

St. Louis Medical Librarians Annual Awards Luncheon
Friday, April 29, 2005
Bernard Becker Medical Library – King Center

St. Louis Medical Librarians celebrated the Annual Awards Luncheon on April 29 at the King Center in Becker Medical Library at Washington University School of Medicine.

The program began with an informative and interesting lecture by Lilla Vekerdy, Rare Books Librarian at Becker Medical Library. Lilla discussed rare medical books from the fifteenth to eighteenth centuries. She explained the art and craft of selected books, and also the development of medical science at the particular period the book represented. After her prepared lecture, all in attendance were invited to view selected books that were brought for the occasion from the Becker archives. Many outstanding books were on display.

After the book viewing, the Awards portion was held, under the direction of Awards and Recognition Committee chair Clara McLeod and committee member Christina Sullivan. Membership Awards were presented first. They recognize members who have participated in and maintained uninterrupted membership in SLML. The award is presented in five year intervals of continuous membership. The Awards Luncheon is dedicated to members celebrating 25 years of membership. This year there were three 25 year members and one 35 year member:

35 years – Barbara Halbrook

25 years – Mary Johnson, Bridget Kowalczyk, and Ed Walter

15 years – Kathy Alsup, Anna Beth Crabtree, and Holly Hubenschmidt

10 years – Karen Wawrzyniak

5 years – Ellen Dickman, Ellen Elicieri, Patrick Hendershot, Maureen Jordan, Mary Krieger, Paul Schoening, and Helen Shaw

Also recognized were retirees Bernie Ferrell, Sue Schoening, and Monica Sheih.

Awards were then given to all committees who have served SLML this year.

Archives: Co-chairs Philip Skroska and Martha Riley

Communications: Chair Russ Monika and members Liz Delfert, Patricia Leembruggen, Ruth Lewis, and John Chesmelewski

Continuing Education and Programs: Chair Erin Ferguson, Nancy Bennett, Kim Lipsey, Carol Murray, Ed Walter, and Lili Wang

Governance: Chair Cheryle Cann, Mary Johnson, Ruth Lewis, Barbara Halbrook, and Kim Lipsey

Membership: Chair Georgiana Grant

Nominating: Chair Kim Lipsey, Neville Pendergast, Liz Delfert

Recognition and Awards: Chair Clara McLeod, Christina Sullivan, and Barbara Mathieu

SLML's highest awards were presented last. They are the Outstanding Service Award And Leadership Award.

The Outstanding Service Award recognizes a St. Louis Medical Librarians member for demonstrated service in organizational offices, committee work, participation in special projects, and service on special events (e.g. locally developed workshops and joint meetings).

This year's Outstanding Service Award recipient is Erin Ferguson, reference librarian at the Bernard Becker Medical Library. Erin assumed the chair of the Continuing Education and Programs Committee last July. She had served on the committee prior to becoming chair. She has been instrumental in reinvigorating the committee as both a member and chair. The committee is once again offering a variety of relevant continuing education programs for SLML members, allowing the organization to fulfill its mission of promoting excellence in the professional achievement and leadership of its members by offering the appropriate educational and learning opportunities. She and her committee members organized a wonderful holiday party at the Whittemore House and were instrumental in organizing today's Awards Luncheon and the upcoming annual business meeting. Erin is an outstanding example of the ideal SLML member—one who is involved and goes the extra mile to guarantee excellence in all that she undertakes. We are fortunate to have her as a member, colleague and friend.

The Leadership Award is SLML's highest honor. It is presented to members who have exhibited vision, and who have inspired and directed the membership to accomplish organizational goals and objectives. The 2004-2005 Leadership Award went to Carol Murray. Carol joined SLML over twenty years ago while director of the Washington University Dental School Library. Following the closing of the Dental School, Carol joined the Information Services staff of the Medical School Library as a reference librarian. She was later promoted to Assistant Director of the Reference Department. Carol embraced the opportunity to hone her skills in the application of cutting edge information technology and enrich her expertise in the field of medical librarianship.

As a veteran member of SLML she actively participated in many different capacities and willingly shared her knowledge with fellow members. She has both chaired and served as a member on several committees. She has also mentored new members to the organization in a highly professional manner and with special kindness. Kindness is truly

Carol's trademark. She has the ability to guide and lead in an easygoing manner that is collegial and non-directive.

During her tenure as chair of the Continuing Education & Programs Committee she focused on offering a variety of programs to benefit the professional growth SLML members. This renewed activity followed a dormant period for the committee. She continues to participate by lending her expertise to the organization as a member of the Continuing Education & Programs Committee.

After the presentations of the awards, the official program was adjourned and a catered lunch was enjoyed by all.