Facilitating Collaboration Across International Boundaries

A Medical Librarian Job Exchange Program

InternationalJobExchange@ics.mlanet.org
Intention of the International Job Exchange Project

Benefits to the Individual Participant

- Global perspective
- Unique understanding of other medical librarians’ environments, needs, and backgrounds
- Exchange of skills, ideas, and experiences

Benefits to the Institution

- Global perspective
- Project collaboration
- Lifelong partnerships
- Exchange of skills, ideas, and experiences
History

- **2006**: MLA President Shipman and Carla Funk meet with KMLA at IFLA in Seoul
- MLA leadership talks with ICS
- **Aug. 2009**: Formation of the ICS Job Exchange Task Force
History

Original ICS Job Exchange Task Force

Brian Bunnett, Chair
Dav Robertson
Beth Whipple
Fred Pond
Charlie Greenberg
History

- **2010**: MLA approves ICS motion
- ICS tasked to implement Job Exchange report recommendations

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**MOTION FORM**

Motion Presented By: International Cooperation Section, Job Exchange Task Force

Individual Submitting Motion: Daniel Dollar, Chair, International Cooperation Section

Date: February 5, 2010

Motion: Moved, that the MLA Board of Directors seek to formally establish a joint US/Korea medical librarian job exchange program to be administered under the joint auspices of the Medical Library Association (MLA) and the Korean Medical Library Association (KMLA) commencing with the first exchange in the fall of 2010.

Statement of problem or need:
South Korea is a highly developed country, especially in health care, medicine, science and technology. It has the 12th largest economy and one of the highest literacy rates in the world. Many doctors practicing in Korea have had some stage of training in the United States. South Korea has a well-developed medical library system and an active Korean Medical Library Association (KMLA). Korean medical librarians are proficient users of MEDLINE and English language medical information resources, but they need...
Motion Recommendations

- Work with international associations on guidelines
- Work with MLA staff for promotion
- Develop workflow mechanisms
- Facilitate matches between host institutions and individuals
- Develop evaluation methods
Challenges

Multiple Variables

- Prioritization
- US documentation
- Determining length of the program
- Visas
Collaboration and Communication

- Volunteer organization
- Partnering with international organizations
- How to broaden it to cover all international situations without getting overwhelmed
- Enough guidance and detail for institutions, but also enough flexibility
I’m interested!

How do I learn more?
Individual Participant Requirements

- Active MLA member or active member of an association in bilateral agreement with the MLA
- Home institution willing to sponsor their exchange
- Application Forms
Hosting Institution Requirements

- Library or information center in an academic health sciences center, hospital, or other health-related organization
- Assigned preceptor and project goals
- Application forms
Learn more!

ICS Website:
http://ics.mlanet.org/blogsite/
ICS Job Exchange Open Forum

- Tuesday, May 20
- 3:30-4:45pm

Contact:
InternationalJobExchange@ics.mlanet.org
Huge Thank You:

Kathy Kwan, National Library of Medicine
Preet Rana, University of Michigan
Daniel Dollar, Yale University
Charlie Greenberg, Wenzhou-Kean University
Dav Robertson, NIEHS (retired)
Brian Bunnett, Indiana State University
Thank you!
Please visit us at the Open Forum
Tuesday at 3:30pm

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