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Message from the Chair Tony Stankus

It's an honor to be elected Chair, and I hope to serve you well. I've learned how this might happen largely by paying attention to my predecessors, and having picked up pointers from each one. If I fail, it certainly would not be for lack of good teachers.

Part of what I do for the Biomedical and Life Sciences Division (DBIO) is watch how the larger association is functioning so as to gauge how we as a division are doing by way of comparison. I generally do this by attending the open meetings of the overall SLA leadership boards and paying attention. My conclusions: DBIO is in better overall financial shape, has retained a higher proportion of its members, and remains one of the larger divisions within SLA. We historically have a full slate of events for each convention. They are largely underwritten by our corporate partners, and they are very well attended. SLA headquarters analyzes and reports attendance at our annual conventions by chapters, divisions, and caucuses, and out of 92 possible permutations for the San Diego meeting, we were effectively tied for 8th-15th from the top for participation.... there were as many of us there as were from all SLA members from New York, and damned close to as many as were from Southern California. And it's not surprising that virtually all the science-oriented divisions were within about 10 members of each other in attendance, as we get along famously with them. The other science-oriented divisions continue to want to co-sponsor events with us, and we with them. In Vancouver, we will be joining forces with Food, Agriculture & Nutrition, Physics-Astronomy-Math, Science & Technology, Chemistry, and likely Pharmaceuticals & Health Technology. In one of the happiest if unexpected of collaborations, the Social Sciences Division has asked to be a co-sponsor of our "Science & Politics of Sustainable Seafood" presentation on Sunday afternoon in Vancouver

DBIO's presence in print, or, more often today, in pixels on computer or cellphone screens, is strong and frequent. This past summer, just for fun, I ran a search of LISTA (Library & Information Science Abstracts) and discovered that our current membership has published no fewer than 676 articles in 95 different journals, and that count excluded brief items like book

reviews, editorials, and letters to the editor. DBIO's *Biofeedback* is well run and attracts good advertising, and DBIO's web site is the envy of the association at large. How does all this happen? Basically, we have a very smart divisional membership who, despite having some of the most demanding jobs in the profession, still volunteer for committees and are willing to run for office.

How do we keep it happening? First, we must take very, very good care of our new and/or younger members. We must demonstrate with self-evident behavior that, when they are in a room with fellow DBIO members, that it is a special thing. We are diverse in the sense that some of us are more medical, some of us are biotechnological, some of us are all about whales, others are all about flowers, and still others are all about fossils. But what we really all are about is the Story of Life on Earth over Time and Living It Well Now and in the Future. Being in Biology is a great gift: We will never run out of things worth talking about, listening to, and learning from. We don't have to make up our reason for being out of whole cloth; it is all around us, and, frankly, what we do for our library customers really matters in the larger scheme of things.

Having said all this, we must acknowledge that the folks at SLA headquarters are doing an enormous amount of work with only about 30 percent of the staff they used to have around six or seven years ago. I tell them that they are like the Spartans in the movie *300*, holding back the Persian hordes with a handful, and they truly deserve our thanks and admiration.

I would be remiss if I did not note the recent passing of Ann Koopman of the Scott Memorial Library of Thomas Jefferson University, one of Philadelphia's leading centers for training in Medicine and the Health Sciences. Ann was a DBIO member of long standing who was also on the SLA Board of Directors. She was an example to all of us as to how to be a good citizen of DBIO and also serve the larger SLA organization. Ann was, coincidentally, our auditor, which, in this case, does not mean that she examined our financial statements. Rather, she made it a point to attend our functions and report about DBIO to SLA headquarters and to the Board.

Vancouver Conference Preview

Tony Stankus, Vancouver Program Committee Chair

SLA Vancouver will feature six events sponsored or co-sponsored by DBIO.

The **DBIO Board Meeting** will be on Saturday evening, June 7, from 6 p.m.-9 p.m. Here all the major officers and committee volunteers give a report on the state of their important part of the work of our division. We typically have 15-20 of us at this working dinner, and, to a great degree, this dress rehearsal of sorts allows us to give the overall membership a more coherent analysis at our Annual Business Meeting on Monday morning .

The **DBIO Vendors New Products Roundtable** will be on Sunday, June 8, from 11:45 a.m.-1:15 p.m. In this well-attended event, we get to hear from four different vendors about the information goods and services of interest to DBIO members that each firm is bringing to the market. Not only is this content of great interest, but the complimentary box lunches we provide seem to be an attraction as well. [Donna Gibson](#), of the Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, is head of the committee that pull it all together.

The **Science & Politics of Sustainable Seafood** is this year's "Science of ..." series topic, and it is DBIO's turn in the rotation to stage it. This event will be held on Sunday, June 8 (which just happens to be World Oceans Day) from 1:30 p.m.-3 p.m. I picked the topic in consultation with some of our more ecology/environment/natural history-oriented DBIO members, especially thinking of our DBIO+IAMSLIC joint members. Through the good offices of Keith Low, a member from Vancouver, we were able to get the services of a speaker from Canada's [Oceanwise Sustainable Seafood Program](#), which just happens to be based at the Vancouver Aquarium, as our keynote speaker. This will be followed by a brief paper on the "Small fish as human food vs. small fish as aquaculture and livestock feed" debate by yours truly. If you think that small fish are a little matter, think again. In a typical year, we harvest about 23 million tons of anchovies, capelin, sardines, herring, mackerel, and

menhaden from the world's oceans, accounting for about 30 percent of the world's total of wild-caught seafood. Most of it is actually rendered into fish oil and pelletized fish meal for animals.

Our Annual Business Meeting & Awards Event will, once again, be a breakfast affair, on Monday morning, June 9, from 8am-9:30am. Here the entire membership present gets to hear in more polished form just how the division and its component sections and caucuses are doing, what our financial and membership situations are, and other business matters. At the end, we announce the winner of the 2014 Distinguished DBIO Member of the Year. I am always eager to get nominations. Send them to me at tstankus@uark.edu, or to my committee colleague at Yale, [Lori Bronars](#).

Learning & Libations: the Medical Section Networking Event will be held on Monday afternoon, June 9, from 4:00pm-5:00pm. This year, at the urging of past Division Chair, Howard Fuller, we will have a martini, wine, and soft-drinks bar with attendees given two "free" tickets for drinks (cash on your own after that). We hope you will greet each other as well as DBIO authors of books and book chapters of interest to DBIO members and any other thinking information professional. [Tallie Casucci](#), of the Eccles Health Sciences Library at the University of Utah, our Medical Section Chair, will guide the proceedings .

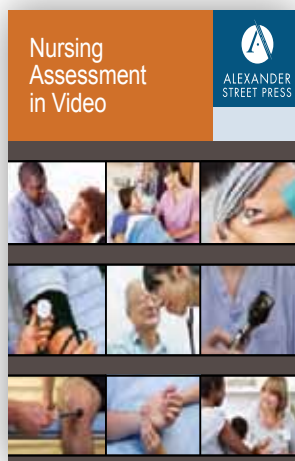
The All-Sciences Poster Session will be held on the evening of Monday, June 9, from 5:30pm-7:00pm., and will feature what we hope will be the best and brightest posters from all the science-oriented divisions of SLA, with the very best of course being those from DBIO. Complimentary hors d'oeuvres and beverages will be a fine accompaniment to the food for thought from the posters. [Danielle Walker](#), of the National Library of Medicine, who did a smashing job for us last year, is once again in charge.



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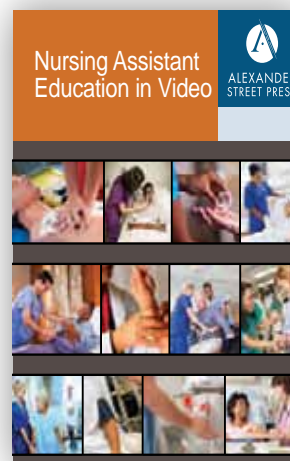
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From the Medical Section Tallie Casucci, Medical Section Chair

As the new Medical Section Chair, I want to properly introduce myself and the Medical Section Secretary, Elaine Dean. We are both very excited for this new year and the upcoming annual conference in Vancouver.

Both Elaine and I began new positions in January 2014! I am the Innovation and Research Associate at the University of Utah's Spencer S. Eccles Health Sciences Library. I serve as the liaison to the Center for Medical Innovation, the Center for Clinical and Translational Science, and other competition and innovation initiatives. I support research, reference, consultation, library instruction, social media, technology services, and innovation in response to the needs of library users.

Elaine has just started at Cincinnati Children's Hospital Edward L. Pratt Research Library as their inaugural Clinical Librarian. She teaches evidence-based searching skills to the clinical staff, works with their Evidence Collaboration Team, and performs clinical literature searches, in addition to other duties.

My involvement with the Special Libraries Association started during my graduate studies at the University of Pittsburgh. I served as the business manager for the Special Libraries Association- Pittsburgh Student Group, as well as the Operation Medical Libraries Coordinator for the group. I was fortunate to be granted the Biomedical and Life Science Division's Student Annual Conference Travel Stipend in 2012.

Elaine also began her involvement in the Special Libraries Association during graduate school while attending the State University of New York at Buffalo. Her first annual conference was the centennial in Washington, D.C. which was similarly funded by the Biomedical and Life Science Division's Student Annual Conference Travel Stipend. Last year, Elaine coordinated the Philadelphia Chapter's second place May Madness Trivia Team.

Outside of discovering our new roles and responsibilities at our respected institutions, both Elaine and I stay active in our personal lives. I can be found rock climbing throughout Utah and scheming for better ways to grow basil year-round in hopes of subduing my pesto habit. Elaine spends her time knitting, hiking, and fending off her cat's attempts to bully her into sitting on the sofa for all-day playing and cuddling.

As I mentioned earlier, we are both ecstatic about the Medical Section's event at the Special Libraries Association Annual Conference in Vancouver. The Medical Section will be hosting "Learning and Libations: The Medical Section Networking Event" on Monday, June 9, 4-5 p.m. All Biomedical and Life Science Division members and similar information professionals are invited to attend. Each attendee will receive two "free" tickets (cash bar afterwards) for the martini, wine and soft-drink bar. We will take this time to honor fellow section members who have recently published new books, book chapters, and articles relating to biomedical librarianship, patient safety, and knowledge management. This will be a wonderful opportunity to network with other amazing information professionals in our field.

If you have recently published a new book, book chapter, or article, please send me an email (tallie.casucci@utah.edu) providing the citation and a brief synopsis. We look forward to seeing you in Vancouver!

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MLA Liaison Report

Amy Donahue, Liaison to the Medical Library Association

The following is a short list of news from the Medical Library Association:

• Renew your 2014 MLA Membership: Keep your MLA benefits coming, including publications and AHIP, CE, and annual meeting discounts! Electronic notices have been mailed for 2014 MLA membership dues. Institutional members will also receive a print version for the first notice. If you have any questions regarding your membership or need your MLA login information, MLA FEIN, or a W-9 form, please contact [Tomi Gunn](#) in the [Membership Services Department](#).

• Save the date for the [2014 Medical Library Association Annual Meeting!](#) It will be May 16-21 in Chicago.

• The *Journal of the Medical Library Association (JMLA)* is available on PubMed Central through the October, 2013 issue (new issues added when available).

• Visit [MLA's eLearning resource page](#) to find on-demand classes (many free for both MLA members and non-members), links to tutorials, and information on other courses.

2014/15 MLA Election Results (as published in MLA-FOCUS December 19, 2013)

Congratulations to SLA member Sally Gore!

The candidates listed below will assume office at the conclusion of MLA 2014 in Chicago. 2014/15 MLA election results were certified and notarized by Survey and Ballot Systems, MLA's election contractor. All candidates have been given the results, and MLA thanks everyone who agreed to run.

President-Elect

Michelle Kraft, AHIP, Alumni Library, Cleveland Clinic, Cleveland, Ohio

Board of Directors (2014–2017)

- Melissa De Santis, AHIP, Health Sciences Library, University of Colorado–Denver Anschutz Medical Campus, Aurora, CO
- Heidi Heilemann, AHIP, Lane Medical Library & Knowledge Management Center, Stanford University Medical Center, Stanford, CA
- Teresa L. Knott, AHIP, Tompkins-McCaw Library for the Health Sciences, Virginia Commonwealth University–Richmond

Nominating Committee

- Jane Blumenthal, AHIP, MLA's 2013/14 immediate past president
- Amy Blevins
- Jonathan Eldredge, AHIP
- Susan Fowler
- Mark E. Funk, AHIP, FMLA
- Sally Gore
- Heather N. Holmes, AHIP
- T. Scott Plutchak, AHIP, FMLA
- James Shedlock, AHIP, FMLA
- Laurie L. Thompson, AHIP, FMLA

Member News and Publications

Lori Bronars, DBIO Member

Several DBIO members responded to the latest call for sharing their news, and exciting news it is! A hearty congratulations to all.

- **Patricia H. Dawson**, Associate Professor and Librarian at Rider University published “[What Five Minutes in the Classroom Can Do to Uncover the Basic Information Literacy Skills of Your College Students: A Multiyear Assessment Study](#),” with Ma Lei Hsieh and Michael T. Carlin in *Evidence Based Library and Information Practice* 2013 8(3):34-57. Pat also presented twice at the European Conference on Information Literacy in Istanbul, Turkey Oct. 22-25, 2013. One presentation was “Creating Online Tutorials: A Way to Embed Research Instruction into Distance Learning and Traditional Classes,” and the other was titled “Exploring Assessment Based Pedagogies for Helping Students Learn Information Literacy Skills”. All presentations at the Conference were in English.
- **Elaine H. Dean** will begin at a new position in January, 2014, as Clinical Librarian for the Pratt Library at the Cincinnati Children’s Hospital. She has a recent publication to her credit as well: “[Getting Started with Electronic Reference Statistics: Case Studies and Best Practices for Collection and Analysis](#)” with M. Williams in *Pennsylvania Libraries: Research & Practice* 2013 1(2):135-148.
- **Dorothy Barr**, who is Public Services Librarian–Liaison to Molecular & Cellular Biology in the Ernst Mayr Library–Museum of Comparative Zoology at Harvard University, presented a paper at the International Association of Aquatic and Marine Science Libraries and Information Centers (AMSLIC) in Dania Beach, Florida in October 2013. Her paper discussed the creation of an exhibit on the subject of bioluminescence. It was on display for six months in a busy lobby of a science building at Harvard. The exhibit work involved reaching out, establishing multiple collaborations across departments, and enhancing the library’s reputation and visibility at the University.
- **Bonnie Chojnacki**, Assistant Professor of Bibliography at University of Akron, reports on a publication with Ronald F. White: “[The BRCA Gene Patents: Arguments Over Patentability and Social Utility](#)” (abstract; full text available to subscribers only) in *World Medical & Health Policy* 2013 5(3):276-300.
- **Susan Kendall**, Health Sciences Coordinator at Michigan State University Libraries, published a review of Clinical Key in the January 2014, issue of *The Charleston Advisor* (abstract; full text available to subscribers only).
- **David Duggar** has been promoted to Librarian/Professor as of July 1, 2013 at the Health Sciences Library at LSU Health Shreveport in Louisiana. He presented two papers at the South Central Chapter of the Medical Library Association’s Annual Meeting in Fort Worth, Texas in October 2013. The first paper was “Promoting the Environmental Health Student Portal through School Science Teachers and Librarians” and the second was titled “Are We Prepared? Our First Steps in Promoting Disaster Preparedness in Northwest Louisiana through the Public Libraries.”

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tstankus@uark.edu

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nmahajan@marianjoy.org

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chooper@library.wisc.edu

Treasurer: Andrea Miller-Nesbitt (2013-2014)
andrea.miller-nesbitt@mcgill.ca

Director: Peggy Murphy (2013-2014)
pemurphy@luriechildrens.org

Past Chair: Howard Fuller
howard.fuller@heald.edu

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

Biofeedback

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