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Message from the Chair

Laura M. Osegueda

Welcome to the post-conference issue of *Biofeedback*. It is my pleasure to report again on the success of another busy conference put together by talented and dedicated Division members. We were blessed with perfect weather in Baltimore, sunny and in the 70s with low humidity. Our programs and continuing education courses continued to offer a wide selection of learning opportunities. The encore presentation of the popular stress management program filled a room of 300. Check this issue for reports from these programs in the Conference Highlights Section.

One highlight of the conference was the member reception held on Sunday evening after the first keynote session. Comments from those who attended the reception said that they appreciated not only having time at the conference to socialize but also the relaxing and uncrowded atmosphere of our own reception to enjoy a wide selection of food provided by the generous support of our vendors. It was a pleasure meeting many new members at the reception, and it will be good to get new members involved on committees. We still need more committee members, especially for the Vendor Relations, Fund Development, Public Relations and Strategic Planning Committees.

I wish to thank the Executive Board for their willingness to serve for an additional six months this year. These individuals are all "going the extra mile" for SLA due to the change in the calendar year and are continuing their work through December 2006. It is great working with such a dedicated group of colleagues.

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2005 Division Member Survey Summary

Peggy Jones, Past Division Chair

The DBIO member survey, conducted during the spring of 2005, was intended to solicit members about their reasons for choosing the division; positive and negative impressions of the division, its services and programs; recommendations to improve the division, its services and programs; and overall profession-related concerns. Of the approximately 750 members, 177 responded. This represents a 23.6% response rate. Overall, impressions of the division, its services and programs were positive. Here is a sampling of the responses:

- Members expressed a high level of satisfaction with the division name, acronym and its scope.
- Currently offered services that are considered the most important are networking opportunities, division annual conference programming, CE courses, *Biofeedback*, the division Web site and the email discussion list.
- New information that would be valuable to members on the division Web site would be articles about topics relevant to biomedical librarians, subject specific resources and Web site reviews.
- Respondents were most interested in the following services not currently offered by the division: pathfinders to resources, virtual CE courses, how-to manuals, joint meetings with other biomedical sciences groups and an expert pool.
- When asked what one thing should be changed about the division, the top two answers were that respondents are happy with the way things are, and more communication.
- Of the critical issues that the division should face in the next 5 years, the top issues were: remaining current in new technologies, recruiting newer/younger librarians and library research process and content.
- Of professional challenges, those that are of highest concern are: technology trends, communication of value, designing new services and e-journals.
- When asked how the division can help members serve the challenges, the top choices were: resources on the division web site, articles in *Biofeedback* and SLA conference programming.
- The division services/activities that received high marks for effectiveness were: *Biofeedback*, the discussion list, networking opportunities with peers, professional development activities and the Web site.

Responses to **Medical Section**-specific questions:

- Of the members surveyed, 94 responded that they are members of the section. This represents approximately 53.1% of respondents.
- The top two reasons cited for joining the section were job-related and interest in the subject area.
- Respondents were most interested in the following services that are not currently offered by the section: pathfinders to resources, virtual CE courses, how-to manuals and an expert pool.

Comments made throughout the survey included:

- The inactivity of the division; several respondents indicated that the survey was the first contact they had received from the division and that they would appreciate more communication.
- Lack of awareness about the division newsletter and discussion list. Others spoke of problems with subscribing to the discussion list.
- Lack of time to explore services that the division offers.
- Technology trends and the need to keep up. Although the division wasn't cited particularly for failing to fill this need, it is a gap for which there are many opportunities.
- Willingness by respondents to serve in whatever capacity needed for the division.

The survey task force drew the following **conclusions and recommendations** based on the survey results:

- Communication is the key. It is critical for the division to get information into its members' hands.
- Do a better job of marketing. The discussion list was updated in the fall of 2005, and all division members were subscribed to the new list. The division needs to develop a marketing plan that targets the new list.
- Offer incentives to get members more involved. For example, it can offer free conference registration or a free CE course.
- Host a poster session that features members' projects at the annual conference. The event should be social to encourage mingling and exchanging ideas.
- Based on feedback, the division web site was updated with a new look and feel and improved content. The Public Relations committee should keep the site updated.
- The Public Relations committee has a great challenge in front of it and needs more volunteers to function effectively.
- Personalize contacts with members. If a member is identified with unique talents that are needed by a committee, he/she should receive a phone call inviting

him/her to join. This is much more effective than email.

- Consider holding a regional conference, a teleconference or a Webcast. Anything that is done outside of the context of the annual meeting would be greatly appreciated by members, especially those who are unable to attend the annual conference.
- A division member could partner with MLA for a regional meeting.
- Consider developing a speakers' bureau that consists of members who are willing to travel outside of their region to talk about their area of expertise and promote the division.
- The suggestions for an expert pool and pathfinders to resources should be pursued in conjunction with a library school. Students can take these projects on for their coursework.



CONTRIBUTED PAPERS SESSION
CALL FOR PAPERS

**BIOMEDICAL AND LIFE SCIENCES
DIVISION
SPECIAL LIBRARIES ASSOCIATION
CONFERENCE
JUNE 3-6, 2007 IN DENVER, CO**

The SLA Biomedical and Life Sciences Division invites submissions for its annual Contributed Papers Session at the Denver Conference in June 2007.

THEME

The Contributed Papers Committee invites proposals for papers presenting original research, innovative projects or other professional activities of interest to the Biomedical and Life Sciences Division of SLA.

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

October 15, 2006

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 April 15, 2007
- 2) Give a presentation of your paper for no longer than 20 minutes at the SLA annual conference, June 3-6, 2007 in Denver, CO
- 3) Where appropriate and feasible, offer a brief demonstration or representation of your project during your presentation

SUBMIT ABSTRACTS TO:

Jonathan Nabe

Jonathan.nabe@uconn.edu

Agriculture and Natural Resources Librarian

Babbidge Library U5-RI Storrs, CT 06269-2005
Ph: (860) 486-6688 Fax: (860) 486-6100

Awards Announcements

Distinguished Member Award

Barbara Hedges, Awards Committee Chair

Virginia A. Lingle, Interim Director at the George T. Harrel Library at the Milton S. Hershey Medical Center of Pennsylvania State University, was awarded the 2006 Distinguished Member Award from the Bio-medical and Life Sciences Division of the Special Libraries Association (SLA) on June 13, 2006, at the SLA Annual Conference in Baltimore, Maryland. We are happy to honor one of our own who has contributed so much to the profession and Division. Lingle joined the Special Libraries Association and the Biological Sciences Division in 1985. She has served as Chair of several committees within the Division: Membership, Fund Raising and Publications. She served as Chair of the Division in 2000/2001. She has served at the SLA Association level on the Public Relations/Career Development Committee and the Student Relations/Career Guidance Committee. She has also been active in her regional chapter of SLA, holding a variety of committee chairs and memberships. She has served on the editorial board for *Journal of Electronic Resources in Medical Libraries* and *Medical Reference Services Quarterly*. She has been a medical book reviewer for *Library Journal*, and she has been a manuscript referee for *Special Libraries*, a journal formerly published by SLA. Lingle has also been an active member of the Medical Library Association (MLA) throughout her career, and is a Distinguished Member of the Academy of Health Information Professionals (MLA). She has published books, chapters and articles on topics related to electronic journals, malpractice issues in librarianship, Web page development and health sciences. On these same topics, she has also made numerous presentations both to professional library and Penn State audiences. This year she also received the Certificate of Recognition for 25 years of service to Penn State University. Congratulations, Ginnie!

Response from Virginia Lingle:

"I am truly honored with this award. The best aspect of my career over the years has been the relationships and interaction that I have been privileged to have with wonderful colleagues like all of you. Many thanks to the Division and to my Lord. All the best to you,"

Gin Lingle

Chair's Recognition Award

Laura M. Osegueda, Division Chair

John Tebo, Head, Chemistry-Biology Library at the University of Cincinnati, was awarded the 2006 Chair's Recognition Award on June 13, 2006, at the SLA Annual Conference in Baltimore, Maryland. As Chair of the 2006 Division Program Planning Committee, he undertook the hardest job in the Division. He knew how to delegate the work of his committee, which is essential to a successful program. John claims that he relied on Janet Weiss for everything. While Janet is an excellent mentor and advisor, John is just too modest. He coordinated with more divisions than in past years to create visionary programming for the SLA Program Committee while still balancing the full program schedule of the Division into the program grid. John showed that he had the needed tenacity, dedication and organization skills to lead a successful program committee. Our Division and the entire SLA community that attended the 2006 conference and our programs benefited from John Tebo's leadership and generous service. Thank you, John, for another wonderful year of interesting, thought-provoking, and fun conference programming and events.



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SLA Division of Biomedical and Life Sciences Committee Volunteer Form 2006-2007

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Telephone_____

Indicate your choice(s) of committee(s) below. If you are flexible and interested in more than one committee, please rank numerically with 1 being your first choice.

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Governing Documents Committee Chair: [Peggy Jones](#)

Membership Committee Chair: [Irene Laursen](#)

Nominations and Elections Committee Chair: [Ruth Gustafson](#)

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Program Committees Denver 2007 Chair: [Laurie Scott](#)

Public Relations Committee Chair: [Claudia Lascar](#)

Publications Committee Chair: [Carla Lee](#)

Student Relations/Career Guidance Committee Chair: [Hadiya Drew](#)

Vendor Relations Chair: [Diane Schmidt](#)

Links above are to the DBIO Manual, which describes the goals and work of the committee, and to the email address of the current committee chair. Feel free to contact the current chair or Division Chair, Laura Osegueda, for further information.

Most committee appointments are for two years and renewal for one year. *All committee appointments require SLA and DBIO membership.*

Return form to: Laura Osegueda, Veterinary Medical Library, North Carolina State University, 4700 Hillsborough St., Raleigh, NC 27606 or laura_osegueda@ncsu.edu

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Baltimore Conference Highlights

CE: Immunology for Health Information Professionals

Date: June 10, 2006, 1:00–5:00 pm

Speaker: George McGregor, Director, Information Services (recently retired), Chiron Corporation

Reporter: Cindy Clark

What does a police department have to do with immunology? Experienced instructor George McGregor knows that, as an analogy, it helps students put the immune system into perspective. Attendees quickly equated white cells with police officers, pathogens with burglars, and lymph nodes with security check points. After a discussion of the immune system, he gave an overview of the scale of molecules and cells and covered antibody structure, environment, and actions.

McGregor guided us through the nomenclature of antibodies, proteins, and cells of the immune system. Basic immunology concepts were reviewed, and then it was time for terms. We were able to follow along using a small immunology manual developed for the class. Terms analyzed included those frequently encountered for immunology and lymphatics, glands and organs, cells, blood, transplantation genetics and allergy, antibodies and antigens, antigenicity, toxicology and cancer, monoclonal antibodies and cytokines, and immune system pathology. We then tested our retention with a MeSH-matching exercise.

McGregor encouraged attendees to follow up their learning with several immunology resources listed in the manual. His engaging class presentation was sponsored by the Pharmaceutical and Health Technology Division.

Free Agency: From Athletes to Librarians

Date: June 12, 2006, 9:30–11:00 a.m.

Speaker: Mary Ellen Bates, Bates Information Services

Reporter: Mary Misch

Mary Ellen Bates urged librarians to be proactive by picturing themselves as free agents. In the sports world, free agents are athletes who know their value, feel free to negotiate everything from their salaries to perks, know their competition, and own their own career paths. To emulate athletes, librarians need to identify their value in the organization they work,

negotiate everything, know their competition, and own their career paths.

The librarian's value to the organization is the gap between what the clients can do for themselves and what the librarian can do for them. Clients need answers. Librarians with searching and analytical skills can find answers and organize them in a format useful to the user. Clients want answers, so librarians need to beware of the data dump of large amounts of organized, unanalyzed information.

Besides constantly monitoring client satisfaction with information with library services, the librarian needs to face down the library's competition by identifying what other information sources clients are using. Then the information professional should tell clients how the library can get better results by using a variety of sources, all of them more authoritative and complete than what the client was using previously.

Overall the librarian needs to market the library's value to the organization by focusing closely on clients. The librarian insures that the client receives the answers he needs in useful formats and that the client knows who produced the results. In short, the librarian brands research results by attaching to every anything emerging from the library a coversheet with the library's letterhead, the librarian's name and a brief summary of the work done. Talking up the library is another good method of marketing and branding library services. In chance meetings on elevators or other office encounters, librarians can take the opportunity to relate some recent library accomplishment or interesting ongoing project in which the library is involved. Aggressive marketing also requires debunking the competition by proving the librarian can provide better results. Librarians can go head to head with Google and show their clients that the librarian can find better, more authoritative answers to their problems.

To conclude the session, Bates supplied tips and techniques to convince an organization that professional library services are necessary to the organization's success. Many of the tips are summed up in the Bates pamphlet entitled, "Creating Groupies, or, Showing the Information-Hungry People within Your Organization That They Desperately Need You." To obtain a copy, contact Mary Ellen Bates at mbates@BatesInfo.com.

Reporting Negative Results of Clinical Trials

Date: June 12, 2006 11:30 am-1:00 pm

Reporter: Claudia Lascar

The first speaker was Dr. Kay Dickersin, Professor of Epidemiology and the director of the Center for Clinical Trials, at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. Dr. Dickersin has served as principal investigator for several multimember, federally funded trials, as well as studies relating to trial methodology. According to Dr. Dickersin, not publishing the results of clinical trials qualifies as outright “scientific misconduct.” Selective reporting of results and of measuring outcomes introduces bias into research due to the potential overestimation of treatment effects. Clinical trials establish the benefits and risks of medical treatments and ultimately contribute to evidence-based policy and practice. Non-publication and non-dissemination of important trial results has serious ethical and scientific consequences. Only about half of presentations at biomedical meetings will result in published articles (von Elm, 2003). Research Ethics Committees worldwide reveal that a sizable proportion of results of many trials never get published. Moreover, negative results are associated with the delay in the publication cycle (Stern, 1997). A meta-analysis of association of various factors with publication indicates overwhelmingly that studies which have yielded significant beneficial results are more likely to be submitted for publication (Chan, 2004). Studies funded by the pharmaceutical companies are less likely to be published than research funded by other sources, unless they have favorable outcomes for the sponsor (Lexchin, 2003). Dr. Dickersin also addressed some of the solutions and the initiatives taken to solve this critical problem of publication bias. One solution is to encourage the publication of negative results of clinical trials, provided the trial’s methods are appropriate and ethical, the analyses sound, and the interpretation accurate. PLoS Clinical Trials, a peer-reviewed, open-access journal was launched May 2006 to provide an unbiased, peer-reviewed venue for (negative) clinical trial results in all fields of medicine and public health. Another solution is to advocate prospective registration of clinical research projects. Various groups such as the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors (ICMJE) and the World Health Organization are advocating for this and establishing standards for trial registration.

Dr. Dickersin has been a strong advocate for the uniform, comprehensive registry of clinical trials, and published extensively on this topic (Dickersin, 2003).

References:

Chan AW, Hrobjartsson A, Haahr MT, Gotzsche PC, Altman DG. “Empirical evidence for selective reporting of outcomes in randomized trials: comparison of protocols to published articles.” *JAMA*. 2004 May 26; 291(20): 2457-65.

Dickersin K, Rennie D. “Registering clinical trials.” *JAMA*. 2003 Jul 23; 290(4):516-23.

Stern JM, Simes RJ. “Publication bias: evidence of delayed publication in a cohort study of clinical research projects. *BMJ*. 1997 Sep 13; 315 (7109):640-5.

Von Elm E, Costanza MC, Walder B, Tramer MR. “More insight into the fate of biomedical meeting abstracts: a systematic review.” *BMC Med Res Methodol*. 2003 Jul 10; 3 (12). Available at <http://www.biomedcentral.com/1471-2288/3/12>

The second speaker of the program, Professor Jim O’Reilly, teaches products liability law, administrative law and food and drug law at the University of Cincinnati, College of Law. Professor O’Reilly previously served as a program committee chair of the Food & Drug Law Institute, and on the Editorial Advisory Board of the Food & Drug Law Journal, and has been a frequent consultant for the industry. Prof. O’Reilly served for 24 years as FDA counsel and later Associate General Counsel for the Procter & Gamble Company, and his textbook on FDA law for West Publishing has been cited twice by the U.S. Supreme Court as the expert reference work in the field. I will not report on Prof. O’Reilly’s presentation “Secrecy and Drug Experimentation” because you can read the entire transcript at <http://units.sla.org/division/dbio/Baltimore/oreillybalt506.pdf>

Personally, I found Prof. O’Reilly’s presentation less useful, because he omitted one of the public speaking tips: know your audience. After he established that “the data (we want) is held in the files of major pioneer pharmaceutical companies and to an intermittent extent, the FDA and the NIH” he proposed several search tactics for finding this information.

Academic Sci-Tech Librarians Roundtable

Date: June 12, 2006, 11:30 am.-1:00 pm.

Reporter: Diane Schmidt

Brian Winterman, Reference and Instruction Librarian at the Life Sciences and Chemistry Library at Indiana University, was the moderator for this roundtable discussion of bibliographic instruction. Brian started out by discussing the program he had set up at Indiana University after extensive discussions with the biology

faculty. He and a teaching assistant from the Biology Department will be team-teaching a one credit course on information literacy, covering topics such as how to read articles as well as the usual bibliographic instruction topics. His description of the course led to a lively discussion among the roundtable attendees about difficulties other librarians have run into in developing similar courses as well as tips on how to overcome those problems.

Innovation: How, Exactly?

Date: June 12, 2006, 11:30 am-1:00 pm

Speaker: Stephen Abram, Vice President, Innovation, SirsiDynix

Reporter: Cindy Clark

If you have read Stephen Abram's information tech column in Information Outlook, then you are familiar with his forward thinking, witty writing. Abram is just as vibrant and entertaining in person—perhaps more so. He shocked, educated and cajoled conference attendees on the topic of innovation in this Factiva and Basch Subscriptions, Inc. sponsored event. Following a brief Leadership and Management Division business meeting, Abram popped up a visually captivating slide show and took off on a technology whirlwind. Quoting Everett Rogers, Abram told the audience that “an innovation is an idea, practice or object that is perceived as new by the individual or other unit of adoption” and that “if an idea is new to the individual, it is an innovation.” Recognizing that SLA members are in various stages of incorporating technology, he asked us to consider how we will deliver library services to “cheap devices that almost everyone has with them all the time.” The answer is to be creative and think of ways to provide information in needed formats without drowning users accessing delivery sites such your library portal. Emphasizing that we are in an immersion environment, Abram admonished librarians to cross generations; to connect people, technology and information in context, and to “really put the customer first” even if it means unlearning how we provide services.

Read more about Abram's innovation tips and see cutting-edge technology presented in his talk based on “Are Libraries Innovative Enough?” available in PowerPoint® format at http://www.sirsi.com/Resources/abram_articles.html.

Stress Management: Now That's Funny

Date: June 12, 2006, 3:30-5:00 pm.

Reporter: Karen L. Roth

Elaine Lundberg, humor therapist, did not so much “speak” at the SLA conference. Rather, she moved all over the large room crowded with attendees anxious to learn ways to relieve stress. Ms. Lundberg was a traffic cop, pointing out empty seats in the room, a speaker, as well as a motivator. She asked the audience to start a humor file and showed some one-frame comics that always lift her spirits. She had the audience in 3s and 4s up and doing exercises to learn to laugh and enjoy the moment.

Ms. Lundberg exhorted the audience to laugh more often and follow the rules of 4 year olds, such as: color outside the lines, ask why, and bang until the door opens. She told the audience that 20 deep belly laughs equal 3 minutes of cardiovascular exercise. Ms. Lundberg finished by telling the audience that everyone should find something that makes him/her laugh hard every day. It's healthy and relieves stress. Ms. Lundberg maintains a website at <http://www.humortx.com>

Open Access and Institutional Repositories in Sci-Tech and Engineering Libraries

Date: June 12, 2006, 3:30-5:00pm

Reporter: Tara Tobin Cataldo

This popular (standing room only) session hosted three speakers. The first speaker, Leila Fernandez from York University in Toronto, presented “Open Access Initiatives in India: an Evaluation”. The author obtained funding to allow her to study in India for 4 months where she conducted interviews in person, over the phone and through email. The 17 participants were librarians, scientists and physicians. India faces many of the same issues as the United States in regards to compliance and support from both administrators and authors, but is making many strides. In 2005, there were only 6 repositories in India and today there are 22.

The second speaker was Daurenn Nesdill from the University of Utah. Her presentation was entitled “Atkinson's Control Zone: Ten Years Later”, referring to a methodology promoted by Ross Atkinson of Cornell University in the 1990's. The Control Zone would contain the research produced by faculty at all institutions and would ideally be searchable through established vendor databases. The speaker notes that publishing costs are the same even with Open Access and it is the business model that needs to change. Ways to

reduce costs would be to publish less papers, charge to submit and sell the XML of papers.

The third presentation, "Institutional Repositories: Beware the Field of Dreams" was put forth by Sara Thompson, along with her two co-authors, Deborah Holmes-Wong and Janis Brown, who have presented this at other meetings (DLF and MLA). At the University of Southern California, they instituted a task force to poll potential IR users. Faculty from engineering, science and medicine were interviewed and participated in focus groups. Interest was not as high as they hoped. Faculty already feel burdened with postings to a multiple of areas. However some interesting suggestions were put forth such as the need to make uploading as easy as possible and having tiered access to the repositories.

Powerpoints and PDF's of these presentation can be found on the Science-Technology Divisions website at <http://units.sla.org/division/dst/Annual%20Conference%20Contributed%20Papers/2006papers/2006papers.html>.

Institutional Repositories: In-house Versus Outsourced

June 12, 2006, 9:30AM–11:00AM
Reporter: Carolyn Mills

This two-person panel examined the pros and cons of commercial repository software and open source software for institutional repositories. The first speaker was Jonathan Nabe, the Coordinator of the University of Connecticut's institutional repository, DigitalCommons@UConn. In this role, he leads the Institutional Repository Team in managing the development, marketing, and support of the repository. Jonathan spoke about UConn's experience using the DigitalCommons software from ProQuest and Berkeley Electronic Press. He said that they decided in 2004 to choose this software because it was a ready-made product available for use the day the contract was signed. They liked the fact that it was hosted at another site, since the library has had problems with viruses and hacker attacks, and also that it doesn't require the time or attention of any of the library's IT staff. Nabe was also glad to partner with Berkeley Electronic Press, the developers of the software used for the California Digital Library and now used for DigitalCommons. He noted that both the front end and the back end of the product are fully customizable and described a number of helpful features, including automatic pdf conversion, thesauri picklists and full text searching. He also emphasized that ProQuest continues to make enhancements to the product. Nabe confirmed that technical support from ProQuest has been good and timely, and that the costs are less

than they would be to hire an IT person to modify and maintain existing open source software. The downside, he said, has been the coming up with the lump sum for the start up, proprietary programming language, and a relative lack of support materials. Additionally there is the question of ProQuest's future stability, as has been covered in various news outlets.

The second speaker was Susan Gibbons, Associate Dean for Public Services & Collection Development at the University of Rochester, River Campus Libraries and a Visiting Program Office for the Association for Research Libraries. The University of Rochester team looked at a variety of products available in 2002 and decided to use DSpace because at the time it was the most robust institutional product available. For their start up, staff included a full time Java programmer, a 25% time librarian, a system administrator for several weeks, and a graphics designer for 1 week. The ongoing personnel are a 75% time Java programmer, a 10% time project manager, a 33% time DSpace manager and a 10% time Unix administrator. Equipment costs were about \$30,000 for Web server, data storage & backup and \$12,000 for a development server with limited data storage. Susan said that they have made significant alterations and customizations to the software and have seen few unanticipated costs. They are not reliant on an outside company's stability and can make their own development priorities. She said that significant technical expertise is needed to go beyond "out of the box" set up and that they have no one to call or blame when things go wrong. They don't always know where their IR communities will lead and most barriers to faculty adoption have nothing to do with an open source vs. commercial decision but more with a library's outreach efforts and persistence.

Both speakers agreed that in the future there will be many more software options available to libraries looking to start an institutional repository.

The Science of Chocolate

Date: June 14, 2006, 9:15 -10:45 am.
Speakers: Dr. Dave Stuart, Dr. Debra Miller (the Hershey Company)
Reporter: Sandra Crumlish

This session was predictably full. Chocolate was given out at the beginning with the instruction not to eat any of it until the end of the presentation. Any bets on how many people were able to follow this instruction? Dr. Stuart took us through the history of chocolate, its properties, uses and value. Specializing in botany, he covered the medicinal values utilized in the Mayan culture, and its value as a commodity in trade. He

reminded the group that chocolate actually comes from a plant. The seeds, or beans, come in pods, harvested by the growers and picked up directly from the farms by the buyers. Cocoa was considered the food of the gods and special gifts for royalty. One of the most important pieces of information Dr. Stuart imparted was that his presentation was aided by information obtained by the information group at the Hershey Company.

When Dr. Miller started her presentation she let us know that her responsibility as Hershey's staff nutritionist was to know how foods react in our bodies. She cited several studies regarding the effect of chocolate on the cardiovascular system. Many of us were pleased to find that there are peer-reviewed articles regarding the value of chocolate to our health. Despite the claim that chocolate provides the necessary flavonoids and antioxidants our bodies need, there is a catch. The only chocolate that gives the necessary health values is the chocolate with a minimum of 60% cocoa. Once cocoa has been added to components such as milk, an animal by product, its value goes down medicinally. It has been proved that the two tablespoons of the darkest chocolate daily actually helps reduce angina, relieves heart palpitations, and gives nearly the same results as taking a baby aspirin every day!

While Dr. Miller doesn't suggest stopping any medical regimes recommended by a physician, she feels the studies do warrant consideration. Oh, and the chocolate they asked us to save at the end: maybe half the people in the room saved their chocolate until the end. Those of us who managed to wait learned to how to eat chocolate properly. Yes, there is a proper way to eat and appreciate good chocolate. It is like tasting a good wine. First you have to snap it to make sure it is crisp enough, and then put a small piece in your mouth allowing it to melt on our tongue. Savor the taste and allow it to completely clear your mouth before trying the next piece. Try it and enjoy!

Behind the Scenes Tour of the National Aquarium in Baltimore

Date: June 15, 2006, 8:30 am - noon
Reporter: Dorothy Barr

We were greeted by the Aquarium's gracious librarian, Suzanne Ridenour, and walked through the facility to the library (which may be small but has a fantastic view of the harbor!). At the Meyerhoff Dolphin Amphitheater, Sue Hunter, Director of Animal Training and Marine Mammals, talked with us about training and enrichment. She even took us for a behind-the-scenes look at the dolphins up close and personal, including a year old calf. We then enjoyed a presenta-

tion by Jill Arnold, Manager of Laboratory Services, about the care of the animals, ending with a quiz complete with prizes. Our tour included tickets to a public dolphin show, and we could stay as long as we wished in the Aquarium. It was tough to have to run off to catch a plane!

National Library of Medicine and National Institute of Health Tour

June 15, 2006, 8:30 am.-4:00 pm.
Reporters: Heather ODaniel and Kandace Yuen

DBIO sponsored the NLM/NIH trip to Bethesda, MD for 45 lucky participants. The size of the group was limited by the space limitations at NLM/NIH.

First up on the tour, after a comprehensive security check, was the National Library of Medicine (NLM). Internal staff provided three subject related sessions: document delivery, circulation, and history of medicine. Attendees had time to attend two of these, as well as a third exhibit named "[Visible Proofs](#)", with forensic views of the body aided by nutshell models. It included facts about the history of forensic medicine and had depictions of real crime scenes.

A few interesting NLM facts are:

- Processes approximately 1,500 document delivery and 1,000 monograph orders daily.
- Storage of 7.5 million volumes requires 2 football fields.
- Reference monitors and provides real-time reporting of book delivery times from the back stacks.
- Reference answers 10,000 questions annually, with 66% via email.
- Houses rare books dating back to 1094 C.E.

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) receive \$280 billion dollars from the federal government and host approximately 218 research programs. The campus is around 300 acres including over 75 buildings. One, from which FDR gave his [dedication speech](#), is still impressive. The [fully restored home](#) of Luke and Helen Woodward Wilson looked odd in the middle of the official buildings, but understandable, as they, in 1935, donated the surrounding 92 acres for the NIH. The next part of the tour was of The Mark O. Hatfield Clinical Research Center to see the research labs with supporting clinical facilities. A presentation was provided on CRIS, [Clinical Research Information System](#) designed to reduce redundancy and increase efficiency for better medical records and procedures through the use of "COWS", Computers on Wheels. One topic not addressed was the NIH/NLM strategy for Open Access. They face poor submission rates and

stricter policy enforcement. It has been rumored they are in talks with some of the big publishers for direct submission in PubMed Central. When queried on the omission, the Director of Communications said she was told it would not be of interest to our group. Strange ...

MLA Liaison Report

Michele Tennant, Liaison to the Medical Library Association

MLA Annual Conference

The Medical Library Association held its Annual Conference (“Transformations A-Z”) in Phoenix, AZ, May 19-24, 2006. The programs were lively, the weather was hot, the Suns were still in the playoffs and the Diamondbacks were in town. What a great meeting! You may browse the conference program planner at <http://www.abstractsonline.com/viewer/?mkey=%7BDA6A4A4D-96D0-4463-AE55-8448FEDAA975%7D> to view abstracts of papers and posters (over 200), and you may view conference photographs at <http://www.mlanet.org/am/photo/>.

Although there are fewer concurrent sessions at MLA than at SLA, all are related to medicine or biomedicine, so the schedule makes for some difficult choices. If you attended MLA and I missed a session that you thought would be great for DBIO members to know about, please send me a brief description over e-mail and we may be able to use for the next issue of *Biofeedback*.

Over 30 Continuing Education courses were offered in Phoenix, covering topics such as “Introduction to Financial Planning for Health Science Librarians”, “Introducing Interactivity into your Web Design”, “Ethnic Awareness and Health Information Resources”, “Consumer Health Libraries: Managing for your Customer Base and Environment”, and “Emerging Mobile Technologies” (see the program planner for the complete list). Susan Kendall, Kevin Messner and I co-taught a new class called “The PhD Experience: Graduate School in the Basic Biomedical Sciences”. The class described the basic biomedical disciplines, commonly used model organisms, the scientific method, the processes of research and graduate school, and what librarians can do for their research clients. Kevin came up with some fun hands-on and thinking exercises (one straight out of “American Inventor”). Two symposia were also scheduled - the six hour “[Patient Safety: A Proactive Approach for](#)

[Information Professionals](#),” and “[Serving Diverse Users: Cultural Competencies for Health Sciences Librarians](#)”. Note that SLA members pay the MLA member rate for CE and conference registration, and you do not need to register for the conference if all you do is take a CE.

Four papers were presented in the section program “Transforming Reference and Outreach Services for Biomedical Researchers”.

- “Transforming Hands-on Instruction in Bioinformatics and Genomics”–Pamela Corley, Norris Medical Library, University of Southern California
Norris Medical Library now has two information professionals providing bioinformatics services – a fairly newly hired Bioinformatics Specialist (former biomedical researcher with a Ph.D. in a science and an MS in computer science) and the Research Support Librarian (Pamela Corley). Between the two of them, they offer a number of hands-on workshops (GenBank, Structures, Microarray data analysis) as well as consultations (on an even wider array of topics and resources). The Bioinformatics Specialist does the bulk of the class preparation, teaching and consultations, while the Research Support Librarian provides backup support in the class. Pamela sees her role as multi-dimensional – “assessor, coach, demonstrator, facilitator, interpreter, interrupter, mediator, navigator, teacher, and translator”. Workshop attendance ranges from 7-23 attendees; with 2-13 consultations occurring each month. Many of the consultations, or “House Calls”, were arranged as follow-ups to the classroom experiences. Having two bioinformatics support staff members, with different levels of experience, allows a logical division of labor and the ability to provide a diverse slate of bioinformatics services.

- “Asymmetries in Retrieval of Gene Function Information”–Timothy B. Patrick, College of Health Sciences, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, Lillian C. Frank, College of Veterinary Medicine, University of Missouri-Columbia, and Catherine Craven, Health Management and Informatics, University of Missouri-Columbia.

These researchers studied the linking differences that exist among some of the more popular resources from the National Center for Biotechnology Information. They first identified GenBank accession numbers for genes that had been expressed in a particular microarray experiment. They then used three different workpaths to retrieve the literature surrounding those genes (using the sequence accession number) and compared the resultant PubMed literature lists from the three workpaths. The three NCBI resources and methods were: 1. Retrieve Entrez PubMed records via the SI field; 2. Entrez Nucleotide via PubMed links; and 3. Entrez Gene via PubMed links. Although each method utilized the same accession number from which to start the search, different numbers of literature citations

limited data storage. Susan said that they have made significant alterations and customizations to the software and have seen few unanticipated costs. They are not reliant on an outside company's stability and can make their own development priorities. She said that significant technical expertise is needed to go beyond "out of the box" set up and that they have no one to call or blame when things go wrong. They don't always know where their IR communities will lead and most barriers to faculty adoption have nothing to do with an open source vs. commercial decision but more with a library's outreach efforts and persistence. Both speakers agreed that in the future there will be many more software options available to libraries looking to start an institutional repository.

Here is the latest news from the Medical Library Association.

- MLA's 2006 award, fellowship, grant, and scholarship recipients have been named - **Congratulations to DBIO student member Monique Escamilla**, Department of Information Studies, University of California-Los Angeles – recipient of MLA's Scholarship for Minority Students, See http://www.mlanet.org/awards/awards_2006.html for the entire list of recipients.
 - MLA election results have been tallied, and the final results are:
 - President elect: Mark E. Funk
 - Board of Directors: T. Scott Plutchak and Linda Walton
 - Nominating Committee Members: Margaret Allen, Diana Cunningham, Rosalind Dudden, Gale Dutcher, Gary Freiburger, Terry Ann Jankowski, Janice Kelly, Jett McCann, and Mary Fran Prottzman. Chair: Joanne Marshall
 - Preliminary program and registration information (<http://www.mlanet.org/am/am2006/index.html>) is now available for MLA's Annual Conference (Phoenix, AZ, May 19-24.) Check out the Local Assistance Committee's Blog at <http://mla-lac.blogspot.com/>.
 - MLA has announced the participants for its "CE Institute: Developing Web-based Instruction". The purpose of this competitive five-day institute is to provide attendees with the training, time, and resources to translate their existing MLA-approved CE courses into online versions. See <http://www.mlanet.org/education/institute/scholars.html> for the list of 16 scholars and their courses.
- Other medical-library related news:
- Applications are being accepted for the National Center for Biotechnology Information Advanced Workshop for Bioinformatics Information Specialists (NAWBIS), to be held August 7-11, 2006, at the National Library of Medicine in Bethesda, MD. From the NAWBIS website: "This five day course is designed for individuals, particularly those based in medical libraries, who provide bioinformatics support

to their institutions. It provides an overview of a wide range of molecular biology resources that research communities use, and about which bioinformatics support staff might receive questions. The course is divided into ten **modules**, each of which includes a combination of lecture, demonstration, and hands-on experience with actual user questions. Following the course, participants are added to a **bioinformatics support network (BSN)** mailing list to facilitate future communication among the group and continued learning. This course is approved for 40 CE contact hours by the Medical Library Association (MLA)." Applications are due June 2, 2006; see <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/Class/NAWBIS/index.html>.

- PubMed's "limits" page has changed; for information on the interface redesign, see http://www.nlm.nih.gov/pubs/techbull/ma06/ma06_limits.html
- The National Library of Medicine's Long Range Planning Panels (2006-2016) have completed their meetings. Although panel reports are not yet available, information on participants, agendas, briefing materials and the like are available at http://www.nlm.nih.gov/pubs/plan/lrp06/lrp06_home.html.

IAMSLIC Liaison Report

Jean Crampon, Liaison to IAMSLIC

International Association of Aquatic and Marine Libraries and Informatic Centers (IAMSLIC) Conference notice

The 32nd IAMSLIC Conference will be held in Portland, Oregon, October 8-12, 2006. The theme is "Every Continent, Every Ocean." Please check the IAMSLIC website <http://www.iamslc.org/index> for updated information. The program for the conference will be posted this summer. Early bird registration is available through September 1 and includes a reception, one lunch and the banquet. There is a discount for students.

IAMSLIC is smaller than the Biomedical and Life Sciences Division of SLA, but vital and fun. I'll be there, as will other Division members, so you have the advantage of already knowing people before you arrive. IAMSLIC encourages and welcomes you to join us at the conference.



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Book Reviews

Patient Safety

By Charles Vincent

New York: Churchill Livingstone, 2006.

Reviewed by Lorri Zipperer, Cybrarian, Zipperer Project Management, lorri@zpm1.com

Patient safety had been percolating in the medical sub-conscious for little over a decade and boiled over into the main stream in 1999 with the publication of the Institute of Medicine's *To Err is Human*. (1) This book literally "changed the conversation" (2) in this country, and provided health care with the platform it needed for medical error to be taken seriously as an international problem. But, anecdotally, people still aren't reading it, most notably some of the folks that should be: medical school students, hospital board members and frontline healthcare providers.

To Err Is Human's length and language may be the culprit. If so, there may be a solution to getting individuals to learn about medical error through the written word. Charles Vincent, a British Professor of Medicine, in his book *Patient Safety* succeeds admirably in providing a streamlined introduction to the complex issue of medical error for the uninitiated.

A noted expert in safety and teamwork himself (3-5) Vincent's engaging style helps create a very readable book. Its length is manageable, design pleasing, and the mix of stories, reference lists and graphics break up the text to make it easy to get through. The material encompasses the major themes that make up the work of safety. Chapters examining system thinking, human error, compassion for the affected, communication, safety culture, information technology and clinical areas for improvement are packaged in a way that supports reading the book from cover to cover, which is somewhat unique to titles in this genre.

Vincent uses his experience in the U.K. to do a nice job of mixing case studies and evidentiary experience to underscore his message. To illustrate the breadth of the existing knowledge that is being used to inform safety work, he draws from both medicine and other high risk industries such as aviation and nuclear engineering in a technique that serves this topic area well.

There is no glossary here, which is an unfortunate omission for an introductory book on such a complex topic, but the definitions for many key concepts do appear in the book. Although *Patient Safety* does cover familiar territory for those immersed in the topic, it

should be lauded as a fine entryway to the field that may be a more accessible read than some existing titles.

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The Great Starvation Experiment: The Heroic Men Who Starved So That Millions Could Live.

By Todd Tucker

New York: Free Press, 2006.

Reviewed by Carla H. Lee

This is a well-written history of a fascinating episode from World War II. In 1944, Dr. Ancel Keys began an experiment at the University of Minnesota where thirty-six conscientious objectors were recruited to be systematically starved as part of an experiment. As the war was winding down, mass starvation in Europe was anticipated. Dr. Keys, the inventor of the "K" ration, and eventual discoverer of the link between cholesterol and heart disease, was asked to study the mental and physical effects of starvation and to design methods to rehabilitate large groups of undernourished people. The men were put on diets to simulate the starvation expected to be prevalent in Europe. The number of calories varied through the course of the experiment, but, toward the latter stages of the starvation phase, some men were eating around 800 calories a day, and

all were asked to walk twenty-two miles a week. Most of them lost at least a quarter of their weight over the period of seven months. Keys was a brilliant and meticulous researcher and, while his work on this was overshadowed by his other endeavors, the book (Keys et al. 1950) that resulted from this study remains one of the seminal works on the topic over fifty years later.

The *Great Starvation Experiment* is well-researched and scholarly in many respects, but reads much like historical fiction. The author interviewed the surviving participants, and this has allowed a much more personal and immediate tone to the narrative. Telling the story from multiple points of view, the author illustrates the huge efforts involved in the study, from the men's struggles with their restricted diets to the researchers concerns for balancing the men's well-being with the need to maintain rigorous scientific standards. The story was so compelling and told in such dramatic manner that it was hard to put down. This book is highly recommended, particularly for collections interested in the history of science, nutrition, and research ethics. It is also recommended for general popular science collections, as it is receiving some media attention.

Reference:

Keys A, Brozek J, Henschel A, Mickelsen O, and Taylor HL. 1950. *The Biology of Human Starvation*. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press.



Threads from the Web of Life: Stories in Natural History

By Stephen Daubert
Illustrated by Chris Daubert
Nashville, Tennessee: Vanderbilt University Press, 2006
Reviewed by Richard K. Hunt

Stephen Daubert, a scientist at the University of California, Davis, writes a splendid book, blending science and exquisite storytelling to create 16 terrific short stories illustrating various ecological processes. Daubert writes about natural history using creative narratives to explain the science underlying each ecological process he explains. His metaphor is the web of life and each of his stories conveys one thread of that complex web. Threads include predation and food chains, speciation, migration, symbiosis, and adaptation. The impact of humans on some threads is demonstrated, showing how the activities of people can easily disrupt the web of life.

Some stories cover millions of years such as the tarweed from the Sierra Nevada that traveled and evolved into the silver sword on Maui's Haleakala. Others are seen through the eyes of a single animal, such as the black grouper that is the top predator on the coral reef until he becomes too old and too slow to avoid a passing shark. Some threads, such as the tale about the large ocean storm initiated by the flight of a single bird, are more fantastic than others are, but each is founded in science that is discussed in the annotation at the end of each story.

Daubert's brother, Chris Daubert, illustrates the stories with lovely art that accurately represents the topic covered in each story. Science notes at the end of each tale describe the underlying science used to build each story with appropriate citations to the scientific literature. A suggested list for further reading in natural history and an index are also provided.

This is a great book that provides the reader with a good introduction to topics in ecology and natural history. Since its science is written in narrative form as compelling short stories, this book is accessible to any audience. Teachers could use this book to introduce lessons, parents could read the stories to their children, and scientists will simply enjoy the writing. I would recommend it for any library.



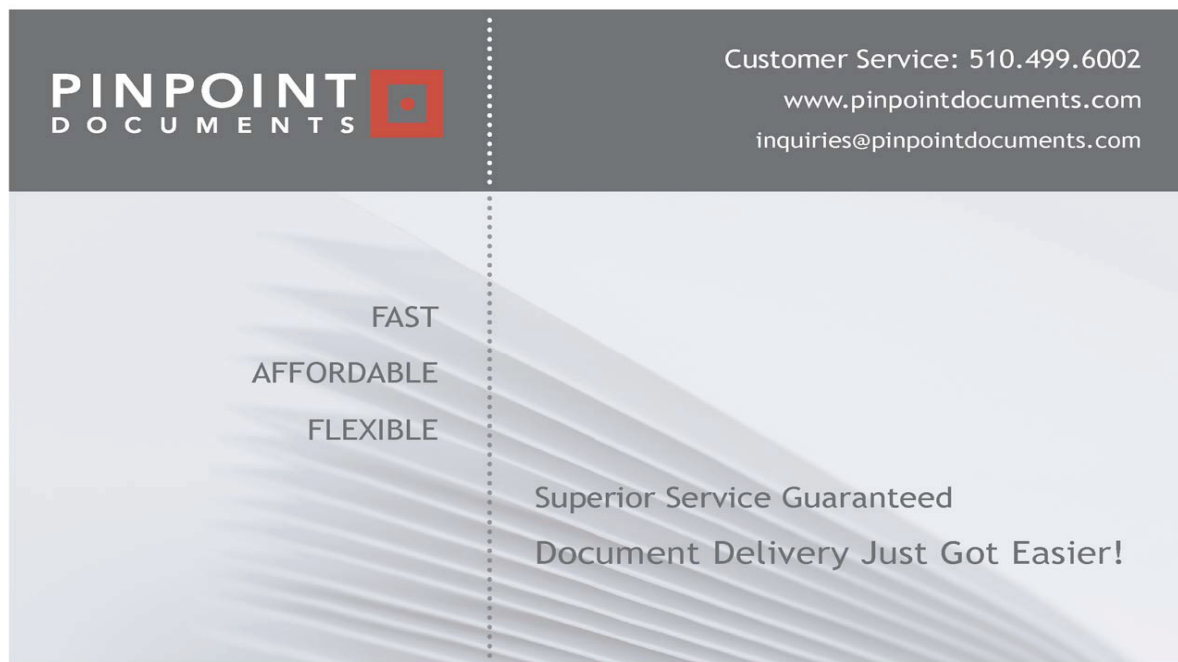
Medicine by Design: The Practice and Promise of Biomedical Engineering


By Fen Montaigne
Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins University Press, 2006.
Reviewed by Alexa Hackbarth

In *Medicine by Design: The Practice and Promise of Biomedical Engineering*, author Fen Montaigne not only displays a solid understanding of and enthusiasm for the field of biomedical engineering but also conveys that understanding and enthusiasm to the reader. Financed in part by the Whitaker Foundation (which received glowing, although warranted, coverage in the book) and intended for the educated layperson, *Medicine by Design* examines the roots of biomedical engineering and how the field is (or someday might be) combating cardiovascular and arterial diseases, spinal cord injuries, diabetes and neurological diseases like Parkinson's and epilepsy. The book also explores topics such as robotic surgery, medical and molecular imaging, tissue engineering, regenerative medicine, and nanotechnology.

Biomedical engineering, Montaigne says, is a field that “appl[ies] the science of engineering—with its mathematical equations, computer modeling, and aim of understanding the fundamental workings of physical systems—to medicine,” and the book’s numerous examples of how this is being done are fascinating.

Populating the book’s seventeen chapters are the stories of the pioneers of the field, the current eminent researchers, and the patients who have benefited from the advances of biomedical engineering—the result of over two hundred interviews conducted by the author. *Medicine by Design* lacks overriding organization and cohesion, however, and the somewhat choppy and repetitive narrative and the inconsistencies in pacing and tenses make the book seem more like a patchwork of magazine articles than a book. Montaigne writes engagingly, however, and the book is a wonderful introduction to the field of biomedical engineering.

A business card for Pinpoint Documents. The top half is dark grey with the company logo on the left and contact information on the right. The bottom half is light grey with a wavy line pattern and service promises. A vertical dotted line separates the two halves.

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Membership News and Publications

Kudos: featuring and honoring our colleagues in the Division

Claudia Lascar, Public Relations Committee Chair

It is with great pleasure that we announce the awards and achievements of our members: **Barbara M. Pitschel**, **Diane Schmidt**, **Christina Seeger** and **Michele R. Tennant**. We congratulate them for their accomplishments.

Promotion to full professor is a major step in traditional academic research-oriented colleges and universities in the United States. This rank is not automatic by virtue of time in service. Promotion to this rank signifies the highest level of professional accomplishment in research, teaching and service. Full professor rank is awarded to librarians whose careers are truly exceptional, both within their University/ College and within their profession. I am delighted to announce that two of our Division's members have reached this pinnacle of success: **Diane Schmidt**, the Biology Librarian at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, and **Michele R. Tennant**, PhD, the Bioinformatics Librarian at the University of Florida.

Barbara M. Pitschel, currently head librarian at the Helen Crocker Russell Library of Horticulture, San Francisco Botanical Garden at Strybing Arboretum, received the 2006 *Charles Robert Long Award of Merit* from the Council on Botanical and Horticultural Libraries (CBHL). CBHL is the leading professional organization in the field of botanical and horticultural information services. The Charles Robert Long Award of Merit was established to recognize members who have shown outstanding dedication to CBHL and have made major contributions in the field of botanical or horticultural literature and information service and research.

Christina Seeger, received the Master of Library Science (MLS) from School of Library and Information Management (SLIM), Emporia State University, KS in May 2006. Christina's professional goal is to become a medical librarian. Christina has developed an electronic-portfolio as an integral part of her quest to attain employment by providing tangible evidence of skills, knowledge and abilities (<http://christinaseeger.com/default.aspx>).

New Members of the Division

Irene Laursen, Membership Committee Chair

We are happy to welcome the following new members to the Biomedical and Life Sciences Division in recent months. If you joined the Division during the past year or so, and have not yet sent us a brief biographical profile, we would be happy to consider publishing it in the New Member Profiles column of the bulletin. So please don't be shy; send it electronically to ilaursen@wellesley.edu or by postal mail to Irene Laursen, Wellesley College Science Library, 106 Central Street, Wellesley MA 02481. And thanks to those who have already contributed.

March 2006:

Terry T. Ahmed, U.S. National Library of Medicine, Bethesda, MD

Janice R. Ballo, MITRE Corporation, McLean, VA

Ann M. Cashin, U.S. National Naval Medical Center, Bethesda, MD

Julie A. Chapa, Austin, TX

Helen M. Doughty, John Muir Medical Center, Walnut Creek, CA

Tamara Durec, St. Alberta, AB, Canada

Diana L. Dwyer, USDA, Fort Collins, CO

Rebecca L. Fisher, Telemus Solutions, Falls Church, VA

Diane E. Gardner, Mt. Morris, MI

Pamela J. Gollis, Biogen IDEC, Cambridge, MA

Shirley A. Gronholm, Hartford Hospital, Hartford, CT 06102

Winifred F. Halsey, Kingston, IL

Christy Hightower, University of California-Santa Cruz, Santa Cruz, CA

Susan B. Hoehl, Allegheny General Hospital, Pittsburgh, PA

Cathy Jordan, Walter Reed Medical Center, Washington, DC

Lynne Joshi, Alfred I duPont Hospital for Children, Wilmington, DE

Mellanye J. Lackey, U.S. National Library of Medicine, Bethesda, MD

Adam Marshall, Portland Press/Biochemical, Colchester, Essex, United Kingdom

Cynthia Minkel, Ebsco Publishing, Ipswich, MA
 Jessica L. Rhodes, Staten Island, NY
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 Christina L. Struik, Vancouver, BC, Canada
 Verma Walker, U.S. National Institutes of Health,
 Bethesda, MD
 Sarah L. Warner, Wontawk, New York, NY
 Virginia R. Weiser, Goleta, CA

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 Washington, DC
 Klaus Boisen, Ferring Pharmaceuticals, Kbh S, Den-
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 Deborah R. Bowers, St. Louis, MO
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 Susan G. Chesser, Hogan & Hartson, Washington, DC
 Diana M. Chike, Chapel Hill, NC
 David L. Ennist, Image and Video Library, Bethesda,
 MD
 Maureen E. Festa, Center for Org, Ldrshp & Mgt Res.,
 Boston, MA
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 Christian L. Gray, Los Angeles, CA
 Liga M. Greenfield, BioMedPharmIS, Ltd., Kalama-
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 Carla G. Heister, Yale University Library, New Haven,
 CT
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 Sara J. Steen, Astoria, NY

New Member Profiles

Christina Struik graduated with a B.Sc. degree in
 zoology from the University of British Columbia
 (UBC) in 2005. She is now in her first year of the
 MLIS degree at UBC. Until 2006, her summers
 consisted of fieldwork and scientific research,
 primarily in bird studies. A leader and attendee of bird
 walks in the Vancouver Lower Mainland, Christina is
 an advocate of sustainable living. She has volunteered
 at the Environment Canada and Geological Survey of
 Canada libraries and is working at the Vancouver GSC
 Research Library this summer.

Fresh from library school, **Penny Boyle** started her career as a cataloger/reference librarian at the public hospital for Cook County, Illinois. Then she became a contractor in the US Environmental Protection Agency, Region 5 Library in Chicago, Illinois. While working for the EPA's Region 5 Library, she presented at SLA as part of the Winners' Circle of Best Science Web Sites in 2001. In 2005, she revised the Web-based *Librarians' Guide to US EPA Resources*, which she developed in 2000. A short time later, she assumed her new position as a Reference/Outreach Librarian for the American Dental Association Library.

Dear DBIO Member:

We would love to brag about you in our next newsletter. If you have any announcements, great or small, please include the full name, institution and reason for recognition and submit to: Claudia Lascar, Chair, Public Relations Committee, Biomedical and Life Sciences Division, at email: clas-car@ccny.cuny.edu

Biomedical And Life Sciences Division Special Libraries Association Annual Business Meeting

**Tuesday, 13 June 2006, 7:30 am
Baltimore**

Submitted by Jason Price, Division Secretary

The division would like to thank **Scopus (Elsevier)** for sponsoring this breakfast meeting.

1. Call to order and Introductions: Laura Osegueda, DBIO Chair 8:10 am

- Greetings from meeting sponsor Darryl White (Elsevier)

Mr. White expressed appreciation for letting them be a part of what we do. He also mentioned that a result from some recent Elsevier research showed a correlation between the level of success of companies and whether they employed librarians.

- Introduction of SLA board liason: Robyn Frank
Ms. Frank was present to take any division issues to the SLA board of directors.

- Welcome to new and student members

Quite a few new members identified themselves by a show of hands, were welcomed and encouraged to further participate in Division activities through committee service.

2. Treasurer's Report (Eleanor MacLean)

The division is financially sound with current assets of approximately \$70,000 (with approximately \$30,000 not yet paid for this years conference).

3. Survey Report: Peggy Jones (Past Chair)

Thanks were expressed to Ruth Gustafson for managing the online survey, and it was noted that a copy of the report was sent to the Listserv and posted on the website. A **main result** of the survey indicated that the division needs to improve communication to members; many people and committees are working hard to do just that.

4. Baltimore 2006 Program Committee: John Tebo, 2006 program chair

John thanked the committee members for their hard work and gave a big thanks to Laura and Janet. The trend this year was toward more cooperation and co-sponsorship with other divisions. These efforts were quite successful and should continue for next year's conference.

5. Fund development (Janet Weiss)

- Janet thanked the committee for calling and e-mailing to solicit funds from vendors. Their efforts raised \$18,300.

- Big red hearts were distributed to sponsoring vendors, and members were asked to seek out those hearts and thank the exhibitors for their financial support. Janet also asked that division members encourage other vendors that they buy from to support DBIO, and to send her suggestions for potential new sponsors.

- Committee members are: Michelle Foss, Nancy Stimson, Nancy Curtis, Renee Bush, Laurie Scott, Linda Maddux, Diane Schmidt, Bonnie Stephenson, Peggy Jones, Heather O'Daniel and John Tebo, ex officio. As always, more committee members are needed and welcome!

6. Denver 2007 Program Committee (Laurie Scott)
The Denver conference will be June 2-6, 2007 with theme, "Climbing to new heights". The keynote address has been returned to its usual timeslot of Monday morning. The division plans to hold an open house or reception on Sunday Evening. Planned content for the conference include: **Prions**, a **poster session** (shared with other sciences?), **Roy Tennant**, and Medical Section: **Staying healthy in the hospital**. More thoughts and ideas for programming are more than welcome.

7. Baltimore 2006 Contributed Papers Committee (Todd Hannon)

This year represented a move away from a theme for the session. Attendance and comments on the session this year were good, and the call for papers for 2007 (Chair: Jonathan Nabe) is also not themed. The papers from the conference will go live from website soon after the conference: <http://units.sla.org/division/dbio/Baltimore/index.html>. Nothing had been heard yet from the SLA Board of directors on the issue of their requirement for the transfer of copyright of contributed papers to SLA.

8. Membership Committee and listserv (Irene Laursen and Carol Vreeland)

- There are 796 members in our Division, making it the 6th largest after Business and Finance, Information Technology, Legal, Leadership and Management, and No Division. This number includes 213 in the Medical Section and 17 members in the Natural History Caucus.

- Members should ensure that they renew on time, because the Division financial allotment is determined by our number of members on Dec 31, and member start date and history are lost from SLA HQ data after a 45 day lapse in dues payment.

- Fourteen members were honored with years of service awards (listed elsewhere in this issue). Present to receive their awards were: Jean Crampon (30 years), John Lawrence Kellon (30 years) and Ruth Gustafson (20 years).

- The committee is striving to do more to integrate new members, including welcoming new members with printed letters, and establishing an annual newcomers brunch (shared with other science divisions).

- Our Listserv is now setup to automatically subscribe new members of the Division, and the email addresses on this list now represent 85-90% of our members, up from recent coverage of only 38%!

9. *Biofeedback* (Susan Kendall)

Biofeedback is still issued quarterly, and Buzz Haughton is the new associate editor. Susan requested that members send comments that they have about the publication (encouraging or critical)—the editors receive very little feedback. Also, please remember that on-time submissions are really helpful since an issue has to be produced every three months.

10. Public Relations (Claudia Lascar)

Given that the member survey strongly indicated that there was need for new communication, this is the current focus of the committee. Plans in the works include:

- new measures to enhance website
- a means of determining what members need or want
- ways to showcase successes (and to be sure the committee is informed of them in the first place)

Current committee members are Nancy Curtis, Chris Hooper-Lane, Sandy Kramer, Carol Lepzelter-Berry and Michele Tennant. The committee is still seeking two more volunteers to help with these vital tasks.

11. Vendor Relations (Diane Schmidt)

This year's Vendor Networking Breakfast had 56 attendees and included presentations from the Ecological Society of America, Lippincott-Williams and Wilkins, *Nature* and Springer. Suggestions for vendors for 2007 are welcome, particularly those with new products. The committee has just added 2 new members and would like one more.

12. Liaison reports (postponed until open board meeting)

13. Presentation of awards

- **2006 Distinguished member:** Ginny Lingle (see separate article from Barbara Hedges on [page 5](#))

- **2006 Chair's recognition award:** John Tebo, Chair of Program Committee

John graciously received the award and noted that his success depended heavily on encouragement and guidance from Janet Weiss.

There was also an early gift of thanks to Chair Laura Osegueda who will pass the gavel virtually this December.



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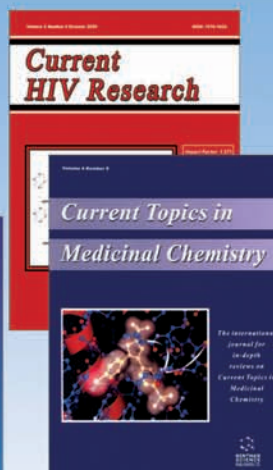
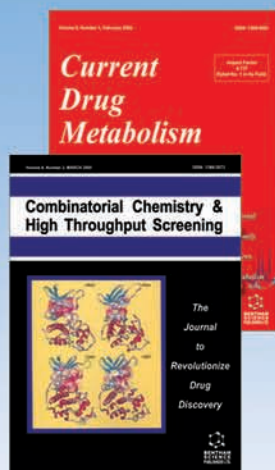
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Biofeedback



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