

FLORIDA HEALTH SCIENCES LIBRARY ASSOCIATION 1999 ANNUAL MEETING SUMMARY

A Spring Refresher

Over seventy-five attendees participated in the 1999 Annual Meeting at the Safety Harbor Spa and Resort. The program theme, "Revitalizing the Value of the Information Professional," and location provided lots of opportunities for toning brains, bodies, and spirits.

Brain workouts began at the two continuing education courses. Bonnie Snow taught a full-day session of "Online Resources in Alternative Medicine" on Thursday and Saturday. Bonnie lived up to her reputation as an outstanding resource herself, and challenged her students' capacity to identify the alternatives. Concurrently on Thursday, Michele Spatz, from the Planetree Health Resource Center, taught "Planning and Managing the Consumer Health Library." By the first break, students were commenting on the great instructor.

MLA President Jacque Doyle got us talking during her interactive keynote address titled "Working with the Blur." $\text{Speed} \times \text{Connectivity} \times \text{Intangibles} = \text{BLUR}$ - the world in which we will come to live and work. To understand and apply the formula, Jacque inspired the group to think about what makes our profession unique; what our core competencies and tools are; and how our values come into play. If you missed the meeting, or need a refresher, [click here](#) to see the slides from her presentation. For additional information, look for the book *BLUR: The Speed of Change in the Connected Economy* by Stan Davis and Christopher Meyer.

A spa stretch surprise at the end of the Business Meeting lunch got everyone moving. By the afternoon Roundtables, the group was overflowing with ideas to share and problems to solve jointly. At "Redefining" the Role of the Medical Librarian, John Orriola's group tackled the thorny question "If I have the Internet, why do I need you?" In "Reducing" Your Technostress, Rose Bland's group strategized on how to keep afloat in the sea of technology. During "Revitalizing" Your Resources, Mary Kaye Raddatz's group shared their tonics for new and improved libraries.

Lest you think only brains were revitalized, bodies and spirits got the spa treatment too! Although heavy winds sent the outdoor dinner and entertainment inside, the disco venue proved an ideal setting for dining and fun. Karaoke performances, line dancing, circle dancing, and dance lessons turned even some of the most reserved members into laughing participants. Kudos to the brave! Jacque Doyle proved presidential doesn't equal pompous.

--Gwen Wolff