

**Cancer Section Business Meeting
Annual Meeting of the Medical Library Association
Philadelphia, PA, May 21, 2007, 4:30 – 6:00 pm**

Committee Member Attendees

Mark Vrabel, Chair; Gail Hendler, Chair-Elect; JoAnne Sparks, Past Chair; Julia Esparza, Section Council Representative; Margaret Vugrin, Barbara Henry, Heidi Heileman, Secretary; Karen Albert, Ruti Volk, Melissa Just, Jan Orick, Tricia Reusing

Other Attendees

Halyna Liszczyński, Cheryl Banko

Meeting Place

The Cancer Librarians Business Section Meeting was held in room 414 of the Marriott Hotel. A delicious array of cookies, other snacks, ice cream and drinks were provided courtesy of Elsevier.

Welcome, Call to Order and Approval of Last Year's Meeting Minutes – Mark Vrabel, Chair

Mark Vrabel called the meeting to order at 4:40 pm. Mark spoke about how he had enjoyed being Chair for the year and thanked other members for their help. He noted that being the chair was very manageable in terms of time commitment and encouraged other members to consider being an officer in the section in the future. Cancer section members introduced themselves. Meeting minutes from the 2006 Cancer Librarians Section Business Meeting were approved.

REPORTS

Section Council Report – Julia Esparza and Margaret Vugrin

Julia Esparza gave a detailed report about the Section Council meeting. She noted that 32% of MLA members are AHIP members. She noted that the Health Information Literacy program to be held on Wednesday was highlighted. MLA had arranged for special prices for local public librarians to be able to attend. She noted that 35 CE courses were held this year. The Section Council would like more technology-related CEs to be offered in the future. There were 145 papers submitted and 63 accepted this year—a 43% acceptance rate. There was a 76% poster acceptance rate. She noted that the acceptance rate was lower because of space issues. There was a discussion of how the set-up for the posters this year was not optimal. She noted that there had been discussion at Section Council about cost concerns of holding the 2009 meeting in Hawaii. It was decided that MLA sections could choose to sponsor a member to attend. The theme of the 2008 MLA conference is: "Connections: Bridging the Gap." Our section needs to suggest three program planning ideas for the 2008 Chicago conference in the very near future.

It was noted that 50% of MLA members are between 50-59 years of age and therefore a lot of retirements are expected within the next 10 years. The Section Council emphasized the need for everyone to work to attract new MLA members. The beta version of the MLAnet webpage is available at a computer at this conference for viewing and for comments near the MLA store. MLA also announced it is looking at a new data management system for member data. MLA is considering whether or not it needs section representatives. There is no final decision yet. Section Council lunches were not held this year because of cost. The cost of a box lunch at the conference is very high. It is uncertain whether the lunches will be held next year. There was a

discussion among the Cancer Section members of whether there could be something cheaper where we could do “speed mentoring” to let people find out about the sections.

The Hospital Libraries Section used Survey Monkey this year for its election. If other sections wish to do this, they need to check their by-laws. They may need to be changed to allow this. Hospital Librarians have a “Vital Pathways” project where members are to report hospital libraries that are in danger of closing or ones which are in good shape.

There is a new MLA copyright link on the website. CAPHIS is working with Google to tag good health websites. It was noted that sections are encouraged to donate to the Lindberg Award. MLA is trying to build its endowment. MLA is looking to redesign its Medspeak brochures. MLA membership is dropping, but it did have more new members this year than in the past. It was emphasized that section elections must be completed by February 15. Sections were encouraged to keep their websites up-to-date. If a section wants to fundraise to raise greater than \$2,000, it must go to the Board first. For next year’s conference there will be only three section times for speakers, meaning there will not be as many time slots. Mark noted that for AHIP, if you are just renewing at the same level, you do not have to send in copies of CE certificates and you can use a credit card to renew.

2007 Program Chair/Chair Elect Report – Gail Hendler

The theme for this year’s Cancer Library section was “Patient as Expert: Revolutionary Changes in Medical Decision-Making.” Gail reported that the 140 - seat room in which the program was held was almost full. Gail Hannigan and Michele Spatz presented personal stories of their experiences with cancer. Terry Hartman and Diane Johnson presented research findings. The Cancer section committee members thanked Gail for her work on the program.

2008 Program Chair/Ideas for MLA 2008 – Margaret Vugrin

Margaret noted that she needed some general ideas for what the Cancer Section program would be presenting by the following Wednesday, and that it would be finalized in June. Since ASCO is located in Chicago, there was general discussion of trying to get a speaker from there. There was one suggestion that the subject of the unique issues of chemotherapy and ambulatory care within clinical systems in hospitals be addressed – the specific problems/issues that cancer centers face. Then the discussion turned to “translational medicine” and “bridging the bench to the bedside.” Translational research is the current buzzword. Discussion was held as to whether we invite papers on “Cancer 101.” There was also discussion on a part of the program where we could show how the translational research is important for patients. Several people expressed an interest in working with Margaret on this 2008 program.

Treasurer Report – Sue Felber

Sue Felber, the Treasurer, was not present, but Gail Hendler distributed copies of Sue’s written report, dated 4/30/07, indicating that the Section has a balance of \$9,253.65 in the account.

Newsletter Editor Report – Christine Marton

Christine Marton, Newsletter Editor, was not present but Mark noted that she is asking members for short items for the newsletter about cancer libraries and upcoming CE courses. Copies of the current issue were distributed and there were favorable comments about the newsletter.

Web Editor Report – Ann Marie Clark

Ann Marie was not present but it was noted that she had updated the site with the new officers and with recommended websites.

Cancer Meeting Abstracts – Karen Albert

Karen was thanked for her efforts to get cancer meeting abstracts published. It was noted that Ruti Volk was able to get a contact she knew at Google to put the cancer meeting abstracts on Google. They are not all up yet.

Gail, Karen and Margaret will be working on making a postcard to be distributed at national meetings ASH, ASCO as a few possibilities for librarians to give to their researchers notifying them that their abstracts are on Google thanks to the efforts of the Cancer Section librarians of MLA.

Recommended Web Sites Committee – Mark Vrabel for Frank Davis

Mark noted that Frank encourages members to submit more websites.

Membership Committee - Deborah Bonelli (not in attendance)

There was a discussion of whether the outgoing chair should be the membership chair for the next year. It was noted that the bylaws would have to be changed to do this.

Ideas to increase Cancer Section membership including doing a write-up about our section to include in the newsletters of other MLA sections.

Section By-Laws

Barbara Henry and Julia Esparza agreed to work together on any necessary changes to the bylaws over the course of the coming year.

Other Business

The representative from the American Society for Microbiology, Cheryl Banko, showed her brochure and talked about journal discounts she could offer and that the Society may be interested in sponsoring the postcard printing.

Mark thanked everyone for their work and handed out certificates of appreciation.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:01 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Tricia Reusing
Secretary