Message from the Chair
Nalini Mahajan

As the end of 2015 approaches, so does the end of my term as the DBIO Chair. This will be my final message to you as your DBIO Chair. It has been an honor and privilege working with you and it is fair to say that the last eleven months or so have flown by! I’ve gained both professionally and personally from my involvement with DBIO. I am tremendously proud of our division and its contributions to all aspects of librarianship in the field of biomedical and life sciences.

As the 2015 Program Chair, I am very proud of the division’s contribution to the SLA annual meeting. We had an outstanding conference program in Boston that drew members from across the association to learn new skills and exchange ideas. This year marked the 80th Anniversary of the Biomedical and Life Sciences Division. The Division celebrated the anniversary at the Annual Conference. Our Annual Breakfast and Business Meeting featured a slideshow with highlights from past chairs and photos from past conferences. All DBIO members were invited to an elegant evening of fun, food, laughter and plenty of time to reminisce. It has been a good year for us: we are strong in membership, participation and leadership. I am also very pleased to report that we had successful fundraising this year and our financial situation remains sound. I want to take this opportunity to thank the Executive Board and committee chairs and members for their judicious advice, tireless efforts and commitment. As a result, in spite of many challenges we are ending the year financially strong. We can maintain this tradition only with your active participation.

DBIO is very much a team effort, and I want to thank everyone who is involved with leadership in the division. First, I want to recognize the DBIO Executive Board: Jennifer A. McDaniel, Chair-Elect; Christopher Hooper-Lane, Secretary; Elaine Dean, Treasurer; Andrea Miller-Nesbitt, Director; Tony Stankus, Past-Chair. I am truly grateful to you all for your wisdom, energy, and commitment. I sought your help whenever there was a decision to be made. You responded promptly, made my life easier, and helped more than you’ll know. My special thanks to Claudia Lascar and Monica
Kirkwood for their work as webmasters, not a small task; Dorothy Barr, Peggy Murphy, Christopher Hooper-Lane for stepping up when I needed you the most (our 80th Anniversary Celebration and Program planning); Donna Gibson for an excellent vendor relations program, Grace Romund for taking on the responsibility as the editor of Biofeedback; Elaine Dean for chairing the Medical Section; Howard Fuller and Nancy Dickenson for their continued support; and Janet Weiss, who continues to offer her assistance wherever it is needed. The division was also well served by Dorothy Barr as the Natural History Caucus convener; Claudia Lascar, Career Guidance & Employment Committee Chair; Rory Dougan, Student Relations Chair; and Amy Donahue, Liaison to MLA. I know next year’s conference is in good hands with Jennifer A. McDaniel as the Chair and Ruth Gustafson as program planner. I wish I could mention each and every one of you whom I leaned on so heavily and who went above and beyond the call to help me … my apologies to all of you. It is dedicated members like you who make a difference.

As we move into 2016, I urge you to start the New Year by making a resolution to grow professionally. Volunteering with The Biomedical and Life Sciences Division (DBIO) is a great way to invest in your profession. Whether you’re new to SLA or a long-time member looking to become more active in SLA, we need you. During my year as the Chair of DBIO, I have been very fortunate in establishing a network of colleagues, mentors, and friends. I hope that DBIO provides the same experience for you. I encourage you all to volunteer for a division committee. There are a number of open positions, and I am sure you can find one that you will find interesting and rewarding. To learn more about volunteering for our division go to Volunteer for Service section of our website. For getting involved with SLA, click on Volunteer with SLA. Please don’t hesitate to reach out to me or any member of our Executive Board or Committee Chairs with suggestions and concerns.

In less than a month, I will pass the baton to a new Chair, who will lead our division through new challenges. Thank you for giving me this opportunity to serve the Division and give back to members who have been my professional family since 1986 when I attended my first SLA conference.

Happy New Year to all of you! I’m excited for 2016 and think it will be a great year for DBIO and for us all.
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Message from the Medical Section Chair
Elaine Dean

It has been a tumultuous year for SLA and I know many of us are wondering what the future holds for our organization, division, and the Medical Section. The future is always unknown but seems especially unclear right now. It has been a privilege to serve as Medical Section Chair this year and I am hopeful that our section will continue to flourish as we come together to see SLA through this time. I encourage all of you to pay attention to the decisions that are being made and the change process, to continue participating in requests for input, and to make sure that your voices are heard to ensure that SLA remains a viable, active organization. Please think about what you value from SLA and share your ideas with our national board.

We also need volunteers for the Medical Section! We are still in need of a Medical Section Chair and Secretary for 2016. Planning for the 2016 Medical Section Reception in Philadelphia is underway now and if you get involved you can learn more about our exciting plans for this event!

If you are interested in leading the Medical Section, please volunteer for service on the Biomedical and Life Science Division website or email Elaine.dean@cchmc.org. This section is a great way to start small with getting involved with our division and SLA and I encourage you to consider getting involved.
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At Biofeedback we are continually impressed and proud to report member news such as new publications, members taking on new employment opportunities, receiving professional awards, or giving presentations at conferences or similar events.

Lori Bronars is the tireless volunteer who compiles “Member News and Publications” for each issue of Biofeedback. She sends out a call on the DBIO listserv asking for members to let her know of any highlights in your professional life you might want to share.

For this issue, a call was sent out to which we received no responses. So I am taking this opportunity to remind our colleagues in DBIO that we want to know what you are up to because it is through knowledge sharing that we can expand and grow professional skills and network within our professional community.

If you have any member news like I have described above to share you are encouraged to email me (Grace Romund) or Lori Bronars at your convenience.
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For a complete list of current board and committee members, see the Division Website at: http://dbiosla.org/inside/officers/officers.html