

Attendees

Heather-Ann Laird, Marlo Young, Harvey Brenneise, Win Sewell, Neil Rambo, Laura Larsson, Will Olmstead, Matt Wilcox, Stephanie Normann, Ginny Tanji, Peg Hewitt, Jan Aleccia, Jocelyn Rankin, Betsy Humphreys, Beverlee R. Hall, Marie Ascher.

Chair Kathel Dunn called the meeting to order at 12:30 pm.

Election results: Helen Look is Chair, 200-2001. Matt Wilcox is Chair-elect and Section Program Planner for 200-2001. Peg Hewitt is Secretary/Treasure.

Continuing Officers: Harvey Brenneise, Membership Committee, Lola Purvis, Archives, Kris Alpi, Newsletter/Webmaster, and Peg Hewitt, Section Council Representative.

Reports of Officers and Committees

The 1999 minutes and financial report were read and approved. (Peg Hewitt for Betty Cohen). We discussed what we can do with our treasury money. Guidelines to maintain MLA's non-profit status suggest that we keep one year's operating expenses fluid in the treasury. What else can we do with the Section's money? 1) contribute to MLA scholarships and grants funds (e.g. the McClure Fund). 2) provide refreshments at meetings. 3) pay for publication of a) paper newsletter, b) directories, c) core lists, pathfinders, etc. d) gifts, expenses, and/or honoraria for invited speakers, e) promotional materials. Other suggestions should be sent to Kathel, Helen, or Peg. All suggestions will be posted on the web page.

Peg Hewitt, Section Council Representative, reported on Section issues. One new Section was formed; the Corporate Information Services Section. One Section changed its name: Medical School Libraries changed to Library Management and Leadership Section. Two new Special Interest Groups (SIGs) were formed: Voyager SIG and African American Alliance Librarians SIG. There is a new manual for SIGs, created by the Section Council Sections/SIG Review Committee that should help SIGs understand and use the existing MLA structures. It is available on MLANet. A new Web Committee will oversee Section Council's web page move from a university site to MLA headquarters. Gerald (Jerry) Perry, MLANet Liaison, will chair the new committee. In his dual capacity, Jerry wants input on any MLANet issues. The fees for hosting Section web pages will be addressed by this new committee, as well as timeliness, search engine questions, SIG web pages, and web page design. Laura Larsson is also on the MLANet board.

The Continuing Education Committee is seeking developers for short courses and internet courses. The committee is working on instructor evaluation questions. The Credentialling Committee for the Academy of Health Information Professionals outlined simplified procedures, available on MLANet.

Beverlee Hall, Section Council Alternate, will volunteer for the Section Council Credentialling Committee. Members will monitor the Section's listserv for the committee and also report back to the Section.

The 1999 Section programming received 198 abstracts for contributed (peer reviewed) papers, with a 40% acceptance rate. Discussion took place concerning the "fixed program grid" and the limit on the number of Section program and business meeting slots.

Section Council was greeted by Michael Holman, President-elect of MLA. The theme for MLA 2001 is "2001

Information Odyssey". Michael's priorities for the year include "promoting a passion for the profession: keeping eyes on the prize", technology issues, and revising the MLA strategic plan to reflect how we view ourselves in the future. He wants MLA to become a more virtual association, and to publish more on MLANet (for example, the contributed papers and poster sessions from the annual meeting) and to use evidence-based librarianship. He proposes a link with a firm such as Microsoft to provide certification in computer technology, and CE courses with a technology track.

Frieda Weise, MLA president, reported on her presidential year. Research and Advocacy were her themes. Reports on the research and media coverage are reported on in her talk and in MLA publications. Carla Funk reported on changes at MLA Headquarters in Chicago. Kate Corcoran, longtime MLAHQ membership director, is now Director of Research and Information Systems. Beverly Bradley is the new Coordinator for Member Services. Overall, there is a staff reduction of .75 FTE. Meeting registration was outsourced this year. There is a new annual meeting planner. There is a big jump in new members, and 50% join on MLANet. MLAHQ is working on recruiting new members and on advocacy efforts, and the firm helping MLA, PCI, received an award this year for their work.

Nancy Henry, Section Council Chair, asked that the Section Council Communications Committee (Peg Hewitt, Section Council Vice Chair is Chair of the Communications Committee) look into the utility of the Section brochures and how the Section Council table at annual meeting can be more dynamic, to reflect the important place Sections have in the organization and the meeting.

Nancy Henry, Section Council Chair, outlined some MLA Board issues: Hospital Library standards will be revisited. Should the *Bulletin of the Medical Library Association* change its name? What should MLA be doing about career services, recruiting, diversity? The Benchmarking Network (formerly a task force) will look at advertising. Is sponsorship of an event advertising or not?

Kathel Dunn, Chair, gave a report for Kris Alpi, Newsletter/Webmaster. There were two newsletters this year. Thanks to Win Sewell, Laura Larsson, and Karyn, and everyone else who submitted material. Laurie Isenberg is doing a piece on the 'grey literature'. Kris will write about a Public Health Electronic Journals Club. There have been 198 hits this year.

Harvey Brenneise, Membership Committee, gave a report. Harvey will represent us on the MLA Membership Committee.

Kathel Dunn, Chair, reported on her year. 130 people attended the Section Program on the Grey Literature, a good turnout, and PH/HA will produce a 'white paper' on the subject. Kathel wants to emphasize the Section's leadership role. We can/should be represented in national committees and task forces, such as the Partners/NLM meeting. We can provide core bibliographies and experts rosters. Stephanie suggests a task force for inclusion of public health journals in MEDLINE. Harvey will produce an 'electronic rolodex' of members, with fields of expertise.

Helen Look, Chair-elect, reported on program ideas for MLA 2001. Ideas will be posted on the website. Kris Alpi reminds us of the Public Health listserv [ppha.mla@umich.edu]. Laura reminded us of the importance of involvement in other professional associations, such as American Public Health Association. APHA will be in Boston November 12-16, and there is a \$500 stipend available. See *PH/HA Newsletter*.

Respectfully submitted,
Peg Hewitt
Secretary/Treasurer