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## MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Annie Malley

I would like to thank Judy Wojcik and all of the 1998/1999 Division committee members for making my transition so easy. Last year was a very exciting and productive year for BIO and accolades go out to all Division members who participated in committee work. Speaking of committee work, we have a few more openings on some of our Committees. Volunteering for a committee is a wonderful opportunity to meet with a great group of people. If you are interested in volunteering for a committee, please send me email at [amalley@calacademy.org](mailto:amalley@calacademy.org).

The Annual Conference in Minneapolis was a great success. Judy Wojcik and the Conference Planning Committee did a wonderful job putting together very interesting programs and very informative speakers. Diane Schmidt and the Professional Development Committee planned a behind the scenes tour of the Minneapolis Zoo and a "Green Thumb Tour" of the Eloise Butler Garden and Bird Sanctuary and the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum, as well as a CE course on Online Resources in Alternative Medicine. Lori Bronars and the Vendors Relations Committee put together a very successful vendors roundtable and brunch.

Many awards were presented to BIO members this year. Eleanor MacLean was awarded the distinguished member award and Naomi C. Broering was awarded the first Winifred Sewell Prize for Innovation in Information Technologies in Biomedical and Life Sciences Librarianship. These awards were presented at the Annual Business Meeting. BIO members have also received recognition outside the Division and outside SLA. Fred W. Roper received the John Cotton Dana Award from SLA, Joanne Boorkman was honored as a Fellow of MLA, and Winifred Sewell was elected as Honorary President of the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy. All of these members have been very active in the Division and they are the people that you have an opportunity to work with when you sign up to work on a committee.

### *Biofeedback in the New Millennium*

In the last issue, Judy Wojcik asked for input on whether Biofeedback should go to an electronic version delivered or accessed by the membership. If *Biofeedback* did become an "e-journal" there would still be a few paper copies simply for archival purposes of the Division and SLA headquarters (microfilming). And some members may not have access to Internet and web pages, or no desire to access the journal in that form.

This year we would like to start getting a "feel" for how many of our Division members would be willing to receive or access issues of *Biofeedback* electronically. Either the journal would be sent electronically or a notice announcing posting of the new issue and address to access it from would be sent to those members desiring electronic rather than paper copy. There are issues on how to keep an electronic mailing list of 600 members up to date (we are all volunteers after all). This may be something SLA headquarters can do for us in the "new millennium."

At this time, if you would be willing to receive *Biofeedback* electronically rather than in a paper version, send you e-mail address and name to me at [ddugga@lsumc.edu](mailto:ddugga@lsumc.edu). I will be making a file of these to present to the Division's Board as we continue to look at going towards an e-journal.

David Duggar, Editor

**Nominations & Elections Committee  
Suggested Timetable**

**Before March 1st: \*Executive Board Members confer and choose (at least 2 other members of) the 3 members of the Nominations and Elections Committee. The BIO Chair places an announcement of the Committee members and a call for nominations in the MARCH issue of *Biofeedback* and BSDNET-L.**

**\*By April 1st: The outgoing Nominations and Elections Chair files a report with BIO Chair.**

**\*May & June: The new N&EC Members confer with the BIO Chair regarding possible nominees and solicit nominations. At the Annual Meeting, the committee should meet with the BIO Executive Board to identify qualified candidates for office. The Committee should then meet to discuss candidates and nominees. Committee Members should also attempt to meet with potential candidates at the Annual Meeting and should come prepared with information on the various offices and duties.**

**\*June: Previous years' N&EC Chair gives oral report at the Annual Business Meeting. Current year's N&EC Chair places call for nominations in the June issue of *Biofeedback*.**

**\*By July 1: Previous year's N&EC Chair destroys ballots and sends remaining papers of historical importance to BIO Archivist.**

**August & September: Candidates should be contacted until two agree to run for each office (unless this was accomplished by the end of the Annual Meeting). A list of candidates for office and biographical sketches should be sent to the editor of *Biofeedback* and placed in the September issue as well as on the BIO web page and BSDNET-L. At this time, the call for nominations by petition should be made.**

**By December: Nominations by petition must be received by the Chair of the N&EC to be included on the ballot.**

**By January 31st: Ballots are sent out with *Biofeedback*, posted on the BIO webpage and sent out on the BSDNET-L along with instructions. Deadline for return of ballots should be approximately March 15th.**

**By March 31st: Ballots should all be received and dated no later than 60 days prior to the annual business meeting to be valid. Incoming N&EC Members appointed and process starts again.**

**By Early April: Ballots must be received to be counted. The Chair of the Division and the candidates are notified of the results of the election. Results are forwarded to the editor of *Biofeedback* to appear in the June issue, BIO webpage, and BSDNET-L.**

**Note: In March, April, May, June and July there are two Nominations and Elections Committees, one whose work is just beginning, the other whose work is concluding.**

**Suggested BIOFEEDBACK Deadlines & Publication Dates;**

<b>Deadline:</b>	<b>Publication Date:</b>	
February 1	March 15	Announcement of N&EC Members for coming year. Call for nominations.
May 1	June 30	Announcement of new officers. 2nd call for nominations. N&EC report for outgoing committees
August 1	September 15	List of Candidates. Biographical sketches of candidates
December 1	January 15	Ballots included

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**CANDIDATES FOR EXECUTIVE BOARD**

**The Nominations & Elections Committee is pleased to announce the following candidates for the Division's Executive Board:**

**Chair-elect**

**Geeth Rao, Online Executive, Derwent  
Michele Tennant, Health Sciences Center, University of Florida**

**Treasurer**

**Nancy Curtis, Science and Engineering Center, University of Maine  
Janet Cooper Weiss, Wyeth-Ayerst Research**

**Biographical information on the candidates will appear in the next issue of *Biofeedback* in addition to the Division's website. A message will be sent out to BSDNET-L when that happens. Members who are not signed on to the listserv should check the website periodically.**

**Further nominations by written petition of 20 Division members and written acceptance by the nominee, should be filed with the Nominations & Election Committee by February 1, 2000, to be included on the written ballot. Ballots will be mailed to members in the spring.**

**The Nominations & Elections Committee:**

**Fred W. Roper  
Barbara Schader  
Patricia Yocum (Chair)**

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**Biomedical & Life Sciences Division  
1999/2000 Executive Board Meeting  
Minneapolis, Minnesota  
June 9, 1999**

**Attendance: Annie Malley-Chair; Eleanor MacLean-Treasurer; Judy Wojcik-Past Chair; John Tebo-Secretary; Laura Osegueda-Professional Development; Nancy Stimson-Philadelphia Programming Chair; Lorri Zipperer-MLA Liaison and Medical Section Past Chair; Julia Perez-Director; Patricia Yocum-Nominations & Election Committee**

**I. Call to Order and Introductions.**

**Annie Malley called the meeting to order and each person was introduced to the group.**

**II. Recommendations from Committee Chairs.**

**A. Fund Development Committee**

**The Board reaffirmed that vendors who are sponsors are given a free quarter page ad in *Biofeedback*. Annie will notify Fund Development Chair of this perk. The practice of offering a free ad for sponsors in *Biofeedback* has not been used the past few years.**

**B. Membership Committee**

**The Division is not receiving accurate membership information. This has been a long standing complaint of the Division. Annie will address our concerns with Linda Broussard, Leadership and Membership Development Senior Director at SLA Headquarters.**

**C. Nominations & Elections Committee**

**The 1998-99 Board agreed to move up the deadline for nominations & elections. The candidate profiles will be in the Summer issue of *Biofeedback* instead of the Fall. The Committee will have the nominations by August 1. The revised time line for nominations and elections was recommended by the Ad Hoc Committee on the Election Process chaired by Barbara Schader.**

**D. Professional Development**

**The Chair will be appointed at least a month before the Annual Conference in the Spring.**

**E. Public Relations**

**All Division committee chairs should send announcements of awards and programs to the Public Relations Committee so the information can be put on the Division listserv and in *Biofeedback*. The Public Relations Chair wanted to remind everyone to use the acronym BIO not BSD. It is also recommended that the Division's listserv go by BIOSLA not BSDNET-L.**

**F. Conference Committee**

**The 1998-99 Board agreed to sponsor the Chair of the Conference Committee to the Winter Meeting at the same level as the Chair and Chair-Elect (up to \$1,000).**

**III. Old Business**

**A. *Biofeedback***

**The 1998-99 Board recommended that *Biofeedback* begin to move to a totally electronic format. The rationale for this decision is to reduce costs; reduce time and labor; and to speed up the timeliness of the newsletter. David Duggar, the editor of *Biofeedback* will put an announcement in the next issue asking the members to make a selection to receive their individual copy of *Biofeedback* as an electronic or print document. We will continue to print and distribute paper editions for members who select the paper version. It is the hope and expectation that the number of print copies will decline over time. We will continue to print three copies for the archives. There is a question of whether or not to put the electronic version of *Biofeedback* in a restricted, members only area. Is access to *Biofeedback* a benefit of membership? Should it be in a public area as a recruitment tool?**

**B. Change of World Wide Web Address**

**The Board discussed the issues of moving the Division's home page from Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory to the SLA server or another server. Margaret Henderson has recently retired and we have lost access to our site at CSHL. It was decided to move to the SLA server.**

**C. Ad Hoc Committee on Elections and Procedures**

**Barbara Schader and Brian Westra made a recommendation that we put the ballots in *Biofeedback* to save over \$370 in mailing ballots. If *Biofeedback* goes totally electronic this will not be possible. The Board also discussed the possibility of posting the ballot on the web and having members print off the ballot and mail them in. The 1998-99 Board decided to continue with the mail ballot. Under SLA's Act of Incorporation, we are not permitted to use electronic balloting. There will be a message in *Biofeedback* about the new election time line.**

**IV. New Business**

**A. Treasurer's Information**

**Eleanor passed out a call for budget requests. The forms are due back to her by August 30. Eleanor will mail forms**

to Committee Chairs not at meeting.

**B. Philadelphia Program Committee**

Nancy Stimson, the Chair of the Philadelphia Program Committee, discussed program ideas for next year's conference in Philadelphia. Topics include: ethics of biomedical experimentation with Deborah Blum author of *Monkey Wars* as a speaker; the Medical Section has proposed a program on how the Internet has transformed health care; molecular biology resources for librarians; "Getting Published Roundtable"; dinosaur program at the Philadelphia Academy of Natural Sciences; animal homosexuality with a talk by Bruce Bagemihl author of *Biological Exuberance*; occupational health; cancer clusters; co-sponsor the "Winner's Circle of Science Web Sites"; co-sponsor the "Toxicology Roundtable"; Tour ideas sent to the Professional Development Committee include BIOSIS, ISI, and the Philadelphia Academy of Natural Sciences. The Medical Section is interested in doing something with the Philadelphia Chapter of MLA.

**C. Professional Development**

Laura Osegueda said the Professional Development survey had six returns. Suggested tours for next year includes tour of the Philadelphia Academy of Natural Science and a lecture and reception; an all day molecular biology CE course; meta data; and collection management.

**D. Contributed Papers Committee**

Next year's topic-"The Publishing Revolution-How Information Professionals in the Life Sciences are Managing and Shaping Changes in Scientific Journal Publishing."

**E. Vendor Relations**

The Vendor Roundtable was very popular in Minneapolis and it will be repeated in Philadelphia.

**F. Medical Section**

Peggy Jones is the incoming Chair of the Medical Section. MLA and the Medical Section are planning on doing a joint event in Philadelphia.

**G. Division's 65th Anniversary**

There will be a special event or program in Philadelphia to mark the Division's 65th anniversary.

**H. Executive Board Meeting Schedule for Philadelphia**

Due to the change in the Exhibit days at the Philadelphia Conference, there is an opportunity to change the Outgoing Board Meeting from Saturday to Sunday. Discussion about this issue will be brought up with the Board.

Annie Malley adjourned meeting.

Respectfully submitted

John Tebo

Secretary, Biomedical and Life Sciences Division

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**SLA ANNUAL CONFERENCE - MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA  
CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS**

**Jonathan Nabe & Carolyn Mills  
Publications Committee**

**Superfish and Tolerant Corn: Transgenic Organisms**

Monday, June 7, 1999; 1:30 - 2:45 p.m.

Transgenic organisms are those that have had genetic material from another species inserted into their cells, for a variety of health, experimental or commercial benefits. The three speakers at the "Superfish and Tolerant Corn: Transgenic Organisms" session emphasized the benefits of the uses of genetic engineering and transgenic organisms, providing a rather one-sided view of this volatile issue. The first speaker, Perry Hackett, from the Department of Genetics and Cell Biology at the University of Minnesota, has been experimenting (primarily with zebrafish) in this area for years. He gave a brief overview of the techniques and problems of genetic engineering. He was followed by Warren Woessner, a patent lawyer who represents companies developing and marketing "superfish" and "tolerant corn." Mr. Woessner provided information on the history of patenting genes and engineered organisms in the United States. Lastly came Linda Thrane, a PR woman from Cargill, a multinational company with significant and growing investments in genetically engineered or modified crops, who denigrated the environmental and health concerns of those opposed to corporate manipulation of the world's food supply.

Nancy Curtis, from the University of Maine's Folger Library, moderated this event. The Legal and Food, Agriculture and Nutrition Divisions co-sponsored this session, which was supported by Chemical Abstracts, CABI, and BIOSIS.

**CDC Information on the Web: Government Information Just a Click Away** Tuesday, June 8, 1999; 9:00 - 10:15 a.m.

Three panelists from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) provided an in-depth look at the current resources and information available from the CDC's web page. Barbara Schader of the University of California, Los Angeles, Biomedical Library moderated the session. It was sponsored by the Biomedical Division and the Pharmaceutical and Health Technology Division, and was underwritten by FOI, Rittenhouse and CABI.

The first speaker, Onnalee Henneberry, from the CDC Information Center, provided a general review of the [CDC web page](#). She pointed out that the CDC is actually a collection of eleven centers, institutes, and offices. Subject coverage includes communicable diseases, genetics, public health and environmental health. Henneberry pointed out several important sections of the main web page:

- o an "In the New" section which contains press releases, and summaries intended for the media and information about activities at the CDC;
- o a "traveler's health" section which includes information on vaccinations needed by country and by region of the world and

- disease outbreak warnings for travelers and related health information;
- a "Health topics A-Z" section with an alphabetical listing of health areas which the CDC investigates, including specific diseases, causes of death and birth defects;
- CDC Wonder - a collection of CDC reports, guidelines and public health data sets available from the different centers;
- and the MMWR, or Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report, a weekly CDC publication on specific health and safety topics.

Henneberry also highlighted the [National Center for Health Statistics](#), one of the centers of the CDC. It is the nation's principal health and disease statistics agency and includes a section called "[fastats](#)" which provides quick facts and summaries of disease conditions and basic health statistics by state.

The next speaker was Jan Stansell, a Technical Information Specialist at the National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, a section of the CDC. Stansell showed the [Chronic Disease Prevention page](#). The Related Links link provides a listing of major health efforts including:

1. the [Combined Health Information Database \(CHID\)](#), which includes 18 databases;
2. the [Cancer Prevention and Control Program](#), which focuses on 5 types of cancer: breast, cervical, colorectal, prostate and skin, and provides national and state data;
3. the [Diabetes Translation Program](#), which provides publications, press releases, and statistics, and also clip art;
4. an [Oral Health Program](#) with information on dental issues, fluoridation, and oral cancer awareness;
5. a [Reproductive Health](#) link, which is a good source for statistics in abortion, pregnancy, fertility clinics, and assisted production techniques;
6. and the [Tobacco Information and Prevention Source](#), which provides public health information, media campaign resources, statistics and thirty years of publications and reports on all aspects of tobacco use.

Stansell emphasized that all of these sites emphasize prevention rather than treatment of the diseases and activities they focus upon.

The third panelist was Sandra Bonzo, Senior Information Specialist for the National Center for Injury Prevention and Control of the CDC. She said that injury is the leading cause of death for children, adolescents and young adults in this country. This includes unintentional injuries, like bike accidents or dog bites, and also violent acts, like battering or homicide. The [NCIPC](#) web page offers an extensive list of fact sheets on the different injuries. It also provides four main areas of information:

- injury care, such as acute care, disability and rehabilitation, and traumatic brain injury;
- violence, including family and intimate violence, suicide, youth violence, and a violence overview;
- unintentional injury, including bicycle safety, home & leisure, and motor vehicle accidents;
- and a resources section that offers funding information, publications, and injury mortality statistics.

Each speaker stressed that information from the CDC web pages is free to all users. Each center within the CDC has its own web site and as of July 1, 1999, each web site will follow a template to provide more consistency among the main pages of each center. Therefore there will be some changes in the appearances of the CDC web pages from what was shown at this SLA session.

### **Role of Information in the Quality of Health Care**

Tuesday, June 8, 1999; 1:30 - 2:45 p.m.

Carla Funk and Martin Hatlie gave an informative presentation on the "Role of Information in the Quality of Health Care." Carla spoke of the results of three studies that demonstrated the influence librarians can have on diagnoses and treatment plans - there's no doubt we can make a difference! She went on to discuss the predominant issues of information gathering and dissemination in today's field: the increase in the amount of literature and time constraints on everyone involved; evidence-based medicine; E-Biomed, a biomedical pre-print server in the planning stages; metadata; and evaluation tools for techniques and outcomes.

Mr. Hatlie, a lawyer and co-organizer of the [National Patient Safety Foundation](#) discussed in more detail the issues involved in communication among all the players in health information (doctors, patients and librarians), and showed a video documenting cases of tragic mistakes made in patient care. The NPSF is active in addressing the challenge of information exchange in health care provision, and in efforts to minimize avoidable risks to patient safety.

Conveniently, numerous handouts were made available to those in attendance. The program was sponsored by EBSCO and the Health Sciences Libraries of Minnesota - and the audience was especially grateful to the latter, who made cookies and beverages available for all!

### **HEARTFELT THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS**

Our thanks go out to the sponsors of the divisions' Minneapolis Programs.

**ACS Publications**  
**BIOSIS**  
**CABI Publishing**  
**Cambridge Scientific Abstracts**  
**Chemical Abstracts Service**  
**CISTI - Canada Institute for Scientific and Technical Information**  
**EBSCO Subscription Service**  
**Elsevier Science**  
**Health Sciences Libraries of Minnesota**

**ISI - Institute for Scientific Information  
John Wiley and Sons, Inc.  
Majors Scientific Books, Inc.  
Merck and Company  
Ovid Technologies, Inc.  
Rittenhouse Book Distributors, Inc.  
SilverPlatter Information  
Springer-Verlag New York, Inc.**

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#### **VENDOR RELATIONS UPDATE**

Lori Bronars  
Vendor Relations Committee, Chair

During the Division breakfast on Sunday, June 6th, members were treated to presentations from four of our vendors. Speaking were John Tagler (Elsevier Science), Ron Beck (Majors Scientific Books, Inc.), Donna Chapman (CISTI), and Alan Clarke (BIOSIS). The program was well-received and the format will be continued at the 2000 Conference in Philadelphia. Send your ideas and suggestions for vendors to anyone on the Vendor Relations Committee. Let us also know if you are interested in joining the Vendor Relations Committee in its planning and reviewing activities this year.

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#### **CALL FOR PAPERS -- PHILADELPHIA 2000 CONTRIBUTED PAPERS SESSION SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY DIVISION SPECIAL LIBRARIES ASSOCIATION**

The SLA Science & Technology Division is planning a Contributed Papers Session for the Philadelphia Conference June 10-15, 2000.

ELIGIBILITY: **Any** SLA member is welcome to submit an abstract for consideration.

THEME: THE DISTRIBUTED SCI-TECH LIBRARIAN: MODELS FOR REMOTE INFORMATION SERVICES

How are you using new technologies to deliver your services to a distributed audience? Do remote users in the science or technology fields require special services? Are new technologies reshaping the kinds of service you can offer, your staffing patterns, the training your staff requires, or the responsibilities of your department? Do you use a security system to qualify your users for restricted services? How are you integrating your services with licensed content? How do you promote and market your services? How are you measuring and evaluating changing patterns of service use? What challenges have you overcome in creating your electronic services, and what trends do you see in the future for such services?

ABSTRACT: Submit your proposal in the form of a 300-500 word abstract. Be sure to include the paper's topic, scope, methodology, and conclusions or results.

CRITERIA: Criteria for review will include relevance to the session theme, and evidence of scholarship. Preference will be given to members of the Science & Technology Division.

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION: OCTOBER 1, 1999.

PAPERS: If your paper is one of the 3 selected for presentation, you will be expected to 1) submit the complete text of your paper to the program convener by March 15, 2000; 2) present your paper at the Philadelphia SLA conference (20 minutes allowed); and 3) allow your paper to be printed in session preprints and/or mounted on the Science & Technology Division's Web site.

SUBMIT ABSTRACT (email preferred) TO: Ann Koopman, Scott Memorial Library, Thomas Jefferson University, 1020 Walnut Street, Philadelphia, PA 19107; email: [Ann.Koopman@mail.tju.edu](mailto:Ann.Koopman@mail.tju.edu); phone: 215-503-0441; fax: 215-923-3203.

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#### **CALL FOR PAPERS: CONTRIBUTED PAPERS SESSION BIOMEDICAL AND LIFE SCIENCES DIVISION SLA CONFERENCE, JUNE 2000, PHILADELPHIA**

To all Biomedical and Life Sciences Librarians and Information Specialists, the SLA Biomedical and Life Sciences Division invites submissions for its annual Contributed Papers Session for the Philadelphia Conference in June 2000.

#### **SESSION THEME:**

The Publishing Revolution: How Information Professionals in the Life Sciences are Managing and Shaping Changes in Scientific Journal Publishing.

With the increasing costs of scientific journal subscriptions and the proliferation of electronic journals, what innovative programs has your library implemented to deal with the increasing complexity of serials management? Does your library subscribe to new, lower-cost scholarly publications? Are you subscribing to both the print and electronic version of journals in your collections? How are you handling concerns over the archiving of e-journals? How have your journal collection development policies changed? What impact has the need to negotiate license agreements for e-journal had? Are you participating in any consortia licensing arrangements?

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, 1999. 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 convenor by March 31, 2000; 2) give a presentation of your paper for no longer than 20 minutes at the SLA annual conference, June 10-15, 2000 in Philadelphia; 3) where appropriate and feasible, offer a brief demonstration or representation of your project during your presentation.

**SUBMIT ABSTRACT TO:**

Anne Marie Malley  
[amalley@calacademy.org](mailto:amalley@calacademy.org) (email submissions preferred)  
Academy Library  
California Academy of Sciences  
Golden Gate Park  
San Francisco, CA 94118  
phone: 415-750-7101  
fax: 415-750-7106

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**AWARDS COMMITTEE UPDATE**

**1999 DISTINGUISHED MEMBER AWARD**

At the Annual Business Meeting June 8 in Minneapolis, the Division presented the 1999 Distinguished Member Award to Eleanor MacLean "for a distinguished career, ...loyalty and support to the profession, the Division, and her colleagues." Chair, Judy Wojcik presented Eleanor with a certificate, a citation (see below) and engraved Jefferson cup to commemorate the occasion. Eleanor is the fourth member to receive the award. Other recipients are:

1996 Patricia B. Yocum  
1997 Elisabeth B. Davis  
1998 Lucy M. Rowland

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Special Libraries Association  
Biomedical Life Sciences Division  
**1999 Distinguished Member Award**

**Eleanor MacLean**

For over twenty-five years, Eleanor A. MacLean has had a distinguished career serving her profession and colleagues. Eleanor has been an active and contributing member of the Biomedical and Life Sciences Division for many years. She served as Hospitality Chair for the Winnipeg Conference in 1985 and Chair-elect, Chair, and Past Chair, 1987-1990. In her capacity as Past-Chair, she chaired the Division Bylaws Committee, guiding the committee's examination and revision of this document to assure its concordance with the Associations Bylaws. Eleanor has continued her involvement with the Division, chairing the Contributed Papers Session Committee for the Annual Conference in Indianapolis and now as Division Treasurer.

Not to be content with BIO Division activities, Eleanor has been an active member and leader of the Eastern Canada Chapter and the Science-Technology Division. She was recognized for her leadership and contributions when she became the first recipient of her Chapter's "Librarian of the Year" award in 1991. On the association level, Eleanor chaired the Bylaws Committee, served as Deputy Chair of the Montreal Conference Planning Committee, and served twice as Chair of the Scholarship Awards Committee, in 1986-87 and again in 1991-92. In June 1998, she was named Fellow of the Special Libraries Association.

Eleanor has been an active participant in other areas that are associated with her profession: she has served as President of the Association of McGill University Librarians and as archivist for the Raptor Research Foundation as a member of the organizing committee for the 1991 American Ornithologists Union Conference, as well as being an active member of the Canadian Library Association. In addition to all her professional volunteer work, Eleanor has directed the operations of two libraries and then oversaw their merger to form the Blacker-Wood Library of Biology of McGill University. She has directed that library since the merger. In further service to her profession, Eleanor has lectured at the McGill University Graduate School of Library and Information Studies.

Eleanor MacLean has been generous with her time, her enthusiasm, and her knowledge to all of us in the Biomedical and Life Sciences Division. She has been a mentor to many Division members who have worked with her and served on the Executive Board with her. She has always sought to make changes that will simplify the lives of her successors. Eleanor looks for potential in new members and nurtures that potential. She always does the right thing and can be counted upon to follow the rules (and the bylaws!). For her loyalty and support to the profession, the Division, and her colleagues, the Biomedical and Life Sciences Division is proud to recognize Eleanor MacLean with its 1999 Distinguished Member Award.

Special Libraries Association  
Biomedical Life Sciences Division  
**1999 Winifred Sewell Prize**  
**For Innovation in Information Technologies in Biomedical and Life Sciences Librarianship**

Naomi C. Broering

In the 1998, the BIO Executive Board established The Winifred Sewell Prize for Innovation in Information Technologies [BIOFEEDBACK 24(2) pg. 4 1998]. The prize is awarded to a member who has shown leadership and innovation in the development and/or use of advanced technologies. The prize is named in honor of Winifred Sewell, who has been a member of the BIO Division since 1946 and whose short biography appears elsewhere in this issue.

The Division awarded its first Winifred Sewell Prize this year to **Naomi C. Broering**, a leader for two decades in developing and applying new technologies, a pioneer in developing integrated library systems, an expert in promoting emerging technologies.

In Minneapolis, Division chair, Judy Wojcik read the following tribute:

"Since the early 1980s Naomi C. Broering has been an active leader in developing and implementing automated information systems in libraries. As director of the Georgetown University Medical Center Library, Naomi spearheaded the development of one of the first and most successful integrated library systems. She was also at the forefront in implementing an Integrated Academic Information Management System (IAIMS) at Georgetown and documented the procedures in Strategic Planning: Integrated Academic Information and Management Systems (IAIMS) at Georgetown University Medical Center (Washington: Georgetown University Medical Center, 1986), a manual that has been used widely in other libraries."

"An accomplished writer and speaker, Naomi has a long list of articles and presentations that document her sustained involvement in applying her vast experience in information technology and automation. A true visionary, she authored leading edge papers on automating library processes, the emerging electronic library, IAIMS, use of microcomputers in the library environment, developing educational software for users, and BioSYNTHESIS, a prototypical intelligent retrieval system during the 1980s. In the 1990s, Naomi moved into high performance medical libraries, using full text digitization, and was instrumental in the creation of an electronic textbook in human physiology, Lawrence S. Lilienfield's electronic textbook in human physiology: computer file, published by the Dahlgren Medical Library Georgetown University in 1990."

"As current Executive Director of the Houston Academy of Medicine - Texas Medical Center Library, Naomi has established goals for that institution's Library of the Future that include developing an information technology infrastructure, establishing a state-of-the-art Knowledge Network and Management Center, creating a Health Informatics Education Center for improved education and training, and developing a Consumer Health Information Network to improve community outreach. Naomi has been active in several professional organizations, including the American Medical Informatics Association, the Association of Academic Health Sciences Library Directors and the Medical Library Association, for which she served as President in 1996/97. She has received SLA's Professional Award for "expertise in library automation and her contributions to special librarians in medical libraries". She is a Fellow of the Medical Library Association and Distinguished Member of the MLA Academic of Health Information Professionals, as well as a Fellow of the American College of Medical Informatics."

"Naomi has been a leader for two decades in innovation in developing and applying new technologies, educating others, and promoting emerging technologies within libraries and to patrons in biomedical information centers. It is with great pleasure that the SLA Biomedical and Life Sciences Division recognizes her achievements by presenting Naomi C. Broering with the first Winifred Sewell Prize for Innovation in Information Technologies in Biomedical and Life Sciences Librarianship."

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#### **Naomi C. Broering's Response to Division Chair, Judy Wojcik**

"I want to thank you for everything you and the division have done to make my life wonderful the past few months. I am so thrilled to be recognized by SLA colleagues. It means so much when your own profession feels you are worthy of an award. I have shared it with everyone."

"The chairman of our Library Board, Dr. Robert Beck, announced my award at a recent Computer Conference we had here in the library. It was the first time anyone here had really heard of [the prize] because I didn't go around bragging."

"Now with the lovely picture [of the presentation of the prize that] you sent me, the Library will write a story for our Newsletter. This is positive publicity for the library since so many people do not really know what librarians do and that in fact we are high achievers."

"Once again, my thanks to you, the Awards Committee and the entire Division for remembering me."

Naomi Broering

#### **BIO MEMBERS HONORED**

Larry L. Wright Awards Committee

#### **SLA Association Awards:**

In 1978 the SLA Board of Directors approved the establishment of the **John Cotton Dana Award** given to an individual SLA member in recognition of exceptional services to special librarianship. This year, the SLA Board of Directors selected former Biomedical and Life Sciences Division chair **Fred W. Roper**, recognizing more than a quarter of a century of contributions and leadership at the SLA Awards Banquet in Minneapolis. There, SLA President, Suzi Hayes presented the 1999 John Cotton Dana Award with the following tribute:

"Our final award presentation for the evening and for the year is the John Cotton Dana Award, named for the founder of SLA and conferred upon a member of the Association for exceptional service to special librarianship."



"The winner of the John Cotton Dana award for 1999 is Fred Roper, who is also on the dais with us tonight."

"Fred is Dean and Professor at the College of Library and Information Science at the University of South Carolina in Columbia. He is recognized most notably for his achievements in promoting special librarianship, scholarship, teaching, and mentoring of students. Active in both the North and South Carolina Chapters and in the Biomedical and Life Sciences Division throughout his career, Fred served on the SLA Board of Directors as Chapter Cabinet Chair. He has also served on several SLA committees, including as chair of SLA's 75th Anniversary Conference Committee. He has most recently served as chair of the Biomedical and Life Science Division. Outside of SLA, Fred has served on the board, and as president, of the Medical Libraries Association, and on several committees of the American Library Association relating to accreditation. He is co-author [with JoAnne Boorkman] of *Introduction to Reference Sources in Health Sciences*, the standard text on medical information resources."

"Congratulations Fred, on a career devoted to the profession, and thank you for your spirit of volunteerism throughout."

#### **MLA Awards:**

Former Biomedical and Life Sciences Division chair, **Joanne Boorkman** was appointed **Fellow** of the Medical Library Association's Awards Luncheon and Ceremony during their annual meeting in May, 1999. MLA selects Fellows based on their "commitment to furthering MLA's goals and for their contributions to the health sciences information profession." Upon announcing this year's appointment, MLA published the press release that follows.

"One of MLA's most outstanding leaders, Boorkman has served on MLA's Board of Directors and on more than fifteen committees, chapters and task forces. She is a former chair of the Collection Development Section and a Past President of the Northern California and Nevada Medical Library Group (NCNMLG). Boorkman is a Distinguished Member of MLA's Academy's credentialing program. She is also a widely published author and along with MLA member Fred Roper, has co-edited multiple editions of the book, *Introduction to Reference Services in Health Sciences*." .... "MLA is proud to induct Boorkman as a Fellow and applauds her accomplishments as a leader in the information sciences profession. "

#### **American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy Awards:**

Celebrating their centennial year, the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy (AACP) elected **Winifred Sewell, Honorary President for 1999-2000**, at their 100th annual meeting in Boston this July. The AACP represents and promotes pharmaceutical education throughout the United States. Members comprise 81 colleges and schools with more than 3,200 full-time faculty offering pharmacy educational programs to more than 33,000 professional degree students, 2,600 graduate students and 180,000 post-graduate clinicians.

In addition to being an active member of AACP, Win Sewell is well rooted within SLA. She joined SLA in 1941. She is former chair of the New York Chapter and Science-Technology Division. She is a founding member of the Pharmaceutical Division, former SLA President (1960-1961), current member of the SLA Hall of Fame (1998), and a distinguished long time member of the BIO Division, and currently serves on the Awards Committee. In 1998, the BIO executive board voted to establish the Winifred Sewell Prize in her honor.

In announcing Win's candidacy for Honorary President, the AACP reported:

"Winifred Sewell is a pharmaceutical librarian who headed the Drug Literature Program at the National Library of Medicine and directed the libraries of the Squibb Institute for Medical Research and Wellcome Research Laboratories. At the National Library of Medicine, she developed the first Medical Subject Headings for MEDLARS. She has had long adjunct appointments at the University of Maryland School of Pharmacy and College of Library and Information Services and consulted with the United States Pharmacopeia and many industrial, academic, and government groups. She holds an honorary Doctor of Science from the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy and Science and an MS in Library Science from Columbia University. "

"Win's contributions to AACP began as a member of its first Joint Committee on Pharmacy College Libraries initiated by Dr. R. A. Deno in 1953 to upgrade library personnel qualifications and service standards. Work with the Joint Committee included compiling and editing guides, teaching, and lecturing at the first Teachers Seminar joined by pharmacy librarians in 1966. When the Joint Committee was succeeded by the Library and Educational Resources Section in 1970, Win was an early member and Chair. Since 1996 she has spearheaded maintenance of an ongoing list of recommended books, journals and related resources for pharmaceutical education on the AACP's Web page. "

"She initiated and edited *Unlisted Drugs* and wrote a *Guide to Drug Information*, for both of which she received awards. She was a member of the International Federation of Pharmacy's Commission on Pharmacy Abstracts, which led indirectly to *International Pharmaceutical Abstracts*."

"Win is past president of the Drug Information Association and of the Special Libraries Association and a Fellow of the Medical Library Association and of AAAS. In the sixties, she was a member of a State Department exchange on special libraries with Russia and of the National Academy of Science's Committee on Modern Methods of Handling Chemical Information. Recent honors include election to the Special Libraries Association's Hall of Fame and inclusion among invited pioneers of information science at the Conference on the History and Heritage of Science Information Systems."

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#### **MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE NEWS**

Diane Schmidt  
Chair, Membership Committee

SLA Headquarters has upgraded the membership database to a Y2K compliant format, which we hope will improve their record-keeping ability. BIO members are encouraged to check their membership information on SLA's website and send corrections both to SLA headquarters and to the Membership Committee Chair for publication in Biofeedback. To check your membership information, go to SLA's website at [www.sla.org](http://www.sla.org) then go in to the Members Only Area (you will need the PIN from your membership card), and click on Edit/View My Membership Data. New members especially are encouraged to make sure that their information is correct. Welcome to the Biomedical and Life Sciences Division, all of you!

#### MEMBER NEWS

**Lynn M. Fortney** was awarded the first annual Daniel T. Richards Prize at the annual meeting of the Medical Library Association on May 18<sup>th</sup> in Chicago. The prize, sponsored by MLA's Collection Development Section, recognizes excellence in writing about collection development in the health sciences. Ms. Fortney received the award for her publication, *Index Medicus Price Study, 1994-1998*, which she co-authored with Victor A. Basile. Ms. Fortney is Vice President and Director, Biomedical Division of EBSCO Information Services, Birmingham, Alabama. She is a member of SLA's Biomedical and Life Sciences Division.

**Melissa L. Just** has been appointed to a joint position as librarian for Children's Hospital Los Angeles and information specialist at the University of Southern California Norris Medical Library. Previously, she was a personal information management specialist at the University of California - San Francisco.

**Russell Smith** has been appointed information specialist at the University of Southern California Norris Medical Library. Previously, he was librarian at the National Epilepsy Library in Landover, Maryland.

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#### MEDICAL SECTION UPDATE

Pamela Barnard  
1999-2000 Chair, Medical Section

The new Medical Section of the Biomedical and Life Sciences Division began its third year with the turnover of officers in Minneapolis at SLA'99. Thanks go to Lorri Zipperer, past Chair, for her exemplary leadership and for planning such an informative and well-attended debut program on the Quality of Information in Health Care. Thanks also go to Peggy Jones, Chair- Elect, and June Carter, Secretary, for taking on their roles in the Section (on very little notice, I might add!)

Plans are underway now to develop another program with a medical focus for SLA 2000. The current topic Section members have been working on relates to the role that the Internet is playing in transforming today's healthcare environment. Tentative speakers so far include a family practice physician who uses the Internet in his daily practice and a member of the Internet Healthcare Coalition, an interdisciplinary organization dedicated to education, promotion, and representation of ethical, innovative, and high-quality uses of the Internet to deliver healthcare information. The Section has also queried the Insurance and Pharmaceutical Divisions for potential speakers.

In addition to planning a program, the Section is working on planning a social event, including a tour of a medically related site in Philadelphia, in conjunction with the local Medical Library Association Chapter. Watch the next *Biofeedback* for an update on Medical Section activities in support of SLA 2000.

Finally, another thank you is due Medical Section member, Janet Hughes, Penn State University, who was the first Section member to deliver a presentation at a Medical Section annual business meeting. The Section plans to continue this tradition next year and we would like to solicit abstracts for consideration. The intent of this initiative, as outlined in the Spring issue of *Biofeedback*, is to capitalize on the knowledge of the Medical Section membership in order to educate and further enhance the professional development of medical and other librarians in SLA. If you would like to present a topic of your choosing that you feel would be of interest to other Section members, please send an abstract of your proposed topic to Pamela Barnard as soon as possible. This is a great opportunity to present to your colleagues in an informal environment.

I look forward to another successful year for the Medical Section of the Biomedical and Life Sciences Division! If you have any ideas or thoughts on our activities, please feel free to contact me:

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#### TEACHING THE INTERNET: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW, WHAT YOU NEED TO SHOW

##### BACKGROUND

There are some things you must know about the Internet in order to be able to successfully handle the curves it will throw your way. Most of this information you already know, you just have to remind yourself of these facts occasionally. Most of the time, though, you do not need to give patrons this background, unless it is to explain why some quirky answer was retrieved.

We all know that the Web is "quirky, transient and chaotically shelved" (*Scientific American*, March 1997). You must remember that there is no centralized organizational structure, making it a dynamic, fluid environment. It contains diverse resources of all different types, formats and scope, and these resource vary in their quality, reliability and validity. Remember, anyone can publish on the web, and information is easily altered and presented as the original.

We are all aware of the enormous size and phenomenal growth of the Internet. Some quick statistics: there were 2.06 million active CONE (commercial, organizational, network or educational) domains in March 1999 (Source: [Internet.Org](#)) and there were 43.2 million host computers worldwide estimated in January 1999 (8.4 million active hosts -- excludes computers behind firewalls, not responding at time of counting, or IP addresses that exist but are not connected to computers) (Source: [Network wizards](#)).

Now that you have refreshed yourself on the background, here are some basic things you should know.

## SEARCH ENGINES

There is no authority control to standardize access (usually strictly keyword) although some efforts to catalog Web sites are being made. Thus, there are three ways to find information on the Web. First, you can try serendipity (i.e. you know a good site and try the links from there). Second, there are subject guides, such as Yahoo and Magellan. Here human indexers evaluate pages and place them under appropriate headings hierarchical arrangement. These are very good for finding common information, such as clip art, computer games, business/company information. However, they suffer from the subjective categorization of information. Most patrons will resort to search engines, such as AltaVista, HotBot, Excite, Infoseek, and Lycos. Search engines use automatic indexing by computers and allow natural language and keyword searching.

Search engines differ in how they search for information, what kinds of pages they will search, what they index from the sites they browse, how often are indexes updated frequency, etc. Most search engines only index a portion of the entire Web; most ignore information contained in restricted access (password protected/fee-based) sites.

Search engines use robots (also called: spiders, worms, crawlers, intelligence agents) to discover Web pages and index content. Robots also maintain databases of pages by checking/updating links on regular basis. Note, most robots do not index FTP, Gopher, Telnet, and Usenet sites.

Robots use different strategies, or a combination of strategies. Depth first strategies cause the robot to go as far as it can following the first links on each page. That is, it chooses the first link on a page, and then chooses the first link on the linked page, and so forth. This gives a comprehensive search on a few subjects. Breadth first strategies allow the robot to take one step back after each step forward, and then go down the complete list of links on the first page before progressing to all the links on the page linked to by the first link. These strategies touch lightly on many subjects.

Whichever strategy is used, once pages are found, their contents must be indexed. Some engines index everything except stopwords, others index specific fields, some ignore images or java scripts, etc. Each term indexed has a record of data such as URL of page, position of word in page, total number of words in page, etc. that is stored in an index/database.

In order to search the index, most engines allow simple keyword searching. The engine checks the index for each query term, creating tables of results for each word. If operators or punctuation were used in the query, these are used to compare results tables and formulate final results.

Once results are found in the index/database, results must be presented to user. Most engines have some ranking algorithm, but these are proprietary information and are not revealed. Some engines rank pages with search terms in particular fields, such as TITLE or URL, higher than others. Some rank according to the number of times search terms appear in a page, or whether search terms appear close together in a page.

Now that you know how search engines basically work, you need to know what to look for in a search engine.

First, look at the interface. Is the interface clean or cluttered? Is it obvious where you type your search? Is it easy to see different options available?

Next, look at the searching capabilities. What levels of searching are allowed (e.g. basic and advanced)? Is free text searching allowed? Is Boolean? Are both? Does it require special syntax or symbols for complex searching? Is truncation available? Is truncation automatic?

When results are returned, how are results ranked (by date, relevance, other criteria)? Is there a choice of how results are shown (i.e. summary versus full record)? Can you choose of how many results are shown? Do the results seem relevant? Are there many dead links among the results?

Finally, look at the help. Is the help button obvious? Is help context sensitive? Is the help indexed and logical or in a FAQ format? Does the help give examples?

Which of these attributes you prefer depends on your own comfort levels with search engines. There is no perfect search engine for everybody. Some people prefer less options, some people prefer more. Some people want everything to be automatic, others prefer to have more control over their searches. Acquaint yourself with one or two engines that are quite different, such as HotBot and AltaVista, and when showing patrons, give them the choice of which to use.

## EVALUATING WEB RESOURCES

Once you are comfortable with search engines, and can teach patrons to use different search engines, you must now teach them the most important thing, how to evaluate web resources.

There are three basic criteria for evaluating Web sites: authority, purpose and quality.

Authority refers to who wrote/produced the Web page. Check for author affiliations, credentials, qualifications, expertise and experience. If no author/web master is listed, this is a serious omission. If someone is listed, is there any indication if the person him- or herself is an authority, or is affiliated with a reputable association, institution, publisher or corporation? Does the material on the page seem to be original material? If not, is credit given and is there any indications about the expertise of the original author? Is there any indication that the material on the page has been reviewed?

Why was the Web site created? Is this a commercial site, educational, organizational or government? If it is a commercial site, it will promote certain items over others. Organizational sites may reflect the philosophy of the organization, and contain the prejudices of that organization. For example, smokers' rights pages tend to gloss over the problems of second hand smoke. Who is the audience of the page, that is, who is this site meant for? If it is meant to merely be a repository of recipes, that is legitimate, but don't expect to find extensive nutritional information included. If it is a site of recipes from the American Diabetes Association for diabetics, on the other hand, you should expect to see the nutritional breakdowns of the recipes.

Check the overall quality of the site. Does it appear that any standards been applied in the creation? Does it seem to contain valuable information? Is the information accurate? Are any references given? Is the information found therein comparable to a standard resource/hard copy? Is the information current? Is there any indication of the last update? Overall does the page seem well written in terms of content, organization, grammar, language, and spelling?

There are some additional evaluative considerations that you can also include when assessing web sites. Are the links on a page appropriate and reliable (are there many dead links)? Are links annotated to save you time? Overall does the page seem user friendly with easy navigation? Are links logically organized (alphabetically, sequentially, topically)? How do you like the overall design of the page, the use of icons, images, multimedia, and "bells and whistles"?

## CONCLUSIONS

As the phenomenal growth of the Internet continues, so will the need to educate professionals, students, and researchers in the effective use of search engines to **EFFICIENTLY** locate relevant information.

When teaching people about search engines, don't overload them with choices. Show them a few search engines, tell them what to watch out for, and let them choose whichever they feel most comfortable with.

Assume that most people will believe what they read on the Internet. A large measure of educating people about the Internet will include helping them in the development of critical analysis skills to evaluate information resources. Caution users that the validation of a resource in Cyberspace is the responsibility of the individual searcher.

Many resources are already out there to assist you in the education process, so use the tools or help that is readily available.

## WEBLIOGRAPHY

### Sources about Evaluating Internet Resources

[Bibliography on Evaluating Internet Resources](#) lists numerous sites that discuss evaluating Internet resources. Among the sites listed are such gems as:

[A Modular Approach to Teaching the World Wide Web](#) discusses how to teach others about the Web. Each module teaches you how to teach this information, and many contain PowerPoint presentations, checklists, sample pages, and more. It has a very good section on comparing search engines. It also contains an extensive section on evaluating web resources.

[Evaluating Information on the Internet](#) is very text-laden, but contains good advice about evaluating resources.

[Thinking Critically about World Wide Web Resources](#) has a good checklist of things to consider when evaluating web resources.

[Evaluating the Quality of Internet Information Sources](#) is a project from the University of Georgia in which sets of criteria and standards for web evaluation are being developed.

[The ABCs of Evaluating WWW Sources](#) contains examples of good and bad sites in terms of authority, bias, currency and content.

### Sources about Comparing Search Engines

[Library Resource List](#) includes over 50 sites that cover newly announced sites, search engine guides and evaluations, and a list of search engines. It includes [Higher Signal-to-Noise Ratio, effective use of web search engines](#) which contains good explanations of features of search engines and a webliography on search engines.

[Search Engine Watch](#) is a free site that offers further benefits to paying subscribers. On the free part is a very current chart that lists and compares search engine features. There are also explanations of what is meant by certain features, and why such features are important.

[How to Search the Web, a guide to search tools](#) explains the detailed searching parameters of ten different search engines, and has a comparative summary chart. It is slightly outdated (last modified August 1997).

[Finding Information on the Internet: a tutorial](#) has a glossary of Internet jargon, recommended search strategies, sample searches, comparisons of search engines, and more.

See also the annotation for [A Modular Approach to Teaching the World Wide Web](#) above.

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**BIOLIFE: STUDENT COLUMN FOR BIOFEEDBACK**

Tom Turner  
Chair, Student Relations/Career Guidance Committee

[Thanks to all of our student members who entered the drawing for a free CE Course that the Biomedical and Life Sciences Division ran this spring exclusively for its student members. For this issue's "BioLife" column, I asked Michelle Schewe, the winner of that contest, to give us a student member's perspective on the 1999 SLA Annual Conference in Minneapolis as well as some background on her library school experiences.-Tom Turner, Chair, Student Relations/Career Guidance Committee]

My name is Michelle Schewe, and I was the winner of the CE course drawing this year at the annual SLA conference. I also won free tickets to the Annual Business Meeting and to the Roundtable Discussion. Currently, I am a student at the University of Michigan's School of Information where I specialize in Library and Information Studies. I began the program in September of 1998 and I plan to graduate in December of 2000. I earned my undergraduate degree in Zoology in 1997 from Michigan State University. Working as a librarian in a medical library or an academic library working with a special collection of science materials interests me. To gain experience in these areas of librarianship, I am working as an intern at the University of Michigan Medical Library and at the University of Michigan Science Library. My primary role at both libraries is providing reference assistance to patrons.

The SLA conference is the second professional library conference I have attended. In April I attended the Association of College and Research Libraries conference in Detroit, which was much smaller and had a more focused interest than the SLA annual conference. The number of conference attendees and the size of the conference were overwhelming. It is difficult for first time attendees and people new to the profession to meet people. Attending the Annual Business Meeting and the Roundtable Discussion for BIO was a great way for me to meet people. I think the division should continue to offer free ticket drawings in the future to make the student members feel welcome in the division.

The quality of the sessions impressed me, but there were so many that it was difficult to decide which to attend. The only change that I would make to the conference as a whole would be to have fewer sessions happening at one time so that the attendees do not have to choose between the sessions. Experienced attendees, especially those that I met at BIO events, offered advice on how to get the most out of the conference. I found the sessions on electronic resources to be the most interesting because I see that librarianship is heading in that direction and it is helpful to hear what professionals in the field are learning about electronic resources.

I particularly enjoyed the CE course that Bonnie Snow put on. There was a group of about thirteen people so we all got to know each other over the course of the day. It was great to hear an expert searcher talk about searching for information on alternative medicine. Although patrons rarely ask me to help them find information on alternative medicine at the medical library, the searching skills that Bonnie taught are applicable to traditional medicine as well.

Overall I was both impressed and overwhelmed by the conference. I expect that I will feel more comfortable at the next conference I attend because this conference has prepared me for the size. I look forward to attending more conferences because I gained valuable insight into the library profession at this one.

Michele Schewe, Guest Contributor

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## **SLA BIOMEDICAL AND LIFE SCIENCES DIVISION OFFICERS & APPOINTEES, 1999/2000 EXECUTIVE BOARD**

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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 20009-2514**

### **Thank You**

**Thanks goes to Barbara Crain, outgoing Assistant Editor, for printing and mailing this issue of *Biofeedback*.**

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