Consumer and Patient Health Information Section
MLA ANNUAL REPORT 2000/01

Goal 1. Professional Development

MLA Annual Meeting, Orlando, Florida, May 2001

Section Sponsored Programs:

- Contributed and Invited Papers
    - Solo Sponsorship Programs
        - Cross Cultural Encounters of the Third Kind
        - Speaking Plainly: Meeting the Health Information Needs of Low-Literate Consumers
    - Co-Sponsored Programs
        - with History of Health Sciences Section, "From Idea to a Research Plan: How to Get Started"
        - with Molecular Biology SIG, "Gene Therapy and Genetics"
        - with Collection Development Section, Hospital Libraries Section, Technical Services Section and Public Services Section, "User-Oriented Collection Management"
        - with Mental Health SIG and Nursing and Allied Health Section, "Consumer Health Information: Special Needs for Mental Health Populations"
        - with Chiropractic Libraries Section, Hospital Libraries Section and Complementary and Alternative Medicine SIG, "Terminology and Reliable Resources in Alternative Medicine"
        - with Lesbian/Gay/Transgender SIG, "Travel Medicine"

- Co-Sponsored Symposium

- with NLM and MLA, "Library Partnerships — Powerful Connections"

Goal 2. Advocacy

On behalf of CAPHIS membership, the CAPHIS Chair approached the National Library of Medicine requesting a review of consumer health serial titles for possible inclusion in the PUBMED database, as this fits in nicely with NLM's number one priority of providing consumer's greater access to health information.

NLM responded favorably to this request and began an extensive review of consumer health serial titles. CAPHIS members were invited to suggest titles for NLM's consideration. Sheldon Kotzin of NLM and Amy Seif, NLM fellow, are in charge of the consumer health serial review. Inclusion of more consumer health titles in PUBMED will enhance this tool for use by consumer health librarians as well as members of the general public.

Goal 3. Organization

Bylaws

- Chair David Duggar reports several changes in the CAPHIS Bylaws are proposed for voting upon by the membership at its annual business meeting in Orlando. These changes are two-fold:
    - changes in terminology that more accurately reflect CAPHIS's purpose
    - changes that bring CAPHIS structure into alignment with MLA's revised organizational structure regarding Section Council Representative-Elect.

Section Officers

New officers were elected for Chair-elect, Secretary, Treasurer and Section Council Representative Elect in March 2001. New officer's terms begin after the annual meeting in Orlando. Current officers and their terms are:

- Michele Spatz, Chair 2000-2001
- Susan Murray, Chair-elect/ Program Chair 2000-2001
- Janie Grosman, Past-Chair and Nominating Committee 2000-2001
- Jane Fisher, Secretary 1999-2001
- Claire Hamasu, Treasurer 1999-2001
- Gail Hendler, Section Council Representative 1999-2002
- Sharon Lezotte, Section Council Alternate 1999-2001
- Bylaws Chair, David Duggar
- Govt. Relations, Kay Hogan Smith
- Website, Rosalind Dudden
- Membership, Deborah Batey

Newly elected officers are:

- Lucy Thomas, Chair-elect/Program Chair 2001-2002
- Erica Burnham, Secretary 2001-2003
- Denise Corliss, Treasurer 2001-2003
- Sharon Lezotte, Section Council Representative Elect

Goal 5. National Information Policy

- CAPHIS members provided input to MLA in the development of its Consumer Health Credential Program. Individuals who apply for the credential must take MLA approved consumer health CE courses.

- CAPHIS members partnered with MLA, NLM and PLA in presenting the first joint meeting, "The Public Library and Consumer Health: Meeting Community Needs Through Resource Identification and Collaboration" which took place in Washington, DC, at the Hyatt Regency on Capitol Hill, prior to ALA's midwinter meeting. The program consisted of five MLA-approved CE courses focusing on consumer health, a keynote address from Tom Ferguson, M.D., and other programs.

- CAPHIS is partnering with the American Association for the Advancement of Science's (AAAS) Healthy People 2010 Public Library Initiative. CAPHIS members will evaluate 7 plain language booklets developed by AAAS in response to a grant from NIH to advance the goals of Healthy People 2010.

Goal 6. Information Technology

The CAPHIS Website Task Force agreed upon a new CAPHIS logo and colors for its website redesign. The website is moved from the server at National Jewish Medical & Research Center to the server at MLANET. The new web address is http://caphis.mlanet.org/. The task force continues to address content and organizational structure issues related to the website. May 1, 2001 is the projected launch date for the new website. The new look and functionality the website redesign project promises will strengthen this vital tool for health information professionals. In March, the CAPHIS website was chosen as a USA Today Hot Site for it's Top 100 Health Links on the World Wide Web.