



## MLA VETERINARY MEDICAL LIBRARIES SECTION

# HIGHLIGHTS AND NEWS NOTES

SPRING 2005 NO 55

### A RETROSPECTIVE FROM THE OUT-GOING CHAIR

Kudos! Over the past year VMLS members have helped MLA achieve its stated goals for Recruitment, Membership and Leadership in the Profession; Life-long Learning; Advocacy; and Building a Network of Partners. For Recruitment, Membership and Leadership in the Profession, Barbara Cavanaugh, along with Carol Elmore and a team of University of Pennsylvania librarians successfully promoted Veterinary Medical Libraries at the 2004 AVMA convention, held in Philadelphia, PA. For Life-Long Learning, Joe Jaros collaborated with the Molecular Biology and Genomics SIG to bring Dr. Duane (Dewey) Kraemer, Professor, College of Veterinary Medicine, Texas A&M University, and Dr. Susan Kendall, Health Sciences Librarian, Michigan State University, together for a section program at MLA titled *Cloning Research Offers Challenges for Scientists and Librarians*. For Advocacy, the Veterinary Online Publishing Task Force contacted publishers of veterinary journals and textbooks to request that they publish their materials electronically. Task force members also spoke to Elsevier representatives during the annual meeting to request the Veterinary Clinics of North America be made available online. For Building a Network of Partners, the Public Relations Committee and the International Relations Committees joined together to establish a joint ad hoc subcommittee to compile and produce an international list of veterinary medical libraries.

VMLS still has much work to do, however, and needs your help! Work for the section program at MLA 2006 in Phoenix, AZ has begun. If you have any ideas for next year's or

even future section programs, please contact our Chair-Elect, Jill Crawley-Low. Also, at this year's Business Meeting, a Web Committee was established and charged with migrating the section's website to the MLA server and maintaining and updating content. The intention for this change is to make it easier to share and transfer responsibility for the website among members of the organization. If you would like to help on this committee, please contact Joe Jaros.

Volunteers are also needed for the recharged Survey Committee, which was asked to examine the current survey of veterinary medical libraries and revise or recreate if necessary. This committee has also been asked to evaluate survey software packages for purchase to help manage and automatically compile results for the survey. Again, the intention for this change is to facilitate the transfer of responsibility for this function among members of the organization. If you would like to help on this committee, please contact Joe Jaros.

I would like to thank everyone for the opportunity for serving as Chair of VMLS. I have enjoyed the experience and am impressed with members' devotion to the organization. I especially would like to thank everyone who has offered me help over the past year and patiently answered my many questions! Have a great summer!

Sarah Murphy, VMLS Past-Chair

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## VMLS HIGHLIGHTS FROM MLA 2005 IN SAN ANTONIO

### VMLS AND MOLECULAR BIOLOGY FOCUS ON CLONING

By Joe Jaros, Chair Elect/Program Chair 2005

The MLA program this year followed the theme of Futuro Magnifico, and looked at different areas of librarianship and our future as a profession. There were different areas of concentration, Clinical, Diversity, Education and Outreach, Research, and Technology, all of which impact our roles as medical librarians. Accordingly, the Veterinary Medical Libraries Section decided to concentrate on the Research aspect of the program and designed a program about cloning. We were joined in sponsorship by the Molecular Biology and Genomics SIG.

The program was held on Monday, May 16 in the afternoon and was entitled "Cloning Research Offers challenges for Scientists and Librarians." The first half of the program was presented by Dr. Duane (Dewey) Kraemer, DVM, Ph.D., from the College of Veterinary Medicine at Texas A&M University. Dr. Kraemer has lengthy experience in cloning at TAMU, having previously directed the cloning program which has now cloned more species than any other institution. The first deer cloned was named "Dewey" in his honor, and the first cat, "CC" (for Copy Cat) lives with Dr. and Mrs. Kraemer as their resident house cat. Dr. Kraemer presented an introduction to cloning, the scientific background and genetic work that is in-

involved in the process, and then dealt with ethical issues and the possibilities for human medical research. He gave a fascinating tour of the subject and ended with a video of CC chasing a ball, all to the delight of the audience.

Following Dr. Kraemer's presentation, Dr. Susan Kendall, Health Sciences Librarian at Michigan State University, gave a talk on finding good sources for information about cloning. Dr. Kendall has a webpage devoted to cloning research, designed for the librarian to assist scientists in their research, and much of her talk was centered on her website and the resources it contained. She also dealt with problems of research support and locating viable sources. It was an interesting presentation, bringing together the tools of our trade and relating them to the type of research that Dr. Kraemer had previously discussed. Both presenters then took questions from the audience and participated in a discussion. Kevin Messner, Assistant Science Librarian, at the Bio-Medical Library, University of Minnesota-Minneapolis, served as moderator of the session. Kevin is a member of both the section and the SIG and our thanks go to him for his service, along with our gratitude to Drs. Kraemer and Kendall.

Dr. Kendall's web page is at

<http://www.lib.msu.edu/skendall/cloning/index.htm>

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### VMLS DINNER, MAY 16, SAN ANTONIO, TX

By Joe Jaros, Chair Elect/Program Chair 2005

Thirty-six people, VMLS members and guests, met for the annual VMLS dinner at MLA in San Antonio. This year, we dined at Azuca, Nuevo Latino America on Alamo St., just south of the Hemisfair/Conference Center complex. The restaurant provided us with a choice of entrees, and attendees had to choose between a grilled salmon served with roasted corn relish, a steak rubbed with Latino spices, grilled and served with cilantro mashed potatoes, pecan crusted shrimp served with an ancho cream sauce, and a vegetable pasta dish. Dessert was a tres leches cake served with fresh berries. Coffee and tea were served, while a cash bar was provided. Azuca has received high marks for presenting

Latin American dishes in a city more known for Tex-Mex, and the selection provided us with an insight into a varied and creative cuisine. Guests included Dr. and Mrs. Kraemer from the Texas A&M College of Veterinary Medicine. Dr. Kraemer had been one of our invited speakers for the VMLS sponsored program that afternoon. To everyone's delight, he and Mrs. Kraemer passed around additional pictures of "CC", the cloned cat that lives with them. In addition, Kathrine MacNeil, longtime and founding member of the Section, (now retired) was able to attend and catch up with old friends. It was a nice ending to a long day of programs and business meetings.

## SECTION ROUNDUP

### WSU HEALTH SCIENCES LIBRARY TURNS 40

By Sarah McCord

The Washington State University Health Sciences Library celebrated our 40th anniversary on April 12, 2005 with refreshments, a program, and many friends both old and new. The program opened with a greeting from WSU Libraries Director Ginny Steel, followed by a short history delivered by Sarah McCord and comments from Vicki Croft on the importance of our ongoing relationships with the College of Veterinary Medicine, College of Pharmacy, and other campus health sciences programs. Sarah McCord created two exhibits for the celebration. One detailed the history of the

physical library, and included photographs from the university archives and architect's renderings of the original library which opened during the 1964-65 school year. The display also included newspaper clippings and handouts related to the remodeling project that took place from 1979-1981. The second exhibit, entitled "Wait a minute...don't I know you?" featured photographs of faculty and staff taken over the past 40 years, including pictures of some prominent faculty members taken while they were students. This exhibit brought out laughter and stories, and was such a popular feature that it remains on display. More than 65 people signed our guestbook, and several have emailed to let us

### SCOTT HEADS DISC AT KSU

The Kansas State University Veterinary Medical Library has started a new library initiative, the Digital Information Service Center (DISC). Gina Scott has been appointed as the coordinator of this new service. Gina received her BS degree in 1983 from Kansas State University. Ms. Scott was hired by the Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital in 1994 for computer support and was responsible for bringing the hospital/diagnostic lab billing systems online. She continued to assist people with software and hardware issues while supporting the two billing systems. Prior to the VMTH position, Gina was employed at the main KSU library for 11 years and was involved in supporting 3 generations of computer systems.

The main objective of the new DISC area is to provide educational services for CVM students and faculty enabling them to excel in giving presentations, organizing data, and maximizing their access to and use of information. The DISC Coordinator also identifies and investigates electronic access to full text journals for the Veterinary Medical Library. Gina Scott's extensive background with computer technology and teaching experience brings the necessary talents and skills to this newly created position.



### CONGRATULATIONS TO SARAH MCCORD!

By Vicki Croft

Congratulations to Sarah McCord, Electronic Resources Librarian and College of Pharmacy Liaison, at the Washington State University's Health Sciences Library on being granted tenure and promotion to Librarian 3, on July 1, 2005, a year early.

For those of you who don't know Sarah, she received her MLIS from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 2000. She has been the Electronic Resources Librarian at the WSU Health Sciences library since October 2000, and is responsible for liaison to the College of Pharmacy and the WWAMI Basic Medical Sciences Program. Sarah is past Chair of the Pharmacy and Drug Information Section of the Medical Library Association (Note: and this is one reason, she's unable to participate in many VMLS events!)

### BOOK CHAPTER AUTHORS

Be sure to check out the book chapter by VMLS member authors Vicki Croft and Sarah McCord. Their chapter titled "Instructional outreach and liaison to a veterinary medicine program at Washington State University" is in *A Guide to Developing End-User Education Programs in Medical Libraries*, edited by Elizabeth Connor and published by Haworth Press, 2005, pp. 15-24.

## NEWS FROM TENNESSEE

By Ann Viera

**Food and Drink:** We altered our food and drink policy at the end of Spring semester from no food or drink to covered drinks and snacks, no hot food. It is a big deal for us...they put a chain coffee shop in the main library without commensurate cleaning about three years ago--what a mess. I suggested the change after reading the chapter on food in "Creating the Customer Driven Library: Building on the Bookstore Model" by Jeanette Woodward. The author is a former academic librarian who runs a public library. The premise of the book is that libraries can steal back from bookstores what bookstores stole from libraries that make them so successful. Already, according to our technical support person, the policy change has made us (the library staff) less paranoid. And it has made the library even more comfortable and convenient. We were also influenced by the article Trenton noted on Vetlib-I in J. Med Libr. Assoc. by Kronenfeld on "Trends in Academic Health Sciences Libraries..." and the exit report written by our GTA from last year. We are continuing to rearrange furniture to create spaces for group study. We are following the discussions at the main library about setting up an information commons, for which we think we already have most of the ingredients (and have had for years!).

**Recent Workshops:** I coordinated a talk by one of our young science librarians from the main library on open access publishing that was very well received by CVM faculty at the end of the semester. The same week, a new graduate of the library school here gave two noon workshops on searching the web using Google, which were attended by mostly staff, some faculty, and some students. It was nice to offer a workshop for staff, and they seemed to really like/need it, although I had to work really hard at publicizing the workshop since we hadn't offered one for a broader audience before. Exhausting, but the turnout was worth it.

**Pet Owner Web Page and Two new flyers:** I welcome comments or suggestions on the page I maintain for pet owners at

<http://www.lib.utk.edu/agvet/veterinary/owners.html>.

I exhibited at a regional conference in February (Healthy Living Expo) with NLM exhibit \$, and created two new flyers, one about the pet owner page and one on Medline-plus for the Expo. The flyers are at

<http://www.lib.utk.edu/agvet/veterinary/AgVETPetInfoSheet.pdf> and

<http://www.lib.utk.edu/agvet/veterinary/AgVETPeopleInfoSheet.pdf>.

### Fourth Year Students & Evidence Based Medicine:

The beginning of summer finds me working every other Friday with fourth year vet students who are on the parasitology/pathology rotation. We spend an hour or more talking about how to find books and journal articles, given all the changes we've made since they first entered the program. We also talk about information sources for pet owners, including the two handouts mentioned above, and also about how to find the best evidence (the article by Doig in Australian Veterinary Journal vol. 81, no. 7, July 2003, page 412-415) and the new program at Davis in veterinary family practice (Veterinary Economics, March 2005). If anyone would like a copy of the handouts I use for this session let me know ([annviera@utk.edu](mailto:annviera@utk.edu)).

## NEW ADDITIONS TO TAMU

Texas A & M University (TAMU) Medical Sciences Library has hired two new librarians, Ana Ugaz and Taryn Resnick, to fill entry level positions in resources management, aka, technical services.

Ana Ugaz is a native Texan, who grew up in San Antonio and graduated from the University of Texas at Austin with a degree in dietetics. As a registered dietitian, Ana worked in school districts in Texas and Illinois overseeing nutrition services. Later, while going back to school to earn a Master's degree in Library and Information Science, she worked in the corporate library of MMI Companies, Inc. (now a part of St. Paul Travelers) assisting employees with literature searches and general reference work in the areas of medicine and risk management. She recently moved to College Station when her husband took a position as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Chemical Engineering. She is excited to be back in Texas and is looking forward to working in an academic setting as part of the MSL faculty. She enjoys spending time visiting family, making stamped art cards, and playing with her two cats.

Taryn received her M.L.S. degree from Queens College of the City University of New York in June 2004 and relocated to Texas A&M University from New York City. After graduating with a bachelor's degree in English from Brandeis University and working briefly in publishing, Taryn managed basic science research laboratories at Har-

## NEW ADDITIONS TO TAMU

vard Medical School in Boston and Weill Medical College of Cornell University in New York. She then became a full-time library graduate student in 2002, and her experience in academic medicine, combined with a life-long love of reading and research, led her to medical librarianship. During graduate school, Taryn worked part-time at the Ehrman Medical Library of the New York University School of Medicine on a number of projects, including as a Bioterrorism Informationist.

A third staff member joined the TAMU MSL resources management team in March 2005. Miko, a female, spayed, domestic shorthair, ginger tabby, has filled the non-line independent contractor position of chief rodent control officer and stress reduction therapist. This position was created when mice, disturbed by construction on a nearby vacant lot, invaded MSL. Being academic mice, possibly with engineering degrees, they were able to avoid several different types of mouse traps used by MSL to address the problem. MSL knew something had to be done, when one of the mice was discovered in a desk drawer, dead from a dark chocolate overdose. Since Miko came on staff there have been no further mouse sightings in resources management. While she remains vigilant for any repeat incursion by the TAMU mouse population, she is now focusing on her duties as stress reduction therapist. Her favorite techniques are spontane-



ous play sessions with a wide variety of tools she affectionately refers to as toys, calming low frequency vibration therapy usually done when lying on the affected individual's lap, and, when all else fails, interruption techniques to reduce over work by strategic body placement between the stressed individual and the stress inciting task.

## ABOUT HIGHLIGHTS AND NEWS NOTES

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