

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



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#### **TMLA participated in the 2023 Annual conference of the Medical Library Association**

The Taiwan Medical Library Association (TMLA) holds a poster competition at its annual conference each year. The association offers a subsidy for the first author of the winning poster. If the poster is selected for the annual conference of the Medical Library Association (MLA), TMLA will reimburse the round-trip economy airfare and the conference registration fee. 2023 marks the 125th anniversary of the MLA, and TMLA organized a group to attend the annual conference from May 16 to May 19 in Detroit, United States. The Taipei Medical University Library successfully submitted a poster for the 2023 annual conference of the MLA, where they presented their poster.

#### **TMLA became a sister organization with the Malaysian Medical Librarian Group**

TMLA has expanded its international exchanges in 2023 by establishing partnerships with esteemed organizations, including the Malaysian Medical Librarian Group (MLG).

By chance, the TMLA and the MLG engaged in discussions through multiple online meetings over nearly a year. TMLA and MLG signed a Letter of Intent for collaboration on June 27, 2023, marking the first step toward establishing a sister organization relationship between the two associations. TMLA invited MLG to participate in their annual conference at the Office of Library and Information Services at Kaohsiung Medical University. Unfortunately, due to a typhoon, the schedule had to be changed. On August 30, 2023, TMLA officially became a sister organization of the MLG.

Due to the typhoon, the TMLA annual conference was postponed, and members of the MLG were unable to attend. As a result, TMLA arranged for a delegation of 6 members, including the MLG president and various committee members, to visit several libraries in northern Taiwan. They toured the MacKay Medical College Library, Taipei Medical University Library, National Yang Ming Chiao Tung University Library, Taipei Veterans General Hospital Library, National Taiwan University Medical Library, and the National Central Library, providing MLG members with a wonderful opportunity to explore various types of libraries in northern Taiwan. To ensure that TMLA members could connect with new international library colleagues, TMLA organized a simple online seminar on September 1, 2023, for an international exchange with the MLG. Although this was a last-minute decision, 77 TMLA members participated in the event. Mr. Mohd Shah Abu Kassim (Assistant Director of the National Library of Malaysia/ Chairman of MLG, PPM) personally introduced the development and mission of their association. In a joyful and relaxed atmosphere, both sides got to know each other better and agreed to attend each other's annual conference in 2024.

### **Taiwan Medical Library Association 2023 Annual conference and the 45<sup>th</sup> Medical Library Staff Seminar**

The TMLA aims to promote the development and exchange of medical libraries, as well as to advance certification and continuing education for medical library staff. Each year, TMLA holds an annual conference. In 2023, due to a typhoon, the TMLA annual conference and the 45th Medical Library Staff Seminar were re-scheduled to October 12 to 13, 2023 at the Office of Library and Information Services at Kaohsiung Medical University (OLIS). After the COVID-19 pandemic, this annual conference in southern Taiwan's OLIS saw enthusiastic participation from TMLA members, creating a joyful atmosphere as colleagues reunited. Over the two days, the event featured beautiful piano and cello performances, with opening remarks from Jee-Fu Huang, Vice President for Library and Information Services, Hui-Chu Lee, Associate Vice President for Library and Information Services, and Liu Li-Chuan, President of TMLA. The 2-day agenda included four sessions on library marketing, health care topics for library professionals, seven practical shares on library management and space transformation, and 6 sessions on new information dissemination. The conference concluded with a special presentation by Dr. Tzu-Heng Chiu, Director of TMUL, who shared insights from TMLA's participation in the 2023 Annual conference of the MLA. This included experiences presenting posters and visits to various institutions, such as the Galter Health Sciences Library & Learning Center, Taubman Health Sciences Library, Shiffman Medical Library, and the School of Medicine at Wayne State University. The event wrapped up with comprehensive discussions, poster awards, and a joyful lottery draw.

### **Organizing a Rotating Medical Library Symposium**

To celebrate its 45th anniversary and to enhance the professional competencies in management and operations among medical librarians, the Medical Library Committee, Library Association of the Republic of China (Taiwan) (LARMLC) has partnered with the TMLA, the National Taiwan University Medical Library, and the Library Association of the Republic of China (Taiwan) (LAROC) to organize the Rotating Medical Library Symposium.

The conference began with remarks from Kuang-Hua Chen, President of LAROC, and Li-Chuan Liu, President of TMLA. The conference invited four speakers to deliver keynote presentations. Hsin-Liang Chen, Chief Library Services Officer at the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine (PCOM), spoke on "Libraries, Citizen Science, Community Engagement, and Scholarly Communication." Ming-Hsin Chiu, Associate Professor at the Graduate Institute of Library and Information Studies at National Taiwan Normal University (NTNU), presented "You are what you post! How Health and Medical Information Professionals Should View Community Health Data." Chien-Wen Yuan, Associate Professor at NTU D-School, discussed "Human-AI Interaction and Innovations in Future Library Services." Shey-Ying Chen, Director of the Center of Quality Management at National Taiwan University Hospital (NTUH), shared insights on "Turning Corners: Encountering Love/The Transformation of Medical Quality Management and Library Spaces". The medical librarians concluded the day feeling enriched by these four engaging presentations. Additionally, the TMLA launched a website titled "The Gilded Years: A Look Back, Inheritance, Outlook" for the 45th Anniversary Exhibition of the Medical Library Committee, Library Association of the Republic of China (Taiwan) (LARMLC) and the Taiwan Medical Library Association (TMLA).

### **TMLA President and Board Elections**

The term of office for the Board of Directors at TMLA is two years, and thus the 4th Board of Directors has concluded its term. On November 17, 2023, at the National Taiwan University Medical Library meeting room, the 5th Board of Directors, consisting of 15 directors and 5 supervisors, was elected, followed by the election of the president and executive directors. Li-Chuan Liu was re-elected the 5th President. In the future, these 20 elected directors and supervisors will continue to strive for their best in Taiwan medical libraries.