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## President's Wrap-Up Message from the Baltimore Conference

Cindy Sheffield

**H**i, everyone!

I hope you are having an enjoyable summer. Baltimore was a fast-paced, high-energy conference featuring great programs, fabulous Key Note speakers, and great fun! I really enjoyed listening to Carla Hayden's presentation and how she has navigated challenges throughout her entire career. I found Wes Moore's presentation to be a very powerful and inspirational message about stepping up and being a leader in your community.

Many thanks go to Neyda Gilman and her committee for all of the hard work that went into planning DBIO's programs! All of the DBIO programs were well attended, with around 35 attendees in each presentation, and even higher attendance at some sessions. I really enjoyed the two panels organized by Ruth Gustafson. Tony Stankus and John Bowers delighted us with their creepy crawlers in "VIPS: Very Important Pests" and we had great speakers tell us about the Chesapeake Bay in "The Science of Estuaries". I learned several things about the bay, and I've lived here my whole life! The Vendor Luncheon was a huge success again, featuring great information from our sponsors so our members can stay on the bleeding edge of their technological developments. Despite the compact scheduling with many activities occurring simultaneously, I was able to attend most of the DBIO program sessions. I even got to be King for a session, that is James King, as I gave his presentation on the Pandemic Influenza Digital Archive, in the "Good, Bad, & Ugly Germs: Perspectives on the Centennial Remembrance of the 1918 Influenza Pandemic."

I also want to thank the Executive Board and all DBIO Committee members for their help in making DBIO the success that it is. Our Board Meeting this year featured informal discussion about DBIO's strategic options, as well as effective ways to solicit member ideas, concerns, and desires for the organization going forward. I thank all who attended and offer a photo of the

group. Please note that is Buzz on my iPhone, who attended the whole meeting from California.

The Pharma Conference was held just prior to the SLA meeting and I was able to attend a couple of sessions within that conference as well. All and all after five 14-hour days of learning and excitement, at the end I don't think I could Bmore exhausted, but I was delighted to attend the "[Behind the Scenes Tour of the Baltimore Aquarium](#)". I thank Ruth for organizing that as part of the Natural History Caucus, and I know everyone who attended enjoyed seeing the beautiful creatures within. It was great to see so many friends and familiar faces in that short period of time. If you were at the conference I encourage you to share your experience on SLA Connect.



**Donna Gibson, Peggy Murphy, Cindy Sheffield, Nancy Curtis,  
Ruth Gustafson, Monica Kirkwood**

## Some facts about SLA:

- 2018 Baltimore attendance was over 1,800: an increase over the previous conference
- Exact membership count at 4,289 (goal was 1,750)
- 413 new members
- Members from 47 countries (was 55 last year)
- USA #1 ranking country by membership, followed by Canada and India
- 76% full members; 12% students
- Currently 12.35 FTE SLA staff
- 2019 SLA Conference to take place in Cleveland
- SLA members could have affiliate status for ALA events
- New strategic plan will be soon released with 6 “pillars”: Leadership; Engagement; Learning; Partnerships; Operations; Knowledge
  - After all incomes/expenses SLA is slightly in the black by \$21,000. (SLA a few years ago was in the hole by over a million)
  - Study of how SLA institutional membership works
  - Comment on thanking SLA for moving 2018 conference from Charlotte, NC to Baltimore, MD in support of the transgender community
  - Many comments on the cost of membership, especially for students. An experienced member noted that SLA must do all it can to support student members better.





## Scenes from the Baltimore Conference



**DBIO expresses its thanks to our vendors for their  
generous support during the 2018 Baltimore SLA Conference**



**Annual Reviews**



**Cold Spring Harbor  
Laboratory Press**



**EBSCO**



**Journal of Visualized  
Experiments**



**The NEW ENGLAND  
JOURNAL of MEDICINE**

**New England Journal of  
Medicine**



**R2 Digital Library  
(Rittenhouse)**



**Wolters Kluwer**

**Wolters Kluwer**

## Monica Kirkwood

### Where were you born?

I was born in West Texas where my parents were attending grad school. From there, we moved to Illinois, then Kansas (elementary/junior high), then Indiana, where I attended high school and college. After college, I moved to Texas and worked as an orthodontist's assistant for two years while I decided on a career.

### When did you decide you wanted to become a librarian?

I moved back to Indiana in 1995 and was rehired at the public library where I had previously worked in many roles (page/shelver, book-mobile attendant, desk coverage, student trainer, cataloging assistant: basically anywhere they needed me)—all while attending Indiana University as an undergraduate. My role when I returned was as a reference assistant and I realized how much I enjoyed the investigative elements of reference work. It was during this time that I started taking grad courses in Library Science at Indiana University, but it would be a few years later while I was working at Purdue University as a reference assistant in the Management & Economics Library that I would complete my MLS while working full time.



I've been a member of SLA since 2003 and a member of DBIO since 2009/2010, when I first began my role as Webmaster and co-Chair of the Home Page Committee with my colleague and mentor, Claudia Lascar, who has been an inspiration to me over the years. Her ability to juggle all of the details of the content side of the site is amazing! It has been a joy to work with her and learn from her. SLA has been a tremendous benefit throughout my career. The relationships and networking, educational opportunities, volunteer roles, vendor relationships, and career support have helped me grow over the years as a librarian. I am proud to be a member of this organization!

### Have you recently read a book, an article, or a blog that you would recommend?

One of my favorite websites is Wirecutter.com. They are a review site for a number of categories and I've found them to be a reliable resource to consult before making purchases. When I need a laugh rooted in sarcasm, Comics Curmudgeon never disappoints, as evidenced by this ridiculous post; note the Mark Trail comic strip <https://joshreads.com/2008/11/goalie-monstrosity/>

### What are some of your non-work interests?

I have been described as a voracious reader and I regularly read around 150+ books each year. I read many genres, but my favorite is mystery, be it murder, forensic, historical, cozy, or futuristic. I also never read the end of a book first; that seems very wrong to me! I love to travel and my husband Hal and I look forward to all of the opportunities our relocation to Oxford UK in 2018 will give us to explore new parts of this amazing world! I also enjoy scrapbooking, mostly in digital format, recording our travels and trips with family and friends. I joke that I loved *CSI: Crime Scene Investigation* back when it was known as *Quincy, M.E.* These days, I enjoy watching true crime shows that are found in abundance these days on channels like Investigation Discovery and truTV.



## Buzz Haughton

### Where were you born?

In Sydney, Australia. My mum was Aussie, and my dad American. They married after World War II. I came along in 1948. We settled in Southern California in the mid-'50s.

### When did you decide you wanted to be a librarian?

I was an inveterate public library user as a child. When I got to college I soon landed a student assistant job in the library, and by my junior year I knew I was headed for libraryland.

I got my MLIS in 1972 from UC Berkeley's now-defunct library school. My first job was in a large public library, but I moved to UC Davis in a couple of years, from where I retired. I did a number of jobs: interlibrary loan, medical reference, general reference, instruction in EndNote, but thirty years of my career went mostly to cataloging in the main, physical sciences and health sciences libraries.

In addition to cataloging, I also taught cataloging online as adjunct faculty in the School of Library and Information Studies at the University of Alabama for nine semesters.

In retirement I continue to be active in SLA, both in my local chapter (Sierra Nevada) and in DBIO, serving as your humble editor.

### Have you recently read a book, an article or a blog that you would recommend?

*Everything is Miscellaneous* by David Weinberger (New York: Henry Holt and Company, 2008). I got it to read about what Mr. Weinberger has to say about classification (I am, after all, a cataloger), but the book goes into all sorts of other things, among them social networks, ontologies, relationships, and even religion!

### What are some of your non-work interests?

Reading, of course: I've read the Harry Potter books and its successors five times, and I look forward to tackling them again. In the life sciences I've started one about human metabolism that I admit I've been putting off for some time. No time like the present!

**It's time for a well-deserved shout-out to Lori Bronars, who provides us with the Member News (and sometimes Publications) article in each issue of *Biofeedback*. In addition, Lori has been devising the questions and collating and editing the responses to the biographical series you've been reading in recent *Biofeedbacks*. Well done, Lori!**

**If you want to contribute a bio article for *Biofeedback*, please contact Lori: [lori.bronars@yale.edu](mailto:lori.bronars@yale.edu)**



## **Volunteer Opportunity: Communications Chair for DBIO's Social Media Accounts**

Are you passionate about what you do, and want to share that enthusiasm with like-minded professionals? Do you like to be a person in the know, and who shares information with others? Would you like to expand your range of skills and add that experience to your resumé, so you are ready for that next opportunity when it pops up? We are looking for a Communications Chair who will oversee DBIO announcements and communications via social media platforms such as Facebook and Twitter. This is a newly formed volunteer position which is critical to the success of the Division and provides exposure to professionals in the Biomedical and Life Sciences. Not only will you get to learn about different professionals in a variety of organizations, you will get to know these members personally, opening lots of doors for you and your career. We are not looking for perfection, just someone willing to write about DBIO activities and events on a fairly regular basis, and we are happy to provide feedback before you post. If you are interested, please contact DBIO chair Cindy Sheffield at [cnd.sheffield@gmail.com](mailto:cnd.sheffield@gmail.com) for more information.



# Member News

## Lori Bronars

Darra Ballance, Assistant Professor in the Statewide AHEC Network Program at Augusta University, has published an article.

Gaines, JK, Blake, L, Kouame G, Davies KJ, Ballance D, Gaddy VT, Gallman E, Russell M, Wood E. 2018. "Partnering to analyze selection of resources by medical students for case-based small group learning: A collaboration between librarians and medical educators." *Medical Reference Services Quarterly* 37(3): in press doi: 10.1080/02763869.2018.1477709



**Darra  
Balance**

## **Executive Board 2018**

### **Biomedical and Life Sciences Division**

Chair: Cynthia Sheffield  
[cynthia.sheffield@nih.gov](mailto:cynthia.sheffield@nih.gov)

Chair-Elect: Peggy Murphy  
[pemurphy@luriechildrens.org](mailto:pemurphy@luriechildrens.org)

Secretary: Danielle Walker  
[danielle.walker@nih.gov](mailto:danielle.walker@nih.gov)

Director: Gail Hendler (2017-2018)  
[ghendler@luc.edu](mailto:ghendler@luc.edu)

Treasurer: Nancy Curtis (2017-2018)  
[ncurtis@maine.edu](mailto:ncurtis@maine.edu)

Past Chair: Nalini Mahajan  
[nalini.mahajan@nm.org](mailto:nalini.mahajan@nm.org)

For a complete list of current board and committee members, see the Division Website at: <http://dbiosla.org/inside/officers/officers.html>

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