



NCIPIT

History of the Health Sciences Section Newsletter Medical Library Association December 1999

President's Message

Dear History of Health Sciences Section members:

Put on your thinking caps! I need your help planning the development of our History Section. But first, let me update you on our current activities.

Heidi Heilemann has been swept off her feet this fall planning for the MLA 2000 Vancouver meeting. Having performed this task myself, I know her e-mail has been ablaze with messages from MLA and other section planners. Heidi, fortunately, has us organized and ready to go.

Our section is co-sponsoring two programs. "East/West: Merging Trends in Medical Therapeutics" is being planned with Relevant Issues and International Cooperation and Consumer Health Sections. The second program is entitled "Recording for the Future: Demystifying the Oral History Process." This is an invited paper session sponsored with the Oral History Committee and Medical Societies. I hope all of you will watch for these sessions in the 2000 program and plan to attend.

We now need new ideas for the year 2001! Unbelievable! Start gathering your thoughts, ideas and inspirations and bring them with you to Vancouver. Time is always short and planning time seems to be non-existent. If you

have a great idea, contact Heidi now at <heilemann@stanford.edu>.

My focus for the section this year is to build our section membership. I will be working with Donna Trainor, Membership Committee Chair, to develop promotional concepts. If any of you have thoughts along this line, please contact Donna or myself. We really need everyone's input to get this section growing again.

Heidi has been trying to establish the listserv that our membership wanted. We are looking at MLA to host the list. I have submitted our application and we should be hearing something in the next few days. There is a cost that we need to discuss at our next business meeting. Heidi is the main contact for the list if you have questions. We will be sending out some criteria on use/purpose once everything is set up. Knowing how many e-mail messages everyone gets in a day, we really need to be careful how we use this list.

A big Thank You to several people: Fred Pachman is getting our newsletter back on track. Pat Gallagher is monitoring our website and keeping track of our bylaws. Stephen Greenberg and Nonnie Klein are representing us in Section Council. Anne Baxter is keeping an eye on our money and reminding me what has been decided by the membership. I truly appreciate everyone's assistance.

I close my message now so you can read and enjoy the rest of the newsletter. Please feel free to contact me at < vanbrimmer.2@osu.edu > if you have any questions, concerns or issues that need to be addressed by our section.

Best wishes,

Barbara Van Brimmer
Chair, MLA History of Health Sciences Section

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Membership Committee

Donna J. Trainor
Greenblatt Library
Medical College of Georgia
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Minutes of the Annual Business Meeting 17 May 1999 Hyatt Regency Hotel, Chicago

Present: Anne Maria Baxter, Billie Broaddus, Sally Brown, Patricia E. Gallagher, Stephen Greenberg, Heidi Heilemann, Nonnie Klein, Lucretia McClure, Diane McKenzie, Susan Marshall, Erich Meyerhoff, Richard Nolan, Frederic C. Pachman, Suzanne Porter, Paul Theerman, Donna J. Trainor, Barbara Van Brimmer, Dorice Vieira.

The meeting was called to order at 2:07pm by Stephen Greenberg, Acting Chair. (Maggie Yax resigned her office late last summer for personal reasons.) The minutes of the previous meeting were approved and the treasurer's report was read and accepted.

Election Results

Pat Gallagher reported that Heidi Heilemann is the Chair-Elect and Anne Maria Baxter is the Secretary/Treasurer. The slate was unanimously approved.

Continuing Education

Gallagher and Greenberg taught their half-day course, "Introduction to Reference Sources in the History of the Health Sciences," to twelve attendees at the joint MAC and Pittsburgh chapter meeting on 4 October 1998 and to nine attendees at the New York/New Jersey chapter meeting on 15 April 1999. A full day course on the history of the health sciences has been proposed for next year's annual meeting in Vancouver. Possibly a half-day course will be done for the College of Physicians in Philadelphia. Our Web site has gotten good notice and is easy to find via MLANET.

INCIPIT

Greenberg, who has been serving as interim editor, encouraged anyone interested in taking over the job to contact him. He recommended that the newsletter become more substantial and frequent. Whether we go electronic or not we will need to keep a paper version, especially for elections.

Program Committee

Barbara VanBrimmer reported that last year we had a number of joint programs; however, this year there was no interest in joint sessions so we did our own program. Twelve papers were submitted and four were chosen for presentation. Heidi Heileman, who will be our next Program Chair, discussed the medical Societies and Relevant Issues sections as two possibilities for a joint program in 2000. Since next year's meeting is in Canada, customs requires any printed brochures brought in to state, "Printed in the USA" or the text must appear in both English and French. Perhaps we can offer an oral history program in lieu of our CE course which did not fill this year. If we did invited papers as opposed to contributed papers we could control the theme and content better. We will need to decide by the second week in June. Members were solicited for feedback on the earlier time slot this year for our program and business meetings. Reaction was very positive.

Section Council

Membership in MLA stands at 4900, of which 1100 are institutional members. A vice-chair will be elected for Section Council on Wednesday to fill the gap which occurs every third year between the chair and the in-coming chair. A new section, Corporate Information Services, and two new ZIGS, Internet and Voyager, have been proposed. The Mental Health Libraries section has been out of compliance for two years. If they decide to become a SIG, it has been proposed they be allowed to keep the funds remaining in their treasury with headquarters oversight. The single-slate-for-President proposal narrowly passed at the first business meeting and now must go to the membership for a vote.

Discussion is underway about a new name for MLA. "Medical" and "librarian" are thought by some to be limited. The restructuring of SC is proceeding as planned. The alternate will be eliminated; elections will be staggered so the incoming representative will act for the rep as necessary. A proxy vote can be exercised if neither is available. We need to elect our representative by 1 March 2000. This person will have a three year appointment - one as incoming and two as serving. In March 2001 we will need to select a representative elect. The McClure Excellence in Education Endowment has been created and a motion was made and seconded to donate \$500. It was passed with one abstention (McClure).

New Business

VanBrimmer will send out a personal letter to new members encouraging their participation; she also plans to put it on the Web page. She solicited ideas from those present for promoting more section interest. Heilemann will pursue a closed list-serve for our section once Stanford confirms it will be able to mount it on their server. This will be an automatic membership benefit and could change the content of INCIPIT since we do not want to duplicate. Diane McKenzie suggested an oral history column for the newsletter. The Gottlieb Award was given this year. We need to clarify if the winning paper is automatically published in the Bulletin.

Greenberg turned over the office to the incoming Chair and VanBrimmer adjourned the meeting at 3:38pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Suzanne Porter
Secretary

Medical Library Association Annual Conference

Just some initial information and dates to mark on your calendar. The joint meeting of the Canadian Health Libraries Association and our Medical Library Association is scheduled for:

May 5 - 11, 2000
Vancouver, British Columbia

The HHS Section Meeting is set for:
Tuesday May 9, 2000 12:30 - 2:00pm



A State of Health: New Jersey's Medical Heritage

From Lenape remedies to designer drugs, from Edison's fluoroscope to the New Jersey Knee, from James Still "Black Doctor of the Pinelands" to Nobel Prize-winner Selman Waksman, from Revolutionary War hospitals to the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey, this exhibit salutes New Jersey's unique medical history.

Starting in May 1999 at the Alexander Library of Rutgers University, this traveling exhibition will visit all corners of New Jersey, sponsored by grants from academic, corporate, governmental, and medical entities.

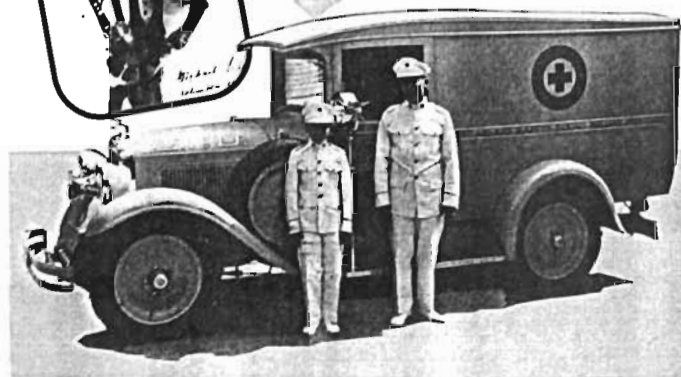
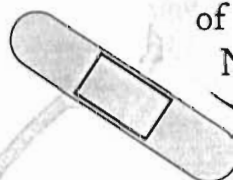
For information on the exhibition and a copy of

the brochure, contact Lois Densky-Wolff at the University of Medicine and Dentistry, George Smith Library - Special Collections; telephone 973.972.7830.

A State of Health: New Jersey's Medical Heritage



An
exhibition
celebrating more
than four centuries
of medicine in
New Jersey



***Read any Old Books
Lately?***



We Have

**History of the Health Sciences
Section
Medical Library Association**

The purpose of the Section is to stimulate and support interest in the history of the health sciences among libraries and librarians.

Section Benefits:

1. Receive the section newsletter, *Incipit*.
2. Promote communication and cooperation among colleagues having similar interests and/or professional responsibilities.
3. Provide a forum from which to support special areas of interest.
4. Opportunity to be active in the Medical Library Association by serving as a section officer or committee member.
5. Opportunity to take part in section sponsored programming at the MLA annual meeting.
6. Opportunity to write and publish articles in the section newsletter.
7. Opportunity to contribute to the section WWW home page (www2.mc.duke.edu/misc/mla/hhss/hhss.htm) and history links page (www2.mc.duke.edu/misc/mla/hhss/histlink.htm.)

**History of the Health Sciences
Section Program, Monday, 17 May
1999 - 4pm to 5:30pm**

Elizabeth R. Warner, Thomas Jefferson University, Philadelphia PA.
"Historical Investigation as 'Scrap Craft': Teaching Research with Original Sources to Occupational Therapy Students."

helen-ann brown, Cornell University, New York NY. "Can You Get Through to MEDLINE?"

T.A. Singarella University of Tennessee, Memphis TN
"From the Past to the Future: the Evolution of Electronic and Information Technology and Societal Factors Impacting on Academic Health Sciences Libraries."

Gerald (Jerry) Perry
"The University of Arizona, Tucson AZ
Desert Rheumatism: a Natural History of Valley Fever in Southern Arizona."

**To join the section, contact us through
our website:**

www2.mc.duke.edu/misc/mla/hhss/histlink.htm

or send e-mail to:

stephen_greenberg@nlm.nih.gov