
THE CONNECTION

Quarterly Newsletter of the NNLM South Central Region

NEWS & FEATURES

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A Note from the Executive Director

BY BRIAN LEAF

I have a confession: When I took this job, I thought it was just a quick stop... Maybe a year or two at most. The opportunity to help start up this office was attractive, but not something that I envisioned doing for long. Pursuing my career has meant moving and living all over the United States, and I'm used to new beginnings. Little did I know that I would stick around long enough to love this job, the people I get to work with, and Fort Worth, let alone see it all the way through to a different kind of new beginning. But I'm glad I did.

It's been an incredible learning experience for all of us—one that I think has strengthened our resilience and ability to cope with change, whether it's been changes in the network or the recent "snowpocalypse." Resilience is something that will be required of us in less than two (2) weeks when we continue our mission as a reorganized Region 3. While we're extremely sad to lose New Mexico in our region and, in general, matching the geographic configuration of our local MLA chapter, there are new challenges and opportunities we look forward to in serving the states of Kansas, Missouri, and Nebraska in addition to Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, and Texas.

Over the next coming weeks, I encourage you to keep an eye out for transition announcements. We'll be switching to a new website and new communication platforms. Our funding opportunities for our main grant cycle will be officially announced on May 3rd (although we're happy to answer questions about it before then). There's plenty in store that we have planned for the 2021-2026 cycle, and we look forward to working with both our old colleagues and our new ones!





SCR CONNECTIONS

is sunsetting!

Due to NNLM restructuring and the end of our 2016-2021 cooperative agreement with the National Library of Medicine, we are sad to say that **April 2021 marked the last edition of SCR CONNECTIONS**. We have loved every session over the last five years as we brought professionals from a range of disciplines to share their expertise with us. Thank you to everyone who has participated and presented!

SCR CONNECTIONS may be saying goodbye, but our commitment to you and to ongoing professional development is not. We've got great things coming your way!

SEE PAGES 4-5 FOR MORE DETAILS

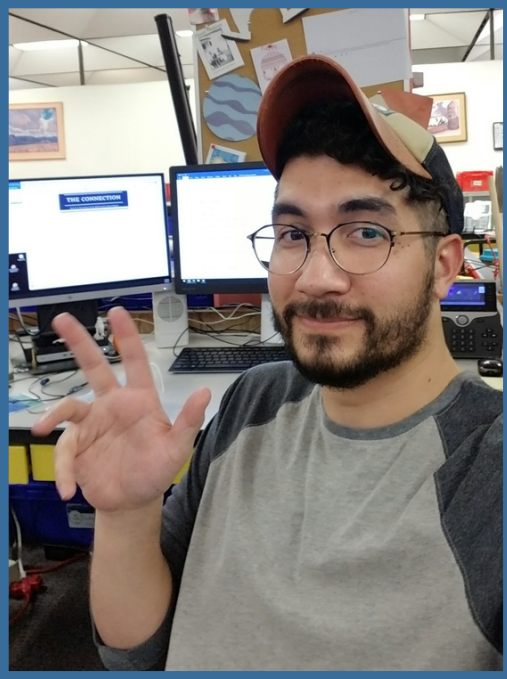
Network Member Spotlight

SCR is a geographically large region, and the missions of our members and professionals are highly varied. Each quarter, we will highlight the work and interests of members and professionals from throughout our region. Let's get to know each other a little bit better!

Joshua Rosenquest

HEALTH EDUCATOR

The Public Library Albuquerque and Bernalillo County - Albuquerque, New Mexico
jrosenquest@cabq.gov



Q: What is one big issue that currently impacts or represents your patrons/clients?

A: Accessibility for underserved and indigenous populations in our community.

Q: What's one amazing resource you think everyone should know about?

A: Just one? That's so hard because the Library has so many unique things to offer, everything from cake pans, to ukuleles, to kitchen-in-a-box classes where you learn how to cook. If I had to just pick one I'd say tower gardens are definitely my favorite. Being able to participate in a plant's entire life cycle in just 4 weeks is something special. Plus you get to eat it!

Q: If you could take any trip without limitation, where would you go and why?

A: No limitations huh? Easy, I'd put a team together and explore the floor of the Atlantic Ocean. Being a treasure hunter is pretty difficult these days, humans have pretty much combed over every inch of land on the surface like cockroaches but the ocean floor still holds plenty of secrets. Even if I didn't find any treasure, the biodiversity and alien-like surroundings would be enough to help my mind escape.

Q: What is something you're great at cooking? What is something you can't cook to save your life?

A: Ok I don't want to brag, but over years of solo camping I have perfected making Danish Aebleskivers. If you're sitting there wondering what that is, it's basically pancakes that you cook in a special cast-iron skillet that looks like the surface of the moon. The end result gives your pancake a spherical shape leaving the center soft and gooey. Pair it with a nice strawberry compote or maple syrup and you have a lovely morning treat. With that said, I am a disaster in the kitchen. There is a strong chance I will accidentally poison you or set something on fire.



NLM Awards 2021-2026 Regional Medical Library Cooperative Agreements April 8, 2021

The National Library of Medicine has awarded five-year cooperative agreements to seven institutions selected to serve as Regional Medical Libraries (RMLs) and four institutions selected as National Coordinating Offices in the Network of the National Library of Medicine (NNLM). The agreements begin May 1, 2021.

The NNLM is NLM's "field force" of trusted ambassadors that leverages more than 8,000 organizational members representing resource libraries (primarily at medical schools), health science libraries (primarily at hospitals), public libraries, and community-based organizations.

RMLs coordinate the operation of a network of libraries and other organizations to carry out regional and national programs. RMLs ensure a continuity of quality service for core programs of the NNLM, and cooperatively design, implement, and evaluate innovative approaches to advance the health information needs of health professionals and a diverse public. Each National Coordinating Office performs a unique set of functions, but all serve to support and inform the work of the RMLs.



**Gibson D. Lewis Library
at the University of North Texas Health Science Center
has been named RML for the second time in a row,
now serving the newly-reorganized NNLM**

Region 3

(continued on p. 5)

NLM Awards 2021-2026 Regional Medical Library Cooperative Agreements

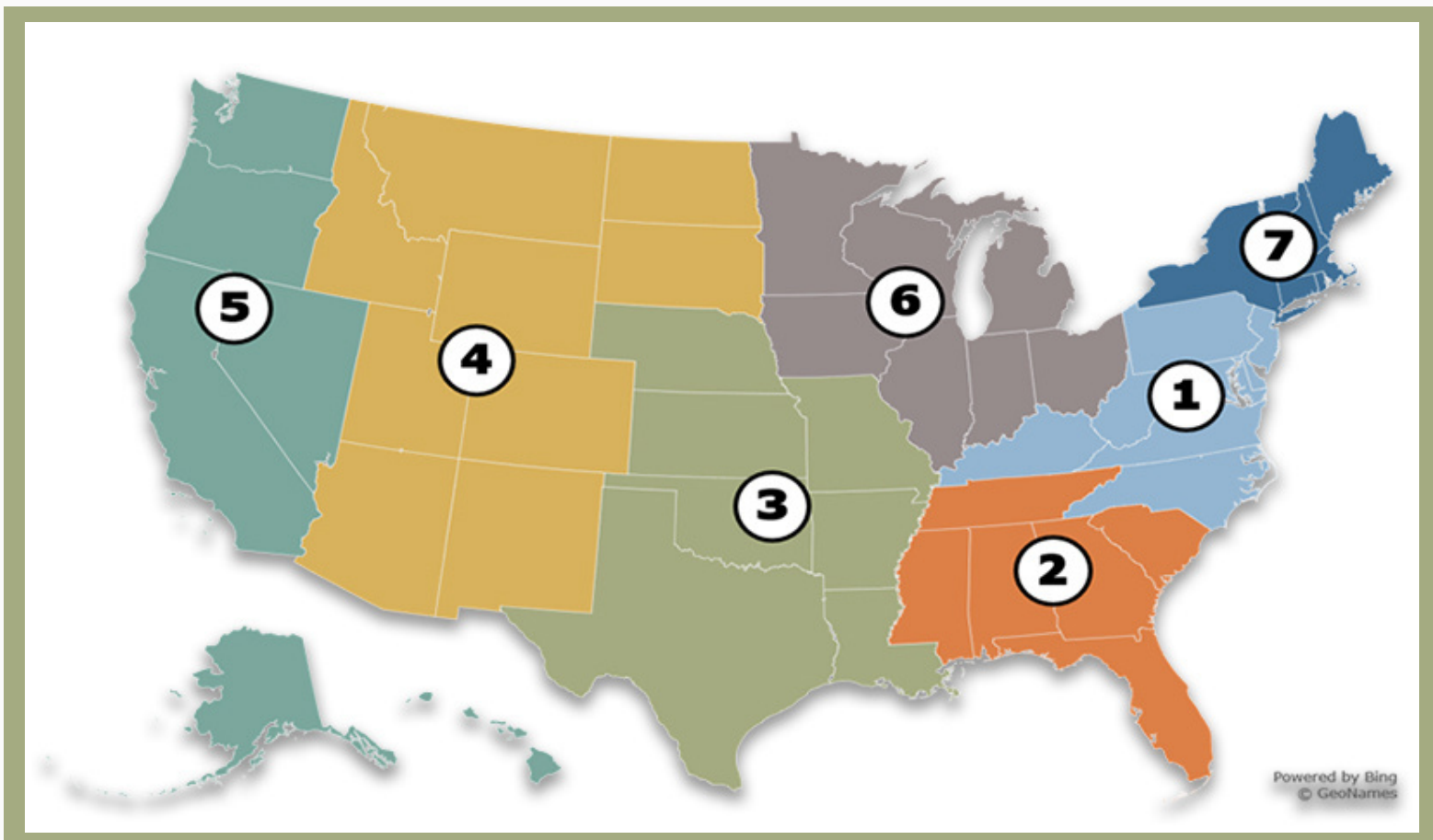
(continued from p. 4)

So, what does this mean for SCR members? Along with a regional name change, Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, and Texas will remain part of our region. Unfortunately, our friends in New Mexico will be incorporated into Region 4, where we are sure they will continue to do great things! Although we will miss New Mexico, we are excited to welcome three new states - Kansas, Nebraska, and Missouri - to the fold to make the seven-state region that will now be known as Region 3. In addition, you can look forward to the following over the next five years:

- Fresh funding opportunities
- New programming
- Renamed webinar series
- Overhauled website
- New and exciting network connections
- Streamlined processes
- Opportunities for growth
- Expanded training

The new cooperative agreement begins May 1, 2021. We look forward to this adventure and to growing our relationships with you, both established and new! As always, we are grateful for our members and partners.

We are here to serve YOU!





Test the Waters Family Exploration Kit

Apply now to receive a fun, accessible, loanable kit which includes four family friendly activities, and all the instructions & materials needed

Application open until all kits are gone
or April 30th, 2021

APPLY TODAY:

<https://nnlm.gov/all-of-us/resources/citizen-science-health/ttw>



**Cornerstones
of Science**
awakening curiosity, enriching lives

CRYPTOGRAM

Each letter in the phrase below has been replaced with a number.
Try to decode the message!

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
4				1				13				

N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
	19						18					

QUESTION:

$\overline{21}$ $\overline{2}$ $\overline{4}$ $\overline{15}$ $\overline{5}$ $\overline{19}$ $\overline{3}$ $\overline{19}$ $\overline{18}$
 $\overline{7}$ $\overline{4}$ $\overline{16}$ $\overline{16}$ $\overline{4}$ $\overline{9}$ $\overline{1}$ $\overline{8}$ $\overline{12}$ $\overline{19}$ $\overline{18}$ $\overline{17}$
 $\overline{25}$ $\overline{4}$ $\overline{12}$ $\overline{1}$ $\overline{16}$ $\overline{13}$ $\overline{9}$ $\overline{15}$ $\overline{2}$ $\overline{8}$ $\overline{19}$ $\overline{21}$ $\overline{1}$ $\overline{8}$?

ANSWER: SHAKESPEARE!

SOLUTION: WHAT DO YOU CALL A NERVOUS JAVELIN THROWER?

The NNLM South Central Region RML team is here to serve you!

We are diligently working to bring you the content you want and the training you need. If you should have any ideas, comments, or concerns to share with us, please do not hesitate to contact a member of our team.

We value you and your feedback!

