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Newsletter of the Health Sciences OCLC Users Group

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## **Message from the President**

**Judith Dzierba**

Library of Rush University; Rush-Presbyterian-St. Luke's Medical Center



As the incoming Executive Committee members settle into their new roles, I would like to express a heartfelt "Thank you" to the outgoing Executive Committee for all that they have accomplished to keep the mission of HSOCLCUG alive.

Congratulations to all those who showed their dedication in restructuring the Group, especially Mary Holt, who took a leadership role by assuming the Presidency as well as the responsibilities of President-elect for the past two years. We all reaped the benefits of her energy. Mary chaired and planned a memorable and educational annual meeting held last October in New Orleans in conjunction with the Triple Chapter Meeting of MLA. The Board will be looking to similar joint ventures with larger organizations, providing HSOCLCUG members with simultaneous experiences. You can help us make decisions in your best interests by noting your professional affiliations on the membership renewal form enclosed in this issue.

Besides the honor of Past President, Mary has now assumed the role of Webmaster for the Group. If you haven't visited the HSOCLCUG site at <http://www.tulane.edu/~matas/HSOCLCUG/hsoclug.html>, you are missing out on a well-organized display of the Group accomplishments as well as a collection of informative references regarding current issues in technical services.

I extend my best wishes to outgoing Administrative Secretary and Archivist, Karleen Darr, who contributed six years of her time and expertise in this position, for a successful term as newly elected Executive Secretary for the Technical Services Section of the Medical Library Association (MLA).

This past year, I had the pleasure of working with Dan Kniesner in developing and conducting the "Survey on MeSH Authority Control Practices", the results of which are available at the HSOCLCUG Web site. Dan has been a tremendous advocate in encouraging OCLC to include Medical Subject Headings (MeSH) authorities in their services. I am happy that he is continuing to serve as Task Force Chair of the Medical Subject Headings in OCLC Services, and also accepting the appointment as HSOCLCUG's Archivist to safeguard HSOCLCUG's records of historical and enduring value.

I am pleased to say that the survey was presented at May's OCLC Members Council meeting by Ed Weissman, chair of the Collection & Technical Services Interest Group. I am thrilled to announce that HSOCLCUG lobbying efforts has gotten the attention of other organizations as well. Support for the HSOCLCUG resolution for loading MeSH authorities in the OCLC Connexion, Integrated Cataloging and Metadata service, was endorsed by the members of the Technical Services Section of MLA and the Medical Section of the Biomedical & Life Sciences Division of the Special Libraries Association. The result is a positive feedback that OCLC is committed to loading MeSH files once the Oracle platform is completed.

My own involvement with HSOCLCUG is a short one, since 1998. I have met some wonderful and amazingly dedicated members. I am excited that Betsy Friesen is President-elect. She brings a wealth of organizational experience. I am looking forward to working with her in providing our members with cost-effective continuing education opportunities. I am grateful to Lynn Bowman, Bruce Abbott, Cindy Fedders and Susan Dorsey for continuing their vital roles on the Board. I welcome Mary Hawks as newly appointed NLM Liaison, a position that enabled me to make the acquaintance of so many knowledgeable librarians at the National Library of Medicine. I would like to extend a hearty welcome to new faces on the Executive Board – Wendy Fritzel, Administrative Secretary, Charley Lackey, co-editor of *Start of Message*, and Hanna Kwasik, NASIG Liaison.

As I make my commitment to you as President, I hope to increase our membership and encourage your involvement with issues affecting library technical services. In keeping with OCLC's own strategic direction toward a global cooperative, I hope to encourage membership to HSOCLCUG at an international level as well. Many of you are already aware of the changes that will be in effect within the coming year. Cataloging in OCLC will look and feel different, MeSH Authorities may become available, NLM Classification will expand online, SERHOLD records will be uploaded into OCLC with NLM programmed functionality, and selected NLM records will be Dublin Core coded. Through more frequent dissemination of the newsletter online and MEDCAT as our e-media, I hope to keep you abreast of these and other changes that impact your work. If you attended the delightful social event at Trinity Hall, Irish Pub and Restaurant, (during MLA in Dallas), for the installation of the newly elected officers, you will understand when I say to you all - **'Sla'inte!' to a great year ahead of us!**



## RESOLUTION ON MEDICAL SUBJECT HEADINGS AND OCLC SERVICES

- WHEREAS, member libraries rely on OCLC's WorldCat database and the OCLC services to libraries,
- WHEREAS, OCLC is no longer using the annual MeSH MARC file from the National Library of Medicine to correct existing MeSH headings in the WorldCat database, and
- WHEREAS, an online medical and scientific authority file and services would enable member libraries to maintain more easily these corrected headings, and would enhance the efficiency of member libraries performing subject authority work,
- WHEREAS, the WorldCat database would be further enhanced if the medical headings were corrected, providing greater reliability of subject searches in the electronic environment, therefore, be it
- **RESOLVED**, that the **Health Sciences OCLC Users Group**, the **Technical Services Section of the Medical Library Association** and the **Medical Section of the Biomedical & Life Sciences Division of the Special Libraries Association** urge OCLC to investigate best possible method for the loading and the maintenance of medical subject headings, using NLM's MeSH file(s) or using the Unified Medical Language System (UMLS®), into the online authority file.
- **We further seek OCLC's inclusion of medical subject headings in the development of OCLC's new system, and request that OCLC clearly and formally commit to the inclusion of medical subject heading authority in their strategic plan.**

**Recent netLibrary News** by Susan Ruh, Central Region netLibrary, a division of OCLC ([sruh@netlibrary.com](mailto:sruh@netlibrary.com))

netLibrary is pleased to share some recent news and developments since its acquisition by OCLC, Online Computer Library Center, Inc. in January, 2002. Among the developments are:

- Integration of eBooks into WorldCat on FirstSearch Service <http://www.netlibrary.com/help/firstsearch.asp>
- Opportunity to pre-order the latest scientific, technical and medical titles from netLibrary and publisher Marcel Dekker, Inc. The newest Marcel Dekker, Inc. additions to the netLibrary catalog feature more than 140 well-respected STM titles that will enhance your library's collection and reputation as a valued source for trusted and authoritative content. <http://www.netlibrary.com/dekker/>
- Delivery of OCLC MARC records with eBook purchases going forward, as part of the content support services fee paid.

To learn more about these offerings and future developments, please contact netLibrary at [sales@netlibrary.com](mailto:sales@netlibrary.com) or visit the latest issue of eBook News at [http://www.netlibrary.com/about\\_us/company\\_info/resources.asp](http://www.netlibrary.com/about_us/company_info/resources.asp)

**NLM SERHOLD holdings data into OCLC** by Dan Kniesner, Oregon Health & Science University Library (8-12-02)

In September 2000, Susan Barnes at the University of Washington and members of the Pacific Northwest Resource Sharing Group submitted a proposal to OCLC requesting OCLC to develop a means of transferring NLM SERHOLD holdings data into OCLC. HSOCLCUG and other library groups submitted letters in support of this proposal to OCLC. By May 2001, OCLC and the National Library of Medicine had begun designing a pilot project to involve selected libraries to test such a data transfer. They discovered many problems to resolve.

In July 2002, Susan Barnes reported that the first SERHOLD holdings data had been loaded into OCLC as part of the pilot project involving eight libraries. Some NLM records did not load, however, because they lacked an OCLC number. OCLC is now examining about 118,000 NLM records to see how the problem can be solved. As a result, both OCLC and NLM databases will be improved. OCLC will add NLM data to its records or add new records if necessary, and NLM will receive OCLC numbers in its records in return so that SERHOLD data will load into OCLC in future data transfers.

After all problems in the project have been resolved, SERHOLD/OCLC participants will be able to take advantage of the SERHOLD-to-OCLC batch update program if they have updated the Codes tab in DOCUSER, authorizing NLM to send the data to OCLC.

For more information, contact Susan J. Barnes at 206-221-7425 or [sjbarnes@u.washington.edu](mailto:sjbarnes@u.washington.edu).

**The Start of Message. 2001 Proceedings Issue. (no.94) is available online at**

<http://www.tulane.edu/~matas/HSOCLCUG/som/SOMproceedings2001.htm>



## Health Sciences OCLC Users Group

### MEMBERSHIP FORM, 2002/2003

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
TITLE \_\_\_\_\_  
LIBRARY \_\_\_\_\_  
INSTITUTION \_\_\_\_\_  
STREET ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY, STATE, ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  
PHONE (    ) \_\_\_\_\_ FAX (    ) \_\_\_\_\_  
E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_

#### PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS:

ALA  
 MLA  
 OLAC  
 SLA  
 Regional Medical Library Group or Chapter  
 OTHER \_\_\_\_\_

#### LIBRARY SYSTEM:

DRA             ENDEAVOR  
 HORIZON        INNOPAC  
 LIS              SIRSI  
 ExLibris        Cybertools  
 OTHER \_\_\_\_\_

#### TYPE OF LIBRARY:

ACADEMIC                     GOVERNMENT                     NETWORK  
 HOSPITAL                     PHARMACEUTICAL                     OTHER \_\_\_\_\_

#### PRINCIPAL JOB ACTIVITY:

ACQUISITIONS                     SERIALS                     CIRCULATION  
 CATALOGING                     AUTOMATION                     REFERENCE  
 COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT                     ILL                     ONE PERSON  
 TECH. SERV. ADMIN.                     OTHER \_\_\_\_\_

#### DUES:

Personal: \$10.00 (U.S. dollars)                     Institutional: \$25.00 (U.S. dollars)

- . Dues cover the fiscal year, July - June
- . Payment is for **2002/2003**
- . Make check payable to: **HSOCLCUG**

Please mail this completed form, with dues, to:

Wendy Fritzel, HSOCLCUG Administrative Secretary  
106 J. Otto Lottes Health Sciences Library  
University of Missouri-Columbia  
Columbia, MO 65212

**HSOCLCUG BUSINESS/ SOCIAL 2002 +++** Health Sciences OCLC Users Group (HSOCLCUG) met for a business social during MLA in Dallas at Trinity Hall, an Irish pub. This was the first time HSOCLCUG planned a business social in proximity to the MLA annual meeting. It was a great pleasure to see so many of our members and friends at this event, especially our NLM friends, whose presence made the occasion very special. This was my opportunity to officially pass to Judith Dzierba the title of President of our Users Group. Betsy Friesen is the Groups' President-elect for the next year. I know you will offer the same support and encouragement to Judith and Betsy as they tackle the issues with your direction and input. This event also offered an opportunity for a special thank you to Dan Kneisner who helped plan the social event, in addition to his many efforts in behalf of our Group's issues over the past two years. Karleen Darr was also acknowledged for her many years of service as the HSOCLCUG Administrative Secretary and Archivist.

An added bonus to the HSOCLCUG business agenda and the fun of meeting with colleagues was the Trinity Hall table quiz. HSOCLCUG was ably represented by two teams. Unfortunately some of the categories were not in our areas of expertise. If some of the categories had been, To MARC or not -- Unbelievable Acronyms -- NISO and beyond; I am sure we would have scored way above where our final tallies rested at the end of the quiz.

I hope that all past members will renew their support of HSOCLCUG this year and encourage other health science libraries to add their voices of support to the representation that the HSOCLCUG leadership offers OCLC. Please keep those membership forms coming to Wendy Fritzel, the new HSOCLCUG Administrative Secretary. Thank you for a very rewarding time as your representative to OCLC Members Council.

Your Past-President,

*Mary Holt*, Tulane University HSC Library



## Join the Health Sciences OCLC Users Group for 2002/2003

Wendy Fritzel, Administrative Secretary

The Health Sciences OCLC Users Group (HSOCLCUG) is an independent group composed of health sciences libraries and individuals who either use or are interested in the use of services of OCLC, Inc. HSOCLCUG pursues many activities including the sponsorship of the MEDCAT list for the exchange of ideas related to medical cataloging and discussion of issues in bibliographic and authority control of medical and health sciences resources. Most importantly our president attends the OCLC Members Council as a voice for medical and health sciences libraries. **This is a time of change and supporting the only organization that is a sanctioned voice for medical libraries to the OCLC leadership is especially important at this time.**

We hope you will join us with your personal membership or that your institution will join our efforts as an institutional member. Your support is essential to our efforts to improve collaboration and gain support for issues that impact medical librarians in particular, such as medical subject authority and the transfer of SERHOLD for OCLC Union listing.

**Please see the group's website at <http://hsoclcug.org> for more information on our activities.**



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