



MLA News Scope Statement

The *MLA News* delivers online news, opinions, and advice to the 3,100 health sciences librarian members of the Medical Library Association (MLA), with select articles available to the public. It complements MLA's scholarly publication, the *Journal of the Medical Library Association (JMLA)*, with a journalistic approach to foster excellence in the professional practice and leadership of health sciences library and information professionals in order to enhance the quality of health care, education, and research throughout the world.

Content Scope and Delivery

Under the leadership of its editor and editorial team, the *MLA News* draws content from MLA communities (sections, special interest groups, and chapters), MLA committees and leaders, expert contributors at large, and MLA headquarters.

Areas of content cover the scope of professional competencies (information services, information management, instruction and instructional design, leadership and management, evidence-based practice and research, health information professionalism), MLA association life (communities, member spotlights, achievements, events, and so on), advocacy for the profession, public policy, and global initiatives.

MLA News coverage reflects the increasingly interdisciplinary nature of health information, recognizing the wide-ranging contributions to the development of methods, tools, and evaluation strategies that are relevant to the field.

In 2017, MLA transitioned to 100% electronic delivery, using a blog that improved the reader's online experience. This transition allows an editorial strategy that targets a subset of *MLA News* content for access and display to specific member and nonmember audiences: for example, editors can identify content of particular interest to health care consumers, public officials, hospital administrators, public librarians, medical practitioners, or international stakeholders.

In 2018, MLA will continue to improve the reader experience by merging *MLA-FOCUS* into the *MLA News*, launching a new email template aligned with the MLANET website experience, and integrating *MLA News* filtered article feeds into specific web portals and communities of practice currently in the planning stages.

The 2018 editorial plan includes introducing an OpEd category to foster an open dialog on issues that are relevant to the profession, with opinion pieces from a diverse and inclusive group of member and nonmember contributors (see the [Scholarly Kitchen](#) as an example).

Information about *MLA News* editorial organization and data follow.

Editorial Organization

The *MLA News* is led by an MLA member appointed by the MLA Board of Directors for a three-year term. The editor is accountable to the board, works closely with MLA's executive director and director of marketing and communications, and has editorial independence within the scope and budget of the publication.

The editor appoints a team of [column editors](#) (members and staff) who are responsible for soliciting, curating, or writing articles.

MLA provides staff resources for editorial management and production, under the leadership of the director of marketing and communications.

MLA News Data

- Number of articles published: Approximately 8 articles per release (15th and 30th)
- Time from article writing to publishing: Approximately 1 week (varies)
- Frequency of table of contents: Twice per month
- Number of visits to site blogs:

