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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Elizabeth Bucciarelli, MLS, MSTS

Welcome everyone to the new MDMLG 2023-24 year! The Program & Professional Development Committee has been busy creating a terrific set of webinars and other programming for us this year.

In fact, two are coming up in the next two weeks. On **Thursday, Sept. 21, 2023**, we are gathering for an in-person networking event the Ferndale Project in Ferndale, MI. The following week on **Wednesday, September 27 at 2pm**, MDMLG is sponsoring an MLA Webinar, *Keeping It Private: Supporting Research Privacy and De-Identification of Shared Data*.

We are also holding an MDMLG General Membership Business Meeting on **Wednesday, Sept. 20, 2023**. Here is the Zoom link: <https://emich.zoom.us/j/82546081324>

More details on all of these events can be found on the MDMLG website: <http://mdmlg.blogspot.com/>

We love talking with all of our members! We hope you can make it to as many events as possible this year.

Elizabeth Bucciarelli, MDMLG President



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### NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE

- **Steven Moore**, Librarian, Sladen Library, Henry Ford Health
- **David Stewart**, Medical Librarian, Oakland University William Beaumont School of Medicine Library
- **Jill Turner**, Librarian, University of Detroit-Mercy School of Dentistry

## MDMLG EXECUTIVE BOARD AND COMMITTEE ROSTER 2023-2024

New members of the MDMLG Executive Board and MDMLG Committees, introduced at the annual summer luncheon in June, are listed below. Each Executive Board member begins their role on August 1. All board member roles receive voting privileges. Treasurer, Membership Service Officer, Secretary, and Outreach Officer are elected positions to two-year terms. President-Elect and Nominating Committee members are elected to one-year terms. Committees are by both appointment and on a volunteer basis.

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<b>Archivist</b>	Ella Hu Wayne State University, Shiffman Medical Library

## COMMITTEE ROSTER 2023-2024

<b>Nominating Committee</b>	Amanda Kelly, Chair Mariela Hristova Merle Rosenzweig
<b>Newsletter Committee</b>	Steven Moore, Chair David Stewart Jill Turner
<b>Program &amp; Professional Development Committee</b>	Steven Moore, Chair Brianna Andre Bethany Figg Jill Turner
<b>MHSLA Representative MHLSA Alternate Rep.</b>	Nancy Bulgarelli Stephanie Stebens

# EMPTY OFFICES, EMPTY CHAIRS, NEW EMPLOYEES, THE CULTURE OF BELONGING AND CAREER SUCCESS: PART I, THE CONVERSATION

By Elizabeth Bucciarelli, MDMLG President

I will begin this article with a few rhetorical questions, then I will tell you a story to ponder.

How do we, as seasoned employees and leaders, support the building of a workplace community for new employees in a hybrid or fully remote environment? What role do each of us play in conveying to new employees how their work dovetails with the work of their team and the greater organization? How do we make the onboarding process meaningful, create a connected community and retain employees?

I recently had an opportunity to have an extended conversation with a new college graduate as he reflected on his first four months as a full-time employee. He had secured this position while finishing up his college coursework and was hired into the new job directly after graduation. His understanding was that the work environment was a hybrid-style situation, i.e., an average of three days in-person in the office and two days working remotely. His onboarding process was completed virtually. He told me he felt fortunate to have found a position in his field so quickly, and that he was excited about the work and energized to work with his new colleagues.

However, after four months, he came to the realization that his team members, given the post-COVID-19 option to work hybrid-style or work-from-home, were all choosing to not come into the office. He reported that he would go into a very large and empty office space and count perhaps 2-3 other employees.

As a new employee, he had many questions regarding portions of his work, but found that getting answers required an SMS or email to someone on his team. He said he found the process intimidating and that it made him feel stupid. He was unsure of where his work fit into the team's and where the team's efforts fit into the overall organization. He wanted to feel more connected to his co-workers, and he was, frankly, lonely. He had reached out to his supervisor to discuss the issues and requested a mentor. Unfortunately, his situation had remained unchanged.

With this real scenario to contemplate, consider again the earlier question. How do we, as seasoned employees and leaders, support the building of a workplace community for new employees in a hybrid or fully remote environment?

Part II of this article series will delve deeper into this problem as well as provide some solutions.

Stay Tuned.

## FALL GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING

WELCOME old & new members to the new MDMLG fiscal year! Please join us for our fall general business meeting on Wednesday, September 20, 2023 at 1pm via [Zoom](#).

The tentative agenda is as follows:

- Introducing the 2023-2024 Executive Board
- Providing an overview of upcoming projects and goals
- Reviewing the budget
- Announcing upcoming programming and professional development opportunities

We hope to see you all there!

Elizabeth Bucciarelli, MDMLG President

## JOIN US SEPTEMBER 27 FOR AN MLA WEBINAR

The MDMLG Program and Professional Development Committee has secured funding from NN/LM Region 6 for an upcoming MLA Webinar on September 27 at 2pm titled *"Keeping It Private: Supporting Research Privacy and De-Identification of Shared Data."*

David Fearon, a specialist in research data privacy training and consultation, will introduce us to the skills and knowledge needed to provide practical assistance and advice to researchers on:

- Basic human participant data privacy concepts and privacy risks
- Deciding whether sharing de-identifying for public access is feasible for a project
- Learning basic de-identification techniques for research collaborations and depositing to controlled access data repositories
- Choosing between public and controlled access data repositories on NIH data sharing plans
- Obtaining participant consent for sharing de-identified data

Registration is required to receive continuing education credits (2 CE available). MDMLG members can view the live webinar without claiming CE, but the post-webinar recording is available only to those who have registered for CE.

[Register here](#) to view the live webinar or recording.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Upcoming events and activities relevant to MDMLG members.

**September 20:** MDMLG Fall General Business Meeting, 1pm, [Zoom](#)

**September 21:** MDMLG Social Event @ Ferndale Project, 567 Livernois St., Ferndale, MI @ 5-8pm

**September 27:** MHSLA Mini-Annual Meeting, 11am, [virtual](#)

**September 27:** MLA Webinar: Keeping It Private, 2pm, [virtual](#)

**September 28:** NNLM Training: How to Apply for NNLM Funding, 2pm, [virtual](#)

**October 4:** MLA Webinar: Doing More While Avoiding Burnout: Helping Medical Librarians Balance Emerging Demand, 1pm, [virtual](#)

**October 4:** NNLM Training: Approaches to Centering Equity in Health Communication Research and Practice, 2pm, [virtual](#)

**October 11:** NNLM Training: Making the Link Between Structural Inequities and Health Disparities, 11am, [virtual](#)

**October 18:** MLA Webinar: Piecing Together the Steps of a Systematic Review to the MLA Systematic Review Services Specialization, 2pm, [virtual](#)

## MDMLG SOCIAL EVENT ON SEPT. 21 AT FERNDALE PROJECT



The MDMLG Program and Professional Development Committee would like to invite you to an **informal, social networking event** on Thursday, September 21, 2023, at Ferndale Project in Ferndale, MI.

### Date & Time

Thursday, September 21, 2023  
5:00pm-8:00pm

### Location & Parking

Ferndale Project  
567 Livernois St.  
Ferndale, MI 48220

Please fill out [this brief registration](#) form by September 18th to better give us an idea of how many people to expect.

## MDMLG MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL – RENEW TODAY!

The MDMLG membership drive for the 2023-2024 year began in August. Please consider renewing your current membership or joining by completing the [online form](#).

As a reminder, personal membership in MDMLG is required for anyone serving on an MDMLG committee or the Executive Board. Please note that institutional memberships allow for one representative to serve on committees; personal memberships must be purchased for any additional members from an institution with an institutional membership.

Types of MDMLG membership:

- Regular (\$35)
- Students (Free!)
- Institutions (\$50)
- Emeritus/retired (\$15)



Membership provides great benefits, including but not limited to:

- Joining a network of health information professionals who have the same interests and concerns
- Free or discounted continuing educational opportunities for professional development
- Opportunity to serve on the MDMLG executive board and committees
- Access to Members-only portion of the MDMLG website
- Providing a sense of belonging to a community of health information professionals
- Your membership will make the organization stronger and expand the professional network of health sciences/medical librarians in the Metropolitan Detroit area and beyond.

## MINI-MHSLA ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING CE PROGRAM AVAILABLE TO MDMLG MEMBERS

In place of an annual conference, the Michigan Health Sciences Libraries Association (MHSLA) Executive Board is presenting a half-day of activities including a business meeting, a keynote presentation, and an MLA Webinar sponsored by MDMLG.

The tentative schedule is below:

11am-12pm: Welcome & MHSLA Annual Board Meeting

12:15-1:45pm: Keynote Presentation: *Paradox in Healthcare Organizations: A Course in Paradox Theory for Medical Librarians*, presented by Mary O'Kelly, Western Michigan University (1.5 MLA CEs, available to MDMLG members)

2:00-3:30pm: MLA Webinar (Live): *Keeping It Private: Supporting Research Privacy and De-Identification of Shared Data* (1.5 MLA CEs) Co-sponsored by MDMLG.

Please [register here](#) for the meeting and/or programming.

## STUDENTS: APPLY TO THE MDMLG MARGARET DANOWSKI STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

Each year, MDMLG offers a [scholarship award](#) to students enrolled in the Wayne State University School of Information Sciences or the University of Michigan's School of Information.

The scholarship is awarded to students in good academic standing who display an enthusiasm for health sciences librarianship. The award includes \$350, a certificate, and an invitation to attend the MDMLG Annual Summer Program.

Responsibilities include representing MDMLG and promoting health sciences librarianship. Applicants must submit a complete form by **October 31, 2023**. Apply [here](#).

## MDMLG MENTOR PROGRAM

A mentor program is available for students in health sciences librarianship. Visit [MDMLG](#) for more information and to sign-up to participate.

Health sciences professionals with more than five years work experience are encouraged to apply to become a mentor.

## JOB POSTINGS

Visit the Job Bank at  
[MDMLG.org](https://www.mdmlg.org)

Research Librarian, **Ohio State University** (posted September 2023)

Medical Library Assistant, **OUSB Medical Library** (posted August 2023)

Head of Research and Instruction Services, **Saginaw Valley State University** (posted July 2023)

Resource Management Librarian, **The Michigan School of Psychology** (posted June 2023)

Librarian I/II, Urban Health Research Diversity Resident Librarian #1, **Wayne State University**, The Vera P. Shiffman Medical Library (posted June 2023)

System Director, Library and Archives, **Henry Ford Health** (posted March 2023)

## HEALTH SCIENCES LIBRARIANSHIP OUTREACH CAMPAIGN

Members in Outreach positions at MHSLA (Michigan Health Sciences Libraries Association) and MDMLG have collaborated on a marketing project that we are excited to share with membership of both groups! Now available on the [MDMLG website](#), elements of our conjoined outreach campaign have been designed for members to use to promote health sciences librarianship to current and prospective LIS students.



Material on financial aid and medical terminology are meant to be shared online through social networks and listservs, while an “elevator” speech has been prepared for impromptu opportunities to share the value of health science librarianship as a career. Additionally, the MDMLG brochure, Mentor Program flyer, and other helpful information can be found in the MDMLG Student Portal.

## LIBRARY OF CONGRESS AWARDS DETROIT’S DOWNTOWN BOXING GYM

The Literacy Awards program, sponsored by David M. Rubenstein since 2013, honors organizations that provide exemplary, innovative and replicable strategies to combat illiteracy. For its unique approach toward mentoring and literacy intervention offered through a boxing gym, Downtown Boxing Gym of Detroit was awarded the 2023 American Prize and a monetary prize of \$50,000.

Downtown Boxing Gym is a free, out-of-school time program based in Detroit, Michigan, that seeks to improve academic outcomes for high-need youth. Downtown Boxing Gym builds strong relationships with its participants and their families through one-on-one intervention, tutoring, daily homework help, athletics and a customized enrichment curriculum. Books and program materials align with community interests, experiences, cultures and backgrounds.

Read more about the Library of Congress [award](#) and Downtown Boxing Gym [here](#).

## RESOURCE ROUNDUP

### A RECAP OF RECENT REVISIONS TO RX RESOURCES

**MedlinePlus Tutorial for Librarians:** A newly revised MedlinePlus [tutorial](#) for librarians and health educators is now available for one CE credit. The tutorial explains how to locate information and offers exercises, quizzes, and [knowledge checks](#).

**NLM Classification:** The National Library of Medicine Classification has been updated with a focus on two areas, WR Dermatology and WW Ophthalmology. Seven new WR classes were added, while three were canceled; nine WW classes were added, and six were canceled. [Read more](#) on these and additional changes to NLM classification.

*Have an update? Share it with the Newsletter Committee for inclusion in the next newsletter.*

## MEDICAL INSTITUTIONAL REPOSITORIES IN LIBRARIES (MIRL) '23 SYMPOSIUM

The Medical Institutional Repositories in Libraries (MIRL) Symposium is a free, virtual conference for those with an interest in institutional repositories at hospitals, academic medical centers, and other health settings. MIRL '23 will feature lightning talks, presentations, and a panel by experts and leaders in medical IRs.

The virtual-only symposium will be held **November 16, 2023**.

Registration is free for all attendees and will become available at <https://hsrc.himmelfarb.gwu.edu/mirl/2023/>

Contact Steven Moore ([smoore31@hfhs.org](mailto:smoore31@hfhs.org)) with any questions.

MIRL is a platform-neutral event committed to providing a positive environment for all attendees.



## FROM THE SLADEN LIBRARY BLOG: MATE ACT REQUIREMENTS

By Brianna Andre

The [Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2023](#) enacted a new one-time, eight-hour training requirement for all Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA)-registered practitioners on the treatment and management of patients with opioid or other substance use disorders. The training requirement Medication Access and Training Expansion (MATE) Act is in effect as of June 2023. For more information, visit the [U.S. Department of Justice website](#). The **deadline for satisfying this new training requirement is the date of a practitioner's next scheduled DEA registration submission**—regardless of whether it is an initial registration or a renewal registration.

**Continuing education (CE) credits earned from reading certain UpToDate topics will meet the training requirement.** Earn 0.5 credits for each eligible topic viewed. The training does not have to occur in one session. It can be cumulative across multiple sessions that equal eight hours of training.

Please refer to the UpToDate [Substance abuse disorders table of contents](#) for additional eligible topics. Visit this [UpToDate Support Knowledge Base article](#) for information on tracking MATE Act-eligible topics.

To read more, visit Brianna's [post](#) on the Henry Ford Health Sladen Library blog.





## MLA '24 CALL FOR PROPOSALS FOR IMMERSION SESSIONS AND PAPERS

The 2024 MLA National Program Committee invites abstract submissions that support the annual conference theme of “MLA '24: Stronger Together.” A few things to note about contributed content:

- Immersion Session and Paper Abstract submissions can be submitted during Round 1, which began August 31, 2023. The deadline for round 1 is **October 26, 2023**. See [MLA '24 FAQs](#) for more information.
- The format of an immersion session could include panel presentations, role-playing, gamification, group discussions, working groups, to name a few options. What is most important is to make sure that the activities are engaging and encourage audience participation. Organizers should plan for a 75-minute interactive session.
- Paper presentations are 10-12 minutes in length and will have additional time for questions.
- Posters and Lightning Talk Abstracts can be submitted in Round 2 beginning December 14.
- In addition to live presentations, Papers, Lightning Talk, and Poster presenters will be asked to record their presentations for On-demand availability.
- MLA '24 will offer a limited number of immersion, paper, and lightning talk sessions virtually with the majority to be held at the in-person conference in Portland, OR. Speakers will be asked to provide their preference for presenting (Live Virtual Session or In-Person Session) at time of submission. If selected, they will be able to provide their final preferences in Spring 2024.
- Acceptance notices for immersion sessions will be sent December 6.

## 2024 ALA ANNUAL CONFERENCE AND EXHIBITION - CALL FOR PROPOSALS

As the world's largest library event, the ALA Annual Conference & Exhibition brings together thousands of librarians and library staff, educators, authors, publishers, friends of libraries, trustees, special guests, and exhibitors.



There are two opportunities to submit proposals for American Library Association Annual Conference, education programs and poster sessions. The [program proposal site](#) is open through September 18, 2023. Poster submissions will open in November.

### FRIENDS OF THE NLM THE MICHAEL E. DEBAKEY LIBRARIAN OUTREACH & COMMUNITY COLLABORATION AWARD

The Michael E. DeBakey Librarian Outreach & Community Collaboration Award, for outstanding outreach librarians serving rural or underserved populations, was established in the early 1990s to recognize the contributions to medical education and librarianship by Michael E. DeBakey, M.D. (1908 - 2008). A world-renowned American cardiac surgeon, innovator, medical educator, and international medical statesman, Dr. DeBakey worked tirelessly in numerous capacities to improve national and international standards of health care.

This award is presented to a practicing health sciences librarian who works in the tradition of the incredible advances and medical innovations of Dr. DeBakey to provide valuable health information to underserved and rural populations.

Submit your 2024 nomination on the Friends of the National Library Medicine [website](#).

### MLA HONORS AND AWARDS DEADLINE OCTOBER 15

MLA awards and honors recognize individuals who have rendered distinguished service to health sciences libraries and furthered the purposes of health sciences librarianship. Nominations are invited for some awards and honors; for others, qualified individuals may submit papers. Although all awards and honors are considered annually, they are given only when nominees and candidates clearly meet or exceed requirements. An announcement of all award recipients is made in March each year.

Awards are available for those new to the profession (two), mid-career professionals (eleven), proven leaders (five), and chapters and caucuses, along with several others including lectureships like the Janet Doe Lectureship, Joseph Leither NLM/MLA Lectureship, and the John P. McGovern Award Lectureship.



Unless otherwise noted, the deadline for all nominations, submissions, and supporting documents is October 15. Read more about MLA Honors and Awards [here](#).

## WELCOME TO THE HOUSE OF THE SCRIBES: WHERE KNOWLEDGE IS POWER— PART II.

**By Jill Turner, University of Detroit Mercy, School of Dentistry Library**

Part I of this series presented the responses to the first five questions in my survey asking MDMLG and MHSLA listserv members how they came to librarianship. Questions from Part I covered educational backgrounds (undergraduate degrees) and the specific library degrees respondents earned.

Part II starts to get to the heart of the survey. This installment covers members' responses to the question that asked about previous careers. The final piece (in the upcoming Winter issue of the *MDMLG Newsletter*) will address how we each came to be librarians.

I have attempted to do a bit of qualitative analysis and group the responses by themes. The diverse answers along with the accompanying comments made this a challenge. Additionally, many of the participants shared multiple previous jobs, so it was tough to assign a single category to a diverse group of responses yet still maintain the integrity of the reply. I included the first names and last initial of the participants who provided them (and gave their permission), since part of the purpose of this article is to get to know our colleagues. Once again, thanks to everyone who took the time to respond.

*Q7: What did you do (job) prior to becoming a Librarian/Informationist? List all or some - whatever you feel like sharing.*

There were 41 responses to this question in total. The responses are grouped into the following categories: non-professional library experience, library-adjacent occupations, healthcare provider, healthcare support, straight to graduate school, food industry, education, and a catch-all miscellaneous category. Each response was placed in one category only. Submissions that included any library-related positions automatically went into the library experience section.

*Non-professional library experience:*

Some participants started like they meant to go on - in the library. Or perhaps it was an instance of Michael Corleone in *Godfather 3*, "just when I thought I was out ... they pull me back in." Either way, more respondents (n=17) have been employed in a library as a tech, support staff, assistant, or paraprofessional at some point in their occupational lives than in any other industry included in the responses.

For many participants within this group, the library was one among several occupations. Toni J. was also employed as a marketing surveyor at one point; Marilyn K. worked in hospitals and also taught adults and children; and Brianna was a data editor for Crain's Detroit and involved in project management for a market research company. Sandy S. had three non-professional library positions along with several healthcare support jobs in her past employment. Among other junior high school jobs, she worked in the school library. However, that was not her first library position. She started very young: *"in elementary school they let me sit in the school library and check out books*

during lunch time! Color me thrilled." Later, she was offered a position in a hospital library by the personnel director; she commented that she did not even know the hospital had a library. She also worked as a hospital billing clerk and an assistant in a hospital nursing office.

Other positions held by survey participants, along with their non-professional library experience are listed in the following table:

Audio engineer	Florist shop	Office cashier
Banking call center representative	Flower delivery person	Office clerk
Bookseller	Ice cream scooper	Retail
Cataloger	High School English teacher	Tomato salesman
Dime store clerk	Marching band competition ticket and copyright coordinator	Secretary
Event manager	Mortgage processor	Volleyball referee
Farmhand	Music journalist	

Finally, there were two responses that fell into this category that deserve to be highlighted. They received my vote for the worst jobs held among our colleagues. Based on the comments that accompanied the submissions, I know the people that held these jobs would agree. For the first, not only did I chuckle when I read the submitter's self-evaluation, but a great wave of sympathy washed over me for whoever endured this job for even a single day: *"The worst (absolute worst) job I ever had was a short stint as a bill collector. I was terrible at it 😊"*. The second response came from Sandy S., and while the bill collector stint takes top prize, her submission is a very close second: *"There was a disastrous couple of weeks as a door-to-door encyclopedia salesperson. I don't recommend it."*

### **Library-adjacent occupations:**

Three responses fell into the library-adjacent occupations category. Two participants listed bookstore employment among their previous jobs, and another worked accounting in the publishing industry before becoming an Audiologist. Julia P. not only lists bookstore clerk in her occupational repertoire, but she also administered phone surveys for a call center and, in a very interesting turn, worked as a paleographer (reading and transcribing old handwriting) for a historical research group.

## **Healthcare provider:**

Two of us worked as healthcare providers prior to entering library land. Ali K. was a clinical audiologist in the hospital prior to obtaining her library science degree, and I started my professional life as an Army nurse then, in civilian life, worked in the ICU before heading back for my graduate degree. While in library school, I worked at JoAnn Fabrics. I loved that job. Most of the shoppers seemed happy to be in the store indulging their passion for creating stuff, and I enjoyed hearing about the projects they were working on.

## **Healthcare support or health-adjacent:**

Three participants responded that they were employed in healthcare support or health-adjacent positions before entering librarianship. These positions are ones that are (or could be) within a healthcare system or related industry but do not necessarily provide direct patient care. One respondent was a social/human services worker, and another was employed as a medical secretary and a boarding clerk. The third respondent was a staff member at a transitional housing program for women with mental illness.

## **Straight into grad school:**

Four of our colleagues, including Margaret H. and Emily M., went straight into their master's programs after undergrad. After graduation, Emily began her librarian career in instructional services before becoming a health sciences librarian. Stephanie S. knew she was bound for librarianship as a teen, so after graduating with her bachelor's degree, she went straight into graduate school.

## **Food industry:**

We have two colleagues with the food service industry in their backgrounds. Nancy B. waitressed in high school and college. She commented, *"No one should have to work that hard, or put up with that much!"* The other food service job was a colleague who worked as a busboy but also had a stint as a caddy at one time.

## **Education:**

Education was a former career field for four of our members. One is a former university recruitment officer; another was in academic research along with several other miscellaneous jobs like computer repair, retail and food service, information technology specialist, and art gallery owner; and a third was an assistant to the university registrar and a group secretary for a chemical company before that. The third colleague was a teacher who could not get a job in the field and ended up working towards a MILS degree to fulfill a professional teaching certificate requirement.

## Miscellaneous:

This last category is a mishmash of careers that did not seem to fit under the previously established groupings. Jennifer B. was employed as a secretary performing clerical work. We have a music instructor who was also in retail customer service for a while, and an insurance agent who also worked in property management and in the home as a stay-at-home mom. We have an engineer, a childcare worker, an insurance claims adjuster, and a floral designer who *"did weddings, funerals, parties, proms/ homecomings, Mother's Day, Valentine's Day, and etc. I still love flowers, plants, and gardening."*

\*\*\*

I enjoyed learning about what my colleagues did prior to librarianship. As I read through the results, I couldn't help but imagine myself performing these jobs. It was an interesting exercise in "paths not taken." I already know bill collector and door-to-door encyclopedia salesperson would not be for me. However, I like ice cream. Would I have enjoyed being an ice cream scooper or would that have led to a dislike of ice cream after facing it on a daily basis? I will never know.

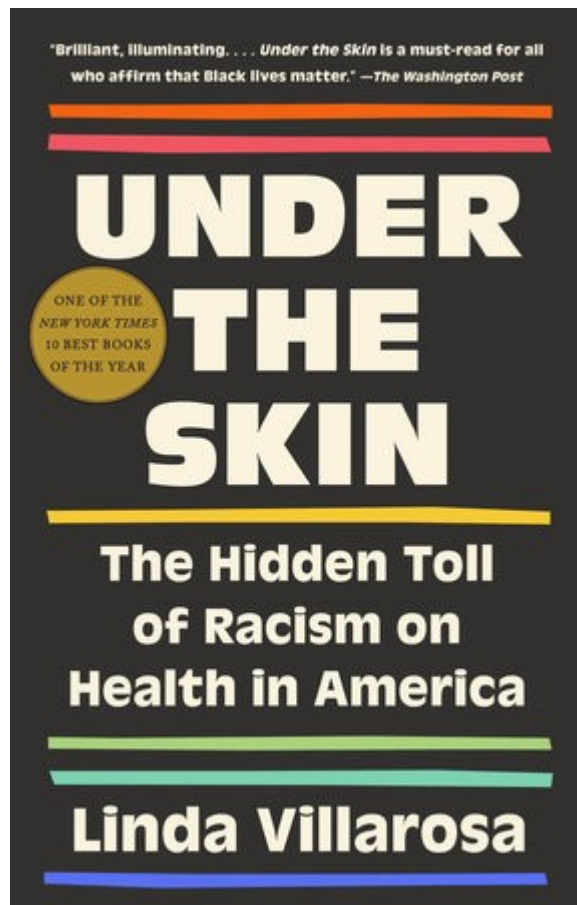
It was also interesting to think about how each of these jobs have provided experiences that built professional foundations for each of us, preparing us for our career today. Throughout high school, during the summer, I worked as a landscaper. It was a dirty, hot, sweaty, buggy, physically exhausting job. Perfect training for the time I spent "in the field" in the Army. My Army experiences, in turn, have given me organizational and leadership skills along with a detail-oriented focus that was key when I was working in the ICU. All of these skills along with the medical knowledge received in nursing school are valuable to me as a health sciences librarian. Those who have worked in customer facing jobs like food service or retail have learned people skills. The florists and musicians bring creativity. The engineer - analytics. Each of these positions have provided us with skills and knowledge for our future occupation.

Some of our members have held some unusual jobs. I have a hundred stupid questions I wish I could ask the participants. How does one become a tomato salesperson or an art gallery owner? What training does a paleographer need and whose correspondence or writings have you deciphered? I could go on and on. I would bet that each of us has some excellent stories to tell based on those prior job experiences - whether the job was unusual or not. I will start. Once, in the Army, another Lieutenant and I accidentally rode our bicycles through the middle of an Army Ranger war games exercise. I am still not sure what I learned from that experience. Dealing with surprise and mortification with aplomb? That just because it is eerily quiet, doesn't mean there is no one around? That I can pedal at pace with a Tour de France cyclist if necessary? I do know it never happened again.

## MDMLG BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS: "UNDER THE SKIN: THE HIDDEN TOLL OF RACISM ON AMERICAN LIVES AND ON THE HEALTH OF OUR NATION"

"Under the Skin: The Hidden Toll of Racism on Health in America" (2022) details the healthcare system and societal factors in the United States that cause Black Americans to have worse treatment and health outcomes than White Americans.

Erroneous slavery-era assumptions that still persist in medical texts, environmental racism that allows pollution and other contaminants to go unchallenged by all levels of government, and coping with daily racism causes Black people to age prematurely, living sicker and dying quicker than White people. Author, journalist, and professor Linda Villarosa includes human stories and proof that make *Under the Skin* "dramatic, tragic, and necessary reading".



Available for purchase at [Penguin Random House](https://www.penguinrandomhouse.com/books/1000000000/under-the-skin-the-hidden-toll-of-racism-on-health-in-america-by-linda-villarosa/) or other booksellers.

- Currently sits at 4.46 stars on [Goodreads](https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/1000000000/Under-the-Skin-by-Linda-Villarosa) (2,058 ratings).
- 2023 Pulitzer Prize Finalist - General Nonfiction
- 2023 NYPL Bernstein Book Award Nominee for Excellence in Journalism
- 2023 NAACP Image Award Nominee for Nonfiction
- 2023 Winner J. Anthony Lukas Book Prize

Have you read this book? Want to comment? Please respond to Jill Turner ([turnerja1@udmercy.edu](mailto:turnerja1@udmercy.edu)). All comments will appear in the next issue of the MDMLG Newsletter.

This title was recommended by Mary Jo Durivage (retired, John D. Dingell VA Medical Center Library).

## HISTORY OF MDMLG

The Metropolitan Detroit Medical Library Group (MDMLG) can trace its roots to the Biological Sciences Group established by the Michigan Chapter of the Special Libraries Association in 1946. It existed primarily as a social group until the mid-1950s when the members began to experiment with various projects. During the 1960s, several plans came into fruition including the production of a serial locator tool, the creation of a union catalog of monographs, and the establishment of an active interlibrary loan network. The group began the process of formal organization and chose its current name in 1970.

For more on MDMLG, its history, and current activity, visit [mdmlg.org](http://mdmlg.org).



## NEXT ISSUE

Please contact members of the MDMLG Newsletter Committee with any questions or content submissions for our winter 2024 issue.

The MDMLG Publications, Presentations, and AHIP List aims to be a comprehensive bibliography of the scholarly activity by current members of MDMLG. The Winter 2024 Newsletter will include the full bibliography for the year, so please make sure your work is included by notifying Steven Moore of any recent scholarly activity.

The current list, 2019-2022 MDMLG Publications, is available at [mdmlg.org/recent-presentations-publications.htm](http://mdmlg.org/recent-presentations-publications.htm)

## FOLLOW US ON INSTAGRAM!

Please follow and interact with [@detroitmedicallibrarygroup!](https://www.instagram.com/detroitmedicallibrarygroup/)

If anyone has any content, upcoming webinars, photos, or anything else they are willing to share, please contact our Social Media Officer, Michelle Rau.

If possible, please include a little background information. All feedback and suggestions are welcome.

## NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE

- **Steven Moore**, Librarian, Sladen Library, Henry Ford Health
- **David Stewart**, Medical Librarian, Oakland University William Beaumont School of Medicine Library
- **Jill Turner**, Librarian, University of Detroit-Mercy School of Dentistry