

## **MLA 2003 MEMBERSHIP SURVEY RESULTS**

The latest MLA membership survey was conducted from December 30, 2002, through February 18, 2003. The survey was available online via MLANET or as a downloadable PDF file that could be faxed to MLA headquarters.

Thanks go to the many committee chairs, section and chapter council chairs, and email list moderators who widely broadcast the availability of the survey.

Answers to this survey are confidential and are only reported in aggregate; we cannot identify members personally from the information collected on this survey. We received 689 nonduplicate usable responses to the survey, about 15% of MLA's membership. Comments received in a number of the data fields are not presented here, but will be available later as an appendix.

In the tables below, "n" equals "number of responses" for each question (not for the total survey). For each answer to a question, we report the number of responses followed by the percentage, calculated as number of responses for that answer divided by the total number of responses to that question. Percentages have been rounded to equal 100%.

This document only shows initial results of the survey, and does not make comparisons with earlier versions of the survey, or with other MLA-collected data. Further information will be available this summer. For more information or answers to technical questions about the survey results, contact Kate Corcoran, [corcoran@mlahq.org](mailto:corcoran@mlahq.org), 312.419.9094 x12.

## Please tell us about yourself.

1. How many years have you been in the library/information field?  
(n=684)

Number of years	n / %
3 years or less	38 / 5.6
10 to 20 years	172 / 25.1
4 to 10 years	114 / 16.7
20 years or more	360 / 52.6

2. Was your FIRST professional position in a medical library?  
(n=672)

yes [376 / 56%]                      no [296 / 44%]

3. If no, where was your first professional position? (n=291)

Position type	n / %
other type of library	197 / 67.7
other type of information service (e.g., information vendor)	11 / 3.8
academic position	49 / 16.8
other	34 / 11.7

4. How many years have you been employed as a *medical* librarian? (n=682)

Years employed	n / %
not employed as a medical librarian	34 / 5
not currently employed ( <i>skip to question 6</i> )	2 / .3
3 years or less	67 / 9.8
4 to 10 years	143 / 21
10 to 20 years	196 / 28.7
20 years or more	240 / 35.2

5. How many years have you been in your current position?  
(n=686)

Years in current position	n / %
3 years or less	233 / 34
4 to 10 years	200 / 29.2
10 to 20 years	177 / 25.8
20 years or more	76 / 11

6. What is your age group? (n=686)

Age range	n / %	Age range	n / %
20 to 29	24 / 3.5	50 to 59	311 / 45.3
30 to 39	96 / 14	60 to 69	64 / 9.3
40 to 49	183 / 26.7	70 or older	8 / 1.2

7. What is your race/ethnic origin? (n=685)

Ethnic group	n / %
Asian / Pacific Islander	18 / 2.6
Black / African-American	19 / 2.8
Hispanic / Latino	11 / 1.6
North American Indian/Alaska Native	1 / .1
White	602 / 87.9
Multiracial or Other	7 / 1
Do not wish to provide	27 / 3.9

8. What are the primary characteristics of your current position, using the following categories? (*Please check all that apply.*) [n=680]

Characteristics	n
administration	339 / 49.9
cataloging	141 / 20.7
circuit librarian	21 / 3.1
circulation/access services	151 / 22.2
collection development/acquisitions	275 / 40.4
education/faculty	228 / 33.5
ILL/document delivery	162 / 23.8
media/AV services	48 / 7.1
one person library / multiple responsibilities	180 / 26.5
outreach	153 / 22.5
personnel	124 / 18.2
preservation	38 / 5.6
reference/information services	391 / 57.5
serials	145 / 21.3
systems/microcomputers	104 / 15.3
technical services	96 / 14.1
other	67 / 9.8

9. Describe your role in making purchasing decisions (including journal, monograph, furniture, and computer hardware and software purchases) for your library (*please check ONLY one*): (n=684)

Purchasing role	n / %
you approve all purchases	228 / 33.3
you approve some purchases	176 / 25.7
you recommend purchases	236 / 34.5
you have no role in purchasing decisions	44 / 6.5

10. Your highest-earned degree is (*please check ONLY one*): (n=688)

Degrees	n / %
Ph.D. (any field)	21 / 3.0
master's degree in library/information science	611 / 88.8
master's degree in another field	18 / 2.6
currently working on master's degree	10 / 1.5
bachelor's degree	20 / 2.9
associate's degree	4 / .6
none	4 / .6

11. Your bachelor's degree major was in (*check any that apply*):

Degree	n / %	Degree	n / %
biological sciences	81	foreign language	54
biomedical sciences	16	humanities	71
business/ commerce/ economics	10	law	1
earth sciences	5	life sciences	8
education	78	philosophy or religion	14
engineering	3	physical sciences	18
English or journalism	153	social sciences	138
fine/applied arts	25	other	73

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12. If you are currently a member of the Academy of Health Information Professionals, at what level? (n=657)

Academy status	n / %	Academy	n / %
not an academy member	355 / 54	member	39 / 5.9
emeritus member	1 / .2	provisional	14 / 2.1
distinguished member	171 / 26.1	senior member	77 / 11.7

13. Did you use the academy mentor program when you joined the Academy? (n=333)

yes (36 / 10.8%) no (297 / 89.2%)

14. Have you had a mentor at any stage of your career? (n=672)

yes (281 / 41.8%) no (391 / 58.2%)

15. Are you interested in being a mentor to another health information professional or student? (n=671)

yes (235 / 35%) no (159 / 23.7%) don't know (277 / 41.3%)

16. As of January 1, 2002, what was your annual salary (range)?  
(International members, please adjust to U.S. dollars.)

Salary range	n / %	Salary range	n / %
\$0 to \$24,999	6 / 3.8	\$50,000 to \$59,999	158 / 23.2
\$25,000 to \$29,999	17 / 2.5	\$60,000 to \$69,999	85 / 12.4
\$30,000 to \$39,999	127 / 18.6	\$70,000 to \$79,999	43 / 6.3
\$40,000 to \$49,999	184 / 27	\$80,000 or above	42 / 6.2

## Please tell us about your institution.

17. Select the type of institution in which you work (please check ONLY one): (n=673)

Institution Type	n / %
academic medical center/teaching facility	231 / 34.3
AHEC or unaffiliated medical library	3 / .4
college/university (other than SLIS)	55 / 8.2
corporation or business (but not library vendor)	## / %*
government/military/Department of Veterans Affairs	44 / 6.5
medical school	32 / 4.8
hospital, nonteaching	93 / 13.8
hospital, teaching	141 / 21
not-for-profit association or society	18 / 2.7
public library	7 / 1
school of library and information science (SLIS)	6 / .9
vendor of library materials/products	2 / .3
veterinary school/animal institute	4 / .6
other	37 / 5.5

\* due to a programming error, a radio button was not available for this option. Numbers are based on "other" responses; "other" response numbers have been adjusted to remove these corporate answers.

18. Is your institution part of a larger health care system? (n=646)

yes (300 / 46.4%) no (346 / 53.6%)

If yes, does your library serve more than one institution in that system? (n=326)

yes (200 / 61.3%) no (118 / 36.2%) don't know (8 / 2.5%)

19. Does your library maintain resources or special collections in any of the following subject areas? (Please check all that apply.) (n=622)  
Total percentage will exceed 100% because of multiple answers.

Collection	n / %	Collection	n / %
allied health (e.g., pharmacy)	305 / 49	library and information science	138 / 22.2
cancer	334 / 53.7	nursing	386 / 62.1
chiropractic	32 / 5.1	osteopathy	57 / 9.2
consumer health	285 / 45.8	pharmacy	254 / 40.8
dentistry	157 / 25.2	psychiatric/ mental health	298 / 47.9
family practice	292 / 46.9	public health/ health administration	240 / 38.6
geriatrics/gerontology/aging	287 / 46.1	veterinary medicine	56 / 9
history of health sciences	213 / 34.2	vision sciences	158 / 25.4
hospital management/economics	239 / 38.4	don't know/not applicable	83 / 13.3

20. Does your library dedicate any financial or staff resources to promoting the library and its services to client populations? (n=673)

yes (433 / 64.3%) no (191 / 28.4%) don't know (49 / 7.3%)

21. Did accreditation representatives tour your library or speak to a librarian during their most recent accreditation visit to your institution? (n=673)

Accreditation	n / %	Accreditation	n / %
yes	360 / 53.5	not applicable	80 / 11.9
no	115 / 17.1	don't know	118 / 17.5

## Please tell us about your MLA membership.

22. How many years have you been an MLA member? (n=682)

Years	n / %	Years	n / %
3 years or less	113 / 16.6	10 to 20 years	213 / 31.2
4 to 10 years	180 / 26.4	20 years or more	176 / 25.8

23. What type of MLA membership do you currently hold? (Please choose ONE answer only.) (n=680)

Membership Type	n / %	Membership Type	n / %
regular (inc. life)	417 / 61.4	emeritus	4 / .6
regular, lower dues	73 / 10.7	institutional AND individual	58 / 8.5
introductory	28 / 4.1	institutional only	94 / 13.8
student	6 / .9		

24. Does your institution pay for your individual membership? (n=604)

yes (202 / 33.4%) no (402 / 66.6%)

25. How many MLA annual meetings have you attended in the last five years? (n=685)

#	n / %	#	n / %	#	n / %
none	167 / 24.3	2	99 / 14.5	4	76 / 11.1
1	130 / 19	3	69 / 10.1	5	144 / 21

26. Do you plan to attend MLA '03 in San Diego, California? (n=686)

yes (340 / 49.6%)      no (261 / 38%)      not sure (85 / 12.4%)

If you are not planning to attend, why not? (n=314; total percentage will exceed 100% due to multiple answers.)

Reasons for not attending	n / %
costs	233 / 74.2
time of year	43 / 13.7
location	95 / 30.3
MLA's annual meeting usually doesn't offer enough relevant programming to justify your attendance	40 / 12.7
other (87 comments)	71 / 22.6

27. Do you belong to an MLA section? (n=683)

Section Membership	n / %
yes, one section	286 / 41.9
yes, more than one section	286 / 41.9
no	111 / 16.2

28. Do you belong to an MLA chapter? (n=629)

yes (531 / 84.4%)      no (98 / 15.6%)

If yes, which chapter? (n=586)

Chapter	n / %	Chapter	n / %
Hawaii-Pacific	1 / .2	NCNMLG	18 / 3.1
MLGSCA	54 / 9.2	Pacific Northwest	21 / 3.6
Mid-Atlantic	63 / 10.7	Philadelphia	25 / 4.3
Midcontinental	28 / 4.8	Pittsburgh	17 / 2.9
Midwest	121 / 20.7	South Central	57 / 9.7
NY/NJ	60 / 10.2	Southern	42 / 7.2
NAHSL	48 / 8.2	UNYOC	31 / 5.3

29. Have you attended or are you planning to attend an MLA chapter meeting in fall 2002 or spring 2003? (n=687)

yes (359 / 52.3%)      no (199 / 29%)      don't know (129 / 18.8)

30. Why did you originally join MLA? (n=686; total percentage will exceed 100% due to multiple answers.)

Reasons	n / %
expectations at my institution	215 / 31.3
another MLA member encouraged me to join	137 / 20
to join an MLA section	70 / 10.2
to attend meetings and CE at discounted prices	231 / 33.7
for discounts on MLA products and publications	14 / 2
for MLA publications, like the <i>Journal</i> and <i>MLA News</i>	236 / 34.4
access to specific member benefits	73 / 10.6
to volunteer within my profession	131 / 19.1
to have more opportunities to network and share information with my colleagues	516 / 75.2
for representation with other associations and government agencies	47 / 6.9
other (89 comments)	75 / 10.9

## Please tell us about other professional activities.

31. Are you or your library currently a member of any other NATIONAL library/professional associations? (n= 667; total percentage will exceed 100% due to multiple answers.)

Other association memberships	n / %
no	261 / 39.1
don't know	40 / 6.1
American Library Association (ALA)	168 / 25.2
American Medical Informatics Association (AMIA)	68 / 10.2
American Society for Information Science & Technology (ASIS&T)	33 / 4.9
Association of Academic Health Sciences Libraries (AAHSL)	98 / 14.7
Association of Research Libraries (ARL)	61 / 9.1
Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL)	83 / 12.4
Canadian Health Libraries Association (CHLA)	17 / 2.5
Canadian Library Association (CLA)	6 / .9
Special Libraries Association (SLA)	132 / 19.8
other NATIONAL association(s) (73 comments; include some associations that are not national)	56 / 8.4

32. Do you or your institution plan to maintain all of these NATIONAL professional association memberships in 2003? (n=446)

yes (317 / 71.1%)      no (45 / 10.1%)      don't know (84 / 18.8%)

33. During the past year, did you participate in any of the following continuing education (CE) activities? (n=671; total percentage will exceed 100% due to multiple answers.)

CE activities	n / %
CE course(s) sponsored by an MLA chapter	311 / 46.3
course(s) or seminar(s) sponsored by a non-MLA organization	346 / 51.6
formal distance learning program	43 / 6.4
member-organized journal club	59 / 8.8
MLA annual meeting course(s) or symposia	146 / 21.8
MLA specialization program (e.g. consumer health)	34 / 5.1
MLA-sponsored teleconference	317 / 47.2
teleconference sponsored by another organization	150 / 22.4
Web-based course	77 / 11.5
none of the above	78 / 11.6

34. Compared to five years ago, how much time do you contribute to your volunteer activities? (n=675)

Volunteer time	n / %
same amount	214 / 31.7
more time	201 / 29.8
somewhat less time	135 / 20
much less time	85 / 12.6
don't know	40 / 5.9

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35. How important to you are the following MLA benefits for continuing your MLA membership?	n	Rank	Did not answer	Extremely important	Very important	Moderately important	Slightly important	Not important at all	Don't know / no opinion
A. addressing pressing issues in health information management/librarianship	682	3	7	302 / 44.3	263 / 38.6	88 / 12.9	18 / 2.6	3 / .4	8 / 1.2
B. advocating the value and role of the library and librarian with accrediting bodies	684	2	5	390 / 57	183 / 26.7	75 / 11	19 / 2.8	10 / 1.5	7 / 1
C. Benchmarking Network information on MLANET	678	18	11	97 / 14.3	180 / 26.5	210 / 31	90 / 13.3	63 / 9.3	38 / 5.6
D. career resources on MLANET and for career fairs	677	25	12	98 / 14.5	166 / 24.5	197 / 29.1	109 / 16.1	91 / 13.4	16 / 2.4
E. consumer health resources (e.g., Medspeak brochure, on MLANET)	678	26	11	65 / 9.6	170 / 25.1	220 / 32.4	141 / 20.8	61 / 9	21 / 3.1
F. discounts for nonmember staff to attend annual meetings	679	31	10	46 / 6.8	56 / 8.2	124 / 18.3	133 / 19.6	249 / 36.7	71 /
G. discounts on employment and placement services	677	29	12	35 / 5.2	94 / 13.9	159 / 23.5	145 / 21.4	195 / 28.8	49 / 7.2
H. governmental relations	674	21	15	118 / 17.5	185 / 27.4	198 / 29.4	95 / 14.1	58 / 8.6	20 / 3
I. liaison with NLM and other allied organizations	681	7	8	247 / 36.3	236 / 34.7	128 / 18.8	39 / 5.7	22 / 3.2	9 / 1.3
J. marketing tools (e.g. <i>Communications Toolkit</i> )	676	24	13	72 / 10.7	179 / 36.5	238 / 35.2	109 / 16.1	57 / 8.4	21 / 3.1
K. sponsorship of MEDLIB-L list	671	20	18	174 / 25.9	185 / 27.6	138 / 20.6	85 / 12.7	62 / 9.2	27 / 4
L. MLA Exchange	664	30	25	42 / 6.3	100 / 15.1	125 / 18.8	124 / 18.7	155 / 23.3	118/17.8
M. monitoring and alerts about copyright, intellectual property, fair use, electronic licensing, and other issues	662	6	27	265 / 40	233 / 35.2	115 / 17.4	37 / 5.6	12 / 1.8	0
N. providing MLA salary survey data to assist in comparing salary data with like institutions	679	9	10	235 / 34.6	213 / 31.4	130 / 19.1	55 / 8.1	37 / 5.5	9 / 1.3
O. setting professional and library standards	680	1	9	322 / 47.4	246 / 36.2	76 / 11.2	25 / 3.7	5 / .7	6 / .8
P. 15%-30% discounts on meetings, CE courses, publications	672	14	17	163 / 24.3	232 / 34.5	175 / 26	73 / 10.9	20 / 3	9 / 1.3
Q. advocacy of the value and role of the librarian with National Medical Librarians Month and other public relations activities	675	13	14	188 / 27.9	240 / 35.6	135 / 20	74 / 11	30 / 4.4	8 / 1.1
R. CE courses at the annual meeting	677	12	12	213 / 31.5	214 / 31.6	137 / 20.2	64 / 9.4	29 / 4.3	20 / 3
S. Educational Clearinghouse on MLANET	668	27	21	67 / 10	176 / 26.3	186 / 27.8	117 / 17.6	51 / 7.6	71 / 10.6
T. employment and placement services in the <i>MLA News</i> , on MLANET, and at the annual meeting	672	23	17	113 / 16.8	188 / 28	159 / 23.7	109 / 16.2	76 / 11.3	27 / 4
U. <i>Journal of the Medical Library Association</i> (in print and online via PubMed Central)	672	4	17	284 / 42.3	237 / 35.2	111 / 16.5	34 / 5.1	4 / .6	2 / .3
V. medical librarian credentialing ( e.g., Academy of Health Information Professionals, consumer health info. specialization)	676	19	13	175 / 25.9	168 / 24.9	153 / 22.6	85 / 12.6	81 / 12	14 / 2
W. MLA-FOCUS email announcements	673	16	16	122 / 18.1	225 / 33.4	203 / 30.2	86 / 12.8	29 / 4.3	8 / 1.2
X. <i>MLA News</i> , in print and full-text on MLANET	670	8	19	195 / 29.2	250 / 37.3	163 / 24.3	52 / 7.8	5 / .7	5 / .7
Y. online membership directory	673	17	16	152 / 22.6	197 / 29.3	192 / 28.6	77 / 11.4	40 / 5.9	15 / 2.2
Z. printed leadership <i>Directory</i>	666	28	23	69 / 10.4	143 / 21.5	187 / 28.1	136 / 20.4	86 / 12.9	45 / 6.7
AA. provision of professional networking opportunities	677	5	12	297 / 43.9	217 / 32.1	108 / 16	38 / 5.6	7 / 1	10 / 1.4
BB. recognition of members' professional accomplishments	677	15	12	159 / 23.5	241 / 35.6	166 / 24.5	75 / 11.1	26 / 3.8	10 / 1.5
CC. section meetings and programs	675	10	14	183 / 27.1	258 / 38.2	155 / 22.9	53 / 7.9	12 / 1.8	14 / 2.1
DD. state-of-the-art programs and practical research (e.g., poster sessions) at annual meetings	673	11	16	210 / 31.2	247 / 36.7	125 / 18.6	46 / 6.8	20 / 3	25 / 3.7
EE. volunteer leadership opportunities	669	22	20	101 / 15.1	185 / 27.6	214 / 32	97 / 14.5	44 / 6.6	28 / 4.2

In your opinion...	n	Did not answer	Excellent	Very good	Average	Fair	Poor	Don't know / no opinion
36. How well OVERALL does MLA serve your needs?	682	7	92 / 13.5	338 / 49.6	175 / 25.7	54 / 7.9	12 / 1.7	11 / 1.6
37. Compared to other NATIONAL professional associations, how well do you think MLA serves the needs of medical librarians and medical libraries?	681	8	149 / 21.9	260 / 38.2	116 / 17	48 / 7	16 / 2.4	92 / 13.5

38. For the following statements about MLA and association involvement, please indicate your level of agreement or disagreement:	n	Did not answer	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know / no opinion
When I contact MLA headquarters, I receive friendly and courteous service.	680	9	189 / 27.8	316 / 46.5	23 / 3.4	5 / .7	147 / 21.6
When I contact MLA headquarters, I receive satisfactory answers to my questions and get the help I need.	677	12	166 / 24.5	312 / 46.1	46 / 6.8	7 / 1	146 / 21.6
MLA directs its resources to programs and services critical to me.	674	15	93 / 13.8	415 / 61.6	72 / 10.7	9 / 1.3	85 / 12.6
MLA leaders address the critical issues facing our profession.	675	14	148 / 21.9	416 / 61.6	62 / 9.2	9 / 1.3	40 / 6
My MLA membership has helped my professional development and career advancement.	678	11	221 / 32.6	316 / 46.6	73 / 10.8	20 / 2.9	48 / 7.1
MLA leaders encourage member involvement in planning and policymaking.	673	16	133 / 19.8	384 / 57	59 / 8.8	10 / 1.5	87 / 12.9
MLA offers me the opportunity to be involved in committees or as an officer at the national, section, or chapter level.	671	18	221 / 32.9	361 / 53.8	26 / 3.9	12 / 1.8	51 / 7.6
MLA communicates decisions and policy or planning issues in a timely and thorough manner.	666	23	130 / 19.5	412 / 61.9	53 / 8	4 / .6	67 / 10
MLA offers CE courses on the topics I need, at the level I need.	675	14	110 / 16.3	423 / 62.7	83 / 12.3	11 / 1.6	48 / 7.1
All members have equal access to leadership roles in MLA.	675	14	58 / 8.6	276 / 40.9	168 / 24.9	40 / 5.9	133 / 19.7
MLA includes people from many backgrounds within the field.	673	16	98 / 14.6	371 / 55.1	72 / 10.7	10 / 1.5	122 / 18.1
People from different racial, ethnic, or religious backgrounds feel welcome in MLA.	671	18	76 / 11.3	265 / 39.5	37 / 5.5	7 / 1.1	286 / 42.6
People from different racial, ethnic, or religious backgrounds feel welcome in MLA. (identified non-white respondents only)	52	4	3 / 5.8	28 / 53.8	7 / 13.5	3 / 5.8	11 / 21.1
I recognize other MLA members quickly if I see them outside MLA events.	671	18	49 / 7.3	247 / 36.8	164 / 24.4	22 / 3.3	189 / 28.2
I work or collaborate with other members outside of association-sponsored events.	672	17	98 / 14.6	354 / 52.7	106 / 15.8	21 / 3.1	93 / 13.8
When I have a professional problem or question, it's easy to get help from other members.	674	15	150 / 22.3	382 / 56.7	36 / 5.3	6 / .9	100 / 14.8
It's important to me to be a member of MLA.	676	13	248 / 36.7	351 / 51.9	38 / 5.6	6 / .9	33 / 4.9
I am comfortable voicing my opinion to association colleagues (staff and members), even if it is different from theirs.	669	20	143 / 21.4	351 / 52.5	64 / 9.6	12 / 1.7	99 / 14.8

39. Please indicate your response to the following statements about personal computer and PDA access for you at home or in your workplace.	n	Did not answer	Yes	No
I have access to a personal computer with a high-speed (ISDN, Cable, DSL, T1, T3) Internet connection.	680	9	636 / 93.5	44 / 6.6
My computer is IBM or IBM compatible	678	11	654 / 96.5	24 / 3.5
My computer is an Apple / Mac	647	42	55 / 8.5	592 / 91.5
I use a personal digital assistant (PDA) to access, download, or store Web content	671	18	211 / 31.4	460 / 68.6
My institution or library provides services to employees that can be accessed via PDA (e.g., full-text journal subscriptions)	672	17	218 / 32.4	454 / 67.6
My preferred browser is Microsoft Internet Explorer 5.x or higher	671	18	521 / 77.6	150 / 22.4
My preferred browser is Netscape 4.x	626	63	100 / 16	526 / 84
My preferred browser is Netscape 6.x or higher, Mozilla, or Opera	617	72	121 / 19.6	496 / 80.4

40. How often do you visit MLANET, the association's Website?

Visit MLANET (n=683)	n / %
At least once a day	9 / 1.3
A few times per week	70 / 10.2
A few times per month	388 / 56.8
Rarely	206 / 30.2
Never	10 / 1.5

41. Have you ever accessed the members-only area of MLANET?  
(n=661)

Yes (570 / 86.2%)      No (91 / 13.8%)

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42. Please indicate your response to the following statements about MLANET and other MLA Internet services:	n	Did not answer	Yes	No	Don't know / no opinion
When I receive an MLA-FOCUS email, I read it and follow links that interest me.	677	12	602 / 88.9	41 / 6.1	34 / 5
I have used the members-only MLANET online membership directory to look up a colleague.	677	12	358 / 52.9	298 / 44	21 / 3.1
I have used the members-only MLANET online membership directory change my directory listing.	671	18	259 / 38.6	390 / 58.1	22 / 3.3
Vendor sponsorships and ads are a reasonable way to support MLANET services.	675	14	528 / 78.2	55 / 8.1	92 / 13.7
I have used an MLANET sponsorship banner ad or annual meeting sponsor link to visit a vendor site.	672	17	106 / 15.8	510 / 75.9	56 / 8.3
I "bookmark" or store MLANET pages in my "favorites" directory.	673	16	390 / 57.9	269 / 40	14 / 2.1
I have renewed my MLA membership online via MLANET.	674	15	120 / 17.8	535 / 79.4	19 / 2.8
I have downloaded Academy of Health Information Professional forms from MLANET.	676	13	394 / 58.3	266 / 39.3	16 / 2.4
MLANET has provided me with useful information I can use in my job.	674	15	517 / 76.7	99 / 14.7	58 / 8.6
I have accessed the <i>MLA News</i> on the members-only area of MLANET.	672	17	252 / 37.5	401 / 59.7	19 / 2.8
I prefer accessing the <i>MLA News</i> online to receiving it in print.	671	18	142 / 21.2	445 / 66.3	84 / 12.5
I have accessed <i>Journal of the Medical Library Association</i> articles online via PubMed Central.	671	18	250 / 37.3	413 / 61.5	8 / 1.2
I prefer accessing the <i>Journal of the Medical Library Association</i> online to receiving it in print.	667	22	87 / 13	522 / 78.3	58 / 8.7
I find the current MLANET members-only password system easy to use.	668	21	337 / 50.5	236 / 35.3	95 / 14.2
I would prefer to use a make-up-your-own-password system for the MLANET members-only area.	670	19	391 / 58.4	125 / 18.7	154 / 22.9
I have registered online for an MLA annual meeting.	674	15	199 / 29.5	460 / 68.2	150 / 22.3
I have checked my email while traveling using the members-only area of MLANET.	669	20	30 / 4.5	622 / 93	17 / 2.5
I have applied for an MLA committee position via MLANET.	667	22	95 / 14.2	558 / 83.7	14 / 2.1
I am subscribed to an MLA email discussion list (e.g., section, committee, task force list).	669	20	362 / 54.1	297 / 44.4	10 / 1.5
I subscribe to the MEDLIB-L email discussion list.	672	17	329 / 49	332 / 49.4	11 / 1.6

### Please tell us how MLA can serve you better.

43. What is your preferred way to receive information about what is happening in MLA and the profession? (Please check the ONE BEST communication method for you.) (n=670)

Communication method	n / % / rank	Communication method	n / % / rank
chapter newsletter	26 / 3.9 / 4	MLA-FOCUS, MEDLIB-L, and other email discussion lists	320 / 47.8 / 1
discussion with peers at my institution	5 / .7 / 7	section newsletter	21 / 3.1 / 5
<i>Journal of the Medical Library Association</i>	44 / 6.6 / 3	other	9 / 1.3 / 6
<i>MLA News</i>	193 / 28.8 / 2		

44. What are your preferred modes of learning? (Please select the top TWO of interest to you.) (n=661)

Learning method	n / %	Learning method	n / %
classroom instruction	512 / 77.5	self-study; reading a publication	258 / 39
formal distance-learning program	65 / 9.8	teleconference	169 / 25.6
journal club	50 / 7.6	Web-based course**	261 / 39.5
		other	7 / 1.1

\*\* data did not record properly; these are extrapolated figures based on 1322 assumed entries minus 1061 actual entries. Actual figures may be lower.

45. Please indicate which of the following MLANET enhancements might be of interest to you:	n	Did not answer	Rank	Very Interested	Somewhat interested	Neutral	Not very interested	Not interested at all	Don't know / no opinion
allow members to add content to MLANET to share with colleagues	665	24	6	98 / 14.7	240 / 36.1	214 / 32.2	51 / 7.7	24 / 3.6	38 / 5.7
annual meeting abstract database that links to presentations or handouts	666	23	1	390 / 58.6	209 / 31.4	42 / 6.3	5 / .7	3 / .4	17 / 2.6
print-friendly formatting for selected MLANET information pages	669	20	2	369 / 55.2	212 / 31.7	50 / 7.5	6 / .9	6 / .9	26 / 3.8
PDA-friendly formatting or applications for selected MLANET content	669	20	7	133 / 19.9	145 / 21.7	214 / 32	69 / 10.3	56 / 8.4	52 / 7.7
section memberships as part of a member's online directory listing	668	21	4	188 / 28.1	241 / 36.1	155 / 23.2	36 / 5.4	20 / 3	28 / 4.2
storage for my academy/professional development info. online	666	23	5	179 / 26.9	170 / 25.5	162 / 24.3	66 / 9.9	57 / 8.6	32 / 4.8
subject expertise database of MLA members	666	23	3	181 / 27.2	294 / 44.1	117 / 17.6	30 / 4.5	23 / 3.5	21 / 3.1
other 1	51	638		26 / 47.3	4 / 7.8				21 / 3.9
other 2	34	655		9 / 26.5		4 / 11.8			21 / 61.7

46. For each of the topic areas below, please indicate how you might like MLA to develop resources for you: <b>(preferred resource selection is highlighted as bold)</b>	n	Q47: # of times this topic chosen	Q 47 Rank	No interest in topic n / %	CE course, symposium or teleconference	MLANET resources	Print publication	PDA-accessible information or application
a) assistance for client populations with research	635	56	14	140 / 22	<b>229 / 36.1</b>	161 / 25.4	90 / 14.2	15 / 2.3
b) authentication (e.g., remote access to resources, proxy servers)	628	46	19	<b>210 / 33.4</b>	158 / 25.2	182 / 29	67 / 10.7	11 / 1.7
c) competitive intelligence	632	37	20	<b>295 / 46.7</b>	160 / 25.3	108 / 17.1	63 / 9.9	6 / 1
d) consumer health information	645	66	11	112 / 17.4	185 / 28.6	<b>239 / 37.1</b>	90 / 14	19 / 2.9
e) copyright/copyright in the electronic age	647	111	2	35 / 5.4	<b>263 / 40.6</b>	<b>258 / 39.9</b>	82 / 12.7	9 / 1.4
f) development of distance education programs	636	47	18	194 / 30.5	<b>242 / 38.1</b>	148 / 23.3	42 / 6.6	10 / 1.5
g) development of Web-based education courses	641	76	9	136 / 21.2	<b>283 / 44.1</b>	176 / 27.5	36 / 5.6	10 / 1.6
h) electronic licensing	642	66	11	97 / 15.1	<b>261 / 40.7</b>	221 / 34.4	55 / 8.6	8 / 1.2
i) e-publications, e-journals, other e-resources; publishing, measuring, evaluating	637	104	3	62 / 9.7	<b>262 / 41.1</b>	231 / 36.3	65 / 10.2	17 / 2.7
j) evidence-based health care	641	97	4	62 / 9.7	<b>293 / 45.7</b>	198 / 30.9	68 / 10.6	20 / 3.1
k) expert searching	632	91	5	60 / 9.5	<b>334 / 52.8</b>	166 / 8.2	56 / 9	16 / 2.5
l) fundraising and marketing	630	65	12	140 / 22.2	<b>199 / 31.6</b>	<b>203 / 32.2</b>	80 / 12.7	8 / 1.3
m) Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA)	636	30	21	150 / 23.6	<b>220 / 34.6</b>	183 / 28.8	73 / 11.5	10 / 1.5
n) library standards	638	50	17	54 / 8.5	148 / 23.2	<b>256 / 40.1</b>	168 / 26.3	12 / 1.9
o) library technical skills: collection development, cataloging, searching, etc.	641	65	12	120 / 18.7	<b>250 / 39</b>	154 / 24	110 / 17.2	7 / 1.1
p) management skills (e.g., budgeting, team building, project management)	644	113	1	76 / 11.8	<b>328 / 50.9</b>	131 / 20.3	103 / 16	6 / 1
q) organizing, evaluating, and quality filtering health information	643	71	10	52 / 8.1	<b>323 / 50.2</b>	177 / 27.5	83 / 12.9	8 / 1.3
r) outreach (e.g., to underserved population, foreign language resources)	631	52	16	156 / 24.7	<b>208 / 33</b>	187 / 29.6	74 / 11.7	6 / 1
s) professional identity and the role of the health sciences librarian	640	64	13	127 / 19.8	178 / 27.8	<b>226 / 35.3</b>	104 / 16.3	5 / .8
t) recommended Websites for specific health areas (for health information professionals, not consumers)	640	77	8	42 / 6.6	90 / 14.1	<b>404 / 63.1</b>	70 / 10.9	34 / 5.3
u) research for the profession: conducting, gathering, interpreting, applying	635	54	15	92 / 14.5	<b>241 / 38</b>	189 / 29.8	103 / 16.2	10 / 1.5
v) subject expertise database of members	637	19	24	124 / 19.5	55 / 8.6	<b>403 / 63.3</b>	38 / 6	17 / 2.6
w) subject-specific "bio-information" (e.g., microbiology, complementary and alternative medicine)	626	29	22	132 / 21.1	142 / 22.7	<b>265 / 42.3</b>	68 / 10.9	19 / 3
x) using computer or PDA technology for information delivery	633	84	7	97 / 15.3	<b>285 / 45</b>	178 / 28.1	36 / 5.7	37 / 5.9
y) using salary or benchmarking data to improve services or to justify budgets and salaries	627	87	6	95 / 15.2	149 / 23.8	<b>281 / 44.8</b>	92 / 14.7	10 / 1.6
z) other (37 suggestions; percentages are not calculated because each member is responding to a different suggested topic)	69	28	23	23	25	16	2	3

47. Of the topics listed in question 45 above, which would you choose as the most important to you? *(Please indicate the TOP THREE topics from item 45 by letter designation; e.g., a, b, u.)*

[n = 580; see above for counts and rank by topic importance]

Questions 48-50 were "write-in" questions. Comments and suggestions will be forwarded later in a separate appendix.