

CCML Paralibrarian April presentation

The Thursday, April 12 meeting was hosted by Platt College Librarian Ellie Vaughter, and presented by Dr. Don Parsons. Unfortunately, the attendance was not as large as anticipated, but that allowed for a more personal and impromptu presentation. Our presentation was on Health Policy, the history, and how librarians (Information Professionals) can support medical professionals.

Dr Parsons introduced the importance of sanitation by handing out small personal bottles of hand sanitizers. Various questions were tossed to him, and the following is my attempt to record them.

Question: How can hospitals lower morbidity rates? Answer: We too often look for high-tech solutions, when low-tech, low-cost is right there in front of us for a large percentage. Dr. Parsons then discussed and recited many historical examples of public health insights accidental discoveries.

"Most regulatory policy was developed from safety or public health causes". Principles of public health research; establish compatible studies; utilize the BUILT environment concept www.cbe.berkeley.edu/ .

Question: As a retired doctor, where did he and other doctors obtain their most current medical updates? Answer: Many doctors and nurses receive their primary information updates by attending medical seminars.

Question: What can medical librarians do to ensure their library's livelihood? Answer: Dr. Parsons offers four suggestions. 1) Doctors must be reaccredited every so many years for their license. Surgeons are about every 10 years; family practice, every 5 years. They would truly appreciate study packages to use for preparation. (Is this a lone voice asking?) 2) Educate professionals, patients, and their families on the importance of handwashing.. with soap and water too! 3) Work toward creating a tobacco free campus. www.dath.org/ Connect the dots. Find, collect, and display the information to move people; post documented lost productivity. 4) Display the 10 most important questions a patient should ask his doctor! Also visit <http://www.npsf.org/> .

I am sorry if you missed this presentation, and I hope we have another opportunity to hear and offer questions to Dr Don Parsons in the future.