

STRATEGIC PLANNING FORUM / OPEN BOARD MEETING

Biomedical and Life Sciences Division

Special Libraries Association

Wednesday, June 18, 2008, 8:00 AM – 9:30 AM

Convention Center Room 206, Seattle, Washington

& WebEx Meeting Manager - Online Software

Final Meeting Summary

Attendance & Discussion: Recorded by Software (28 DBIO members physically present and 6 call-ins).

John Tebo—Welcome. Thanks to Swets for sponsoring this session. The DBIO division decided to make strategic planning a goal this year. SLA has encouraged all divisions to do strategic planning so we're right on track. The last strategic plan was created in 2000 and has served the division well. It is time to create a new document that will strategically guide the division for the next three years. The goal is to create a plan by the end of this year and to involve as many division members as possible. The Board created an Ad-Hoc Strategic Planning Committee under the leadership of Nancy Stimson and Peggy Jones who are serving as co-chairs. Introductions of all present were done. Jean Crampon gave a gift to John Tebo in recognition of his service as DBIO Chair.

8:15-8:20 – Nancy Stimson: welcomed everyone and explained the mechanics of using the software. Jan Sykes, an independent consultant (Information Management Services) with over 20 years experience in the information industry, will facilitate the meeting. Jan directed everyone to look at the division web site to review the strategic plan (old ones and other divisions). Nancy mentioned the link to the survey – if you haven't taken it please do so. Ground rules of the meeting were explained.

8:20-8:45 – Brainstorming the DBIO vision statement. The current mission of SLA; the scope of DBIO division. The vision statement should be a beacon. How is DBIO unique; what's our niche; what is the main value of DBIO; how do we envision DBIO in 3-5 years; what measures of excellence can be incorporated into the vision statement? Comments: our broad interest in life sciences; we reflect the needs and interest of the life sciences; forum for more than just the medical library community; interaction with wider range of librarians than a medical association and our interaction with the pharmacy division within SLA; we're a synergistic division with broad scope of members from academic to industry; we're a welcoming group and encourage new members to participate; we reflect the complexity of driving innovation and improvement in the life sciences; whatever

stage we are in our profession the division provides a platform; contrast with ALA and STS we don't have to designate "virtual community members" i.e. even if you can't attend conference you can be a full member of a community; we provide consilience cross science connection to information and raising awareness/ competency of all SLA members through sharing.

Main value of DBIO to its members: encourage involvement; networking is main value; programming; expertise of members; learn from others who are in industry (vs academia); activities on listserv; education through listserv, newsletter, speakers DBIO raises knowledge; opportunity to hone skills; building of leadership skills; opportunity to contribute papers and posters.

Future of the division: more use of web for resources and communication; audio and video conferencing; virtual learning tools; transition some conference activities to virtual delivery (**action item proposal**); greener; explore activities with regional chapters.

Measure of excellence that can be incorporated into the vision statement: cross-pollination; lets develop a community of practice around developing some excellence benchmarks; attracting best and brightest in field; culture and generosity of spirit within division to reach out and make something easier for someone.

8:45-8:55 – Survey highlights. Looked at survey tallies; 140 respondents; comments will be shared when survey is over; alternate participation options: webinar most popular, then regional half day event, then conference call, then dine around. Survey goes on until the 24th of June; 92% would recommend the division to a friend.

8:55-9:25 – Discuss DBIO strengths and weaknesses in light of 2008 survey results, and create an action list. Conference wrapup. Do 1-2 webinars per year; assign that to CE committee; more educational material on the web site; everyone should contribute to the blog; have a contributed paper delivered remotely; activities for encouraging library school students to join and attend the conference; show interest in and renew our attempts to reach our members overseas; webinars would work well for this; Washington DC programming committee meets this afternoon – perhaps a goal for the DC conference to have programming in this format; perhaps SLA will support webinar creation; camtasia and skype would be examples of other less expensive options.

9:25 – 9:30 – Wrap-up. Oct 2008 strategic plan draft; late 08 – early 09 strategic plan sent to board for approval. The committee will reach out to newer members and all members for comments; final poll of this meeting and the technology used will be taken.

Summary respectfully submitted by Barry N. Brown, June 10, 2009.

Approved by DBIO Board, June 13, 2009