

**North Atlantic Health Sciences Libraries, Inc. (NAHSL)
Chapter of the Medical Library Association**

Annual Report

This annual report covers the period from May 2015 through April 2016. This straddles two years on the NAHSL calendar, which runs from the NAHSL Annual Meeting in October through the NAHSL Annual Meeting the following year.

Recruitment, Membership, and Leadership in the Profession:

Cynthia Stewart completed her term as NAHSL Chair at the Annual Meeting in October 2015. Donna Belcinski assumed responsibility as NAHSL Chair. Debra Berlanstein was voted in as Chair-Elect.

At the time of the annual meeting in October 2015, there were 185 members. This included 172 regular members, 7 retired members, and 6 student members. Recruitment efforts were rewarded with the addition of 26 new members. This enabled membership levels to remain steady in the face of retirements and regional hospital library closings.

The NAHSL Executive Board worked to rectify the serious shortfall in the budget that was reported last year. The dues increase that was approved by the membership was instituted beginning January 2015. Our NAHSL membership dues are as follows: Regular membership: \$50 per year; Student membership, free; Retiree membership, \$25 per year (NEW option for 2015). Also, by substituting two virtual meetings for in-person meetings, eliminating breakfast and lunch at EB meetings, and economizing in other ways, NAHSL was able to finish the fiscal year without a loss.

The Executive Board voted to put in place the 3 year Strategic Plan that was written during the 2014-2015 year. NAHSL Bylaws revisions were voted on and accepted at the June 2015 meeting. The Executive Board Handbook is currently being revised.

Lifelong Learning:

This year's annual meeting was held in Providence, RI. The conference theme was "Health Sciences Libraries: Anchored in Excellence." Erika Sevetson and her Conference Planning Committee did a fantastic job mounting an event that all valued and enjoyed. Attention to detail and careful budgeting allowed for a profit this year. NAHSL continues to honor its members within our profession with its annual Achievement Award, which is presented at the conference. The NAHSL Achievement Award for 2015 went to Penny Glassman, of the Lamar Souter Library at UMASS, for her many years of dedicated service to NAHSL. For details about the conference, see: <http://nahsl.libguides.com/NAHSL2015>.

The 2016 NAHSL Conference will be in New Haven, CT, October 23-25, 2016. The theme is "Imagine! Innovate! Inspire!"

NAHSL professional development funds were awarded to 2 NAHSL members to attend MLA and to 14 members to attend the 2015 NAHSL conference. Two members received Jay Daly Technology awards, and one received a Professional Development award to attend a non-MLA/non-NAHSL conference. Total Professional Development money awarded was \$6,484.00.

Advocacy:

We have an excellent list of advocacy-specific resources available to our members from the NAHSL website: <http://nahsl.libguides.com/advocacy>. We have also been encouraging members to share their success stories with the NAHSL membership, so others can learn how colleagues are demonstrating their value to appropriate stakeholders. NAHSL is also in the planning phase of a new project to record and

archive stories from our NAHSL members, as a way to celebrate the upcoming 60 year anniversary of our organization's founding. Similar to "Storycorps," the project is called "NAHSL Narratives."

Knowledge Creation and Communication:

NAHSL continued its efforts to communicate regularly with members via the NAHSL listserv, the blog at <https://nahsl.wordpress.com/>, and the NAHSL twitter account which boasts 163 followers. The NAHSL libguide is kept current by our Technology Support Committee, and committee chairs post regular updates to all of these outlets to keep our members informed of important NAHSL activities, news, and education opportunities. We created our first Special Interest Group (SIG) this year, specifically focused on mental health. Members of that SIG can communicate via the NAHSL libguide, on a tab created for their group.

Building a Network of Partners

NAHSL works in partnership with the National Network of Libraries of Medicine New England Region and with the 4 state health sciences libraries organizations in the region. NAHSL members continue to serve on the NN/LM Regional Advisory Committees (RAC). We were fortunate to have both Michelle Kraft and Kevin Baliozian attend our NAHSL annual meeting.

Motion:

This report is informational and requires no action by the MLA Board of Directors.

Respectfully submitted,
Donna Belcinski, NAHSL Chair, 2015-2016

Elected Officers 2015-2016:

- Donna Belcinski - Chair
- Cindy Stewart – Past Chair
- Debra Berlanstein - Chair-Elect
- Anne Fladger – Treasurer
- Lori Bradshaw – Secretary
- Dina McKelvy - Chapter Council Representative
- Marianne Burke - Chapter Council Alternate

Nominee to MLA Nominating Committee

- Melanie Norton

Committee Chairs:

- Gary Atwood - Government Relations
- Valori Banfi - Membership
- Anne Conner – Education
- Fran Delwiche – Bylaws
- Anne Fladger - Finance
- Jeannine Gluck - Conference 2016
- Sally Gore - Marketing Chair
- Martha Meacham – Conference 2017
- Melanie Norton - Professional Development
- Rebecca Reznik-Zellen – Archives
- Nathan Rupp – Co-Chair, Technology Support

Liaisons and Appointed Representatives:

- Mary Piorun – NN/LM, NER
- Meredith Solomon - Credentialing Chair

State Representatives:

- Meaghan Muir – MAHSLIN
- Bill Anger - ARIHSL
- Lisa Carter – CAHSL
- Maureen Dunn – NH/VT
- Beth Dyer – HSLIC