

**MAC/MLA 2005 ANNUAL MEETING
ROUND TABLES
DISCUSSION SUMMARIES**

The 2005 Mid-Atlantic Chapter Round Table Discussions were held during lunch on October 6, 2005. The participants covered eleven timely topics: AHIP; Best Practices for Electronic Reference; Collaboration/Consortia/Partnerships; Consumer Health; Go-Local Endeavors; Health Literacy; Informationist; Is Paper Passé?; Mobile Technology; Recruitment Issues; and Turf to Worth. Because of high interest, there were two tables each for Turf to Worth and Is Paper Passé? Below are summaries to some of the discussions.

Collaboration, Consortia and Partnerships

Deborah Thomas, Facilitator

Our small group of three representing two universities and one hospital library discussed what makes a good consortium. Advantages and disadvantages were enumerated. Elements in setting up stable consortiums were discussed including various pricing models, criteria for membership, construal leadership and other matters.

A member discussed his involvement and experience with a statewide consortium elaborating on specific pros and cons.

Another member discussed her library's Collaboration Center, which is a physical space within the library, which fosters bringing together researchers and state-of-the-art equipment and technology. Examples of equipment include videoconferencing and large high-resolution panels for data comparison display.

We ended the session by discussing the librarian's role in organizing and making data sets easily accessible to users.