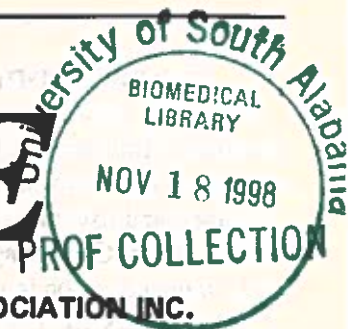


SYNAPSE

NEWSLETTER OF ALABAMA HEALTH LIBRARIES ASSOCIATION INC.



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Fall 1998

Navigating the Change: Wave of the Future

ALHeLA's 18th Annual Meeting with the theme "Navigating the Change: Wave of the Future" was held in Mobile on August 20-21, 1998. ALHeLA was fortunate to have great speakers for our Annual Meeting.

In the early morning on Thursday, August 20, Steven MacCall, instructor of University of Alabama School of Library and Information Studies, taught a workshop "Managing Electronic Biomedical Knowledge Resources: From 'Hot' Lists to Clinical Digital Libraries." Steven presented an approach to managing electronic biomedical knowledge resources that is from the perspective of the clinical user's desktop. Steven suggested that health sciences information professionals can do more by analyzing the needs of off-site users and by building clinical digital libraries that are working collections of biomedical knowledge resources.

In the afternoon, Harmon Straiton, Assistant Dean for Information Services, Auburn University Libraries, acquainted us with "Medicine, the Federal Government, and the Web: the 21st Century." In his humorous style, Harmon presented a brief history and rationale for the dissemination of information, publications, and computer files by the Federal government since 1789 to the present and beyond. Emphasis was placed on the dynamic identification and demonstration of appropriate Web search engines and techniques, tricks, and tips, numerous Web sites, and selected electronic titles of value to Medical and Veterinary Medical librarians as well as other professionals and practitioners.

In the evening, our annual banquet was held on the USS Alabama Battleship on the Mobile Bay. People enjoyed the

self-guided tour on the ship before the banquet. Some conference attendees were able to take home some wonderful door prizes.

On Friday morning, Carol Tenopir, professor at the school of Information Sciences, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, delivered the keynote address "Librarians as Navigators in the Technology Storm." Dr. Tenopir talked about the impact that online technology has had on libraries, librarians, and library users over the last decade, now, and in the future. ALHeLA members shared Dr. Tenopir's vision of the librarians' roles in the future. Later that morning, Sue Medina, director of Network of Alabama Academic Libraries, Tom Williams, director of Biomedical Library and Media Production Services, University of South Alabama, and Steven MacCall joined Dr. Tenopir in a lively panel discussion.

The meeting was closed with the business meeting and lunch. For details of the business meeting, see the minutes also in this issue.

Submitted by Jie Li

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Thanks from the Program Chair

ALHeLA 18th Annual Meeting is in history now. Thanks are due to so many people for their assistance and advice in planning and executing the meeting. Martha Verchot and Geneva Bush, Continuing Education Committee Co-Chairs, did a tremendous job in planning and inviting two excellent CE instructors for our CE courses. Geneva also helped with local arrangement and decorating the banquet room. Kay Hogan and Pat Higginbottom's tips and suggestions are a great help in planning the meeting. Thanks also go to Tom Williams's help in fund raising; Judy Burnham's suggestions and advice in planning the meeting, as well as help in getting goodies; Lisa Russel's advice for money matters; Susan Deming and Joy Harriman's contributing to goody bags; Sally Murray, Diane Williams and Ray Butler's setting up the equipment; Anne Romano's picking up our speaker; Kay Hogan, Joan Lukins, Jay Harris and Martha Cook's help with registration and the ALHeLA executive board for their suggestions and advises.

ALHeLA is grateful to our excellent speakers, Carol Tenopir, Steven MacCall, Harmon Straiton, Sue Medina, and Tom Williams, for their willingness to contribute to our profession in bringing their special expertise to us.

Thanks to our meeting sponsors, ALHeLA could keep our registration fees low. Thanks to OVID, Information Access Company, Blackwell's, EBSCO, Majors and Tuscaloosa Library Bindery for financial support of our meeting. Thanks also to other vendors and organizations who contributed by donating door prizes and goodies: Alfred Jaeger, Highsmith, Roche Laboratories, Medical Economics, Mobile Gas Service Corp., USA Hospitals, USA Bookstore, USA Biomedical Library SOUTHmed information Network, Mobile Infirmary Medical Center, Providence Hospital of Mobile, and Medical Library Association.

Finally, thank all of you who attended the annual meeting. For those who missed this year's conference, be sure to watch out for ALHeLA '99 annual meeting.

Submitted by Jie Li

Update: Access to Medical Informatics for Continuing Medical Education

In 1997-98, 238 copies of Access to Medical Informatics for Continuing Medical Education (the Alliance Manual) were

sold by The Alliance for Continuing Medical Education (ACME), with ALHeLA receiving royalties of \$3.75 for each book for a total of \$893.00.

The manual was originally developed for a workshop sponsored by the Medical Association of the State of Alabama in 1996 and was revised for a national audience at the request of the ACME.

ALHeLA was contacted by ACME in early 1998 regarding a revision, as ACME had almost sold out of the first printing. This proposal was presented to the ALHeLA Executive Committee and approved. Two former participants could not participate and other ALHeLA members were recruited.

Those participating in the second revision were Judy Burnham, Geneva Bush, Pat Higginbottom, Kay Hogan, Tammy Lee, Helvi McCall, Sally Murray, Mary Fran Prottzman, Mike Perry, and Lisa Russell. Mary Fran Prottzman developed the index, and Judy Burnham was the editor.

The ACME had advertised the manual in their monthly publication in the spring and already have some back orders for the revised edition.

An article describing this project of the ALHeLA will be in the January 1999 issue of the Bulletin of the Medical Library Association.

Submitted by Judy F. Burnham

News from Alabama

University of South Alabama Biomedical Library:

It is with deep regret that the Biomedical Library announces the retirement of Pat Rodgers. Pat has worked for the Biomedical Library for 22 years in a variety of positions. She has joined Harrassowitz as Director of Library Services for North America, opening an office for the organization in Mobile.

Judy Burnham has moved to the Campus site and has been named Assistant Director for Administrative and Regional Services and Jie Li has been named Medical Center Site Coordinator.

Geneva Bush served as Registrar for the recent annual meeting of the Alabama Library Association which was held at the Grand Hotel.

At the annual meeting of the Medical Library Association, which was held in Philadelphia in May, Tom Williams served as chair of the Awards Committee, Pat Rodgers assumed responsibility for the Credentialing

Committee and Judy Burnham assumed responsibility as Chair of the Nursing and Allied Health Resource Section. Pat and Judy attended the Leadership Institute, which was held for those assuming leadership responsibility in MLA.

Submitted by Judy F. Burnham

News from National Library of Medicine

Handbook for Library Managers:

The new 1998 Handbook for Library Managers is now available. This version of the Handbook was updated by one of our Regional Advisory Council members. The SE/A would like to thank Becky Johnston, Southern Regional AHEC, Fayetteville, NC, for her efforts. The 1998 Handbook is available free of charge. Contact Ruth Collins, mcol001@umaryland.edu, to request a copy.

NN/LM SE/A Region News:

The National Library of Medicine is pleased to announce that 37 public libraries will take part in a multi-state pilot project designed to increase public awareness of and access to health information via the Internet. Of these, 21 sites are located in the Southeastern/Atlantic Region. The project will evaluate the degree to which public libraries and the Internet can help meet the informational needs of the public. The public libraries from the SE/A Region are located in Alabama, DC, Georgia, Maryland, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Virginia. Network member supporting libraries -- George Washington University, University of Alabama at Birmingham, MUSC, and Eastern Shore AHEC -- will offer PubMed, Internet Grateful Med, and/or Internet training as needed. SE/A staff will also offer training and other support. For more information about the public library project, contact the SE/A outreach coordinators, Sandy Teitelbaum, steitelb@umaryland.edu, or Lisa Boyd, lboyd@umaryland.edu.

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ALABAMA HEALTH LIBRARIES ASSOCIATION Annual Business Meeting -- MINUTES

August 21, 1998

I. CALL TO ORDER

Kay Hogan, Past President (for Pat Higginbottom, President), called the meeting to order at 11:40 a.m. at the Ramada Inn by the Bay, Mobile, Alabama.

II. MINUTES

A motion was made and carried to dispense with the reading of the minutes from the last Executive Committee meeting.

III. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Judy Burnham announced that the University of South Alabama will host the upcoming teleconference "Evidence-Based Health Care in Action". UAB will be hosting the same teleconference in Birmingham.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

- A. **Alliance Manual:** Judy Burnham reported that 238 copies of the Alliance Manual ("Access to Medical Informatics for Continuing Medical Education") last year. ALHeLA received royalties of \$3.75 per book, for a total of \$893.00. The original manual sold out last year; several ALHeLA members have worked on revising the manual this year. Mary Fran Prottzman is working on indexing the revised manual now. Since The Alliance for CME advertised the manual before its revision was completed, several copies are already on back order.
- B. **NetRx Project:** Kay Hogan reported on the results of the NetRx grant project. Five workshops were scheduled -- Montgomery, Tuscaloosa, Huntsville, Auburn, and Dothan. The workshops in Auburn and Dothan were canceled because of an insufficient number of registrants. Martha Verchot and Judy Burnham taught the workshop to a total of 29 attendees. The project received good evaluations from attendees, including the outgoing MASA President. Despite the cancellation of the more rural classes and going over budget, the project was a definite success for ALHeLA. This project was a good experience of working cooperatively with MASA, as well as raising the profile of health librarians in the state.

V. NEW BUSINESS

None reported.

VI. TREASURER'S REPORT

Lisa Rains Russell reported that ALHeLA currently has a wonderful balance of over \$10,000. Additional expenses from the annual conference will be paid soon; also, the SERHOLD billings will go out soon and that will provide some reimbursement monies. Judy Burnham commented that since ALHeLA has a comfortable cash reserve, we should identify projects, etc. and put this money to good use.

VII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. **Bylaws:** No report.
- B. **Continuing Education:** Martha Verchot reported the 26 participants attended each CE course. The evaluations were overwhelmingly positive.
- C. **Directory:** Jan Burns distributed the new directories to members. The directory has a new look -- easy to update binder with room for expansion. Jan plans to add more ALHeLA history and information on new activities/services.
- D. **Liaison:** No report.
- E. **Membership:** Marian Morris reported that ALHeLA currently has 70 members, 44 individual and 26 institutional. Eight of the individuals are new members this year. Membership has grown by 13 members since Fall 1995.
- F. **Synapse:** Diane Williams reported that the next deadline is Friday, September 4.
- G. **Union List:** Robert Avant asked that ALHeLA members continue to let him know of title changes, etc. since NLM stopped tape-loading into SERHOLD. Next year the board will discuss solutions for getting holdings into SERHOLD.
- H. **Nominating Committee:** This year's committee consisted of Kay Hogan, Martha Cook, and Mary Fran Prottzman. Kay Hogan announced the proposed new officers: President-Elect, Joan Lukins; Secretary, Marian Morris; Members-At-Large, Susan Deming, Inez Pinkard, and Susan Seay. There being no nominations from the floor, the above nominees were elected by voice vote.
- I. **ALHeLA Student Award:** Martha Cook reported that the medical libraries class only had two students this year. Even though the award was publicized, no one submitted an entry. Steven MacCall is working on increasing enrollment in medical libraries classes.
- J. **AdHoc Committee on Recruitment and Training:** Steven MacCall reported that he is developing a Medical Informatics Program at the library school to begin next fall. He will be using the other committee members, and perhaps others from SLIS and ALHeLA, to provide input into curriculum and recruiting for the program, which in turn will provide recruiting for the profession in general.

VIII. 1998 ANNUAL MEETING

Jie Li, President-Elect, presented a plaque to Pat Higginbottom for her work as President; Kay Hogan accepted the award for Pat. A total of 30 attendees participated in this year's conference. Jie thanked Martha Verchot and Geneva Bush for their hard work on the CE program. She also thanked all those listed in the program who helped with the conference in other ways. Jie then thanked our speakers and reminded the attendees to fill out their conference evaluation forms.

IX. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Kay Hogan announced that Tammy Lee has accepted a position with the Medical College of Georgia and will be moving soon. Also, Diane Whited's husband was transferred to Louisiana so she'll be moving, too.

X. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:05 p.m.

*Respectfully submitted,
Marian Morris (for Inez Pinkard, Secretary)*

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