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HEADING TO

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CULTURED COLLABORATIONS

mla '26

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Greetings from your 2026 National Program Committee Cochairs!

We look forward to seeing you at the annual conference of the Medical Library Association, which will take place May 19-22, 2026, in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, at the Baird Center.

The MLA'26 conference theme, "Cultured Collaborations," highlights the transformational partnerships of the health information sciences community. Milwaukee, also known as "Cream City," is celebrated for its rich cultural heritage and vibrant neighborhoods, showcasing a community where bold ideas and creativity brilliantly thrive. In the same way, health sciences librarians are embracing new opportunities for collaboration to evolve and strengthen our profession. The 2026 annual conference will offer both virtual and in-person content to ensure that all MLA members can participate. In addition to paper presentations, lightning talks, and poster sessions, we'll also offer immersion sessions and other engaging activities.

The 2026 Janet Doe Lecturer will be Shannon Jones, EdD, AHIP, FMLA. Shannon Jones is the Director of Libraries & Professor at the Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC) and a former MLA President (2022-2023). She is a recognized leader in staff recruitment and retention, diversity, equity, and inclusion in libraries, and was also the coeditor of Diversity and Inclusion in Libraries: A Call to Action and Strategies for Success.

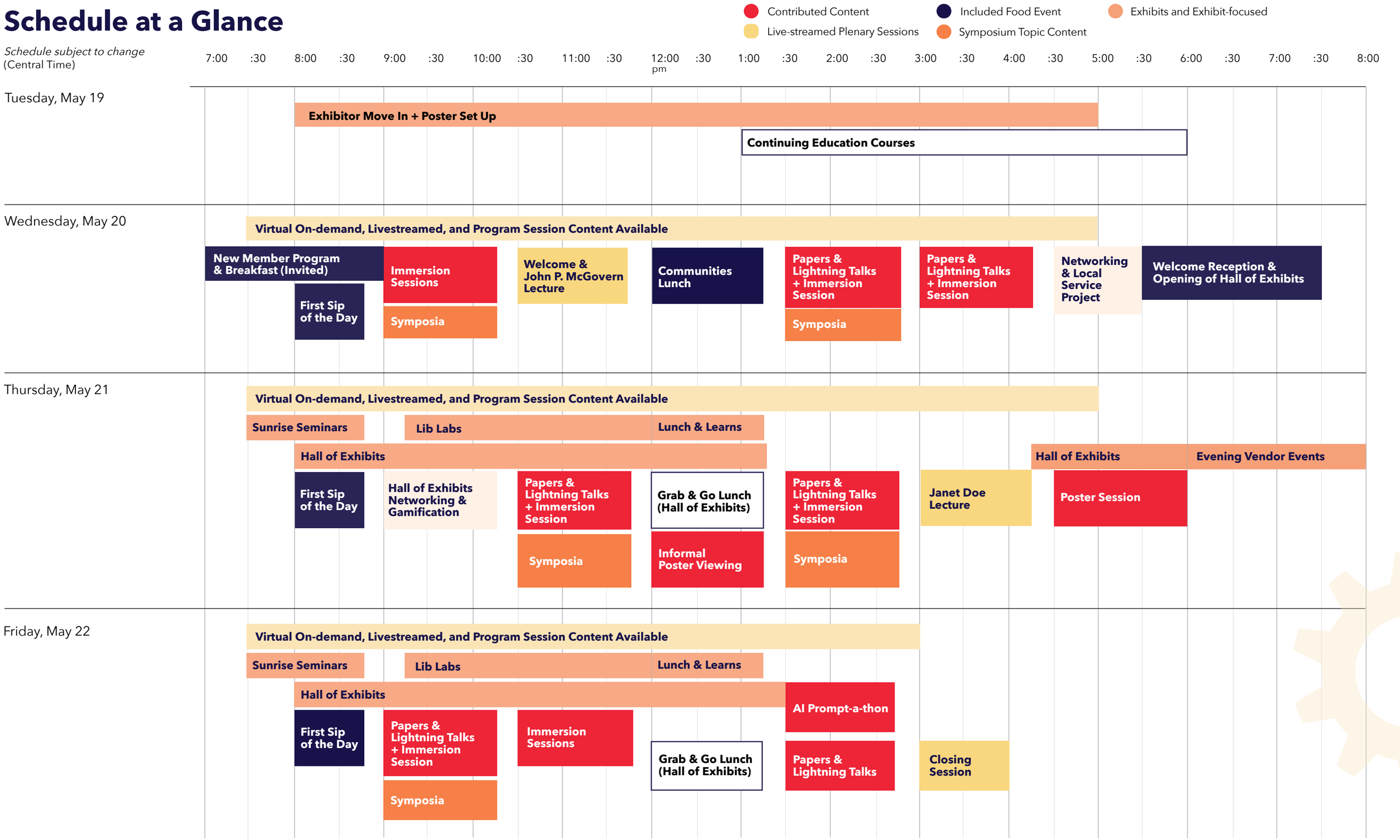
The 2026 John P. McGovern Lecturer is Gabriel Bosslet, MD. Gabriel Bosslet is Professor of Clinical Medicine in the Department of Pulmonary, Critical Care, Sleep, and Occupational Medicine at Indiana University and Assistant Dean for Faculty Affairs and Professional Development for IU School of Medicine. He is the former Fellowship Director for Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine, and is an affiliate faculty member at the Charles Warren Fairbanks Center for Medical Ethics.

We want to express our gratitude for the Local Assistance Committee, who is ready to show off Milwaukee and engage MLA '26 attendees in a service project. We look forward to connecting and collaborating with you all, either virtually or in Milwaukee!

Emily J Glenn
2026 National Program Committee Cochair

Shenita Peterson
2026 National Program Committee Cochair

Schedule at a Glance



Featured Speakers

John P. McGovern Lecture

Gabriel T. Bosslet, MD

Gabriel Bosslet is Professor of Clinical Medicine in the Department of Pulmonary, Critical Care, Sleep and Occupational Medicine and is Assistant Dean for Faculty Affairs and Professional Development at Indiana University School of Medicine. He is the former Fellowship Director for Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine. He sees patients in the ICU at University and Eskenazi Hospitals and in his neuromuscular pulmonary diseases clinic in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Gabe received his bachelor's degree from the University of Notre Dame and his MD from The Ohio State University. He completed his residency in internal medicine and pediatrics at The Ohio State University/Columbus Children's Hospital in Columbus, Ohio. Gabe completed his fellowship in Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine at Indiana University, where he completed a Clinical Ethics Fellowship at the Charles Warren Fairbanks Center for Medical Ethics and a Master of Arts in Philosophy and Bioethics. Gabe is the past president of the Good Trouble Coalition, a grassroots coalition of Hoosier healthcare and public health stakeholders who collaborate to educate, empower, and facilitate political advocacy to improve life in Indiana in the areas of patient-centered care, public health, and health equity. He is also one of the cohosts of Hoosier Health Matters, a podcast about public health policy in Indiana.

Janet Doe Lecture

Shannon D. Jones, EdD, M.Ed, MLS, AHIP, FMLA

Shannon D. Jones is the director of Libraries and serves as chair of the Academic Affairs Faculty for the Medical University of South Carolina. She is also the director for Region 2 of the Network of the National Library of Medicine. Before she arrived at MUSC, she worked as the Associate Director for Research and Education for Virginia Commonwealth University's Health Sciences Library in Richmond.

A long-time volunteer of the Medical Library Association, Jones has served the Association in many capacities, including the 2022-2023 MLA President. During her term as MLA President, she established the Be Well MLA initiative to encourage MLA members to prioritize their wellness and well-being. In 2018, she co-founded the MLA Reads Virtual Book Discussion Club to provide a forum where participants engage in critical conversations related to their work as information professionals and in their personal lives. She is the coeditor of Diversity and Inclusion in Libraries: A Call to Action and Strategies for Success and Cultural Humility in Libraries. She focuses her research on staff recruitment and retention, belonging in libraries, wellness and wellbeing for information professionals, and leadership in academic health sciences libraries.

AI Prompt-a-thon: Applying Prompt Engineering to Real-World Library Challenges

This session offers attendees a competitive, hands-on experience with AI prompting, grounded in a real-world challenge faced by medical librarians. Facilitators will introduce prompting frameworks and present a scenario in which librarian teams will complete assigned tasks using AI tools. Participants will analyze provided data, craft communications, and generate outreach materials using AI. Prompts and outputs will be submitted via a shared form, and a rubric will be used to determine a winning team. A dedicated prompt refinement station will be available to support teams needing guidance. The session will conclude with a facilitated discussion on techniques, strategies, and ethical considerations in AI use.

This session is sponsored by the *AI Imperative Task Force.*

Symposia

Collection Development

A CONSTANT EVOLUTION: NEW AND UNIQUE APPROACHES TO COLLECTIONS

- AI & Collection Development
- Adaptation and Navigation: Collections in a Time of Change
- Building Community with Collections

Data Management & Services

DATA DIALOGUES: CULTIVATING COLLABORATIVE INTELLIGENCE IN HEALTH SCIENCES

- A Pie Walks into a Bar: Visual Storytelling with Data
- Brewing Big Data: Cloud Computing on Tap
- Data VIP: Value, Integrity and Preservation

Leadership & Management

GRATE EXPECTATIONS: SHREDDING BARRIERS AND SHAPING THE FUTURE OF HEALTH SCIENCES LIBRARIES

- Perfect Pairings: Leading Your Library to Success with AI
- The Big Cheese: Establishing Your Professional Identity and Personal Brand
- Savor the Gouda Moments: Cultivating Positive Workplace Cultures through Slow Librarianship

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Leadership & Management Symposia is Sponsored by Elsevier

Continuing Education Courses

Don’t miss out on in-person learning opportunities at MLA ’26!

All courses will take place on Tuesday, May 19, 2026, in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Courses are not available virtually.

You may register for an individual course or add on to your conference registration. You may update your registration at any time. Space is limited for each course.

If you have questions, please contact **Debra Cavanaugh**.

CE100

Essential Searching Skills for Librarians on Systematic Review Teams

1:00 – 6:00 p.m., central time

$315 MLA Members | $420 Nonmembers

MLA CE Credits: 5

Instructors:
David Farris, Research Services Librarian, Research Medical Library, University of Texas, MD Anderson Cancer Center–Houston

Rachael Lebo, Clinical Services Librarian, Wegner Health Sciences Library, University of South Dakota–Sioux Falls

If you will be part of a systematic review team—or if you already do systematic review searches and want to hone your skills—this is the searching course for you! The course will take you through the systematic review searching process, from confirming the need for a review and identifying appropriate databases to creating search strategies and documenting and reporting searches using PRISMA-S. PubMed is the primary database used in the course.
The heart of the course is developing an extensive, effective, systematic, translatable, and replicable search strategy to address a research question. You’ll receive feedback on searches during the session.

You’ll also learn how to conduct a reference interview to properly define a topic and how to translate a topic into effective search concepts. And you’ll be able to participate in the search peer review process that is now elemental to the searching community of practice.

*This course is required for the **Level I Systematic Review Services Specialization***

It’s required that you bring a laptop computer with Wi-Fi compatibility to fully participate in the learning activities for this course.

Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course, you will be able to:

1. Conduct a preparatory reference interview
2. Perform preliminary searches for key articles and previous publications
3. Select databases and other resources appropriate to a research question
4. Build an extensive, effective, systematic, and replicable search strategy for each resource appropriate to a research question
5. Describe and document planned searches and methods
6. Review search strategies under development using the PRESS (Peer Review of Electronic Search Strategies) rubric

CE101

Generative AI in Action: Practical Strategies for Medical and Health Sciences Libraries

1:00 – 3:00 p.m., central time

$126 MLA Members | $168 Nonmembers

MLA CE Credits: 2

Instructor:

Laura J. Hall, Division Head, Resources, Archives and Discovery, University of New Mexico, Health Sciences Library and Informatics Center

Rather than trying to chase every new AI tool or headline, librarians need durable, transferable skills for evaluating AI, integrating it responsibly, and supporting users who bring AI into their work. This course focuses on practical approaches to AI literacy—helping health sciences librarians understand what these tools can do, where they fall short, and how they can be meaningfully applied across teaching, research support, scholarly communication, and internal library workflows.

Laura Hall, MFA, MBA, Division Head for Resources, Archives & Discovery at the University of New Mexico's Health Sciences Library & Informatics Center, leads UNM's AI Crossroads program, offering faculty, staff, and students practical guidance and timely conversations on AI. From 2023–2025, she co-led UNM's work on Ithaka S+R's national Making AI Generative for Higher Education research project and has presented widely on generative AI in higher education and health sciences settings. Drawing on real-world library experience, Laura will lead participants through demonstrations, case studies, hands-on activities, and a collaborative mini "promptathon" designed to build fluency and practical skills.

You'll leave with clear, adaptable strategies for evaluating AI tools, applying effective prompting techniques, and guiding students, faculty, and clinicians in responsible use. This session is designed to help medical and health sciences librarians bring grounded, practical AI literacy into their professional practice.

It's required that you bring a laptop computer with Wi-Fi compatibility to fully participate in the learning activities for this course

Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course, you will be able to:

1. Identify practical applications of generative AI in teaching, research support, scholarly communication, and library operations
2. Evaluate AI tools and AI-enabled features for accuracy, limitations, and responsible use in medical and health sciences contexts
3. Apply effective prompting strategies to develop and refine AI-supported workflows for real library tasks
4. Guide students, faculty, and clinicians in the effective and ethical use of AI tools within educational and research environments.

CE400

Grant Writing for Librarians

1:00 – 5:00 p.m., central time

$252 MLA Members | $336 Nonmembers

MLA CE Credits: 4

Instructors:

Tony Nguyen, MLIS, AHIP (D), Associate University Librarian, Rutgers University Libraries, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey

Abigail Mann, PhD, MLIS, Digital Scholarship Librarian, Ames Library, Illinois Wesleyan University

This hands-on workshop aims to help librarians gain practical skills to outline a concept paper and proposal brief. Grants have long been a tool that allows libraries to increase their reach and offer access to more communities. Libraries are seen as a trusted bridge connecting communities with information and resources. They are often at the intersection of various disciplines, projects, and funding opportunities, making librarians a natural fit to lead grant development. The shifting realities of public, academic, and health sciences libraries today necessitate that information professionals must, more frequently, seek external funding for such projects. Yet few librarians are formally trained in grant-writing, nor in marshaling together a team of grant-seekers with varying positions, experiences, and knowledge fields. In addition, the institutional support staff that might have traditionally helped with such endeavors has frequently disappeared from rosters due to budgetary constraints within their institution, meaning that librarians seeking grants often do so without the support often provided to academic researchers.

Using resources from *The Librarian's Grants Handbook: Understanding the Grant Process from Start to Finish*, this session will highlight major areas in proposal writing, including identifying goals and objectives, budgeting, designing your evaluation plan, and tools and approaches to help you develop a proposal. Participants will leave with an understanding of the grant writing process, tools and resources, and an understanding of the next steps.

It's recommended that you bring a laptop computer with Wi-Fi compatibility to fully participate in the learning activities for this course.

Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course, you will be able to:

1. Deconstruct the components of an active Request for Proposals (RFP)
2. Identify the strengths and weaknesses of their own department/institution and of other potential key players
3. Draft briefs and concept papers that address the above components

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Contributed Papers

Specific sessions, schedule, and locations for Immersion Sessions and Contributed Papers TBA

Accessibility

Designing Effective Interfaces to Optimize User Experience in Academic Libraries

Artificial Intelligence

An Evidence-Based Approach AI-Y Checklist: A Practical Framework for Evaluating the Ethical Dimensions of AI in Global Population Health

An In-Depth Analysis of the Value Added by Large Language Model Chatbots in Answering Evidence Queries

Beyond Covidence: A Comparison of Evidence Synthesis Platforms and AI-Assisted Screening Tools

Building Confidence: A Mandatory Verification Protocol for Using LLMs in Medical Evidence Synthesis

Comparing AI Chat Tools and PubMed for Medical Literature Searches

Development and Testing of a Rubric for Assessing Performance of AI Research Summary Tools

Eliciting Opinions: Using and Assessing a Generative AI Tool for Clinical Inquiry

Integrating AI Literacy and Tool Use into Undergraduate Nursing Curriculum

Investigating References Linked to Chatbot Responses: A Citation Analysis

It's a Vibe: Teaching Analysis of EHR Data with All of Us, R, and AI

Library Instruction Beyond the Classroom: Delivering AI Education at a Department Retreat

Mind vs. Machine: A Quantitative Analysis of Human vs. AI Critical Appraisal Quality

Optimizing Medical Research with RAGs: Targeted Strategies and Prompts for Scopus AI, Scite, & NotebookLM

Reproducibility and Utility of AI Search Tools in Evidence Synthesis: A Comparative Study of Consensus and Perplexity

Career Development

Global Librarian Job Burnout Workshops: Insights from Africa, Europe, and North America

Onboarding Challenges, Preferences, and Work Environments: A Survey of Early Career Medical and Health Science Librarians

Search Camp: A Peer Community Learning Opportunity for Developing Expert Searchers

Clinical Support

Building Family Medicine Resident Research Capacity by Collaborating Across Regional Campuses

Collaborative Conversations: Designing Workshops for Health Care Providers

Library Instruction to Support Medical Students' Pursuit of Real-Time Evidence-Based Practice in Their Neurocritical Care Rotation

Collection Management

Assessing Engagement following the Expansion of a Graphic Medicine Collection

Enhancing Medical Library Collections and Digital Resources: The Impact of Global Partnerships on Sustainable Information Access

Sound Solutions: Expanding Access Through Digital Audiobooks

Community Building and Belonging

Healthcare & the Humanities: Wellness, Diversity and Belonging in the Medical Library

Keeping our Collaborations Cultured: Representation of Hispanic/Latinx Medical & Health Sciences Librarians

Stronger Together: Adventures in Instruction and Resource Sharing to Cultivate Aspiring Nursing Students

Consumer Health

More than a Literature Search: Librarian Collaboration on Health Literacy Assessment of Health Promotion Videos for Horticulture Workers

User Perceptions of Credibility, Trustworthiness, and Aesthetic Appeal of Digital Health Information: A Within-Subjects Quantitative Experiment

Data Services and Management

If I Can Do It, You Can Too! Big Data Is Here. Learn to Collaborate with Researchers Using the All of Us Research Program

Literature Search Strategies for Faculty Publications to Support LCME Accreditation: Methods and Insights from University of New Mexico

Uncovering the Hidden Library User: Data Management Needs of Lab Managers

Using Python and Database APIs To Retrieve Medical Student Publications from Scopus and PubMed

Evidence-Based Practice

An Assessment of Workload Burnout Among Library Staff at the University of Namibia

Answering Clinical Questions: A Collaboration Between Librarians and Clinical Faculty to Improve Student EBM Skills Performance

Development of a Rubric to Evaluate Use of Sources in Student Research and AI Evidence Summaries

Differences in Nurses' Evidence-Based Practice Competency and Attending Library Provided Classes

Evaluating Information in Nursing Practice: Criteria, Dispositions, and Processes for Evidence-Based Care

Evidence Synthesis in Occupational Therapy Literature: A PRISMA-Guided Bibliographic Assessment

Expert Searching

Hedge Hunters: Development and Validation of a High-Sensitivity Pharmacy Education Hedge

Health Equity

Piloting a Cultural Humility Living Library Event for Medical Students

Seeing Humanity in Health: Library Partnerships that Redefine Medicine Through Art and Storytelling

Instruction

Connecting, Collaborating, Creating: Advancing Equitable Teaching in the Library

Cultured Collaboration: Evaluating AI Tools in Health Sciences through Interdisciplinary Partnership

Evidence-Based Practice: Using Active Learning to Reinforce Concepts and Skills in Undergraduate Nursing Students

From Infodemics to Information Diplomacy: Cultivating Trust through Experiential Health Information Education

Integrating Medical Librarians into a Mortuary Science Program

Leveraging Collaborations with Pharmacy Residents for Statistical Consultations and Instruction

Librarians Collaborating with College of Medicine Faculty on an NIH Grant

MLA / AAHSL Educational Research and Assessment Task Force Update

Prepared Students, Reduced Burden: A Scalable Strategy for High-Demand Library Instruction

Scalability of Library Instruction for a DNP Integrative Review Project

Understanding Librarian Involvement in DNP Education: A Survey

International

Collaborative Resource Sharing and Inter-Library Loan Practices Among Medical Librarians in Africa: A Multisite Survey

Health Literacy Barriers of Refugees and Immigrants: Implications for Library Collaborations

Leadership and Management

A Collaborative Culture: The Key to Mastering the Accessibility Mandate and Beyond

Diagnose Before You Prescribe: Strategic Analysis for Libraries

Easing the Transition: A Mentoring Program for New Hospital Library Managers

Experiences of Middle Managers and Middle Management at Health Sciences Libraries: A Survey and Retrospective Analysis

Making Library Statistics Collection and Reporting as Gouda as Possible: A Lean Approach

Supporting Rural Access to Health Science Education: Onboarding at a Distance and Collaborating for Expansion

Outreach

Collaboration in Action: Discover, Connect, Learn

Commonalities: A Multifaceted Collaboration Between an Academic Health Sciences Library and a State Library

Leveraging the Collective Strength of Librarians: Increasing Clinician Awareness of Literature Through the Delivery of Curated Literature Alerts

Redefining Library Spaces: Library Programming for Evolving Learning Environments

Research

A State-Wide Survey to Determine the Potential Impact of Federal Funding Changes

Assessing the Impact of the MLA Research Training Institute on Health Sciences Librarians' Research Capacity: 2023 and 2024 Results

Benchmarking Research Support in Health Sciences Libraries at Top 20 NIH-Funded Universities

Designing and Evaluating a PubMed Metadata Text Mining Software Program

Evolving Trends in Health Sciences Library and Information Science Research: An Updated Analysis of Research Publications in JMLA

Exploring Brain Breaks: A Freelisting Study on Student Stress and Perceptions of Finals Week Wellness Programming

Krafting an Evidence Synthesis Program: A Mapping Review of Evidence Synthesis Published by a Teaching-Centric University System

Medical Librarianship in the 21st Century: A Bibliometric Analysis of Four Core Journals

Promoting a Culture of Research Through Programming: Library Research Works in Progress

Publication Trends of Faculty Versus Non-Faculty Health Sciences Librarians

Recruitment As Care: Building Trust with Hard-To-Reach Populations in Sensitive Health Research

Research Study Designs in Health Sciences Librarianship 2019–2023: A Content Analysis

Using Overton to Assess Institutional Impact

Contributed Papers

Scholarly Communication

Cultivating Collaboration: Understanding the barriers between librarians and nursing faculty in the development and use of OER

From Brie-f Comments to Lasting Revisions: Librarian Peer Review in Action

Librarian Contributions to Research Impact Evaluation: A Scoping Review

Medical Trainee Contributions to Scholarly Publishing: The Role of the Faculty-Librarian Mentor in Developing Early Career Researchers

Peer Review: Beliefs and Practices of Health Sciences Faculty

The Process of Measuring Library Impact on Health Sciences Student Academic Success

Systematic Reviews

Addressing Unsustainable Librarian Workloads by Implementing a Mediated Evidence Synthesis Process

Assessing Risk of Bias in Observational Studies Using a Large Language Model

Bibliometric Analysis to Grow an Evidence Synthesis Network

Burnout in Librarians Supporting Systematic Reviews: Insights from a Qualitative Survey Study

Cultivating Collaborative Scholarship: Guiding Medical Students Through Evidence Synthesis and Publication

Cultivating Soft Skills and Technical Proficiency: An Experiential Model for Evidence Synthesis Training in Medical Libraries

Current State of Health Sciences Librarians' Provision of Evidence Synthesis Services: Findings from a Nationwide Survey

Examining Evidence Synthesis Search Methodologies at a R1 Institution: A Scoping Review

Exploring the Education and Self-Training Practices of Information Professionals in Evidence Synthesis: Preliminary Results and Analysis

Identifying Retractions in Systematic Review Searching: Five Approaches

Integrating a Generative AI Agent Into a Systematic Review Workflow: A Human-Machine Collaboration Model

Post PRISMA-S: Librarian Involvement in Dental & Oral Health Systematic Reviews

Technology

Beyond the Widget Count: Telling Our Story with Microsoft Loop and Co-Pilot

If You Build It, Will They Come? Examining the Efficacy of Medical Library Websites in the AI Age

No Budget, No Problem: From DIY to IT-Approved Pick-up Locker System Built with a Little Help from AI

Specific sessions, schedule, and locations for Immersion Sessions and Contributed Papers TBA

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15-19 Users	$597.60	$796.80	20%	20%
20+ Users	$560.25	$747	25%	25%

*Based on individual costs

All MLA education offerings are designed to develop skills in an MLA professional competency. Our live and recorded webinars are presented by subject matter experts. Our self-paced courses place you in a realistic situation in which you must solve problems and complete tasks to develop your knowledge and skills.

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Immersion Sessions

Specific sessions, schedule, and locations for Immersion Sessions and Contributed Papers TBA

AI for the Uninterested: How We Learned to Stop Worrying and Use AI

Topics: Artificial Intelligence

Artificial intelligence is transforming how information is created, accessed, and evaluated in biomedical settings. Librarians as a trusted resource are positioned well to guide this shift. This session, led by self-avowed non-AI experts, demonstrates how professionals without technical expertise can engage meaningfully with AI in health sciences libraries. Blending diverse perspectives, audience engagement, and planning, this session is designed to be highly interactive and to support those who grudgingly see AI increasingly integrated into our professional practice.

Cheddar Together: The Power of Evidence Synthesis Apprenticing

Topics: Systematic Reviews

With the demand for expert librarian support for systematic reviews/evidence synthesis projects outpacing the capacity of trained librarians and limitations of formal training opportunities, librarians have been struggling to onboard new hires. This session will present sustainable options for onboarding cohorts of new librarians in evidence synthesis through mentorship and co-learning. Participants will learn about onboarding mechanisms and feedback processes so that similar programs may be implemented at their institutions. Over the course of the session, panelists that are proficient or new to evidence synthesis will share experiences as they gained skills and confidence and will facilitate discussions for participants to think about and share their ideas for how to effectively onboard librarians into this work in sustainable ways.

Sponsor: Systematic Review Caucus

Cultured Collaborations: Fostering Growth Through Mentorship in Libraries

Topics: Career Development, Leadership and Management

Mentorship is both an act of guidance and a form of collaboration that enriches the professional landscape of libraries. This session invites participants to explore mentorship as a dynamic, reciprocal process that empowers individuals and strengthens institutional cultures. By combining research, reflection, and application, this session empowers attendees to reimagine mentorship as a key mechanism for fostering "cultured collaborations" that advance both personal and organizational growth in the library profession.

Sponsor: Leadership & Management Caucus

Empowering Libraries to Develop Research Impact Services: A Hands-On Immersion in Data-Driven Research Evaluation

Topics: Scholarly Communication

Medical and health sciences librarians are increasingly called upon to support the research impact assessment (RIA) within their institutions. This hands-on session is designed to equip the audience with practical skills and foundational knowledge to design, implement, and sustain RIA services in their libraries.

Sponsors: Scholarly Communication Caucus and Data Caucus

Fundraising at Your Library: Building Confidence and Donor Connections

Topics: Leadership and Management

Demystify library fundraising and gain practical tools to confidently engage potential donors. This interactive session will help you build key skills in philanthropy, donor engagement, and stewardship to advance your health science library's mission.

Sponsor: Leadership and Management Caucus

Got Curriculum? Scaffolded Instruction to Support Student Learning and Growth

Topics: Instruction

How can new or experienced health sciences librarians move beyond fragmented one-shot sessions to become essential partners in the curriculum? This interactive session explores strategies for integrating librarians into current or new curricula and scaffolding instruction to strengthen students' information skills over time.

Sponsors: Libraries in Health Sciences Curriculum Caucus and Academic Librarians Caucus

It's Not Just Paperwork: Reimagining Evaluations as Collaborative Conversations

Topics: Career Development, Leadership and Management

Evaluations, whether performance reviews, annual appraisals, self-assessments, or tenure reviews, are some of the most challenging responsibilities in health sciences librarianship. These processes significantly influence morale, professional development, and career advancement; they may also impact pay increases, yet many leaders and professionals feel unprepared to manage them effectively. This session will equip participants with the tools and strategies necessary to navigate evaluations with confidence and fairness.

Sponsors: African American Medical Library Alliance Caucus; Leadership & Management Caucus; and New Member Caucus

Medical Librarians and Legislative Advocacy: Advice, Guidance and Support

Topics: Community Building and Belonging

This session will cover the basics of legislative advocacy and provide guidance and suggestions for how you can participate as an individual by working with your local representatives on important legislative issues. This session will also provide an opportunity to talk with and learn from colleagues who may have experience with advocacy at local, state, and federal levels.

Sponsor: Joint MLA/AAHSL Legislation Committee

Oh, the Places You'll Go: Career Pathways in Health Sciences Librarianship

Topics: Career Development

Have you ever wondered what moving into another medical librarianship path takes? Do you have an interest in one aspect of librarianship but feel stuck in your current role? Are you a student or new to the world of librarianship in general? New Members Caucus has got you covered! Join us for career speed dating and learn how to align personal strengths and professional interests with different roles within the library.

Sponsor: New Members Caucus

Reframing the Liaison Model for Sustainability and Impact

Topics: Leadership and Management

Health Sciences Libraries are experiencing a moment of significant change, facing reduced resources even as the information needs of students, faculty, and staff grow more complex, prompting deep reflection on how to maintain the strengths of the liaison model while ensuring its sustainability, consistency, and impact. This session will highlight different approaches to rethinking what it means to be a liaison librarian in this new environment.

Sponsor: Leadership and Management Caucus

Responding to and Navigating the 2024 NIH Public Access Policy

Topics: Scholarly Communication

When the new NIH Public Access Policy went into effect, NIH-funded manuscripts that were accepted for publication on or after July 1, 2025, were required to become freely available in PubMed Central immediately at the time of journal publication. This transition from a 12-month embargo period to a zero-embargo has caused confusion for authors who now had to navigate new journal policies, additional copyright considerations, and updates to self-archiving their accepted manuscripts. This session will feature panelists who will share their insights and experience to help inform others on how they can best support their users in navigating the 2024 NIH Public Access Policy.

Sponsor: Scholarly Communications Caucus

Unlocking Team Potential: Leading Effective Library Teams

Topics: Leadership and Management

Teams are an increasingly important workplace construct, allowing libraries to tap into staff potential to tackle complex work in our current, dynamic library environment. The combined talent, experience, and diversity of teams create the potential for greater problem-solving and effective work than individual-focused work goals, yet teams often struggle to succeed. This interactive session will introduce participants to the concept of team effectiveness and how to maximize team success by designing, supporting, and leading effective teams.

Sponsor: Leadership and Management Caucus

Zhuzh It Up: Creating and Editing Existing Tutorials to Meet Modern Audiences

Topics: Technology

The current digital landscape is raising standards for capturing attention online, while also offering many free, freemium, and paid tools useful for meeting these standards. This session is intended to help librarians gain confidence in using different tools to make creating, editing, and updating tutorials easier and faster. Participants will leave this session with strategies for editing their existing tutorial videos and a descriptive list of tutorial-making tools, examples of edited tutorials, and instruction slides for reference. Personal computers are encouraged but not required for this session.

MLA Membership Activities

If you have any questions about membership activities at MLA '26, please contact **Tomi Gunn**, Director, Community Engagement.

Colleague Connection

Colleague Connection pairs first-time attendees with members who are experienced with the MLA conference. If this is your first MLA conference and you could use help navigating your meeting experience, or if you already know your way around and would like to help a new member/first-time attendee, please sign up! Watch MLAConnect for the sign-up link!

New Member/First-Time Attendee Breakfast & Program

Are you a new member or attending your first MLA conference? You're cordially invited to join us for breakfast and learn more about MLA while meeting new colleagues. To receive the official invitation, please check the new member/first-time attendee box when you register. The invitation will be emailed about four weeks before the conference. **You must RSVP to gain admittance.**

MLA Connections Booth

Stop by the MLA booth in the Hall of Exhibits to learn more about MLA and member benefits, get your questions answered, grab some swag, participate in MLA and AHIP membership raffles, give us your opinion and win a prize at our "sound off" board and more!

MLA Career Center

Resume Clinic

Sign up to have an experienced colleague review your cover letter, resume, or CV, help you convert a resume to a CV, conduct a mock interview, provide career counseling or just talk through the job search. You'll have up to 30 minutes with a reviewer. Reviewees should submit any materials for review in advance during sign up. You'll be notified of your appointment time before the conference.

Not a member?

Join MLA to save even more on registration and other MLA offers.

Check if your organization has an **institutional membership**.

Registration

Please refer to the **registration information pages** for more details, including submitting requests for accessibility or special services, payment details, and information about confirmation of registration.

Early Bird Registration

(for full-experience, in-person registrations)

Register by April 10, 2026, to receive the early-bird discount savings for all full experience in-person registrations.

Member Discounts

All Registrations

Individual MLA members in good standing are eligible for discounted individual rates, which save you $280 - $317 over nonmember meeting fees. To qualify for member rates, your MLA membership must be current at the time of registration; nonmembers may create an account and join via the respective organization's website ahead of registering for the virtual or full-experience in-person conference.

In-Person Presenters

Presenters who will be attending MLA '26 in person in Milwaukee are eligible for a $75 in-person registration discount. Presenters attending virtually to present in virtual sessions ONLY are also eligible for a $75 discount.

Discounts are available as follows:

- Up to 2 presenters per presentation/paper/poster
- Up to 4 presenters per Immersion Session
- Virtual presenter discount is not available in combination with existing registration discounts such as an institutional bulk registration or student registration

MLA Institutional Members

MLA institutional members may choose to select bulk registration options for multiple staff at an additional discount.

As a service to the profession, members of other affiliate groups qualify for MLA '26 member registration rates. If you are not a member of MLA but belong to any of the affiliate organizations listed here, you may request member rates by contacting websupport@mlahq.org:

- American Association of Law Libraries (AALL)
- Arbeitsgemeinschaft für Medizinisches Bibliothekswesen (AGMB/German Medical Library Group)
- Association for Health Information and Libraries in Africa (AHILA)
- Association for Library and Information Science Education (ALISE)
- Australian Library and Information Association (ALIA)
- Canadian Health Libraries Association/Association des bibliothèques de la santé du Canada (CHLA/ABSC)
- European Association for Health Information and Libraries (EAHIL)
- Japan Medical Library Association (JMLA)
- Korean Medical Library Association (KMLA)
- Medical Library Association of Nigeria
- Taiwan Medical Library Association (TMLA)

Cancellations

All cancellations for any meeting registration or CE course must be submitted via email to MLA@mcievents.com. Meeting cancellations received by **April 10, 2026,** are subject to a $50 fee. You will be assessed a $50 fee for each CE course change or cancellation. However, MLA will honor written requests to transfer meeting registration or CE registration to another person without charge.

After **April 10, 2026,** MLA will give refunds only for documented family or medical emergencies. Refunds will be processed within six weeks after the meeting.

Onsite Registration

Meeting materials and badges will be distributed at the MLA '26 Registration Center. We strongly encourage early online registration to speed your way through the registration process.

The Registration Center will be open during the following hours:

Tuesday, May 19
8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday, May 20
7:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Thursday, May 21
7:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Friday, May 22
7:00 a.m. – Noon

Registration

General rates are noted below. Other registration options are noted on the MLA '26 Registration page.

Registration Rates for Individuals	Experience (In-Person + Virtual)		Virtual Only
	Early-Bird (ends 4/3)	Regular	Anytime
Individual Member	$840	$954	$672
Individual Nonmember	$1,120	$1,272	$896
Individual Reduced Rate (50% discount) MLA membership required: Emeritus, Retired, Unemployed, Lower Dues, Student, or International Research4Life-eligible	$420	$476	$335
Member Hall of Exhibits Pass (choose **Thursday, May 21** or **Friday, May 22** during online registration). Does not allow access to sessions or events outside of the exhibit hall.	$75	$75	n/a
Nonmember Hall of Exhibits Pass (choose **Thursday, May 21** or **Friday, May 22** during online registration). Does not allow access to sessions or events outside of the exhibit hall.	$100	$100	n/a
CE Course Only	CE course fee only		n/a
Individual – Hardship*	n/a	n/a	$0

*limited no-charge registrations after jury review of application

Registration

Bulk Registration Rates for Institutional Members

Support your staff members with hundreds of hours of professional development content, available exclusively to MLA '26 attendees for a full year!

Select your desired options with this form and we'll send you a customized invoice with your selections.

- Bulk registration purchases may not be combined with other discounts for individuals, such as student or lower-dues rates
- Bulk purchases automatically provide member rates for attendees in your institution who are not members of MLA
- These discounted rates only are available for group purchases by MLA Institutional member

MLA Institutional member discounts for conference	Price Per Person	
	Virtual Only	Full Experience (In-Person + Virtual)
Group of 5–9 (10% off member rate for virtual attendees)	$604 per person (Save **$76** per member/**$290** per nonmember attendee	Presenters: $765 per person Non-presenting attendees (member or nonmember): $840 Savings: **$280–505** per nonmember attendee or presenter
Group of 10–14 (12.5% off member rate for virtual attendees)	$547 per person (Save **$84** per member/**$307** per nonmember attendee	
Group of 15–19 (15% off member rate for virtual attendees)	$571.20 per person (Save **$101** per member/ **$324** per nonmember attendee	
Group of 20 or more (17.5% off member rate for virtual attendees)	$561 per person (Save **$101** per member/ **$324** per nonmember attendee	

Find Your Professional Home

Top Five Reasons to Join MLA

Connect with the expert colleagues and innovative skills you need to advance your career

Explore the latest tips, tricks, and evidence to advocate for your role and expertise in your institution

Expand your knowledge base by joining the discussions in public and members-only communities

Apply for funding to finish school, do that next research project, or travel. MLA Members also save on conference registration and continuing education opportunities

Equip yourself with the latest tools and education in health information management, research, and practice

Join MLA

Conference Logistics

Conference Center

Baird Center
400 W Wisconsin Ave, Milwaukee, WI 53203, USA

Official Hotels

Hyatt Regency
333 West Kilbourn Ave
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53203

	Rate
Standard Rate	$216
Government Rate	$129

Springhill Suites
744 N Vel R Phillips Ave
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53203

	ROH	Triple Room	Quad Room
Standard Rate	$209	-	-

DoubleTree by Hilton Milwaukee Downtown
611 West Wisconsin Ave
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53203

	Single/Double Room
Standard Rate	$229
Government Rate	Prevailing govt rate

Hilton Milwaukee City Center
509 W Wisconsin Ave
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53203

	Single/Double Room
Standard Rate	$209
Government Rate	$129

Beware of Unauthorized Hotel Solicitations

Each year we receive reports that other companies are posing as official vendors for conference hotel reservations. If you are contacted by other third-party companies offering hotel assistance or attempting to obtain your hotel reservation number, do not provide information.

Please be aware they are not endorsed by our event and may attempt to cancel your reservation, then ask for credit card or other information to steal your identity. Entering into financial agreements with these companies can have costly consequences and are not protected by event management

Travel

If you're flying into Milwaukee, you'll land at Milwaukee Mitchell International Airport (MKE). Check Mitchell airport for airlines serving MKE.

If you're driving, check Visit Milwaukee Getting Here and Around page for tips!

Transportation

You can choose from many options to get from MKE to downtown Milwaukee

All major car rental companies

- Taxi service and ride share outside of Baggage Claim 3
- GO Riteway Airport Shuttle Service (shared ride) spanning Southeastern Wisconsin and Northern Illinois servicing hotels, businesses, and residences
- Milwaukee Mitchell International is one of the few U.S. airports to include an Amtrak station with a free shuttle bus connecting rail passengers to the airport at Baggage Claim 5
- Rideshare services Lyft and Uber are available at Baggage Claim 2

For additional transportation information
Visit Milwaukee Transportation page!

SEE YOU SOON IN

Milwaukee

About Milwaukee

Milwaukee's character is rooted by a distinct spirit of Gemütlichkeit (guh-MOOT-lish-kite), a German word which can describe a warm and friendly gathering, where relaxing and having fun is encouraged. Known today as the "City of Festivals," Milwaukee invites everyone to come together for Cultured Collaborations.

Register Now

mla '26