

Consumer and Patient Health Information Section (CAPHIS)  
Medical Library Association  
Annual Business Meeting Minutes  
May 18, 2005  
San Antonio, TX

## **Introductions**

Meeting begins at 7:10 am. Introductions of officers are made.

Janice Brown and Cindy Mitchell from the MLA Books Panel are visiting the meeting. Janice speaks: The Books Panel is interested in cooperating with CAPHIS in getting ideas for good publications. In publishing books, MLA has two aims: a) providing books useful to members, and b) “exporting” our knowledge to others. Please think esp. about possibilities for exporting our knowledge. Some proposals are already in. The proposal process has three steps. Contact Cindy if interested. Also, think about possible DocKits.

## **2004 Minutes**

Highlights of the minutes are read and approved.

## **Bylaws**

Eris describes proposed changes to the bylaws. There are three changes (described elsewhere). All three are approved.

## **Treasurer**

Financial report: We had \$16,000 at the beginning of the year. Income has been \$4300 year-to-date; there will be more in summer once MLA processes spring membership renewals. Our income is largely from memberships. Swets generously contributed \$500 for meeting refreshments for CAPHIS here in San Antonio (yay!). Our balance is currently around \$20,000. Growth has been steady and there have been no large expenditures.

One attendee asks how much of a balance we can maintain and still be non-profit. Answer: we are not restricted except by MLA’s rules of fundraising and expenditure. Naomi notes that MLA policy has a \$500 per vendor limit; before we can get to them, MLA itself is hitting vendors up hard for sponsorships/donations, so sections will always have increasing problems procuring donations.

## **Newsletter**

Howard invites people to contact him if they would like to write for the newsletter. Howard's work on the newsletter gets a round of applause.

## **Programs**

Joy reports that CAPHIS co-sponsored 4 program sessions at this MLA. Two were about research. One was about outreach, and this one received more submissions than any other program session—over 80! ~100 people attended and there were interesting discussions, esp. on reaching male vs. female information seekers. The fourth program, “Challenging Patrons” had ~70 attendees; it had a distinguished panel of counselors and psychiatrists, and people re-enacting vignettes from real situations submitted by CAPHIS members. Things went great; one attendee said it was the best program (s)he had attended at any conference anywhere. Eris notes: If we're going to promote diversity, we need to promote diversity in programming and programming formats. The success of the panel/vignettes is an example of doing something new that works.

## **Section Council**

Javier encourages us to visit the open forums, this afternoon.

He reports that a new Special Interest Group, the New Members SIG, was ratified. Also the Marketing SIG was ratified. This year at MLA: 145 abstracts were submitted for the programs, and 68 were accepted. Also 179 posters were submitted, 176 accepted.

Next year's theme: “Transformations A to Z”. This is described as an anti-theme.

The MLA Board is pondering global initiatives.

Election results will be due by February 15 in 2006.

Future conference dates/places:

2007: Philadelphia

2008: Chicago

2009: Hawaii

2010: Washington, DC

## **MLA Membership Committee**

Membership Committee reminds all members to verify their information on MLAnet.

## **Candidates to MLA Nominating Committee**

Javier is passing around a list; please vote for three names. Next year we will find a way to do this electronically.

## **New Members Breakfast**

There were about 200 attendees. New people: please stop by the Section Council booth to sign up for free sections for the remainder of the membership year.

## **Website Committee**

Christie Silbajoris submits a separate written report from herself as the website coordinator. She summarizes some of the information during this meeting: Our website was launched in 1996, redesigned in May 2000, and a usability study was done by Dr. Feili Tu (though we have yet to get a report from this study). This year, the website committee wants to work towards another redesign. There was a survey up for a month which yielded lots of information; please see the full survey results online. Delores Judkin spoke to Ellen Detlefsen; Ellen is interested in having her library science students assist with the website. We may want to provide some compensation to the students.

Christine Marton offers to replace Christie as website coordinator.

## **Top 100 committee**

Sharon Lezotte is new chair and is sending around a signup sheet to join the committee. Term is negotiable.

## **CAPHIS listserv database**

Stephanie Weldon is not here, but says the database has not been getting much traffic. We should increase publicity, possibly by adding new links from the website. There is no reason why we need to link from only one place on the website.

## **New business**

Joy requests the creation of a CAPHIS award committee. This idea came from the Research Section, relating to the possibility of a CAPHIS Research Award. Determining if CAPHIS needs awards and what they should be will take awhile and would not be finished in time to give awards in 2006. Awards could be monetary and/or involve a plaque or other recognition item. Joy asks for a chair for the committee, to brainstorm and plan for CAPHIS awards. Volunteers for this committee: Terri Otteson (chair), Kelly Klinke, Naomi, Susan Murray. Joy asks them to work up 3 to 4 proposals and notes that it is also okay to decide not to have awards. Currently we have no consumer health focused awards. There is a short discussion with several ideas popping up.

### **2006 Annual Meeting program ideas**

Howard is our incoming program chair, hence our Program Guru. He notes that titles of programs do not have to have something to do with the theme. Ideas he presents include:

- Health literacy, accreditation/JCAHO standards for it
- Patient safety (MLA is considering a symposium on this for next year)
- Outcomes/program management of the GoLocal program

Additional ideas contributed by group:

- “Healing traditions”/complementary medicine, perhaps with tie-in to patient safety and/or health literacy
- Outreach again (obviously there is a huge demand)
- Patient/doctor relationships
- Behavior change and/or patient education: outcomes, documentation, how-to, best practices; perhaps with tie-in to health literacy. Howard knows of an expert in San Francisco.
- Dental hygiene habits of medical librarians. I remember this was a joke but I can’t remember why it was funny.

### **Goals**

Joy speaks about goals she would like CAPHIS to have for the coming year. Some of these are hers and some come up in the ensuing discussion.

- Establish the awards committee to decide what, if any, awards CAPHIS should give
- Major redesign of website; updating CAPHIS Top 100 list

- Establish how we will vote (the outgoing and incoming secretaries will confer about this)
- Continue with CAPHIS history project, perhaps coordinating oral interviews with past presidents
- We have a Canadian counterpart, a SIG of the CHL (Canadian Health Libraries); it would be good to communicate with them
- We have no representative from CAPHIS on the MLA CE committee; we need to re-establish that voice. (Lots of volunteers raise hands here!)
- Could we have a CAPHIS liaison with NLM/NNLM consumer health activities? (Well, we have most of the consumer health people from the NNLM regions as CAPHIS members, as well as the MEDLINEPlus staff...but do we want this formalized?)
- What about some communication with Europe? Great things are happening in consumer health libraries overseas, esp. in the UK. Greater alliance with international organization/research initiatives would be good.

A few committee positions need filling: Kelli Hamm offers to become the new Membership Committee chair, and Kelly Klinke volunteers to edit the CAPHIS column in MLA News.

We go around the room and do introductions of all attendees.

Eris sends around a sign-in sheet. Jennifer takes a head count and sees 29 attendees at this meeting.

Ending time of meeting not noted.

**Respectfully submitted on May 23, 2005 by Jennifer Friedman, outgoing Secretary of CAPHIS.**