

the *Chronicle*

Philadelphia Regional Chapter
Medical Library Association, Inc.
Volume 18, Number 3, Fall 2000

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California Dreamin' – New Library Conference Becomes Reality

by

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Late last spring, a notice in *Library Journal* caught my eye - First Annual Stanford/California State Library Institute on 21st Century Librarianship to be held at Stanford University in Palo, Alto, California, August 6-12, 2000. My California Dreamin' did become a reality. August found me on an idyllic college campus, with an interesting group of colleagues, preparing for a week of sessions on a very engaging topic. The Institute not only provided me with seven days of perfect California sunshine but added greatly to my knowledge regarding current issues and future trends in librarianship.

Attendees were overwhelmingly from California public, academic, and school libraries with just a smattering of special, medical, and non-California librarians, including one representative from Swaziland. It didn't take long to realize that California is definitely a different world, especially with regard to professional opportunities for librarians. Job openings for information professionals abound, largely because so many technically oriented people are hired by the "dot.coms." Some attendees from the state indicated that their salaries had increased because of this situation, while others bemoaned the difficulties of filling positions within their libraries.

The daily format of the conference consisted of a morning lecture-style presentation from a leader in a field related to librarianship. Concurrent, small-group sessions were held in the afternoon on topics from each of five tracks: Leadership, Information Technology, Library Collections/Services, Organizational Effectiveness, and Preservation/Facilities. Conference attendees were also assigned to a case study group to analyze a problem in librarianship. I worked on a case involving a copyright question, closely related to the suit brought against UnCover for lack of compensation to free-lance authors of articles. In the evenings, there were either field trips (one to San Francisco's magnificent new baseball park) or special sessions, such as a leadership program that provided a Myers-Briggs-type personality/leadership style rating along with relevant management tips.

The following are synopses of the sessions I found to be most enlightening, with information gleaned from each:

"The Deep Structure of Duplication," Andrew Leonard, Senior Technology Writer for salon.com

<http://www.salon.com/tech/fsp>

Leonard feels that one of the biggest challenges confronting information professionals today is how to create economically feasible models for distributing intellectual property by taking advantage of easy copying made possible by the Net but without placing undue restrictions on access.

He described two examples that illustrate the principles of easy duplication and how this is affecting modern technological life:

- ⇒ **The Open Source Software movement** – Computer source code is made freely available to the general public, with changes and improvements contributed by programmers worldwide. Linux and Apache webserver software are examples of success stories. In the library world there is Prospero, a complement to the Ariel document delivery system. Other initiatives are described in the lead story of the August, 1999 issue of *Library Journal*. Leonard tantalized us with idea of developing an integrated, automated library system as open source.
- ⇒ **Napster** – In this case, the recording industry sued to halt duplication of musical pieces through this website, because it views this exercise as a threat to big business and recording artists.

Leonard sees no way to halt the Napsters of the world. He concludes that digital duplication can be viewed both positively (as in the case of the open source software movement) and negatively (as the recording industry views Napster). Libraries need to focus on making information freely accessible, within the constraints of fair compensation to authors.

“Gen Y Information Use Patterns,” by Ekaterina Walsh, Data Analyst, Forrester Research

Walsh described some fascinating research results on Internet usage behaviors among the members of Generation Y (current 16 to 22-year-olds).

As the first generation to have grown up in an Internet-enabled world and the generation second only in size to the Baby Boomers, this group will have great importance in marketing, hiring, web page design, and planning of future information systems:

Here are some of their major traits:

- ⇒ They use the Internet for news, decision-making on prices, and fun.
- ⇒ TV is still their primary source of information.
- ⇒ Two-thirds read news in print and online; online often stimulates interest in print.
- ⇒ They read online because it's fast, up-to-date, and free.
- ⇒ They like print because it is portable, no logon is needed, and it seems trustworthy.
- ⇒ They rate the following as the most trustworthy media, in this order: Newspapers, TV, radio, magazines, Internet (2nd to last!), direct mail.
- ⇒ 38% feel information overload.
- ⇒ They internalize technology and spend far more time online than do adults.
- ⇒ They expect to have access anywhere, any time.
- ⇒ Neuroscientists find that exposure to technology causes brain modifications that enable them to function more automatically with technology.
- ⇒ They multi-task, using many different forms of media at one time.

Walsh recommended that librarians continually tout their credibility as experts and information filterers, remembering that the Internet compliments the old media, but doesn't necessarily replace it.

“Ebooks and Digital Libraries,” Christopher Warnok, CEO of ebrary

<http://www.ebrary.com>

This session covered trends and technologies related to eBook initiatives, and especially ebrary.

Warnok elucidated problems with the current eBook landscape:

- ⇒ Different formats are being supported by different companies (SGML, HTML, XML, LIT (Microsoft-developed), PDF (what Warnok recommends).
- ⇒ Different companies are using different business models: purchase with restrictions; check-out, like netLibrary; subscriptions, which don't permit full text searching of all content; and the ebrary model of content freely available for searching and viewing, with downloading for a fee.
- ⇒ No established standards.

Warnok's ebrary is due to be launched in October as an online library containing over 132,000 books and periodicals freely available for searching and viewing. Members will be able to copy or print a portion of a document for a small fee. Members will also be able to download whole documents to disk or ebook readers or to purchase printed documents from a vendor partner

Membership will be free to individuals and libraries, with institutional customization possible. When an entire book is purchased for copy, the publisher will receive 80% of the fee, ebrary will receive 15%, and the library will get 5%! While the amount of medical content appears to be relatively small at present, this looks like an interesting product to follow.

“The Magic Moment,” – Michael Keller, University Librarian, Director of Academic Information Resources, Stanford University, and Publisher of Highwire Press.

Keller is a “librarian extraordinaire,” and this talk, plus his marvelous tour of the newly renovated Green Library at Stanford, illustrated his multitude of talents, exceptional energy, and creativity.

Keller presented his wide-ranging, astute view on the role of libraries in the Internet-dominated world of information. He emphasized the stewardship role of librarians and the need to take advantage of the assets we hold, such as credibility and reputation, collections, facilities, equipment, and a sense of mission. He encouraged us to take risks and to use informed, aggressive consumerism to counteract the power of large vendors like Elsevier. He articulated the following big tasks ahead for librarians:

- ⇒ Develop a single-argument search of multiple information sources, or one search engine to use across multiple sources.

- ⇒ Teach the information search process as a lifelong skill.
- ⇒ Work towards reduced costs in scholarly journal publishing.
- ⇒ Develop credible digital archiving methodologies.
- ⇒ Pass on the archiving responsibilities for generations to come.
- ⇒ Develop and maintain many knowledge environments, such as “Signal Transduction Knowledge Environment” – another of Keller’s amazing projects (<http://www.stke.org>)

Other sessions I attended were also quite worthwhile. In one on “Changing the Management Status Quo,” the presenter compared the old, information-controlled management environment, with the current, information-accessible, rapidly changing business world. She advised us to be cognizant of the younger worker’s higher expectation for advancement. She indicated that successful managers treat staff as peers, while establishing a simple, collaborative environment, based on a few operating principles plus tangible rewards for achievement of goals. Several sessions emphasized the complexities of digital preservation of print and digital information; consequently, I am more sensitive to the importance of addressing this extremely challenging dilemma.

Overall, the week’s panoply of programs and presentations expanded the horizons of my thinking. I am eager to integrate and apply some of my new ideas to current library situations. I very much appreciate receiving the Grant for Professional Development from the Philadelphia Chapter to help defray the cost of this valuable workshop. To read more about the conference, visit the website at: <http://institute21.stanford.edu/index.html>

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EBM for Consumers?

You know about Evidence-based Medicine for physicians, but have you thought of the concept in regard to consumer health information? *Bandolier*, a print journal with a rapidly expanding Internet version (<http://www.jr2.ox.ac.uk/Bandolier/>), uses “evidence-based medicine techniques to provide advice about particular treatments or diseases for healthcare professionals and consumers.” Drs. Andrew Moore and Henry McQuay produce *Bandolier* from the Pain Research Group at Oxford where they are actively involved in the Cochrane Collaboration Pain, Palliative Care and Supportive Care review group, as well as the International Association for the Study of Pain special interest group on systematic reviews. Both doctors are also members of the Centre for Evidence-based Medicine. Their objective is to produce “tertiary” content that is distilled from their close reading of secondary reviews of primary evidence. This content is in the form of easily understood explanations of what worked and what didn’t.

A good illustration of useful information from the site is *Bandolier's* ten steps to healthy living (<http://www.jr2.ox.ac.uk/Bandolier/booth/hliving/10steps.html>) described by the editors as "a quick summary of ten lifestyle tips to help avoid seeing a doctor about heart disease or cancer, based on good quality information." When I first visited this site several weeks ago, I was immediately impressed. I quickly e-mailed the editors with praise for their efforts and a question: Did they know of any other consumer-oriented EBM sites? The reply was brief and in keeping with their style: "Thanks. There is no competition."

All issues of the Internet version of *Bandolier* (1995 --) are available full text and free of charge. There is also a Spanish edition called *Bandolera* available beginning with the July, 1999 issue. A search engine capable of searching the entire site has recently been added. Also featured is an expanding list of specialist subsites, the most rapidly growing of which include Complementary therapy, Healthy living, Management, Migraine and the Oxford Pain Internet Site. Although "no-strings" sponsorship has been secured for several of the subsites, Healthy living remains without a sponsor. "[However] *Bandolier* considers this to be a topic of such importance that the work is being done despite not having resources to do it." The tone and the thrust of this resource are thoroughly British but the information is applicable to a broad audience, including both our patrons and us.

Bandolier is featured on the Ask Noah About: Evidence Based Medicine (EBM) (<http://www.noah.cuny.edu/ebhc/ebhc.html>) page that was compiled by Gail Hendler of the Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in New York. Additionally, *Evidence-Based Health Care Resources on the Internet* can be found on MLANET (<http://www.mlanet.org/education/telecon/resource.html>) Finally, for a light-hearted look at EBM, see "Seven alternatives to evidence based medicine" by David Isaacs and Dominic Fitzgerald (*BMJ* 1999 Dec 18-25;319(7225):1618 or <http://www.bmj.com/cgi/content/full/319/7225/1618>)

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From the Editors

Expect change. That seems to be the catch phrase of our time. Not only are we producing the *Chronicle* electronically, but also the Chapter Web Page has taken on a whole new look thanks to Eric Delozier, Communications Committee Chair and WebMaster. While clicking around on the new page, I was inspired to visit the homepages of the other MLA Chapters, something I had never done before. There are 14 of us all together. It was fun to travel virtually around the country, sampling meeting programs, member news, Chapter documents, etc. on each site. Particularly interesting to me was the varying approach to electronic newsletters. This is what I found out: that eight Chapters post their newsletters online with no access restrictions; that two Chapters have only selections available online but they are freely accessible; that two Chapters apparently do not have their newsletters online at all; that one other Chapter (Hawaii Pacific) has its newsletter

online and password protected as we do. I was disappointed at not being able to browse the Hawaii Pacific publication and wondered if visitors to the MLA-Phil site might have the same reaction. Should we consider a change in our access policy? Do a little surfing around the Chapter websites on your own, consider the pros and cons, then e-mail your comments to anyone of the editors. We welcome your comments, suggestions, and submissions regarding this or any issue. §

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Nominations and Applications

At this time of year, all Chapter newsletter editors are besieged by requests to help publicize the amazing number of MLA-sponsored awards, honors and prizes. Apparently these items are all too often under-subscribed. Please take a moment to scrutinize the following list, then follow-up by checking for the full information on MLANet. Do it today!

MLA Grants & Scholarships: MLA sponsors a variety of grant and scholarship opportunities for health science librarians. Included are:

Continuing Education Grants (\$100 - \$500) More than one CE Grant may be offered in a year. Application Deadline: December 1.

MLA Research, Development and Demonstration Project Grants (\$100 - \$1000) More than one award may be granted in a year. Application Deadline: December 1.

EBSCO/MLA Annual Meeting Grants (2 grants up to \$1000 each for MLA Annual Meeting travel and related expenses) Application Deadline: December 1.

MLA/Hospital Libraries Section Professional Development Grants (Up to \$800) To support educational or research activities. For librarians working in hospital or similar clinical settings. Application Deadlines: February 1 and August 1.

MLA/Medical Informatics Section Career Development Grant (2 grants of \$1000 each) Provides support for a career development activity that will contribute to advancement in the field of medical informatics. Application Deadline: December 1.

MLA Scholarship (up to \$5000)

For a student entering an ALA-accredited library or with at least half the requirements of the program to finish when the scholarship is awarded in February. Application Deadline: December 1.

MLA Scholarship for Minority Students (up to \$5000)

For a minority student entering an ALA-accredited library school or with at least half the requirements of the program to finish when the scholarship is awarded in February. African-American, Hispanic, Asian, Pacific Islander or Native American students wishing to study health science librarianship are eligible. Application Deadline: December 1.

MLA/ISI Doctoral Fellowship (\$2000; awarded every other year – next is 2002)

Supports research or travel applicable to the candidate's study within a twelve-month period. The award may not be used for tuition. Application Deadline: December 1.

Call for Nominations: Nomination forms may be obtained from Anne Greenspan, Coordinator, Research and Professional Recognition, MLA 312/419-9094, ext 28 or via e-mail at mlapd@mlahg.org

Estelle Brodman Award

The Brodman Award for The Academic Medical Librarian Of The Year recognizes a mid-career level academic medical librarian who demonstrates significant achievement, the potential for leadership, and continuing excellence. Procedures for nomination are available from Anne Greenspan (see contact info above). Forward any questions about the Award to Pam Bradigan, Chair, The Estelle Brodman Award Jury at bradigan.1@osu.edu or call 614/292-4866.

Fellows and Honorary Members

Fellows are outstanding members of MLA, either active or retired, while Honorary Members are non-members who have made outstanding contributions to the advancement of medical librarianship. Nominations should be submitted to Tom Williams, Chair, Fellows and Honorary Members Jury, C.M. Baugh Biomedical Library, University of South Alabama, BML 326B, Mobile, AL 36688-0002 Voice 334/460-6885, Fax 334/460-6958 or via e-mail at twilliam@bbl.usouthal.edu

ISI/Frank Bradway Rogers Information Advancement Award

The Rogers Award is presented annually in recognition of outstanding contributions for the application of technology to the delivery of health science information, to the science of information or to the facilitation of the delivery of health science information. Nominations must contain a precise description of the nominee's achievements, a current resume or curriculum vitae, and any further information that would assist the jury in its evaluation. Self-nominations are encouraged. Six copies of the nomination and all accompanying documentation should be submitted by November 1, 2000 to Professional Development Department, Medical Library Association, 65 East Wacker Place, Suite 1900, Chicago, IL 60601-7298 Voice 312/419-9094, ext. 28, Fax 312/419-8950 or via e-mail at mlapd2@mlahq.org

Janet Doe Lecturer

The Janet Doe Lecturer is chosen annually for his/her unique perspective on the history or philosophy of medical librarianship. Nominations should be submitted to Sheldon Kotzin, Chief, Bibliographic Services Division, National Library of Medicine, 8600 Rockville Pike, Mail Stop 49, Bethesda, MD 20894 Voice 301/496/6217, Fax 301/496-0822 or via e-mail at sheldon_kotzin@nlm.nih.gov

Rittenhouse Award

The Rittenhouse Award is presented for the best unpublished paper on health sciences librarianship or medical informatics written by a student in an ALA-accredited program of library and information studies or a trainee in an internship in health sciences librarianship or medical informatics. **Note:** Julia Shaw-Kokot, Chair, Rittenhouse Award Jury, notes that this award has not been given for the last couple of years. She is looking both for submissions and for input regarding changing the criteria. She notes that perhaps students don't really do many papers of the type required but often design web pages or do other special projects. Any comments or suggestions should be directed to Julia Shaw-Kokot, Education Services Coordinator, Health Sciences Library, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC 27599 Voice 919/966-0952, Fax 919/966-5592 or via e-mail at jsk@med.unc.edu

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Member & Library News



Best wishes for a speedy recovery to **Anne Seymour**, Chapter President and Associate Director for Public Services, Biomedical Library, University of Pennsylvania, after injuries suffered in an automobile accident while vacationing in Colorado. Happily, Anne is doing well.



Also, warm wishes to **Val Pena**, Director of Penn's Biomedical Library, who is recovering from surgery. Thankfully, she is also doing just fine.

Leopoldo Montoya, Technical Services Librarian, Hahnemann Library, MCP Hahnemann University, has written "A Bibliographic Scandal in the OCLC Database," published in the online journal of MLA's Technical Services Section, *Technical Trends*, v.14, no. 2, Fall 2000.

Barbara Bernoff Cavanaugh, Health Sciences Libraries Liaison at Penn's Biomedical Library, is interviewed and featured in *Super Searchers on Health & Medicine: The Online Secrets of Top Health & Medical Researchers*, by Susan Detwiler, published by CyberAge Books.

Staff Changes:

Barbara Bernoff Cavanaugh, Health Sciences Libraries Liaison at the Biomedical Library, University of Pennsylvania, is now on family leave, having adopted Jenine Qi Xiu Cavanaugh. (Congratulations, Barbara and Dave, on this wonderful event!)

Margie Smink, Director of the Library at the College of Physicians of Philadelphia, has accepted a new job as developer and manager of the information center at Project Management Institute. PMI, with headquarters in Newtown Square, PA, is a professional organization of project managers with a global membership of 65,000. She begins her new position on October 23.

Andrea Horne has left her position as Biology/Biomedical Graduate Studies Liaison Librarian, Biomedical Library, University of Pennsylvania. She is now the Learning Resource Center Coordinator at the Claude Moore Health Sciences Library, University of Virginia, Charlottesville.

Gary M. Childs became Reference Librarian at the Hahnemann Library, MCP Hahnemann University, in August. He is a recent graduate of Drexel University's College of Information Science and Technology, and previously worked at Drexel's Hagerty Library.

Eric Delozier, Electronic Services Librarian at Penn State Harrisburg, was recently promoted from Assistant to Associate Librarian and granted tenure.

Brit Roth has been appointed Director, Academic Information, for the Geisinger Health System. The Academic Information division is comprised of 26 FTEs within Biomedical Communications, Health Sciences Libraries, and Technology Education, serving the 8,000 employees of the health system throughout a 40 county area of central Pennsylvania. He has been employed in various capacities by the Geisinger Health System since 1980.

Susan Couch has accepted a position as Information Specialist at the National Board of Medical Examiners, Philadelphia. She was Director of the Medical Library at Chestnut Hill Hospital, also in Philadelphia. §

Linda M.G. Katz
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Thanks to Our Donors

Enormous thanks to the following Chapter members who have contributed to the Chapter's Scholarship and Awards Fund (and who have agreed to have their names published):

Karen Albert
Gina Kaiser
Ann Laliotes
Deborah Lovett
Patti Insetta-Rath
Carol Talaga
Linda Wisniewski

Save the Dates!

October 17, 2000

The Medical Informationist & Other Roles for the Librarian in the 21st Century
Sponsored by the Philadelphia Regional Chapter/Medical Library Association

The PRC/MLA is pleased to provide a forum for these noted leaders. We will focus our discussion on the recent paper by Drs. Davidoff and Florance:

“The Informationist: A New Health Profession?” [editorial] *Annals of Internal Medicine* 2000 Jun;132(12):996-8. <http://www.annals.org/issues/v132n12/full/200006200-00012.html>

For further insight into the topic, see *Bulletin of the Medical Library Association*
Editor T. Scott Plutchak’s editorial either in the October issue of the *Bulletin* or on the Web at <http://www.mlanet.org/publications/bmla/editorial_oct00.html

Panelists:

Frank Davidoff, M.D.
American College of Physicians, American Society of Internal Medicine

Valerie Florance, Ph.D.
Association of American medical College

Ellen Detlefsen, D.L.S.
University of Pittsburgh, School of Information Sciences

Julie McGowan, Ph.D.
Medical Library Association Board Member

Linda Rosenstein, M.A., M.S.
University of Pennsylvania Biomedical Library (moderator)

Location: Federal Reserve Bank Auditorium (located on ground floor)
100 N. 6th St., Philadelphia

Date: Tuesday, October 17, 2000
Time: 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. Reception following program
Fee: \$25.00 members \$40.00 non-members
Directions: See web site for directions, map & parking information:
<http://www.phil.frb.org/publicaffairs/directions.html>

Registrations must be received by October 6, 2000. Questions? Contact Barbara Shearer at Barbara.Shearer@mail.tju.edu or 215-503-2827.

November 15, 2000

A satellite teleconference on “The Myth and Reality of Electronic Publishing” will be the focus of a meeting to be held on November 15, 2000, from noon to 4:00 p.m. The teleconference will be preceded by a luncheon and followed by a discussion on electronic publishing. The Eugene duPont Preventive Medicine & Rehabilitation Institute in Wilmington, Delaware will be hosting this event. More detail will follow in both mail and e-mail announcements. §

Andrea Horne
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IFLA Comes to Boston in 2001

The International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA), an organization comprised of 150 associations, 1,070 institutions and 260 non-voting personal affiliates representing 140 countries and all types of libraries, will hold its 67th Council and General Conference in Boston, August 16 – 25, 2001. Typically attracting 3,000 attendees, the Conference is held each year in a different nation and includes exhibits, programs and meetings of the IFLA Council. This year is a special opportunity for U.S. librarians since the Conference has not been held here since 1985. For further information or to sign up to receive registration materials, go to <http://www.ifla.org/IV/ifla67/> If you would like to do more than just attend, the IFLA 2001 National Organizing Committee is looking for volunteers to help during the Conference. If you are interested in volunteering, sign up at <http://www.ifla.org/IV/ifla67/involved.htm> §

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Chapter Web Enhancements Update

In the last issue of the *Chronicle*, I reported that the Chapter Web pages were undergoing some enhancements and offered a preview link to the new look. I am pleased to report that, with two exceptions, the enhancements are completed. The two exceptions are the

pages comprising the Membership Directory and *Chronicle*. These pages will be transitioned to the new look over the coming months.

The new pages sport a new organization and design that is intended to make the content more accessible and visually attractive. The home page includes a banner with embedded links and buttons underneath that link to more specific content on lower-level pages. As you hover your mouse over a button, a description displays in the center of the screen. You should also notice the description changing for each button.

Lower-level pages have a slightly different look than the home page. Like the home page, these pages use a banner with embedded links. However, what distinguishes the lower-level pages is the use of tabs instead of buttons. Having the tabs allows you to easily visit other pages without having to return to the home page.

There are a couple things to keep in mind when viewing the Chapter Web pages. First, to make use of the features on the home page, you need a browser capable of interpreting JavaScript. For the two most common browsers, Netscape Navigator and Internet Explorer, you'll need version 3.0 and 4.0, or higher, respectively. The second issue pertains to the Membership Directory and *Chronicle* pages. These pages reside on restricted areas of the MLA-PHIL site and require a valid username (mlaphil) and password (people98) for viewing. When using Netscape, if you click the back button after viewing a page from the restricted site, you may experience an error in the form of a dialog box that reads "Authorization failure. Retry?" When this happens, simply click the OK button, delete the name from username field, leave the password field blank, then select OK. Internet Explorer users may experience a similar response and should simply make sure the username and password fields are blank as well.

Your comments and suggestions regarding the new look are welcome and can be directed to me. §

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The TechnoHumanist Corner

While I was thinking about how to write this column, a movie scenario popped into my head. On screen you see Jedi master Obi-Wan Kenobi turn to his young Padawan (apprentice) and say, "I sense a great disturbance in the Force." Reading about MP3 and imagining if the Force were the World Wide Web, I can understand how Obi-Wan felt. MP3 has not only caused a disturbance in the Force, but it has also spawned a revolution that may have greater impact beyond the music industry.

MP3, an acronym for Moving Picture Experts Group (MPEG-1) Audio Layer 3, is the format standard for compressing digital audio information. It compresses large audio files to approximately a tenth of their size with little loss of quality. MP3 files have near

CD quality sound. Also, since MP3 files are smaller, they travel across the Web quickly and are easier to store on a hard drive.

There are several types of sound files on the Web. One of the most common sound files is MIDI (Musical Instrument Digital Interface) files. MIDI is not a format, but a protocol on how different electronic musical instruments, computer sound cards should connect and interact with each other. MIDI files do not contain the sound recordings. They are a set of instructions of how a computer should sequence the sound data so you can hear music. It is similar to the roll on a roller piano. The quality you hear depends on the quality of the computer sound card. MIDI files also involve “streaming.” Streaming means that the computer plays the music as it is being received from the server. If you have a slow connection, the file may sound choppy. In addition, streaming may require plug-ins, such as RealPlayer, to hear the music.

Unlike MIDI files, MP3 files download music directly to your computer drive. There is no streaming involved. The file is stored on your computer rather than a server. You get the actual music in a compressed format rather than as a set of instructions for the computer to interpret. Since MP3 files are digital files that reside on your computer, they can be easily copied and distributed. You cannot tell the difference between the copy and the original. Herein lies another part of the MP3 controversy.

To further complicate the situation, you can create your own MP3 recorder. MP3 software is non-proprietary and free for anyone to download. You can get player software that “rips” (decodes) the music from a CD and then encodes it into MP3 format. That newly created MP3 file does not have to stay on your computer - you take it with you on your morning jog. All you need to do is purchase a portable MP3 player, similar to a Walkman, and transfer the files from your computer to the portable. If you have the hardware, you can rip songs from various CDs and “burn” them into a new clean CD. Now, if you make MP3 files for your personal use from CDs that you legally own, is that a violation of the Copyright Law? Surprisingly, the answer is no!

In *RIAA v. Diamond Multimedia*, the Recording Industry Association of America, a trade group of recording companies, sued Diamond Multimedia, manufacturer and seller of Rio Diamond MP3 Player, for violation of the Audio Home Recording Act of 1992 and for violation of the Copyright Law. According to the Audio Home Recording Act of 1992, manufacturers of recording devices such as tape recorders must pay royalties to artist organizations for allowing those devices to make copies of songs. The RIAA contended that the Rio MP3 Player was an audio recording device. Diamond Multimedia paid no royalties; therefore, it was violating the law. Essentially, the Court stated that MP3 files are created on a hard drive. Hard drives are computer peripherals, not audio recording devices, and, therefore, not in violation of the Audio Home Recording Act. Furthermore, making unlimited copies of authorized audio files on your hard drive for *personal*, non-commercial use is covered by the fair use principles.

The story would end here, were it not for the actions of a 19-year-old college dropout named Shawn Fanning, who wrote a program called Napster. This program matches

people who are seeking MP3 files with those files, wherever they may be stored. With Napster, MP3 file sharing suddenly became very easy. When MP3 file sharing was going on among a small number of students, the recording industry looked the other way. They felt it was a harmless preoccupation of nerds who would eventually move onto something new. However, as Napster use increased exponentially, involving not only computer nerds but also 30-something and the 40 plus users, the recording industry panicked. They missed the boat. Here was a vast market they had ignored that was now bypassing the traditional distribution points of the music industry. Millions of dollars in revenue were being lost. The industry decided to take Napster to court to shut it down.

In its lawsuit, the recording industry charges that Napster is knowingly violating the Copyright Law. Napster denies the charge, pointing its stated policies (<http://www.napster.com/terms/>) for use of their web site. Napster argues that people do indulge in file sharing. File sharing was and is one of the best features of the Internet and is here to stay. Even if Napster were to be shut down, it will not stop MP3 file exchanging. Already many other sites are engaging in audio file sharing. Listen to a rock station or a talk to a teenager interested in music and you will discover where the new sites are. In an effort to prevent people from using Napster to share Metallica MP3 files, the band Metallica has tried to file suit against some universities because they did not block access to Napster. Should libraries worry about being sued because they provide free access to a site that a company feels is detrimental to its business?

The Copyright Law could have never anticipated cyberspace. Laws are written retrospectively to address conditions that have existed over a period of time. They are not written in anticipation of an upcoming condition. At some point, access to information using new technology, file sharing, and the Copyright Law were going to clash. This is what has happened.

The fight between the recording industry and Napster is not really about copyright. Neither combatant is saintly or virtuous. This case is about an industry trying to maintain the status quo – to use the law to keep doing business in a traditional mode in a quickly changing world. At the turn of the 20th century, the music publishing industry sued the makers of rolls for roller player pianos for violation of copyright. They lost. But the music publishing industry did not die. More recently, the Motion Picture Association sued VCR manufacturers over the issue of taping. They lost, too. Video rentals are now one of the biggest sources of revenue for the motion picture industry. New technology and change are not necessarily bad.

To learn more about the organizations involved in the lawsuit, visit Napster at <http://www.napster.com/>, the Recording Industry Association of America at <http://www.riaa.com/>, and the United States Copyright Center (<http://www.loc.gov/copyright/>). For more information about the issues as well as ongoing debate about the case, visit the Law Center and Technology sections of CNN (<http://www.cnn.com/>) or the Technology section of The New York Times online (<http://www.nytimes.com/>). If you want a more detailed account of the *RIAA v. Diamond Multimedia* case, see “In Court’s View, MP3 Player is just a “Space Shifter,” by Carl S.

Kaplan, (online) *New York Times*, July 19, 1999. For a nice summary of the role of litigation and new technology, see "Is Litigation The Best Way to Tame New Technology?" by Adam Liptak, (online) *New York Times*, September 2, 2000.

Until next time, "May the Force Be With You!" If you have any comments or topics for discussion in this column, please send them to me. §

Carlos Rodriguez
rodrigue@pobox.upenn.edu

CALENDAR

Date: 10/18/2000

Program: Vendor Night/Job Fair

Time: 5pm -9pm

Sponsor: Phila. Chapter, SLA, Joint program with SCIP (Society of Competitive Intelligence Professionals) and AMA (American Marketing Association).

Location: Adams Mark Hotel

Cost: Free for SLA members. \$10 non-members

Register: <http://www.scip.org>

(Click on Chapters/List of All Meetings/October 18 Vendor Fair)

Fax registration form to:

SCIP at 703-739-2524.

Or contact: Barbara Wilson, SLA

bswilson@rohmmaas.com

215-641-7059

Sponsor: The College of Information Science and Technology at Drexel University Continuing Professional Education Workshops and Seminars.

Contact: Avis A. Taylor, Coordinator

Continuing Professional Education

Drexel University

3141 Chestnut Street

Philadelphia, PA 19104

(215) 895-1070

(215) 895-2494 (FAX)

avis.taylor@cis.drexel.edu (E-mail)

Cost: Varies (range \$155 to \$572)

Information: <http://www.cis.drexel.edu/grad/Cpe/page3.html>

Dates/Topics:

10/27: XHTML: The Next Level

10/28: Creating Web Pages with Dreamweaver: Level I

10/30 & 11/1: Selection of a Process Standard

11/2: Library Technology Management

11/3: Beyond Search Engines

11/6: Managing Electronic Records
11/9: Walking a Fine Line: Teaching Web-based Research Skills
11/10: XHTML: Cascading Style Sheets
11/11: Creating Web Pages with Dreamweaver: Level II
11/13: Spicing Up Your Web Pages with JavaScript
11/13 & 15: ISO 9000 for Managers
11/13 & 15: Fundamentals of Data Warehousing for Executives
11/17: Web Development with XML
11/27 & 29: The SEI Integrated Capability Maturity Model
12/1: Web Development with Active Server Pages
12/8: User Interface Design

Sponsor: GPLLA/SLA Special Interest Group on Internet Training.

Contact: cmherz@duanemorris.com or scharkes@dechert.com

Date: **10/26/2000**

Time: 12:30 PM

Topic: Building eLearning Centers for Mid-sized and Emerging Organizations

Location: Duane, Morris & Heckscher LLP, One Liberty Place, 36th Floor, Rm 36A

Instructor: Bob Leming

Date: **11/30/2000**

Time: 12:30 PM

Topic: Navigating the Web

Location: Duane, Morris & Heckscher LLP, One Liberty Place, 36th Floor, Rm 36A

Instructor: Steve Garwood

Date: **12/14/2000**

Time: 12:30 PM

Topic: An Asynchronous Web-based Database Training Workshop

Location: Duane, Morris & Heckscher LLP, One Liberty Place, 36th Floor, Rm 36A

Instructor: Mirta Guglielmoni, ISI

PALINET FALL WORKSHOPS Philadelphia area

(full details at <http://www.palinet.org>; some workshops are distance education)

Date/Topics

10/10/00 Passport Refresher/Part I

10/11/00 Cataloging Micro Enhancer Basics

10/12/00 Web Resources: Basic Evaluation Skills/Part I

10/16/00 OCLC/WLN Automated Collection Assessment & Analysis Services
Overview

10/16/00 HTML & Web Page Design Basics

10/16/00 Copyright in the Digital Age/Part I

10/17/00 OCLC/WLN Automated Collection Assessment & Analysis Services
 Overview (*Co-sponsored by INFOLINK*)
10/17/00 Passport Refresher/Part II
10/18/00 Union List Basics
10/19/00-10/20/00 Authority Records in a Shared Database (2 Days)
10/19/00 Web Resources: Basic Evaluation Skills/Part II
10/23/00 Copyright in the Digital Age/Part II
10/24/00 Cataloging Maps
10/24/00 Passport Refresher/Part III
10/25/00 WorldCat Advanced Searching
10/27/00 PALINET Year 2000 Annual Meeting
10/31/00 NT Server Basics
10/31/00 Online FirstSearch Usage Statistics for Individual Libraries
11/01/00 Audio Media Collection Care: Enlightened TLC for Tapes, Disks, Cylinders,
 & Wires
11/02/00 Interlibrary Loan Basics
11/03/00 LAMA 2000 Institute: The Vital Role of Librarians in Creating Information
 Communities: Strategies for Success
11/03/00 HTML & Web Page Design: Beyond the Basics
11/06/00 Internet Search Service/Part I
11/07/00 Online FirstSearch Usage Statistics for Consortium or Sub-group Members
11/08/00 FirstSearch: Exploring & Implementing the Service
11/10/00 OCLC Product Services Web Site: Shared Resources for Effective Use/Part I
11/13/00 Internet Search Service/Part II
11/14/00 Using Clio with the ILL Micro Enhancer
11/15/00 Internet Search Services
11/15/00 OCLC Resources on the Web/Part I
11/16/00 FirstSearch Administrative Module: Choices for Customizing
11/17/00 Alternative & Complementary Health Resources on the Web
11/17/00 OCLC Product Services Web Site: Shared Resources for Effective Use/Part II
11/20/00 Internet Search Services/Part III
11/21/00 OCLC ILL Direct Request Service & the FirstSearch/ILL Link
11/22/00 OCLC Resources on the Web/Part II
11/27/00 Cataloging: Original Input Techniques/Part I
11/29/00 Interlibrary Loan Tips
11/30/00-12/01/00 Basic Serials Cataloging (2-days)
12/04/00 Cataloging: Original Input Techniques/Part II
12/04/00 Statistical Resources on the Web
12/05/00 Custom Holdings Lab
12/06/00-12/08/00 OCLC Institute (3 days) Knowledge Management: Methods & Systems
 PALINET
 3401 Market St.
 Philadelphia, PA
 Register online at: <http://www.palinet.org/>

HSLC classes

Date: 10/11/2000

Topic: Internet skills & strategies for the legal researcher

Time: 9:30am - 3:30pm

Cost: \$75 (HSLC members) \$100 (non-members)

Instructor: Genie Tyburski

Date: 11/21/2000

Topic: Internet 101: The Trainer's Perspective

Time: 9:30-12:30

Cost: \$60 (HSLC members) \$80 (non-members)

Instructor: Steve Garwood

Date: 12/5/2000

Topic: Managing a Listserv Discussion List (A Hands-On Workshop)

Time: 9:30-3:30 p.m.

Instructor: Cindy Pitchon

Cost: \$75 (HSLC members) \$100 (non-members)

HSLC

3600 Market St., Suite 550

Philadelphia, PA, 19104.

To register: <http://www.hslc.org>

Or call (215) 222-1532

Date: 10/31 & 12/14 (Philadelphia, PA); **10/20 & 12/1** (Princeton, NJ)

Sponsor: DowJones/Factiva

Time: 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM

Topic: Dow Jones Interactive Training Seminar

Contact: Brian Demarchi

Phone: 215-656-8272

Fax: 215-567-5873

<http://ask.djinteractive.com/training/training.htm>

DIALOG seminars

To register for a DIALOG class, call

1-800-334-2564

Date: 10/18/2000

Time: 9-1:30 p.m.

Topic: How To Search Biosis Previews on Dialog

Cost: Free

Instructor: Lucy Silva, (215) 231-7523, lsilva@mail.biosis.org

Date: 10/31/00, 12/12/00

Topic: Beyond the Basics

Time: 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Cost: \$140.00

Date: 11/8/00

Topic: Biomedical Information Seminar

Time: 9:00 – 4:00

Instructor: Dan Segal

Cost: \$140.00

Date: 10/17/00, 12/14/00

Time: 9:00-4:00

Topic: Business Applications Seminar **Instructor:** Louise Dagat

Cost: \$140.00

Date: 10/19/00

Time: 9:00-4:00

Topic: Patents Seminar

Instructor: Michael Sweeney

Cost: \$140.00

Date: 11/14/00

Topic: Business of Science

Time: 9:00-4:00

Instructor: Louise Dagat

Cost: \$70.00

Date: 12/06/00

Topic: Chemical Information Seminar

Time: 9:00-4:00 p.m.

Instructor: Dan Segal

Cost: \$140.00

Date: 11/16/00

Topic: Intellectual Property/Patent Applications

Time: 9-12 p.m.

Instructor: Michael Sweeney

Cost: \$70.00

Date: 11/16/00

Topic: Intellectual Property/Trademark & Copyright

Time: 1-4 p.m.

Instructor: Michael Sweeney

Cost: \$70.00

Dates: 10/10, 10/26, 11/9, 11/28/, 12/7, 12/19

Topic: Search Basics Using Dialog Web

Time: 9-12:30

Cost: \$70.00

National Library of Medicine classes

Registration information: 1-800-338-7657

Or Register online: <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/mar/online/request.html>

Date: 11/17/00

Topic: Keeping Up with NLM's PubMed

Location: New York, NY

Topic: Keeping Up with NLM's PubMed, the NLM Gateway and ClinicalTrials.gov

Dates: **1/25/01** (New York, NY)

1/29/01 (Baltimore, MD)

1/31/01 (Bethesda, MD)

Registration for January classes must be made by December 29.

Topic: Introduction to Web-Based Searching: Using PubMed; Internet Grateful Med to Search NLM's Databases

Dates: **10/16-17** (Bethesda, MD)

11/1-2/2000(Baltimore, MD)

11/6-7, 2000 (Bethesda, MD)

11/15-16 (New York)

1/8-9, 2001 (Bethesda, MD)

1/23-24, 2001 (New York, NY)

1/30-31, 2001 (Baltimore, MD)

Registration for January classes must be made by December 29.

Topic: TOXNET on the Web

Dates: **10/18/2000** (Bethesda MD)

1/10/2001 (Bethesda, MD)

1/22/2001 (New York, NY)

College of Physicians of Philadelphia

19 S. 22nd St.

Phila. PA

(215) 563-3737

Date: 11/15

Time: 6:15 PM

Section on Medical History, John Downes, M.D., and Henry Rosenberg, M.D., will speak on History of Anesthesiology

Date: **11/21**

Time: 6:15 PM

The Mabel A. Purdy Lecture, Uwe Reinhardt, James Madison Professor of Political Economy and Professor of Economics and Public Affairs, Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs, Princeton University, will present "American Health Care at the Millenium: Challenges and Opportunities"

ASIS (American Society for Information Science) Annual Meeting 2000

Date: **11/11-16, 2000**

Location: Chicago, IL

"Knowledge Innovations: Celebrating our Heritage, Designing our Future"

Send registration and credit card information to meetings@asis.org

Call 301-495-0900.

Internet Librarian 2000

Date: **Nov. 5-9 2000**

Location: Monterey, CA

Information: 609-654-6266

STN seminars in Philadelphia

Date: **10/25**

Topic: Introduction to Online Searching for Chemistry

Time: 9am-4pm

Date: **10/26**

Topic: Structure Searching with STN Express

Time: 9am-4pm

To register: E-mail: wksp@cas.org

Fax: 614-447-3694, attention: STN Training Assistant

Phone: 1-800-848-6538, extension 3549

Or register online at:

<http://www.cas.org/training/regform.html> §

Treasurer's Report

The Philadelphia Regional Chapter/MLA Mellon bank account, as of October 6, 2000 has a balance of \$8547.88 with all transactions recorded in Quicken. §

Linda M.G. Katz

2000-2002 Treasurer
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Internet: nf_galpern@fccc.edu

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The *Chronicle* is published electronically three times annually by the Philadelphia Regional Chapter of the Medical Library Association. It is formatted by Nancy L. Spedding, Computer Specialist, Florence A. Moore Library of Medicine, MCP Hahnemann University.

The next deadline is February 1, 2001.

