



CANCER
LIBRARIANS
SECTION

NEWS



Issue No. 14

SEPTEMBER 1993

FROM THE CHAIRPERSON MLA IN THE WINDY CITY

Well, we made it through the business meeting and another MLA. I would like to thank everyone who got up early and made it to the meeting. Another thanks to you all for your patience with a rookie chair who didn't really know what he was doing. Hopefully, next year I'll do better!

For those who made it to the program meeting, thank you all as well. A special thanks to Nella Wurangian for stepping in and doing most of the program - in spite of the missing slide projector!

We received a lot of good ideas for the next MLA program. Mary Edith Walker is in charge of planning it, and it looks to be a good one. Eve Ruff from Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center is working on setting up a mail list for our Cancer Librarians Section via the Internet. Although there are some who are not yet connected, please write (or e-mail) me to indicate your support for this excellent project. For those who are not currently connected, there are ways to get you in, if you see a value. Eve also presented a paper at one of the main sessions of MLA with her colleague, Heidi Heilemann. Very good!

As Chris Fleuriel said last year, I appreciate all the help from the section members in trying to fit into this chair position. A special thanks to Dottie Hawthorne.

Speaking of Chris, she presented the world with Samuel Isaac Fleuriel on May 30th of this year. Congratulations, Chris and welcome Samuel.

Susan Michaelson has asked for more volunteers for the Clinical Oncology Booklist. This is a very popular list and is very helpful to our colleagues in keeping up with cancer works. It is also one of our few revenue generating projects for the section. Please try to squeeze in some time to review Susan's books for this list. Contact her at:

Texas Medical Association Library,
401 W. 15th Street, Austin, TX 78701-1680; phone
voice: 512-370-1550; phone fax: 512-370-1630.

Keeping in contact with each other can be very helpful to all of us. I am very excited about the possibility of the Cancer Librarians Section Mail list through the Internet.

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Cancer Librarians Section NEWS is published three times a year by the Cancer Librarians Section of the Medical Library Association. It is distributed to Section members as part of membership benefits; others may subscribe for \$5 per year. Contributions or requests for information should go to:

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Talbot Research Library, Fox Chase Cancer Center, Phila., PA 19111.

The newsletter is designed, produced and distributed by Co-Editor Margaret Vugrin, Library of the Health Sciences, Texas Tech University. Desk top publishing is accomplished through the use of Pagemaker 4.2

SECTION OBJECTIVES FOR 1993/94

Section Chair, Paul Kittle, recently submitted section objectives to MLA. This year's objectives are expected to be in compliance with the MLA Platform for Change and Strategic Plan. As such, this is what he submitted:

1. Sponsor a program in 1993/94.
2. Publish the section Newsletter at least 3 times.
3. Utilize the librarian's unique role and expertise in information dissemination, combined with current and future technologies to seek further methods of disseminating cancer information between medical facilities, physicians, researchers, and instructors to enhance patient care, research, education, and the quality of life.

Paul indicates that #3 is an on-going objective and could be considered a mission statement for the section.

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In closing, I need to briefly go over how you can contact me. Our area code has changed from 714 to 909. My new number is: 909-824-4582, and my new e-mail address is: pkittle@ccmail.llu.edu. This reflects my new status at Loma Linda as of January 1, 1993. Although I am still the director of the Medical Library & Information Center at the Medical Center, it is now only part time. My new role is the Campus Network Administrator, responsible for implementing IAIMS for the University. Grey Hair anyone?

Thank you again for all the support. I am looking forward to a new year!

Paul Kittle
Chairperson, Cancer Librarians Section

**Cancer Librarians Section
Minutes
Annual Business Meeting
May 17, 1993**

Attendees:

Gayle Ablove, Roswell Park Memorial Institute
Karen Albert, Fox Chase Cancer Center
Pla Fish, Harrison Memorial Hospital
Dorothy Hawthorne, Mayo Medical Foundation
Heidi Heilemann, Fred Hutchinson Cancer
Research Center
Paul Kittle, Loma Linda University Medical
Center
Beth Lewis, Fox Chase Cancer Center
Halyna Liszczyński, Faxton Hospital
Ann Nista, Temple University
Eve Ruff, Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research
Center
Anna Smallen, Chadbourne & Parke
Annelie Sober, Miller-Dwan Medical Center
Mary Sprague, The Ohio State University
Margaret Vugrin, Texas Tech University Health
Sciences Center
Cheryl Warren, Valley Care Health Systems

Since Chairperson, Christine Fleuriet, was unable to attend MLA, Paul Kittle, Chair-elect, called the meeting to order shortly after 7 a.m. All section members present introduced themselves, and mention was made that minutes of last year's meeting appeared in the September, 1992 issue of the Cancer Librarians NEWS.

Section News.

OLD BUSINESS

Book List

Susan Michaelson, Texas Medical Association Library, has again volunteered to coordinate a new edition of Clinical Oncology: A Selected List of New Books. Volunteers are needed to write annotations of current monographs in all areas of clinical oncology. Those interested in working on the list should contact Susan. [See address and phone number in Chairperson's message-MLA in the Windy City]. If you volunteered some months ago, please remind Susan if you are still interested.

**Online Journal of Current
Clinical Trials Survey**

Attention was brought to the survey on the Online Journal of Current Clinical Trials. Results were published in the March 1993 issue of the Section News. In brief, few libraries from the Section seem to subscribe to this journal, and for those that do, little interest has been expressed in it on the part of patrons.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer, Gayle Ablove, announced that as of March 31, 1993, the section treasury balance was \$1,899.94.

NEW BUSINESS

Paul presented the slate of candidates for next year's offices as a "white ballot." Ann Nista moved that the slate be accepted; Karen Albert seconded, and the motion was unanimously passed. New section officers for 1993/94 are:

Chair-elect: Mary Edith Walker, Biomedical Library, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital

Secretary: Mary Sprague, Health Sciences Library, The Ohio State University

Nominee to MLA Nominating Committee:
Mary Edith Walker

Programming for 1994 Meeting

Paul led a discussion on the 1994 conference program. The Chairperson and Associate Chairperson of the National Program Committee, Neil Rambo and Judy Consales, issued a letter to MLA sections informing them that the meeting will be more dependent on section programming. Several themes for our section's contribution were discussed, including "intersharing," "enduring rolls for libraries," "positioning in information services," "who's turf is it," etc. With a deadline of June 30, Eve Ruff volunteered to coordinate suggestions for our theme. Input was due to her by June 11, 1993. Mary Edith Walker and Paul Kittle will work with Eve to formulate our section's plan.

Section Council

Margaret Vugrin, Section Council Representative, reported on Section Council. Governance issues are an important topic this year, and we should expect to hear more on this throughout the year. She also mentioned that the Research Task Force is looking for help. Also, the Code of Ethics, for which there is an Open Forum during MLA, is designed for all health sciences librarians. Section Council discussed the importance of the "Platform for Change" in the coming years. The 1995 annual meeting, May 5-11, 1995, will be held in Washington

D.C. in conjunction with the 7th International Congress. This meeting will be a more international experience than the usual meetings. Guidelines for archives were also discussed, and Margaret believes our section is in compliance. The issue of collecting dues from Special Interest Groups was discussed, and Section Council decided that SIG's should not collect dues. Fee-based Services, currently a SIG, probably will become a Section.

Margaret also read a list of MLA priorities for 1994. She also said that MLA Book Publishing and Scarecrow Press are joint and are looking for book ideas.

Cancer Section Discussion List

Eve Ruff volunteered to set up and moderate an e-mail discussion list for the Cancer Librarians Section. She will work with Karen Albert and Paul Kittle to develop this project. For those members without Internet access, the list can be set up to fax messages.

Newsletter

Thanks were given to Karen Albert for editing the Cancer Librarians Section NEWS, and to Margaret Vugrin who produces it. Please send any contributions to Karen, who is always looking for good material to include.

Miscellaneous

The group discussed this year's meeting hour (7 a.m.). Paul explained that there was very little choice in the times available. Next year's meeting hour should be no earlier than 8 a.m.

Cheryl Warren, ValleyCare Health Library, ValleyCare Health Systems, is planning a poster session for the 1994 MLA Annual Meeting. Her topic is consumer health resources. She is also willing to serve as a resource person for anyone interested in consumer health (ValleyCare Health Library is a consumer health/patient education library). She can be reached at 510-734-3315, Pleasanton, CA.

Section Council Report

The following are notes and brief comments from the Section Council Meeting held May 16, 1993, at the Annual Meeting of MLA in Chicago.

MLA will be reviewing its governance policies this year.

Two new task forces have been established. The Research Task Force has been designed to support MLA members doing research, and the MLA/NLM Collaboration Task Forces will work on collaboration between the two institutions.

MLA has drafted a "Code of Ethics." Copies are available from the MLA office.

The 1993/1994 year will be one that sees the implementation of "Platform for Change." Copies are available from MLA.

Starting with the 1994 meeting in San Antonio, May 13-19, 1994, sections will be heavily involved with the actual programming at the annual meetings. This can be done either individually, or in conjunction with other sections. The National Program Committee will serve as a funneling vehicle, channeling presentations or posters to the appropriate section's programming committee. Sections will have final say as to acceptance of items.

A fixed schedule has been adopted for the '94, '96, and '97 meetings. The '95 meeting in Washington will not follow this fixed schedule as it will be a combined meeting with the International Congress of Medical Librarians. The '95 meeting will also be held early for this same reason, with opening day on May 5th. The theme for this international meeting will be "Health Information for the Global Village".

There was discussion about the difference between "Interest Groups" (they have less governance) and "Sections".

If sections are planning to develop standards, they are required to notify MLA.

MLA Board meetings will now be held in September and February.

Margaret Vugrin
Section Council Representative

MLA INAUGURATES SELF-STUDY PROGRAM

MLA is expanding its professional development program to meet the growing needs of its members. To supplement its successful Journal Club and the continuing education courses offered at its national and chapter meetings, MLA has added self-study courses to its roster of educational opportunities. The new self-study program is designed to support MLA's educational policy statement, Platform for Change.

Participants may select from twenty-three different courses, including the Language of Medicine, Leadership Skills for Managers, Subject Indexing, and Time Management in the Small Library. Courses materials come in a variety of forms: print, audiotape, videotape, computer-based or interactive video instruction, prerecorded television, and other electronic media.

In each case, no instructor is present.

The cost of these self-initiated courses ranges from \$60.00 to \$125.00, and the average time required for completion is four weeks. All courses are approved for MLA contact hours.

MLA will continue to add to its self-study course options during 1994. For information about MLA's self-study program, contact:

Medical Library Association
Professional Development Department
Six N. Michigan Ave. STE. 300
Chicago, IL 60602-4805
312-419-8950
KRODENBE@LIFE.JSC.NASA.GOV (Internet).

EMBARGO LIFTED ON JOURNAL SUPPLEMENTS

The so called FDA Embargo incident, which led to a withholding of shipment within the U.S. of several supplements of the British Journal of Dermatology and Seminars in Oncology, was lifted in the last few months. Apparently, the pharmaceutical firms and the publishers responsible for these supplements misunderstood the FDA guidelines as they relate to libraries and institutions. Fortunately, the situation has been resolved, and the missing supplements have been shipped to libraries in the U.S.

The problem arose because these supplements are based on symposia supported by pharmaceutical companies. These firms felt that, according to FDA guideline, distribution of these issues would constitute advertising of an unlicensed use if the drugs described in the supplement were not yet licensed in the U.S. Therefore, the companies involved asked the publishers involved to withhold distribution of the supplements within the U.S. until the FDA approved the new use.

According to Addeane Caellegh, editor of *Academic Medicine*¹ the academic medical community, including journal editors and publishers and medical librarians, should work together to determine what should occur when commercial support of a journal causes the regulation of drug advertising to conflict with the free flow of biomedical information. She suggests that the Council of Biology Editors take the lead in resolving this issue.

1. Caellegh, Addeane S. "Journal Supplements, Libraries, and the FDA." *Bull Med Libr Assoc* 1993, April; 81(2):237-238.

Karen Albert
Fox Chase Cancer Center

REFERENCE SOURCES ON CD

SciTech Reference Plus is an interesting new CD product produced by R.R. Bowker. It includes 5 databases, each an equivalent or subset of an important reference source, on a single CD-ROM disc.

The sources covered are:

- *Books in Print - scientific, technical, and medical books only.
- *Ulrich's International Periodicals Directory - scientific, technical, and medical citations only.
- *American Men and Women of Science - all of the biographical entries.
- *Directory of American Research and Technology - entire.
- *Corporate Technology Directory - entire.

While this is a very powerful CD-ROM product, the search engine is relatively complex. Our end users could generally not retrieve needed information without assistance. All 5 databases must be searched simultaneously, and retrieval is displayed for each database sequentially in separate windows. Movement from one database source to another is not self-evident.

For example, if one is searching for a scientist's biography in American Men and Women of Science, the search "au=skalka, a" will first result in a display of books written by A. Skalka in Books in Print. One must hit the "+" in order to see the Next Database, and even then, results would be displayed from Ulrich's, which might include a journal edited by Skalka. Hitting "+" again will result in the desired listing of bios of A. Skalka in American Men and Women of Science.

This product is priced reasonably at \$995. Purchase of each of the equivalent print sources would involve a higher expenditure. Libraries looking for space-saving mechanisms may also wish to consider purchasing this. One word of warning: this product requires 512K of available memory. Even our new 486 PC with 8MB RAM had to be reconfigured by our Computer Center to utilize extended memory in order for installation of SciTech Reference Plus to be successful. (Of course, we did have other software on the PC that used up a fair amount of the available memory.)

If anyone else has used this product, or any other new CD-ROM product, please send me a description of your experiences; so that this information may be shared in a subsequent newsletter.

Thanks.

Karen Albert

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WANTED: YOUR INPUT

Many of us see each other only once a year (or less!) at MLA. This bulletin provides a way for us to keep in touch and know what is happening in other cancer libraries. Please take time to send me some information about your library, your career, or your life (personal or professional milestones accepted).

I've listed a few possibilities to start you thinking; please let us know how you are "doing it good" in your library or your life!

_____ Building/renovating library _____ Automating _____ Offering a new service

_____ Writing/Researching _____ Getting a grant for: _____

_____ Other: _____

PLEASE PROVIDE DETAILS BELOW:

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Please send to: Karen Albert, Talbot Research Library,
Fox Chase Cancer Center, Phila., PA 19111



CLINICAL ONCOLOGY: A SELECTED LIST OF NEW BOOKS

Want a free copy of the 1992-1993 edition of Clinical oncology: a selected list of new books?

It's simple! Just agree to review oncology texts for the new edition and you will receive a copy for yourself and one for your institution with your name on the title page. The more contributors we have, the less work for everyone involved.

Requests for this publication are received from all over the world. Many institutions and small libraries rely on this publication for collection development, interlibrary loan and identification of resources.

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Providing we get enough volunteers, the process will be as follows:

- 1) *A listing of books titles will be sent to you for you to check for texts available to you for review.*
- 2) *When all lists are returned, book assignments will be distributed as evenly as possible, along with guidelines on what to include in your reviews.*
- 3) *Simply write up your reviews and mail 'em in!*

We cannot produce this publication without your input, so please return this form **ASAP** to the address below and I will be in contact with you shortly.

Susan J. Michaelson, Head of Technical Services
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(512) 370-1541
fax (512) 370-1634

(please print)

Name _____

Institution _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip code _____

Phone _____ Fax _____

CLINICAL ONCOLOGY: A SELECTED LIST OF NEW BOOKS 1992-1993

CANCER LIBRARIANS SECTION NEWS

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