**Minutes for the Fall, 2015, Business Meeting of the Health Science Librarians of Illinois—**

**October 24, 2015, in Peoria, Illinois**

**Attendees**

In-Person

Molly Horio (OSF St. Francis Medical Center, Peoria)

Emily Johnson (University of Illinois at Chicago Library of the Health Sciences—Peoria)

Roy Jones (retired—formerly of OSF St. Francis Medical Center)

Stacey Knight-Davis (Eastern Illinois University)

Jacqueline Leskovec (National Network of Libraries of Medicine – Greater Midwest Region)

Bobby Murphy (OSF St. Francis Medical Center, Peoria)

Daneen Richardson (Western Illinois University)

Miranda Shake (Lakeview College of Nursing)

Laura Wimmer (Presence Resurrection Medical Center)

Representative from Fountaindale Public Library District

Online

Eric Edwards (Illinois State Library)

Linda Feinberg (NorthShore University HealthSystem)

Fran Kovach (retired—formerly of Southern Illinois University School of Medicine, Springfield)

Daneen called the meeting to order at 12:18 PM.

**Officer Reports**

President’s Report—Daneen announced that the handouts for the conference sessions relevant to HSLI should be posted on the conference website, which is part of the Illinois Library Association’s site ([www.ila.org](http://www.ila.org)). Attendance by HSLI members at the joint conference wasn’t particularly high, even compared to other conferences, HSLI-only and joint, that have been held south of I-80. If ILA hosts another joint conference, it might be a good idea to have an HSLI member serve on the planning committee, if possible. (Even if the conference is just the regular ILA annual, it would be good to have more involvement and visibility from HSLI.)

Another option to improve overall involvement in HSLI, and perhaps attract new members, would be to hold a continuing-education session in the middle of the year, instead of at just the conference. Jacqueline said that, since the National Network of Libraries of Medicine – Greater Midwest Region holds sessions throughout the year, one of those could be promoted specifically to HSLI members. She added that the listserv might be the best way to reach more people, and she thanked Eric for passing along information about GMR sessions and related CE opportunities in the past.

Linda asked if it might be possible to host an MLA CE session remotely. The problem would be finding a suitable location, although the Chicago area might work. Additionally, some of the classes require specific certifications as prerequisites, which might prevent some people who are interested from attending. Emily, who serves on an MLA committee that is moving all of the organization’s listservs to a different online platform, cautioned that access to MLA resources, including classes and webinars, is limited to members in some cases. Compounding this is that MLA membership, which is at only the individual (and not the institutional) level, is cost-prohibitive.

While MLA webinars offered through the GMR are usually free, there is no guarantee that they will continue to be, especially if the MLA changes its policies. Daneen suggested that HSLI also consider those continuing-education opportunities that are not sponsored by the Greater Midwest Region. The National Training Center offers a large number of free webinars, although many of them may not be relevant to librarianship. Library organizations that are not specific to the health sciences might offer useful training, although it is usually expensive, even for members.

Past-President’s Report (Stacey)--none

Treasurer’s Report (Stacey on behalf of Heather)—The overall balance, as of September 30, was $5,829.10. Since then, the organization has received several donations, including $100 from Jerry DeWitt toward the Syed Maghrabi Scholarship. Daneen noted that, while the balance is fine, HSLI does need to watch how it spends its money, given that funding in general is tight, due to the state budget situation.

**Committee Reports**

Archives (Miranda)—All of the HSLI archival materials have been moved to UIUC. If anyone has additional materials to donate, please let Miranda know.

Bylaws (Stacey on behalf of Jeanne)—There has been no action on the proposed change that would make the Helen Knoll Jira Scholarship Committee a permanent standing one. Stacey will contact Jeanne.

2016 Conference (Daneen)--Daneen still has not received a response from the College of Optometry regarding the feasibility of holding the conference there. (Since Daneen started asking about the particulars of the conference, Christine Weber, the contact person at the College, has pretty much stopped communicating.) The main issues, due to the College’s location and layout, continue to be the availability of adequate parking and public transportation, the proximity of an affordable hotel, and the ability to move between programs easily, particularly if they are held in more than one location on the College’s campus. If she has still not heard back from Christine by next week, Daneen will start sending out a general appeal to see if anyone else might be interested in hosting the conference.

Consortial Purchases (Laura)—HSLI remains willing to work with Ovid, but the company has raised its prices. Laura will gather more information and share it with the membership.

Greater Midwest Region (Jacqueline)—Jacqueline explained that the GMR office runs on a five-year contract, meaning that UIC’s expires at the end of April. UIC will go through the process of reapplying to be the home location for the Greater Midwest Region. If UIC continues to fund the office, however, there will probably be some changes, especially in the number of professional-development sessions offered, if the state budget situation has not been resolved by then. The GMR will still remain open, though, since a large amount of the funding does come through the National Library of Medicine.

Jacqueline reminded everyone to check the GMR website regularly for CE opportunities. Even if one cannot watch a GMR session live, one can still view the recording for up to two weeks after the presentation. For some classes, it may be possible to receive the CE credit simply by watching the recording. Jacqueline also asked everyone to keep an eye out for the professional development awards the organization offers. Other ongoing projects include moving the GMR’s articles system to a different platform.

Jira Scholarship Committee (Stacey on behalf of Fran)—The balance as of September 30 was $24,110.29. This is down from June 30, due to a large loss in the index fund.

Legislative Committee (Daneen on behalf of Nicole)—Nicole took over when Eric had to step down due to a work conflict. Daneen thanked Nicole for the great job she has been doing in keeping the membership informed, especially of issues related to the Illinois budget.

Listserv Committee (Linda)—There are currently 117 subscribers, and there have been 171 posts over the past 11 months (November of 2014 to September of 2015). While it is good that the listserv is receiving plenty of use, it is important not to flood people’s inboxes with messages.

Marketing Committee (vacant)—no report

Membership Committee (Roy)—The membership has declined recently (from 97 to 81 over the past year), but the makeup continues to be varied, with the greatest number of members coming from hospital or medical libraries, and also academic libraries. There is a possibility of extending the membership option to cover multiple years, which would eliminate the need to renew annually.

Syed Maghrabi Scholarship Committee (Miranda)—There were no applicants for the scholarship to attend this year’s conference. If no one ends up applying (since it would be after the conference, the scholarship would go toward just reimbursement), the money will be saved for next year’s award.

Midwest Chapter/MLA Liaison (Daneen)—There has been no activity, and so there is really nothing to report.

Newsletter Committee (Stacey on behalf of Joyce and Eric)—The number of entries has steadily increased over the past five years. Eric is making an effort to share news from IACRL and to pass along HSLI updates to the IACRL membership.

Nominating Committee (Molly)—The office of President-Elect is still unfilled. Molly said she was disappointed that no one had expressed in serving, despite there being a number of excellent candidates. She may have to send out another poll, via Survey Monkey. The hope is that someone will be in place by November 1. If she cannot find someone who has never been President before, she will start contacting previous Presidents. Although the rule is that a President may serve no more than two consecutive terms, it is acceptable for someone who is not currently President, but has been President in the past, to run for a third term.

Regional Advisory Committee (Laura)—The next meeting will take place at UIC on November 19. Laura will share her report with the membership.

Starfish Thrower Award (vacant)—no report

Website (Stacey)—There have been 5,173 page views and sessions from June 1 to October 12, with use declining somewhat in the fall but then spiking again before the conference. The Facebook page currently has 73 “likes”.

Old Business—Daneen noted that Michael is preserving in treatment for his cancer and sends his regards.

New Business—Daneen and Stacey noted that, despite the low number of HSLI members attending the joint conference, attendance at the sessions offered by HSLI members was good. There were 61 at Daneen and Stacey’s session, while approximately 25 showed up for Jacqueline’s presentation. Also, about 10 or 15 groups stopped by the Greater Midwest Region table in the exhibit hall, which had folders with information on HSLI and NN/LM – GMR, and many people asked questions about both organizations.

Daneen asked if anyone has ideas for activities that HSLI can pursue or host in 2016, besides just the annual conference. Inviting people from neighboring states, including members of statewide health-science librarianship organizations, might be worth pursuing, if the sessions are relevant enough to non-Illinois residents. Publicizing events more broadly, particularly through the library systems, might help. Daneen has been working with RAILS and Heartland to increase awareness of HSLI and its activities.

Even if the organization can raise awareness of its activities, there may still not be as much participation as there has been in the past, due to the ongoing Illinois budget situation. The funding for travel does vary by institution. Some members will still be able to attend the MLA Midwest Chapter meeting. Other members have the option of traveling on their own dime and using personal or vacation days.

Another way to increase participation, while also adding new members, would be to reach out to replacements for retired members, assuming that those members’ old positions were filled. Fran said that she might contact her successor at SIU School of Medicine. It might also be helpful just to go through the directory and try e-mailing anyone who has been paying dues but otherwise hasn’t really been involved with the organization. Eric asked what the highest membership ever has been. Roy replied that, while he does not have historical figures, he would guess it was around 120 or 130 five years ago.

There being no further business, Daneen called the meeting to a close at 1:26 PM, with a motion from Jacqueline and a second from Molly.

Respectfully submitted by Eric Edwards, HSLI Secretary, on June 14, 2016.