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## Message from the Chair

Diane Schmidt

Here it is, a new year and a new Chair. I'd like to thank everyone who has helped mentor me this past year as Chair-Elect, especially Jean Crampon, our outgoing Chair. I'd also like to thank Chris Hooper-Lane, our 2010 New Orleans Program Chair. He's putting together a great roster of programs for us. And, to mangle Charles Dickens' immortal sentence, "It was the best of times; it was *not* the best of times." While 2010 will surely not be as fateful for DBIO members as the French Revolution was for Dickens' characters, there are still similarities.

*It will be the best of times ...* This year is the Biomedical and Life Sciences Division's 75th anniversary, and we will be celebrating the event throughout the year. Thanks to David Duggar, we have a terrific anniversary celebration planned for the Annual Conference in New Orleans, a jazz cruise down the Mighty Mississippi on the paddlewheel Creole Queen featuring a sit-down dinner with a special New Orleans menu. Stay tuned for other activities. SLA is also working on opportunities for SLA members to work on service projects in New Orleans just before or after the conference, so you'll have chances to enrich your conference attendance in unexpected ways.

*It will not be the best of times ...* We all know about how bad the economy is. If it hasn't hit us directly, we surely know someone who has lost a job or whose income has gone down. Many of our employers are struggling. Travel reimbursements may have been cut, making it more difficult to network and go to conferences. While it may be difficult to find any silver linings to this cloud, I think it is more important than ever to take advantage of the opportunities your membership in the Biomedical and Life Sciences Division offers you. If you are looking for a job, make sure you are signed up for the SLA-DBIO list to get all of the job announcements posted by DBIO members. Check out the DBIO Web site at <http://units.sla.org/division/dbio/> for more information on this and other division activities. We are always looking for volunteers to serve on our committees. This is a great way to build your resume and network with other DBIO members.

Many of the activities are not time consuming but they can be very enjoyable and informative. If you are looking for committee opportunities, please contact me at [dcschmid@illinois.edu](mailto:dcschmid@illinois.edu) and I'll be happy to find a good home for your efforts.

I hope to see many of you in New Orleans in June or hear from you in other ways throughout 2010. As they say in New Orleans, "Let the good times roll!"

## ***Laissez Les Bon Temps Rouler: Conference Program Preview***

**Christopher Hooper-Lane, 2010 Conference Program Committee Chair**

**D**BIO is sponsoring a wide range of programming at the SLA conference in New Orleans, LA, June 13-16. Continuing education courses, special interest programs, and options for community service are on the docket. Of particular note, DBIO will be hosting a 75th anniversary jazz cruise celebration aboard the *Creole Queen*. Attendance is limited, is open to all SLA members, so **DBIO members please sign up early** for this once in a lifetime (well, 75 years) event!

Below is an early preview of the events scheduled for the New Orleans conference as you prepare your trip to the Big Easy. Please note that the program is not been fully set and this list is only preliminary.

### **Saturday, June 12**

#### **CE: Evidence-Based Nursing: A Seminar in Integrating Literature, Clinical and Patient Education**

1:00 p.m.–5:00 p.m.

Participants will be familiarized with the basic tenets of Evidence-Based Practice and learn how to apply these principles to clinical practice and patient care. After defining what EBP means, participants will learn to evaluate study designs and study articles. Participants will discuss various methods to both create and promote an evidence-based culture in their hospital as well as how to find the best quality evidence for patients and help patients find this information themselves.

#### **DBIO Board of Directors Meeting/Dinner**

5:30 p.m.–8:00 p.m.

### **Sunday, June 13**

#### **CE: Genetic Resources: From Chromosomal Location to 3-D Structure**

8:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.

This course will introduce librarians to many of the free, web-based bioinformatics resources which researchers in molecular biology and related fields use to uncover information on human genes. By attending this hands-on session and learning about these specialized resources, librarians will be better able to assist patrons in locating this kind of information.

#### **CE: Understanding the User Perspective: Experiences from the Laboratory Life Sciences**

8:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.

This course introduces the education, culture, values, practices, and needs of laboratory biologists with the goal of equipping information professionals to provide services with this user group in mind. Topics covered include the scientific method, the nature of research in the basic sciences, and models of teaching these concepts to future

scientists. Descriptions and comparisons of basic biomedical science disciplines, common research model organisms, and technologies emerging from the basic sciences will also be included.

### **Biomedical and Life Sciences Division Vendor Networking Lunch**

12:00–1:30 p.m.

Enjoy lunch while hearing from and talking with representatives from four innovative companies selected for their cutting edge products in the biomedical and life sciences.

## **Monday, June 14**

### **Biomedical and Life Sciences Division Contributed Papers Breakfast**

7:30 a.m.–9:30 a.m.

Enjoy a free breakfast while listening to colleagues' presentations. Topics have not yet been announced.

### **Medical Devices: What Are They and How Do We Find Information About Them?**

2:00 p.m.–3:30 p.m.

Discussion by librarians that work for medical device and assay companies on the unique characteristics of these industries and the challenges in finding information..

## **Tuesday, June 15**

### **DBIO Business Meeting**

8:00 a.m.–9:30 a.m.

Enjoy a free breakfast and take an interest/role in the activities of the Division!

### **Agile Improvisation of Health Sciences Library Services During Disasters:**

#### **Medical Section Business Meeting**

10:00 a.m.–11:30 a.m.

Sudden community changes create new info service needs. Agile professionals go beyond preservation, protection & service continuity to improvise creative new services to meet that challenge. After 20+ years as a hospital librarian, Michelynn McKnight joined the LSU faculty (SLIS). She authored *The Agile Librarian's Guide to Thriving in Any Institution* and, with Dr. Lisl Zach, completed a 3-year project "Investigating Library and Information Services During Community-Based Disasters." A brief business meeting of the Medical Section will precede the program.

### **Science of Hot Sauce**

2:00 p.m.–3:30 p.m.

Taking off from the success of Seattle's Science of Coffee session, this session will give you an insight to the real heat in Louisiana.

### **All Sciences Poster Session and Reception**

5:30 p.m.–7:30 p.m.

Enjoy refreshments and posters showcasing the work of your colleagues in DBIO and other science divisions. Topic(s) to be determined.

### **DBIO 75th Anniversary Celebration: Jazz Cruise aboard the Creole Queen**

7:00 p.m.–10:00 p.m.

Come aboard the Creole Queen, an authentic three-tiered paddlewheel ship, for an evening cruise of the New Orleans waterways. Boarding is from seven to eight o'clock at the Riverwalk/Canal St. Dock located at 1 Poydras St. Setting sail at eight o'clock for two hours 'at sea' with return at ten o'clock, the 75th Anniversary Celebration of the Biomedical and Life Sciences Division will be one of aquatic and celestial discovery surrounded by the live jazz music New Orleans is known for and a wonderful dinner including Seafood Gumbo, vegetarian jambalaya, and Cajun braised beef brisket. Drinks include tea, coffee and a cash bar. In addition to French bread pudding, the pièce du dessert will be a 75th anniversary cake. You only turn 75 once, so join us in adding our mark to the *history of the Crescent City. Cruise, dance, and let the good times roll!*

## **Wednesday, June 16**

### **Impact of Storms on Coastal Geography**

8:00 a.m.–9:30 p.m.

### **Measuring Large-Scale Environmental Change: Tools and Data**

10:00 a.m.–11:30 a.m.

This session will cover the collection and management of large data sets and how they relate to monitoring and detecting large-scale environmental change. Speakers from National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and from the Louisiana Oil Spill Coordinator's Office will speak on the management of data from climate modeling and from LIDAR (Light Detection And Ranging) data, respectively. Louisiana was the first state to have complete LIDAR coverage of its topography.

### **Into the Wide Open: Open Access and Open Source [tentative]**

12:00 p.m.–1:30 p.m.

This session will cover both sides of the same coin: open access and the ramification of the NIH Public Access Policy and open source issues. This session is still being developed.

## **Service Projects**

In addition to regular programming; the preliminary indication is that SLA will be offering three opportunities for volunteer service in the New Orleans area:

Habitat for Humanity (full-day option)

Saturday, June 12, 7:45 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Participants: 40 Volunteers

Cost: \$105/pp; cost covers a \$50 volunteer fee that Habitat for Humanity collects plus transportation and lunch. Volunteer fee is tax deductible.

Habitat for Humanity (full-day option)

Thursday, June 17, 7:45 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Participants: 40 Volunteers

Cost: \$105/pp; cost covers a \$50 volunteer fee that Habitat for Humanity collects plus transportation and lunch. Volunteer fee is tax deductible.

Second Harvest (half-day option)

Thursday, June 17, 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Participants: 20-25 Volunteers

Cost: \$45/pp; cost covers transportation

## **Planning Ahead: Initial DBIO Program Ideas for Philadelphia in 2011**

**Howard Fuller, 2011 Conference Program Chair**

**W**hile most of us are just starting to make arrangements to attend the SLA Annual Meeting in New Orleans, program planners were busy at SLA's annual Leadership Summit in St. Louis, January 29-31, 2010, collaborating and making initial program plans for the 2011 meeting in Philadelphia. The Leadership Summit provides an opportunity for program planners to co-locate, pitch program ideas, look for opportunities to collaborate on programs, and identify themes and patterns that each division, section and caucus presents. From this emerges SLA's first draft of programs ideas for the Annual Meeting. I am the Division's chair of program planning for the Philadelphia meeting, and I welcome other ideas and your feedback. Some of the ideas presented by the Biomedical Division included:

- Personalized genomics / personalized medicine—This is the fastest growth area in medicine today, and its rapid trajectory is only expected to continue
- Personalization of learning—We know the k-20 education system is broken and how we teach, for the most part, to be ineffective. Large classroom (one size fits all) lectures and learning are known to be ineffective methods of learning. Current LMS are not much better. How do we personalize learning for each customer/student or redesign the system?
- Design thinking—Are we stuck in “evidence” and don't know why we need to get out?
- How adults learn best and what the research says—Ten one-hour classes are better than two four-hour classes, so why do we still offer one two-to-three-hour classes with minimum follow-up?
- Program Evaluation—How to measure the short and long term effectiveness of program/classes. Are we getting beyond the first or second layer of program evaluation? Do we use Kirkpatrick's evaluation techniques and are we up-to-date on the latest social science evaluation thinking from the Hewlett Foundation? GEO?
- Dangers of document metadata—Why lawyers don't like metadata and librarians love it. Types of metadata that can come back to hurt you (and we don't even know we're sending it)
- Digital Storytelling

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# SLA Name Will Stay: Alignment of Association to Continue

Cara Schatz, Director, Public Relations, SLA

The Special Libraries Association (SLA) announced the results of its association-wide vote on a new name today. Voting in record numbers, SLA members failed to approve a proposal to change the organization's name to the Association for Strategic Knowledge Professionals. 50 percent of those members eligible to vote participated in the referendum, with 2071 voting yes and 3225 voting no.

"The active discussions, online and in local meetings, are a testament to the passion and commitment that knowledge and information professionals feel towards their association and their profession," said Gloria Zamora, SLA 2009 President. "This level of engagement will help make SLA and its members more effective advocates for the information profession in the years ahead."

The name change proposal stemmed from the findings of the Alignment Project, an intensive two-year research effort aimed at understanding the value of the information and knowledge professional in today's marketplace and how to best communicate that value. "Our name will remain," Zamora continued, "but we will go forward with developing opportunities for our members to use the Alignment findings to demonstrate their contributions to the organizations that employ them."

"Information and knowledge professionals are critical assets to the organizations that employ them, yet their contributions and capabilities are too often underestimated," said SLA CEO Janice R. Lachance. "The findings of the Alignment Project research will guide SLA in developing services and programs that will more successfully position these professionals in the marketplace and attract the recognition and compensation they deserve."

## ASIST Liaison Report

Frances Chu, Liaison to ASIST

The ASIST Annual Meeting titled "**Thriving on Diversity: Information Opportunities in a Pluralistic World**" occurred in November 6-11, 2009 in Vancouver, BC, Canada, without my attendance. However, the program showed a variety of topics, with many of interest to DBIO. These included seminars and posters like:

- Evolving Curricula in LIS-Focused Bioinformatics Programs
- Disruptive Technologies in Health Information Landscapes: The Case of Diabetes and HbA1<sub>c</sub>
- Bridging between Scientific Disciplines: Educational Strategies to Meet the Challenge of Managing Information across the Sciences.
- Evaluating a Metadata-based Term Suggestion Interface for PubMed with Real Users with Real Requests
- Discerning quality health information on the Web: Insights from Korean consumers in the U.S.

And many more ...

They had a specific session on Health Information Behavior, discussing information-seeking and knowledge-sharing behavior of a variety of patients with a variety of conditions.

Interestingly, this year, there was not only a conference wiki, but also frequent tweets and bloggers commenting about the conference sessions and activities. It seems that social networking has finally reached this conference, as it was not utilized when I went to a conference in 2007.

The [proceedings](#) are open access with no password or membership required to access the Web site or PDF.

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## From the Medical Section

**S. Layla Heimlich, Medical Section Chair**

I am honored to serve as the new Chair of the Medical Section of DBIO. Since 2007 I have been a reference librarian at the William B. Glew, MD, Health Sciences Library at the Washington Hospital Center in Washington, DC. Prior to that, I worked at a pharmaceutical company, a medical education company, and a scholarly publisher, primarily in an editorial function, which has provided me with useful perspectives on the collection and communication of scientific information.

This past year has been an exciting one for SLA, and one in which I have spent some time examining what my SLA membership means to me. I belong to several library associations, probably like many of you, because every association provides something unique. SLA offers, in addition to interesting programs and educational opportunities, the chance to meet librarians in other fields who are faced with similar issues and problems in different settings. Just a few examples:

The research of David Schumaker and Mary Talley on embedded librarians, presented at the 2009 Annual Conference, took an idea familiar to me in the medical setting and showed how it has been adapted in other settings, which in turn provided me with alternate ways of approaching embedded librarianship in my hospital.

- Recent alignment discussions challenged me to identify the needs and priorities of patrons rather than “librarian” priorities, and to initiate more outreach.
- Intensive continuing education programs offered by DBIO on various scientific databases gave me new tools to take back to my colleagues and patrons.

My goals as the incoming Medical Section chair are to support and provide useful and interesting educational opportunities and events in the coming year, during the annual conference, and at the local level, in person and online; to reach out to collaborate with other groups; to increase exposure of the medical section activities; and to encourage section membership.

Any thoughts, suggestions, or comments can be emailed to me at [Layla.Heimlich@medstar.net](mailto:Layla.Heimlich@medstar.net). I look forward to working with both old and new friends in the coming year!

## Medical Library Association Liaison Report

**Darra Ballance, Liaison to the Medical Library Association**

### NIH Public Access Policy Slide Show Available for Download

MLA's Ad Hoc Committee For Advocating Scholarly Communication has announced the release of a new slide show: “NIH Public Access Policy: Overview for Librarians.” The committee developed this resource in response to feedback it received from members who took the Fall 2008 survey on the NIH Public Access Policy. The slide show provides a template of information that can be modified for individual use and is provided as both a PowerPoint and PDF file depending on your needs. Visit the [MLA web site](#) to download the file.

The MLA 2010-2011 election process was completed in December. Congratulations to:

President-Elect Jerry Perry, Director, Health Sciences Library, University of Colorado--Denver.

Board of Directors (2010-2013): Marianne Comegys, Director, Medical Center Library, LSU Health Sciences Center--Shreveport, and Rikke Ogawa, Emergent Technologies Coordinator and Health and Life Sciences Librarian, Louise Darling Biomedical Library, University of California Los Angeles.

Nominating Committee:

- Margaret Bandy
- Gary Byrd
- Jacqueline Doyle
- Thomas Hill
- Katherine Stemmer Frumento

As I mentioned in my last report, I will be teaching a CE course, “Evidence-based Nursing: Integrating Literature Clinical Practice and Patient Education” at the 2010 MLA Annual Conference in DC this May. I’m happy to report that SLA has also accepted this course for its 2010 Conference in New Orleans, on Saturday June 12. (MLA members receive the SLA member rate for this course, so please let your colleagues who are MLA members know that, if they can’t attend MLA, there is a second chance for them if they can come to New Orleans.

## Book Review

*Doing Science: Design, Analysis and Communication of Scientific Research*, 2nd edition

by Ivan Valiela

Oxford University Press, 2009.

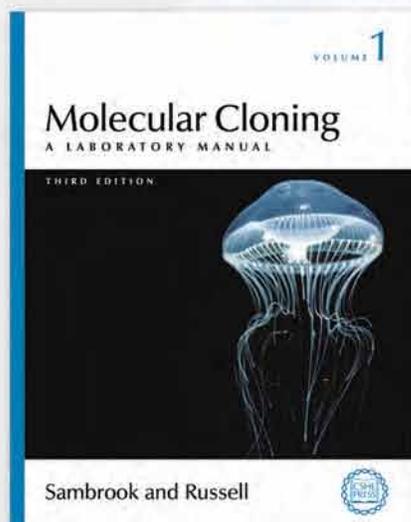
Reviewed by Diane Hummel

As a handbook for an undergraduate student embarking on their education for a career in science or as a continuing compendium for an experience scientist, *Doing Science* provides invaluable insight for all stages of scientific endeavors and research.

Valiela’s writing style is engaging and informative as he outlines the progressive steps of research and development. He not only describes research from the formulation and inception of the question, acquisition of data, experiment design and analysis, but the communication and presentation of final results in posters, scientific presentations, and journal articles for professional societies, academic conferences, and governmental agencies. His broader achievement is to provide practical suggestions for the improvement of scientific communication in writing and speech to promote better public understanding of the interpretation of scientific results. Valiela concentrates his narrative on research design and data analysis, but his references to the history of science remind the reader that science is a continuum.

The concluding chapter of *Doing Science* is a fascinating discussion about the public’s often confused perception that there is a dichotomy in contemporary scientific pursuits.

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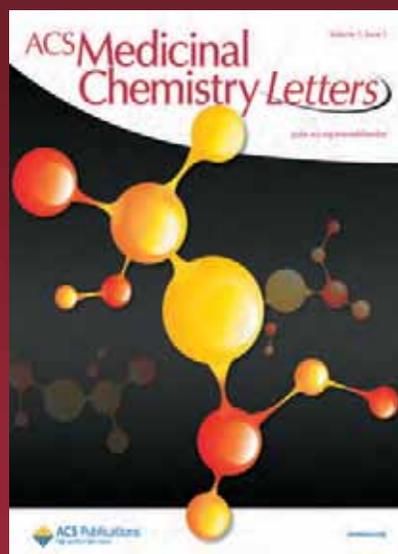
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## **DBIO Awards Call for Nominations**

The DBIO Awards Committee is seeking nominations for two awards to be presented at the DBIO Annual Business Meeting in New Orleans, LA, June 2010.

**Distinguished Member Award** – This award recognizes one outstanding member each year for his/her service and dedication to DBIO and accomplishments in the profession. See [award criteria and nomination information](#) .

**Winifred Sewell Prize** - This award is given to a DBIO member who has shown leadership and innovation in the development and/or use of advanced technologies in the organization or dissemination of biomedical and life sciences information. See [award criteria and nomination information](#).

March 26, 2010 is the deadline for nominations. The Division is fortunate to have as members so many dedicated and distinguished professionals, so please consider nominating a DBIO colleague for one of these awards.

Thanks, and looking forward to seeing those nominations pouring in!

The DBIO Awards Committee

Michele R. Tennant, Chair  
Ramune Kubilius  
Alicia Livinski

# Member News and Publications

## Kudos

### Alanna Campbell , DBIO Member

We have the pleasure of announcing the Awards, Achievements, Announcements and Accolades of our members **Emily Glenn, Lorri Zipperer, Jean Crampon, and Virginia Lingle.**

**Emily Glenn** has been elected President-Elect of the Pacific Northwest SLA Chapter (SLA-PNW). She is Librarian and Information Specialist at the Seattle Biomedical Research Institute.

**Jean Crampon** is currently serving as Vice President of the Library Faculty at the University of Southern California and is also the Libraries' representative to the Academic Senate.

**Lorri Zipperer** has been retained by the Pacific Northwest Region of the National Network of Libraries of Medicine to conduct her "Knowledge Sharing in Medicine" workshop. This multidisciplinary "roll up your sleeves" session will now have been presented in three regions of the country since its premier in 2007 (Chicago, Salt Lake City, and, in July 2010, Portland, OR.) [Information on the workshop](#) in general is available. General information on the [Portland program](#) and the applications for teams to participate in the July session will be made available in the Spring. Forward questions on the workshop to [Lorri Zipperer](#) (who recently relocated to Albuquerque).

**Virginia A. Lingle**, M.S.L.S., Librarian Emeritus at the Pennsylvania State University College of Medicine, has retired from the George T. Harrell Health Sciences Library as of January 31, 2010. After a 35-year career as both a hospital librarian and an academic health sciences librarian, she is moving onto new opportunities with travel, family, and church work. She has authored more than 100 publications in the library field, has served in numerous leadership positions at both the national and regional levels for the Special Libraries Association and the Medical Library Association, and has enjoyed many wonderful experiences meeting people from all over the world through those organizations. One of the highlights was participating in a trip to Moscow, St. Petersburg and Prague, that was co-sponsored by SLA and the People to People organization to visit key libraries in those cities. Her email will remain active at [val3@psu.edu](mailto:val3@psu.edu).

## Membership Report

### Dorothy Barr, Membership Committee Chair

DBIO is pleased to welcome the following new members;

Mona Heath, Rockville MD

Melida Busch, information Resources Manager, American Speech-Language-Hearing Association,  
Blue Ash, OH

Heather Fucinari, Costa Mesa, CA

Stephen Warren, Victoria, BC

Cheryl Schwartz, Scotch Plains, NJ

Yasmeen Shorish, Champaign, IL

Paul Bianchi, Raleigh NC

Petra Labriga, Infotrieve GmbH, Cologne, Germany

Rita Hassert, Wheaton IL

Julia Eleuteri, Lead Researcher, The Boston Consulting Group, Boston, MA

Xurong Zhao, Edmonton, AB

It's especially pleasing to note that the group includes two Canadians and one European, continuing SLA's international trend. Welcome to all, and I hope that everyone finds DBIO membership rewarding! If you ever have any questions, I'm happy to respond ([dbarr@oeb.harvard.edu](mailto:dbarr@oeb.harvard.edu)).

I'm also pleased to report that DBIO membership is holding steady; the year-end count (December 2009) stood at 677, actually up slightly from mid-year. A big thank you to my committee (Donna Kafel), and we are always open to suggestions.

## Member Publications Compiled by Alanna Campbell, DBIO Member

Alligood, A., Williams, L & Zipperer, L. (2009). "Identifying the Impact of Unreliable Information and Evidence Transfer on Diagnostic Error." Presentation at *Diagnostic Error in Medicine Conference*, Renaissance Hollywood Hotel, Los Angeles, CA, October 21-22, 2009.

Glenn, E. & Rolland, B. (October 20 2009). "Out of the Library: Integrating Information Professionals into Collaborative Research." Presentation at the *SRA International 2009 Annual Meeting: Research Without Borders*, Washington Convention Center, Seattle, WA, October 17-21, 2009.

Robb, B.G. & Zipperer, L.A. (2009). "Knowledge Management in Hospitals: Drawing from Experience to Define the Librarian's Role." *Journal of Hospital Librarianship*, 9(3), 307-317.

Sykes, J. & Zipperer, L.A. (2009). "Engaging as Partners in Patient Safety: The Experience of Librarians." *Patient Safety and Quality Healthcare*, (March/April), 28-33.

Zipperer, L.A. (2009). "Knowledge Workers, Librarians and Safety: Opportunities for partnership." In Dwivedi, A. (Ed.) *Handbook of Research on Information Technology Management and Clinical Data Administration in Healthcare*. London, UK: IGI Global, pp.495-506.

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