

Public Health/Health Administration Section Business Meeting {DRAFT}

Tuesday May 20, 2008 7:00 am -9:00 am

Location: Hyatt Hotel, Room: Water Tower

Attendees: Mary Adams, Alison Aldrich, Nancy Allee, Kris Alpi, Marie Ascher, Marcus Banks, Cheryl Bartel, Debbie Berlanstein, Alison Bobal, Renee Bougard, Rick Brewer, Holly Burt, Chris Childs, Kay Deeney, Gale Dutcher, Julia Esparza, Robin Featherstone, Jane Icord, Cynthia Kahn, Doreen Keough, Mellanye Lackey, Lisa Lang, Deborah Lauseng, Alicia Livinski, Helen Look, Christine Marton, Joey Nicholson, Annabelle Nunez, Will Olmstadt, Mary Riordan, Melissa Rethlefsen, Erika Sevetson, Robert Shapiro, Hathy Simpson, Emily Vardell, Lisa Wallis, Matt Wilcox

AGENDA

The Chair Lisa Wallis called the meeting to order at 7:10 am. She welcomed everyone who was in attendance and asked them to introduce themselves.

Old Business

1. Secretary/Treasurer's Report: Kay Deeney

The minutes were accepted with minor edits from Marie Ascher. Holly Burt made the motion to approve the minutes as corrected; Julia Esparza seconded. The treasurer's report was accepted with the addition of \$300 for estimated expenses for either the section council representative or another officer to attend the MLA meeting in Hawaii. Mary Riordan made the motion to approve the Treasurer's Report and estimated budget with minor changes. Christine Marton seconded.

2. Chair's Report: Lisa Wallis

Ad Hoc Guest Speaker Task Force committee: Marcus Banks said that PH/HA would pay speakers at the rate of \$150 an hour if they are not PHHA members. Speakers can negotiate a higher fee. This follows standard MLA policies. Travel expenses would be extra. The other stipulation is that there be \$3000 remaining in the PH/HA treasury. Kris Alpi, Marcus Banks and Julie Esparza were on this task force.

Matt Wilcox on the Section Council Representative Funding Task Force discussed supporting the Section Council Representative for attending the Section Council meeting before the MLA conference starts. Because attending this meeting incurs extra expense for the Representative, the committee recommends funding the Representative with a stipend up to \$300. Which positions will be funded will be left open ended because of the potential change to Section Council. See below. Besides Matt, the other committee members were Kris Alpi and Kay Deeney.

3. Chair Elect's Report: Christine Marton

Five speakers presented at the PH/HA section program held in the Grand Ballroom A on Monday afternoon and up to 120 people attended this section program. "It was a positive experience." Afterwards, there were many questions for the speakers, who spoke on a range of Web 2.0 topics, and represented different sectors of medical librarianship, including, academic, hospital and public health department libraries. Christine attended the Section Council meeting on Saturday; it gave her a good overview as incoming chair, in terms of preparing the budget and the two reports. The Section shuffle, which was new this year, was better attended than anticipated. It was quite crowded for awhile. The hope is that MLA continues it next year.

4. Incoming Chair Elect's Report: Mellanye Lackey

Mellanye discussed some possible topics for next year's MLA: semantic web, information pathways for artificial intelligence, showing the documentary series called "Natural Causes" which has been shown at the APHA conference. *Ifusions* is theme next year. There is also Mary Ryan's idea of workplace balance. Discussion: Some comments and ideas were: Technological innovation seems popular, environmental health issues, consumer health and wellness in the workplace issues, workplace balance, Native population in Hawaii and Pan Asia in collaboration with the history section, global public health or rural public health - appropriate populations that are dispersed across the water. It was suggested that we use technology in program itself. Format—Guest or invited speakers, panels, progressive agenda. Other ideas were Asian journal literature such as the *Experimental Animals Journal*, beyond searching PubMed, gray literature, more global/international focuses. Mellanye passed around a sheet for additional ideas. Proposals are due Oct 6.

5. Continuing Education Chair's Report: Teresa Hartman

The CE Chair has resigned and did not submit a report beforehand. A new CE Chair will be recruited shortly.

6. Membership Chair's Report: Mellanye Lackey

The PH/HA section has 136 individual members, 11 institutional members; 147 in total. International members are from Australia, Belize, three from Canada, Hong Kong, Ireland and Norway. 637 members responded to a recent MLA survey. Some interesting points are 44% were age 50-59, which was more than the other age groups of members.

7. Newsletter Editor's Report: Linda Spitzer

A new newsletter editor is sought. We are moving towards the blog format.

8. Web Committee Chair's Report: Alison Bobal

Alison has installed blog software on the PH/HA website.

9. Client Relations Committee Chair's Report: Co-chairs, Joey Nicholson

Joey Nicholson, who is co-chair with Nancy Schaefer, reported that the Sewell fund continues to be a positive experience for librarians connecting with other librarians working in public health. The committee is looking for more people to help review applications late July to early August.

10. Archivist's Report: Helen Look

As usual, give Helen your reports for the archive.

11. Section Council Representative Report: Helen Look and Melissa Rethlefsen

There were at least five people at the Section Council meeting at this business meeting (representing other sections). A proposed new policy is to include individuals from affiliated organizations on the section listserv. Affiliated members and librarians from other organizations are eligible for discounted price for the MLA conference. The MLA president is interested in learning about any section membership issues that she should address.

A proposed Section Council change, which necessitates a change in the bylaws, will be voted on by the MLA membership over the summer, will be for the chair and past chair, or the incoming chair, to attend Section Council. PH/HA may need to provide support for two individuals, instead of one, in the amount of \$300 each. However, hotel rates for MLA2009 in Hawaii will be less expensive than Chicago (\$199 to \$250). There will be two hotel options.

Future MLA meetings will be in:

2009 – Honolulu

2010 – Washington, DC

2011 – Minneapolis

2012 – Seattle

2013 – Baltimore

2014 – Chicago

2015 – Vancouver

Concerning MLA2008, fifty percent of papers that were submitted were accepted this year. 78% of the posters were accepted.

12. Partners Representative Report: Kris Alpi

This is an exciting year for Partners, due to the new leadership. Lisa Lang is the new NLM person with a background in public policy. “Wonderful opportunity to work together.” Nancy Allee and Ron Bialek taught a class on community health status indicators. Rollout on the CHSI website will soon be announced in the CDC’s journal, ***Preventing Chronic Disease***. The National Agricultural Library has joined PHPartners; Kathy Alessi is a registered dietician. “Against the Odds” is a new NLM exhibit; postcards are available at the NLM booth. Kris talked about a potential web-based course on the Framingham study from dbGaP, NCBI’s genotype and phenotype database. Would the public health community and librarians be interested? There are two Partners demos in the NLM booth during this year’s MLA conference. Hathy Simpson reported on the New Topic pages coming. The PHPartners site is content rich. To find out what’s new, there is an email announcement every Friday or you can set up RSS feeds.

Marie Ascher spoke about proper advertising for the core journal project, reviewing the links, and fresh eyes always help. She is working with MLA on public health accreditation boards and other credentialing in public health--how MLA may insert language on information practice into their credentialing standards and what they say about knowledge-based information.

PubMed hedges may need to be changed in the Healthy People 2020. Lisa talked about the course on community health status indicators may be released in the fall for additional training for the library community. It is important because it shows developing public health indicators at county level, and also with national and peer counties. It probably will be a webinar.

New Business

1. PHHA Core Journal Project Version 3: Matt Wilcox and Debra Revere

The core project includes Marie Ascher, Barb Folb, Ann Manhavan, Beata Pach, Debra Revere and Robin Featherstone, an NLM associate fellow who has been at Yale. Version 3 is underway; revised timelines, announcements will appear soon on PH/HA listserv. Please pass on this information to your colleagues. Public comment period has been useful. Vendors (Ovid and CABI) have talked to Matt concerning their global health database. Christine suggested moving the updating process to a wiki format, but this suggestion was countered by the perspective that the core journal list should not be changed frequently because it would confuse librarians who consult it. However, updating the list every other year can be revisited. The committee will track new journals that may be included. It is a formalized list, version 3 vs. ongoing beta. The spreadsheet format is coming with this version which will make it easier to use. Discussion ensued

on approaching JMLA about publishing the list, using the list for benchmarking, collection development, and using it to argue with administration against cutbacks to public health collections.

2. PH/HA Research Award Presentation: Marcus Banks

The award was presented to Kris Alpi and Mary Adams for their JMLA paper:

Alpi KM, Adams MG. Mapping the literature of public health and community nursing. *J Med Libr Assoc.* 2007 Jan;95(1):e6-9.

We will try to award high quality research papers every year, finances permitting. The research award is based on publication in the last 3 years, 2006-2009 and the purpose is to support and recognize research within our field of librarianship.

3. PH/HA “Cool Web Things” Task Force: Melissa Rethlefsen

This new task force has attracted many volunteers. At present, it focuses on three areas of Web 2.0 technologies: Converting the PH/HA newsletter from Word and PDF formats to a blog with RSS feeds. Currently, we are without a newsletter editor. However, the task force will work with the Web Committee Chair to undertake the conversion to blog format. Helen Look has been developing a survey that will assess if public health librarians are working with their public health professionals in using web 2.0 technologies, which will be launched sometime this summer. The third project is to set up a social bookmarking account for public health librarians. Christine Marton has been working on that. In Mark Funk’s talk on Sunday, the PH/HA section was prominent! At the Partners meeting there was a brief discussion of a CDC wiki. 2020 people have developed a wiki and blog; a bliki. Lisa Wallis is on the MLAnet editorial board. She informed attendees that each MLA section may have their own wiki space. MLANET may install Mediawiki, the wiki technology that underpins Wikipedia.

4. PH/HA Blog and Blog Policies: Alison Aldrich

Alison conducted a survey concerning the conversion of the PH/HA newsletter from its current PDF format to blog format, and the response from the membership to this proposed change was overwhelmingly positive, although 100% agreement was not achieved. Currently we have a shell of a blog on the PH/HA website. Alison had some questions about posting policies, and how the blog committee and the newsletter committee will work together to publish the newsletter. The Educational Media and Technologies Section has a draft policy about their blog, which we should consult. There was discussion on delineating roles of the Web Committee Chair and the blog editor and the blog committee, and installing and maintaining the software. The decision to move to blog format for the section newsletter will be revised, based on any changes to the layout and content of the PH/HA website, changes in blog software, and issues

concerning the scope of the content, and editorial control and consistency of the blog newsletter. The official document for the archive could exclude the comment posts. The relationship between posting to the PH/HA listserv and posting to the PH/HA newsletter blog was discussed. Only PH/HA members would be able to post content to the blog. All posts would be visible to public. The listserv would still be used by members to post questions and information to the membership-at-large. It is envisioned that the newsletter blog would be used as a private forum. It was noted that not all PH/HA members subscribe to the PH/HA listserv. The listserv does get a lot of commercial spam messages, which are deleted by the listserv administrator. Discussion on opening up the listserv to non-members ensued. Some section listservs are just announcement lists. Discussion on who can post to the blog is hard to resolve without a blog editor. Those who will have columns in the blog newsletter will have accounts for the blog software, so that they can submit content. A suggestion was made to highlight blog entries through the PH/HA listserv. Policies for posting to the blog could become the first post on the blog.

5. Nominating committee process--time for an overhaul? Marcus Banks

Marcus noted that there are three people on the nominating committee, but not much for them to do. Did we want to disband this committee? The past chair may have more responsibility soon with the Section Council change. Discussion followed about increasing the potential diversity of those nominated, instead of relying on insiders' contacts. The other committee members do make other contributions to the section, including validating ballots and proposing changes to section bylaws. The suggestion was made to appoint an ad hoc Bylaws committee. No change was agreed upon at this time.

6. PHHA Guest Speaker Task Force Recommendations: Marcus Banks, Kris Alpi, Julie Esparza

Marcus followed up on what he had uncovered earlier in the meeting. This committee was formed because PH/HA did not have policies covering guest speakers. The committee examined MLA policies, which are unclear. It was decided that PH/HA would pay a \$150 per hour rate for guest speakers and all of their travel expenses. So, as not to deplete the treasury, a balance of \$3,000 has to remain in the PH/HA treasury.

7. PH/HA Continuing Education Recognition Task Force Report: Teresa Hartman

No action. Teresa has resigned and no work was done and no survey was posted. There was some discussion concerning AHIP accepting the credentialing from other organizations that provide CE. APA and nursing courses are accepted for AHIP credit.

8. E-Patients: The Techno Cultural Revolution of Health Consumers

PH/HA was asked to contribute approximately \$2000 to a potential MLA2009 Symposium. \$500.00 was agreed upon as a more reasonable amount for the section to contribute to this proposed event. Besides funding, what role will PH/HA play? Discussion concerning PH/HA involvement and the topic for the symposium ensued. Did we want to get more information and distribute a survey to gauge members' interest?

9. Additional Topic: Free Standing Public Health Libraries

From a recent message on the listserv, Kris Alpi has visited free standing public health libraries and is still working on her report.

10. Other news:

Several Sewell fund recipients were able to work together. As a result, they submitted a proposal to APHA for the development of a public health learning institute, which was accepted. Joey Nicholson, Mellanye Lackey, Lisa McGuire, and Cynthia Khan will be teaching an evidence-based public health class.

11. PH/HA Scholarship: Marcus Banks

Marcus led a discussion on assisting PH/HA members with financial costs for attending the annual MLA conference, in particular when it is held in remote locations, such as Hawaii in 2009. Marcus will form a committee to provide funding to section members who present papers at MLA. The Medical Library Education section supports students who give papers. The Midwest chapter has a scholarship for students and recent professionals (2 years) to attend their meeting, as a way of encouraging them to become active members. The Hospital Library Section (HLS) provides \$250 to members who make a paper presentation. Vancouver and Hawaii are often considered international destinations. One thing to consider is that the section budget will be losing money because this funding will not be sustainable. If your institution is not supporting you, you could be eligible for funds. This new scholarship committee should recruit both a student member and a member who is unable to attend MLA as their perspectives will be of particular value.

12. Lunch: Marcus Banks

Meet at the hotel registration desk at noon if you are interested in getting together for lunch.

Motion to adjourn was made by Marcus Banks, and seconded by Mary Riordan.
The meeting adjourned at 8:58 a.m.