HEALTH SCIENCES LIBRARY COOPERATIVE OF MAINE

A meeting of the Health Sciences Library Cooperative of Maine was held March 5 at the Central Maine General Hospital in Lewiston. There were 17 members present: Eleanor C. Cairns, Maine Medical Center; Mary Jane Geer, Mercy Hospital; Rose P. Ricker, Pineland Center; Carolyn Wood and Shirley Lewis, Regional Memorial–Brunswick; Joan Staats, Jackson Lab.; Jeanne Couture, Central Maine General; Sister A. Roux, St. Mary's General; Alyce Anderson, St. Joseph's College; Gabriel Kirkpatrick, Augusta General; Nancy Greenier, Knox County General; Carolyn Smith, Colby College; Chris Lavin, Bangor Mental Health Institute; Catherine Smith, Eastern Maine Medical Center; Mary Wadversse, Health and Welfare; Paul Lazarus, Medical Care Development, Inc.; Rebecca Larsen, Thayer Hospital.

Gabriel Kirkpatrick chaired the meeting assisted by Mary Wadversse. Announcements included the introduction of Carolyn Wood, who will be the librarian at the Regional Memorial now that Shirley Lewis is leaving. Miss Cairns suggested that members wishing to learn about the use of MEDLINE make an appointment with the MMC library and come to Portland.

The meeting centered on discussion of the pending grant application for support of a library consortium in Maine drawn up by Paul Lazarus. After Paul distributed and explained the grant application it was moved that a liaison committee be appointed to direct the work of the coordinator and to make the necessary decisions connected with the application. Its members should be chosen on a geographical basis.

Because MCD has the necessary machinery to account for the funds, it will have an active role to play, but the consortium will not lose its identity. The funding comes from the government through the VA to MCD to the consortium. The consortium will be a free agent, but must be accountable for the funds received.

Carolyn Smith reported on the Central District meeting of the Library District Council of the Maine State Library held the last of February in Augusta. The district includes all kinds of libraries in the Kennebec and Androscoggin valleys. At the meeting the members were told what services will be offered and what the various support systems will be. Special libraries like ours have not really been planned for, but they may share in any bibliographical information. It was mostly an informational meeting.

Other items announced or discussed included the fact that Medical Care Development in Augusta has a library which can support statistical studies. Also the academic libraries can help in this field. There will be a Health Science Library Consortium program at Countway on May 2 - contact Carole Lipsett, Educational Specialist, NERLMS, 10 Shattuck Street, Boston 02115. The Maine Library Association will meet at Kennebunkport, June 6. Chris Lavin and the co-chairpersons will coordinate a meeting of the health science libraries at that convention. Miss Cairns urged us all to join the association to give our own state library group our support. The Maine Hospital Association will be contacted to see if we may have a chance to acquaint them with our organization.

Further, it was recommended that this group should try to be influential in separating medical libraries from medical records departments and to help administrators make the changes necessary to bring this about. Rose Ricker can order a few extra journal subscriptions from the Abridged Index Medicus list with her order for 1975. She will be glad to order to fill any special need for cooperative members if we will let her know by April first.

A reorganization of officers of the cooperative is needed, since those presently serving were chosen on a pro-tem basis. Cathie Smith was elected to be chairperson of a 5 member nominating committee, the members to be appointed by the co-chairpersons.
The next meeting will be held in May on a date after the second. The Treasurer reported a balance on hand of $3,415.58. Anyone wishing specific information about the grant application may contact Paul Lazarus at Medical Care Development, Inc. in Augusta.

With a best wishes gift to Gabriel Kirkpatrick from the group, a round of applause to Paul Lazarus for his excellent job in writing the grant application, and many thanks to Jeanne Couture for the hospitality and delicious dessert furnished by the Central Maine General Hospital the meeting adjourned at 2:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

[Signature]

Rebecca C. Larsen
Secretary-Treasurer

Enclosed:

1. Additional codes for recording Health Sciences Library Cooperative of Maine statistics.

2. Updated membership list.