



MLA CERTIFICATION EXAMINATION

Historically Speaking

The certification examination, administered by the Medical Library Association, is frequently discussed among medical librarians. Comments range anywhere from very favorable to very critical. The current certification code was first adopted in 1974 but did not become effective until 1978. This past November marked the fifth testing under the new code. Listed below are the dates the examination was given, the number of people who took the examination and the number who became certified.

Table with 3 columns: DATE, No. Taking Examination, No. Certified. Rows include dates from April 14, 1978 to November 6, 1981.

This table indicates that although the number of candidates taking the examination increased each year, the number of successful candidates decreased.

This past summer, acting on the recommendation of the Certification Examination Review Committee, the MLA Board of Directors approved some modified procedures which should effect future results of the certification examination. The new procedures allow candidates who have already passed two sections of the examination the opportunity to retake the section originally failed.

Of the 206 candidates for the November 6, 1981 certification examination, 38 were available to take only the one section they had previously failed. This new procedure should help to increase the number of successful candidates taking the examination each year.

Nancy C. Fitzpatrick
St. Joseph Mercy Hospital,
Pontiac

Personally Speaking

I was nervous. I was nervous because I wasn't nervous! It had been 10 years since I had taken an exam, and yet, I couldn't bring myself to cram for this one.

That changed as I read the first question on the Technical Services section of the exam: "What is the AACRII entry for the National Library of Medicine?!! Oh, well, nerves. Calm down and plug onwards!

At MSU, I am a medical reference librarian and bibliographer for the large research collection as well as head of the Clinical Center Library, a branch of MSU Libraries, so my observations on the exam will reflect my dual responsibilities.

Working in a large academic library gives me access to the more obscure materials which were frequently used as choices in the questions. Two examples are the Cumulative Book Index and the resource which identifies Russian articles in translation. The large library setting also provides access to NLM computer services, a subject used frequently in the exam.

However, my responsibilities in a large library restrict me to reference and bibliography so that I was not very knowledgeable about questions dealing with library problems in other areas, eg. AACRII cataloging decisions, priorities in selecting an Automated serials acquisition system, or services a subscription agent should provide.

Some of the questions which were difficult to answer from my perspective as a reference librarian I was nevertheless able to answer from the perspective of a branch librarian. For example, the question about what services a subscription agent should provide I answered more easily as a branch librarian.

My overall impression of the exam was that there was an even and fair distribution of situations for small, medium, and large academic and health care institutions. Experience gained in a small library situation could be easily adapted and applied to the questions dealing with large institutions, and vice versa. The format of the questions was challenging and demanded thinking through the problems, yet again I felt they were fair.

To prepare for the exam another time, I would review more carefully the philosophy and ideas of the NLM classification scheme and AACRII. I would also review MEDLARS: the philosophy of NLM indexing, how MESH works, and the specific capabilities of the individual NLM databases.

Janet Parsch
Michigan State University
Science Library

1 Bull. Med. Libr. Assoc. 1979 Jan; 67:125
2 MLA News 1979 Feb; (111):7
3 Bull. Med. Libr. Assoc. 1981 Jan; 69:139
4 MLA News 1981 Feb; (132):7
5 MLA News 182 Jan; (141):13

# ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

## October 13, 1981

### I. Call to order

The MHSLA Annual business meeting was called to order at 3:30 PM, October 13, 1981 by Mildred Kingsbury, President, at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Dearborn, Michigan.

### II. Standing rules

Mildred Kingsbury asked that the standing rules for the annual meeting be accepted as distributed. Jean Harsteinstein moved that the rules be accepted as distributed, second Betty Rogers; motion carried.

### III. Introduction of MHSLA Officers and Board

Mildred Kingsbury introduced the 1980-81 MHSLA officers and Board. Present were: James Shedlock, President-Elect; Doris Blauet, Secretary; Marge Kars, Treasurer. Area representatives present were: Mildred Kingsbury, Upper Peninsula; Lee Ann McGaugh, Flint Area; Doris Asher, Mid-Michigan; Barbara Kormelink, Valley Regional; Kay Kelly, Northern Michigan; Gene Regenstein, South Central; Lynn Sorensen Sutton, Metro Detroit (in-coming); Edna Jolliff, Metro Detroit (outgoing); Geraldine Purcell, Parliamentarian. Helen Howley, Archivist, excused.

### IV. Minutes of the 7th Annual Business Meeting

Doris Blauet, Secretary, asked that the minutes of the 7th annual meeting be accepted as distributed. Dave Keddle moved to accept, second Hildegard Joseph; motion carried.

### V. Treasurer's Report

Marge Kars, Treasurer, reported that the balance on hand as of October 1st, was \$4,297.73. Betty Rogers moved to accept the report as read, second Diane Hawkins; motion carried.

### VI. Committee Reports

#### Education Committee

James Crooks, Chair, reported the following: the 1980 *Needs Assessment Survey* resulted in a series of workshops in Management Techniques for Health Sciences Librarians sponsored by the University of Michigan School of Library Science. The Committee proposed that the MICCLE representative to MHSLA become a working member of the Education Committee. Motion to accept the report by James Crooks, second Barbara Kormelink; motion carried.

#### Legislation Committee

David Keddle, Chair, reported that the Committee had sent letters on the following issues: a letter protesting the THOR Power Ruling was sent to Michigan state and federal representatives. In addition, a letter of support was sent to Michigan federal representatives for funding of the Medical Library Assistance Act. Motion to accept by David Keddle, second Lea Ann McGaugh; motion carried.

#### Committee on Michigan Library Organizations

David Keddle reported that the major concerns this past year have been legislation affecting libraries in Michigan and the status of the State Library. Motion to accept by David Keddle, second Lea Ann McGaugh; motion carried.

#### Publications Committee

Cathy Helbers, Chair, reported that issues no. 3, 4 and 5 of the MHSLA Newsletter was published; issue no. 4 was the first to be printed on the new masthead, based on the new MHSLA logo. Stationery also was printed with the new logo in the spring of 1981. The MHSLA Directory was published and distributed to members in the spring of 1981. Motion to accept by Cathy Helbers, second by Mary Dery; motion carried.

#### Medical Library Association Liaison Committee

Carole Colter, Chair, reported that the Committee had compiled and studied data on the pros and cons of MHSLA's applying for Chapter Status. A fact sheet was included in the September 1981 issue of the MHSLA Newsletter. The Committee asked that, having completed its task, it be dismissed as the Committee to study MLA Chapter Application in order to allow the MLA Liaison Committee to develop its activities. Motion to accept by Carole Colter, second Lea Ann McGaugh; motion to accept report carried.

Lee Ann McGaugh moved that MHSLA apply for Chapter Status, second James Shedlock; motion failed.

#### Ad Hoc Committee to Study Michigan Hospital Association Affiliation

Janet Parsch, Chair, reported that the Committee had met with a representative of MHA in March of 1981 and then proceeded to gather opinions and data via letters and questionnaires which were sent to local groups. Contacts were also made with 19 MHA Affiliate Organization presidents. A final report was made in the September issue of the MHSLA Newsletter. The Committee asked, that having completed its charge, it be dismissed. Motion to accept by Janet Parsch, second Betty Rogers; motion carried.

Motion to reject affiliation with MHA was made by Lea Ann McGaugh, second by Janet Caputo; motion failed. Since the motion to reject failed, MHSLA will apply for affiliation with MHA. It is the duty of the MHSLA Board to carry out this task.

#### Ad Hoc Committee on a Statewide Union List of Serials

Lynn Sorensen Sutton, Chair, reported that the committee had met five times during the year to fulfill its charge of presenting a plan for production of a statewide union list of serials. Two proposals are being considered by the Committee, one involving NLM the other utilizing OCLC. A report detailing these two plans was mailed to the membership for review and consideration. Motion to accept by Lynn Sorensen Sutton, second Barbara Kormelink; motion carried.

Because of recent developments, no definite plan for the production of this list has been decided. The Committee asked for discussion on this issue, after considerable discussion, the Committee Chair expressed her willingness to continue to work on this task.

### Ad Hoc Committee to Study Bylaws

Carole Colter, Chair, reported that all proposed revisions had been reviewed by Geraldine Purcell, PhD, MHSLA Parliamentarian. After review by the MHSLA Board the proposed revised bylaws were mailed to the membership during the first week of September. Members of the Bylaws Committee intend to present the proposed revisions at the Annual Meeting by use of transparencies. Carole Colter moved that the report be accepted and that the Committee, having completed its task, be dismissed, second, David Keddle; motion carried.

After an in-depth presentation of proposed bylaws changes by the Committee, the motion to adopt the bylaws revisions was made by Barbara Kormelink, second, Betty Rogers; motion carried.

### Archivist's Report

The Archivist's report was not read at the Annual Meeting, due to lack of time, however, a copy of the report was distributed to the membership.

### Executive Board Decisions

Since Executive Board Decisions have been published in the MHSLA News during 1981, they were not read at the Annual Meeting.

#### VII. Invitation to the 9th Educational Conference, 1982

Brian Simmons, on behalf of the Western Michigan Health Sciences Libraries, invited MHSLA to hold the 1982 meeting at Stouffer's Inn, Battle Creek, on October 13-15, 1982.

Invitation to the 10th Educational Conference, 1983

Norma Powers, on behalf of the Northern Michigan Health Sciences Libraries, invited MHSLA to hold the 1983 meeting in Traverse City in 1983.

#### VIII. Election Results

The election results were announced by Mildred Kingsbury, MHSLA President:  
President-Elect: Jacqueline Raphelson  
Secretary: Hildegard Joseph  
Treasurer: Cathy Helbers  
Nominating Committee: Betty Person, Lucy Lee, Rosemary Carter

#### IX. Presentation of a Gift to Mary E. McNamara

Mildred Kingsbury presented a silver bowl to Mary E. McNamara, to honor her contributions to MHSLA as Newsletter Editor, and to recognize her retirement after a career of dedication to Michigan librarianship. Faith Van Toll accepted for Mary.

#### X. Presidential Address

Mildred Kingsbury gave her presidential farewell address. The gavel was given to James Shedlock who then gave his incoming presidential address.

The meeting was adjourned by James Shedlock at 5:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Doris Blauet  
MHSLA Secretary

## Treasurer's Report January to October, 1981

### Receipts

Balance from previous accounts	\$4647.85
Dues	<u>\$1150.00</u>
Total	\$5797.85

### Expenses

Checks	4.55
Abbey Press	
Typesetting January	124.00
June	117.48
September	117.84
Wesserling Corp.	
Stationary	215.20
Stationary	141.10
Directory Covers	62.50
WSU .	
Masthead	16.00
Photocopy, postage, label	29.12
MHSLA Directory	145.38
Photocopy, postage, label	40.45
Refund	
C. Holmes	10.00
M. McNamara	
Graphics	15.08
MICCLE	
Dues	50.00
Typing	
S. Tolfree	28.00
Ballots	
P. Blauet	147.16
Quick Reliable Printing	
Bylaws	148.36
Gueff Printers	
Folders	<u>88.00</u>
Total expenses	\$1500.12
Total Balance on October 1, 1981	<u>\$4297.73</u>

Submitted by Marge Kars, Treasurer

## Conference Planning Committee

The Conference Planning Committee met in Battle Creek. Jean Parker, Chairperson, Western MHSLA, presented her report. The 1982 Conference will take place October 13 through 15 at Stouffers in Battle Creek, MI. Clarification was made between the roles of the local arrangements committee and the Conference Planning Committee. Committees have been established to handle arrangements. Jackie Raphelson will plan a meeting schedule and notify members.

## Board Highlights

The Board accepted with regret the resignation of James Shedlock as president. A letter from the Board will be sent to Jim wishing him success on his new job in North Carolina. Cathy Helbers, Treasurer, reported that she has mailed out membership notices and is also working on tax-exempt status for MHSLA.

The Board accepted the resignation of Jim Crooks from MHSLA as he has a new position. Jan Parsch accepted the Chair of the Education Committee on an interim basis. She presented the Education report which was accepted and forwarded to the Conference Planning Committee. The Board passed a resolution extending membership to the Thumb Area Medical Information Consortium with representation on the Board.

The Board will meet on March 5, 1982, in Lansing.

## Membership Form Insert

In this issue of the NEWS you will find a copy of an MHSLA Membership Application. We have included it for the convenience of our members who have not already renewed their membership for 1982 and as an incentive for other readers of the NEWS who might like to join MHSLA. Please feel free to circulate the form to anyone who might be interested in joining the association.

## CE Courses – Ann Arbor

The South Central Michigan Health Sciences Libraries Association is sponsoring two MLA CE courses this spring. The first is a two-day course to be held on April 12 and 13, 1982; it is CE 626 – Teaching Skills for Library Educators. The instructor will be Nancy Press of the Countway Library of Medicine. Registration is \$110.00 for MLA members and \$160.00 for non-MLA members.

The second course is CE 669 – Assertiveness and Human Relations Skills which will be offered on Monday, May 17, 1982. This course will be taught by Janette S. Caputo, the author of the syllabus. Registration for CE 669 is \$55.00 for MLA members and \$80.00 for non-MLA members. Both classes will be held at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in Ann Arbor, Michigan. Contact Cathy Helbers, Chelsea Community Hospital, Chelsea, MI 48118, for more details.

## President's Column

### The First and Last Word

I think most of you have heard that I resigned as your President effective January 19, 1982 in order to accept a position at the Health Sciences Library, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Consequently, this column becomes my first and last word to you as a MHSLA officer. Let me review what I believe to be the current state of the Association from the perspective of an acting President and then offer some statement to you as your newest Past-President.

Since the last annual business meeting much work has been done in terms of preparation for activities in 1982. Committee assignments have been made with most committee personnel remaining the same. Committee chairmen have been asked to formulate goals and objectives for their committees as a means of guiding their members toward definite accomplishments for 1982. Most importantly, the Conference Planning Committee has been reactivated and with the help of the large Education Committee and Local Arrangements Committee, plans are beginning to shape the 1982 educational conference into another successful MHSLA event. The Treasury is in a most ideal situation to support the 1982 conference and to take care of our publications program without causing a great deal of anxiety.

Another important feature of Association work that the membership should be made aware of is the smooth transition taking place between the old and new presidents. Jackie Raphelson and I have communicated frequently with each other, with members of the Board and with other Association members to make sure no piece of Association business slips through the cracks. It is also good to know that our bylaws are in such good order that sudden transitions between officers can take place without confusion and bad feelings. Congratulations should be extended (again!) to last year's Ad Hoc Committee on Bylaws and to our Parliamentarian for a job well done.

Let me make a brief comment that I think is pertinent to my recap of the state of the Association. I mentioned that our bylaws were in good order to provide guidance for internal changes without causing confusion. The condition of the bylaws is really only one small factor that supports the Association's work. The major and most important element that makes our Association work so well is the availability of good people who will take charge, create ideas and implement those ideas. Over the years I have become convinced that good, hardworking and concerned individuals make MHSLA a viable organization. MHSLA can protect and even invest this resource when each one of us makes an effort to find the best quality within our colleagues. In other words, we have to protect each other. Our organization is unique for associations, but eight local health groups do not make MHSLA viable. Our institutional affiliations are varied, but they do not carry any weight with influencing MHSLA as a progressive association. It is only our membership that can make MHSLA active and healthy. By appreciating what is unique in each of us, can we help MHSLA achieve its goals as a state-wide library organization.

As your newest Past-President I would like to offer my help in any way that I can towards the work of the Association. When I wrote my resignation letter I thanked the Board for their words of encouragement and expressions of support in my future career outside of Michigan. I would like to thank all the members of the Association for this same support. Knowing this encouragement and support is behind me has helped to take the sting out of leaving.

Jim Shedlock

## Executive Board Summary

The Executive Board meeting was held November 20, 1981 at Stouffers in Battle Creek, MI. President James Shedlock welcomed the group to the first 1981/82 Executive Board meeting.

The minutes of the annual business meeting were approved for distribution to the membership. Hildegard Joseph received the secretarial records from the outgoing Secretary, Doris Blauet. Treasurer, Cathy Helbers, reported that she and outgoing Treasurer, Marge Kars, are in the process of transferring funds to a new account in Ann Arbor. Because the fiscal year now runs from October 1 to September 30, a dues mailing was discussed. The Board agreed upon the contents for a letter to go out to the membership in December.

**Archivist.** No report. Committee appointments made by the President were discussed and approved by the Board. These appointments are for one year. The President will send letters of thanks to all outgoing committee members.

**Nominating committee:** Betty Person, Chair, Rosemary Carter and Lucy Lee. Hildegard Joseph will serve as Board Liaison.

**Publications Committee:** The committee will be chaired by Barbara Kormelink. Cathy Helbers will be Board Liaison.

**Education Committee:** James Crooks will be committee chairperson. Faith Van Toll will serve as MICCLE liaison. Doris Blauet will be Board liaison.

**Legislation Committee:** Pearl Ann Miller will be chairperson. Board liaison will be Jackie Raphelson.

**COMLO representative** is James Shedlock.

Committee Reports:

**Conference Planning Committee, 1981:** President James Shedlock reported that Sharon Phillips and her committee had prepared a 15 page evaluation report and the overall evaluation ranged from "good" to "excellent".

**Education Committee:** The Education Committee met during the October Conference. The speaker, Mr. Lynn Thomas, was very successful in gathering many ideas from the group that the committee can use in Conference planning or in workshops.

Old Business:

Old Business:

**MHA Affiliation:** A committee was established to investigate appropriate ways to handle affiliation. Committee members are B. Kormelink and Doris Asher. Cathy Helbers will be Board liaison.

New Business:

NLM has reduced the number of regional medical library systems to seven.

Michigan is now in Region 3 which also contains the Midwest Region.

TAMIC (Thumb Area Medical Information Consortium) will be invited to join MHSLA.

James Shedlock read a letter of appreciation from Mary McNamara for the gift presented to her at the October Conference.

The Board established an Ad Hoc Committee for Long Range Planning to be composed of the present President, President-Elect, and all the past presidents.

The next Board meeting will be held in March in either Lansing or Battle Creek.

**J. Raphelson, President-Elect**  
Hurley Medical Center, Flint

## Toward a Statewide Union List of Serials

The Ad Hoc Committee – Statewide Union List of Serials is charged with planning the production of a union list of serials to include the holdings of all health science libraries in Michigan that choose to participate. The Committee was pleased with the discussion on this matter at the MHSLA Annual Business Meeting in October 1981. The consensus of those present seemed to be to continue investigating the plan utilizing OCLC, joining the multi-type library state list of serials being advocated by the State Library and Michigan Library Consortium.

The Committee met in Lansing on November 10, 1981 with Sue Haskin from the State Library and Susan Fayad from Michigan Library Consortium. The State Library, working with the Regions of Cooperation (ROCs), is anxious for the health science library community to participate in the OCLC based multi-type state list of serials. Health Science libraries have long been recognized for their leadership in networking and interlibrary loan activities.

The ROCs have accepted the OCLC system as their standard for union listing. All fifteen ROCs will be involved to some extent in the state union list project. Some will be using their LSCA III funds to support union listing input. Therefore, if MHSLA wishes to pursue the OCLC state list plan, it is important that health science libraries be represented in ROC union listing activities.

Thus, the Committee urges that all MHSLA members become involved in their local ROC if they have not already done so. A good number of health science librarians are on the executive boards of their respective ROCs. While budgets have already been submitted for the next round of LSCA funds, it would be helpful to remind individual ROC boards that health science libraries are very interested and supportive of serials union listing.

The Committee Chairperson received a list from the State Library of all health science libraries who are participating in the various ROCs. This list has been distributed to members of MHSLA's Executive Board. As union listing plans develop in each ROC, MHSLA members will be advised of appropriate action. In the event that certain ROCs elect not to enter regional holdings in the state list, the Committee will attempt to identify libraries which could serve as agents in inputting holdings to OCLC.

One slight problem has been discovered with the OCLC system itself. The paper and COM offline products that OCLC plans to offer are not scheduled to display the individual holdings of libraries that are members of OCLC cataloging processing centers. Rather, it would show the composite holdings of all members of the center. This would affect the members of the Detroit Cooperative Cataloging Center (DC<sup>3</sup>) in Detroit, as well as others who may be members of public library cooperatives.

The Michigan Library Consortium has strongly protested this policy to OCLC. It is hoped that a positive solution will be forthcoming. If OCLC is unwilling to make this change, MLC will investigate taking the magnetic tape, which will contain the institution specific holdings, to a commercial vendor to produce the desired product.

One further area that the Committee will pursue this year is to open discussion with the Midwest Health Science Library Network (MHSLN), the current Region VII. Since Michigan, as part of the Kentucky-Ohio-Michigan Regional Medical Library Network, will unite with MHSLN later this year under the new RML configuration, it would behoove us to become familiar with union listing activities in that area.

Thus, the Committee is progressing towards its goal of the production of a Statewide Union List of Serials. We look forward to the continued cooperation of all MHSLA members in attaining that goal.

**Lynn Sorenson Sutton**  
Detroit-Macomb Hospitals Assoc.

## Local Group News

### Western Michigan Health Sciences Libraries Association

The group's activities have been centered around planning the MHSLA October meeting in Battle Creek. Committees have been formed and members are busily tending to the many details that are part of being local hosts for a state meeting.

### South Central Michigan Health Sciences Libraries Association

The most recent meeting of the group was held on January 29th at Eastern Michigan University. The results of the election of new officers were announced: President, Bonnie Gasparini; Vice-President, Diane Schwartz; Secretary, Haydee Cabrera; and Treasurer, Margo Dix. The meeting was followed by a program on Bibliographic Instruction presented by Diane Schwartz.

### Flint Area Health Sciences Library Network and Valley Regional Health Science Librarians

FAHSLN and VRHSL plan a joint meeting for May 20, 1982. It will be held at Hurley Medical Center's Hamady Health Science Library at 2:00 p.m. The guest speaker will be E. Marshall Goldberg, M.D., whose topic will be "Writing... medically speaking." In addition to his medical duties, Dr. Goldberg is also an author, lecturer, and television consultant.

### Mid-Michigan Health Sciences Libraries

Fifteen members of M-MHSLA met February 11th at Ingham Medical Center. After a presentation on Lifeline, a personal emergency service, by the Director of Volunteer Service, J. Lee Spyke, the group conducted its annual business meeting. Diane Hawkins from Pennock Hospital Medical Library in Hastings was elected secretary for the year; Judy Coppola from the Science Library of MSU was elected treasurer for a term of two years. Pearl Ann Miller of the Office of Health and Medical affairs will continue as chairperson for the remaining year of her two-year term. The next meeting will be held at the Alfred Taubman Medical Library at U-M on May 13th.

## Individual Items

**Dottie Eakin** joined U-M's Taubman Medical Library as Public Services Coordinator. She had been Associate Director for Technical Services at the Houston Academy of Medicine/Texas Medical Center Library.

**Jean Barnard** retired from Taubman as Senior Associate Librarian on December 31, 1981. She plans to spend time pursuing travel interests and a science fiction pastime.

**Bob Stout** joined Taubman's staff on February 1, 1982 as Assistant Librarian.

**Sandra Coon Dow** joined the Taubman reference staff on February 25, 1982.

**Jim Crooks** left Taubman to become Database Coordinator for the U-M library system.

**Janet Parsch** has been promoted to Assistant Head of Science Library at MSU. She has also taken Jim Crook's position as chairman of MHSLA's Education Committee.

**Jim Shedlock** has left his position at Shiffman Medical Library to become Director of Online Services at the University of North Carolina's Medical Library at Chapel Hill. **Jackie Raphelson**, Hurley Medical Center, Flint, will complete his term as president of MHSLA.

**Debby Froggatt** is the new librarian at Calumet Public Hospital in Laurium, Michigan. She replaces **Amanda Binoniemi**, who has become a full-time member of the reference staff at Michigan Tech.

**Mildred Kingsbury**, Marquette General Hospital, and **Beth Robertson**, Lansing General Hospital, have both completed initial Medline training.

**MHSLA News** is the official newsletter of the Michigan Health Sciences Libraries Association. Comments and inquiries may be sent to any member of the Publications Committee.

Barbara Kormelink, Chairman, Bay Medical Center  
Carole Colter, Midland Hospital Center, Midland  
Nancy C. Fitzpatrick, St. Joseph Mercy Hospital, Pontiac  
Cathy Helbers, Ex Officio Member, Chelsea Community Hospital, Chelsea  
Jae Walker, Sparrow Hospital, Lansing

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