Get to Know NYCPM’s Staff:
Paul Tremblay, MLIS, MA
Chief Medical Librarian

Paul Tremblay’s office may be in the library, but his outgoing and enthusiastic personality fills the NYCPM halls beyond. Mr. Tremblay earned his MLIS degree from McGill University in Montréal in 1997, and earned an additional MA in Media Arts at Long Island University (LIU) in Brooklyn in 2006. A Cornwall, Ontario native, Mr. Tremblay worked in the Queens Borough Public Library system from 1997-2003, and was the reference/instruction librarian and coordinator of reference services at LIU from 2003-2011. At LIU, half of the campus was devoted to health studies, and he had to familiarize himself with the library’s resources in the health and medical fields. Mr. Tremblay joined NYCPM as assistant librarian in March 2011, and became chief medical librarian in October 2015.

After a career in commercial photography, he decided to hang up his cameras and, following a friend’s advice, enrolled in a Library Sciences program. Over the years, Mr. Tremblay has seen a major shift, library-wise: once, resources for research used to be physically limited to a library building; now, thanks to the Internet, a library’s resources are virtually limitless. There are not so many physical items to add to the collection but rather online resources to catalog; the need is to teach students how to search for exactly the information they desire.

He is proud of the accessibility of the NYCPM library’s resources. The College’s proxy server enables off-campus students to use the library website as if they are on campus. Residents and graduates can use our library for a year after graduation; all alumni can continue to use our off-campus library service until a policy for alumni is formulated.

What do students most often request? Journals. The library has PubMed, a comprehensive index of published medical articles in peer-reviewed journals, dating from 1966 (selectively to 1809) to the present.

Mr. Tremblay sees the library of the future comprising more and more online resources that are more mobile- and less computer-based. Aside from teaching students how to search resources most effectively, Mr. Tremblay and Ms. Samantha Walsh, MLS, NYCPM’s Medical Librarian, teach them how to use these resources and how to integrate these resources into research. They also teach students about intellectual property and academic integrity. It’s the librarian’s role to teach, Mr. Tremblay says; every resource presents different problems and issues.

Always at the ready to share his knowledge of French, Mr. Tremblay is an invaluable member of the team that helps the Canadian students in every aspect of their time at the College. Mr. Tremblay reminds everyone: N’oubliez pas de visiter la bibliothèque et dire bonjour!