

Biomedical and Life Sciences Division  
Special Libraries Association  
Open Board Meeting  
Wednesday, June 14, 2006  
7:30 –9:00 a.m.

The Division wishes to thank ACS/Chemical Biology, Annual Reviews, and Swets Information Services for sponsoring this breakfast.

Attending: Dorothy Barr, Barry Brown, Renee Bush, Tara Cataldo, Dan Chandler, Bonnie Chojnacki, Jean Crampon, Nancy R. Curtis, Nancy Dickenson, Kathie Gully, Ruth Gustafson, Ken Harper, Buzz Haughton, Barbara Hedges, Christy Hightower, Peggy Jones, Larry Kelland, Susan Kendall, Claudia Lascar, Irene Laurson, Carol Lepzelter Berry, Wayne Loftus, Eleanor MacLean, Linda Maddux, Laura Osegueda, Julia Perez, Jason Price, Janice Redington-Ballo, Diane Schmidt, Laurie Scott, Tony Stankus, Bonnie Stephenson, Nancy Stimson, Marian Taliaferro, John Tebo, Michele Tennant, Linda Van Wert, Carol Vreeland, Janet Cooper Weiss, Elizabeth Winiarz, Christina Woodward, Lorri Zipperer (42 total in attendance)

1. Call to order- Laura Osegueda 7:38am

2. Continued New business from Executive Board Meeting

a) **Strategic Planning** (Osegueda)

The last strategic planning for the division was done 10 years ago. Laura proposed and it was generally agreed that it is time to develop a new plan. **Janet Weiss agreed to chair the committee, and Lorri Zipperer, Laurie Scott, Barbara Hedges and Laura Osegueda volunteered to serve.** The group agreed to solicit new and student members for the committee as their first order of business.

b) **Discussion of ideas for reaching out to new members**

Suggestions included continuing participation in the newcomers lunch and adding a Junior/Junior chair of contributed papers committee. Other ideas included Mentoring and expert lists as possible ways to increase services and member involvement. It was also suggested that the division could provide an incentive or stipend for participation such as **covering student costs for CE course** (but include role as proctor?), or providing a **CE course discount for committee members**. Some took issue with incentives for participation, noting that: service is service, members should serve out of duty for the profession, service should be kept voluntary, and the payoff is meeting people and developing leadership skills. Someone else asked about the travel award the division has granted in the past...

(Discussion was curtailed at this point to allow for reports and use of the remainder of the meeting for discussion.)

3. Committee Reports

a) **Professional Development** –Julia Perez

Three CE courses were offered offsite in Baltimore, there was a good turnout for each one. Please send suggestions for course topics for Denver 2007. Julia also suggested that the board consider renaming the committee “Continuing Education”. **Action: The board should discuss during its first teleconference.**

b) **Public Relations**—Claudia Lascar; Home page subcommittee—Carol Lepzelter-Berry

- The member survey indicated that the Website, listserv, and biofeedback were the three most important venues for communication from the Division.
- **Action(s):** Claudia will write a description of the **functions of and responsibility for** the website. She proposed a logo contest and will request a specific allocation for a prize for the winning design. She will also propose that the division hire a **graphic consultant** for the website (see below).
- Other ideas include: asking the professional development committee to cooperate on articles relevant to biomedical libraries products and services, and the addition of a Technology Editor for biofeedback. Division visibility might also be improved by offering a CE course through click university (science or medical reference course?).
- Finally, the committee plans to capitalize on the SLA-wide ‘Future of librarians in the workplace’ survey, especially since they will be able to get results from medical libraries

c) **Student Relations/Career Guidance Committee**—Hadiya Drew (No Report)

d) **Baltimore 2006 Program & Fund Development** (conference update) — John Tebo and Janet Weiss

The Vendors have been listed on the website, please thank them as you talk with them. The committee raised \$18,300 for this year's conference. John & Janet would welcome feedback on the **member reception**, and thanked all of the members for their participation in this year's conference.

e) **Denver 2007 Program** – Laurie Scott

The Denver conference will be June 2-6 2007: 'Climbing to new heights'. Laurie asked whether it would be a good idea to move the Annual business meeting to later in the day. Responses were generally negative—one division did that so reported half-normal attendance, probably because of conflicts with vendor lunches shared events. It was suggested that offering a freebie or service not otherwise available might also draw attendees.

f) **Natural History Caucus**—Ruth Gustafson

The caucus focuses on discussion and networking through an Open meeting and then dinner. They are planning shared programming with the Environment and Resource Management Division as well as the Natural History Museum/Botanical Garden in Denver 2007.

g) **Membership Committee**—Report on new Discussion List—Carol Vreeland and Janet Weiss

A new list was constructed last November which automatically subscribed all members of the division. There were 91 members left off because SLA was lacking current contact information. Of those 91, valid email addresses were found for 65 and 26 remain to be found.

4. Liaison Reports

a) **MLA**—Michele Tennant

- Monique Escamila of UCLA received MLA's 2006 \$5000 scholarship for minority students
- 2007 MLA is May 18-May 23 in Philadelphia
- The International Conference of Medical Libraries was in Brazil in 2005 and will be in Brisbane Aug 31-Sept 4 2009

b) **IAMSLIC** (International Association of Aquatic and Marine Science Libraries and Information Centers) — Jean Crampon

The 2005 conference was in Rome, and the SAIL (Southeast Affiliates of IAMSLIC) 2006 conference was in Ocean Springs, MS at the Gulf Coast Research Lab, in the midst of the Hurricane Katrina affected area. 2006 IAMSLIC will be Oct 8-12, in Portland, Oregon: 'Every Continent, Every Ocean'

c) **ASIST**—Louisa Worthington—No report

5. Old Business

a) **Community of Practice access** – Laura Osegueda

Division Cabinet showed no real concern about the immediate loss of SLA community of practice access for officers whose dues become overdue, and do not intend to take action on our divisions request to consider a grace period or the like.

b) **Copyright policy for contributed papers**—Laura Osegueda

The **SLA board of directors** has not addressed this topic. Laura will bring it to their attention.

c) **Webpage revisions**—Carol Lepzelter Berry and Laura Osegueda

- For reasons mentioned in the PR report, Claudia and Carol would like to hire a new webpage designer and consider new software, in addition to recruiting further help from the division. A question was raised as to whether the design could also be used to create a coordinated 'look and feel' for Biofeedback and a division Brochure.
- **Action:** Laura Osegueda made a motion (Janet Weiss—Second) to allocate as much as \$5000 to PR to support work on the web page and software, with a significant portion to be used to hire a graphic designer
- **Discussion:** There was general agreement that PR should charge the Graphic Designer to keep it simple to avoid the pitfalls of a website that is all glitz with low utility.

6. New Business (continued from 1.)

b) (continued) **Discussion of membership outreach** ideas, especially to the 80% not attending the conference **Travel Awards** used to include semi-compulsory future service on a committee, and a conference write-up that was included in Biofeedback (see Summer 2000 issue for an example).

- **Discussion:** It was suggested that students could be reached through student chapters and that members could volunteer to speak at their local library school (see SLA list of faculty advisors). Others disagreed, suggesting that the regional chapters are in the best position to recruit students and

- that the Division should instead focus on increasing involvement of its current members. Another member questioned whether the awardee would need to be a member of the division or whether SLA membership would be sufficient. Additional suggested requirements were an essay application, and a review of the awardee's conference experience for the newsletter.
- **Action:** Janet Weiss moved (Carol Vreeland—Second) that the division provide \$1000 scholarships for as many as 2 students or other first timers to attend an Annual SLA conference. The motion was unanimously approved, with the details of the application, advertisement, and selection process to be determined by [REDACTED] (Awards? Student Rel? PR?)
  - Two final comments concluded the discussion. One member noted that there should be four incentives for active membership: 1) building one's resume, 2) the opportunity to serve the profession, 3) opportunities to build a network of colleagues, and 4) mentoring relationships—the opportunity to learn from and teach other individuals in the group. Someone else raised what they saw to be an important unanswered question: To what extent are we competing with MLA for members, and what does DBIO offer that is unique?

c) **Role(s) and duties of the Elected officers, specifically Chair-Elect, Chair and Past Chair—Janet Weiss and Laura Osegueda**

- Specific Recommendations:
  - Past Chair should **chair or serve on?** the Nominations committee because s/he is particularly well positioned to recruit candidates based on connections made as chair-elect and chair.
  - Past-Chair should be **(or serve as?)** a parliamentarian as well
- **Action:** Laura to call Board teleconference to discuss details of the potential changes to these roles and duties
- **Action:** Barry Brown will update Recent Practices (aka Procedure Manual) to reflect new business year

The meeting was adjourned at 9:05am with thanks to all who attended.

Revised and submitted on ?? July 2006 by Jason Price, DBIO Division Secretary