MSA FALL PROGRAM & MEETING

INDEXING MEDICINE AND THE NATIONAL LIBRARY OF MEDICINE

Friday, November 14, 2008
9:30 – 2:30

Lister Hill Visitor Center
National Library of Medicine
Bethesda, Maryland

Grab your coat and get your hat,
Leave your worries on your doorstep,
Just direct your feet
To the medical-indexing & indexers-mutual-support-network
side of the street!

(With apologies to Dorothy Fields)

While MSA can’t promise to solve all woes, MSA & NLM have a program sure to appeal to indexers at all levels of career and expertise, from beginner to expert. With all the changes in our local, national, and global economy, it’s certainly a great time to expand your capabilities, so plan to join MSA at NLM on Friday, November 14. We’ll learn some medical indexing and have a fine time meeting, greeting, and supporting our fellow indexers.

Program highlights include:
- Contracting with NLM
- Indexing for MEDLINE
- Jobs with NLM/NIH in the Atlantic coast states
- Reserved area for MSA lunch and business meeting
- Behind the scenes tour of NLM & tour of NLM exhibits
- Bibliographic control at NLM
- MESH, UMLS, PubMed, MedLars

RSVP to MSA Chair, Suzi Kaplan to ensure seating.
- There is no charge for this program. Contributions of any size to MSA, however, are always welcome!
- Coffee and tea service during the meeting have been donated.
- Lunch is at your own expense in the Lister Hill Cafeteria.

(NLM Important Information continued on page 2)
Chair Notes
It seems to be a season for change all around us. Here in the Mid-Atlantic area, the air is cooler and the leaves are beginning to change color. My bank today is not the bank I had yesterday. Stocks and other financial instruments took a severe dive, but may have resurfaced. Gasoline was egregiously expensive, but is now a bit more affordable. Indexers across our MSA region are telling me they have plenty of work, but there are also noises of cutbacks, hiring freezes, and payment slowdowns. Perhaps it’s a good time to enhance or gain new skills? I think you’ll agree! If so, you won’t want to miss MSA’s Fall Program on Friday, November 14, Medical Indexing and the National Library of Medicine.

MSA is currently ASI’s largest chapter with about 160 members and stretching from Pennsylvania through Florida to Alabama. This is the chapter of Kate Mertes, Pilar Wyman, Enid Zafran, the late Hans Wellisch, and many other notable Indexers. We have a profusion of talent, for indexing and otherwise, within our MSA ranks.

Electronic communications have made ours a small world. Let’s use this to our advantage and discover ways to build an MSA that touches each of its members. I want to hear from you!

Suzi Kaplan
Chair, MSA 2008-2009

NLM & Medical Indexing: MSA’s Fall Program
(Continued from page 1)

Important: Please see information at the end of this newsletter about security and visiting NIH.

DIRECTIONS
NIH provides directions here.

TRANSPORTATION
- NLM/NIH is accessible by Metro, public bus, and private vehicle.
- Metro (subway): use the Medical Center stop on Metro’s Red Line
- MetroBus J1, J2, J3, J7, J9;
- Montgomery County RideOn Bus 30, 33, 34, 46, 70
- Drivers, there is a charge for parking at NIH.

Metro’s Red Line can be accessed via Union Station in Washington DC from Amtrak, MARC, and VRE trains and BWI – Baltimore Washington International Airport. Shuttle bus service is available from IAD – Dulles International Airport that will enable you to connect with other public transportation. The Metro is directly accessible from DCA – National Airport.

Advertise in The Atlantic Indexer
The Atlantic Indexer reaches 160 MSA members, ASI and the broader community of professional Indexers. Advertising space is available in The Atlantic Indexer. The fee for a space 3 inches by 3 inches is $100. Please contact our newsletter editor for other current rates.

Membership Corner
Welcome to our new members!

Susan Brown  Cristina Haley  Susan Lohmeyer
Carol Bursik   David Hardt   Gail Lulley
Elizabeth Clark  Kate Harris  Tonya Mahar
Mary Chesnut   Cory Howell  Amy McGraw
Rosemary de Colon  Lori Holtzinger  Susan Overstreet
Elizabeth Di Cataldo  Kate Jesse  Mary Spoth
Harvey Gable, Jr.  Patricia Kelley  Sean Stewart
Katherine Glover  Juanita Lee
BE PART OF MSA

Have you wanted to be involved in MSA, but wondered how to get started? One great way is to volunteer to serve as a member of an MSA committee. MSA has several standing and ad hoc committees that use volunteers. You can make MSA yours by claiming a place on one of these committees listed. If you are interested in serving on one or more MSA committees, MSA is interested in you! Please email MSA Chair, Suzi Kaplan, to get started!

TEN REASONS TO VOLUNTEER

10. Because you can!
9. You get too many marketing/political calls at home
8. Build your resume
7. Spend ‘quality time’ with colleagues
6. Share your skills and knowledge
5. There’s nothing new on TV – really
4. Gain or improve new skills and knowledge
3. Feel part of the group
2. Make new friends
1. Who cares about money?

Bylaws Review
The Bylaws Review Committee will review current MSA bylaws to determine whether changes need to be recommended to MSA membership.

Nominating Committee
The Nominating Committee is charged with seeking and accepting nominations for election to open MSA offices.

Changes Committee
The Changes Committee is charged with verifying memberships vote on changes affecting MSA.

Newsletter Committee
MSA is forming a Newsletter Committee of member correspondents and contributors to our newsletter, The Atlantic Indexer. Since the newsletter is now delivered to members in pdf format, it no longer has the same constraints of article and page length and mailing cost. Correspondents are needed from all states and districts in the MSA region and from our members residing in other countries to keep The Atlantic Indexer editor apprised of events of interest in all areas. Contributors may file regular reports with the editor covering specific subjects or areas of expertise.

MSA’S 2007-08 KOHLRABI AWARDEES

Kohlrabi Awards for the 2007-2008 year were presented by outgoing president, Carolyn Weaver, who recognized awardees for extraordinary service to ASI.

The Order of the Kohlrabi was established in 2002 as a way to honor those volunteers who have gone above and beyond the call of duty in service to ASI. The use of kohlrabi comes from the answer to a riddle asked at the 2000 conference in Albuquerque, "If indexers were vegetables, what vegetable would they be?" The answer: “Kohlrabi: no one knows who we are, or what to do with us.” Those present felt the answer quite appropriate. A year later the name for this unusual type of cabbage was adopted as ASI’s way of honoring volunteers. ASI volunteers wear their Kohlrabi pins with pride.

Bernice Eisen, Health Insurance Negotiator
Suzi Kaplan, Wilson Award Samples
Kate Mertes, 'Creating and Maintaining Speed' Instruction Video
Judy Reveal, KeyWords Editor
Ann Truesdale, Annual Conference
Pilar Wyman, Hines Award Judge, ASI Training Course Marker
Enid Zafran, ASI Training Course Negotiator/Editor
ASI REQUIRES CHAPTER & SIG CHANGES

Your Attention Is Required

Sweeping changes required of ASI’s chapters and special interest groups (SIGs) were announced at a meeting for chapter and SIG leaders held during ASI’s 2008 annual conference in Denver, Colorado. Even though ASI and its management company, The Resource Center, tried to provide complete information, the meeting ended with lingering questions and promises of continued work toward resolution of issues and answering of questions. Communications since ASI’s annual meeting among ASI members and chapter and SIG leaders indicates there is still confusion about whether changes are required, necessary or optional. To be able to convey information that is as complete as possible to our MSA membership, we’ve delayed relaying information until as many facts as possible were available. Your input and decisions as a member of MSA will be needed, so please read the following completely and with patience.

To enable a chapter-wide conversation about these topics, MSA has set-up a new email address changes@msasindexing.org. If you have questions or concerns about ASI’s required changes, please email them to changes@msasindexing.org.

Background

Our MSA chapter is a subordinate or sub-unit (for lack of a better term) of the super-unit organization, ASI. It’s easy, though probably not strictly legal, to think of this as a parent-child relationship. To avoid the latter terms, we’ll go with sub-unit and super-unit.

As sub-units of ASI, the corporation, MSA and the other chapters and SIGs must act as they are told by their super-unit, ASI. As sub-units of ASI and for federal tax purposes, chapters and SIGs are integral parts of ASI.

Regulations promulgated subsequent to enactment of the U.S. Patriot Act, subsequent to 9-11-2001, have begun to make it difficult for chapters and SIGs to open new bank or other financial institution accounts (hereafter banks). Banks are now required to keep on file copies of an organization’s bylaws, articles of incorporation (charter) and federal employer identification number (FEIN). Though the Patriot Act was adopted several years ago and many organizations have already dealt with these issues, ASI and its sub-units have somehow had a few years grace in not doing so.

Chapter Action Required

At the 2008 annual meeting, ASI charged MSA and the other chapters and SIGs with the following duties

1) Each chapter or SIG must notify ASI on or before December 31, 2008 as to whether the chapter or SIG will
   a. Incorporate as a separate entity from ASI or
   b. Surrender all chapter or SIG funds to ASI to be managed by ASI on behalf of the chapter or SIG

Additionally,

2) Should a chapter or SIG decide to incorporate, it may still surrender all chapter or SIG funds to ASI to be managed by ASI on behalf of the chapter or SIG.

3) Chapters and SIGs have until June 1, 2009 (essentially May 31, 2009) to implement all changes.

Subsequently, at an October 8, 2008 meeting, ASI’s Board of Directors voted to pursue the IRS Group Exemption.

With the Group Exemption, IRS requirements state that sub-units may or may not be incorporated. ASI is working on new guidelines, but until they are received, chapters and SIGs must operate under the assumption that the requirement to incorporate or turn over assets is still operational. Below is some information for you about the IRS Group Exemption.

“The IRS sometimes recognizes a group of organizations as tax-exempt if they are affiliated with a central organization. This avoids the need for each of the organizations to apply for exemption individually. A group exemption letter has the same effect as an individual exemption letter except that it applies to more than one organization.” IRS Group Exemption

“A subordinate organization may or may not be

(Changes continued on previous page)
incorporated, but it must have an organizing document.” IRS Publication 557, p.6 column 3

MSA will publish a November issue of The Atlantic Indexer to provide more information regarding incorporation and surrendering assets. Meanwhile, please feel free to email your questions and concerns to changes@msasindexing.org.

Member Action Required

Unless notified otherwise by ASI before December 31, MSA will need to determine whether or not it wishes to incorporate and will need to notify ASI of its decision.

Changes Committee: Two volunteers are needed to complete a committee of three, the Changes Committee, which will be responsible for counting members’ votes.

To determine MSA’s wishes, MSA will provide members with the opportunity to vote online at SurveyMonkey. Have a look now if you like, but the vote will not be open until December 1.

Voting will open December 1 at a specified SurveyMonkey webpage and will close December 21, 2008 to ensure sufficient time for votes to be counted and reported to ASI. Watch for your email December 1 notifying you of the SurveyMonkey webpage where you may vote. The email may come from msaindexing.org or from surveymonkey.com.

Please consider your vote confidential. It will only be reviewed by the three members of the Changes Committee.

Member Action Requested

More information will be made available to chapter membership through our meetings, newsletters, email lists.

Please ensure msasindexing.org and surveymonkey.com are in your email software’s list of accepted emails.

If you wish to email me, I welcome any questions or concerns you have at MSA Chair. All MSA members will be subscribed to changes@msasindexing.org so each may be privy to any discussions.

NOTE: A related email to chapter and SIG chairs from ASI Chapter Relations Chair, Diana Witt, is reprinted on page 78 of the July-September Key Words

KEY WORDS –

IT’S A GREAT WAY TO PROMOTE CHAPTER INFORMATION, SIG MEETINGS & ANYTHING ELSE RELATED TO INDEXING!
CONTACT JUDY REVEAL TO ADD SOMETHING TO THE NEXT EDITION OF KEYWORDS.

INDEXERS WHO ‘LIBRARYTHING’

Indexing icons Hazel Bell and Nancy Mulvany may be found online, leading the charge to involve indexers with LibraryThing. For anyone not familiar, LibraryThing is a social-networking website where individuals list – and to some extent catalog – their own book and media collections.

Once you’ve signed up for LibraryThing and have your user name and password safely tucked away, your next step is to search for the group, ‘Indexers Who LibraryThing.’ There is an affinity group for.

/LibraryThing continued on next page/
everyone on LibraryThing or, if not, you can easily start one. After you join the ‘Indexers Who LibraryThing’ group, you’ll want to begin adding the titles from your collections.

As you add titles, you’re able to catalog the items by adding ‘tags’ to it. A ‘tag’ is a descriptor, term, subject or entry of one or more words of your choice. Dependent upon your personal needs or wishes, you may tag titles by the material type, content, cover color, genre, storyline appeal – or lack thereof – and even location, for example, as ‘biography,’ ‘airplane reads’ or ‘weekend house.’

One creative use for LibraryThing we’ve discovered is the ability to add the job title, Indexer, and the name of the individual book Indexer or, if the Indexer is unknown (or perhaps doesn’t want to be associated with an index after s/he’s released copyright to it), the ubiquitous Anonymous. That alone may be interesting and it certainly is a nice feature offered by LibraryThing. What makes this creative, though? Should a committed and active mass of individual Indexers begin to add the job title, Indexer, to the other job titles receiving credit, the Editors, Contributors, Designers, Illustrators and more, will someone take notice?

Perhaps one day there may be a sufficient quantity of books with the added Indexer job title, that Indexer may become a permanent fixture or ‘field’ on the LibraryThing record screen. Who knows what may happen with individual effort and shared ideas? That is the beauty and quandary of social-networking websites. Maybe Catalog Librarians – who may well belong to ‘Librarians Who LibraryThing’ – will even to begin to demand the names of Indexers for the MARC21-format catalog records they create. Maybe readers will begin to demand the name of the Indexer be made available in a book’s print and online credits. A little work can make dreams come true or, if not, you can have fun anyway.

You can even upload your LibraryThing collection into your VisualBookshelf or GoodReads collections on your FaceBook* page. How twenty-first century can you get!

Suzi Kaplan

*Also available independent of FaceBook are, the originator of VisualBookshelf, LivingSocial’s Readers and GoodReads. There are other social networking, book list websites such as Shelfari, now owned by amazon, but we’ll leave those for another time.

CHAPTERS TO PARTICIPATE IN 2009 ASI ANNUAL CONFERENCE

MSA Chapter member and ASI President-Elect, Kate Mertes, is heading the 2009 ASI Conference in Portland, Oregon. Kate has extended a special invitation to ASI Chapters to participate in some tangible way in the next year’s annual conference. If you are, or even might think you might be, interested in contributing to a discussion of how our MSA chapter could contribute to the 2009 annual conference, please email MSA Chair, Suzi Kaplan ASAP. We’ll pool our collective talent, wisdom and energies to formulate ideas, or otherwise figure out something clever to do!

In addition to our chapter’s discussions and to the ideas Kate has outlined below, Kate would like to hear from you if you have other ideas for ways chapters might want to participate. Email Kate Mertes.
From Kate Mertes:
Chapter and SIG Participation in ASI Annual Conference, Portland, Oregon, April 23-25, 2009

By now, you’ve received email notification of the ‘Call for Papers’ for ASI’s 2009 annual conference, to be held in Portland OR, April 23-25. I’d like each ASI’s Chapter to consider sponsoring a conference session or feature event.

Chapters generally represent indexers within a specific geographic area (though many have far-flung members from different parts of the U.S. and the world) and carry out a regular program of events within that area. Is your Chapter reaching all the indexers who might attend your meetings? One frequently meets ASI members from, say, southern Ohio who attend the annual conference, but who have never been to a Heartland Chapter program. In our time, many indexers travel or spend a significant part of the year in more than one place – living in Colorado, say, but spending the summer with grandchildren in Maryland.

The annual conference attracts many people new to the indexing profession who have yet to become acquainted with a local Chapter. For all these reasons, it makes sense for Chapters to ensure they have a presence at the annual conference. Sponsoring a conference session or feature is a good way to make your Chapter’s presence available to its members.

How could your Chapter represent itself? Has your Chapter put on a particularly good local, but never reached the attention of other Chapters? Do you have a local speaker that wowed you, but never thought of presenting at the annual event? Have some of your members collaborated on a really interesting project – a taxonomy for a regional newspaper or the index for your city zoo’s cookbook project? Or has your Chapter developed innovative means for attracting new members or assuring Chapter continuity that would be of interest to other ASI members? Get together, make a plan, and fill out a ‘Call for Proposals’ for the 2009 annual conference (form available at ASI Chapters sponsoring sessions will receive acknowledgment in the conference program.

If your chapter has funds, you may want to think about a scholarship to help a Chapter member attend the 2009 conference. This would be especially pertinent for someone who hasn’t done so before or may not be able to do so on his or her own. In “payment,” that person could be charged with collecting and presenting conference information – a ready-made event for your next Chapter meeting and publication.

Another option is for Chapters to sponsor poster presentations. These usually address a small, localized topic, problem area, or project that can be represented visually. Posters are displayed during the conference and may be accompanied with a short presentation by the authors.

Finally, Chapters might sponsor a conference feature: bags given to attendees, pens with the Chapter’s name, discount coupons for Powell’s Portland bookstore, or a snack break or reception hors d’oeuvres. It can cost a little money, but is a great way to advertise your Chapter.

Please consider sponsoring a conference session or feature at ASI’s next annual conference in Portland! See you all in Portland!
There are many ways to be right. That concept was proven over and over at the Mid-and-South-Atlantic Chapter’s spring workshop on March 29, 2008 when Kari Kells and Sherry Smith brought us their workshop, “Dancing On Cobwebs: Decision Making in Writing Indexes.”

This workshop really started weeks before, with a pre-assignment in which all attendees were to read and index the same three articles about the Lewis and Clark expedition to the Columbia River area.

At first glance, the sixty some pages didn’t seem like a big deal. As I delved farther and farther into them, I realized that Sherry and Kari knew what they were doing when they picked these pages. How could I have doubted! So many decisions and so many dilemmas!

After completing our indexes, we were to send them off to Kari and Sherry. I found this to be another difficult part of the assignment. Two experienced, respected indexers were going to look over an index that had been a bit of a struggle for me. With a cringe, I hit the send button anyway. I shouldn’t have worried because from the minute they received the index and my nervous apologies about it not being very good, I was assured of their non-judgmental stance.

Moving on to workshop day, there were eleven different indexes presented, all in various stages of completion and finished by indexers in various stages of expertise. After getting an overview from our leaders about how the workshop was going to proceed, we set upon analyzing the indexes. First, we spent some time thinking about our audiences and which perspective we tended to use. We asked ourselves, “would I be happy if the indexer led me to this passage?”

We then took some time to consider the different ways we tackled the many dilemmas in this text like grouping, metatopics, gathering, access routes and phrasing.

It was a really a fascinating, fun and educational workshop and I’m so glad Sherry and Kari were able to come out to the East Coast to present it to us.

Vicki Swope
Past-Chair, MSA-ASI 2007-2008

Here are some comments Kells and Smith received about their workshop with MSA.

"What I liked best about this workshop was the opportunity to examine multiple, varied professional indexes under the guidance of two kind, but incredibly insightful indexing professionals."

"The workshop was very applicable, very practical, raising issues I can ponder and incorporate immediately."

"What I liked best about this workshop was the constructive, positive, and anonymous way the indexes were reviewed."

Suzi Kaplan uses her blue dot to remain anonymous.
Chinua Achebe’s Novel Things Fall Apart Program at the Library of Congress

Through his fiction and non-fiction works, Nigerian author Chinua Achebe has sought to repair the damage done to the continent of Africa and its people as a result of European colonization. This is best exemplified in his most famous novel Things Fall Apart, one of the first African novels written in English to achieve worldwide acclaim. Set in the 1890s, the novel deals with the impact of British colonialism on the traditional Igbo society of Nigeria. Published in 1958 – just two years before the end of a century of British rule – the novel celebrates its 50th anniversary of publication this year.

To mark this milestone, the Library of Congress’ African Section will host a daylong program titled "Fifty Years of Chinua Achebe’s Celebrated Novel 'Things Fall Apart.'"

A symposium will be held 8:30AM – 5:00PM, Monday, November 3, Room 119, Thomas Jefferson Building, Library of Congress, 10 First Street SE, Washington DC.

Following readings from the novel by DC Public School students, the symposium will feature two 90-minute panels: "Reconsideration of Chinua Achebe’s 'Things Fall Apart'" and "African Literature in the 21st Century: Reflections from Africa and the African Diaspora."

Distinguished guest panelists include:

- R. Victoria Arana, graduate professor of English at Howard University;
- Mbaye Cham, chair of the department of African Studies at Howard University;
- Philip Effiong, director of Academic Research and Information at the Africa Society of the National Summit on Africa and adjunct associate of English at the University of Maryland University College;
- Simon Gikandi, Robert Schirmer Professor of English at Princeton University;
- Amadou Kone, professor of French and Francophone Studies at Georgetown University;
- Gwen Mikell, director of the Foreign Service at Georgetown University;
- Edmund A. Walsh School of Foreign Service at Georgetown University;
- Renee Poussaint, veteran network journalist and senior fellow at the University of Maryland Academy of Leadership;
- Jeanne Maddox Toungara, graduate professor of history at Howard University; and
- Eleanor Traylor, chair of the department of English at Howard University.

The symposium’s luncheon keynote address will be given by renowned African scholar Ali A. Mazrui, Albert Schweitzer Professor in the Humanities and director of the Institute of Global Cultural at Binghamton University, State University of New York. The closing keynote address will be given by Ama Ata Aidoo, Ghanaian novelist, playwright and scholar.

An Evening with Chinua Achebe

November 3, 2008, 6PM - 8PM
Montpelier Room LM-619, 6th Floor, James Madison Building, Library of Congress


Following the symposium, "An Evening with Chinua Achebe" at 6PM will feature author, Chinua Achebe, reading from his works in the Montpelier Room (LM-619) of the Library’s James Madison Building, 101 Independence Ave. SE, Washington DC. Signed copies of the 50th anniversary edition of Things Fall Apart will be on sale. A reception to celebrate Achebe’s 78th birthday will follow.

Throughout the day, a special exhibit titled "Chinua Achebe: A Celebration," featuring items from the Library’s African collections, may be viewed in Room 113 in the Thomas Jefferson Building. A film titled Things Fall Apart, based on the book, will also be on continuous view.

This program is free and open to the public. Seating is first come, first serve; those wishing to attend are encouraged to RSVP to achebe@loc.gov.

This program is sponsored jointly by the LOC’s African & Middle Eastern Division and the Center for the Book, in collaboration with the Africa Society of the National Summit on Africa, Howard University’s Department of African Studies and Ralph J. Bunche International Affairs Center, and the TransAfrica Forum. For more information on the division and its holdings, visit www.loc.gov/rr/amed.

(Of Interest continued on next page)
Making the Web Work for Science: The Impact of e-Science and the CyberInfrastructure
One-Day Workshop Co-sponsored by CENDI and NFAIS and Hosted by FLICC

Monday, December 8, 2008
9AM – 4:30PM

Mumford Room, Madison Building
Library of Congress, 101 Independence Avenue SE
Washington DC 20540

“e-Science is used to describe computationally intensive science that is carried out in highly distributed network environments, or science that uses immense data sets that require grid computing; the term sometimes includes technologies that enable distributed collaboration.” Wikipedia

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?
The over-arching nature of this one-day workshop will appeal to a broad array of communities, including librarians; scientists/researchers; technologists; information professionals, both managerial and content providers; publishers; and futurists.

COST OF THE WORKSHOP
There is a two-fee structure for this workshop to allow the sponsors’ and host’s members an opportunity to attend at reduced cost. CENDI, NFAIS, and FLICC members will be charged $65; all others have a registration fee of $95.

THE FOCUS OF THE DAY – E-Science and the Web will begin with an overview of the current landscape and how the Web is being utilized for the advancement of science and scholarly communication. Following this thoughtful, high-level perspective, real-life examples will be given of how major communities such as librarians, publishers, and federal STI program leaders are using the Web to advance scientific knowledge and scholarly communication.

Science and technology advancements are increasingly reliant on the digital landscape. To stay abreast of the exponential growth of Web content, scientists and technologists alike are utilizing a multi-faceted cyberinfrastructure to advance knowledge and develop ever more tools and applications to benefit us all. A panel of two practicing scientists from very different disciplines will present what they are doing to advance knowledge and discuss what they believe information professionals and organizations can provide to improve the scientists’ efforts.

A third panel will cover the challenges and issues that need to be resolved in order to maximize the potential of the Web, addressing such topics as intellectual property, social networking (Wikis, blogs, etc.), and technologies – what’s working and what’s not.

The day’s focus will finally close on taking a look at the future – what’s on the horizon and how will the cyber-infrastructure shape the advancement of science and scholarly communication.

EXPERTISE
Invited and confirmed speakers have been chosen for their expertise in the subject matter to be addressed. As the agenda firms up, it will be made available online along with an opportunity to register – to hold your seat for this thoughtful and informative workshop! Check back for a preliminary program to be posted by the end of August.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, CONTACT:

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NFAIS, founded in 1958, NFAIS is a premier membership organization of more than 50 of the world’s leading
producers of databases, information services, and information technology in the sciences, engineering, social sciences, business, and the arts and humanities.

**CENDI**, the Federal STI Managers Group, was formally created in 1985 when a Memorandum of Understanding was signed by four charter U.S. government agencies (Commerce, Energy, NASA, and Defense). From this small core of STI managers, CENDI has grown to its current membership of 13 major science agencies involved in the dissemination and long-term management of scientific and technical information.

**FLICC**, the Federal Library and Information Center Committee, has the mission to foster excellence in federal library and information services through interagency cooperation and to provide guidance and direction for the Federal Library and Information Network (FEDLINK).

**MEDICAL INDEXING CLASSES**

MSA members who are or want to be involved in medical indexing may be interested in registering for one or both of these free courses at the National Library of Medicine in Bethesda MD. Registration is available through the National Network of Libraries of Medicine, National Training Center and Clearing House. If you are also a member of the Medical Library Association, each of the classes below is eligible for 7.5 MLA continuing education credits.

**PubMed® – Bethesda MD, 11/17/2008 – 8:30-5:00**
A full-day class is designed to teach the use of PubMed, including MEDLINE citations and including an overview of Medical Subject Headings (MeSH®) and its importance as a tool to both searchers and indexers.

**UMLS® Basics – Bethesda MD, 12/05/2008 – 8:30-5:00**
Only offered at the NLM, Bethesda MD. Introduction to NLM’s Unified Medical Language System® (UMLS): its use and its three main components, or knowledge sources: the Metathesaurus, the Semantic Network, and the SPECIALIST Lexicon – what these are and how these and related tools are used in a variety of biomedical applications and research. Provides a broad overview of the 100-plus source vocabularies contained in the Metathesaurus. Criteria for assessing the usefulness of specific controlled vocabularies for clinical, research, and educational purposes are discussed. The online UMLS Knowledge Source Server (UMLSKS) is used to access UMLS® data throughout the class. Hands-on exercises allow students to practice basic and advanced searching skills. Some experience is provided with software called MetamorphoSys and how it can be applied to produce customized local versions of the Metathesaurus useful for particular applications. Intended for medical information specialists interested in medical informatics and desirous of an introduction to the UMLS® and an understanding of issues and practical considerations involved in selecting and using appropriate controlled vocabularies for a range of biomedical applications.

These and other classes are available on other dates, as well. Other MSA members will be attending one or more of these classes and will hope to see you there!

For ASI members in other regions, please check, [http://nnlm.gov/ntcc/classes/schedule.html](http://nnlm.gov/ntcc/classes/schedule.html), for the availability of classes near you.

**CALL FOR PAPERS. CUA LIBRARY & INFORMATION**

Catholic University of America in Washington DC is sponsoring a symposium on scholarship and practice in library and information science. The symposium will be held from 10am - 3pm on January 30, 2009 in the Information Commons of Marist Hall on the CU campus.

MSA indexers, taxonomists and other vocabulary wranglers will find this call for papers – and the comfortable formats being used – of interest for development of our individual, professional careers. Should you decide to submit a proposal, need assistance thinking through a proposal, or have a proposal accepted, please let MSA know so we may support your effort!

“Scope: “Bridging the Spectrum: A Symposium on Scholarship and Practice in Library and Information Science” offers a knowledge-sharing forum and meeting place for practitioners, students, and faculty in library and information sciences and services. Presentations on innovative practices, projects, and research activities are
encouraged. Presentations may originate from any type of library, archive, or information services activity, and may encompass any aspect of library and information professional work. Our aim is to host a diverse set of presentations and to foster unexpected connections across the spectrum of the information professions."

**Presentation formats:** The Symposium will include two types of sessions: briefings and posters. Other proposed formats will be considered. Briefing sessions are fifteen-minute descriptions of an innovative practice, project, or research activity. Morning and afternoon briefing sessions will be scheduled. Posters will be exhibits describing a practice, project, or research activity. Poster sessions will be available for viewing throughout the day. One poster session will be scheduled during which presenters will be available to discuss their work with attendees.

Proposals from practitioners, students and researchers are encouraged and may be submitted using the [symposium proposal](#) webform.

Please direct questions to the [program committee](#).

### COMING EVENTS
For website addresses cited below and as required by your browser, add [http://www.](http://www.)

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Name</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>October 2008</td>
<td><strong>NATIONAL BOOK MONTH</strong></td>
<td>nationalbook.org</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 15 - 30</td>
<td><strong>NOVELLO Festival of Reading</strong></td>
<td>novellofestival.net</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 19 - 25</td>
<td><strong>National Friends of Libraries Week</strong></td>
<td>folusa.org</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 24-29</td>
<td><strong>ASIS&amp;T Annual Meeting</strong></td>
<td>asis.org</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 25</td>
<td><strong>Festival of Reading</strong></td>
<td>festivalofreading.com</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 25</td>
<td><strong>Georgia Literary Festival</strong></td>
<td>georgialiteraryfestival.org</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 1</td>
<td><strong>NATIONAL FAMILY LITERACY DAY</strong></td>
<td>famlit.org/Resources/NFLD.cfm</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 1</td>
<td><strong>Multicultural Children's Book Festival</strong></td>
<td>keene.edu/ctf/festival.cfm</td>
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<td>November 1</td>
<td><strong>Delaware Book Festival</strong></td>
<td>debookfestival.lib.de.us</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 1</td>
<td><strong>Children's Literature Festival</strong></td>
<td>keene.edu/ctf/festival.cfm</td>
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<td>November 1 - 2</td>
<td><strong>Texas Book Festival</strong></td>
<td>texasbookfestival.org</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 9 -10</td>
<td><strong>Great Smoky Mountain Book Fair</strong></td>
<td><a href="http://www.gsmbookfair.org">www.gsmbookfair.org</a></td>
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<td>November 11</td>
<td><strong>NATIONAL YOUNG READERS DAY</strong></td>
<td>bookitprogram.com/teachers/nyrd.asp</td>
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<td>November 13 - 18</td>
<td><strong>Puerto Rico International Book Fair</strong></td>
<td>filpuertorico.org/convocatoria.html</td>
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<td>November 14 - 16</td>
<td><strong>Miami Book Fair International</strong></td>
<td>miamibookfair.com</td>
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<td>November 21 - 22</td>
<td><strong>Vero Beach FL</strong></td>
<td>vero beach book fest.com</td>
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<td>November 22 - December 22</td>
<td><strong>JEWISH BOOK MONTH</strong></td>
<td>jewishbookcouncil.org</td>
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<td>November 29 - December 7</td>
<td><strong>Guadalajara International Book Fair</strong></td>
<td>fil.com.mx</td>
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<td>November 22 - December 22</td>
<td><strong>Indie &amp; Small Press Book Fair</strong></td>
<td>nycip.org</td>
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