North Atlantic Health Sciences Libraries (NAHSL)

2018-2019 Annual Chapter Report

Submitted by: Jeannine Cyr Gluck, MLS AHIP Chair NAHSL

Executive Summary

On October 28-30th 2018 NAHSL returned to its traditional 3-day conference format. “Remaining Strong in an Ever-changing Landscape” was the theme of the meeting, held in Manchester, NH. Following our 2019 one-day conference, we will vote on whether to continue to alternate the single and three-day formats. NAHSL professional development funds were awarded to 5 members to attend the meeting. Outgoing (past) Chair, Ellen Brassil passed the gavel to Incoming, (current) Chair Jeannine Gluck during the business meeting, kicking off the 2018-2019 year.

SIG Pilot. The association’s Maine members voted to dissolve HSLIC (Maine’s Health Sciences Libraries & Information Consortium) and form a SIG within NAHSL. The NAHSL Board voted to approve the formation of SIGs within the association.

Appointments. Vacancies and new appointments to Committees have been filled for 2018, and the Board will ultimately be voting on a new slate of officers in the summer and preparing for new committee appointments for Fall 2019.

Membership Shifts. NAHSL recognizes an emerging interest in membership from non-traditional groups such as agencies, public libraries and institutions of higher education that might not be affiliated with either a hospital or a medical school per se but that offer health related services or curriculum in nursing and allied health fields, and thus have the potential to offset the drop in membership due to hospital mergers and library closings. State representatives are newly charged with reaching out to prospective new members.

NAHSL Strategic Plan. A new, three year strategic plan has been accepted by the Executive Board. Going forward, each year the Chair-elect will lead the revision of the document, deleting objectives that have been met, and adding new goals and objectives. Each strategic plan will still cover a three-year span.

Salary survey. In cooperation with MAHSLIN and CAHSL, NAHSL is conducting a salary survey.

NAHSL Conference Proceedings. Lisa Palmer of UMASS is leading the creation of the conference proceedings repository. It will be available for use for ALL NAHSL conference going forward, with its own template. Benefits were noted such as elaborating on oral presentations and increased visibility, and stimulating research and scholarship especially at phases of research with minimal data. The formatting would allow for branding and customization, peer review and embedded videos.

NAHSL Narratives. NAHSL was honored to be the recipient of the Chapter Project of the Year Award for NAHSL Narratives. Launched in 2016, the series of videotaped oral histories and ongoing member conversations present personal testimony and achievements that reflect a broad unity of commitment and conviction that’s sure to inspire and ensure our viability in a complex health environment. NAHSL plans to continue the NAHSL Narratives into the future.
Bylaws and Handbook. New procedural details not requiring a vote of the Board or membership were identified, formalized and added to the NAHSL Executive Board Handbook, to be expanded into a Policy & Procedure Manual as a resource for membership-at-large. The Bylaws Committee has asked committees to review length of terms and other procedural details needing updates, and anticipates streamlining the bylaws to align with future versions of MLA’s model Chapter Bylaws.

Archives Move. The NAHSL Archives that have been physically kept at Harvard are now housed at UMass Medical Center. This saves the chapter money, and allows for easier access to the records.

CE. One CE class was held at the conference, “Keeping Up, Keeping Track, and Keeping Found Things Found: Personal Information Management for Librarians.”

Scholarship support. In 2018, the chapter awarded $2,899 to members for attendance at the MLA conference.

Group Strategic Plan

2018 Strategic Plan. The NAHSL Executive Board has worked with the 2018-2021 strategic plan. Our current Chair-elect is now revising, to create the 2019-2022 plan. Important procedural changes will include establishing timelines, ongoing review as current goals are accomplished and replaced to address new issues that arise. Procedural description and details for the process and scope will be outlined and added to the NAHSL Handbook. A condensed outline follows that is greatly expanded in the new strategic plan:

**Mission**: In concert with the larger aims of MLA, NLM and NN/LM, provide a hub for opportunities for health sciences librarians in the North Atlantic region.

**Broad Priority Areas**:
1. Promote health sciences libraries and librarianship through a commitment to collaboration, outreach and professional development
   - Fund professional development
   - Offer professional development programs
   - Engage with our community
2. Sustain membership
   - Retain current membership
   - Recruit new members
3. Improve NAHSL’s internal structure to better serve its constituency
   - Adapt NAHSL practices to reflect current fiscal and organizational realities faced by members
   - Improve information and knowledge management within NAHSL and NAHSL members’ organizations
   - Integrate strategic plan into NAHSL operations


Facts & Data

Annual Conference was held October 28 to 30, 2018, Manchester NH.

Membership: 102 members
People Update

Sally Gore and Meredith Solomon were elected to the Board of Directors of MLA.

Janene Batten received NAHSL’s 2018 Achievement Award for her service of many years to NAHSL, and her extensive teaching record.

Leadership Roster

Elected Representatives:

Jeannine Cyr Gluck, Middlesex Hospital, Middletown, CT—Chair 2018-2019
Elizabeth Dyer, University of New England, Portland ME—Chair-Elect
Rachel Lerner, Quinnipiac University, Hamden, CT—Treasurer
Lori Bradshaw, Bristol Hospital—Secretary
Alexandria Brackett, Yale University—Chapter Council Representative
Dina Mc Kelvy, Maine Medical Center—Chapter Council Alternate

Committee Chairs:

Gary Atwood, University of Vermont—Professional Development
Valori Ann Banfi, University of Connecticut—Membership
Martha Meacham, University of Massachusetts Medical Center—Marketing Chair
Chelsea Delnerio Contrada—Conference Chair 2019
Donna Belcinski, Greenwich Hospital—Conference Chair 2020
Tess Grynoch, University of Massachusetts Medical Center—Technology Support
Lisa Philpotts, Massachusetts General Hospital—Bylaws
Bridget Gunn, Baystate Medical Center, Springfield MA—Archives
Alice Stokes, Dana Medical Library, Burlington VT—Education
Melissa Funaro, Yale University—Government Relations

Liaisons and Appointed Representatives:

Martha Meacham—NN/LM, NER
Jessica Kilham—Credentialing Chair
Debra Berlanstein, Tufts University, Boston MA—Nominee to MLA Nominating Committee

State Representatives:

William Anger, Miriam Hospital, Providence RI—ARIHSL (RI)
Alyssa Grimshaw, Yale University—CAHSL (CT)
Elizabeth Dyer, University of New England, Portland M—HSLIC (ME)
MAHSLIN (MA) —vacant
Maureen Dunn, Concord Hospital—NH/VT

Action Required by the Board

No – this report is informational and requires no action by the Board