

**BOARD MEETING**  
**Biomedical and Life Sciences Division**  
**Special Libraries Association**  
**Saturday, June 14, 2008; 5:30 – 8:30 PM**  
**Sheraton Hotel, Seattle, Washington**

**Final Meeting Minutes**

**Handouts Distributed:** Agenda; Treasurer's Report; Committee Reports; DBIO Conference Programs; SLA - Sponsorship Benefits for SLA Units for the 2009 Centennial Conference Gala; SLA – Resolution Opposing Budget Cuts to NAL

**Attendance: Officers and Committee Members:** Barry Brown; Bonnie Chojnacki; Jean Crampon; Nancy Curtis; Nancy Dickenson; Ruth Gustafson; Thomas Harrod; Buzz Haughton; Christy Hightower; Christopher Hooper-Lane; Diane Hummel; Diane Schmidt; Tony Stankus; Nancy Stimson; John Tebo; Michele Tennant; Dean Walton; Janet Weiss;

**1. Call to Order, Welcome, Introductions---John Tebo**

**2. Approval of September 28, 2008 Board Conference Call Meeting Minutes---Barry Brown.** Ruth G. originally prepared the draft minutes and took notes of this discussion. Diane S. moved to accept the minutes with corrections.

**3. Treasurer's Report--- John Tebo for Deanna Johnson.** The Division is in good order. John noted where most of the income and expenses comes from. There is a trend of increasing conference costs and decreasing sponsorship funds; the division needs to reign in expenses. Nancy D. moved to accept the report; Chris H. seconded.

**4. Medical Section---John Tebo for William Anger.** The Committee Report was summarized. Membership in the section is increasing.

**5. Seattle Program---Diane Schmidt.** A round of applause was given to Diane for her work. The conference is generally "greener." There is a lot more cosponsorship of programs – which is a challenge coordinating but ends up costing the division less money.

**6. Strategic Planning---Nancy Stimson.** John T. mentioned that it is time for a new plan to guide us for the next 3-5 years. Nancy said the committee started with survey results then the committee did a SWOT analysis. At the upcoming board meeting about Strategic Planning there will be call-ins and more interactivity; the WebEx producer will capture the webinar and audio communication. There will be a facilitator. The purpose of the session is brainstorming for a new vision statement and strategic plan. John T. mentioned

that this is an opportunity to get more people involved using technology; the survey indicated that webinars are an activity of interest to many members.

**7. Fund Development Committee---Jean Crampon.** A report was distributed. They raised \$16,000; some vendors haven't paid yet but they expect they will. One vendor sent a check to DBIO instead of to SLA for a booth. John T. asked everyone to please thank the vendors who supported us as you visit their booths and also moderators to please recognize sponsors of sessions. Jean mentioned that Diane S. has slides of vendor sponsorship at our primary sponsored sessions.

**8. Membership---Nancy Curtis.** The membership brochure was revised; please send further comments about it to Nancy via email. Janet W. wondered if our membership was 800. Answer, no around 710-750 fluctuates based on various renewal year cycles. Tony S. mentioned that midwinter meeting information indicated that most growth is from members overseas, e.g. India and the far east. John T. mentioned that the leadership summit unveiled and demoed a new database for membership but policies are not yet clarified about who has access. Jean C. pointed out that the reporting of date of joining vs offices served shows big discrepancies for many individuals; how can this be corrected?; Nancy mentioned strange disconnects between what you see publicly and what you receive as reports. Is there interest in adding a Hall of Fame feature for tracking milestones of members – anniversaries, accomplishments, photos, etc. as a compliment to what we do at meetings (e.g. certificates) and in Biofeedback announcements. Ruth G. stated yes, since a lot of folks aren't at the meeting and this would be a way to recognize them. Michele stated yes it is nice to have everything in one place including information about the longevity anniversary recognitions. The committee will work on the details of the DBIO Hall of Fame (**ACTION**). Nancy mentioned that she's heard that the Medical section wants their own anniversaries recognized. Jean wondered if they can handle that or should we wait until that section is older; i.e. the section is 12 yrs old and longevity recognition starts at 20 years. Nancy stated that many people zig zag in and out of divisions – how do we keep track of that? Barry asked if we would want to let people self identify membership information. Nancy wondered about nonrespondents. Jean mentioned that when she did membership the longevity recognition was for DBIO not SLA membership. Nancy stated that SLA headquarters says it is too difficult to identify division membership accurately – most info is about SLA membership. Janet stated that headquarters is dealing with 5-6 legacy systems and at no point was membership info cleanly transferred. John stated that this seems like a lot of work – and is it worth it to honor 5 yr or 10 yr membership in the division? Nancy stated that it is not much work to put information on a web site. Nancy D. suggested that we forget about doing the medical section for now. Ruth wondered if other divisions recognize anniversaries. Nancy concluded that we'll continue with recognizing anniversaries. The membership committee needs another member and in particular they need a chair for next year. Janet suggested announcing the vacancy at the business meeting.

**9. Awards---Michele Tennant.** They've been busy. This year the Sewell prize was given (it had not been given out since 2001). They received nominations for awards this year – and they're happy about that. If you have ideas about how to get nominations please let

them know. They will try to get nominations for association wide awards this year. Tony mentioned that nominations coming from divisions get more attention by the association. Michele wondered if we should start a life time achievement award for those who are near retirement and may or may not be very active right now but were quite active in the past – do you choose someone right now who is active or someone from the past who was very active and is now near the end of their career? Many board members said it was a good idea to start this. Ruth stated that yes we should acknowledge retirees and their contributions. John stated yes please draft criteria for this (**ACTION**).

**10. Nominating Committee---Janet Weiss.** With an eye to 2009 please self nominate or propose someone for office.

**11. Biofeedback---Buzz Haughton for Susan Kendall.** Buzz presented a proposal for current advertising – providing a discount for paying upfront. Biofeedback brings in a good amount of income \$4,000 - \$5,000 over the last couple years. Ruth stated that it was a good idea. Tony S. moved to approve (**MOTION**); Janet W. seconded. The board voted and passed this. John said it will take effect whenever in the calendar year it makes most sense.

**12. Old Business.** None.

**13. New Business.**

**Washington, DC Program Committee---Nancy Dickenson.** This conference will be expensive so they're trying to do lots of cosponsored sessions. There is limited time due to the Centennial celebration – lots of nonconflicting time slots. Monday night is the only time for a division event. There was discussion about the poster session – when to hold should we cancel it. Tony S. mentioned that it is important for funding attendance since many folks get funding for presentations. There is a Sunday gala celebration (black tie). Divisions are being asked for sponsorship funding by the association for the various gala events. Dean W. stated that it would be a poor use of DBIO funds to sponsor SLA gala events. Jean suggested delaying a DBIO decision until after the conference is over to see if funds are available (**ACTION**). With the DC conference there are lots of very good local speakers possible.

**75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration- 2010 New Orleans---John Tebo for David Duggar.** Division funds will be needed for this event; what venue or hotel room should we use? Diane S. suggested a botanical garden or aquarium. Jean C. wondered if we would need a bus; we should look at costs and logistics of transportation when planning. John suggested that someone should write a 75th anniversary piece; someone did the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary writeup (1985) and the author of that said the new writeup could incorporate that. Ruth G. nominates Eleanor Maclean to do this. Janet W. said maybe she could work with the archivist. The DBIO Archivist will contact her (**ACTION**). Janet will assist her if needed.

**Resolution from DBIO addressing the proposed funding cuts for the National Agricultural Library.** John explained that the association wrote a letter about this;

should DBIO write one? Ruth G. said yes they need multiple letters – maybe we should work with other divisions as well. Jean C. yes, perhaps we should work with FAN. Janet wondered if we should get folks to sign a petition at the Tuesday meeting. Ruth will draft a petition for the Tuesday business meeting and distribute it for signing (**ACTION**).

**Other new business.** Tony S. mentioned that the DBIO blog gets about 8 hits a day (ping rate). Everyone should consider adding content (either directly via password) or by giving to Tony to add. The article on evidence based nursing got lots of hits. John asked Diane H. to talk briefly about the Information Ethics Ambassador program and about activities about ethical issues. Jean mentioned that DBIO got big kudos from the association for participating. John said that we were the first division to participate. There was a round of applause for Diane H. for serving as an ambassador.

#### **14. Announcements:**

**Michele T. had some announcements** – there is a new JAMLA editor; NCBI has some changes; Bioinformatics education – they’ll be offering CE options for the DC conference. John mentioned that Tom and Michele will work on the CE course for DC (structure and genomics). We have a liaison to MLA and MLA has a liaison to us but we haven’t had direct communication between the two associations; perhaps a dual liaisonship would help – Michele is investigating, e.g. looking at the roles of each, etc.

**Ruth G. had some announcements** – about the Natural History caucus – the agency led tours are a bust – she’s arranged tours without using the agencies but it’s a lot of work. Janet has noticed that some divisions are having tours not on Thursday. Nancy D. mentioned that the conference planning booklet says tours have to be approved and also go through the agency. Michele stated that only those activities organized informally and not announced in the program are allowed to not use the agency. Ruth stated that our division should express that this isn’t working well. Janet asked when can we weigh in with the association on this (e.g. at a cabinet meeting).

**Tony S. had an idea for a contest** – the 100 most important life science or biomedical journals. Members could be surveyed (via surveymonkey) and results could be rolled out during a lunch or something at the next conference. There was support for this idea. Tony will work on the details (**ACTION**).

#### **15. Adjournment and movement to the Dinner – John Tebo.**

Minutes Respectfully Submitted by Barry N. Brown, DBIO Secretary, June 10, 2009  
Approved by DBIO Board, June 13, 2009