

Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) Report  
*This report is informational only and requires no Board action.*  
Submitted by Rhona Kelley, RAC Representative  
July 26, 2011

The RAC met on December 7, 2010 at the UIC Student Center West, Chicago, IL.

GMR Update – Ruth Holst

Ruth reviewed the goals of the current year (which is the last year of the current NLM contract) which included:

- Promote emergency disaster planning
- Facilitate group licensing
- Plan for print retention and preservation
- Assist physicians with electronic health record implementation

In the new contract by NLM, the new goals would include:

- Translational research and librarian involvement
- Support for researchers in managing data sets that result in scientific research
- “Target outreach” – funding provided for specific scenarios
- “Community preparedness” – awards to promote librarian involvement
- Print preservation program for the region
- Professional development for hospital librarians

An open discussion was held about possible new directions for the GMR as well as enhancements to existing GMR programs. Potential ideas for the 2011-2016 contract included:

- Focusing on the goals of Healthy People 2020
- Library Schools as collaborators
- Incorporate library school students into GMR projects such as through internships
- Library School discussion groups
- Work with AHECs to address the needs of rural hospitals
- Conduct a ROI study on the value of library services for patient care
- Develop tools for librarians to assess the value of library and information services such as:
  - Calculators
  - Train librarians on project management
  - How librarians contribute to the bottom line
- Symposium on e-science
- Offer a class to help librarians raise awareness of what the librarian brings to the health care team; how to partner with health professionals

RAC Working Groups include:

Library Advocacy Group: launched a very successful “Time=Money” campaign during last National Librarians Month. Materials are available at

<http://www.nlm.gov/gmr/member/advocacy>

Communications – advises the GMR on current and new communication tools, and suggests enhancements.

Consumer Health – some Go-Local projects still going – Michigan State Library is supporting and Indiana University may begin supporting theirs.

E-Licensing

Emergency Preparedness - many accomplishments during the last two years. Check the web page of tips, checklists, posters and brochures.

Print Preservation – During year 5, data was gathered from Resource Library Directors and others, and SERHOLD records were analyzed to help develop strategies for developing a print retention program for the region.

Public Health – A survey is being developed to identify the training needs of public health workers.

Electronic Health Record – An open discussion was led by Maxine Rockoff, one of the speakers from the EHR & Librarians Symposium held on December 6, 2010, about activities Network members and/or the GMR could engage in to promote the implementation and meaningful use of electronic health records (EHR) and personal health records (PHR). Some suggestions included:

- Educate the public about PHRs and patient portals.
- Librarians’ roles as trainers.
- Create tutorials for health professionals and the public including privacy and security issues. Tailor to specific groups.
- Teach immigrants about these issues through teens and church groups.
- GMR could help Network members with selection of patient information resources to connect to EHRs.
- GMR should partner with public health departments and public libraries to raise awareness.