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# Biofeedback



Special Libraries Association

*Biomedical and Life Sciences Division  
Special Libraries Association*

Volume 24, Number 1  
Summer 1998

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## MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Judy Wojcik

I have just returned from the Annual Conference in Indianapolis and want to thank everyone involved in all the division's programs. Annie Malley, Chair of the Indianapolis Program Committee, and all the committee members really worked hard to provide quality presentations.

The Distinguished Member Award was presented to Lucy Rowland at the Annual Business Meeting in Indianapolis. Lucy was instrumental in launching our Medical Section which just had a second annual business meeting. She also helped with the new division name and scope note. This year, she organized a past chairs' luncheon, where past chairs can give feedback to the current chair and chair-elect on division issues. Lucy, thank you for your many contributions to the Biomedical and Life Sciences Division.

I also want to thank Larry Kelland for all his efforts during this past year as chair of the division. Larry received a book on Indianapolis at the 1998-99 Executive Board Meeting in appreciation for a year of hard work and a successful slate of programs/meetings at the Indianapolis Annual Conference.

I attended the Minneapolis Program Planners' meetings in Indianapolis along with Geeth Rao, Chair of our Minneapolis Program Committee. We are planning to be lead division on "Transgenic Organisms", and our co-sponsors are FAN and LEGAL. We are also planning an Internet program on Web sites from the CDC and the National Center for Health

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Statistics. We will be lead division on this program, and PHARM is our co-sponsor. The Medical Section is planning "The Role of Information in the Quality of Health Care", and a possible co-sponsor is the INSURANCE division. Lorri Zipperer, Chair of the Medical Section, is in charge of finding speakers for this program. I want to thank everyone on the Minneapolis Program Committee who worked on these programs. We have a great start for 1999!

If anyone would like to volunteer for a committee assignment, please fill out the form in this issue and mail or fax it to me. There are opportunities in several of our committees. If you would like to discuss the committees' activities before volunteering, you can call or e-mail me. My address, phone, and e-mail information is included in the volunteer form.

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<http://nucleus.cshl.org/CSHLlib/blsd/index.htm>

**HOME PAGE SUBCOMMITTEE**

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**Address Changes**

If you have a change of address or phone number, please send this information to SLA so that they can be updated. You can mail those changes to: Membership Department, SLA, 1700 18th Street NW, Washington, DC 20009 or e-mail changes to: [christine@sla.org](mailto:christine@sla.org).

**Biofeedback**

Biomedical and Life Sciences Division  
Special Libraries Association

Vol. 24, No. 1 Summer 1998

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## VENDOR RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Lori Bronars  
Chair, Vendor Relations

### What They're Saying About Web of Science

The Web of Science is comprised of Science Citation Index (SCI), Social Sciences Citation Index, and Arts and Humanities Citation Index. Improvements have been made to this Web edition compared to the cd-rom of SCI. Improvements include: the ability to search multiple years within one search, simple-to-follow menus, weekly updating, and the presence of an author search example on the search box screen. Searchable years now begin with 1974 and we're told that ISI plans to extend this date back to 1970 in a year and, for the sciences, back to the 1940's within the next two years. Additional plans call for Current Contents to become a database with daily updating frequency.

Notable improvements have occurred and the Notices section provides a summary of the latest changes that includes additional logoff buttons. Improvements should continue as users would like to see impact factors given with journal names, more examples (cited work and truncation) appearing right on the search box screen, and a cleaner and simpler process to download records into a usable format.

*The author thanks Lucy Rowland, Larry Wright, Helen Atkins, Michael Carter, and other colleagues for their comments on SCI and Judy Wojcik, John Tebo, Scott Smiley, and Lynn Woodbury for their assistance in getting this column started.*

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## CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS!

Judy Wojcik  
Chair

I would like to encourage division people to volunteer for a committee. Several committees would really benefit from additional members. Committee appointments are two-year terms and can be renewed for another two years. BIO committees that need members are:

Membership  
Public Relations  
Publications  
Student Relations/Career Guidance

If you are interested, please fill out this form and mail or fax it to me: Judy Wojcik, Health Resource Center, High Point Regional Health System, 601 N. Elm St., High Point, NC 27262. Fax: (336) 884-6094 If you'd like to discuss committee activities before volunteering, feel free to call or e-mail me: (336) 888-6101 [jwojcik@hprhs.com](mailto:jwojcik@hprhs.com)

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**NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS COMMITTEE UPDATE**

Lucy M. Rowland  
Chair

The Nominations and Elections Committee of the Biomedical and Life Sciences Division is issuing a call for nominations for the offices of Chair-elect, Secretary, and Director. Those elected will begin serving after the annual conference in Minneapolis in June, 1999.

The obligation for the Chair-elect is 3 years (Chair-elect, Chair, and Past Chair) and for Secretary and Director it is 2 years.

Briefly, the duties include:

Chair-elect is Chair of the Fund Development Committee and raises funds to support the programs at the annual conference the year prior to becoming Chair. In addition to the annual conferences, the Chair-elect is expected to attend Winter Conference the years that s/he is Chair-elect and Chair to represent the Division in Cabinet and to attend DACOLT.

Secretary takes minutes of all Executive Board, special, and business meetings and handles Division correspondence as needed.

Director is the Division's parliamentarian, maintains and updates the Procedures Manual, and oversees the Division's strategic plan.

Full descriptions of the duties are available from the Chair of the Nominations and Elections Committee ([lrowland@arches.uga.edu](mailto:lrowland@arches.uga.edu)).

1998-99 Nominations & Elections Committee  
Lucy M. Rowland, Chair  
Barbara Schader  
Patricia Yocum

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**YOUR LEGISLATORS**

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contact them, contact SLA HQ: 1-202-234-4700, x629 OR  
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## AWARDS COMMITTEE UPDATE

### 1998 DISTINGUISHED MEMBER AWARD

At the Annual Business Meeting June 9 in Indianapolis the Division presented its 1998 Distinguished Member Award to Lucy Rowland "in recognition of her exceptional contributions to the profession, the Division and her colleagues." Chair Larry Kelland presented Lucy with a certificate, a citation (see below) and engraved Jefferson cup to mark the occasion. Lucy is the third member to receive the award. Others recipients were:

1996 Patricia B. Yocum

1997 Elisabeth B. Davis

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Special Libraries Association  
Biomedical and Life Sciences Division  
1998 Distinguished Member Award

#### Lucy M. Rowland

As a member of the SLA Biomedical and Life Sciences Division she has compiled an outstanding record of achievement. She has chaired committees for Fund Development, Nominations & Elections, Career Guidance/Public Relations and Bylaws. She was co-founder of the Division's Contributed Papers Session, led Division program planning for the Boston Conference and of course chaired the Division itself.

We honor her for these endeavors and the professionalism she has brought to them. Above all we honor her for extraordinary leadership in transforming the Division at a pivotal point in its history.

For three intense years she worked tirelessly to articulate the strengths of the Division, the wisdom of keeping it whole and the centrality of health science librarians to both. Working respectfully within the authorized framework and drawing on her expert knowledge of organizational structures and procedures, she was instrumental in retaining coherency for the life sciences within the Association and in the founding of the Medical Section. She was the driving force in changing the Division's name and in revising the Division's scope note to make explicit its broad interests and future directions. The vitality evident in today's Division is in no small way owing to her sustained efforts and unflagging belief in the value of our community.

For her intellect and strength, for her integrity and courage, for her ability to see the picture whole and to see the picture clear, the SLA Division of Biomedical and Life Sciences is proud to recognize Lucy M. Rowland with its 1998 Distinguished Member Award.

June 9, 1998

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## BLSD MEMBERS HONORED

Jo Anne Boorkman  
Awards Committee and MLA/BLSD Representative

In addition to the BLSD Distinguished Member Award announced elsewhere in this issue, several Division members were honored this year by the association. SLA Fellow status was awarded to **Eleanor MacLean**. The first SLA Rose L. Vormelker Award was given to **Larry L. Wright**, and **Winifred Sewell** became an SLA Hall of Fame inductee. The Division congratulates these members on their awards and thanks them for all their contributions to SLA, BLSD, and the profession. Following are the remarks made at the awards presentations.

### SLA Association Awards:

In 1986 the associations Board of Directors approved the establishment of the Fellows designation. This honor was created to recognize individuals who are at or near the mid-point of an active professional career in recognition of their leadership in the field of special librarianship and for their outstanding contributions and expected future service to the association. One of the people selected to be added to the roster of Fellows is **Eleanor MacLean**. Eleanor is biological sciences librarian at McGill University in Montreal, Canada. She has been very involved with SLA in many ways throughout her 25 years of membership. On the Chapter level she has served in many leadership [positions], including serving as President of the Eastern Canada Chapter in 1993. Additionally, she has been an active member of both the Science and Technology Division and Biological Sciences, now the Biomedical and Life Sciences Division. On the Association level she has served on the Scholarship Awards Committee, The H.W. Wilson Committee, deputy chair of the Montreal Conference, and served as chair of the Bylaws Committee for the last two years. Thank you Eleanor for all your contributions and congratulations on this recognition as Fellow.

Judy J. Field, SLA President

The **Rose L. Vormelker Award** is being awarded this year for the very first time to recognize a person who has exhibited a strong program of mentoring. This years award winner is **Larry Wright** who has long demonstrated his belief in students and his commitment to them. In his Fall 1992 article in *Special Libraries* entitled: "Students: The Overlooked, Untapped Resource Within Nearly Every Chapter", he identified both problems and solutions. He then served as chair of the Student and Academic Relations Committee developing a new dynamic thrust which last year allowed me to present the first student chapter awards. It is indeed my personal pleasure to give you this award, Larry.

Judy J. Field, SLA President

The last award of the evening is what we feel to be our most prestigious award. This award is given at or near the end of a members active professional career which exemplifies a sustained period of distinguished service to the association in all spheres of its activities. Tonight we honor **Winifred Sewell**. Win joined SLA in 1941 and by 1944 was Chair of the New York Chapters Science-Technology Section. In 1947 she was one of the founding members of the Pharmaceutical Division. Her SLA involvement lead to her being President of the Association in 1960/61. From her interests, it should be no surprise that she was also active in the Medical Library Association, was active in the Drug Information Association, and in later years, she was an university instructor, and is still doing consulting. So, calling her retired because she has now reached the age of 81 is one way for you to get rebuked. Win definitely serves as a role model for all of us, especially those who were toying with retirement. She has set new standards by which all of us can hope to live by and has given us a rich legacy. Win, it is indeed my pleasure to welcome you to the SLA Hall of Fame!

Judy J. Field, SLA President

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### **MLA Awards:**

The Medical Library Association at its Centennial Meeting in Philadelphia this year honored several members who are also BLSD members. Mary Westermann (assistant dean of the Palmer School of Library and Information Science at Long Island University in Brookville, NY) received the **Murray Gottlieb Prize** for her paper in the history of medicine entitled, "Of Mice and Medical Men: The Vivisection Controversy in Turn of the Century America." Eloise Foster (director, The Resource Center, American Hospital Association, Chicago, IL) and M. Sandra Wood (librarian, The George T. Harrell Library, College of Medicine, The Milton S. Hershey Medical Center at The Pennsylvania State University-Hershey) were both inducted as Fellows at MLA 98. The association's most prestigious honor, the **Marcia C. Noyes Award**, is given "to an individual who has made a lasting and significant contribution to the profession of health sciences librarianship" and was awarded this year to **Fred W. Roper** (dean College of Library and Information Science, University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC). Following are the remarks Erich Meyerhoff (1997 Noyes Award winner) made when introducing Fred at the award luncheon.

### **FOR FRED ROPER**

It is an accident of fate that this year's recipient of the Noyes Award is introduced by the most recent predecessor. It is an unexpected and great pleasure for me to be in this position today. The recipient of the Noyes Award, the highest honor to be bestowed upon a member goes this year to one who is in the hackneyed phrase is so well known that he needs no introduction. The beloved Fred Roper, a member of our association for more than thirty-two years, the dean and full professor of the University of South Carolina College of Library and Information Sciences.

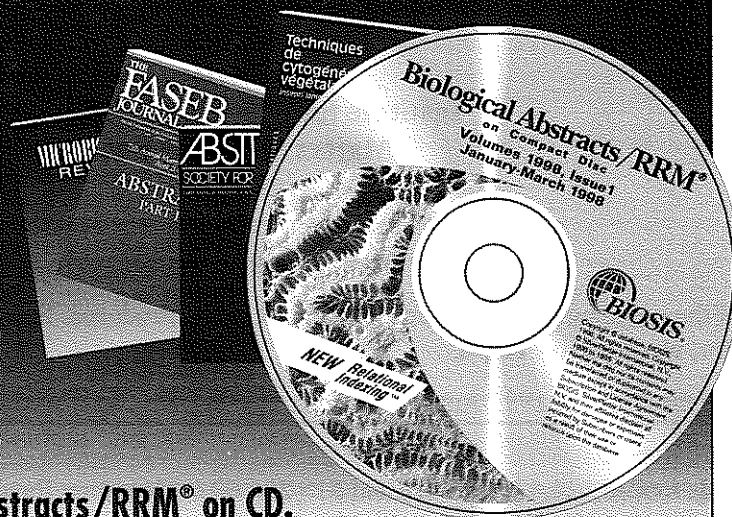
Perhaps you will permit a personal note. Even for Nobel Prize winners differences of opinions arise concerning the merit of the persons given the prize, but there are some whose selection commands the unanimity of regard of their peers and fellows. They evoke a shared joy in the recipients' accomplishments deserving recognition at the highest level. I believe Fred Roper commands this wide acclaim. An early intellectual distinction was his acceptance as an intern in medical librarianship at the Biomedical Library of the University of California, Los Angeles under Louise Darling. He continued to work on her staff in the field of automation. He went on to receive a doctorate at the University of Indiana. He embarked on an academic career at the School of Library Service at the University of North Carolina, to become its associate dean in 1986, and subsequently was appointed the dean of the school at the University of South Carolina. As a dedicated academic he authored 18 papers, perhaps the most important is the book he wrote with Jo Anne Boorkman, *An Introduction to Reference Sources in the Health Sciences*, now in its third edition. His service in our association includes the presidency and membership in committees too numerous to list. He worked on certification and headed the committee which produced the path-breaking report "Platform for Change". He has served in various tasks in ALA but most notably in the Special Libraries Association. He represents in his person a unique bridge between these closely related organizations, MLA and SLA. He became a Fellow in the Special Libraries Association and was elected to chair its Biomedical and Life Sciences Division. His is a life of accomplishment and solid contribution to our profession. The Noyes Award is a richly deserved recognition.

Erich Meyerhoff, Philadelphia, May 1998



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**Biomedical and Lifesciences Division  
Annual Business Meeting  
Indianapolis, Indiana  
June 9, 1998**

**1. Call to Order and Introductions**

The meeting was called to order at 7:45 am by Larry Kelland, chair. Vendors were thanked for their sponsorship of events at the 1998 conference:

**American Chemical Society  
Biosis  
Canada Institute for Scientific and Technical Information  
Chemical Abstracts  
EBSCO  
Elsevier  
Institute for Scientific Information  
Majors Scientific Books  
Merck  
Promega  
Springer-Verlag**

Members of the outgoing as well as incoming board were introduced. Special guests, including the SLA board proctor, were acknowledged.

**2. Minutes of the June 10, 1997 Annual Business meeting were approved as submitted.**

**3. Treasurer's Report**

Division funds totaled \$24,476.16. We had \$15,206.60 in Operating Funds and \$4,269.56 in the Reserve Fund. \$5,000.00 was transferred to Pooled funds and this year's allotment from SLA is \$5400.80.

**4. Election Results**

Renee Bush, chair of the Nominations & Elections committee, announced the results of the election. Anne Marie Malley will be chair-elect 1998/99, Barbara Butler will be Secretary (1-year term) and Eleanor MacLean will be Treasurer (2-year term).

**5. Bylaws Changes**

Fred Roper, chair of the by-laws Committee, outlined proposed by-laws changes. Proposed changes were mailed to the membership in March 1998 and approved in the business meeting unanimously.

**6. Presentation of Awards**

Larry Kelland expressed his appreciation to all committees for their hard work. He recognized Nancy Curtis of the membership committee, David Duggar of the Medical Section and Student Relations/Career Guidance and Anne Marie Malley for chairing the 1998 Program Committee.

This year, two Landmark members were honored. William K. Beatty (35 years) and Marine G. Abbruzzese (50 years) were recognized for their ongoing membership in the division.

A special Chairs Recognition Award was presented to Lucy Rowland for her pivotal role in the division during the past year.

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## 7. Chair's Report and Installation of New Officers

Developments during the past year:

- \* The division web page is under development
- \* The medical section has 141 members
- \* Natural History Caucus chose to remain a caucus and Anne Marie Malley will oversee this Caucus during the next year
- \* The choice of committee to oversee the Landmark Member awards is not yet resolved. This could be handled either by the Membership Committee or the Award Committee
- \* We will consider a name change for the listserv to be consistent with the SLA abbreviation for our division.
- \* 18 changes were made to the procedures manual.
- \* New officers were installed: Judy Wojick: Chair Adam Schiff: Director (continuing)  
Eleanor MacLean: Treasurer Barbara Butler: Secretary Larry Kelland: Past Chair Anne Marie Malley: Chair-Elect

## 8. Brief Committee Reports:

Committees without reports, or reporting earlier in the meeting are not listed here.

- \* Bulletin Editor- 4 issues were produced for 1997/98 and distribution handled by Barbara Crain, Asst. Ed
- \* Fund development- a total of 55 requests were sent out, gathering \$4,600 in support.
- \* Liaisons- David Duggar reported that 30 members attended the second annual Medical Section meeting. Lori Zipperer is chair elect, Theresa Frederick will assume a two-year appointment as secretary and Pamela Bernard is incoming chair elect. The section will sponsor a visit to the Indiana Museum of Medical History and membership in the section has risen to 141 members.
- \* Membership- Nancy Curtis reported there are 662 members in the division (as of April 1998) A new brochure has been produced for the division as well as one for Student Relations & Career Guidance.
- \* Professional Development- 17 people attended the CD course in molecular biology and 27 members have signed up to tour the Indianapolis Zoo.
- \* Program Planning Committee- Three major programs are planned for the Minneapolis meeting: 1. Transgenic organisms; 2. CDC on the net; 3. Role of information in the quality of health care.
- \* Public Relations- Janet Cooper Weiss, Carol Lepzelter and Margaret Henderson have developed a web site: <http://www.cshl.org/library/BLSD/> email [henderso@cshl.org](mailto:henderso@cshl.org) with comments.
- \* Student Relations & Career Guidance- The student column in *Biofeedback* has been re-named and will hopefully feature student authors. Tickets to BLSD events have been made available to students at the conference.

## 9. Announcements

- \* Contributed Paper Session Proceedings are now available on the BLSD web site.
- \* Representative to MLA, Joanne Boorkman, brought copies of the MLA program. The theme for the MLA Chicago meeting is "Present Tense, Future Perfect."
- \* Eleanor MacLean will moderate next year's Contributed Papers Session.
- \* Larry Kelland thanked all committees and encourages other to assist with committee charges.
- \* Adam Schiff (director) suggested that we consider having a Long Range Plan committee to develop a strategic plan for implementing recent changes in by-laws and the Procedures Manual.

## 10. Meeting adjourned at 8:45

Respectfully submitted

Barbara Butler

**Medical Section Business Meeting  
SLA Biomedical and Life Sciences Division  
Sunday, 7 June 1998  
Indianapolis, Indiana**

The meeting was called to order by Section Chair **David Duggar** at 1:30 p.m.

Present were: **Jo Anne Boorkman** (U of California, Davis), **Elaine Brekke** (East Tennessee Children's Hospital), **Renee Bush** (Health Science Library, SUNY, Buffalo), **Dan Chandler** (Integris Health, Oklahoma City), **Libby Cooley**, **Anna Beth Crabtree** (St. John's Regional Health Center), **Nancy Curtis** (U of Maine), **Tom Cutshall** (U of Georgia), **David Duggar** (Louisiana State U.), **Darlene Ennis** (U of Texas Health Science Center, San Antonio), **Teresa Frydryk** (JSI Research & Training Institute), **Mary Hay Glass** (American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology), **Barry Hayes** (Health Sciences Library, U of North Carolina, Chapel Hill), **Larry Kelland** (U of Rhode Island Library), **Ramune Kubilius** (Northwestern U), **Francine Renaud**, **Fred Roper** (U of South Carolina, Columbia), **Lucy M. Rowland** (U of Georgia Libraries), **Mary Shultz**, **Priscilla Smiley** (U of Illinois VetMed Library), **Nancy Stinson** (Health Science Library, SUNY, Buffalo), **Michele Tennant**, (U of Florida), **Janet Weiss** (Wyeth-Ayerst Research), **Patricia Yocum** (U of Michigan Science Library), and **Lorri Zipperer** (National Patient Safety Foundation).

The Minutes from the June 1997 Business Meeting (previously published in the Summer 1997 issue of *Biofeedback*) were distributed, approved, and unanimously accepted.

Biomedical and Life Sciences Division Chair **Larry Kelland** congratulated the Section on its successes and growth during the past year. He thanked section leaders and volunteers and stressed the need for continued involvement on committees in order to develop stimulating programs.

David reported on Section accomplishments for the past year. The Section has grown from 83 members at the time of the last meeting to 141 members. The Division holds approximately 650 members. The Section is now listed on SLA's web page and membership brochure and application. Section updates have appeared regularly in the Division newsletter, *Biofeedback*. The Section is represented as sponsoring four activities and programs for the Indianapolis conference. These are 1) dinner at the Jazz Cooker on Sunday; 2) *Agricultural Runoff and Water Quality* on Monday at 1:30; 3) *Back to Nature: Medicine from Nature* on Tuesday at 1:30; and 4) a tour of the Indiana Medical History Museum on Wednesday.

**Jo Anne Boorkman** reported on Medical Library Association activities. SLA's **Fred Roper**, past Chair of the Division, is the 1998 recipient of the Marcia C. Noyes Award, the highest honor awarded by the Medical Library Association. The award is given to an individual who has made a lasting and significant contribution to the profession of health sciences librarianship. MLA celebrated its centennial anniversary in Philadelphia this year. SLA President Judith Field and others gave greetings. Journalist Laurie Garrett spoke about emerging diseases and John Morreall spoke on humor and health. His *Humor Works* bibliography is on the MLA web page and tapes of talks are available through MLA. MLA will meet in Chicago on May 14-20, 1999 with the theme *Present Tense, Future Perfect* and in Vancouver in the year 2000. A task force within MLA has been assembled to study the development of a section for members with an interest in medical economics/health insurance/health care financing issues. To date, the task force has determined that no strong conflicts exist with other sections. The name, mission, purpose, and benefits to members of this new group have not yet been determined. A chair is being recruited. A Molecular Biology and Genomes special interest group has been formed within MLA. Contact **Michele Tennant** for more information about this developing group. A time capsule containing MLA memorabilia and historically significant items was created at the conference. Included are a report on MLA's certification program by **Fred Roper**, annual meeting reports, association publications, photographs of past presidents, the Centennial issue of the Bulletin of the MLA, and other documents pertaining to MLA milestones. The capsule will be opened in the year 2098.

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Section Chair-Elect **Lorri Zipperer** reported on Minneapolis conference plans. Carla Funk from MLA and Martin Hatlie of the National Patient Safety Foundation are tentatively scheduled to speak on the role of information in the quality of health care. Four possibilities include Weissman Library at the University of Minneapolis, Bachan Museum and Library, Abbott Northwest Hospital, and Medtronics. Thanks were extended to **Pam Barnard** (Allina Health Systems, Minneapolis) for her help with plans thus far.

Election of 1998-1999 officers: **Pam Barnard** was elected Chair-Elect. A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously approved to establish a two-year term for Secretary. A motion that **Teresa Frydryk** continue as secretary for a second year was then made, seconded, and unanimously approved.

Call for Volunteers: For the 1999 Minneapolis conference, contact **Judy Wojcik** to volunteer with planning Division activities and **Lorri Zipperer** to volunteer for Section activities. For the 2000 Philadelphia conference, contact **Annie Malley** for Division activities and **Pam Barnard** for Section activities. Some suggestions for Philadelphia tours were given (Philadelphia Hospital, one of the oldest hospitals in the U.S., with medical garden on grounds; Mutter Museum at the College of Physicians of Philadelphia, with a Community Health Information Center; ISI, Biosis, and vendors with offices in Philadelphia).

Thanks were extended to Division program chair **Annie Malley** for her help with planning Indianapolis activities and **Cristina Pope** for organizing the Indianapolis Medical History Museum Tour and the Sunday dinner. Also, **Nancy Bryant**, first Section Chair, current officers, and **Tracy McCrimmon** at SLA for creating a program that identifies Section members.

New Business: A suggestion was made to establish a Medical Section representative to the Division Fund Development Committee. The representative will help identify vendor support for Section programs and represent Section needs within the Committee. The recommendation will be presented at the Division Business Meeting and if accepted, **Janet Weiss** will fill the position.

New Business: A suggestion was made to increase awareness of the Section among Biomedical and Life Sciences Division members by sending regular messages on the listserv and featuring another alert in *Biofeedback*.

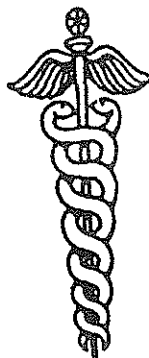
#### Announcements

A Call for 1999 SLA Conference Papers was distributed with the theme *Knowledge Leaders for the New Millennium: Creators of the Information Future*. A Call for Papers for the Division was also distributed with the theme *Getting the Message Across: Innovation in Library Instruction and Training in Biomedical and Life Sciences Libraries*.

Sign-in sheets for the Jazz Cooker dinner and Medical History Museum tour were circulated.

The meeting adjourned at 2:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
**Teresa Frydryk**, Secretary

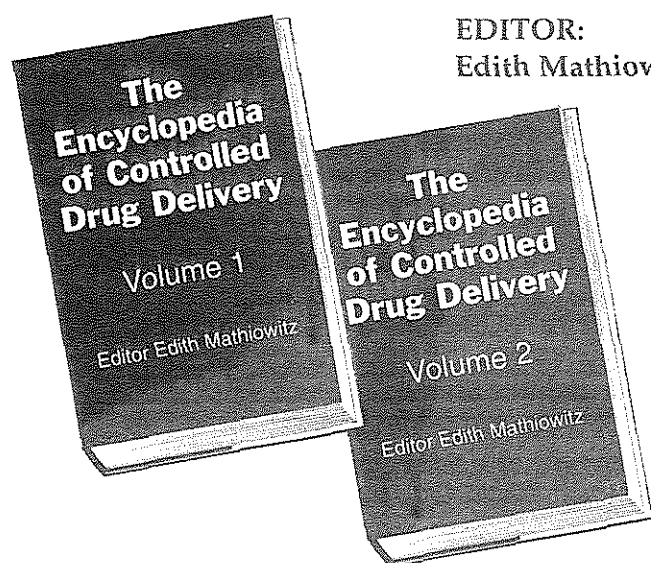


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The **Encyclopedia of Controlled Drug Delivery** covers all aspects of controlled drug delivery, including human, agricultural and animal applications. With its publication, scientists in such fields as pharmacology, molecular medicine, polymer chemistry, biomedical engineering as well as researchers in agricultural and veterinary sciences will finally have a single resource that comprehensively addresses controlled drug delivery systems. The 70 entries offer A-to-Z coverage of state-of-the-art topics in drug delivery systems, focusing on the areas of controlled release technology, pharmacodynamics, and relevant areas of polymer chemistry.

## GOVERNMENT RELATIONS UPDATE

Susan C. Curtis  
Government Relations Liaison

The Human Genome Project was among the hot topics over the last months. The National Human Genome Research Institute announced at a recent meeting in Cold Spring Harbor, New York, that it will proceed with its initiative to establish a cooperative network of approximately a dozen research centers to complete sequencing of the human genome. This statement was in response to a challenge from J. Craig Venter of the Institute for Genomic Research. Dr. Venter is forming a new company with Perkin-Elmer for the purpose of mapping the human genome within three years. Competition from a private company has raised the issue of proprietary data. Public access to sequence data will be impeded if international cooperative ventures, such as that with the Wellcome Trust in Great Britain, are undermined by a private company. The ensuing patents will be in the hands of biotechnology companies rather than the wider scientific community. Concern about the error rate in this stepped up race is also widespread. The adopted standard is just one mistake per 10,000 base pairs with no gaps in the sequence data.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is deeply embroiled in the controversy over DNA-related inventions. Their debate is centered on expressed sequence tags and single nucleotide polymorphisms. The question of which DNA sequence inventions are patentable is still unclear. The only standard is that the DNA sequence must be new and it must not be intuitively obvious to the researchers in the field. The DNA sequence applications must explain how the particular sequence is isolated, is part of a recombinant molecule or is part of a vector. The ramifications of patenting DNA sequences are enormous when one considers that once an item is patented, the protection extends to any use, even those which may not be known at the time of the award.

The National Institutes of Health are turning to the emerging field of bioengineering as a way to speed the understanding of genetic expression and biological systems. Director, Harold Varmus is seeking to foster collaboration among engineers, computer scientists, mathematicians, physicists, and biologists. The National Institute of General Medical Sciences is specifically encouraging current grant holders to apply for further resources to get experts "with quantitative skills to help them analyze complex biological systems."

As you may have heard, the Senate passed s.2037, the Digital Millenium Copyright Act. John Crosby, SLA's Director for Government Relations reports the following: "Section 108 of the bill permits libraries and archives to make, and, in some cases, distribute a limited number of copies of certain types of copyrighted works. In some cases, a limited number of copies may also be distributed." He goes on to point out that Section 403 of the bill "only requires a copyright notice on a digital work when the particular copy, that is the one reproduced by the library or archives itself, bears a notice. If a fully protected work did not bear a copyright notice, the library would fully satisfy its obligation under this section by placing on the reproduction a legend that states, this work may be protected by copyright." The bill does not amend the fair use section of the Copyright Act. The Senate Judiciary Committee concluded that this section is "technologically neutral and that fair use is just as applicable in the digital world as it is in the analog world." SLA continues to lobby for a separate provision that would describe fair use in a digital environment.

The Government Printing Office continues its transition to electronic distribution of publications. Over 800 databases are available on GPO Access. In fiscal year 1998 over 80.5 million documents were download from GPO Access. Among the enhancements that the GPO Access staff have provided is a browseable table of contents for the Federal Register. Use has been so high of this product that a companion table of contents for the Code of Federal Regulations is planned.

**CALL FOR PAPERS -- MINNEAPOLIS 1999  
CONTRIBUTED PAPERS SESSION  
BIOMEDICAL AND LIFE SCIENCES DIVISION  
SPECIAL LIBRARIES ASSOCIATION**

Contributed Papers Session, Philadelphia 2000  
Peggy Jones

The SLA Biomedical and Life Sciences Division is planning its annual Contributed Papers Session for the Minneapolis Conference in June 1999.

**Session Theme:** Getting the Message Across: Innovation in Library Instruction and Training in Biomedical and Life Sciences Libraries

How do you instruct or train users of your library or information center? What new courses or training sessions have you developed? How have you incorporated newer technologies such as web-based instruction? Are you tailoring instruction to also meet the needs of distant users? What challenges did you overcome in the implementation of these educational programs? How do you promote and market these courses or sessions? And how have you evaluated the effectiveness of the instruction or training for your users?

**Abstract:** A 200-500 word abstract should accurately convey the subject of the paper, its scope, conclusions and relevance to the program theme. Attention will be paid to evidence of scholarship in methodology.

**DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF ABSTRACTS:** September 15, 1998.

**PAPERS:** If chosen, acceptance of your paper reflects a commitment on your part to 1) submit the complete text of your paper to the program convener by March 15, 1999; 2) give a presentation of your paper for no longer than 20 minutes at the Minneapolis SLA conference; 3) where appropriate and feasible, offer a brief demonstration or representation of your project during your presentation.

**SUBMIT ABSTRACT (preferably by email) TO:**

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## THE FIFTH ANNUAL CONTRIBUTED PAPERS SESSION

Tom Turner

Senior Co-Chair, 1998 Contributed Papers Session Committee

Sharing resources is not a new concept for libraries. For different reasons--some economic, some political, some practical--libraries have been sharing print resources for years. A new alternative for resource sharing has been the sharing of electronic resources. With many libraries or information centers facing stringent economic challenges in recent years, the Biomedical and Life Sciences Division's Contributed Papers Session (CPS) Committee felt that this topic of resource sharing would be a timely topic for the Indianapolis session. Therefore, the theme for the 1998 Contributed Papers Session was "Cooperation Is the Key: How Biological, Medical and Life Sciences Librarians and Information Specialists Have Shared Electronic or Print Resources to Meet Users' Needs."

In summer 1997 CPS Committee member Peggy Jones publicized the Call for Papers for the 1998 session on library listservs, state chapter newsletters, and *Biofeedback*. Following the September 15th deadline, the CPS Committee members individually graded the submitted abstracts. The committee then met via conference call to discuss overall scoring and strengths of each submission. The winning authors were notified in October and given a deadline of March 15th for the completed papers. Eleanor MacLean, CPS Committee Junior Co-chair, then compiled the papers into both hard copy and electronic versions. The hard copy version of the proceedings was handed out at the session itself. The electronic version of the proceedings is available at the Biomedical and Life Sciences Division's web site ([nucleus.cshl.org/CSHLlib/BLSD/](http://nucleus.cshl.org/CSHLlib/BLSD/)). The four papers presented at this year's meeting were outstanding contributions to this yearly program and more than met our expectations.

The first paper, "The HUBNET User Survey: User Assessment of a Biomedical Resources Network," was co-authored by Nancy Stimson of the State University of New York at Buffalo's Health Sciences Library and Martin Mutka of the Library Consortium of Health Institutions Buffalo. Stimson's presentation centered on the lessons learned from mounting an online user survey for their HUBNET Biomedical Resources Network. While meeting users' needs and exceeding their expectations is (or should be) the focus of all libraries, the use of online customer surveys is a new approach for libraries. The Stimson-Mutka findings should be useful to others mulling this method of surveying customers.

Polin Lei of the University of Arizona's Health Sciences Library presented the second paper, "Harnessing Biomedical Resources for Cooperation and Collaboration: Cases in Bioinformatics and Nutritional Sciences." Her paper detailed the groundbreaking efforts by their librarians at cooperative efforts with University of Arizona faculty to teach students how to access bioinformatic and nutritional resources. Lei encouraged librarians to attempt innovative approaches in cooperation.

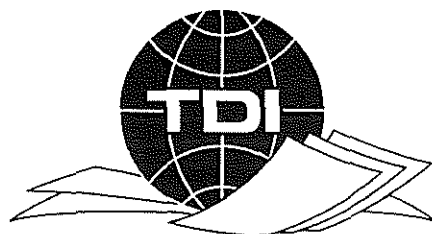
In the third paper, "SCHIN, SEND and NAND: Sharing Is Not a Four-Letter Word for These Interlibrary Loan Networks Based on the National Library of Medicine's DOCLINE System," Thomas Hill of the Upper Savannah AHEC (Area Health Education Consortium) Medical Library in Greenwood, South Carolina gave a detailed analysis of his library's experiences with evolving versions of regional interlibrary loan networks. Hill concluded that these networks have provided successful models for balancing the interlibrary loan needs of large and small medical libraries. He encouraged academic and special libraries supporting health sciences programs to consider actively participating in such networks.

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The final paper, "Partnerships for Progress: The Evolution and Future of the Health Science Information Consortium of Toronto," was co-authored by Joan Leishman (University of Toronto), Helen Michael (University of Toronto) and Laurie Scott (Health Science Information Consortium of Toronto). Presented by Scott, the paper detailed the evolution of the Health Science Information Consortium of Toronto since 1990. Scott reviewed the economic and political pressures which have forced the consortium to "reinvent" its model of operation, and she provided long-term lessons for other libraries considering entering into resource sharing consortia.

Our Contributed Papers Sessions Committee (Eleanor MacLean, Peggy Jones, Anne Marie Malley and myself) would like to thank this year's presenters and authors for a job well done. We also thank all those who submitted abstracts. BIOSIS graciously sponsored this year's program and receives our gratitude for their support. And we extend a big thanks to Margaret Henderson who loaded the 1997 and 1998 CPS Proceedings on the Biomedical and Life Sciences Division's web site.



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## BIOLIFE

David Duggar

Outgoing Chair Student Relations/Career Guidance Committee

The new year, 1998-99, is here, and now is the time to take charge of your destiny. If you did not volunteer to serve on a Division Committee during the SLA Conference in Indianapolis, Judy Wocjik, Division Chair, is still looking for members! She is frazzled and tired and will accept any offer! If your goal is to be the future Librarian of Congress, Director of the National Library of Medicine, Director of the National Agriculture Library, Director of your University library system, or President of SLA, now is the time to start the steps to that ultimate goal. Serve on a committee. Be active in the Division and thereby in the Association. Become known. In ten years you could be sitting in the big chair! Anything could happen in the new millennium.

We are fortunate to see so many students at Indianapolis for the 1998 Conference. Below are just a few students seen there:

Brian Westra - He volunteered to help with the new SLA Student CE Program; attended the Joint Continental Breakfast Sunday; and may become a committee member after settling into his new job in Montana.

Carol Caskey - A graduate assistant at Women's Hospital Library in Baton Rouge, though not a BIO member, she attended the Medical Section's Dutch Treat, the BIO business meeting Tuesday, and the Contributed Paper Session and Indiana Medical History Museum tour Wednesday. Look's like a new BIO member to me!

E.M. Smigielski - Was very busy this conference at a C.E. program all day Sunday and at Student programs Tuesday.

Jonathan Nabe - A new member of the Division who volunteered to help redefine the Publications Committee after attending the Joint Continental Breakfast Sunday.

June Carter - She was at the Joint Continental Breakfast Sunday and BIO business meeting Tuesday. A real go-getter from North Carolina.

Pamela Scales - She was around but never found in a busy conference.

Three students contacted the Chair of the Student Relations/Career Guidance Committee to take advantage of FREE tickets to the Division's two meal events Sunday and Tuesday. I want to thank Brian Westra, E.M. Smigielski, and Pamela Scales for participating in this trial run. Due to the success of the ticket offer, we plan to give FREE tickets for Division meal functions at the 1999 conference in Minneapolis. Notices will be coming out in late February/early March; a better time than mid-April (as mentioned by some of the students whom had already registered for this activities this year).

Tom Turner will be the new Chair of this Committee for the 1998-99 year. Please write about your conference experiences and send these to him for this column. Also let him know what you would like to achieve as a student member of the Division so he can better plan and orient the goals and objectives for the committee around your needs for the 1998-99 year.

I hope that those of you who are recent graduates or planning to graduate this year, consider continuing your membership in SLA and the Division as a Regular Member. We have a lot to offer. We just need you!

## **SLA ANNUAL CONFERENCE - INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS**

### **Biomaterials Monday, June 8 10:30-11:45**

The session on biomaterials, held Monday morning, had over 100 people in attendance. The program was co-sponsored by the Chemistry, Engineering, Metals/Materials, and Pharmaceutical divisions, and Chemical Abstracts funded the program. Biomaterials are substances used in medical devices ranging from artificial heart valves and hip prostheses to sutures and IV catheters. The field is highly interdisciplinary and presents a challenge to librarians and information scientists. The moderator of the program was Jack Cooper from the University of California, Riverside. Three speakers gave an overview of ways to retrieve information.

Joel Higgins, an engineer from Biomet, Inc. an orthopedic biomaterials company, began the program with an explanation of the areas of special concern to those working in the field: strength of materials, biocompatibility, rate of degradation, manufacturing processes, inspections, and sterilization. He then gave a case study illustrating the difficulty of finding relevant information. The second speaker, Renee Bush from the Health Sciences Library at SUNY Buffalo, talked about the diffuse nature of the literature of biomaterials. She pointed out some of the best sources for locating information, including a few that are frequently overlooked, such as patents and the proceedings of the conferences held in Europe and Japan. Rod Pinkston from Chemical Abstracts, the third speaker, demonstrated effective ways of searching Chemical Abstracts for biomaterial literature. He emphasized that the best searches are done using CAS Registry numbers and controlled subject index terms.

Jack Cooper  
Bio-Agricultural Library  
University of California, Riverside

### **A Winner's Circle of Science Web Sites Monday, June 8 12:00-1:15**

The Biomedical and Life Sciences Division program entitled "A Winner's Circle of Science Web Sites" was co-sponsored by both the Chemistry and ERM divisions. The program was moderated by Susan Westerberger from the EPA and Garcia Consulting, Inc., and was underwritten by the Canadian Institute for Scientific and Technical Information. The program had three speakers. Gary Wiggins from the Chemical Library at Indiana University ([wiggins@indiana.edu](mailto:wiggins@indiana.edu)) maintains a chemical information listserv CHMINF-L (subscribe by sending a message to [listserv@listserv.indiana.edu](mailto:listserv@listserv.indiana.edu)). He presented information on valuable web sites for chemistry and his presentation covered not only web sites, but internet journals in the field of chemistry as well. Laura Barnes from the Illinois Waste Management and Research Center was to present a paper on environmental web sites, but her paper was presented by the incoming chair of ERM division Langhorne Chipley. Most of the valuable links she described are available at the Illinois Waste Management and Research Center (WRMC) Library and Clearinghouse web site at: <http://www.hazard.uiuc.edu/wmrc/library/hwricpub.htm>. Anne Marie Malley from the Biodiversity Resource Center at the California Academy of Sciences, concluded the session with an evaluation of search engines and web sites and her information packed handout can be obtained on the web at: <http://www.calacademy.org/research/library/biodiv/biblio/sla98.htm>.

Barbara Butler  
Science Librarian  
Oregon Institute of Marine Biology

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**Agricultural Runoff and Water Quality - Issues and Information**  
**Monday, June 8 1:30-2:45**

The "Agricultural Runoff and Water Quality - Issues and Information" session at the 1998 SLA Annual Conference in Indianapolis, featured a complementary pair of presentations by two Indiana-based water quality researchers. Attendees heard both specifics about the quality, particularly the pesticide content, of Indiana's waters, and an overview of factors that impact water quality nationwide.

Dr. Charles Crawford, a hydrologist with the United States Geological Service (USGS) began the session, describing Indiana's hydrogeological landscape and presenting some key findings of work conducted under his leadership as Director of the White River Basin Study. The White River Basin encompasses much of the land area in southern and central Indiana and is part of the Wabash-Ohio-Mississippi River system. The White River Basin Study is one of 59 long-term, detailed "basin studies" of large US watersheds being conducted as part of the USGS National Water Quality Assessment Program (NAWQA). The USGS began the NAWQA program in 1991 with the long-term goals of describing the current quality of US rivers, streams, and groundwater, identifying long-term trends and changes in water quality, and understanding key human and natural factors affecting water quality.

With approximately 70% of the land in the White River Basin dedicated to agriculture, pesticides have a significant impact on Indiana water quality. Since 1991, Dr. Crawford and his colleagues have gathered and analyzed both surface and groundwater sample data on 80 percent of the most heavily used agricultural insecticides and herbicides in an effort to determine how levels of these chemicals vary in relation to such factors as soil permeability, seasonal pesticide application and rainfall cycles, and changes in pesticide use and agricultural practice such as increased low/no till farming. These data are submitted to NAWQA for incorporation into national data sets and are accessible along with USGS Water Resources Reports at <http://water.usgs.gov/>.

Jane Frankenberger, assistant professor in Purdue University's Agricultural and Biological Engineering Department, followed Dr. Crawford's specific case study presentation with a broader discussion of the various types and sources of agriculture-related water quality concerns, including sediment from soil erosion, pathogens from septic systems and livestock waste, pesticides from crop applications, and nitrate and phosphate loading from fertilizer, livestock waste and soil erosion.

As an agricultural engineer with statewide water quality-related extension responsibilities, Dr. Frankenberger also spoke from first-hand experience about various management practices that reduce agriculture's impact on water quality. Such practices include soil erosion and pesticide runoff prevention measures like vegetated buffer strips and conservation tillage, as well as pathogen reduction through better management of waste lagoons and septic systems.

Appreciating the interests of her information professional audience, Dr. Frankenberger referenced a number of key information sources related to agricultural runoff and water quality. These included federal, state and county government agencies like the Cooperative Extension Service system and the US Geological Service, and Purdue University resources like the Purdue Pesticide Program (a pesticide education program) and the National Extension Water Quality Database of water quality-related extension publications. In concluding her presentation, Dr. Frankenberger noted that future water quality management strategies would need to deal with currently unregulated "non-point" sources of surface and groundwater pollution and might include agricultural technologies such as "precision agriculture", new pesticide formulations, and more genetically engineered crops, as well as a re-authorization of the Clean Water Act.

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Dr. Crawford's presentation of the White River Basin Study findings and Dr. Frankenberger's overview of water quality issues and management strategies provided highly complimentary pieces of an interesting and informative introduction to agriculture-related water quality issues. Attendees gained insight into the many interrelated byproducts and side-effects of agriculture that influence water quality, as well as some methods for reducing their detrimental impacts. Moreover, the audience of information professionals was introduced to some sources of water quality and agricultural information recommended by, contributed to and relied upon by water quality professionals and researchers. This presentation exemplified truly fine content complete with a list of excellent references!

The "Agricultural Runoff and Water Quality - Issues and Information" session was co-sponsored by the Biomedical & Life Sciences Division, Environmental & Resource Management Division, Food, Agriculture & Nutrition Division, and the Medical Section.

Barrie Hayes  
UNCLE Electronic Services Librarian  
Health Sciences Library  
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

#### **Back to Nature: Medicine from Nature**

**Tuesday, June 9 1:30-2:45**

Many of today's and tomorrow's drugs come from plant derivatives. Dr. Ara DerMarderosian from the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy and Science explained the importance of plants in every part of our lives and the interdisciplinary nature and history of ethnobotany and pharmacognosy. He also highlighted several major works in the fields of ethnobotany and pharmacognosy. Dr. Manual Balandrin of NPS Pharmaceuticals provided case histories of how plant products have been magnified and modified to create whole families of useful pharmaceutical products. Bonnie Snow from Citizen 1 software served as the moderator. The program was co-sponsored by Medical Section and the Food, Agriculture and Nature, Environmental and Resource Management, Chemistry, and the Pharmaceutical Divisions. The Biomedical and Life Sciences Division's expenses were underwritten by Merck and American Chemical Society.

Tom Cutshall  
Science Library Reference Librarian  
University of Georgia

#### **New Crop Development and Usage: From Plant Conservation and Seed Bank to Production**

**Tuesday, June 9 3:00-4:15**

Dr. James Simon of Purdue University and Director of Indiana Center for New Crops and Plant Products (<http://www.hort.purdue.edu/newcrop/>), gave an excellent presentation on new crops in relation to the needs for plant diversity and habitat conservation as well as expanded germplasm collection/preservation efforts. Simon discussed the importance of librarians in helping plant scientists come to terms with the bewildering issues of germplasm "ownership" and patenting as well as the legal and moral dimensions involved. He pointed out that the ability of science to create, via classical/new breeding and biotechnological techniques, "new" and patentable living entities has far outstripped the dialogue that should be occurring in society about the meaning of such work and where its value should accrue. Simon discussed the need to be familiar with the USDA's Germplasm Repository Information Network (GRIN) (<http://www.ars-grin.gov>) and similar systems and to support their continued existence. Simon noted that, given the rapid rate of plant habitat depletion/degradation in many parts of the world, these systems are not keeping up with the need to preserve important plant germplasm. Just one case in point is the need to better support the

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collection and presentation of medicinal plants used by native North American cultures (there are very few accessions in the GRIN system). Simon also discussed the importance of plant collection and genetic screening work (among dozens of recently patented basil varieties he found that very few were actually genetically different varieties) as well as the importance of production horticulture work (e.g., when to harvest for highest essential oil content) in the development of new crops. This program was co-sponsored by the Food, Agriculture and Nutrition Division and the Natural History Caucus. Elsevier Science provided financial support to the Division. Sarah Kelly from Purdue University served as the moderator for this program.

Steve Mitchell  
University of California, Riverside

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## BIO PAST CHAIRS MEET IN INDIANAPOLIS

Lucy M. Rowland

Eight Division Past and future Chairs gathered together for a Past Chairs' Luncheon on Tuesday at the Tony Palomino Euro Bistro in downtown Indianapolis to reminisce and give support to those still in office. Jo Anne Boorkman, Renee Bush, Elisabeth Davis, outgoing Chair Larry Kelland, Fred Roper (who sat where Kevin Costner did at some previous time, or so we were told), Lucy Rowland, incoming Chair Judy Wojcik, and Patricia Yocum had such a splendid time that Judy has volunteered to organize another such meeting in Minneapolis.

The Past Chairs' Luncheon will likely become a tradition and make it easier for the incoming Chair and Chair-elect to develop networks with past leaders early in their tenure. There is a wealth of experience and knowledge that previous chairs can provide to the newer leaders, and by extension to the Division's committees and membership.

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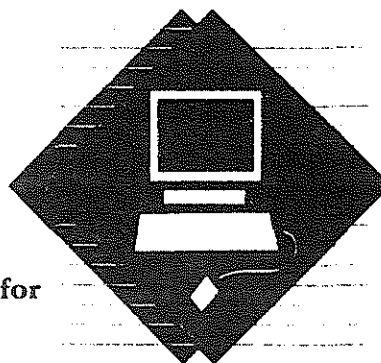
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## MEDICAL SECTION NEWS

David Duggar  
Past Section Chair

Indy was great and racing with excitement! Twenty-five biomedical librarians attended the second annual Medical Section business meeting Sunday afternoon. The Jazz Cooker lost out to a more readily available restaurant nearby as seven librarians went Dutch Treat to the Eagle's Nest at the top of the Hyatt Regency Hotel that evening. It is a revolving restaurant with an amazing view of the city.

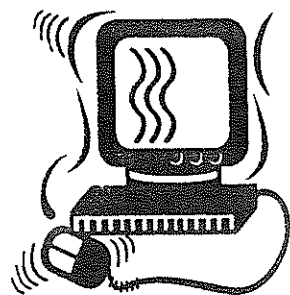
The Agricultural Runoff and Water Quality program Monday afternoon was filled with librarians from BIO, ERMD, FAN, and the Medical Section. The speakers were well informed, but beware of the water at the conference center!

Back to Nature: Medicine from Nature on Tuesday afternoon was standing room only. Both of these excellent programs were listed with as part of the Section's many activities during the conference. Wednesday evening concluded the Section's activities with a tour by fourteen librarians of the Indiana Medical History Museum after the Division's Contributed Paper Session. We can all thank Ms. Ann Blunk for an informative and entertaining time. The evening was completed with an impromptu dutch treat dinner at The Ratskellar, thanks to Cristina Pope, our Indy local arrangements person and organizer of both dinners and the tour. Thanks Cristina!

Teresa Frydryk will be continuing as Secretary of the Section with Lorri Zipperer as the new Chair. Many ideas and plans are being looked at and arranged for Minneapolis. Pamela Barnard at Allina Health Systems will be the Chair-Elect for the Section for the 1998-99 year. Many ideas were mentioned for Philadelphia based on the successful MLA conference there this May. Continue to send in those ideas to Pam as she begins working on 2000 conference there!

It has been a great year which we end with 141 Section members and a lot of activity at the conference. Remember, to join the Section, just mark off the box on the SLA membership form. The Section membership is free. You just have to be a member of the Biomedical and Life Sciences Division.

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## MEDICAL LIBRARY ASSOCIATION CENTENNIAL MEETING

Jo Anne Boorkman,  
BLSD Representative to the Medical Library Association

The Medical Library Association held its annual meeting in Philadelphia, PA, May 22-27, 1998, celebrating its centennial year in the location of the association's founding. The programming for this year's conference celebrated the associations' collective past, with posters and programs on the Chapters' and Sections' histories and looked toward to the future with plenary sessions and section programming on topics that will continue into the 21st century, such as electronic library resources and evidence based medicine. The John P. McGovern Lecture was given by two speakers: Laurie Garrett, science and medical writer for Newsday and author of "The Coming Plague: newly emerging diseases in a world out of balance", gave a harrowing account of the public health problems in the former Soviet Union; while Kenneth Ludmerer, M.D. provided a glimpse into the challenges of medical education in an age of managed care. Charles L. Martin, author of "The Digital Estate: strategies and surviving and thriving in an interactive age" presented a high-energy look at life without the middleman where we can get anything we want or market anything we want directly on the Internet. These plenary sessions were followed by chat sessions with the speakers, where participants could discuss issues raised in the presentations. The Mayor of Philadelphia welcomed us and explained why Philly Steak sandwiches taste so much better in Philadelphia. They are made with bad meat, process cheese and greasy onions-- other cities put too many quality ingredients into theirs.

Since this was a celebration and none of the attendees will likely be available for the next centennial, the National Program Committee put on a party. The Mummers started the festivities at the welcome and opening of the Exhibits. Representatives from several other library associations extended their official greetings and congratulations, including SLA Executive Director David Bender and President Judy Field. At the "Blast from the Past" closing party, everyone ate Philly Steak sandwiches, danced to '50s music, and were led in Happy Birthday MLA by none other than Marilyn Monroe.

The final plenary programming concluded on a light note. John Morreal of HUMORWORKS [[www.humorworks.com](http://www.humorworks.com)] gave an entertaining presentation on the value of humor in the workplace. Lois Ann Colianni closed the meeting with a humorous look at our country's fascination with time capsules and officially sealed the MLA Time Capsule, which will be opened one hundred years from now at the Bicentennial conference.

Of special note for BLSD were two events. An informal meeting of corporate librarians met to discuss formation of either a special interest group (SIG) or a new Section in MLA. About 45 members met to discuss their interest in having a forum in MLA that more closely meets their needs as librarians working in corporate settings. While SLA president Judy Field attended this meeting, most members considered MLA their professional home; they just wanted to establish a more focused venue. Several members of this group volunteered to further explore establishing a new Section for corporate health sciences librarians.

The second event of note was the Awards luncheon where several BLSD members were recognized by MLA. Fred W. Roper, M. Sandra Wood, Eloise Foster and Mary Westermann were BLSD honorees. (See accompanying article for details.)

The "Blues Brothers" invited everyone to Chicago for next year's annual Conference -- "Present Tense: Future Perfect?", May 14-20, 1998.

## NEW INFORMATION INITIATIVE TAKES SHAPE

Lorri Zipperer

The initial steps to build a consortium dedicated to bringing together librarians from a variety of specialties to address patient safety information issues took place at the SLA Indianapolis meeting. Several members of the Biomedical & Life Sciences Division and Medical Section, as well as other information specialists from Business and Finance, and Engineering Division were present. The meeting was convened by the National Patient Safety Foundation (NPSF) and sponsored by Lexis/Nexis.

The ad-hoc group for the Consortium for Patient Safety Information (CPSI) consists of 14 information specialists. In 1998-1999, CPSI plans to shape an initiative to help establish the Consortium as an information resource for professionals interested in the developing field of patient safety. In addition to a broad array of health care industry participants, this multi-disciplinary endeavor, to effectively mirror the NPSF Board's makeup, will draw on the expertise of information professionals familiar with human factors, engineering, cognitive psychology, and system analysis and design. The combination of expertise is what the NPSF deemed necessary to attain their mission to make the health care environment safer for all patients. The consortium will follow that model in the relationships that it builds.

Projects under consideration for CPSI include the development of a controlled vocabulary and thesaurus for patient safety and the design of web-based tools. Both these projects will help to illustrate the interconnections between the disparate fields that need to be made to ensure the comprehensive accessibility to applicable research.

For more information on the NPSF's information initiative, CPSI, email the foundation at [npsf@ama-assn.org](mailto:npsf@ama-assn.org). General information on the foundation can be located on their web page at <http://www.npsf.org>.

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## CONGRATULATIONS SUSAN CURTIS!

Lucy M. Rowland

Congratulations to BIO member (and Government Relations Chair) Susan Curtis at University of Georgia for receiving the University Librarian's Award for Outstanding Service to the Libraries. This is the highest award that is given at the UGA Libraries annual awards ceremony.

The award is given "for consistent performance at the highest level in regard to dedication to the job which includes frequent and positive committee and group interaction, service to the public, contributions to the Libraries, and service within the larger context of the University and/or the community that reflects positively upon the Libraries. The recipient must have shown outstanding knowledge of job responsibilities as well as consistent and long standing dedication to the mission of the Libraries and must be held in high esteem by his or her colleagues."

Susan became head of the newly reorganized Reference Department that includes the former Science and Main Reference Departments, and the Government Documents Department earlier this year. Because of her new responsibilities, she will not be able to be in Indianapolis this year, so you might want to send her congratulations now. I can tell you from one sitting on the inside that this award is richly deserved.

## MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE NEWS

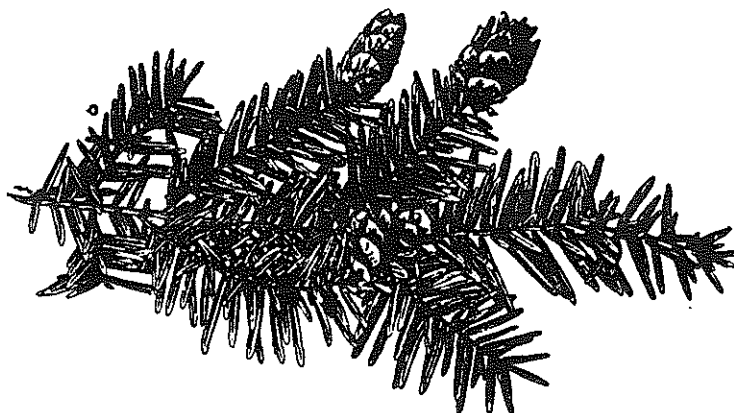
David Duggar  
Chair, Membership Committee

Hi! I'm the new Chair of the Membership Committee for 1998-2000. I held this position before Nancy, so we are just rotating back and forth. (Right Nancy? What's that hysterical laughter? You say you can just hop over from Maine into Canada and avoid the Division's Draft.) Anyway, we are making changes in some of the operations for this committee. A few are:

1. An Address Change Notice 'box' will appear in each issue of Biofeedback and on the Biomedical and Life Sciences Division Web page as a reminder to our members as to where to send in changes regarding membership information.
2. The New Members Column will now only list the New Member's name, phone number, short address, and e-mail address rather than the complete address (as a space and time saver).
3. Notices on new members who are students will be sent to the Student Relations/Career Guidance Committee to welcome into the Division.
4. A "Longevity List" of Division members will be created. This will be a historical/archival record for the Division of when its members joined. It will be arranged by year chronologically with the names of the members who joined that year listed beneath alphabetically. This will be passed from Membership Chair to Membership Chair and used to help recognize our Landmark Members. We would like to also post this on our Division's web page but want your input before deciding on this issue. Should the "Longevity List" appear on the web page, on the web page under some type of security password access, not appear on the web page, or be published in some other form of media? Please remember we have between 580 and 650 members. In order to assure the accuracy of the information, please verify your own SLA membership records, either on the web or as your renewal forms arrive. We want to make sure that the final listing is correct and therefore need your help in this matter.

As a final note, remember to renew your membership in SLA. If you are a 'June cycle' member, your renewal form should be coming to you soon [hopefully during July - I know mine hasn't arrived yet]. Also, remember to vote during the end of August/beginning of September on the SLA dues increase motion. Yes or No. Make your vote count by returning your ballot.

I look forward to working with all of you this coming year.



## MEMBER PROFILES

Cynthia L. Shamel has recently become owner and principal of Shamel Information Services after seven years as adjunct faculty and community college reference librarian. Her company provides reference and research services to biotechnology and biomedical firms. Cindy also teaches "Introduction to Reference Materials and Services" at Palomar Community College in San Marcos, California. She received her M.L.S. from Indiana University in 1990.

Evelyn Kuserk is Library Director at ECRI, a nonprofit health services research institute located in Plymouth Meeting, PA. As a World Health Organization Archive on healthcare technology, ECRI's library collection is international in scope, focusing on medical technology, health services research, environmental and occupational health, biomedical engineering, and health facilities administration. ECRI was recently selected as an Evidence-based Practice Center by the Agency for Health Care Policy and Research (AHCPR) and is also working with AHCPR on the development of a Web-based National Guidelines Clearinghouse for health practitioners and consumers.

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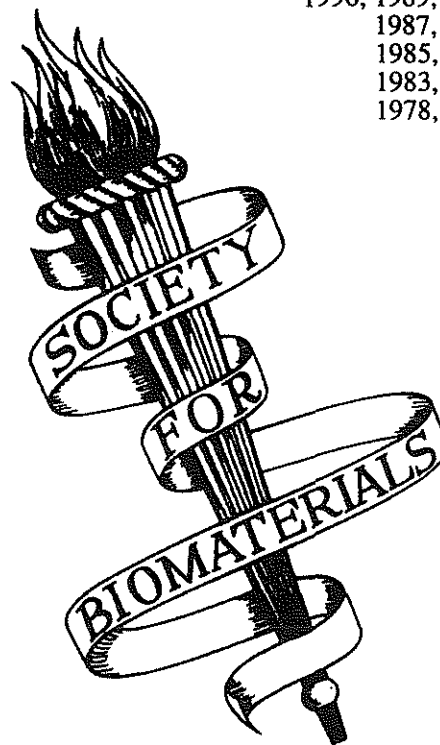
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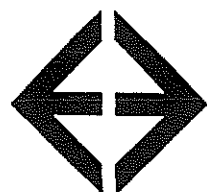
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