CAPHIS 1993-94 -- GET INVOLVED!

From Your Section Chair -- Andrea Kenyon

Greetings from Philadelphia!

I am looking forward to working with all of you in the coming year as we utilize our resources and talents to promote and accomplish CAPHIS goals and objectives. My predecessors have done an excellent job of setting us on the proper course. I hope to continue to steer straight and steady, successfully weathering rough water, with an eye on the horizon.

The 1993-94 objectives, published in this issue, reflect the section's continued efforts to advocate the value and role of the health sciences librarian in the provision of consumer and patient health information. The list is ambitious, but necessary if CAPHIS wants to continue its efforts to position itself as a major player in the area of consumer and patient information. The section must show that our members have the knowledge, experience, and direction necessary to lead the way. I hope you will review these objectives and seriously consider contributing your ideas, energy, and skills to making our vision a reality. A Consumer and Patient Health Information Section Interest Form has been included in this issue.

Plans are underway for the 1994 program in San Antonio. We will be sponsoring the program with the Public Health/Health Administration Libraries and Relevant Issues sections. We are currently identifying speakers who are willing to discuss minority health issues in this country. Further details will be provided in the next issue of Consumer Connections. We hope this program proves to be as informative and well received as the Chicago Program - "The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly: Comparing the Canadian and U.S Health Care Systems." The Program Committee is to be commended for their efforts. Kay Deeney and Joanne Marshall deserve special thanks.

The CAPHIS membership brochure is ready! Anyone interested in obtaining copies can contact me or our membership chair, Margaret Trevanian.

Throughout the year I hope you will share your ideas and concerns with me regarding the section. I encourage all of you to gain access to the Internet and utilize the Med-lib list and email to communicate. I look forward to hearing from you.
Consumer Connections

Vol. 10, #2, Summer, 1993

Consumer and Patient Health Information Section Officials—1993-94

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Internet: marshall@filas.utoronto.ca

Members
Margaret Bandy, Kathy Lindner, Lisa McCormick, Alan Rees, and Janet Schneider.

MINUTES OF CAPHIS ANNUAL MEETING

1993 CAPHIS Business Meeting May 16, 1993
4:45-6:06 p.m.

The annual Consumer and Patient Health Information Section business meeting was called to order at 4:45 by section chair Kay Deeney. The members were welcomed and the officers were introduced. The minutes of the 1992 meeting in Washington D.C. were read, corrected and approved.

Allen Rees of the Nominating Committee was unable to attend, so Kay Deeney gave the results of the election: Carolyn Ruby, Chair-Elect; Barbara Bernoff Cavanaugh, Section Council Representative; Linda Demuro, Section Council Alternate; and David Keddie, Treasurer.

The Treasurer’s report was handed out by Carolyn Ruby. The total membership for the section as of May, 1993 is 323.

Jeanne Gittings presented a written report of Section Council activities from June 1992-May 1993. She reported on the following from the first Section Council meeting held the morning of May 16, 1993:

The MLA board is reexamining governance structure. Section Council will be reviewing its structure as well.

On Thursday, Section Council will be electing a Vice-Chair and candidates for the MLA Nominating Committee for the national ballot.

The theme for the 1994 Annual Meeting is Emerging Roles, Enduring Values. The only forum for contributed papers will be through sections. The NPC recommends that sections consider joint programs with other sections or special interest groups.

In 1995, the theme will be "Health Information for the Global Village".

Section Council is working on streamlining the form used for section compliance.

The council is also reviewing a draft of a Section Finance Manual. Approval on this won’t be until 1994.

Jeanne encouraged everyone to attend the Open Forum on the Code of Ethics. A voice vote was taken regarding the petition from the Fee Based Service interest group. A majority was in favor of approving this interest group.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

BYLAWS:

Barbara Pace presented the new bylaws of the section. The members approved the bylaws by a voice vote.

MEMBERSHIP:

Margaret Trevorian explained the problems with developing a membership directory. The MLA list, available in alpha or zip order is very awkward. It will probably be at least a year before the MLA will have the list available in ASCII form.

It was suggested that it might be helpful if a survey form be sent to the membership to find out the specific kind of services offered by the membership.

NEWSLETTER:

Carolyn Ruby reported that Rosalind Dudden has resigned as editor of the Newsletter. Carolyn will remain as Consumer Connections editor and will be using the newsletter committee more in the future. There will be three issues a year. Please send any items you would like to share with the membership to Carolyn.

PROGRAM, 1994 SAN ANTONIO:

Andrea Kenyon, Chair-Elect, presented a report for the 1994 Program Committee. The theme for the MLA convention will be Emerging Roles, Enduring Values. There are many possibilities for our program. Andrea would like feedback.
Andrea also showed the membership a mockup of the CAPHIS proposed brochure.

AD HOC COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER HEALTH MATERIALS CORE LIST

Rosalind Dudden presented the report. She stated that the committee feels that the core list is no longer needed or possible because of the great volumes of consumer print material available. If anyone knows of lists available from other organizations, such as ACCH, make this information known in Consumer Connections. As always all are welcome to share book reviews in the newsletter.

AD HOC COMMITTEE ON THE LIBRARIAN'S ROLE IN THE PROVISION OF CONSUMER HEALTH INFORMATION AND PATIENT EDUCATION

Joanne Marshall presented the report. She reminded the membership that a draft was printed in the Spring, 1993 issue of Consumer Connections on page 4 and 5. The membership responded favorably and some wondered if the report might be printed so that it could be framed to hang on the wall. It was decided that for now it would stand as a Section Statement and be put in the Newsletter by an AYE vote.

ANNUAL REPORT

Kay Deeney asked for approval of the Annual Report for the Section. It was approved.

NEW BUSINESS

It was moved and seconded that the section fund $100.00 to representative to Patient Education in the Primary Care Setting as long as the representative is a section member. The motion passed.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:00 PM.

Respectively submitted by Glenda J. Evans Secretary, CAPHIS

SUMMER ISSUE OF CONSUMER CONNECTIONS PUBLISHED EARLY

Due to the editor changing jobs and moving half way across the country, this issue of Consumer Connections is being published a month early.

Carolyn Ruby, Consumer Connections editor, has accepted the position of Consumer Health Editor with SilverPlatter Information Inc.'s Information Resources Group effective August 16, 1993. Her new address and phone number are listed on page 2 of this issue.

It is expected that the newsletter will resume its normal publication schedule with the next issue.

CONSUMER AND PATIENT HEALTH INFORMATION SECTION 1993/94 OBJECTIVES

Program Objectives

1. To plan and present a program in San Antonio in 1994.
2. To recruit and appoint section members to serve on section committees
3. To develop ways to promote CAPHIS's statement regarding the Librarian's Role in the Provision of Consumer Health Information and Patient Education
4. To explore the possibility of establishing a liaison with the Hospital Libraries Section Standards Committee
5. Reactivate Ad Hoc Committee on Policies for Consumer Health Libraries

Managing Objectives

1. To publish a membership directory
2. To maintain the Section's procedures manual
3. To design and print letterhead for the Section
4. To encourage the Section membership, especially Section Executive Board and Committees, to regularly communicate by using the Internet
5. To complete and submit midyear and annual reports by required deadline and publish them in Consumer Connections

Resource Objectives

1. To identify members providing consumer health information or patient education programs and publish a directory of these programs
2. To share information and communicate the aims of the section by publishing three issues of the newsletter, Consumer Connections
3. To increase section membership by 5%
4. To compile and publish a list of core lists of consumer health information resources in Consumer Connections
5. To target national information organizations to increase their awareness of the Section and the importance of its aims
6. To identify ways for members to publicize their CHI programs
7. To develop ways to promote and recognize research in the area of consumer health information and patient education.

Submitted by
Andrea L. Kenyon, CAPHIS Chair

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORTS ACTIVITIES

At our business meeting in Chicago the section members present requested a Membership Directory. Consequently I am working with David Kedle, Treasurer, to create a database of current members. We hope to have this available in printed form by the San Antonio meeting. In the meantime, if you need to know who is a member of the section in your area, please let me know.

The second item of interest is a directory of libraries/programs/services in the area of consumer and patient health information. As this is a big undertaking we would like some input from the membership before we start. There are some libraries devoted specifically to consumer health. How do you identify hospital-based collections that are part of the health sciences collection? There are individuals with expertise in the area of consumer health who may not be present working in a health sciences library. How should these people be listed? As you read this I am sure you can think of other examples. I would like to hear from you!

Lastly, the section brochure will be available shortly. I plan to send this to the Chapter Membership Chairs to display at chapter meetings.

Submitted by
Peggy Trevanian, Membership Chair

CD ROM REVIEWS

Health Source
Ebsco Publishing
P.O. Box 2250
Peabody, MA 01960-7250

Three Updates per year: $495
Bimonthly update: $995
Monthly update: $1,995

This is a CD-ROM consumer health reference product that provides access to the abstract and index coverage of 160 journals in the fields of diet and nutrition, exercise, medical self-care, and drugs and alcoholism. Coverage goes back to 1984. Full text is supplied for 15 of the 160 journals.

Although the coverage is extensive, many of the 160 titles indexed and abstracted appear to have been spun off from other Ebsco products. This would explain the inclusion of, for example, Yachting, Sail, Organic Gardening, Omni, Mother Earth News, New Scientist, Journal of Chemical Education, and Buzzworm. On the other hand, significant health related omissions include Health Letter, Health News (Toronto), Harvard Health Letter, Harvard Family Health Letter, and Johns Hopkins Medical Letter. Clinical journals of interest to consumers such as Postgraduate Medicine, and American Family Physician are not included.

The full text coverage, limited to 15 or less than 10% of the total coverage, includes FDA Consumer, Food and Nutrition News, Harvard Health Letter, Men's Health, Prevention, and New England Journal of Medicine. The provision of the full text of Bicycling, Organic Gardens, and Weathering is neither relevant nor useful.

The local availability of journal titles can be keyed into the database to show those that are available in a library's collection or through interlibrary loan. A Collection Development Statistic Capability enables a library to track usage by title.

Searching is accomplished using a fill-in-the-blank screen. It is possible to combine terms and the user can search summary information and full text, or restrict the search to locally held titles. Search results can be displayed on the screen, printed, or down loaded to a floppy disk.

The search results mingle popular and professional articles. The abstracts, ranging in length from two to five sentences are not in a narrative form and are telegraphic in nature, necessitating recourse to the full text to determine the value of the content.

This is a useful product for quick identification of information sources. The health-rated coverage is, however, spotty providing fairly good access to many consumer health titles but omitting significant professional (clinical) journals of interest to the consumers. The abstracts lack substance, while the full text capacity is severely limited.

Personal Medical
Ebsco Publishing
P.O. Box 2250
Peabody, MA 01960
One disk: $299


The database is easy to install and simple to use. The software is menu-driven. It is possible to search the entire database (all seven texts), or for specific texts. The Table of Contents can be displayed to show the subsections of a specific text such as The Complete Guide to Sports Injuries. The content reflects the organization of Griffith's books in that the total database consists of condensed charts that present information in telegraphic form under headings such as Definition of a Disease, Body Parts Involved, Sign and Symptoms, Causes, What to Expect, Appropriate Health Care, Possible Complications, Medications, Probable Outcome, Call Your Doctor If... and so on. Each chart displayed contains cross references in the form of hypertext links that permit the searcher to jump to other related charts. An online glossary and help feature are also provided.

Drug information is organized to show, for example, the brand and generic name, usage, dosages, possible adverse reactions, warnings and precautions, interaction with other drugs.

This is a useful product that offers rapid and easy searching of seven basic reference books. The essential weakness of the product is that the texts carry publication dates ranging from 1986 to 1991. One is dated 1986, two are dated 1988 while information is outdated and the texts are now orphaned by the recent demise of Dr. Winter Griffith. This is an obsolescent product and several of Griffith's books have already been remaindered and can be purchased for less than $5 each.

Alan M. Rees
Consumer Health Information Services

Cleveland Heights, OH 44106-3342
August 2, 1993

ARTICLES OF INTEREST


This editorial was written by one of the speakers we had at the MLA Annual Meeting. Dr. Young discusses many of the points he covered in his talk. How timely!

CE COURSE UNDER REVISION

Health Information Services for the Layperson.

This MLA continuing education course is in the process of being revised by Sharon Quist. The course covers information services encompassing patient education and consumer health information.

A few of the course objectives are to identify consumer health education needs; select and develop a collection of appropriate and high quality materials; and organize and design information services.

Some of the approved instructors are Joyce Allen, Karen Hackleman Dahlen, Kay Deeney, Carol Glatt, Joanne Marshall, Kathleen Moeller, Sharon Quist and Allen Rees.

If your chapter sponsors CE courses, you might consider lobbying for this course to be taught in your area. MLA usually supplies the syllabus for a fee. The instructors fee plus expenses is negotiated between the instructor and the group. The CE person in your chapter will have further information. Think about it!

Submitted by Kay Deeney

THE HOME MEDICAL LIBRARY

The following compilation lists choice publications for use by consumers. The basis for selection is that any publication must be readable, understandable, credible, and authoritative. Not all authoritative medical publications are readable, conversely, not all readable publications are authoritative. A "good" medical book for consumers should also empower consumers with the information necessary for making informed and
judicious choices regarding their health care.

The list contains both popular and professional books since information of many medical topics is not available in popular publications. Titles are extracted from Alan M. Rees: THE ENCYCLOPEDIA OF HEALTH INFORMATION SOURCES. 2nd edition, Gale Research International, 1993; and Alan M. Rees: THE CONSUMER HEALTH INFORMATION SOURCE BOOK. Oryx Press, 1993.

FAMILY MEDICAL GUIDES


DICTIONARIES


ENCYCLOPEDIA


MEDICAL CONSUMERISM


Take This Book To The Hospital With You. New York: Random House. 1991

DISEASES AND DISORDERS


NEWSLETTER


Johns Hopkins Medical Letter: Health After 50. MedLetter Associates: Palm Coast, FL


MAGAZINE


DRUG INFORMATION


INFORMATION DIGESTS


FINDING TOOLS

**Consumer Health and Nutrition Index**. Phoenix, AZ: Oryx Press.
**Medical Abstracts Newsletter**. Teaneck, NJ: Communi-T Publications.


PROFESSIONAL/TECHNICAL TEXTBOOKS


**Current Medical Diagnosis and Treatment**. Norwalk, CT: Appleton & Lange. Annual.


MANUAL


JOURNAL


DRUGS


PHYSICIAN QUALIFICATIONS

**The Official ABMS Directory of Board Certified Medical Specialists**. Evanston, IL: American Board of Medical Specialties. Biennial.


SELF STUDY COURSES AVAILABLE THROUGH MLA HEADQUARTERS

Effect immediately, MLA is offering self-study courses to all members. These self-paced courses are another form of continuing education that MLA is pleased to provide to its members, along with the MLA Journal Club, annual meeting courses, and chapter course offering.

Course topics include time management in the small library, dealing with difficult behavior, language of medicine, leadership skills for managers, and many others designed for your personal needs. The cost of these self-study classes ranges from $60.00- $125.00 and the average completion time is four weeks. Certificates are distributed for MLA contact hours once your exam and evaluation is returned.

If you are interested in receiving the list of self study courses, please contact the Medical Library Association, Professional Development, Six North Michigan Avenue, Chicago, IL 60602-4805; (312) 419-9094 fax: (312) 419-8950. Register Today!

MLA SEEKS APPLICANTS FOR CUNNINGHAM MEMORIAL INTERNATIONAL FELLOWSHIP

Health sciences librarians from outside the United States and Canada who seek to broaden their professional and skills while visiting either of these countries should apply for the Cunningham Memorial International Fellowship, sponsored by the Medical Library Association (MLA). Cunningham fellows work in the United States and Canada. Beside the obvious personal enrichment a fellowship offers to participants, Fellows bring back valuable new perspectives and expertise to their institutions.

Applicants must have a master’s degree or its equivalent, be working in a medical library in the
county of origin, have citizenship or permanent resident status in a country other than the United States or Canada, and not be former Cunningham Fellows.

The following required application materials must reach the MLA Cunningham Memorial International Fellowship Jury chair by February 1, 1994:

Completed MLA Cunningham Fellowship application form;
Three letters of reference in English;
Transcripts of academic records in English;
Certificate of health in English;
Brief essay in English describing applicant’s Proposed observation or training program and goals;
Evidence of having taken the Test of English as a foreign language (TOEFL), verification of spoken and written English ability; and
Statement indicating that applicant will be employed in a medical library upon return to his or her native country.

The chosen recipient will be notified in April following the deadline; the Fellow should arrive in the United States or Canada the following January and stay until May. The Fellow is responsible for all travel expenses to and from the United States and Canada and is strongly advised to have personal funds to supplement the $3,000 stipend. For more information and Cunningham Fellowship application forms, please contact the Professional Development Department, Medical Library Association, Suite 300, Six North Michigan Avenue, Chicago, IL 60602-4805, USA.

PUBLICATION STATEMENT
Consumer Connections is published 3 times a year. Deadline for submitting material for the next issue is November 1, 1993. Send material to Carolyn Ruby, SilverPlatter Information Inc., Information Resources Group, 101 W. Walnut, Suite 200, Pasadena, CA 91103.

MEDICAL DATA EXCHANGE is pleased to provide corporate support to CAPHIS and this newsletter. The management of MDX, healthcare professionals who share your goals and commitment to public and patient education, produce the CONSUMER HEALTH DATABASE,

MDX HEALTH DIGEST™
An easy-to-use database containing SUMMARIES of more than 15,000 health articles written for the general public. Full Boolean search capabilities by text word or INDEX TERMS. Updated monthly. Sources include:

Medical Journals – Newsletters – Magazines – Medical School Reports – Newspapers.
Currently in use in public libraries, medical clinics and hospitals, universities, U.S. military and VA facilities, regional and national networks. On CD-ROM by SilverPlatter. Online with OCLC.

MEDICAL DATA EXCHANGE
4730 Galice Road, Merlin, Oregon 97532
Telephone (503) 471-1627
Facsimile (503) 471-1661
CONSUMER AND PATIENT HEALTH INFORMATION SECTION INTEREST FORM

Name__________________________________________________________

Institution or Affiliation________________________________________

Address_______________________________________________________

Telephone Number/Fax___________________________________________

Electronic Mail Address__________________________________________

1993/94 Committees_____________________________________________

Willing to Serve on

Program _____ Membership _____ Newsletter _____

Nominating _____ Bylaws _____ Elections _____

Standards _____ Finance _____

If none of these committees have an opening, I am willing to serve on any committee

Yes _____ No _____

Elected Offices

Willing to serve as

Chairperson/Chairperson-Elect (1-3 years*) _____

Section Council Representative (3 years) _____

Alternate Representative Section Council (3 years) _____

Secretary (2 years) _____

Treasurer (2 years) _____

*Serves one year as Chair-Elect, on year as Chair, and one year as Immediate Past Chairperson.

What kinds of Consumer and Patient Health Information Programs would you like to see offered by the Section?

_______________________________________________________________

Please send completed form to:

Andrea Kenyon, CAPHIS Chairperson
College of Physicians of Philadelphia
19 S. 22nd Street
Philadelphia, PA 19103-3001
LIBRARY INFORMATION FOR ANNOTATED DIRECTORY

Name of Institution: ____________________________________________

Contact Person: _______________________________________________

Address: ______________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________

City/State/Zip Code: ____________________________________________

Telephone Number/Fax Number: _________________________________

Internet/Bitnet Address: _______________________________________ 

Subject Areas: _________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________

Number of Staff: ______________________________________________

Brief Description: _____________________________________________

________________________________________________________________

Return Completed form to:

Margaret Trevanion
CAPHIS Membership Chair
Medical Library
North Hills Passavant Hospital
9100 Babcock Blvd.
Pittsburgh, PA 15237-5842
THANKS MEDICAL DATA EXCHANGE!

The Consumer and Patient Health Information Section gratefully acknowledges Medical Data Exchange's generous support of this newsletter. Through their support, fewer of our membership dollars will be spent preparing this newsletter allowing the Section to better serve the needs of our membership. Thanks Medical Data Exchange!

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Kathleen A. Moeller
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FIRST CLASS