



LIBRARY RESEARCH SECTION NEWSLETTER

SPRING 1990

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THE STATE OF THE SECTION

The following report is from the Annual Report, March 1990, submitted by Section Chair Patricia A. Gibson.

As of March 1, 1990, the Section has 163 members and a balance in the treasury of \$706.70.

During the year, a number of objectives have been achieved through the Section's committee structure:

a. CE Liaison Committee:

1. The results of the survey of MLA member interest in research education have been evaluated and will be presented in a paper in the Information Services Track at MLA.
2. The Library Research Section has reimbursed the Committee \$425, as previously agreed, to help fund the study.

b. Research Resources Committee:

1. The Research Bibliography has been revised and its availability made known to library school deans and research faculty; at MLA chapter meetings; and through ACRL News.
2. The list of research mentors has been updated and sent to Section and Chapter newsletters and to library school deans and research faculty. Its availability was also publicized in the November/December MLA News.
3. The Research Report database continues to be maintained.

An article in the October MLA News analyzed the present database and invited additional contributions.

c. Research Issues Committee:

1. Research Agenda. The Committee submitted a report on the research agenda to the MLA Board at their Midwinter meeting. The Board voted to accept it. The Section will hold an open forum on the agenda in the second hour of the business meeting in Detroit.
2. The Committee is preparing a report of its Survey of Academic Release Time for Research. Projected completion date: Annual Meeting 1990.

d. Bylaws: A proposed revision of the Section's bylaws to add the Past Chair as member of the Section's Executive Committee has been prepared for distribution in the Section newsletter in advance of the 1990 Annual Meeting.

1991 Annual Meeting. In January 1990, the Section submitted a proposal to the Continuing Education Committee to sponsor a symposium on the research process during the 1991 Annual Meeting.

Patricia A. Gibson
Chairman

INFORMATION SERVICES TRACK PROGRAM IN DETROIT

[*Editor's note: one day of the Annual Meeting in Detroit will be devoted to four "tracks" of subject matter. The Library Research Section has supported the Information Services Track from its initial planning last year. Note that Prudy Dalrymple's invited paper is based on the work of the Liaison-to-CE Committee.]

The Information Services Track's objective is to provide a stimulating educational event for interested health sciences librarians committed to the provision of information services in today's and tomorrow's health sciences library. This educational event will offer speakers who have experience with or knowledge of managing change in the current health sciences environment (education, research, patient care).

Introduction "The Changing Needs of the Academic Clinician"

R. Brian Haynes, M.D.
Professor, Department of Clinical Epidemiology
and Biostatistics
Department of Medicine
McMaster University
Hamilton, Ontario, Canada

Speaking from the perspective of the user in the changing environment, Dr. Haynes will address how users are managing change in their practice and their research, and their need for and ability to obtain relevant information.

Reactors: Nelson Gilman
Norris Medical Library
University of Southern California

Diane Schwartz
Alfred Taubman Medical Library
University of Michigan

Donna Johnson
Abbott-Northwestern Hospital

Current Work: Two concurrent contributed papers sessions featuring the following:

Use of the Critical Incident Technique to Evaluate the Impact of MEDLINE (Rapp)

Impact of Information Services on Clinical Problem Solving: A Report of Research (King)

Creating and Implementing an Online Patient Education Catalog (Snider)

Currency of Full-Text Medical Journals: CCML and MEDIS VS. medline (McKinin)

INFOFAIR: An Annual Computer & Information Event (Marcotte)

Accuracy of Telephone Reference Services in Health Sciences Libraries (Paskoff)

Measuring and Assessing Medical Reference Transactions (Russell)

When They'd Rather Fight than Switch: Changing from one Local MEDLINE Database to Another (Grefsheim)

Analogies of NLM MEDLINE Use by Health Professionals (Kotzin)

The Epidemic Growth of AIDS Literature (Self)

Factors Affecting the Continuation of End-User Searching by Health Professionals (Marshall)

Cost-Effective Minicomputer Access to a Multi-User CD-ROM System: The JEFFLINE/Micromedex CCIS Project (Tawyea)

Symposium: Education and the Effects of Change on Users and Librarians

"Information Literacy"

Dr. Patricia Senn Breivik
Director, Auraria Library
Denver, Colorado

Dr. Breivik will speak on "Information Literacy" - a concept that merges library literacy with computer literacy. She will address traditional library instruction concerns in light of advances in information technology.

"Research Education - Shaping the Future"

Prudence Dalrymple, Ph.D.
Graduate School of Library and Information Science
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Dr. Dalrymple will report on the result of the first MLA survey focused specifically on education for research. The outcome of the survey will have implications for MLA continuing education providers and will reveal substantive information about members' interest in acquiring research skills.

"Assuring High Quality Reference Services in an Enduser Environment"

Sharon Keller, Head Information Services Dept.
Health Sciences Library
State University of New York at Buffalo

Ms. Keller will discuss the standards for quality of enduser services and methods for evaluating enduser services. She will show that enduser systems can be effectively incorporated in an environment with a small staff and large user population without compromising quality of service.

Fred Roper
College of Library and Information Science
University of South Carolina

(A paper on the continuing education/credentialing program of MLA and its role in our changing environment.)

Future Work: Research in Knowledge Management: A Path to New Tools, Services and Roles for Health Sciences Libraries

Richard Lucier
Associate Director, Academic Information Systems,
Research & Services
Director, Laboratory for Applied Research in
Academic Information

Nina Matheson
Director
Associate Professor of Medicine

William H. Welch Medical Library
Johns Hopkins University
Baltimore, Maryland

Nina Matheson and Richard Lucier will discuss the multidisciplinary team effort to design and implement a knowledge management environment at the Welch Medical Library, Johns Hopkins University. They will include a brief section on transferring these new systems from the research arena to the library's operational environment and the significance of these efforts for all health sciences libraries.

LIAISON-TO-CE COMMITTEE PRESENTS RESULTS OF SURVEY

The Liaison-to-CE Committee was formed in March 1988 to offer suggestions and make recommendations to the MLA CE Committee related to research courses. During the past year, a 17-item questionnaire was developed by this seven-member committee to assess MLA member interest in research education.

Each member has accepted various responsibilities for the project, providing geographical and institutional credence to the project as a whole. In addition to committee members, officials at MLA headquarters, members of the CE committee, and officers of the Library Research Section have served as advisors to the project.

In May 1989, the committee received an MLA research grant in partial support of the project. In addition, the Committee received a major contribution from the Library Research Section. Members have also made generous contributions.

Karen Hackleman, first chairperson of the Committee, was responsible for submitting the proposal for the research award and directing the project. The University of Maryland contributed postage, labels, computer time, and stationery costs. She is currently assisting Prudy Dalrymple in analyzing the data and preparing two papers for presentation at MLA and ASIS.

Prudence Dalrymple (University of Illinois) has directed the data analysis at the Library School Computer Facility where responses were checked in and data is being tabulated and compressed. Prudy gathered sample questions from the Committee and all supporters and organized the questions into relevant groupings. The survey instrument was then edited four times before finally going to Joan Stoddart. Prudy and Karen are in the process of writing two papers for presentation in the spring and fall of 1990.

Joan Stoddart (University of Utah) charted research courses sponsored by MLA during the past 10 years and searched the literature for incidence of similar surveys. Joan and her able staff at Eccles formatted the survey instrument with the assistance (via FAX) of Prudy. Subsequently, it was turned over to Marie Reidelbach for printing. Currently, Joan has assumed the coordination of a poster session for the Annual Meeting. The poster will emphasize the cooperative nature of the study and illustrate how the data translates to meaningful results.

Marie Reidelbach (University of Nebraska) and her resident artists will be assisting Joan with the graphics for the poster session. Marie also designed the cover page for the questionnaire and her institution supported the printing of the survey instrument for two mailings and federal express costs to send the survey forms to Karen for mailing in Baltimore and California.

Elizabeth H. Wood (University of Southern California) and **Frances Johnson** (National Library of Medicine) have done much proofreading and editing. They assisted with both initial and final mailings and scrutinized the proposal before submission. Elizabeth's institution contributed postage for the second mailing. Elizabeth and Fran will also contribute time and energy to the preparation of the final report for the CE committee.

Nancy Nuell (Montgomery College at Takoma) served one year on the Committee (1988-89) and assisted with the preparation of the proposal and donated postage for the initial mailing. She was replaced on the Committee in 1989 by **Christine Bain**, the newest member, who comes to us from the New York State Library in Albany.

This very close knit committee has used every possible means of technology to communicate during the past year. Memos have been faxed and mailed. Messages regarding deadlines have been sent via Bitnet, and numerous telephone calls (too many to count) have been made. Conference calls were convened while the data was being analyzed and small meetings were set up between members when travel permitted.

Be sure to visit the poster session and hear Prudy Dalrymple present an invited paper in the afternoon of the Information Services Track.

RESEARCH PROJECTS DATABASE

Last fall, the Research Resources Committee of the Library Research Section began soliciting and compiling information on the research activity of MLA members. A report form was distributed to MLA Chapters and Sections to gather information on research projects in progress by members.

Thirty-four projects had been reported through the end of June 1989. Twenty-seven investigators were reported to be working on these projects. Four of the projects were completed prior to 1988, eleven were to be completed during 1988, seven during 1989, six during 1990, and six others had indefinite completion dates or had none specified.

Most of the projects (15 of 27) reported using a survey instrument to gather data. Five projects were based primarily on "experimental" methodologies, rather than on surveys or descriptive techniques. Five projects have been reported in the Bulletin of the Medical Library Association, and two have appeared in other publications. Three others have been submitted for publication.

The Research Report Form has been revised slightly and is being reissued for distribution again this fall. The Research Resources Committee encourages members who are either planning or are engaged in a project to report their activity. This information will be used as the basis for a clearinghouse on research resources within MLA. If you have any questions about the form or the database, please call me at 206/543-8262.

Neil Rambo
August 1989

RESEARCH REPORT FORM

The Research Resources Committee of the MLA Library Research Section is developing a database of recently completed and ongoing research projects. The Committee plans, also, to develop a database of resource people with library research expertise. This database will serve as the basis for a clearinghouse on research resources. If you are working on a research project, or have recently finished one, please complete this form and mail it to:

Neil Rambo
Pacific Northwest Regional Health Sciences Library Service
University of Washington, SB-55
Seattle, WA 98195

NAME _____

TITLE _____

INSTITUTION _____

ADDRESS _____

EMAIL CODE(S) _____

PROJECT TITLE/TOPIC _____

COMPLETION DATE (Estimate, if not known) _____

HAS A PROJECT REPORT BEEN PUBLISHED? Yes No

If yes, please give the publication title, volume/issue, and date

If no, is a report available for distribution? Yes No

PROJECT FUNDING SOURCE _____

If possible, please attach an abstract of not more than
250 words describing the research project.

LIST AREAS OF RESEARCH IN WHICH YOU HAVE EXPERIENCE:

LIBRARY RESEARCH SECTION BALLOT 1990

Please return the ballot on the last page to Carol Fenichel, as indicated. The ballot includes voting for Section officers and approval/disapproval of a change to the bylaws.

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE CANDIDATES

Prudence W. Dalrymple

Prudence W. Dalrymple, Ph.D., is an Assistant Professor at the Graduate School of Library and Information Science at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Her doctoral work was done at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. She has previously held positions at the Library of the Health Sciences at the University of Illinois College of Medicine at Rockford, and Rockford Memorial Hospital. An active member of MLA since 1977, she has served on several committees. She is an active member of the Midwest Chapter of MLA and has been editor of that chapter's newsletter for two years.

Dr. Dalrymple is currently involved in analyzing data from the survey of MLA members' interest in education for research. She was a workshop leader at the Evaluation Symposium at the Boston Annual Meeting in 1989. Her research and teaching interests include information retrieval, user behavior, information seeking, and health sciences librarianship.

In Detroit in May 1990, Dr. Dalrymple will present an invited paper, "Research Education - Shaping the Future," which is part of the Information Services Track at the Annual Meeting. This paper reports on the survey conducted last year by the Library Research Section's Liaison-to-CE Committee.

Nancy N. Woelfl

Nancy N. Woelfl, Ph.D., currently serves as Director of the McGoogan Library of Medicine at the University of Nebraska Medical Center Library in Omaha. Her background includes twenty years experience and an earned doctorate in library and information service. In 1984, the American Society for Information Science selected her dissertation, "Individual Differences in Online Search Behavior," as one of the three best dissertations of the year.

Prior to joining the University of Nebraska, Dr. Woelfl held positions with the Ohio State University Health Sciences Library, the Cleveland Health Sciences Library, and the NASA Lewis Research Center in Cleveland, Ohio. An active researcher, Dr. Woelfl's primary research interests include the man-machine interface and bibliographic search behavior. In cooperation with colleagues at the University of Nebraska Medical Center, she continues to investigate the search interface, the impact of human cognitive

abilities on the man-machine interaction, and on the teaching and learning of medicine. Professional memberships include the Medical Library Association, Nebraska Library Association, Special Libraries Association, and Association of Academic Health Science Library Directors. In addition to service activities at the University of Nebraska Medical Center, Dr. Woelfl has also served on many MLA committees. She is currently an active member of the Library Research Section.

Mark E. Funk

Mark E. Funk is Head of Collection Development at the Wood Library, Cornell University Medical College in New York. His research interests include bibliometric techniques and the use of research to solve practical, day-to-day problems. In his career he has worked in circulation and reference and been a clinical librarian. His present position combines aspects of both public and technical services.

Mr. Funk has served MLA in many capacities including five years on Section Council. He has been Chair of the Publishing and Information Industries Relations Committee, Section Eligibility Committee, and Section Council Task Force on Centralized Dues Collection. He is currently a member of the National Program Committee for the 1990 meeting. He received the Research, Development and Demonstration Award in 1986 and this year he is Chair of the jury for that award.

In the Library Research Section, Mr. Funk has been Vice-Chair, Section Council Representative and Alternate, and is now a Research Mentor in the Section's endeavor to encourage research among its members.

Karen Hackleman

Karen Hackleman's experience includes work with a university geriatric education and research program, two regional medical library programs covering 18 states, and the management of a clinical library service. Currently, she is doing contractual work for a research and development firm. In developing regional programs in education and consultation and in coordinating statewide networking projects, she has worked with university departments such as Epidemiology and the Computer Center to design studies and needs assessments and has been involved with the selection of participants of panels, focus groups, and teleconferences.

Mrs. Hackleman has worked with state organizations to introduce information technology to health care practitioners and has a proven track record for obtaining funds for research projects. She currently chairs the Liaison-to-CE Committee and was the recipient of an MLA Research Grant in 1989 for surveying MLA members'

interest in research education. She recently co-edited a symposium for the Bulletin of the Medical Library Association entitled, "The evolving role of the health sciences library in continuing education." She is a member of the MLA Credentialing Committee, and last year developed a new MLA workshop, "Geriatric and Gerontology Information Resources," which will be taught in Detroit in May 1990.

SUMMARY OF PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE BYLAWS:

ARTICLE V. The section's Elective Officers are redefined to include Immediate Past-Chair, and the Chair's term of office is restated to specify a third successive year as Past-Chair.

Amendments proposed for adoption June 1990

ARTICLE V. ELECTED OFFICERS

Section 1. Election and Term of Office

- A. Elective officers of this Section shall be a Chair; a Chair Elect and Immediate Past-Chair; a Secretary-Treasurer; a Section nominee for nomination to the MLA Nominating Committee; a representative to the MLA Section Council; and an Alternate Representative to the MLA Section Council. All elective officers shall be Regular Members or Fellows of MLA.
- B. The term of office of the Chair shall be one year as Chair-Elect, the next year as Chair, and a third successive year as Immediate Past-Chair, ~~and one year as Chair~~ to take effect on July 1 following election and ending on June 30 of the year in which the individual serves as Immediate Past-Chair. No one may serve more than two full or partial successive terms as Chair or Chair-Elect.

1990/91 BALLOT
LIBRARY RESEARCH SECTION

PLEASE VOTE FOR ONE CANDIDATE PER OFFICE:

CHAIR-ELECT:

_____ Prudence Dalrymple

_____ Nancy Woelfl

NOMINEE TO MLA NOMINATING COMMITTEE:

_____ Mark Funk

_____ Karen Hackleman

PROPOSED BYLAWS AMENDMENT:

_____ I approve the bylaws changes

_____ I do not approve the bylaws changes

Mail your ballot by April 2, 1990 to:

Carol Fenichel
Library
Hahnemann University MS449
245 N. 15th St.
Philadelphia, PA 19102-1192