

Biofeedback

Special Libraries Association

*Biomedical and Life Sciences Division
Special Libraries Association*

Volume 27, Number 1
Summer 2001

CONTENTS

Message from the Chair

Call for Papers: BIO

Awards Committee Update

BIO 2000/2001 Exec Bd Mtg Minutes

BIO Annual Business Mtg Minutes

BIO 2001/2002 Exec Bd Mtg Minutes

Thanks to Our Sponsors!

Vendor Relations Update

San Antonio Conference Highlights

Message from IASMLIC Liaison

Tribute to Medical Section

New Members

*2001-2002 BIO Officers and
Appointees*

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Michele Tenant

Welcome to the post-conference issue of Biofeedback! June's "Information Odyssey" in San Antonio provided plenty of opportunities to learn, network, and enjoy that lovely city. Thanks to all of our wonderful committees, volunteers, speakers and sponsoring vendors, DBIO programming was a rousing success! This issue of Biofeedback is chock full of conference highlights, so even if you were not able to join us in San Antonio, you'll get a glimpse of what DBIO had to offer at the conference.

As we begin the 2001/2002 association year, nearly all of our committee and liaison positions have been filled – a big "thanks" to all of our volunteers! The division is still in need of a Southern California member for our Professional Development Committee, and DBIO Liaisons to two SLA Committees (Affirmative Action and International Relations). If you are interested in any of these positions, please send me an e-mail or give me a call. Our wonderful committees have already started their work for the 2002 conference. The 2002 Program Committee and Professional Development Committee were actively planning in San Antonio, and Fund Development and Vendor Relations were busy thanking vendors and making new contacts. The Los Angeles conference is starting to shape up already!

This year the division will be focusing on a variety of issues, including:

- * Encouraging division members to develop and teach DBIO Continuing Education classes at the annual conference;

- * Enhancing DBIO's listserv and increasing the number of the division's subscribers;*Continued on Page 2*

What do You Think?

This is our first effort at creating a pdf version of *Biofeedback*. The Division is investigating the possibility of future issues being published electronically only. Let us know what you think!

The next issue will have more details about the schedule for moving to electronic only.

Jonathan Nabe, co-editor
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Carolyn Mills, co-editor
cmills@uconn.edu

Chair's message continued...

* Continuing to provide high-quality programming at the annual meetings, while containing costs (especially AV costs);

* Identifying potential projects for DBIO to submit to the SLA Endowment Fund;

* Moving to an electronic only version of *Biofeedback*.

If you have ideas on any of the above, please feel free to contact me by e-mail or phone.

Recent news from SLA Headquarters:

* 5000+ information professionals attended the 2001 Annual Conference in San Antonio

* SLA celebrated its 92nd birthday on July 2, 2001

* August 15, 2001 is the deadline to submit abstracts for SLA's Professional Papers Session for the 2002 conference in Los Angeles. See <http://www.sla.org/pdfs/2002call4papers.pdf> for details.

VISIT THE BIOMEDICAL & LIFE SCIENCES DIVISION WEB PAGE

<http://www.sla.org/division/dbio/index.htm>

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Biofeedback

Biomedical and Life Sciences Division
Special Libraries Association

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CALL FOR PAPERS
CONTRIBUTED PAPERS SESSION
Biomedical And Life Sciences Division
Special Libraries Association Conference
June 2002, Los Angeles

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 Los Angeles Conference in June 2002.

SESSION THEME: Innovative Applications for Digital User Services in Biomedical and Life Sciences Libraries

With the advent of the World Wide Web, library users are becoming less tied to the physical library as well as its traditional hours. Users of information expect digital resources and services to be available at their desktops 24/7. How does your library deal with these expectations? What innovative strategies has your library employed to provide resources and services to your clientele from a distance, or when the physical library is closed? Web-based tutorials? Librarians armed with beepers or cell phones? Extensive e-mail reference? How do these strategies stack up to traditional reference services in terms of accuracy or depth? How have your users responded to these innovations, and what else are they asking for?

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 and methodology.

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF ABSTRACTS: September 15, 2001.

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 31, 2002; 2) give a presentation of your paper for no longer than 20 minutes at the SLA annual conference, June 8-13, 2002 in Los Angeles; 3) where appropriate and feasible, offer a brief demonstration or representation of your project during your presentation.

SUBMIT ABSTRACTS TO:

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AWARDS COMMITTEE UPDATE**June 12, 2001****2001 Distinguished Member Award Presented to Anna McGowan**

Lucy Rowland, Chair

At the annual business meeting in San Antonio, the Division presented the 2001 Distinguished Member Award to Anna Therese McGowan for her leadership, commitment, support, and willingness to serve the Division in any capacity, including Division Chair. Anna received a certificate, a tribute which is reproduced below, and an engraved silver Revere bowl to commemorate her award. Anna is the sixth member to receive the Distinguished Member Award. Other recipients are:

1996 Patricia B. Yocum, University of Michigan
1997 Elisabeth B. Davis, University of Illinois (retired)
1998 Lucy M. Rowland, University of Georgia
1999 Eleanor A. MacLean, McGill University
2000 Renee B. Bush, State University of New York, Buffalo

**Special Libraries Association Biomedical and Life Sciences Division
2001 Distinguished Member Award****Anna Therese McGowan**

For well over a decade, Anna McGowan has amassed a record of significant contributions to Division efforts and has done so with enthusiasm, rationality, and aplomb. As an SLA member since 1981, Anna has been a stalwart supporter of the Division and its activities at the both the Chapter and Division level. She has also served on activities on the Medical Library Association.

Anna's contributions, usually in leadership positions, have centered in areas critical to the Division's success: the Fund Development Committee, the Boston Conference Program Committee, the Nominations and Elections Committee, and, of course, Chair of the Division itself. Those who have worked with Anna know her to be effective, efficient, totally reliable, and a source of excellent ideas. Her attention to detail is legendary; in fact, when Anna Chaired the Boston Conference Program Committee, the Division was praised by SLA conference staff for the accuracy and timeliness of its submissions. But never let it be said that it is all hard work and drudgery when Anna is involved as she is renowned for the warmth, humor, and positive attitude she brings to the task at hand.

Many Division Chairs-Elect and Chairs have leaned heavily on Anna for advice and support. Those who served in these positions after her have found Anna wonderfully supportive, willing, and able to provide detailed information and valuable insights, and, above all, offering reassurance that "everything will turn out fine". With her help, it did. Anna has not only served in the "kitchen" cabinet of many Past-Chairs, but has also served as valued advisor to various committees on both Division and SLA matters.

Anna has been a stalwart supporter of the Division and its activities. Her enthusiasm has been and continues to be inspiring to members old and new. Her counsel will surely continue to be sought and prove to be valuable as it has for so long. The Biomedical and Life Sciences Division is indeed fortunate to have such a member as Anna McGowan

2001 Winifred Sewell Prize for Innovation in Information Technologies in Biomedical and Life Sciences Librarianship

Eugene Garfield became the third recipient of the Winifred Sewell Prize at the annual business meeting. Accepting the prize on behalf of Gene was Winifred Sewell. Past winners are Naomi Broering and Joanne Gard Marshall.

Eugene Garfield

Dr. Eugene Garfield is known internationally as the exemplar of information scientists. He is also known to us as a member of the Biomedical and Life Sciences Division of SLA who has contributed substantially to its electronic discussion list.

The facts of his career are straightforward. His education includes a B.S. in Chemistry and an M.S. in Library Science from Columbia University, culminating in a Ph.D. in Structural Linguistics from the University of Pennsylvania in 1961. Before he embarked on his graduate studies, Gene had discovered information science through the Chemical Literature Division at the American Chemical Society's Diamond Jubilee and found employment with the Welch Medical Library Indexing Project from 1951 to 1953. In 1954, he went to Philadelphia and established Eugene Garfield Associates, which became the Institute for Scientific Information, Inc., in 1960. From its inception until 1992, he was its President and Chief Executive Officer, becoming Chairman Emeritus in 1993. In 1986 he established a scientific newspaper *The Scientist*. He is still its President and Editor-in-Chief.

Since 1954, when he became his own boss, his straightforward career contrasts with his contributions to information technology that cannot be encompassed in a few paragraphs. The *Web of Knowledge, a Festschrift in Honor of Eugene Garfield*, published for his 75th birthday on September 26, 2000, showcases the *Science Citation Index*, as the most important among Gene's many contributions to innovation in information science. Indeed, through it, he caused an order of magnitude change in the history and sociology of science and established the field of scientometrics. Even more important, he enabled advancement of science through much improved access to its records.

Among his many other contributions to scientists, the two thrusts highlighted here are immediate awareness of new developments and education in use of information technology.

In 1958 he developed the alerting service *Current Contents of Chemical, Pharmaco-Medical & Life Sciences*. Though contents publications were already well known, thanks to Gene's persistence, the marketplace gave this product credibility. It led to a splitting off of specialized contents publications as well as providing the resources and experience with computerized manipulation of bibliographic records that supported subsequent innovation. Gene's major current occupation, *The Scientist*, emphasizes his commitment to alerting the scientist to major developments through the newspaper format.

Along with his speaking engagements and other publications, *The Scientist* also demonstrates Gene's commitment of promoting to and educating others about new information technologies. With the inclusion of his essays, begun in 1960 as *Current Comments*, published in *Current Contents*, and gathered in *Essays of an Information Scientist*, Eugene has become a major emissary for information technology innovations to the scientist.

Eugene has been a member of an eclectic group of professional societies. Besides the Special Libraries Association, just a few are American Chemical Society, History of Science Society, International Federation of Science Editors, Medical Library Association, Society for Social Studies in Science, and International Science Policy Foundation. He is a Past President of the American Society for Information Science and Technology, Past President and Board Chairman of the Information Industry Association, and past Chairman of the Information, Computing & Communications Section of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

Again, one can highlight just a few of his many awards between a Grolier Society fellowship at Columbia University in 1953-54 and 1999's Avenue of Technology Award for outstanding contribution to the advancement of technology. They include honorary doctorates from Vrije University in Brussels, the University of Rome, and Charles University in the Czech Republic as well as the State University of New York and Thomas Jefferson University. From the American Chemical Society, he received the Herman Skolnik Award in 1977 and the Patterson-Crane Award in 1983. Other honors have been the 1983 John Price Wetherill Medal of the Franklin Institute, the Derek J. de Solla Price Memorial Medal from *Scientometrics* in 1983, and the John Scott Award from the City of Philadelphia in 1987.

The addition to the list of awards to Eugene Garfield of the *Winifred Sewell Prize for Innovations in Information Technology in the Biological and Life Sciences* will bring honor to the prize as well as to the recipient.

2001 Chair's Recognition Award

Tom Turner

At the annual business meeting of the Biomedical and Life Sciences Division in San Antonio, Chair Virginia Lingle presented the 2001 Chair's Recognition Award to Tom Turner who served as Chair of the Program Planning Committee for the Division's 2001 conference. Past recipients are Lucy Rowland and Nancy Stimson.

There are so many individuals who have been very supportive members of the Biomedical and Life Sciences Division over the years – people who have volunteered significant amounts of time, energy, and money to the operation of what is, in my opinion, one of SLA's premier divisions. As Chair this year, I wished that I could grant about 100 Chair's awards – one to each officer, committee chair and committee member who has contributed to the leadership and success of the division. However, top recognition this year goes to Thomas Turner for his outstanding work as chair of the 2001 San Antonio Conference Program Planning Committee.

Tom has supported the Biomedical and Life Sciences Division and the Special Libraries Association since 1995 by serving in a number of capacities. Tom currently is member of SLA's Student and Academic Relations Committee. At the chapter level he was Membership Chair of SLA's Arizona Chapter from 1996 to 1998. He served our Division as co-chair of the Contributed Papers Session Committee in 1996/97 and again in 1997/98. Tom also chaired our Division's Student Relations/Career Guidance Committee from 1998 to 2000.

About eighteen months ago, when I was considering who to ask to take on the monumental task of the 2001 Program Chair, Tom's name was suggested as a person who gets the job done and done well. That recommendation has proven very true. With the support of his committee members and the Fund Development Committee, he excelled in the enormous task of structuring and coordinating one of the best Division programming schedules I have ever attended at an annual meeting. He also saved me from a lot of worry, but I'm guessing that Tom would say he did enough worrying for the both of us. Tom attended to the thousands of details that go with organizing an annual program and he did so with efficiency, diplomacy, and excellence.

With shared gratitude, this year's Chair's Recognition Award is presented to Tom Turner in recognition of outstanding contributions and meritorious service to the division.

Virginia A. Lingle,
2000-2001 Division Chair

Biomedical and Life Sciences Division Members Honored by SLA

Fred Roper Named to SLA Hall of Fame

Joanne Gard Marshall Elected Fellow of Special Libraries Association

Lucy Rowland, Awards Committee

This year, the SLA Board of Directors selected Joanne Gard Marshall as a Fellow of the Special Libraries Association and named Fred Roper to the Hall of Fame. The tributes read at the conference showed how both of these exemplary members of the Division have served as a model for all of us. Congratulations, Fred and Joanne!

Fred W. Roper

Fred W. Roper is the Dean of the College of Library and Information Science, a position he has held since 1986. A 28-year member of SLA, Fred is the epitome of commitment to the development of great minds in the information profession, specifically in health sciences librarianship.

Fred earned his doctoral degree at Indiana University, but received both his MLS and BA in English from the University of North Carolina. He taught for fifteen years there and ultimately became associate dean there before his appointment at South Carolina.

His service to the library association committee is quite impressive, having been devoted to both SLA and the Medical Library Association. He has served as president of MLA, and on its board of directors twice. He has chaired numerous task forces and received a variety of awards with MLA. In 1997, He was made a fellow of MLA, and in 1998 he received the Noyes Award, the highest professional distinction from that association.

His legacy at SLA includes his work in the Biomedical and Life Sciences Division, where he has served as chair and led numerous efforts to make that division what it is today. Fred has also been very active in the implementation of so many strategic initiatives impacting all of SLA, including his service on the Board of Directors; as chair of the 75th Anniversary Conference Planning Committee; and service on the Research Committee and the Committee on Committees. He was made a fellow of SLA in 1989, and ten years later, received the John Cotton Dana Award, SLA's highest honor, recognizing excellence in special librarianship.

Fred's activities also include service on many committees with the American Library Association and the Association for Library and Information Science Education.

Fred has contributed many scholarly publications to the profession, including his co-authorship of Introduction to Reference Sources in the Health Sciences, the standard text on medical library information resources.

Fred, congratulations on a career dedicated to your profession and your many accomplishments, all of which make you a symbol of excellence for information professionals today and for generations to come.

Joanne Gard Marshall

Joanne Gard Marshall is Dean and Professor of the School of Library and Information Science at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. Throughout her career, she has established herself as a leading thinker in our profession, and has published several studies on the value of information professionals, including SLA's Competencies for Information Professionals in the 21st Century. Joanne is a member of the North Carolina Chapter and the Biomedical and Life Sciences Division.

Biomedical And Life Science Division Special Libraries Association Executive Board Meeting June 9, 2001 San Antonio, Texas

Present: Lingle (Chair); Curtis (Treasurer); Tebo (Secretary); Tennant (Chair-Elect); Perez (Director); Malley (Past-Chair); Duggar; (Editor, Biofeedback); Osegueda (Professional Development); Zipperer (MLA Liaison, Director-Elect); Turner (2000 San Antonio Conference Chair); Glass (Medical Section Chair-Elect); Dinerman (Observer); Hoffman (Observer); Jones (Medical Section); Roper (Nominations and Elections); Laursen (Vendor Relations)

I. Call to Order

Virginia Lingle called the meeting to order at 5:15 PM.

II. Approval of Minutes from Philadelphia

Minutes approved as published in Summer 2000 issue of BioFeedback

III. Ratification of Executive Board Email Votes

- A. Board approved Eugene Garfield for the Winifred Sewell Prize.
- B. Board approved Anna McGowan for the Distinguished Member Award.
- C. Board approved to contribute \$250.00 to the Bender Fund.

IV. Treasurer's Report

Nancy Curtis distributed the Annual Treasurer's Report and the Budget Planning Chart for calendar year 2001. Nancy reported a loss during calendar year 2000 and a possible loss for calendar year 2001.

She reported that at present, the Division has total assets of \$35,217.10, with \$10,868.19 in its reserve fund and \$24,348.91 in its operating fund. She cautioned that this is snapshot in time and is not the full picture.

As of December 31, 2000, the funds in the Division accounts totaled \$21,830.02. The Division incurred a loss of \$5,262.34 during calendar year 2000. This figure includes \$3,500.00 in contributions and sponsorship of the Global 2000 Conference. It also includes \$1,310.12 in carry-over costs for the Fall 1999 issue of Biofeedback. The remainder of the loss (\$452.22) can be accounted for by a general increase in the costs of all Division activities coupled with an extremely modest increase in revenues.

It is possible that the Division will also lose money in calendar years 2001 and 2002. While there is enough money in the combined accounts to cover projected expenses, we might have to dip into the reserve fund to pay bills. Division Board members and Committee chairs are looking at ways to reduce expenses and reverse recent deficit spending.

Treasurer's Report was approved as received.

V. BioFeedback Report

David Duggar reported that four issues of Biofeedback were published. The Assistant Editor, William Johnson is no longer able to continue his duties. David also reported he is not able to continue as Editor next year. Michele Tennant reported she has made contact with someone who is interested in being editor.

David suggested we might want to add a book review column. The Editor was instructed to talk to Adam Schiff who was the former book review editor of Biofeedback.

The Board recommended that the incoming Board investigate the possibility of joining Sci-Tech News as a replacement for Biofeedback.

VI. BSDNET-L Report

Laura Osegueda reported that new and improved software is being added. She will need to reload the list. Do we want to continue to be a closed list? Currently you need to be an SLA member to be on the list.

VII. Committee Reports

A. Archives

Dorothy Riemenschneider is looking for a replacement as Archivist. She will continue being the Archivist until we find a replacement. We would have to move three to four file drawers of archive materials to a new home. She also reminded everyone to send her any materials that should be included in the archives.

B. Awards

Virginia Lingle reported that Larry Wright and his Committee did an excellent job with awards this year. The Committee selected Anna McGowan for Distinguished Member Award and Eugene Garfield for the Winifred Sewell Prize. We now have an awards page on the Division's Web site. Carol Lepzelter did the technical part and Eleanor Smith did the content.

C. Bylaws

Anne Malley reported that there was no work that had to be done on the bylaws this year. There might be some changes for next year.

D. Fund Development

Michele Tennant reported on another successful year for the Committee. As of June 6, 2001, funds have been committed by 21 companies and organizations to support 16 programs and meeting events at the Annual Meeting in San Antonio. To date, \$9,125 has been received with outstanding commitments of \$3,600. Also, two vendors gave books to raffle.

The Committee made two recommendations. The Committee actively solicited funds for programs that DBIO co-sponsored but did not lead. It is recommended that the Committee do the same next year. Also, the Committee

recommends that the fundraising practices for the Vendor Roundtable and Breakfast be revisited. As it currently stands, the Division and its members pay for a breakfast at which most of the vendors freely advertise their products to a captive audience, without providing any monetary contribution to the Division. It is recommended that some donation to the Division be required for vendor participation in this event.

Michele thanked the following companies and organizations for their financial support: Wiley-VCH, Elsevier, EBSCO, Rittenhouse Book Distributors, Merck Research Laboratories, CISTI, OVID, Lippincott Williams & Wilkins, DIALOG, American Chemical Society, Cambridge Scientific Abstracts, John Wiley and Sons, Chemical Abstract Services, Majors, Taylor and Francis, Academic Press, BIOSIS, Sinauer Associates, Springer-Verlag, ISI, and Gale Group.

E. Membership

Diane Schmidt posted the membership on BSDNET-L. As of the end of April 2001 we have 756 members, 549 are listed as primary members and 207 have selected BSD as an additional Division.

F. Nominations and Elections

Fred Roper reported we had an election for three offices this year and had a great slate of candidates. He thanked everyone for running. The Chair-Elect is David Duggar, the Secretary is Peggy Jones, and the Director is Lori Zipperer. Anna McGowan will be the Chair of Nominations and Elections next year.

The Committee recommends to the Board that we use a single slate for elections. The reason is the Committee has a difficult time finding two qualified candidates who are willing to run for office and the losing candidate might be unwilling to run in the future and as a result are wasting talent for the Division. Fred cautioned that a single slate might require a bylaws change. The Board voted to recommend that the new Board consider a change to permit a single slate of candidates.

G. Professional Development

Laura Osegueda reported that the Committee did not have to do much work this year. Tom Turner's Program Committee did most of the work. This year's conference programs seem to be serving the needs of the members. There will be an Arts and Flowers Tour with a local tour guide.

H. Public Relations

No report

I. Publications

No report

J. Student Relations/Career Guidance

Janet Weiss is stuck in the Dallas airport. There were no takers on the student essay contest. She will give a full report at the Annual Business Meeting.

K. Vendor Relations

Irene Laursen reported that the Vendors Roundtable is Sunday. We have a good balance of vendors at the roundtable. This year there will be presentations by Ovid, Nature Publishing Group, BioMedNet, BioOne, and Reutershealth. The Committee had only four members this year. The Committee recommends the number be increased to five or six members. The Committee is also trying to re-establish reviews of resources for Biofeedback. The Committee is looking for volunteers. The Committee also recommends that this Committee needs to work closely with Fund Development.

L. Contributed Paper Session

Anne Malley reported that four papers were accepted for "Innovative Applications of Web and Digital Technologies in Biomedical and Life Sciences Libraries." Only three papers will be presented since the speaker from Australia could not attend. This year we will not have a printed copy of the proceedings. The papers are posted on the Division's Web page. This will help cut down on the costs. We will do a printed copy for the speakers and a copy for the archives. Anne Malley is stepping down. Barbara Butler is a new member on the Committee.

M. San Antonio Program

Thomas Turner handed out a list of Division sponsored and co-sponsored sessions. Thomas thanked the Committee for their hard work. Virginia Lingle thanked Thomas and his Committee for their outstanding programs this year.

N. Los Angeles Program

Laura Osegueda reported that we have a good start on the Los Angeles conference. The Committee hopes to use local talent as much as possible to keep the costs down. They have a number of ideas for tours, including the La Brea Tar Pits.

VIII. Medical Section Reports

Peggy Jones reported that this year there are two programs, a business meeting, and a reception sponsored by the section. This is the fifth anniversary of the section and a recognition certificate will be presented to Nancy Bryant who was the section's first chair. Mary Glass will be the new chair of the section.

IX. Liaisons**Medical Library Association (MLA)**

Lori Zipperer will give a full report at the Annual Business Meeting. She suggested that the Division should help financially with registration or maybe ask other associations to waive registration fees.

American Society for Information Science and Technology (ASIST)

John Tebo stated that there was nothing to report.

X. Procedures Manual

Julia Perez is working on a list of changes that the Board will need to approve.

XI. Old Business

None

XII. New Business

None

XIII. Adjournment

Virginia Lingle thanked everyone for their contributions and hard work on behalf of the Division. She also thanked Wiley for sponsoring the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted

John Tebo, Secretary

Biomedical and Life Sciences Division

**Biomedical and Life Sciences Division
Special Libraries Association
2000/2001 Annual Business Meeting
June 12, 2001
San Antonio, Texas**

I. Call to Order and Introduction of Board Members

Virginia Lingle called the meeting to order at 7:45 AM. She introduced the Board. Virginia Lingle, Chair; Michele Tennant, Chair-Elect; Nancy Curtis, Treasurer; John Tebo, Secretary; Julia Perez, Director; Anne Malley, Past-Chair. She also introduced Sandy Moltz who was the SLA Board Proctor for this meeting and Tom Turner, as the Program Chair for the San Antonio meeting.

II. Approval of Minutes from 2000 Annual Business Meeting

Minutes were approved as published in the Summer 2000 issue of *Biofeedback*.

III. Treasurer's Report

Nancy Curtis distributed the Annual Treasurer's Report and the Budget Planning Chart for 2001. She cautioned that this is snap shot in time and is not the full picture. Nancy reported a loss again this year and a possible loss next year in Los Angeles. We have enough money in our accounts to cover the expenses but we might have to dip into the Reserve Funds. We are trying to look at ways to reduce expenses and reverse the deficit spending of the past few years. As of December 31, 2000, the funds in the Division accounts totaled \$21,830.02. The Division incurred a loss of \$5,262.34 during the 2000 calendar year. This figure includes \$3,500.00 in contributions and sponsorship of the Global 2000 Conference. It also includes \$1,310.12 in carry-over costs for the Fall 1999 issue of *Biofeedback*. The remainder of our loss (\$452.22) can be accounted for by a general increase in the costs of all Division activities coupled with an extremely modest increase in revenues.

Both the Annual and Mid-Year Financial Reports were submitted to SLA Headquarters in a timely fashion and approved by SLA staff.

Treasurer's Report was approved as received.

IV. Election Results

Fred Roper reported we had six excellent candidates for office this year and thanked all those who agreed to run for office. This year's officers are David Duggar Chair-Elect; Peggy Jones Secretary; and Lori Zipperer, Director.

V. Brief Committee Reports

Archives

Dorothy Riemenschneider asked people to forward her documents that need to be included in the archives. She is also looking to pass on the responsibility of Archivist to someone new.

Awards

Larry Wright thanked the Committee for their hard work. He reported that a nomination form, descriptions of the awards, past winners, and what was said about each winner is now posted on the Division Web page. Larry also congratulated Fred Roper for his induction into the SLA Hall of Fame and Joanne G. Marshall for being named an SLA Fellow.

Biofeedback

David Duggar reported that four issues of *Biofeedback* were published this year. David announced he is giving up the duties of editor since he is taking over as chair-elect of the Division. Jonathan Nabe is the new editor.

BSDNET-L

Laura Osegueda reported that North Carolina State University will continue to maintain BSDNET-L. New software will be installed soon.

Bylaws

Anne Malley reported that there were no changes in the bylaws this year. There might be some changes that need to be made next year.

Contributed Papers

Anne Malley reported that four papers were accepted for "Innovative Applications of Web and Digital Technologies in Biomedical and Life Sciences Libraries." Only three papers will be presented since the speaker from Australia could not attend. This year we will not have a printed copy of the proceedings. The papers are posted on the Division's Web page. This will help cut down on the costs. We will do a printed copy for the speakers and a copy for the archives. She also made a call for contributed papers for next year in Los Angeles. The theme is "Innovative Applications for Digital User Services in Biomedical and Life Sciences Libraries." The deadline for submission of abstracts is September 15, 2001. Anne Malley is stepping down and Barbara Butler will be a new member on the Committee.

Fund Development

Michele Tennant thanked her Committee and said all current members will return for next year. This year the Committee raised \$12,725. Michele also thanked the following vendors who made a contribution to the Division this year: Wiley-VCH, Elsevier, EBSCO, Rittenhouse Book Distributors, Merck Research Laboratories, CISTI, OVID, Lippincott Williams & Wilkins, DIALOG, American Chemical Society, Cambridge Scientific Abstracts, John Wiley and Sons, Chemical Abstract Services, Majors, Taylor and Francis, Academic Press, BIOSIS, Sinauer Associates, Springer-Verlag, ISI, and Gale Group.

Membership

Diane Schmidt thanked her Committee. Jean Crampon will be the chair next year. Membership is at the same level as last year. The Committee will update the Landmark Member List that is posted on the Division Web page. She asked the membership to check the list for accuracy and let her know of any problems.

Nominations and Elections

Fred Roper thanked the Committee. Anna McGowan will be the Committee chair next year. Next year we will need to hold elections for Division chair-elect and treasurer.

Professional Development

Laura Osegueda reported that there are still tickets for the Arts and Flowers Tour. The Committee is working on plans for Los Angeles and they have lots of great ideas.

Public Relations and Publications

No Reports.

Student Relations/Career Guidance

Janet Weiss reported the Committee met electronically all year. They sent copies of the student brochure to faculty advisors and heard back from three advisors. The Student Essay Contest was widely promoted but no student responded to the call for essays. The Committee might not do an essay contest next year, instead they might give tickets away to events like last year. She reported the Committee found it difficult to get students to participate in the Division.

Vendor Relations

Irene Laursen reported that there were five great speakers at the Breakfast Roundtable on Sunday. She thanked the members of her Committee. The breakfast has gotten to be an expensive event due in part to the cost of AV equipment. The Committee is looking at ways to increase vendor sponsorship.

She made a call for additional volunteers to the Committee. She also stated that the Committee would like to reinstate the reviews section in *Biofeedback*.

San Antonio Program

Tom Turner thanked his Committee members for all their hard work in arranging outstanding programs for the San Antonio Conference.

Los Angeles Program

Laura Osegueda reported the Committee is working on a number of interesting programs. Suggestions include programs on marine biology, PDAs, economics of medicine, molecular medicine, and conservation topics.

Medical Section Report

Peggy Jones thanked everyone for their contributions to the Section. Mary Glass is the in-coming chair of the Section. They had a great business meeting, a reception, and two programs which were all well attended.

Liaisons

Medical Library Association (MLA)

Lori Zipperer reported this was her last year as MLA liaison.

American Society for Information Science And Technology (ASIST)

John Tebo had nothing to report.

Procedures Manual

Julia Perez is working on changes. She will submit to Board for approval.

VI. Presentation of Awards

Distinguished Member Award

Renee Bush presented Anna McGowan with the Distinguished Member Award. For well over a decade, Anna McGowan has amassed a record of significant contributions to Division efforts and has done so with enthusiasm, rationality, and aplomb. As an SLA member since 1981, Anna has been a stalwart supporter of the Division and its activities at the both the Chapter and Division level. She has also served on activities on the Medical Library Association. For details of her career, see the full report on page 4.

Winifred Sewell Prize

Virginia Lingle presented Winifred Sewell with the Winifred Sewell Prize who accepted on behalf of this year's winner, Dr. Eugene Garfield. Dr. Garfield could not attend the meeting today but sent his regrets. Dr. Eugene Garfield is known internationally as the exemplar of information scientists. He is also known to us as a member of the Biomedical and Life Sciences Division of SLA who has contributed substantially to its electronic discussion list. For details of his career, see the full report on page 5.

Chair's Award

Virginia Lingle presented Thomas Turner with the Chair's Award for his outstanding work as chair of the 2001 San Antonio Conference Program Planning Committee. For details see the full report on page 6.

Landmark Members

Diane Schmidt reported that there are six people with more than 35 years of membership in the Division. There are twenty people with 20-25 years of membership. Winifred Sewell has 55 years of membership in the Division and was presented with a token of appreciation. A complete list can be found on the Division Web page.

VII. Chair's Report

Virginia Lingle thanked everyone for their help. It was a tremendous group to work with. She reported that all reports have been sent to SLA Headquarters. She also thanked Cambridge Scientific Abstracts for sponsoring the meeting.

VIII. Announcements

Larry Wright mentioned that W. Davenport Robertson, a member of our Division is running to Chapter Cabinet Chair.

IX. Installation of New Officers

The officers for 2001/2002 were installed.

Michele Tennant - Chair

David Duggar - Chair-elect

Nancy Curtis - Treasurer

Peggy Jones - Secretary

Lori Zipperer - Director

X. New Business

Michele Tennant had a call for volunteers for Committee assignments.

XI. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 8:45 AM.

Respectfully submitted

John Tebo, Secretary

Biomedical and Life Sciences Division

Biomedical And Life Science Division
Special Libraries Association
Executive Board Meeting
June 13, 2001
San Antonio, Texas

Present: Michele Tennant (Chair); Virginia Lingle (Past Chair, Bylaws, Publications); Nancy Curtis (Treasurer); Peggy Jones (Secretary); Lorri Zipperer (Director); David Duggar (Chair-Elect); Laura Osegueda (Los Angeles 2002 Programming Chair); Mary Hay Glass (Medical Section Chair); Anna McGowan (Nominations and Elections) Irene Laursen (Vendor Relations); Sharon Levy (Natural History Caucus); Janet Cooper Weiss (Student Relations, Career Guidance); Lucy Rowland (Awards); Jonathan Nabe (BioFeedback); Carolyn Mills (BioFeedback); Mary Ann Doherty (Membership - for Jean Crampon); Barbara Hedges (Professional Development)

I. Call to Order

Michele Tennant called the meeting to order at 7:30 a.m.

II. Approval of Minutes from Philadelphia

Minutes approved.

III. Old Business

Lingle announced that at the Division Cabinet meeting, Information-Technology and Communications Divisions have merged. Communications will become a section of the IT Division. Also discussed were branding, international fund development, and model bylaws.

At the BIO outgoing board meeting on June 9 it was suggested that the Division go to a single slate election. This means one person is nominated for each open position. McGowan stated that it's difficult to get people, demoralizing to people who don't win and divisive to run an election when two people are nominated for each position. If changed to a single slate, the Nominations and Elections committee would call for nominations and select candidates from that. Duggar mentioned that sometimes those who are asked to run don't want to be elected. Tennant asked Nominations and Elections to look into how other divisions do this; McGowan will report back. The bylaws would need to be changed in this case.

Tennant announced Zipperer's request to help liaisons to other associations. Monetary support was suggested if the company that employs the liaison doesn't support this. Lingle agreed conceptually but not financially. Liaisons can find a backup if they cannot attend a meeting. Osegueda suggested that liaisons ask the other association to waive the registration fee. Curtis asked what SLA thinks about this issue. McGowan pointed out that headquarters requires that IFLA have a liaison, for example. Zipperer suggested that support doesn't have to be a rule, but on an as-needed basis. Laursen suggested we ask the other organization for a partially subsidized fee as opposed to complete reimbursement. Zipperer will approach MLA about this. Curtis wondered if a vendor might support this. Zipperer will look into this. Duggar suggested that we have a vendor come to the Medical Section business meeting and report on the MLA meeting. Weiss countered that vendors don't find out what's happening at meetings.

IV. Agenda Items

Tennant asked for agenda items.

- A. Vendor Roundtable. Laursen and others noted that this is an expensive event, as audio-visual equipment is costly. Weiss suggested passing the cost along to the vendors. Laursen will get AV costs on the vendors' budgets so they will be prepared to pay. Lingle announced that the Division Cabinet is looking at cost of AV. Headquarters may be providing guidelines on how to save money on this. McGowan noted that SLA can't control these costs, since labor laws usually demand that we make a good deal with a city. Tennant wants one more year of trying to get AV costs paid for by the vendors. Weiss suggested providing a forum for 3 vendors,

on three mornings, with vendors providing breakfast -- perhaps early Sunday and Monday. Mills noted we might consider different rules for profit vs. non-profit vendors. Levy suggested getting input from vendors, as they have a vested interest in paying for the event. Laursen will be surveying the vendors, and pursuing sponsorship from them.

- B. **Biofeedback and Costs.** Curtis stated that the costs are roughly \$3,000/year for printing and \$1,000/year for postage, for a total of \$4,000/year. Biofeedback also brings income from advertising, about \$1,560 to \$3,000/year. In calendar year 2001, we have spent \$1,532.10 so far, and will probably spend about \$3,000. Thus, \$2,000 to \$3,000 is not covered by advertising income. Duggar stated that about 1/3 of costs are covered by advertising. Tennant suggested either an all online version, or joining *Sci-Tech News*. Duggar cautioned that *Sci-Tech News* has all the rights. We would pay a fee of \$3.50 per year per member and get 4-6 pages to cover the division, which is not much space. We would get little except savings on printing and mailing. Osegueda offered that our material would be seen by members of other divisions. Tennant asked if there would be interest in the life sciences divisions forming a journal. Zipperer asked what our goals are. Do we want to reach non-members? Can we create a Biofeedback template? What are postage costs? Can we use a lighter paper stock? She commented that the Illinois Chapter formed a task force to discuss these issues of online vs. print. The task force defined the mission, elicited members' opinions, and formulated a best way to accomplish the mission. She was surprised to find that members didn't want an online newsletter. Nabe asked if we should state in the next issue that Biofeedback will be electronic, and solicit feedback from those who disagree. Mills suggested that the editors would keep archival copies, sending one to Headquarters and one to the Archivist. Duggar mentioned that sometimes when the PDF is printed, ads are not included or are missing parts. Nabe and Mills attended a bulletin editors' workshop, where it was suggested that somebody sponsor each issue. Mills said we have a sponsorship notice in Biofeedback. Weiss suggested offering free advertising to vendors who sponsor an issue. Tennant asked for a task force to look into these issues. Nabe, Mills, Zipperer and Laursen will comprise the task force.
- C. **Treasurer's Report.** Curtis announced that BLSA lost over \$5,000 in Calendar Year 2000. We are facing Annual Conferences in two expensive cities: Los Angeles and New York, and we shouldn't assume that the Nashville Annual Conference will be inexpensive. Lingle commented that the deficit came from the contribution to Global 2000. Curtis said that there might be a deficit for Calendar Year 2001, and it could be as large as \$4,000. This won't wipe us out, but it does weaken us. Budget requests are due by August 31, and the default on all budget lines is \$100. If your committee has conference expenditures, you must keep constant dialog with her, Tennant and Osegueda. Plan ahead for the year when budgeting, and try to avoid later add-ons. Curtis is not officially in her office between June 15 and August 15, but can be reached by e-mail, mail, or fax. Always put her name on faxes. FedEx does not guarantee overnight delivery to her part of Maine, so try not to send things out at the last minute. She has been posting financial data on the Web. She will notify all board members, liaisons and committee chairs when it is updated. McGowan suggested also publishing it in Biofeedback. Curtis recommended that we communicate with our predecessor and successor in order to avoid financial surprises. The IRS and SLA headquarters demand that we keep accurate documentation of our finances. A W-9 form must be on file for anybody who receives a check from the division. It is available at the IRS web site. Travel expenses should be submitted on travel vouchers. Committee chairs should submit committee expense forms. Original receipts must be sent with the forms to her for reimbursement. The check request form is for payments made to third parties. Have either the Chair, Chair-Elect, Director or Past Chair sign off on this before submitting it. If you discuss any financial matters verbally with Curtis, follow up with a letter, fax, e-mail and/or the appropriate form(s) for documentation.
- D. **Winifred Sewell Award.** Rowland made a motion to raise Winifred Sewell's travel stipend from \$200 to \$250, as she presents the award each year. The motion was accepted.

V. Other Business

McGowan made a correction to her email address: amcgowan@cfsan.fda.gov. Weiss reminded that her email is all lowercase. Tennant urged past committee members to get pertinent information to their successors. Rowland offered new letterhead to anybody who needs it.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 am.

Respectfully submitted June 20, 2001 by Peggy Jones, Secretary

**OUR HEARTFELT THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS
2001 San Antonio Conference:**

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**Vendor Relations Update
Continental Breakfast and Vendor Roundtable
Sunday, June 10, 2001, 9:40 - 11:00 a.m.**

On Sunday, at the third Continental Breakfast and Vendor Roundtable, five vendors gave presentations on recent developments in their services and products. Speakers at this session included Patti Corbett (Ovid Technologies, Patti_Corbett@ovid.com), Gina Fullerlove (Nature Publishing Group, email c/o Miles Refo, mrefo@grovereferece.com), Nik Screen (Elsevier Science London, nik.screen@biomednet.com), Heather Joseph (BioOne, heather@arl.org), and Robert Resnick (Reuters Health, rresnick@reutershealth.com).

During the morning's presentations, we heard about Ovid's portal technology and database linking to full-text journals on several platforms, saw sample screens from the new online version of the *Encyclopedia of Life Sciences*, and learned more about the customization and breadth of BioMedNet reviews. We also heard about the development of a new publishing initiative, BioOne, a product of the library community and noncommercial journal publishers. BioOne provides electronic access to 40 peer-reviewed journals from scientific societies in the life sciences. Lastly, we heard about ReutersHealth, a primary news source whose staff of technical writers review more than 200 medical and health journals regularly to provide timely news in biomedical areas.

The program was well received and the roundtable format will be continued at the 2002 Conference in Los Angeles. We look forward to hearing your ideas and suggestions for vendors.

This session was co-sponsored with the Chemistry and Environment & Resource Management Divisions. We are grateful to Ovid and Elsevier for their support of the division's programs.

Irene Laursen
Vendor Relations Committee, Chair

SLA ANNUAL CONFERENCE — SAN ANTONIO, TX
CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

**Building Bridges to Our Users: Liaison, Outreach
and Marketing Programs that Work**
(Report on the Academic Science and Engineering Librarians' Roundtable session
at the SLA Annual Conference in San Antonio)

San Antonio was hot in more ways than one. The Academic Science and Engineering Librarians' Roundtable on liaison work, outreach and marketing was absolutely sizzling, judging by both the attendance (more than 150 people, standing room only) and the many comments and questions generated by the three presentations.

Michele Tennant from the Health Science Center Libraries at the University of Florida in Gainesville was the first speaker. She talked about the liaison program at her institution, the development of which is described in the January 2001 issue of the Bulletin of the Medical Library Association 89(1):8-20. Michele explained that patron dissatisfaction led the library to develop a more formal liaison program. The majority of the fourteen librarians act as a liaison in some capacity. Since clinicians and basic sciences researchers have very different needs the liaisons specialize by subject areas. Specialization provides competence and confidence to the liaisons and a better library environment for all. Library patrons only need to know one person in the library: their liaison. Indications that the liaison program is successful have included patrons telling librarians and other patrons that they are happy; librarians asked to participate in Health Science Center endeavors like the Bioinformatics Initiative, and some departmental monetary support for the liaison program (for instance, the nursing school is paying for the salary of the nursing liaison.)

The second speaker was Olga Paradis, Head of the Science/Engineering Library at Baylor University. Olga talked about the strategies that her library has used to publicize the library. Two of the strategies she mentioned included:

- * Marketing directly to graduate students since they are dedicated library users. They then spread the news up the chain to faculty and down the chain to undergraduates.
- * Hosting a faculty author and artist reception at which the faculty's works are displayed. The faculty have been very appreciative.

She reported that the library has dropped daily overdue fines and printing charges on microforms and is subsidizing ILL. The library has also added a snack bar and the computer lab in the library is open 24 hours. The library is raising funds to change office space into group study rooms. Towards this end, faculty are working with the development office on campus to create a network of library users/supporters. In 2003 the main library will celebrate its 100th anniversary and this will present a prime opportunity to market the library.

Ann Koopman, the third and final speaker, talked about Thomas Jefferson University's efforts to reach out to largely remote users. Their website, JEFFLINE (<http://jeffline.tju.edu>), serves an ever-widening base of remote users. As is common at many other places, reference statistics are way down. As a result, the library has changed its staffing pattern and has moved reference resources into outreach and marketing of both the library's resources and also the librarians themselves. The library slogan, logo, and "attitude" on the website are used to develop brand recognition. Banners, alerts, and pop-up surveys on the website work well as marketing devices. Face-to-face parties were held to sign up people to use JEFFLINE. The library hopes that JEFFLINE Forum, the online newsletter, will become a campus wide vehicle for news and information. JEFFLINE Forum includes pieces about scholarly publishing, campus news, funding opportunities, library news, and staff humor. Ann reported that including pictures of people is particularly effective. Everyone with a JEFFLINE password is automatically signed up to receive JEFFLINE Forum alerts. They have been promoting their electronic journals using what they call the Cyber Café an eye-catching, restaurant-style menu which includes the children's menu (pediatrics titles) and the dessert menu (diabetes care, etc.) among its categories.

A lively question and answer period followed the presentations. If you are interested in becoming involved in an ongoing e-mail discussion of the issues surrounding liaison programs, outreach, and marketing, send a message to Jennifer Kostelnik at Jennifer.kostelnik@yale.edu

Many thanks to Jennifer Kostelnik from the Chemistry Library at Yale University for ably serving as the moderator of this event. The Science-Technology Division, the Biomedical and Life Sciences Division, the Chemistry Division, and the Engineering Division cosponsored this session. American Chemical Society Publications and BIOSIS provided financial support.

Submitted by Nancy Stimson

Knowledge Management and Medicine: Building Bridges to Better Patient Care

Presented by: Medical Section, Biomedical & Life Sciences Division

This program, presented on Monday, June 11, 2001, from 3:00 PM - 4:15 PM, was moderated by Lorri A. Zipperer, of Medscape.

Prudence Dalrymple, Dean of the Graduate School of Library and Information Science, Dominican University; discussed the pros and cons of the electronic medical record. EMR reduces errors, improves efficiency, extends memory, supports decisions, provides the basis for clinical research, identifies patterns and relationships, and allows the computational power to sort through huge amounts of data. The reasons EMR is not currently used are lack of simplicity, lack of industry standards for compatibility, non-existing or conflicting rules and regulations, patients' privacy issues, unresolved issues for financing the EMR, and few experts in the field. Patient record systems should increase patient care, enhance productivity, support research, accommodate changes, ensure confidentiality and be easy to use. Users of the EMR must have confidence in the data.

Evidence based medicine (EBM) uses the current best evidence to integrate into patient care. Librarians can create tools to connect research to practice, such as linking the EMR to a portal into the literature. EBM can be difficult and challenging: medicine is changing rapidly, the workload is increased, and EBM is difficult to translate to a particular patient. It should be a cyclical process. How will it improve patient care? Knowledge alone doesn't change practice. We need standards. Examples of a people-based knowledge management (KM) strategy are the use of clinical librarians in the patient care team and a document-based KM strategy. Systems need to be developed by librarians and others.

Cultural changes are important. EMR and KM should become an invisible part of our lives. How do we prepare information professionals for this? They must be prepared to communicate, present, collaborate, break away from the print format, continue to be tool-makers, have a high comfort level with technology.

The second speaker, Paul Schyve, Senior Vice President, Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations, discussed knowledge management and patient safety. The Joint Commission's Sentinel Event Policy of 1995 encourages self-reporting of errors. Health care is a high risk business. Each step can contain an error. It involves complex decision-making and choices, is time-compressed, and is tightly coupled, meaning that when one thing is done, it is hard to stop and not do the next step. It requires human involvement, and humans make mistakes. The dilemma is contained in two sayings: "Above all, do no harm" and "To err is human."

The "usual cause" is looked for in human error, such as lack of knowledge or skill, forgetfulness, inattention, poor motivation, carelessness, negligence and recklessness. All except the last two happen to all of us. The temptation is to assume that "someone" is responsible. The "usual solution" is to name, blame and shame, retrain and discipline, then establish more procedures. The results are that one person is improved, all others hide their errors, and errors persist. The problem can be corrected by performing a "root cause analysis." Without changing the system, don't prevent errors; rather, force and enable them. Their cause may be lack of training or orientation, defects in communication or information, or unpredictability of the systems that are in place.

Highly reliable organizations use a blunt end/sharp end system. At the blunt end is the system, which is stable, thus preventing errors and harm. At the sharp end is the person (clinician), who can create safety by quickly adapting to emergencies. Thus, information is at the sharp end and the clinician is resting on a knowledge base. He/she can respond quickly to specific patient needs, and get information to the patient, family and caregivers. This is knowledge management, with knowledge-based information at the blunt end. The ERM links information to decision support systems. Knowledge-based information has certain characteristics: it must be relevant, accessible, timely, understandable, linked and integrated, reproducible, for the clinician and for the patient.

In retrospect, a root cause analysis must be performed, then an action plan formulated, evidence must be found to prevent errors in the future, and these should be reported to JCAHO. On the prospective end, think about a failure mode and effect analysis. What could go wrong, what is the effect, how critical is it, how do we make it not happen? Then redesign.

In hospitals, safety and quality are improved, blame and retribution are avoided. When a proactive risk reduction program is enacted, training and orientation happen, communication and knowledge transfer improve, processes are less varied, and patients get information about outcomes that differ significantly from the expected outcomes.

The standard for KM is IM.9. Its intent is to include successful practice, support decision-making, improve performance and reduce risk to patients and families.

This program was sponsored by Dialog; Lippincott, Williams & Wilkins.

Submitted by Peggy Jones

Health Care Information for the Underserved.

The question of medical care effectively addressing the needs of underserved communities was the focus of the three presentations for this session, presented on Monday, June 11, 2001 from noon to 1:15pm. The moderator was Peggy Jones, of the Pritzker Research Library, Children's Memorial Hospital and current chair of the Medical Section of the Biomedical and Life Sciences Division of SLA.

Howard J. Fuller, Stanford University Medical Center, opened the session. Mr. Fuller presented an epidemiological review of the health issues of gays and lesbians in the US. He noted that because certain stigmas exist, obstacles to the most effective care continue to proliferate. These obstacles are the lack of awareness of health care professionals to the health risks particular to this community and the lack of fully effective patient/physician communications. Fuller closed his talk by sharing several helpful resources and web sites to visit for further information.

Mary Jo Dwyer, University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio Hospital, was the next speaker. Ms. Dwyer reviewed the development of the Circuit Librarian Health Information Network in Texas. Via this established traveling librarian initiative, information professionals provide standard reference, research and interlibrary loan services to medical professionals, support and networking for librarians, and information support and assistance to patients in underserved areas along the Texas/Mexico border.

Patti J. Patterson, Rural & Community Health, Texas Tech University, Health Sciences Center, closed the session. Dr. Patterson presented information on a telehealth and public health program in place in west Texas. She provided an overview of the health issues of the region, some of the obstacles to providing effective care there, and reviewed how technology could be used to help address these needs.

The session was sponsored by CISTI and Merck Research Labs
Submitted by Lorri Zipperer, Medical Cybrarian, Medscape

Challenging the Status Quo: What's Next in Alternative Scholarly Publishing

This two part program, presented on Tuesday, June 12, 2001 from 12:00 to 2:45, was very informative and thought provoking. It covered the current state of affairs as regards some of the new alternatives in the scholarly publishing frontier. Three speakers in the first segment reported on a variety of publishing initiatives challenging the traditional scholarly publishing establishment with alternative venues and formats. The program was moderated by Carolyn Mills, Biology Librarian at the University of Connecticut.

Mary Case, Director of the Office of Scholarly Communication at the Association of Research Libraries (ARL), focused on the Scholarly Publishing and Academic Resources Coalition (SPARC) initiative of ARL. SPARC's strategy is to create high-quality, lower priced alternatives to the commercial (and to some extent society) publications. Ms. Case emphasized that consistent communication and advocacy are essential to the success of these new ventures. SPARC is enhancing awareness of the scholarly publishing dilemma, promoting options, and highlighting success stories throughout all the stakeholder communities. More details information on SPARC's other initiatives and publications is available at <http://www.arl.org/sparc>.

Liz Pope, from the National Center for Biotechnology Information (NCBI), presented an overview of NCBI's PubMed Central database. She described the digitization production process, some of the system features, and some misconceptions about the program. PubMed Central is primarily a digital archive of life sciences journal literature. She emphasized that it is not a journal publisher and that access to PubMed Central is free and unrestricted. Ms. Pope discussed the Archive of Life Science Journals, full text viewing options, and the fact that there are no research papers accepted without peer review. Some misconceptions that she elaborated on are concerns that the integrity of submitted content is compromised, loss of ownership exclusive use arrangements, and questions about high cost. For more detailed information, visit their website at <http://www.pubmedcentral.nih.gov>

HighWire Press, BioMed Central, and the Public Library of Science were the three initiatives that Jonathan Nabe, from Brandeis University, described during his presentation. HighWire Press is in partnership with several societies and university presses, and consequently "produces more electronic versions of the most significant journals in the life and biomedical sciences than anyone else." They are able to "take advantage of new technology and communication tools to increase the availability and visibility of their titles." Mr. Nabe said that because of the services and support the HighWire Press provides (server space, technical advice, subscription management services), it lowers the overhead associated with online publishing so that publishers have fewer financial outlays to recoup. HighWire Press has recently started archiving journals in the Physical and Social Sciences. Additional information is at <http://highwire.stanford.edu>.

BioMed Central is often confused with BioMedNet, a product owned by Reed Elsevier. Mr. Nabe explained that BioMed Central is an independent publishing house and has aims completely different, including free, immediate and open access to peer-reviewed biomedical research. All original research articles are also posted concurrently on PubMed Central and are indexed by PubMed. Articles are published quickly (on average in 35 days), while still being peer reviewed. Other publishing initiatives are currently being investigated, such as inviting scientists to start their own online "niche" journals on the BioMed Central website. Librarians can help spread the word about this publishing alternative to science faculty ready to take action about the scholarly communication crisis. Further information is at <http://www.biomedcentral.com>.

The Public Library of Science is an effort by biomedical researchers to assert control of the scientific literature in the life sciences. Mr. Nabe stated that, "Essentially it is a statement of intent, an open letter to the community of researchers and publishers, designed to spur the creation of a barrier-free archive of the published research in their field." Over 23,000 researchers had signed by that date; if even only some of them follow through on their promises, it will mean a significant change in where research is published and the quality of many commercial publications. Mr. Nabe noted that this is stimulating debate in Science, Nature and other reputable circles. "Regardless of the existence of an archival center which would make available the published research, after six months libraries are unlikely to see much of an economic impact." For further details go to <http://www.publiclibraryofscience.org>.

No summary of the second segment of the program was available.

The session was sponsored by ACS and Majors
The summary was submitted by Pat Morris, Univeristy of Arizona.

Organizing Biodiversity: Systematics from Museums to Molecules

In this program, offered on Tuesday, June 12, 2001, from 3:00-5:00 pm, Michele Tennant outdid herself yet again, organizing an extremely informative and engaging program about systematics, the study of the relationships among organisms and the foundation for understanding biodiversity. Three former editors from the journal of "Systematic Biology" provided an introduction to various aspects of systematics, followed by a life sciences librarian's tour of systematic resources on the web.

David Cannatella a Curator from the Texas Memorial Museum at the University of Texas started the program with an overview of systematics, museums and libraries. He provided definitions of the necessary terms, the historical origins of the study of systematics and its context in respect to evolution, and an overview of what systematists study and how their research interfaces with other disciplines. Dr. Cannatella finished his discussion with details about his study of frog calls, and how evolution of certain frogs can be estimated from the variations in frog vocalizations.

The next speaker was Dr. Michael Miyamoto, Professor and Associate Chair of the Department of Zoology at the University of Florida. Dr. Miyamoto provided participants with a crash course in the use of computers to study molecular biology. Advances in molecular biology and computer technology have transformed modern systematics, and Dr. Miyamoto started out with providing an overview of the process involved in studying DNA and the critical role computers play in managing the amount of data and quantity of comparisons undertaken. The DNA of a species provides a far more complete picture of that species' evolution than looking only at the physical characteristics.

Dr. Davis Hillis, Director of the School of Biological Sciences at the University of Texas discussed the importance of phylogeny or the study of the tree of life. A section of his talk was devoted to the solution of an attempted murder. Dr. Hillis explained how he used phylogenetic analysis to study the spread of HIV among individuals. He was able to prove that the strain of HIV that was injected into a physician's mistress was directly linked to one of the physician's patients, leading to the successful prosecution of the physician for attempted murder. Phylogenetic analysis can also be used to discover the origins of viruses and epidemics, and to predict which influenza strains will lead to the epidemics of the future.

The final speaker was Stephanie Haas the University Librarian from the Digital Library Center at the University of Florida. Her talk, entitled Species Epithet or Epitaph: the Naming Conundrum, attempted to assist the audience in making sense of the status of species names. When naming species, taxonomists traditionally use a binomial nomenclature, which is a two-part latin name formed by appending a specific epithet to the genus. Ms. Haas addressed how phylogeny fits into binomial nomenclature, though not always neatly, and she described the various ways that systematists are trying to resolve the naming issue. Ms. Haas provided an amazing tour of the resources that are available in respect to naming species, as well as resources devoted to listing the names of species. Her impressive presentation is available at <http://susdl.fcla.edu/lfnh/related/sla2001.ppt>.

Following the four talks, books donated by Academic Press and Taylor and Francis were raffled off to the audience. There were about 20 books raffled off, but there were close to 60 participants in the audience. Many of us did not win books, but we all won a great amount of information on a topic that can be difficult to understand. All of the speakers presented a well organized, through, informative and entertaining talk about systematics.

Submitted by Anne Malley

Message from the IAMSLIC Liaison

The 27th Annual IAMSLIC (International Association of Aquatic and Marine Science Libraries and Information Centers) Conference and the 9th EURASLIC Conference will be held in Brest, France on October 14-18 2001. The conference theme is "Managing Resources in a Sea of Change." Since this is a European regional group (EURASLIC) joint conference, it will be highly international in programming and participation. A full-day program

at the hosting research institution, INFREMER (Institut francais de recherche pour l'exploitation de la mer -- French Research Institute for Exploitation of the Sea) will be held on Thursday, October 18, with research presentations from INFREMER scientists and a tour of the expanding facilities. For more information about the conference and program, see the conference website at <http://www.nefsclibrary.nmfs.gov/2001iamslic/2001home.html>.

Liaison: Ruth Gustafson Head of Library & Information Services Cadet Hand Library Bodega Marine Laboratory, University of California (Davis), Bodega Bay, CA.

Tributes to the 5th Anniversary of the Medical Section

TO: Special Libraries Association Medical Section
 FROM: Nancy Bryant, Project Manager
 RE: Congratulations on Our Fifth Birthday!
 DATE: May 23, 2001

Greetings to all members of the SLA Medical Section! As the organizing chair of this important section established in 1996, I send my best regards to you all on our fifth birthday! The Medical Section was born of an initiative to acknowledge the then Biological Sciences Division as the formal home for health sciences librarians and information professionals within SLA. It has succeeded in its mission. This year's annual conference program serves as testament to the continuing hard work and dedication of its members. Congratulations to you all! I'm only sorry I can't be there to share in the celebration.

May 11, 2001

Dear Peggy,

Since I won't be joining you in San Antonio this year, I wanted to extend my greetings to everyone in the Medical Section of the Biomedical and Life Sciences Division on the occasion of this 5th anniversary of the Section's founding. It is heartwarming to see how the Section has developed in such a short time, thanks to the enthusiastic participation of Division members. From informal beginnings, we now have regular semi-informal business meetings that include a program presented by a member. Medical members are also active in planning and presenting other programs for the Division. The Medical Section has brought new vitality to the Biomedical and Life Sciences Division in a short time. It is through active member participation in such activities that make this Section and the Division a vibrant force within SLA. Congratulations to all for such a successful start. May the Medical Section continue to flourish and grow.

Jo Anne Boorkman, Past Chair, Biomedical and Life Sciences Division and SLA Fellow

From: Lucy Rowland, Chair, Biological Sciences Division, 1995-96

Sent: Friday, May 11, 2001

Congratulations to the officers and members of the Medical Section on the 5th anniversary of its founding. I wish that I could be with you today. The Medical Section serves as the home for librarians interested or working in health sciences librarianship in SLA. It does so with distinction and in harmony with all members of the Biomedical and Life Sciences Division. It was established by Division Cabinet Chair Barb Spiegelman on Tuesday, June 11, 1996 in Boston. It's wonderful to see how the Medical Section has grown along with the Division since 1996, how its members have contributed in leadership roles and been involved enthusiastically in program planning from the start. The Medical Section has strengthened the Biomedical and Life Sciences Division, and has reaffirmed its position within SLA as the home for librarians with interests in all areas of medical librarianship. Congratulations on your first five years!

BIOLIFE: STUDENT COLUMN FOR BIOFEEDBACK

Janet Weiss, Chair, Student Relations/Career Guidance Committee

A Student's Trip to SLA - by Jillian Amaral

Last July I read a quote that would completely change my life, although at the time, I had no idea how much. I was waiting in the dentist's office, passing the time reading old worn copies of magazines filled with the hot tips on container gardening and delicious meals in under 25 minutes, when I saw it. I have no recollection of the article, but the quote captured my attention and has yet to let go. "We must be willing to get rid of the life we've planned, so as to have the life that is waiting for us." -Joseph Campbell. I wrote it down immediately and have been haunted by the words ever since.

I was a cellular biologist. I didn't plan on being one, it just kind of happened. I actually wanted to be a librarian, but was told that there would be no library jobs by the time that I graduated from college. Therefore, I picked a subject that I was good at, the life sciences. I received my BA in Biology and went to work in a lab at a university. I knew I wasn't ready for graduate school, but wasn't yet ready to leave the safe haven of academia. That's where the transformation began. I had planned on working as a technician for a couple of years, while I tried to figure out what I wanted to do with my life. Seven years, four positions, one merger and three therapists later, I still wasn't sure. That's when I read the quote.

Within a month, I met the love of my life, who then opened Pandora's box with an innocent enough question, "If money was no object, what would you do with your life?" Without hesitation I replied, "Be a reference librarian." That statement, along with a great deal of encouragement and support from friends and family, started me on the path to happiness. I investigated the schools in my area that offered degrees in library science. I spoke to the librarians in my biotech company, from my college, and from my hometown library. I read articles on job growth and attended graduate information sessions. I contacted references for letters of recommendation and I sat down to compose the essay explaining why I wanted to go to library school. I had applied for June, but was organized enough to make the deadline for January admission. Before I knew it I had been accepted and was able to begin classes in January, a semester before I had planned.

I started looking for a library job that would compliment my course work and would take advantage of my enthusiasm for my new found career. I was fortunate to be offered a library assistant position in my current company, limiting the disruption to an already crazy year. Along with the job came an offer to travel to sunny San Antonio to attend the annual Special Libraries Association Conference. The only catch was that I was going alone. Even though I was nervous, I welcomed this opportunity with open arms.

I signed up for CE classes, planned to attend talks and round table discussions and gatherings. I set aside time for lunches with vendors and receptions with divisions. I booked myself solid from morning until night with fun and educational activities. During the planning, my supervisor and co-workers warned me not to overbook my time. They warned me to plan some downtime and moments to relax. However, I had never had the chance to go to a conference and I wanted to get as much out of it as possible. I went to San Antonio thinking that I had to learn as much as I could, meet as many people as possible, and attend as many sessions as time would allow. I kept that pace going for two and a half days, until I couldn't remember what day it was or how many sessions I had attended. I had no idea how exhausting a conference could be! Learning new names and attending endless sessions began to wear me down. I lost the ability to take in any more information. I was tired and my head was swimming with new concepts and advice and opportunities. I was on autopilot and over committed, often wanting to go to several sessions all at the same time.

A wise colleague, having seen the purple ribbon indicating that it was my first time at SLA, and my pink strip heralding that I was a student, took me aside. She had met me at a reception at the beginning of the week and had heard my hopes of attending so many sessions. She saw that I was now exhausted and overwhelmed. She sat me down and gave me some good advice. She told me to go take a boat ride along the river. And then take a nap. And then, while sitting drinking a tall glass of cold water, plan out a reasonable schedule for the last couple of days. She recommended trying to attend several of the sessions that all met in the same building, instead of running from location to location. She recommended visiting only those vendors whose products interested me. She

recommended enjoying my first time at SLA, instead of trying to cram the experience down my throat. Best of all, she told me to relax and breathe and enjoy being surrounded by thousands of people who get why it is thrilling to search for answers and help people solve their informational needs.

I took her advice. I managed my time better and spoke to people who were in the divisions that I was interested in joining. I learned about how librarians fit into the academic and corporate worlds in non-traditional ways. I met people with whom I had a lot in common and was constantly reassured that I had made the right career choice. I enjoyed my experience at SLA. I was exposed to a world that solely attending classes had not shown me existed. I met people who take what I am learning and apply it in cool, new ways in fascinating jobs. My life may still be in upheaval. I may still feel overwhelmed. I may still wonder when I will have a moment to relax. But I will never wonder if I made the right decision. I met wonderful people in San Antonio, and I will always treasure my first experience at SLA.

NOMINATIONS AND ELECTION COMMITTEE CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

The Nominations and Elections Committee of the Biomedical and Life Sciences Division invites nominations for the offices of Chair-Elect and Treasurer. Those elected will begin serving after the Annual Conference in Los Angeles in June 2002.

The obligation for the Chair-Elect is three years (Chair-Elect, Chair, Past Chair). For the Treasurer, it is two years. Briefly, the Chair-Elect is Chair of the Fund Development Committee and raises funds to support programs at the Annual Conference for the Chair-Elect year. In addition to the Annual Conferences, the Chair-Elect is expected to attend Winter Conference for the years that s/he is Chair-Elect and Chair to represent the Division in Cabinet and attend Leadership training. The Treasurer serves as a member of the Division Executive Board, is responsible for all the Division financial records and for preparing and submitting the Division's annual Financial Report.

Full descriptions of the duties are available from the Chair of the Nominations and Elections Committee (amcgowan@cfsan.fda.gov) or on the Division's Web site (www.sla.org/division/dbio/procedur.contents.htm)

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