

ANNUAL REPORT
OCTOBER 2004
PAULA RAIMONDO
CHAPTER COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MLA CHAPTER COUNCIL MEETING, WASHINGTON DC, MAY 2004

Pat Thibodeau, MLA President: Thanked Chapter Council for its leadership, and thanked the chapters for their involvement in the benchmarking initiative.

Her priorities:

- Advocacy for medical librarians: articles in US News & World Report, Medicine on the Net. Toolkit won a publicity award from the Chicago Publicity Club.
- There will be scholarly publishing task force.
- MLA sent letters to hospital administrators who are closing hospital libraries.

Joanne Marshall, President-elect:

- Praised M. Holman's and other predecessors' strategic plan. Plans to carry on work done in strategic plan.
- Celebrate diversity – theme of San Antonio MLA. Will continue advocacy; evidence based practice; diversity in our roles.
- We should look at how we can measure our outcomes.

MJ Tooley, President-elect Elect:

- Wants to expand MLA's role; plans to have focus groups.
- Wants MLA to invite high school students to EACH annual meeting.

Carla Hayden, MLA:

- Attended many chapter meetings; learned a lot. Reminded us about the Open Access teleconference scheduled for 9/22/04.
- MLA 2005 dates: May 14-May 19 2005 in San Antonio.
- CE classes will be on Saturday and Sunday in 2005.
- MLA's Opening party will be on Sunday night.
- Back and current issues of BMLA/JMLA are up electronically.
- Suggested we use the Toolbox to use to keep track of AHIP related activities.
- There are 300 student members in MLA.

Linda Garr, Chapter Council Chair:

- MLA considering taskforce on hospital libraries – closing, reopening, job loss, etc.
- CORE – Committee on Research and Evaluation Task Force – putting toolboxes together. Connie Schardt working on this.

Many chapter council representatives and alternates concur – we need MLA's help with a system for paying dues, and meeting registration. This was discussed in the presence of Carla and the MLA presidents.

CHAPTER COUNCIL MEMBERS REPORTED:

Vanderbilt University has received a grant to implement "Information Specialist in Context". Vanderbilt wants to invite chapter participation.

MLA is working with NLM to re-establish 'gold standard' searching project.

MLA is working with Copyright Clearance Center to reduce fees. MLA needs time to discuss this at chapter meetings – open forum for MLA, optimally an hour.

AHIP membership increased this year - especially in the provisional category. In 2003 there were 52 provisional members and in 2004 there are 70. Mentors are needed for the new provisional members.

MLA members are encouraged to go to the Mentoring database on MLANet and sign up to be a mentor.

ELECTIONS

Nominating committee nominees from Chapter Council will be:

Linda Garr Markwell, AnnBeth Crabtree, Jay Daly, Gail Yokote, Kathel Dunn and Login Ludwig.

Sarah Knox was elected Chapter Council Vice Chair

Possible joint councils meeting topics (i.e., Chapter and Section Councils):

- Benchmarking
- AAHSLD
- Libqual for academic libraries
- Libqual for hospital libraries

More recently,

A Chapter Council member has asked for response to a suggestion that individual chapters fund free lunches for new chapter members at the Roundtables next year (San Antonio, 2005). There was some positive response.

I thought it might be a good idea for a number of reasons:

- Roundtable lunches tend to be expensive (between \$20 - \$30)
- Funding the Roundtable luncheon may encourage individual MLA members to join chapters (we could add this as a membership incentive if Membership Committee okays)
- Good PR for the individual chapters

I thought a give-away at the MAC business meeting could include a free lunch or two (again, limited to new MAC members only). Please discuss at the Exec Board meeting. Thank you.