

Consumer and Patient Health Information Section (CAPHIS)
Medical Library Association
Business Meeting
Tuesday, May 9, 2000
12:30 - 2:00 PM
Vancouver, Canada

The meeting was called to order by Janie Grosman, Immediate Past-Chair, at 12:30 PM. Thirty-three members were in attendance.

INTRODUCTION AND WELCOME FROM OFFICERS

Janie Grosman introduced herself and the other CAPHIS officers: Michele Spatz, CAPHIS Chair 2000; Susan Murray, Program Chair/Chair Elect 2001; Claire Hamasu, Treasurer; Jane Fisher, Secretary; Gail Hendler, Section Council Representative; and Sharon Lezotte, Section Council Alternate. The resignation of Kay Deeney, editor of Consumer Connections, was announced. Although Kay was not present, her hard work as the Section's Newsletter Editor was acknowledged.

APPROVAL OF 1999 MINUTES

The minutes of the 1999 business meeting were approved.

COMMITTEE AND TASK FORCE REPORTS

Nominating Report: Joanne Marshall reported there was only one elected office to be filled this year: Susan Murray assumes the position of Program Chair/Chair-Elect for 2001.

Treasurer's Report: Claire Hamasu reported a beginning balance of \$5,315.77, new income of \$5,470.35, expenditures of \$2,602.25 and an ending balance of \$8,183.87. The full report is on file with the original copy of the meeting minutes. Claire emphasized that the ending balance will be reduced to between \$5,000 and \$6,000 as a result of recent expenses for newsletter production and distribution, and from invoices related to this year's MLA conference programs.

Newsletter Report: Janie Grosman read the 2000/2001 newsletter report from Kay Deeney. Two issues of Consumer Connections were produced in the year, and with advertising revenue, the per-copy cost was \$ 0.85. The full report is on file with the original copy of the meeting minutes.

Electronic Resources Committee Report: No report was available. Discussion about electronic resources was held for the report on new goals (below).

Section Council Report: Gail Hendler noted the name change of the management/leadership committee and the addition of an African American Special Interest Group. She reported that CAPHIS is considering contracting with MLANET to host the CAPHIS website and that more information is needed before a decision is made. Finally, she also asked the membership for its opinion about MLA's proposal to remove Special Interest Group meeting time slot so that an additional time slot for section business meetings can be available at the annual conference. Attendees supported this change. Gail agreed to keep the membership up-to-date on these issues via the section listserv.

Program Committee Report: Michele Spatz reported that CAPHIS co-sponsored two contributed papers at this year's conference and she encouraged members to attend both.

Susan Murray reported on program planning for 2001, including the possibility of co-sponsoring a Gene Therapy program. Other possible program topics are health literacy and multicultural resources for consumers. Susan asked the membership for other program ideas and encouraged members to see her after the program, or to email her, with suggestions.

Also at the annual conference in 2001, the National Library of Medicine (NLM) is planning a Symposium titled "Library Partnerships: Making Powerful Connections" that may be of interest to CAPHIS members. Michele reported that the CAPHIS executive committee reviewed NLM's proposal for the Symposium and will suggest that NLM consider adding more emphasis on consumer health information. She also asked members to provide information about existing health information partnerships and distributed a sheet to collect this information to share with NLM.

NEW BUSINESS

Michele Spatz reported on the CAPHIS Executive Session held on May 7, 2000. She outlined the Section's proposed goals for the upcoming year as follows:

- **GOAL:** Redesign of the CAPHIS website. Members were asked for their feedback about the current website. The responses include the following:

Strengths:

- Core lists of consumer health titles
- List of consumer health libraries

Needs:

- CAPHIS membership list
- Update of information on planning consumer health libraries
- Success stories/special projects
- Move newsletter to electronic format, rather than paper copy. Continue to index in CINAHL; password protected?; PDF format
- Periodicals lists
- Video/audio tape lists
- Links to foreign language web sites and locator tools
- Links to health literacy information & health literacy rating tools (e.g. SMOG)
- Evaluation tools for good consumer health websites / medical websites
- Evaluation tools for consumer health library programs and services
- Training documents for consumer health librarians
- Volunteer training information and job descriptions
- MLA Guidelines for the Role of Consumer Health Librarians
- Collection development policies
- Better search engine overall for the CAPHIS website

A motion was passed to fund the redesign of the CAPHIS website taking this feedback into account. Michele distributed a sign-up sheet to collect names of members who are interested in serving on a website task force. She thanked the membership for their interest in this project and emphasized the importance of keeping the task force to a manageable size.

GOAL: Redesign the CAPHIS Brochure. This goal was suggested as a way of promoting CAPHIS to other relevant health and information professionals including nurses, health care providers, and librarians from public and special libraries. Other suggestions for enhancing the visibility of CAPHIS included submitting articles about the Section to library journals with US and Canadian readership. The National Network of Libraries of Medicine newsletters may also be a good vehicle for distributing information about CAPHIS.

MEDLINEPlus Discussion forum with NATIONAL LIBRARY OF MEDICINE Representatives

Representatives from NLM described upcoming projects that will reach out to both consumers and to providers of consumer health information services. Becky Lyon announced the appointment of Celia Durkin as the head of consumer health information at NLM. A consumer health digital library, a consumer health toolkit, and HEALTHINFOQUEST, a pathfinder to common consumer health questions for public librarians, were highlighted. Karen Hajarian spoke about her role promoting MEDLINEPlus and described the desire to partner with other organizations to make MEDLINEPlus more visible and available. Finally, Joyce Backus explained the quality control process behind MEDLINEPlus, described its growth, and gave a sneak preview of plans for its redesign. The NLM representatives emphasized their desire for feedback and/or suggestions from CAPHIS members.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 2:00 PM.

Submitted by Jane Fisher, Secretary

July 5, 2000