



INCIPIT

History of the Health Sciences Section Newsletter Medical Library Association Volume XV Issue 2 November 2003

Greetings from the Chair

Welcome to another year as members of the History of the Health Sciences Section of MLA. It was good to meet many of you at the meeting in San Diego, and we hope to meet more of you at our upcoming meeting in Washington DC in 2004. We are already planning an exciting program, which our Programming Chair, Anne-Maria Frketich will tell you about in more detail.

I hope that many of you were able to attend the program sessions in San Diego. The attendance at both sessions was quite good.

Considering the competition that is inherent at any MLA meeting, this is a tribute to the efforts of our many contributors. Session 1, which was held on Monday May 5th, was entitled Beachcombing for a Cure: History & Current Developments in Botanical Medicine. Sponsored in conjunction with the Complementary and Alternative Medicine SIG, this program featured 5 contributed papers including one from our treasurer Michael Flannery. The papers discussed a variety of aspects on botanical

medicine, from herbals in historical collections to using images from herbals for library exhibits and outreach.

Our session on Tuesday May 6th, Diving for Treasure: Library Exhibits from Idea to (virtual) Reality featured a mix of contributed and invited papers, and looked at the many aspects of library exhibits, in a variety of different types of collections. Abstracts for all the papers are available on our website, at <http://www.mla-hhss.org/acts03.html>. In fact, you can look at the programs and abstracts for all of our Annual Meeting sessions since 1998 at <http://www.mla-hhss.org/pastact.html>.

By now, I hope that everyone in the Section has subscribed to the listserv. We would really like to make the listserv a primary tool for Section business. We would like our members to contribute to Section decisions, even if they cannot attend MLA or the business meeting. If you are not yet subscribed, and need assistance in getting on the list, please contact me or our past-chair (and listowner) Heidi Heilemann.

MLA elections are coming up. As

you may know, each section has the opportunity to appoint a potential nominee to the MLA Nominating Committee, 6 of who are selected by Section Council to appear on the final slate. This year, our nominee Stephen Greenberg was one of the 6 section nominees to make it onto the final slate.

As we bid a fond farewell to summer, I look forward to the next two years as your Chair and to further communications with you as



Business Meeting Minutes
Medical Library Association
Annual Business Meeting Minutes
May 5, 2003
Town & Country Resort, San Diego,
CA

Present: Mike Flannery, Anne Maria Frketich, Pat Gallagher, Steve Greenberg, Heidi Heilemann, Diane McKenzie, Susan Marshall, Melissa Nasea, Richard Nollan, Katie Oomens, Colleen Weum

Call to Order: Heidi Heilemann, Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:10AM.

Introductions: Individuals attending the business meeting were asked by Ms. Heilemann to give a brief introduction of themselves to other attendees of the meeting.

Minutes: Minutes of last year's meeting were read and accepted.

Treasurer Report: Anne Maria Frketich presented the Treasurer's Report. The Section checking account balance as of April 30, 2003 was \$3,696.64. Section membership as of

the year progresses. My thanks in advance to all the officers and committee chairs of the section who work so hard to keep our Section going. And, if you are interested in working with some of these excellent people, please contact any section officer and let us know!

Patricia E. Gallagher, MLS, MA, AHIP
Chair, History of the Health Sciences
Section

July 31, 2002 was 46. There was one expected upcoming expense of \$180 for MLA's hosting of the Section Website. Diane McKenzie moved to put this expense on hold because MLA announced at the Section Council meeting she attended that MLA planned on not charging Sections for hosting of their Websites. Pat Gallagher moved to second the motion. Discussion was also held regarding the number of Section members necessary to be in compliance with MLA's guidelines – the number needed was 50. It was reported that all Sections were experiencing discrepancy with the number of members because MLA records could not provide an accurate count.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Program Committee Update: Pat Gallagher reported the History of the Health Sciences Section would be sponsoring 2 programs at the 2003 MLA Annual Meeting. The sessions were: Beachcombing for a Cure: History and Current Developments in Botanical Medicine, co-sponsored by the Complementary and Alternative Medicine SIG and Diving for Treasure: Library Exhibits from Idea to Reality.

The Section was co-sponsoring one session, Sharing Our Success: From Idea to Impact, with the Health Association Libraries Section and the African American Medical Libraries Alliance SIG.

Pat Gallagher reported the laptop Steve Greenberg brought to use for the session presentations experienced a problem necessitating renting a laptop for the sessions. It was suggested the Section Treasury bear the cost of the rental but because most of the presenters for one of the sessions were from Greenberg's home institution (NLM), NLM agreed to bear the cost of the laptop rental.

Website: Pat Gallagher reported the heaviest used page on the HHSS Website was the still Web Links page with the Section Home page following. Gallagher distributed statistic on the Website usage generated by WebTrends. The histlink page received 9000 views, History of Diseases 2000 views, and 1000 views for the Section Home Page.

Continuing Education: Greenberg reported the History of the Health Sciences BibKit was MLA's best selling BibKit and the second best selling MLA publication overall.

Pat Gallagher and Steve Greenberg reported the CE class scheduled for this MLA Annual Meeting, Introduction to Reference Sources in the History of the Health Sciences, was cancelled during Early Bird Registration due to an insufficient number of registrants. Melissa Nasea said she tried to sign up for the course but was told it had been cancelled. The last time the course was taught was in Seattle, WA during the MLA 1997 Annual Meeting.

Gallagher and Greenberg reported they were thinking about offering a half day CE course, History of Medical Libraries, for the 2005 MLA Annual meeting. It was suggested this topic could serve as a panel session as well as a course. Discussion began regarding a possible symposium and the number of people necessary to qualify for a symposium (95) but Heilemann suggested the discussion be moved to the program Section of the meeting.

Listserv: Heidi Heilemann reported the Section listserv currently has 62 subscribers. The list is an unmoderated list. There appear to be individuals on the list that are not MLA members. Gallagher indicated she would send a letter to those individuals on the list who are not MLA members notifying them that the list is open to only to MLA members.

Membership: Richard Nollan, the new Membership Chair, attended the MLA New Members Breakfast. Nollan reported approximately 100 people were there. He brought HHS Section brochures and placed them on the tables. He also reported the Section was the only one to have brochures distributed on the tables.

Greenberg stated that it was because of Norma Funkhouser that the Section now has a Section Council table for Section stickers.

Section Council: Diane McKenzie reported on the three major topics discussed at Section Council. The first topic was the election for the MLA Nominating Committee. McKenzie reported not all Sections managed to get a person sent in for the Committee. The

HHSS nominee for the MLA Nominating Committee was Steve Greenberg. MLA did not really want new people on the nominating committee because they would not have been involved with MLA long enough to know a number of people. Also, if a person had been on the nominating committee during the last 2 years they would not be eligible for the current year. McKenzie distributed a list of names that were proposed for the Nominating Committee. It was suggested that potential members to the Committee should have been active in more than their own Section as well as those with a considerable amount of knowledge regarding how others worked. The group decided McKenzie should vote for the individuals she believed would be best suited to the position based on the suggestions discussed by the group.

The second topic dealt with membership. McKenzie reported each Section must appoint a person to the Membership board. This individual would have to be on a committee and be active in the membership board. MLA is currently defining the role of the membership committee person. The issue of membership has gained significantly in importance with MLA. Currently the Section Council person is the liaison to the Membership Committee and this would be a three year position.

The third topic, McKenzie reported, dealt with MLA's agreement to host all Section and SIG Websites for free. This was a move that MLA member Jerry Perry had been suggesting for some time. It was also mentioned that the SIGs are not permitted to have a treasury so they would not have the funds

necessary to pay for Website hosting. MLA, it was reported, currently host 12 Websites at a cost of \$3200 per year at 2 hours of support per month per Website. The move to host a total of 32 Section and SIG Websites would cost \$5500 per year but the amount of support required could not be estimated at this time. MLA is still working on coming up with this figure.

The software currently being evaluated for the hosting the Websites is Cpanel which could be viewed on www.cpanel.net. The MLA person working this issue is Sharon Giovanale. MLA, it was reported, is looking at the Section and SIG Websites as a resource. Susan Marshall talked about how areas on the Section Websites could be public vs. private.

During the next year Sharon Giovanale will be heading up a Section workgroup to work on public and private portions of sites. McKenzie suggested Pat Gallagher might want to contact Sharon about these issues since Gallagher maintains the HHS Section Website.

MLA planned on monitoring the Section Websites and planned on an annual review of the sites to make sure they were live and current. MLA was working on a checklist of items all Sections should have up. Gallagher and McKenzie thought the HHS Section Website could serve as a model. Currently MLA did not have a criteria list of what should be available on a Section Website. There was no discussion about electronic archiving at the MLA meeting McKenzie attended. Melissa Nasea stated that one Section did a January 15 snapshot of their Website. Greenberg suggested a

snapshot of the HHS Section Website should go to Mary Langman at NLM because NLM houses the MLA archives. Discussion regarding archiving the Section Website as well as taking an annual January 15 snapshot of the Website ensued.

McKenzie reported no one at MLA takes a snapshot of their Website and that the HHS Section did not have a snapshot of its original site. Gallagher stated she would do a snapshot of the HHS Website. Gallagher also stated the information on the site has not changed that much, only the Section Officers change. Greenberg stated he would speak to Mary Langman at NLM about an archives page.

McKenzie reported MLA ratified several free Section memberships for all new members of MLA for one year and that new MLA members could only join one Section for free.

A new SIG was proposed – a Benchmarking SIG. There was some discussion that every Section should be doing benchmarking. There was some discussion regarding the pros and cons of SIGs – the cons being they took away from Sections, the pros being that they welcomed new members and made them feel welcome. The Sections were being reviewed for membership compliance – Sections had to have 50 members to be in compliance but since most Sections do not know exactly how many members they have. MLA sends out a list in April to each Section so they can call or e-mail people who lapsed to check their status.

The Veterinary Medical Libraries Section suggested Sections should do standards and stated they would be doing

standards for academic veterinary libraries. It was suggested that there should be standards for Historical Collections and it was stated standards for History of the Health Sciences Collections already existed.

It was also reported that Norma Funkhouser wanted a copy of each newsletter.

McKenzie also reported on information regarding program planning and speaker time limits for the 2004 MLA annual meeting as discussed at Section Council. Speaker time for each paper would be limited to 15 minutes and sessions would still be required to have 4 papers. It would also be required to have 5 minutes for a Q&A period for each paper. Greenberg and Flannery stated they would speak to Ray Naegle regarding the short amount of time allotted for each speaker. Pat Gallagher suggested Anne Maria Frketich be part of these discussions because she would be planning the Section sponsored program for the 2004 MLA Annual Meeting.

Susan Marshall pointed out that there were guidelines for posters presented at the MLA Annual Meeting.

McKenzie also reported on the locations for the upcoming MLA Annual Meetings. They were given as:

2004 Washington DC
 2005 San Antonio
 2006 Phoenix
 2007 Philadelphia
 2008 Chicago
 2009 Honolulu

Section Council also discussed the \$3.5 –4 million dollar loss in the Faxon-Rowe

issue with NIH sustaining the highest loss.

NEW BUSINESS

Programming for 2004

Suggestions were offered regarding program ideas for the MLA 2004 annual meeting in Washington, DC. The theme for the meeting is "Seize the Power." Suggested ideas included the power of history, the past as prologue, history is current, currents in history, seizing the power- a biographical theme, how libraries respond to bioterrorism, the power of disease, transformation of people, power and politics, and power of context-linking the past and the present.

Donation to the MLA for the Lindberg Research Fellowship Program

It was agreed that the Section would contribute \$200 to the MLA Lindberg Research Fellowship Program. Heilemann called for a vote – Richard Nollan moved to accept and Steve Greenberg seconded the motion.

There was also discussion regarding a procedure manual. The HHSS currently does not have a procedure manual so Suzanne Porter is willing to work with Section officers to develop one. All individuals who currently hold or have held an office in the HHS Section should provide information regarding their duties to Suzanne for the manual.

INCIPIT:

Heidi Heilemann announced that Richard Nollan would be the new editor of *INCIPIT*, the Section newsletter. Sarah Hook will be working with Richard Nolan. Colleen Weum had served as editor from 2001.

Announcements

The New Project Director for the Oral History Committee is Victoria Piffalo. She assumes the position vacated by Diane McKenzie.

Heidi Heilemann announced and introduced the newly elected History of the Health Sciences Section Officers. They would begin their term of office at the end of this year's business meeting. New officers are:

- Outgoing Chair – Heidi Heilemann
 - Chair – Patricia Gallagher
 - Chair Elect – Anne Maria Frketich
 - Michael Flannery – Secretary/Treasurer
 - Richard Nollan – Membership and Editor of *INCIPIT*
 - Diane McKenzie – Section Council Representative
 - Stephen Greenberg – MLA Nominating Committee
- Heidi Heilemann adjourned the meeting at 9:00AM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Anne Maria Frketich
Secretary/Treasurer



HHSS/MLA Program

MLA has posted the program listing and the call for papers for the 2004 Meeting in Washington, D.C. on the Web site, <http://www.mlanet.org/am/am2004/participate/abstract.html>. The theme for the 2004 Annual Meeting is Seize the Power. The History of the Health Sciences Section will be the primary sponsor for two program sessions and secondary sponsor for two additional program sessions.

In the primary sponsor slot, we appear for the following:

Primary Sponsor: HHSS - Theme: Emerging Infectious Diseases - The Power of Disease on Society
Secondary Sponsors: Health Association Libraries, International Cooperation, Public Health/Health Administration
Format: Contributed papers

Primary Sponsor: HHSS - Theme: The Power of Leadership
Secondary Sponsor: Nursing and Allied Health
Format: Invited papers

In the secondary sponsor slot, we appear for the following:

Primary Sponsor: Consumer and Patient Health Information - Theme: Power to the Patient: New Definitions of Health Literacy
Secondary Sponsors: Cancer Librarians, HHSS, Relevant Issues
Format: Invited and contributed papers

Primary Sponsor: Dental - Theme: Using the Power of the Past to Energize the Present
Secondary Sponsors: Health Association Libraries; HHSS, Technical Services
Format: Invited and contributed papers

Based on the information posted on the Web site, the 2004 meeting looks like it's going to have very interesting and good program choices. We hope you can join us in D.C.!



Join the HHSS listserv

Follow these easy steps to join the HHSS listserv:

1. Send an email message to majordomo@mlahq.org
consideration will be given to the

2. Leave subject line blank
3. In the body of the te4xt enter: subscribe hhss@mlahq.org yourmail@place.edu. Note include your full mail address.
4. Receive email from majordomo. Respond to the message asking you to authenticate your sign on.
5. Receive confirmation message from majordomo including the all-important "Welcome to the HHSS listserv" message. Save this one since it will tell you all the important things like how to send a message, unsubscribe, find out who's on the list, etc.
6. Begin participating in the listserv.



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The EBSCO Annual Meeting Grant is sponsored by EBSCO Information Services and enables MLA members to attend the association's annual meeting. Each year awards up to \$1,000 for travel and conference-related expenses will be given to four librarians who otherwise would be unable to attend the meeting. To be eligible an applicant must be currently employed as a health sciences librarian and have between health sciences library. Priority

applicant who is the following:

- 1. Attending the annual meeting for the first time
- 2. Presenting a paper or poster at the annual meeting
- 3. Having a MLA committee, jury or section/SLG assignment
- 4. Being an MLA member

A list of past award recipients is available at www.mlanet.org/awards/grants/meeting.html.

The application deadline is

DECEMBER 1. The application is available at mlanet.org/pdf/grants/ebsco_app_20030730.pdf. The completed application should be sent to the Medical Library Association, Professional Development Department, 65 East Wacker Place, Ste. 1900, Chicago, IL 60601-7298. For more information contact Lisa Fried at MLA headquarters (mlapd2@mlahq.org) or Carolyn M. Brown, Chair of the EBSCO/Annual Meeting Grant Jury (librcb@emory.edu).

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