

NAHSL: North Atlantic Health Sciences *Libraries*
A Chapter of the Medical Library Association

MLA Annual Report/May 2004 – April 2005

Professional Development

“Sea Change: Riding the Tides” was the theme of the NAHSL ’04 Annual Meeting, held October 3-5, 2004 at the Sebasco Harbor Resort in Sebasco Estates, Maine. T. Scott Plutchak, Director of the Lister Hill Library at the University of Alabama, and Editor of *The Journal of the Medical Library Association* delivered the keynote presentation, “Our Revolution Is Just Getting Started.” In his address, Mr. Plutchak put forth the idea that this is the “second greatest time in history to be a librarian”, the first being the time following the invention of the printing press. Approximately 200 individuals, including participants, vendors, and speakers, attended the 3-day conference, which included an address from Sue Stableford, Director of the AHEC Health Literacy Center at the University of New England College of Osteopathic Medicine (Biddeford, Maine) on health literacy. A panel of Maine medical mystery authors, including Tess Gerritsen, Katherine Clark (aka Kate Flora) and J.S. Borthwick, was well received on the final day of the conference by discussing the importance of research and the partnership with health sciences libraries in the creation of their fictional works.

The Continuing Education Committee offered six classes, all providing MLA CE credit. These classes included *Project Management Essentials*, *Concepts in Neurology*, *Beyond Marketing: Consultative Selling Strategies for Information Professionals*, *PDA's and the Medical Librarian*, *Evidence-Based Medicine and the Medical Librarian*, and *Caring for the Mind: Providing Reference Services for Mental Health Information*.

Advocacy

NAHSL distributed six professional development awards at the early-bird member-rate registration fee to NAHSL members attending MLA '04. The NAHSL Board was pleased to award three full MLA '05 registration grants.

For the NAHSL '04 Conference, the NAHSL Executive Board awarded 15 grants for a total of \$2400, funding CE classes and conference registration.

The NAHSL Achievement Award for 2004 was awarded to Mary Ann Slocomb, AHIP, Director of the Lifespan Libraries at Rhode Island Hospital in Providence, Rhode Island. Mary Ann was cited as being instrumental in making NAHSL the sound and fiscally strong organization that it is today, serving both as NAHSL Treasurer and NAHSL Chair during the mid-to-late 1990's.

Goals established during the December 3, 2004 Executive Board Meeting include mentoring and membership, utilizing the NAHSL website to reach out to new and student members, energizing the website in the process. An additional goal is to further pursue group purchasing and shared resources, forming a task force to look into models in place

throughout New England.

Organization

There are currently 181 members of NAHSL; 22 new members, nine student members, 150 renewed members.

No specific motions or actions were undertaken at the 2004 Annual Meeting besides the election of the new officers (included at the end of this report).

Current assets of the organization (per the 3/31/05 Treasurer's report) are \$95,767.89.

Since the 2004 MLA Annual Report, the NAHSL Executive Board has met on June 4, September 10, December 3 and March 31 at the NN/LM NER offices in Shrewsbury, Massachusetts. The Executive Board also met on October 4 during the NAHSL '04 Conference.

The 2005 Annual Meeting is scheduled to be held September, 25-27, 2005, at the Westin Hotel and Conference Center in Providence, Rhode Island. The 2006 Annual Meeting will be held October, 15-17 in Hartford, Connecticut.

Research

Members of the NAHSL Executive Board, in conjunction with the five state health sciences library associations in the region, have been exploring group purchase offerings that could be made available to all NAHSL members/institutions. The Executive Board has learned of successful models currently in place through the Connecticut Association of Health Sciences Libraries (CAHSL) and the Connecticut Hospital Association, and an initial undertaking by the Massachusetts Health Sciences Library Network (MAHSLIN). Contacts have also been made regarding a possible collaboration between NAHSL and NELINET, a public, academic and special library New England cooperative buying group.

Information Technology

The 2004 NAHSL Conference Planning Committee developed an online registration and payment system using Acteva® Secure Registration Solutions. While NAHSL had been a pioneer in using the PayPal® system for online membership renewal and conference payment beginning in 2001, Acteva® presented a more problem-free solution for the online transfer of funds. The Executive Board also voted to discontinue using PayPal® for membership renewal payments, beginning with the 2005 renewals. The Board also charged the Electronic Communications committee to design and implement an update of the NAHSL website in 2005.

The NN/LM NER continues to host the NAHSL website, NAHSL-L discussion list and the NAHSL-EXEC discussion list.

Motion

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

Respectfully submitted,

Katherine J. Brunjes, MLIS

Chair

North Atlantic Health Sciences Libraries, Inc., a chapter of the Medical Library Association.

Elected Officers 2004-2005:

- Katherine J. Brunjes, Chair
- Len Levin, Past Chair
- Janet Crager, Chair Elect
- Fran Becker, Treasurer
- Happy Copley, Secretary
- Shirley Gronholm, Chapter Council Representative
- Evelyn Breck Morgen, Chapter Council Alternate

Committee Chairs:

- Carole Foxman, Archives
- Patricia Kahn, Bylaws
- Janene Batten and Janice Swiatek Kelley, Conference 2006
- Joan Yanicke, Credentialing
- Dina McKelvy, Education
- Ed Donnalld, Electronic Communications
- Fran Becker, Finance
- Barbara Ingrassia, Government Relations
- Len Levin, Marketing
- Penny Glassman, Membership
- Happy Copley, Professional Development
- Javier Crespo, RML Representative

State Representatives:

- Mary Ann Slocumb, ARISHL (Rhode Island)
- Evelyn Breck Morgen, CAHSL (Connecticut)
- Cynthia David, NH/VT
- Janet Cowen, HSLIC (Maine)
- Cindy Hutchison, MAHSLIN (Massachusetts)

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