Northern Alberta Health Libraries Association News

This year has been a busy and fulfilling one for the Northern Alberta Health Libraries Association. The NAHLA Annual General Meeting was held on September 21, 2010. The following new officers were appointed to the executive: Thane Chambers, President; Xurong (Rachel) Zhao, Vice-President; Dagmara Chojecki, Past President; Morgan Truax, Treasurer; and Linda Slater, Secretary. The executive is sad to see Dale Storie, Treasurer, and Trish Chatterley, Past President, leave.

Programming

Two events were held in November 2009. The first was a session on point of care resources, during which a large number of resources were reviewed and discussed. Secondly, in response to our members' continuing interest in mobile devices, NAHLA hosted the Medical Library Association's webcast Cut the Cord: Connecting our Mobile Users.

NAHLA continued to collaborate with other local library associations. To support our members' professional development, GELA (Greater Edmonton Library Association) and NAHLA sponsored a series of workshops held between January and March, 2010. The following workshops were held:

- Resumé preparation, presented by Christine Gertz, Library and Information Specialist at CAPS.
- Dealing with role conflict in the workplace, presented by Margaret Law, Associate University Librarian, International Relations at the University of Alberta.
- Interviewing from the other side of the table, presented by Kathleen de Long, Associate University Librarian, Human Resource Management/Teaching and Learning, University of Alberta and Louise Reimer, Director Library Services, Edmonton Public Library.
- NAHLA worked with both GELA and the Library and Information Studies Alumni Association to host a session on writing for clarity which was presented by David Lloyd of Wordsmith Associates.
- For a more health sciences librarianship focus, in February Linda Slater presented a Leading Edge session on searching for qualitative research.

This year's TRENDS Mini-Conference was held on Friday April 23rd. The keynote speaker was Susan Starr, Editor of the Journal of the Medical Library Association. Obianuju Molel, Alberta Health Services; Linda Seale, JW Scott Health Sciences Library; and Peggy Yeh, Alberta Government Library, gave a panel discussion on collection development in Health Libraries. Librarians from the Calgary Health Region presented on creating a health information network for different client groups who work in different locations. Trish Chatterley and Liz Dennett spoke about creating and maintaining the Database of Online Health Statistics.

For fun this year, we held our annual Holiday Lunch in early December and a Zumba dance/exercise session was held during the summer.
**Member Survey**

In January 2010, our members were surveyed to gather information on how best the association can meet their needs. Thanks to our members we now have information we look forward to using in our future events and programs.

**Member Profile**

NAHLA members are a diverse and dynamic group. To display this, we created a member profile on our brand new website [http://chla-absc.ca/nahla/](http://chla-absc.ca/nahla/). Please check regularly to learn more about our individual members.

By Thane Chambers, MLIS
President, NAHLA