

BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES DIVISION SPECIAL LIBRARIES ASSOCIATION Newsletter

Vol. 6, No. 2

WINTER 1979

DIVISION HIGHLIGHTS SLA WINTER MEETING, TUCSON, FEBRUARY 1-3, 1979

The Division Chairman and Chairman-elect attended the two and one half days of meetings of the Board of Directors and the Division Cabinet. Several of the Division members who are Chapter officers were also in attendance. Some of the items of Association business that were conducted are outlined below.

The members of the Search Committee to find a replacement for the late Frank McKenna were announced. Elizabeth Usher, Librarian of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, is Chairperson. Members include Mary McNierney Grant, Librarian of the Business collection at C. W. Post Center of Long Island University, Gilles Frappier, Librarian of the Canadian Parliament, Marie Dooling, Librarian of the Association office, and Floyd Henderson, member of the Board and Librarian for the U. S. Forest Service in St. Paul. If you have any suggestions for suitable candidates, send them with the appropriate documentation to the Chairman of the Search Committee at the Association office.

Annual Conference matters: The registration fees for the Conference in Honolulu were approved by the Board: \$55 for members in advance, \$75 on site. The conference has also been dedicated to the memory of Frank McKenna. Details of the Conference program were announced; these should be available to all of you before you read this, in the preliminary program. The Continuing Education courses to be offered before the Conference were also discussed; these have been listed in the December issue of Special Libraries. The theme for the 1980 Conference in Washington, DC, was approved by the Board. It is "Realities of the '80s - challenging the individual." (Start writing appropriate papers to be presented there.)

National Library Agency: This possible addition to the Federal bureaucracy, apparently the pet idea of a couple of members of Congress, was discussed at some length by the Board and the assembled members of the Chapter and Division Cabinets. The consensus seemed to be that it was not prudent to rush into the establishment of this agency and that it should be delayed at least until the White House Conference on Libraries and Information Services has been held. The more limited idea of a National Lending Library and/or National Periodicals Center, as a useful adjunct to the two present national libraries (Medicine and Agriculture), was endorsed by the assembled multitude.

Networking: The Networking Committee of the Association would like to establish liaison persons in each of the Divisions, who would meet with the Committee at the Annual Meetings, discuss ideas and projects in networking, and report back and forth to and from the Division. This may be a long-term appointment, possibly open-ended. Do any of you out there with a big interest in networking want to volunteer for the job?

Endowment Fund: The Board discussed the formation of an endowment fund, to help tide the Association over periods of low income or high expenses. Haste will be made slowly on this idea.

Scope Notes: Despite the efforts of your Division Executive Committee last year on drawing up a scope note for the Division, our efforts did not meet with the approval of the Division Cabinet. An interesting sidelight of the discussion on this item was a table showing the percentage of members in each Division who have some other Division as their primary interest. Biological Sciences Division has the lowest percentage, which leads me to think that we either have a lot of members who know what "biological sciences" comprise and therefore don't need a scope note to steer them to the right Division, or that few people in Publishing or Metals and Materials, etc., are interested in biology.

Thomas H. Rees, Jr.
Chairman
Biological Sciences Division, SLA

SLA EMPLOYMENT CLEARING HOUSE

AT

CONFERENCE

The SLA Employment Clearing House will be available to SLA members and to employers registered at the Conference in Hawaii. The Clearing House will be open Sun., Jun 10 (12 p.m. - 4 p.m.); Mon., Jun 11 (8 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.); Tue., Jun 12 (8 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.); Wed., Jun 13 (11 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.).

Resume forms for members can be obtained from the Membership Department, Special Libraries Association, 235 Park Avenue South, New York, N.Y. 10003. The completed resume forms must be returned by May 11. The Clearing House will arrange interviews at the Conference.

Employers with vacancies may request "Job Opening" forms from the same address as above; the deadline for their submission is May 25. Job descriptions for the vacancies will be posted at the Clearing House.

SPECIAL LIBRARIES ASSOCIATION assumes no responsibility for the statements and opinions advanced by the contributors to the Association's publications. Editorial views do not necessarily represent the official position of SLA.

Persons wishing to contribute information or announcements for the next issue should submit material to: Doris Williams, Editor, Biology Library, State University of New York, Stony Brook, New York 11794 by May 30, 1979.

HIGHLIGHTS IN THE HISTORY OF SURGERY, 3000 B.C. THROUGH 1590 A.D.

I was asked to give a talk to the Surgical Technicians who were being trained to assist in the operating room in our hospital. The theme was to be, "A brief history of Surgery". The topic overwhelmed me! I thought to myself "There is no such thing as a Brief History of Surgery!". But I had accepted the challenge and it was up to me to develop an outline and see how brief I could make it. In the outline, I decided not to use anything which could not be illustrated by pictures, artifacts or books. The following is the outline:

1. EDWIN SMITH PAPYRUS- The oldest Surgical Record, probably made 5000 years ago, in Egypt around 3000 B. C. It included descriptions of clinical methods and contained accurate observations in anatomy. Edwin Smith, an expert in things Egyptian, purchased the scroll in 1862. He sensed its importance but could not translate it. James Henry Breasted of the University of Chicago finally published a finished translation in 1930. We had a facsimile of the translation.
2. HIPPOCRATES- Born in 400 B. C. on the island of Cos. 70 books are credited to him, although some were probably written by his students. He freed the practice of Medicine from Religion. He directed attention to careful clinical observation. His oath contains essential points of medical ethics still observed. His book on Surgery describes an operating room, personnel and techniques.
3. CELSUS OF ALEXANDRIA- lived around 400 B. C. on the North coast of Egypt which was the center of culture. Celsus was a member of a group which tried to retain the best of all civilizations. A giant museum or library was established, containing 700,000 scrolls. Systematic dissection of corpses was carried on. The pulse was studied with a water clock. Celsus wrote detailed descriptions of surgical operations. His writing summed up all existing medical knowledge.
4. GALEN OF PERGAMUN, 129-199 A. D. was Graeco-Roman and wrote 400 treatises filled with autobiographical material. He studied medicine in Greece and Egypt and Asia Minor, became a surgeon to the gladiators in Rome, 127 A. D. He cured many famous people and was rejected by other physicians who were jealous of his success. He encouraged the study of dead bodies and believed in a Supreme Being who had designed the human body parts for their specific function.
5. SUSHRUTA, INDIA- 600 A.D. Surgery was not recorded as medical subjects were in India. Surgeons were of a lower caste. Surgery was called Alya or Arrow after the most important weapon in Hindu warfare. Sushruta Samhita was the title of his textbook on surgery. Since the human body is sacred in death to the Hindu, anatomy was difficult to learn.
6. HUA T'UO- 190 A. D. The Shinto religion also prevented the study of dead bodies. Hua discovered a potent anesthetic which was added to wine. It was probably opium. There is a famous picture of Hua extracting an arrow from a general while he was playing chess. Acupuncture and moxibustion was used instead of surgery to a great extent.
7. ALBUCASIS- 11th century in the Arabic period. He was born in Spain in 1013. Albucasis recorded many other physicians' operations. He also pictured instruments of the day. The book advised the doctor to avoid surgery when possible and not to treat bad illnesses lest failure give one a bad reputation.
8. SALERNITAN SURGERY- Salerno, Southern Italy, 1140's A. D. was a health resort. A School of Medicine was started there. The school was famous for providing the first system of examination for doctors to receive licenses to practice. The system had regulations as to length of study, curriculum and exams. One year of post graduate experience was also required. Surgery was part of each student's course.

9. THEODORIC 1205-1286, was a Dominican Friar who studied in Bologna at the University. He was trained in Medicine and Surgery and wrote about his teacher, Hugh of Lucca. He insisted that wounds must be clean, edges should be brought together, stitched if necessary, then bound. He used a sponge of opium and juice of mulberry leaves boiled, for anesthesia.

10. VESALIUS-, 1514-1564, was famous for his anatomy studies. His artist was Jan Stefan. He produced "De Humani Corporis Fabrica" in 1543 at the University of Padua, Italy.

11. AMBROSE PARE, French, 1510-1590, was House Surgeon in the Hotel Dieu, Paris. He was the most famous of the Renaissance Period. He rejected the use of boiling oil in gun shot wounds, which was the practice of the time. He introduced ligature in amputation, podalic version in difficult deliveries, and invented new surgical instruments and artificial limbs and eyes. Pare was famous for his independence and for his dynamic personality.

This as far as I will go for this issue. I will continue in the next one. I hope, if any of you has a contribution to make telling about a display or exhibit you have put together, you will send it to me so that we can put it in this column.

Kay Barkley, Medical Librarian
Jewish Hospital Medical Library
3200 Burnet Ave.
Cincinnati, Ohio 45229

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Congratulations to Kay on her new book, THE AMBULANCE: The story of Emergency Transportation of Sick and Wounded Through the Centuries, by Katherine Traver Barkley. Exposition Press, Inc.

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DIVISION SCOPE NOTE

The scope note for the Division, as published in last Spring's Newsletter and slightly revised at the Annual Business Meeting in Kansas City, was not deemed acceptable by the Division Cabinet. The following has been proposed:

The scope of the Biological Sciences Division encompasses the biological sciences generally, both pure and applied, and the acquisition, organization, dissemination, and use of biological information in all forms.

If you have any suggestions for improvement or objections to the wording of the above, please communicate them to me. If there are no major changes, we will vote on the above at the Division's Business Meeting in Honolulu. Assuming that it is acceptable to the Division Cabinet and the Board of Directors of SLA, it will be made a formal part of the Division's Bylaws.

Tom Rees
Chairman, BDS/SLA

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HONOLULU CONFERENCE UPDATE

As you have no doubt noticed, the program for the Worldwide Conference on Special Libraries seems to have something for everyone, if not in our Division's programs then in the rest of the Conference. There is one small change in the Division's field trip on Thursday, June 14. Instead of visiting the Oceanic Institute, we will be visiting the University of Hawaii's Waimanalo Research Farm after lunch at the Haiku Gardens restaurant. We hope to see many of you in Honolulu!

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NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

The nominating Committee of the Biological Sciences Division submits the following slate of candidates for office for the 1979-80 Association year. Biographical information will appear with the ballot, which will be mailed separately.

Candidates for:

Chairman-elect

Rita Kane
Biology Librarian
University of California, Berkeley

William Beatty
Professor of Medical Bibliography
Northwestern University

Director

James Cox
Medical Center Librarian
Loyola University

Isabel McDonald
Librarian
Oregon Regional Primate Research Center

Respectfully submitted,
Harriette M. Cluxton
Elisabeth B. Davis
Caroline S. Morris
James E. Bobick, Chairman

NEW MEMBERS: WELCOME

Elizabeth J. Airth
2403 Ridgeview St.
Austin, TX 78704

Sue Blaise
3553 Alabama St.
San Diego, CA 92104

Jana Bradley
8215 N. Pennsylvania
Indianapolis, IN 46240

Katherine A. Bridges
406B Butler Ave.
Princeton, NJ 08540

Helene A. Brown
Research Laboratory Library
General Motors Corp.
Technical Center
Warren, MI 48090

Herbert G. Canales
411 W. 116th St., Apt. 910
New York, NY 10027

Judith S. Cox
743 Hawkeye Dr.
Iowa City, IA 52240

Eloise Ey Crabtree
30 Charles St. West, Apt. 521
Toronto, Ont. M4Y 1R5
Canada

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2502 S. Eighth St.
Terre Haute, IN 47802

Linda O. Demoret
P. O. Box 8155
APO New York 09012

Doris Dunn
School of Library Science
University of Southern California
Los Angeles, CA 90007

Jeffery M. Garvey
101 E. Main St.
Sacketts Harbor, NY 13685

Ann Bowman Hall
Library
National Maritime Fisheries Serv.
Beaufort, NC 28516

Kathryn Kaya
2458 Wilder Ave., Apt. 5
Honolulu, HI 96822

Shirley C. Lewis
20411 12th Ave., NW
Seattle, WA 98177

Helen M. Margalith
Library
Professional Examination Serv.
475 Riverside Dr.
New York, NY 10027

Melinda W. Miller
3563 University Ave., Apt. 18
Montreal, PQ H3A 2B1
Canada

Yvonne L. Mitchell
1400 E. Davie St.
Raleigh, NC 27610

Georgeann M. O'Riordan
560 Riverside Dr., Apt. 10N
New York, NY 10027

Don L. Potts
Medical Library Center of N.Y.
17 E. 102nd St.
New York, NY 10029

William E. Robnett
1302 Parker Lane, #201
Austin, TX 78741

Virginia Rolett
ISU Inc.
6 1/2 Mitchell Lane
Hanover, NH 03755

Valerie Taylor Spencer
421 E. 82nd St., Apt. 5C
New York, NY 10028

Linda J. Van Horn
Library
Tufts University
Medford, MA 02155

Robert A. Want
1128 Frame, #11
Denton, TX 76201

Jean C. Williams
Library
SE AHEC
Veterans Administration Center
Fargo, ND 58102

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WOULD YOU PAY FOR THE ANNUAL SLA DIRECTORY?

In 1979 there may be no membership "Directory Issue" put out by SLA due to fiscal considerations and a deficit budget. Many other societies and associations charge for their directories. American Library Association charges members \$10 per copy. I would like some member input to relay to the Division Cabinet Chairman. Please take the time to answer these questions. Thanks!

1. How often do you use the Directory?

Often (10 times or more per month)
Seldom (1 to 10 times)
Never.

2. For what purposes do you use the Directory?

Association business
Interlibrary loans
Other

3. If the Directory were sold as a separate publication without telephone numbers, would you purchase it for a nominal fee (\$8-\$12)?

Yes
No

4. If the Directory included telephone numbers and the cost of the publication reflected this additional expense, would you purchase it for a nominal fee (\$10 - \$14)?

Yes
No

5. If published in any microform (without telephone numbers) at a lower cost than the hard copy, would you purchase it?

Yes
No

6. If published in any microform (with telephone numbers) at a lower cost than hard copy, would you purchase it?

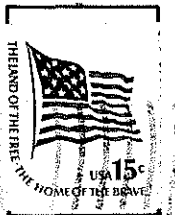
Yes
No

7. If no was answered to questions 5 or 6, was it because you:

Don't have the equipment?
Don't like to bother with microforms?
Other

Clip and Mail To:
Tom Rees
PO Box 832
Stony Brook, NY 11790

Newsletter Editor
Doris Williams
Biology Library
State University of New York
Stony Brook, New York 11794



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