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## Message From the Past Chair

**Nalini Mahajan**

It's hard to believe that summer is over and we are heading into autumn. Where does the time go? Before we know it, it will be time for winter. I was fortunate to be able to attend this year's annual conference in Philadelphia with many of our division members. I am very proud of the division's contribution to the SLA annual meeting. We had an outstanding conference program that drew members from across the association. I learned a lot from conference sessions, the Info-expo, and had a great time exploring the City of Brotherly Love.

On another note: for the past several months, I've been reflecting on the future of DBIO ... what it is all about? Why should we support it and what is the point of maintaining a membership in it or any other professional organization? And then I remembered Jan Deitch's article that appeared in the SLA Pittsburgh Chapter's winter newsletter, *The Confluence*, in which she outlines her "P's of Professional Organizations" which was modeled from an article entitled the "E's of Emergency Medicine." Jan's 14 P's are: Power, Promotion, Potential, Partnership, Participation, Proficiency, Product, Protection, Passion, Pedagogy, Perfection, Perseverance, Philanthropy, and Possibility (link provided below). We need to embrace all the 14 P's mentioned in her article to move forward and we need bold ideas and strategies for our division to remain viable into the future.

Lots of changes are in store for us, but some things remain the same: networking opportunities, reconnecting with old friends, meeting the experts, gaining insights and ideas, broadening your knowledge ... It is important to get involved in a professional organization and to keep growing in your field of expertise. These benefits will help you grow personally and more importantly professionally. I am very glad that I have continued to invest in my professional life by maintaining my memberships and attending conferences. Armed with new knowledge and tools, I have always returned to work with lot of energy and a renewed sense of purpose. I've developed long-lasting relationships and connections, have received advice, have had lots of fun, and great opportunities to give back. I wouldn't have it any other way.

As we move into 2017, I encourage you all to volunteer for a division committee. There are a number of open positions, and I am sure you can find one that will be interesting and rewarding. As I have said in the past, DBIO is very much a team effort. A Big Thank You to all for your hard work and everything that you do for DBIO.

Here is the link to the SLA Pittsburgh Chapter Winter 2004-2005, Volume 70, Issue Number 1 article:

[http://pittsburgh.sla.org/wp-content/uploads/bulletin/confluence\\_v70n1\\_04.pdf](http://pittsburgh.sla.org/wp-content/uploads/bulletin/confluence_v70n1_04.pdf)



**Nalini in Machu  
Picchu, Peru**

## **Internet Librarian 2016**

### **Nalini Mahajan**

I just got back from Monterey, California after attending the Internet Librarian meeting. It was exciting and exhilarating to hear about the leading-edge tools and techniques that enable librarians to engage, connect and build relationships with their communities and to learn how the use of mobile devices and electronic collections is changing the spaces and services in libraries.

The key quote from the meeting:

**“It takes a lot of courage to release the familiar and seemingly secure, to embrace the new. But there is no real security in what is no longer meaningful. There is more security in the adventurous and exciting.”**

Credit: Alan Cohen

## **Monterey, California**



## Nalini Mahajan Presented Distinguished Member Award

Grace Romund



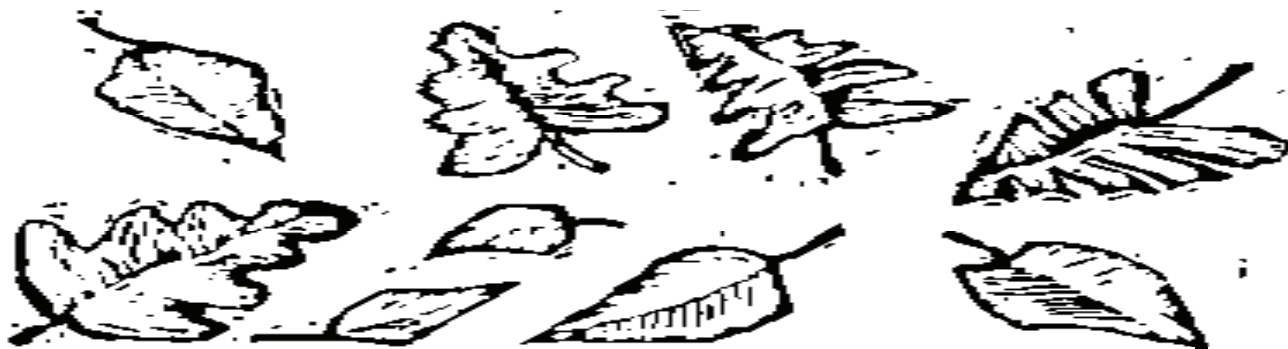
In the *summer issue of Biofeedback*, Member News writer Lori Bronars reported on the presentation of the Distinguished Member Award to Nalini Mahajan by the DBIO Awards Committee at the SLA Annual Conference in Philadelphia in June 2016.

Upon conferring the Distinguished Member Award, Howard Fuller, Awards Committee Co-Chair, described Nalini's career in libraries as spanning forty years during which time she generously volunteered many hours of time and energy to the goals and mission of DBIO. She is described by many DBIO members as friend, teacher, and trusted colleague.

She participates in national and international meetings, has presented papers, and has taught continuing education courses at national meetings including Special Library Association, Medical Library Association, Internet Librarian, and American Academy of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation. Nalini won the 2010 "Librarian of the Year" award from DuPage Library System, IL and received "Outstanding Part-time Faculty Award" at College of DuPage Library in 1996. In 2002, she was a recipient of "Scroll of Exemplary Service" for the Hospital Libraries Section of the MLA.

Currently, she is the Past-President of DBIO, a member of the Fund Development Committee, and the Nominations and Elections Committee Chair. She has participated on the DBIO Program Committee for SLA conferences for the last number of years. She is also on the Library Board of Advisors for Doody's Review Service, an e-journal and unique collection development tool featuring the most extensive database of expert reviews of books and software in the health sciences.

As a leader and front-line worker, Nalini is very passionate about her profession and has helped make the Marianjoy library one of the top libraries in the field of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation. As a Webmaster, she manages the library Website as well as *Information Connections*, a Website for parents of children with development disabilities and chronic diseases.



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A landscape photograph showing a body of water in the foreground, a row of houses and buildings along the shore, and a hillside covered in trees with autumn foliage in shades of green, yellow, and red. The sky is blue with scattered white clouds.

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# NLM Georgia Biomedical Informatics Course

**Darra Ballance**

Participants and faculty from across the country converge each year at Brasstown Valley Conference Center in the north Georgia mountains for the National Library of Medicine (NLM) Georgia Biomedical Informatics course. The Robert B. Greenblatt, M.D. Library at Augusta University was awarded a \$1.7 million, four and a half year contract with NLM to provide twice yearly week-long immersive experiences in biomedical informatics for selected applicants.

Previously held at the Marine Biological Laboratory in Woods Hole, Massachusetts, the course offers participants a week-long intensive overview of biomedical informatics and provides continuing education to health care professionals interested in the application of computer technologies to medicine.

Through a combination of lectures and hands-on computer exercises, participants are introduced to the fundamental concepts and application areas of biomedical informatics. The conceptual components include principles of controlled terminology, standards, mathematical modeling, bioinformatics, natural language processing, clinical information systems architectures, and methods for assessing and influencing institutional adoption of information technology. Application areas include use of the Internet for biomedical applications, current and emerging wide area network technologies, use of literature and molecular sequence databases, telemedicine, public health, patient-centered care, clinical research, and disaster response. Evening workshops feature hands-on exercises to give students the opportunity to bring their own expertise to bear and apply the lessons learned in class to a relevant informatics application.

Taught by a nationally known faculty, the course prepares the participant to become actively involved in making informed decisions about computer-based tools in his/her organizational environment, and improves computer skills.

This National Library of Medicine fellowship program is directed at medical educators, medical librarians, medical administrators, clinical practitioners, and faculty who are not currently experts but can become agents of change in their institutions. Enrollment is limited to 30 fellows per session.

Costs of attending this course, including travel, housing, and meals at the Brasstown Valley Resort & Spa Conference Center, are fully supported by the National Library of Medicine, NIH.

To apply for the 2017 course sessions visit the website below: <http://www.augusta.edu/library/greenblatt/informaticscourse/index.php>

For questions, please contact:

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## **Biofeedback Member News**

**B**iofeedback recognizes and celebrates the achievements of DBIO members by sharing information about publications, awards, and other professional accomplishments. Keep an eye out for our quarterly call for member news on the DBIO list if you have any news to submit.

The Biomedical and Life Sciences Division has many distinguished members. This award affords us an opportunity to recognize a member for his/her hard work and dedication. To find detailed information about awards sponsored by DBIO, please go to [DBIO Awards & Nominations](#).

Tallie Casucci, Innovation Librarian at the Spencer S. Eccles Health Sciences Library, University of Utah, presented a poster on [Appy Hour](#) at the SLA Annual Conference in Philadelphia, PA in June. She also published an article on this topic:

Casucci, T, JM Gregory, and JP Shipman. 2016. Appy Hour: Health Science Professionals Learn about Apps. *Medical Reference Services Quarterly* 35(3):251-258.



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## **Your Job Search Just Got Easier!**

Looking for a Library job? The DBIO Job Offerings page lists job openings for academic librarians, medical librarians, and other positions of interest to division members.

Browse recent job posts

<http://dbiosla.org/development/careers/jobofferings.html>

Updated frequently, an average of 40 to 50 open positions are posted every single month.

NEW! Subscribe to our RSS Feed

<http://feeds.feedburner.com/sladbio-jobs>

Our RSS feed keeps you up-to-date when new posts are added. For help with RSS subscriptions, see *Biofeedback* Volume 39, Number 3, page 6.

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## Executive Board 2016

### Biomedical and Life Sciences Division

Chair: Jennifer A. McDaniel  
[jamcdaniel@vcu.edu](mailto:jamcdaniel@vcu.edu)

Chair-Elect: To Be Announced

Secretary: To Be Announced

Director: Andrea Miller-Nesbitt (2015-2016)  
[andrea.miller-nesbitt@mcgill.ca](mailto:andrea.miller-nesbitt@mcgill.ca)

Treasurer: Elaine H. Dean (2015-2016)  
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Past Chair: Nalini Mahajan  
[nmahajan@marianjoy.org](mailto:nmahajan@marianjoy.org)

For a complete list of current board and committee members, see the Division Website at: <http://dbiosla.org/inside/officers/officers.html>

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