

## 2021 Updates from Taiwan Medical Library Association (TMLA)



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### **TMLA 2021 Conference Report, New Taipei City, Taiwan 22 October 2021**

Taiwan Medical Library Association (TMLA) Annual Conference 2021 was held on 22 October 2021 hosted by MacKay Medical College Library. Due to dramatic changing situation under COVID-19 pandemic, the conference had to move from a two-day physical conference to a one-day virtual one based on the resolution from the seventh meeting of the Third TMLA Board of Directors in July 2021.

MacKay Medical College Library and Taiwan MacKay Memorial Hospital Library are both affiliated to the MacKay system; therefore, there is a close cooperation between these two libraries. Found in 1880, MacKay Memorial Hospital is the most historical western hospital in northern part of Taiwan. MacKay Medical College was established in 2009, initiated by the Board of Directors of MacKay Memorial Hospital, the non-profit foundation of MacKay Memorial Hospital back in 1995. The campus of the College is located in scenic, simple, and rustic Sanzhi District in New Taipei City.

There were 119 attendees from medical college and hospital libraries in Taiwan as well as 19 library science vendors sharing the most updated information. This virtual conference has attracted more audience than usual despite the COVID-19 pandemic.

The President from MacKay Medical College, Dr Jie Jen Lee, delivered an opening remark to encourage all in paying a visit to MacKay Medical College when convenient even though the annual conference was conducted virtually. Dr Lee further highlighted the importance of library resources and inspired all members in library science field to collaborate and cooperate to create a new era. Following up, Dr Kuan Hung Lin, the Director of MacKay Medical College Library, pointed out the library would be the heart of the information system on campus and play a crucial role as a knowledge provider at school in his speech. Dr Lin expected to exchange experiences and learn from peers in this field through this virtual conference. Dr Tzu Heng Chiu, President of TMLA, gave a speech to welcome all members to participate in this first virtual annual conference. Dr Chiu described this to be an unforgettable memory to meet everyone online regardless not being able to meet in person. The year, the conference agenda was condensed to a day. Two keynote speakers from the United States were invited to update the information in library science to all attendees. In addition, staffs from National Taiwan University Medical Library and China Medical University Library provided an experience sharing about their ongoing renovation projects. The regular poster session was available online for members to browse and members were encouraged to do an oral presentation online to express their thoughts. Furthermore, there was an online lucky draw arranged for all members to seek for answers through the information provided by library science vendors.

## NEWS FROM TMLA

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Rich content was discovered in both keynote speaker sessions. In the first keynote speech, titled “The Role of the Library in Supporting Research at Missouri University of Science and Technology”, the Director of Missouri S&T Curtis Laws Wilson Library, Dr Hsin-liang Chen focused on how academic libraries could contribute to the campus research infrastructures from an ecological perspective. The speaker stressed on key components of the infrastructures with various contributions from the academics. The second keynote speech from the Head of Scholarly Communication at UCSF Library, Ms Anneliese Taylor, was on the subject of Developments in Open Access and the Role of the Medical Librarian, aiming at the leading role of the librarians in open access and scholarly communication.

During the intermission, there was an information update from the sponsors, the library science vendors. All attendees were able to surf the posters showcased online at this time. In the afternoon, there was a General Members Assembly for reports regarding general affairs within TMLA. There was a memorial service led by TMLA President Chiu for the loss of a great member, Professor Yu-tzuon Chuo, who formerly worked at Taipei Veterans General Hospital Medical Library. Professor Chuo had been a senior member and mentor in library science field who had led the developments and had a profound influence in library science.

Shortly afterwards, it came to the poster session of 10 online presentations hosted by the chairperson Ms Yu from the TMLA Education Committee. Each poster was thoroughly introduced to the conference attendees within limited time during each presentation in which attendees would acquire lots of practical and academic knowledge.

On the conference day, three professional judges are invited to select the top three posters, and conference attendees are invited to vote for the most popular poster.

The first-place winner of this event can choose to submit the abstract of poster to the 2022 Medical Library Association (MLA) or European Association for Health Information and Library (EAHIL) conference. If the poster is accepted in one of the conferences and the first author of the poster participates in it, he can receive a grant from the TMLA and International Federation for Information Integration (IFII), which helps cover the roundtrip plane fare and conference registration fee.

The first-place winner is from Taipei Medical University Library and the subject is “Let’s make the Taipei Medical University Library better: PDCA improvement plans of space and services”.

On the other hand, the most popular poster is from Kun-Yen Medical Library, National Cheng Kung University and the subject is “From paper to online: library service transaction recording methods”.

After the poster session, the members from National Taiwan University Medical Library and China Medical University Library shared their library renovation projects to the attendees, which were warmly received by the audience.

In the closing, all attendees were engaged in a short and comprehensive discussion. The results from the poster session, three top winners and the most popular winner, were also declared. The first time ever online lucky draw, TMLA President Chiu clicked the button to draw the winners all at once which made a perfect ending to all.

At the very end of the conference, MacKay Medical College Library worked hard to host the 2022 annual conference. In hoping to welcome all to the north coast of Taiwan, Sanzhi District, where you would see beautiful mountains, ocean as well as the flying eagles, MacKay Medical College Library was recognized enthusiastically by all members to hold the event. As a result, we will see you all at MacKay Medical College in Sanzhi in 2022!

Future TMLA annual meetings – dates for your diary:

MacKay Medical College Library, Sanzhi District, New Taipei City, August Taiwan

### **The election of the fourth Board of Directors at TMLA**

The term of office of Board of Directors at TMLA is two years. Therefore, the Third Board of Directors has come to an end. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the election was then conducted via postal ballots. At the beginning of October 2021, 150 ballots for electing directors and supervisors were mailed out, in which 135 ballots mailed in and one returned. On 4th of November 2021, 15 directors and 5 supervisors were elected via postal ballots counted at the conference room located in National Central Library. Additionally, on 19th of November, executive directors and supervisors were elected. In the future, these 20 elected directors and supervisors will continue to strive for their best in Taiwan medical libraries.