

Connecticut Association of Health Sciences Librarians
Annual Report
2005-2006

CAHSL successfully realized another year of strengthening health sciences librarianship and libraries in Connecticut through programs, association projects, support, and outreach.

This report enumerates the efforts either begun or successfully completed for September 2005 through June 2006.

Goal: Position CAHSL as a creative and responsive host for the NAHSL 06 meeting in Hartford, CT.

Result: The CAHSL membership was encouraged to volunteer their time and energy to the planning of the NAHSL 2006 conference to be held in Hartford, CT. With chairs of committees and their members in place, the NAHSL conference is approaching the final planning phase of what promises to be an outstanding event. As always, in the spirit of outreach, the conference is being co-sponsored by the NY-NJ MLA Chapter.

Goal: Continue to promote health sciences librarianship through CHA by exploring possibilities of a new partnership via CAHSL liaison to CHA, serving on CHA committees, presentations to other Conferences, etc.

Result: This year CAHSL lost its status as a CHA committee, and the Health Sciences Librarians Conference (HSLC) was dissolved. However, CAHSL discussed the possibility of librarians presenting to various CHA meeting groups the services a health sciences librarian could provide to them. Although a few CAHSL members volunteered to present their current function at their sites, there was no interest in tailoring a talk specifically to one of the CHA meeting groups.

Recommendation: The potential for promoting the visibility and functionality of librarians still exists at CHA. It is recommended by the outgoing president that CAHSL continue to explore venues to present potential benefits to key players in hospitals through the CHA meeting groups.

Goal: Approach library schools and offer to partner; e.g.

- Offer internship opportunities for their students
- Offer to serve as instructors for health sciences and hospital libraries programs.
- Encourage CAHSL members to offer tours and internship opportunities to library school students.

Result: Denise Hersey spoke with Simmons University and suggested that CAHSL could partner with interested students for either internship opportunities or as mentors. She particularly mentioned the proximity of the Holyoke campus to Connecticut as an opportunity for Simmons to partner with librarians in our state.

On April 2, 2006, Janice Swiatek-Kelley presented at the Southern Connecticut State University Foundations of Librarianship class, Belina S. DeAbreu, class instructor. She described the many opportunities available through health sciences librarianship and encouraged interested students to enroll in Charles Greenbergs class in health sciences librarianship to be offered in the fall of 2006. In addition, she distributed membership information for CAHSL, NAHSL and MLA.

The Mentors link on the CAHSL site continues to offer contacts to students interested in seeing the operations of a health sciences library.

Recommendation: CAHSL should form a new committee comprised of a chair and any interested members to continue outreach efforts to library schools.

Goal: Work with the CSMS to continue to ensure that MLA Standards for Hospital Libraries are met by all Connecticut hospitals.

Result: As the CAHSL representative to CSMS, Jeannine Gluck ensured that CSMS continues to uphold MLA standards. CAHSL volunteers performed site visits to Charlotte Hungerford, Norwalk, Griffin, St. Francis, Hartford, and Stamford hospitals. Masonic Care and the Jewish Home for the Elderly were also held to MLA standards.

In addition, Jeannine Gluck offered training to CAHSL members interested in become reviewers for the CSMS review team.

Goal: Provide programs of continuing education and professional development.

Point 1:

- Provide regular educational programs to practicing health sciences librarians.

Result: An outstanding offering of programs was made available to CAHSL members thanks to Amy Freys hard work. Members were offered the following:

September 2005: How to perform CSMS reviews Jeannine Gluck

October 2006: Co-sponsored with CHA: Academic Librarians Outreach to Faculty: The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly

December 2005: Art & the Therapeutic Process, hosted by Amy Frey at the Hospital for Special Care.

January 2006: Grants Workshop: Sarah Lange, principal & founder of Legacy Consulting and consultant to the NN/LM-NE RML, the program sponsor.

April 2006: PubMed: Learn Whats New, Whats Changed: Offered by popular demand of CAHSL membership and taught by Donna Berryman, NN/LM-NE RML

Point 2

- Provide at least one MLA-accredited continuing education course.

Result: Robert Joven facilitated the offering of two courses that were provided that garnered MLA CEs

November 2005: MLA Webcast: Keeping Patients Safe: Roles for Information Professionals

March 2006: Public Health on the Web: Taught by Donna Berryman, NN/LM-NE

Point 3

- Continue to notify members of educational and mentoring opportunities within and beyond the Association.

Result: Numerous opportunities were presented to CAHSL members:

Membership was encouraged to join committees for NAHSL 2006 an opportunity to meet and interact with other health science librarians in Connecticut

CAHSL co-sponsored a reception for M. J. Tooey, President of MLA to which CAHSL membership was invited.

Point 4

- Encourage and assist members in membership to AHIP.

Result: Amy Frey has contacted Joan Yanike to offer a program on AHIP credentialing in the Fall of 2006.

Point 5

- Participate in shared programs with other organizations.

Result: October 2006: Co-sponsored with CHA: Academic Librarians Outreach to Faculty: The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly thanks to Denise Herseys efforts.

Fostering and strengthening the Associations current system of information exchange and shared resources, both among Association members and within the larger consortia and organizations of which CAHSL is a part.

Point 1

- Convert paper historical documents to digitized format for CAHSL e-archive. Confidential documents could be scanned and passed along to the Archive Committee chair to keep current.

Result: Jill Golrick, Archives Committee, with the assistance of Pat Wales and Arthe Kelly, reviewed four boxes of archived materials. It is their judgment that only selected items need to be digitized. It is their intent to create an electronic index of everything that is in the archive and post the index on the CAHSL site. Items to be digitized include important documents that reflect the history of the organization.

Point 2

- Use the CAHSL-L and the CAHSL Web site to promote meetings, programs, classes, and news.

Result: Ed Donnalld ensured that announcements were posted to CAHSL-L and the CAHSL Web site.

Point 3

- Create a list-moderator position to encourage the exchange of resources, research, articles, and announcements of professional accomplishments.

Result: Denise Hersey developed a Blog to encourage an exchange of information and ideas among the membership. Unfortunately, this venue has not been used.

Recommendation: The membership should be polled to ascertain their interest in this particular mode of communication. Perhaps there is something that could be done to enrich this resource and encourage use among CAHSL members.

Point 4

- Promote NN/LMs role in information exchange, shared resources, and institutional support.

Result: The NN/LM- NE RML presented two programs and was consistently used as a resource by all CAHSL member libraries.

Point 5

- Pursue group purchases of electronic resources.

Result: No electronic purchases were proposed to CAHSL this year.

Continue to expand the resources and wealth of opportunities that CAHSL can extend to its membership.

- Develop CAHSL e-archive
- Use CAHSL-L as a resource sharing and professional development tool.
- Develop AHIP database of resources and contacts within the CAHSL community.

Result: Plans to successfully achieve these three goals continue to be developed.

Conclusions:

With 68 active members, CAHSL continues to be a vital and collegial professional organization. Program offerings are diverse, and meetings and social programs allow the health sciences library community of Connecticut to nurture a supportive environment.

Those not directly mentioned in the report were instrumental in handling the operational portion of this busy organization, providing invaluable and conscientious service.

The accomplishments enumerated in this report were made possible by the considerable efforts of the CAHSL Executive Committee:

Vice President/President-elect: Denise Hersey Yale Cushing/Whitney Medical Library

Past President: Daniel Dollar Yale Cushing/Whitney Medical Library

Secretary: Janene Batten Yale Cushing/Whitney Medical Library

Treasurer: Linda Ann Kaczmarczyk Hartford Hospital

Archives Committee: Jill Golrick Norwalk Hospital

Bylaws Committee: John Gallagher Yale Cushing/Whitney Medical Library

Continuing Education Committee: Robert Joven University of CT Health Center

Membership Committee: Amanda Pomeroy Danbury Hospital

Technology Committee: Ed Donald Hartford Hospital

Program Committee: Amy Frey Hospital for Special Care

Shared Services Coordinator: Nancy Gilly William Backus Hospital

NAHSL Representative: Evelyn Morgen University of CT Health Center

CHA Liaison: Pat Wales Hospital of St. Raphael

Respectfully submitted,

President: Janice Swiatek-Kelley Quinnipiac University