

Cancer Section Business Meeting  
Annual Meeting of the Medical Library Association  
Phoenix, Arizona, May 22, 2006, 7-9am

### **Attendees**

Mark Vrabel, Chair-Elect, Tanya Smith, Past Chair, JoAnne Sparks, Chair, Sue Felber, Treasurer, Margaret Vugrin, Section Council Representative, Gail Hendler, Program Chair, Kelly Thormodson, Karen Albert, Frank Davis, Beth Brackeen, Jan Orick, Ruti Volk, Karla Funk, MLA, Jean Shipman, MLA President-Elect

The Cancer Librarians Business Section Meeting was held in the Hyatt: Remington A Room. Breakfast, sponsored by Nature Publishing group, was served.

### **Call to order**

M. Vrabel called the meeting to order at 7:15am. M. Vrabel introduced and thanked representatives from Nature Publishing Group. Meeting Attendees introduced themselves. Meeting minutes from the 2005 Cancer Librarians Section Business Meeting were approved by Karen Albert and seconded by Gail Hendler.

### **REPORTS**

**Section Chair Report \* Margaret Vugrin** distributed pens from MLA and reported on basic facts about sections. With over 117 members, the Cancer Librarians Section is not the smallest. About 50% of the papers and 95% of the posters were accepted to MLA '06. The meeting will use theme tracking to organize and present contributed papers and posters. The MLA '07 theme will be "Information Revolution: change is in the Air". More on this during the Program discussion (below). M.J. Tooley's Vital Pathways task force was comprised of 20 people and focused on hospital libraries and librarians with 1/ survey, 2/ medical education, 3/ vital pathways document integration. Efforts to alleviate medical library disaster relief raised \$14,000 and MLA will match this for a total of \$28,000. There is a recruitment CD available in the resource center that MLA attendees may pick up in the placement center. Other outreach projects this year included librarians without borders and outreach to high school students, making efforts to give back to the communities we visit. There is a new OCLC SIG. If there are any Section web master changes, please send new names to MLA so it can be reflected with the many new changes to MLAnet coming soon. The Lindberg endowment has reached \$125,000 and sections are being asked to contribute to the ultimate goal of \$400,000. Retention and Recruitment is now a regular committee. Section representatives need to be members of MLA. Section bylaws need to be changed to accommodate procedures for electronic voting. Barbara Henry from the Cancer Section is working on this and will get in touch with Mary Langman as needed for help with this. The CE Committee proposal to add credentialing initials did not pass. The Independent Reading Program (IRP) will continue and there will be an expansion of the benchmarking committee work. All

elections must be completed by February 15<sup>th</sup>. A new section council representative will need to be elected then.

**Treasurer's Report \* Sue Felber** presented the Treasurer's Report. The Section's balance as of April 30, 2006 is \$9067.33.

**2006 Program Report \* Mark Vrabel** announced that the Cancer Section was sponsoring two programs this year and encouraged everyone to attend.

**2007 Program Ideas \* Gail Hendler** announced that the 2007 Annual Meeting of the Medical Library Association was to be held in Philadelphia. The theme is "Information Revolution: Change is in the Air!" Gail distributed a handout on caBIG and solicited other attendees' views on promoting this NCI-funded initiative. It was also suggested that the section programming focus on a theme such as "patient as expert" as we are now living in the new survivorship era. Patient speakers such as Lance Armstrong would be appropriate for such a theme. It was noted that the information needs of patients range a wide gamut as demonstrated by a number of cancer patient listservs.

**Website \* Kelly Thormodson for Ann Marie Clark** No report.

**Newsletter \* Michelle Arbuckle** was unable to attend the meeting; but the newsletter is posted on the website. Everyone was pleased with both the content and format.

**Membership \* Deborah Bonelli** was unable to attend; but, as noted earlier in the meeting, we have over 100 members.

**Meeting Abstracts \* Karen Albert** updated the section on her efforts to provide online access to meeting abstracts. A letter drafted by MLA President, M.J. Tooley and Karla Funk was submitted to NLM. Another option might be that Google work with the various societies to provide them in Google or Google Scholar. ACR meeting abstracts are already showing up this way. Others like ASCO and ASH are only available to individual members, however.

**Recommended Websites List \* Frank Davis** distributed the list of recommended websites. Discussion focused on whether the list was best maintained on the web or perhaps a wiki format as suggested last year. Attendees concurred that the list needed to be updated at least four times per year. Attendees all thanked Frank for his hard list on maintaining and organizing the list. Gail Hendler volunteered to evaluate the criteria for what goes on the list, drawing on her experience with NOAH.

**MLA Books Panel \* Lynanne Feilen's** letter to the Section Chair was distributed. The letter solicited section help in looking for authors to write books and DocKits for MLA Publishing. Key areas of interest include:

- Developing online tutorials
- Intranet development
- Teaching and training tips and techniques

- Library management 101
- Library Website usability testing
- “what else can I do with a library degree?”

**Other Business \* Karen Albert and Jan Orick** have been considering the option of creating a consortium to help defray cost to individual institutions for products such as Quosa. Others expressed interest and Karen and Jan will use the listserv to follow up.

There being no further business, M. Vrabel adjourned the meeting at 8:50 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Heidi Heilemann, MLS, MLA, AHIP  
Cancer Librarians Section Secretary