MLA Goal #1 – Recruitment, Membership, and Leadership in the Profession
Our membership year runs January through December. As of October 14, 2009 our membership totals 209 of whom 20 were student members and 14 were new members. We continue our contract with Acteva for online registration and payments for both membership and programs. The Membership Committee, chaired by Danielle Linden, has finalized its set of criteria and forms for nominating and selecting Honorary Members.

Professional Issues Committee (PIC), chaired by Irene Lovas, developed criteria and publicized a new award to recognize the Outstanding Health Sciences Library Paraprofessional of the Year. An awardee, Kathleen Shepler of Phoenix, AZ was selected from several nominations and will be honored at the Fall Meeting on November 20, 2009. PIC also worked on criteria for establishing the MLGSCA Scholarship for Paraprofessionals in Health Sciences Libraries. This $1,000 scholarship will provide financial support for an individual currently working in a health sciences library setting as a paraprofessional who is pursuing a graduate school degree with the express purpose of becoming a health sciences librarian. PIC requested information from chapter members about any formal or informal recruitment and retention activities. A report was then compiled and forwarded through the Chapter Council representative to the Chapter Council Recruitment and Retention liaison. PIC plans to develop a mechanism for tracking chapter recruitment and retention activities.

The Awards Committee, chaired by Laura Stubblefield, advertised the availability of three scholarship awards at the universities, submitted an article to the newsletter to encourage people to apply for the professional development awards and nominate colleagues for the Louise Darling Award. The Awards Committee worked with PIC in selecting the first paraprofessional recipient.

The Nominating Committee, chaired by Deborah Klein, will begin to approach members who have expressed interest in running for office, been recommended by another member, or are believed by Committee members to be strong candidates.

MLA Goal #2 – Life Long Learning
The Fall CE Program is scheduled for Friday, November 20, 2009 at Good Samaritan Hospital in Los Angeles. CE Committee Chair, Eileen Wakiji, is also working towards a video conference for that day to the Arizona contingent of MLGSCA. The title of the fall CE program is “Exploiting Librarian Skills to Enhance Continuing Medical Education Programs.”

Planning for the 2010 Joint Meeting with NCNMLG continues. Dates are January 27-30, 2010 in Glendale, AZ. There are 6 CE courses scheduled for this meeting.

MLA Goal #3 – Advocacy
The Government Relations/Bylaws Committee, chaired by Mary White, is in the process of revising the Bylaws in order to be discussed and voted at the November 2009 business meeting. Proposed changes will be emailed to the Membership in October 2009. Also, The Government Relations/Bylaws Committee disseminated pertinent information regarding government decision and discussions related to health information to the MLGSCA membership via email.
MLA Goal #4 – Creating and Communicating Our Knowledge
The Research Committee, chaired by Craig Haynes, continues to connect persons wishing to collaborate on various research projects, provide financial support if requested, promote award scholarship to members, and encourage research through collaboration.

The archivist, Marsha Kmec continues to keep archives of MLGSCA materials up-to-date and in order. The archivist will keep apprised of the digitization of archived materials for MLGSCA stored in the Southern Regional Storage Facility at UCLA.

The newly created Connections Committee, chaired by Andrea Harrow, will maintain/administer the chapter’s email list, support/promote the chapter subscription to Survey Monkey, establish web conferencing options for AC and Business meetings and explore other ways MLGSCA might connect with members and other organizations.

MLA Goal #5 - Building a Network of Partners
MLGSCA is jointly offering the Fall CE program with the Southern California Medical Education Council/SCMEC. SCMEC’s 13th annual conference for CME professionals is also being held at this time. The current MLGSCA president and SCMEC President are the main reasons for the collaboration.

The Exchange Committee, chaired by Evonda Copeland continues to collect and distribute journal exchange lists electronically three times per year. One list has been distributed so far (July 2009). Participation in the journal exchange has been fairly consistent with prior years, with 17 to 20 institutions participating regularly. The Committee will continue to work toward an electronic database for journal exchange.

The MLGSCA Newsletter “Link” is intrinsically a global network of members and partners who share expertise and resources by posting announcements to the electronic newsletter (blog). The “Link” is put together by the Newsletter Committee, chaired by Emily Brennan. The MLGSCA Newsletter “Link” sought national partnerships with others who share its values and goals on information access by promoting the Pacific Northwest Chapter of the Medical Library Association (PNC/MLA) Annual Meeting.

MLA Goal 6: Information Technology
The Electronic Information Resources (EIRC), chaired by Paul Bielman, has been tracking e-resource trends and issues by working with NN/LM PSR E-Licensing Program to track trends and issues in electronic publishing and communicating offers from the Southern California Electronic Library Consortium (SCELC) to MLGSCA members. Also the EIRC has been investigating topics related to point-of-care tools and how they integrate into electronic health records, managing electronic resources, electronic journal access and licensing issues.