CAHSL completed another year of programming with some successes but while facing some new challenges. A large number of CAHSL members participated in the planning of the 2006 NAHSL annual meeting held in Hartford, CT. The meeting itself went smoothly and was well received by NAHSL members. However, the rigorous meeting schedule necessitated in the planning of the annual meeting left many CAHSL members with meeting fatigue. This did seem to result in a lack of energy directed toward CAHSL programming and participation.

In addition, CAHSL’s loss of CHA conference status resulted in difficulties scheduling meetings throughout the year. Unlike in previous years, CAHSL was unable to firm up an entire year’s worth of meetings in advance at CHA. Instead, meeting dates and locations often needed to be changed unexpectedly which made it harder for members to always attend. The incoming Executive Board will need to address scheduling issues for the upcoming year so that members will have ample opportunity to save the dates of meetings well in advance.

Despite these obstacles, enthusiasm for health sciences librarianship remains high and membership continues to support future CAHSL activities and participation.

This past year, CAHSL focused on three goals:

1. Promoting an understanding of the health sciences librarian's role and unique abilities in the management of knowledge-based information and eliciting strong support within Connecticut’s health care system for the mission of health sciences libraries.

CAHSL did begin speaking with administration from CHAs Patient Safety Organization to include librarians in this organization’s work. Discussions are still underway in an effort to find the best way for librarians to contribute to the Patient Safety Organization’s work.

In our continuing effort to make library students aware of the health sciences librarianship field, Pat Wales, librarian from the Hospital of Saint Raphael, was invited to speak to a library class at Southern Connecticut State University on medical librarianship. She attended the class in April, 2007 along with Jennifer Campbell from New Britain General Hospital’s library.

2. Continually developing and strengthening the knowledge and skills needed by member librarians to meet the patient care, research, and educational needs of Connecticut’s health care providers. This will be done by providing programs of continuing education and professional development.
Amy Frey, CAHSL’s Programming Coordinator this past year, worked with a number of members to offer excellent meeting programs.

September- Jacqueline Ortiz, from Yale, spoke about handling translations in a large health care organization and language barriers in healthcare in general.

December- Bob Smith, author of Hamlet’s dresser, spoke about his book.

January- Members of CAHSL demonstrated new programs and technologies within our own libraries (wikis, blogs, etc.)

April- Dr. John Pelegano, Chief of Pediatrics at the Hospital for Special Care gave a presentation titled: Autism-An Overview (Incidence, Etiology & Therapies)

In addition, Todd Lane, CE Coordinator, worked with NAHSL and MLA to bring two MLA telecasts to CAHSL members. The first was in November, 2006: Moving at the Speed of Byte: Emerging Technologies for Information Management. This telecast reiterated information presented at the October NAHSL annual meeting regarding new technologies, particularly Web 2.0 technologies, and how health sciences libraries could incorporate these resources to improve services to patrons. The second telecast was held at the University of Connecticut Health Center in March. It was entitled Survival of the Fittest: Strategies to Prove your Library's Value. While members find the content of MLA telecasts to be useful, the actual format of these CE courses are not engaging. Next year's CAHSL Executive Board will be looking for new ways to offer CE courses for members other than the traditional MLA telecasts.

Many CAHSL members participation in organizing and attending the annual NAHSL meeting in Hartford also promoted this goal of providing programs of continuing education and professional development.

3. Fostering and strengthening the Association's 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.

A large contingency of CAHSL members actively participated in the 2007 Medical Library Association annual meeting in Philadelphia, PA. This involvement included:

* Daniel Dollar (Yale) & Janice Swiatek-Kelley (Quinnipiac University): Co-taught a 6-hr CE, "Managing Electronic Journal Collections: People, Tools and Services" to 17 students, and received excellent evaluations.
* John Gallagher (Yale): Facilitated the Chapter Councils
Assessment and Evaluation roundtable.
* Charles Greenberg (Yale): Copresented a poster entitled A CHILI Recipe Contest: Careers in Health Information Librarianship and Informatics that reported on a national initiative, funded by a 3-year IMLS grant, to promote librarianship and informatics as careers amongst underrepresented minority high school students.
* Shirley Gronholm (Hartford Hospital): In conjunction with several other NAHSL members presented a poster entitled An Advocacy Service for Hospital Librarians that reported on 2 resources developed by the Hospital Library subcommittee to advocate for hospital libraries and librarians in the region.
* Denise Hersey (Yale): Presented a paper entitled Bringing the Mountain to Mohammed: having a Librarian in the Operating Room area which reported on her work with the Anesthesiology Dept.
* Denise Hersey (Yale): Co-presented a poster w/ Holly Nardini and Lynn Sette entitled Ringing in a New Service: The Library as a Partner in Publishing that reported on the launch of an in-house Biomedical Writing Center that offers various levels of publication support to researchers and faculty.
* Linda Spadacinni (Waterbury Hospital): Panelist "Improving Library-Vendor Relationships." The panel was made up of 4 librarians and 4 vendors. See http://library-vendor-relationships.blogspot.com

* Amy Frey (Hospital for Special Care, New Britain): Following the plenary session Health Literacy: rEvolution in Roles, was scheduled to moderate a Health Information Literacy Panel.

The officers, committee chairs and representatives of the CAHSL Executive Board all contributed enthusiastically to the activities listed in this report:

Vice President/President-elect: Katalin Gyorgyey
Past President: Janice Swiatek-Kelley
Secretary: Lyn Crispino
Treasurer: Linda Ann Kaczmarczyk
Archives Committee: Jill Golrick
Bylaws Committee: John Gallagher
Continuing Education Committee: Todd Lane
Membership Committee: Amanda Pomeroy
New Technology Committee: Ed Donnald
Program Committee: Amy Frey
Shared Services Coordinator: Nancy Gilly
NAHSL Representative: John Gallagher

Respectfully submitted,
President: Denise Hersey, Yale University
June 28, 2007