt Regan (Oct 2016-2018)

Membership Committee

- Heather Healy (Oct 2016-Oct 2018)
- Margaret Hoogland (Oct 2016-2018)

Nominations and Election Committee

- Merle Rosenzweig
- Amber Loos
- Noreen Mulcahy

Professional Practice Committee

- Angela Tucker, Chair (Oct 2016-Oct 2017)
- Jane Blumenthal, Midwest Chapter Credentialing Liaison to MLA (2016- Oct 2017)
- Bradley Long (Oct 2016-2018)
- Nancy O'Brien (Oct 2016-2018)

Annual Meetings Special Committee

- Clare Leibfarth, Co-chair (OH)
- Bette Sydelko, Co-chair (OH)
- Liz Fine Weinfurter (MN)
- Deborah Lauseng (IL)

• Midwest Chapter 2016 Award Winners

- MLA Free Roundtable Lunch Awards – Chris Parker (IL) and Hanna Schmillen (OH)
- Annual Meeting Grant – Noreen Mulcahy (OH)
- Student Annual Meeting Award – Stephanie Hendren (WI)
- First-Time Attendee Award – Karlene Campbell (IL)

• Midwest Chapter 2016 Research Paper/Poster Award Winners

- Best Research Paper Award - Nicole Theis-Mahon, "Cracking the Health Care Code: Health Literacy in the Upper Midwest"
- Best Research Poster Award - Jenny Taylor, "Information Seeking Behavior in the Health Sciences: A Systematic Review"