

**Southern Chapter/Medical Library Association
Research Committee**
Annual Report
October 2004 – October 2005
October 17, 2005

The Research Committee has completed several major tasks this year:

I. Research Spotlight

- Promoted and encouraged chapter research with articles in “Research Spotlight” column of *Southern Expressions*:
 - “Award Winners 2004: MORE Research Projects, Papers, and Posters (Oh My!)” Winter 2005; 21(1): 15-18.
 - “\$1000 Available for Your Research Project” and “Calling All Southern Chapter Researchers for Our Chapter Research Survey.” Spring 2005; 21(2): 18.
 - “Research Spotlight: Research in the Chapter.” Summer 2005; 21(3): 14-16.
 - “Research Spotlight on Yindalon Aphinyanaphongs: 2005 MLA Lindberg Research Fellowship Endowment Recipient.” Fall 2005; 21(4): 12-3.
- A survey of members’ research interests and projects was completed using SOCHAP-L. Results were published in a “Research Spotlight” column.

II. Webpages

- Revised and updated the committee’s webpages with information about the Research Committee, including revised application procedures for the research project award and revised criteria for paper and poster awards.
- Solicited updated information from research mentors and added to the website.
- A new Research Committee webpage was also added to the site which highlights various funding opportunities and awards for chapter members who are interested in pursuing a research project.

III. Research Project Grant

- The committee received two submissions for the 2004 SC/MLA Research Project Grant. (We received one additional letter of intent, but the applicant decided not to submit a full application.) We selected one proposal to fund for \$730: “Data Analysis of Consumer and Patient Health Questions using Geographic Location and NLM Medical Subject Headings,” submitted by Sandy Oelschlegel, MLS, Director; Martha Earl, MSLS, AHIP, Reference Coordinator; and Jenny Cole, Library Assistant, University of Tennessee Graduate School of Medicine, Knoxville, TN. Their interim report was submitted in February 2005, and results of their research will be presented in a future “Research Spotlight” column.
- Three letters of intent were submitted for the 2005 Research Project Grant. All three were invited to submit full proposals; however, only one did so. We selected one proposal to fund for \$860: “What Employers Are Looking For in Reference Librarians,” submitted by Lin Wu, MLIS, Reference Librarian, UTHSC Health Sciences Library and Ping Li, MLIS, Graduate School of

Library and Information Studies, McGill University. Their research is currently in progress and they will submit a progress report in February 2006.

IV. Research Papers and Posters

As implemented in 2003, cash awards for research papers and posters were presented at the chapter's 2004 annual meeting in Biloxi. Committee members evaluated research presentations and awarded cash prizes in both categories:

Research Poster Awards

1st place (\$200)

“Communicating Differences and Similarities Among Teaching Librarians in Undergraduate Medical Education: Results Gathered From the Medical Literature Searching Skills Inventory”; John J. Orriola, Shimberg Health Sciences Library, University of South Florida; JoLinda Thompson, Himmelfarb Library, George Washington University

2nd place (tie - \$50 each)

“Price History for Core Clinical Journals in Medicine and Nursing”; Lynn M. Fortney, EBSCO Information Services

“From Theory to Practice: How School of Information Studies Classes Have Enhanced the Library Website at FSU College of Medicine by Applying Textbook Theory”; Suzanne Nagy, Nadine Dexter, Barbara Shearer, Medical Library, Florida State University

3rd place (\$50)

“Ace in the Hole: Using Virtual Reference Chat Transcripts to Improve Public Services”; Clista Clanton, Geneva Bush Staggs, Baugh Biomedical Library, University of South Alabama

Research Paper Awards

1st place (\$300)

“Publication Patterns of Academic Health Sciences Librarians”; Patricia C. Higginbottom, Tracy E. Powell, Jack Smith, Lister Hill Library of the Health Sciences, University of Alabama at Birmingham

2nd place (\$200)

“Data Analysis of Consumer and Patient Health Questions Using NLM Medical Subject Headings”; Sandy Oelschlegel, Martha Earl, Jenny Cole, Preston Medical Library, University of Tennessee Graduate School of Medicine

3rd place (\$100)

“Integrating User Values into the Development of a Customized Digital Library of Resources for Tennessee's Public Health Community”; Nila A. Sathe, Annette M. Williams, Taneya Y. Koonce, Patricia Lee, Nunzia B. Giuse, M.D., Eskind Biomedical Library, Vanderbilt University Medical Center

Results of the 2004 judging along with abstracts of papers/posters were published in a Southern Expressions column, distributed via SOCHAP-L, and added to the website. Based on feedback from judges at the 2004 meeting, the committee has revised its evaluation process for annual meeting

presentation awards and developed separate criteria for papers and posters. These will be used to judge submissions at the 2005 Annual Meeting in Puerto Rico.

Respectfully submitted by:

Rita Smith

Chair, Research Committee, 2004-2005

Committee Members:

Rita Smith, Chair (05)

Jacqueline Dowdy (05)

'Nita Ferree (05)

Thomas W. Hill (05)

Suzanne Stemler (06)

Feilu Tu, PhD (05)

Teresa Welsh, PhD (07)

Ex-Officio Members:

Cheryl Dee, PhD

Jocelyn Rankin, PhD