

Contents

President's Message	1
Election Results	3
Webinar Series	6
Medical Section	8
Book Reviews	9
Member News & Publications	11

Message from the Chair

Nancy Dickenson

As the end of 2011 nears, so does the end of my term. This will be my final *Biofeedback* column as DBIO Chair.

We should all feel good about our division. We are strong in finances, membership participation and leadership. 2011 has been a good year for us. We had an outstanding conference program that drew association-wide acclaim, and we have another great program on tap for the 2012 meeting in Chicago. We began to offer educational webinars to our membership-at-large. Since many of us are unable to attend conferences, it behooves us to offer educational opportunities throughout the year that are accessible to all. We also had successful fundraising this year, and our treasury is sound. Future leadership is in place. I know Chris Hooper-Lane will make an outstanding chair!

Perhaps the greatest challenge we faced involved our wonderful website. SLA adopted a new association-wide format via WordPress. The mandate from the association was unclear, but our webmasters are now at work adapting our site to allow us to maintain our current content and structure while meeting the platform guidelines of the association. Be on the lookout for more to come on this subject.

There are so many people to thank. I hope I don't overlook anyone, and, if I do, let me know. DBIO members are the best! First off, let me say thank you to our Executive Board. Whenever there was a decision to be made, you responded quickly and with great wisdom. It made my job so much easier. Thanks go to Chris Hooper-Lane, Chair-Elect; Tony Stankus, Secretary; Rebecca Kuglitsch, Treasurer; Nancy Curtis, Director; and Diane Schmidt, Past Chair.

A special thanks to Howard Fuller, our Philadelphia conference program chair. Howard did a superb job of creating and producing innovative programs along with our standard sessions. We were recognized by SLA with one program, *Design Thinking*,

Continued on p. 2

designated as a special “Spotlight Session.” Another, *Managing Metadata*, was designated as “Need to Know.” I know next year’s conference is in good hands, too, with Jonathan Nabe as program planner.

Other committee chairs contributed mightily to our conference success. Nalini Mahajan produced an excellent program for vendor relations, as did Alicia Livinski on contributed papers. Thank you, Eleanor MacLean, for producing contributed posters. Dean Walton convened the Natural History Caucus, and Lisa Chow developed an excellent Medical Section program. As Chair-Elect, Chris Hooper-Lane headed fund development efforts for the conference and did an excellent job in support of our programs. Special thanks go to Claudia Lascar and Monica Kirkwood for their work that went “above and beyond” as webmasters and to Tony Stankus for an always interesting blog. A big thank you goes to Christine Whitaker, too. Christine spearheaded the webinar program as chair of Continuing Education. Michele Tennant did a wonderful job chairing the Awards Committee. Two awards were given by the division this year. The Distinguished Member Award went to Tony Stankus, and the Chair’s Recognition Award to Howard Fuller. The division was also well served by Dorothy Barr, Membership Chair; Gillian Kumagai, Career Guidance Chair; and Alison Scripa, Student Relations Chair. Our liaison to MLA, Darra Balance, represented us well, and Chris Hooper-Lane continued to record our activities as Archivist. Tara Tobin Cataldo was our Alignment Ambassador; Diane Hummel our Ethics Ambassador; and Jennifer McDaniel our Diversity Chair. Thanks to you all for stepping up to the plate. I want to give special thanks to our intrepid *Biofeedback* editors, Susan Kendall and Buzz Haughton, along with the entire *Biofeedback* team, for continually producing an interesting and relevant newsletter.

I am grateful to the membership at large for all of the support and participation you gave during my year as chair. It really has been an honor and privilege to serve. Most of all, I have enjoyed the opportunity to meet and work with so many of you. As we move into 2012, I encourage you all to volunteer for a division committee. There are a number of open positions, and I am sure you can find one that you will find interesting and rewarding. I am glad I said “yes.”

Looking for a few good members (and chairs)

DBIO needs you! Step up to the plate and volunteer for a spot on a 2012 committee, or even become a committee chair. No job is too hard or too time-consuming. And there are lots of us around to mentor and answer questions. We are a friendly group. The rewards are many, both professional and personal. Contact Nancy Dickenson: ndickenson@stanfordmed.org or Chris Hooper-Lane: chooper@library.wisc.edu if you are interested in a position.

Among the committees that need members are:

- Continuing Education
- Contributed Posters
- Vendor Relations
- Awards (needs members and chair)
- Career Guidance (needs chair)
- Membership
- Fund Development
- Public Relations (needs chair)
- Publications
- Student Relations

If you are a member of another professional association, we are also in need of liaisons to represent our division at association meetings, such as ASIST and IAMSLIC.

Job descriptions for the various committees can be found on our website, under Recommended Practices <http://units.sla.org/division/dbio/inside/governance/documents/practices.html>.

Election Results

Diane Schmidt, Nominations and Elections Committee Chair

The Nominations and Elections Committee is pleased to announce the results of the Biomedical and Life Sciences Division 2011 election. Congratulations Howard and Nalini! Their terms of service begin January 1, 2012.

Chair-Elect: Howard Fuller

Howard currently serves as the Director of Library Services for Heald College in San Francisco, CA. He has been a member of SLA since 1991. Howard has served as chair of the DBIO Career Guidance & Employment Committee and chair of the 2011 Program Planning Committee. He was the chair of the Medical Section from 2002-2003 and served on the Program Planning Committee and Fund Development Committee at that time. Howard is also active in the Medical Library Association.

Secretary: Nalini Mahajan (two year term)

Nalini is currently the Director and Webmaster of the Medical Library at the Marianjoy Rehabilitation Hospital in Wheaton, IL. An SLA and DBIO member since 2002, she has served on the DBIO Public Relations Committee, Fund Development Committee, and the Vendor Relations Committee. She was the chair of the Vendor Relations Committee from 2009 to 2011.

Other members of the Nominations and Elections Committee are Jean Crampon and John Tebo.

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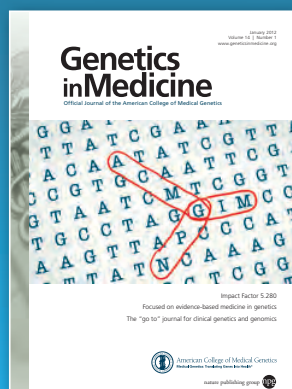
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<http://www.flickr.com/photos/jaygalvin/>

**15 -18 July 2012
Chicago, Illinois**

The **Contributed Papers Committee** invites proposals for papers presenting original research, innovative projects or other professional activities of interest to the SLA Biomedical and Life Sciences Division.

Abstract: A **200-500 word abstract** should accurately convey the subject of the paper, its scope, conclusions, and relevance to the program theme. Attention will be paid to evidence of scholarship and methodology.

Deadline for Submission of Abstracts: December 15, 2011

Papers: If chosen, acceptance of your paper reflects a commitment on your part to:

- 1) Submit the complete text of your paper to the program convener by May 15, 2012.
- 2) Give a presentation of your paper for no longer than 20 minutes at the SLA annual conference, July 15-18, 2012 in Chicago, IL.
- 3) Where appropriate and feasible, offer a brief demonstration or representation of your project during your presentation.



Submit Abstracts to:

Alicia Livinski, National Institutes of Health Library

Email: alivinski76@gmail.com | Ph: (301) 594-6423

Please put SLA-DBIO Contributed Paper Submission in Subject line

Questions? Contact Alicia Livinski – alivinski76@gmail.com

2011 Medical Repository Webinar Series

Christine Whitaker, Continuing Education Committee Chair

A growing number of medical schools and health science centers, including Thomas Jefferson University, University of Massachusetts Medical School, Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis, and the Inova Health System are launching institutional repositories (IRs), to preserve and showcase the intellectual output of their institutions and to fulfill open access mandates.

As IRs become an essential part of the library's infrastructure, medical librarians are looking for guidance on how to:

- Make the case for an IR
- Plan the IR
- Staff efficiently for the IR
- Ensure and increase faculty buy-in each year

Please join us for a free educational webinar sponsored by the SLA Biomedical and Life Sciences Division (DBIO) that will explore how different health science libraries have successfully implemented IRs. The presenters will explore their own experiences, speaking directly to challenges faced, lessons learned, and best practices moving forward.

The first part of the series has already been presented on November 1 on the "Challenges and Opportunities for Medical Institutional Repositories" (Presenters: Dan Kipnis and Ann Koopman, Thomas Jefferson University; Lisa Palmer, University of Massachusetts Medical School)

Even if you missed the first one, though, please consider signing up for the second one in December:

Title: Building a Digital Archive on a Health Sciences Campus: A Case Study from the University of Maryland
Date: December 5, 2011
Time: 11:00 AM Pacific (2:00 PM Eastern)
Presenter: M.J. Tooey, University of Maryland Health Sciences and Human Services Library
Register: [_https://www2.gotomeeting.com/register/487486002](https://www2.gotomeeting.com/register/487486002)

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From the Medical Section

Lisa Chow, Medical Section Chair

As my term as Medical Section chair comes to an end, I would like to take this opportunity to reflect and tell you a story.

It was the usual hot and humid June weather in Washington, D.C. I was there in 2009 attending my first SLA conference. As the conference wound down I was waiting in a hotel lobby with a group of librarians for a library tour—a tour of the National Library of Medicine (NLM) and National Institutes of Health (NIH) Library. The tour was organized by a local librarian, Layla Heimlich.

Layla and I have a mutual interest in medical librarianship, and we kept in touch after the tour. The following year, Layla, who was the current medical section chair at the time, contacted me about an opportunity. (Yes, this is the story of how I ended up as this year's medical section chair.) We met in 2010 for dinner at the Medical Library Association Conference, also in D.C. While enjoying great food in Dupont Circle, we talked about this opportunity. Shortly after, I emailed Layla and told her that I was on board to serve as the incoming medical section chair.

As much as I enjoy telling stories, I'm telling you this one for a reason. It has been said before, but it doesn't hurt to repeat it. It's about people, and conferences and other networking events offering the opportunity to meet people like your fellow colleagues and SLA members. If I hadn't met Layla, I would not have had the opportunity to serve as medical section chair. (Thanks, Layla!)

As announced in the last issue, I'm passing the torch to Amy Donahue. Great ideas and potential collaboration are already in the works for SLA 2012. Stay tuned.

Stay in touch. I can be contacted at lchow23@yahoo.com or via LinkedIn (<http://www.linkedin.com/in/lisachow23>).

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Book Reviews

How Cancer Crossed the Color Line

Wailoo, Keith

New York: Oxford University Press, 2011.

ISBN-13: 9780195170177

Reviewed by Claudia Lascar

The author of this book, Keith Wailoo, is jointly appointed in Princeton University's Department of History and the Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs. Previously, he was a visiting fellow in the Center for African American Studies at that same institution. Prior to this, he taught at Rutgers University, where he founded the Center for Race and Ethnicity, and at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, where he taught in the history department and the medical school.

The development of cancer awareness, starting with the early part of the 20th century, highlights how race relations have shaped health experiences for African Americans. There have been many other diseases where race relations have shaped the way medical communities define at-risk populations and the interventions they pursue, and this story about cancer is particularly compelling due to the wide range of sources cited (congressional testimony, films, novels, newspapers, magazines, and autobiographical writings). This book is written from an historical and sociopolitical perspective, though, and does not provide sufficient information about this topic from a medical, epidemiological, or health disparities standpoint. For this reason, and this reason alone, I cannot recommend it for purchase by a library supporting biology or medical programs, although it may be used as auxiliary reading material for a course in the history of medicine. I do consider this book an invaluable resource for an academic library which supports other programs such as communications, black studies, journalism, marketing, general science, etc. It is very well researched and well written.

The Evolution of Primary Sexual Characters in Animals

Leonard, Janet L. and Córdoba-Aguilar, Alex, Eds.

New York: Oxford University Press, 2010

ISBN-13: 9780195325553

Reviewed by Claudia Lascar

The Evolution of Primary Sexual Characters provides an overview of the forms of reproduction and mating behaviors of the animal kingdom by describing selected taxa ranging from marine invertebrates to mammals. Janet L. Leonard is a research associate at the Institute of Marine Sciences, University of California, Santa Cruz, and Alex Córdoba-Aguilar is a researcher at the Instituto de Ecología, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México. They have assembled an international group of scientists and researchers to write the review chapters. According to them, the aim of this book is to make "the amazing range of reproductive phenomena in animals" known to a wider range of biologists.

The book is divided into two sections. The first section, comprised of the first four chapters, gives the reader an introduction to sexual selection, which is common to many taxonomic groups. In *The Descent of Man* (Darwin, 1871), Charles Darwin suggested that the primary sexual characters and the secondary sexual characters explain the differences between males and females. He indicated that the primary sexual characters are related to the organs of reproduction, which are modified by natural selection. The secondary sexual characters, which are modified by sexual selection, he said are only connected with courting rituals. This book shows that the demarcation between natural and sexual selection is not as distinct as per Darwin's definition. Both Chapter 4, which addresses the evolution of genital morphology, and Chapter 5, on the evolution of male hooks, pincers, and appendages, suggest that sexual selection has played an important role in the evolution of the organs of reproduction.

The second section of the book, comprised of seventeen chapters, presents specific reproductive systems. The animals depicted are marine invertebrates (broadcast spawning), gastropods (prosobranchs, opisthobranchs, basommatophorans, sylommatophora), arachnids (terrestrial scorpions, spiders opiliones), insects, invertebrates (odonates, beetles), and vertebrates (fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds, mammals). These descriptive chapters are valuable for pointing out our present limited knowledge of this subject matter. In the final chapter, Córdoba-Aguilar talks about several directions of research based upon the reviews in the book. Each chapter is accompanied by graphs, drawings, figures, photographs, phylogeny charts, and an extensive bibliography.

□

This is an important addition to any academic library supporting a biology degree program. I recommend it wholeheartedly.

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Member News and Publications

Kudos

We have the pleasure of announcing the awards and achievements of our member, **Lynn Fortney**. Lynn Fortney, Director of the Biomedical Division of EBSCO Information Services, was recently made a Fellow of the Medical Library Association “in recognition of outstanding contributions to the advancement of the purposes for which the association stands” at their annual meeting in May 2011. She was also named an Honorary Member (she’s been a member for nearly 40 years!) of the Southern Chapter of the Medical Library Association. Congratulations, Lynn, on these recognitions!

Member Publications and Presentations

Kirkwood, Hal P. and Kirkwood, Monica. Researching the Life Sciences: BIOSIS Previews and Google Scholar. *Online*, Vol 35 (3), May/June 2011.

Coppernoll-Blach, Penny. [Quertle: The Conceptual Relationships Alternative Search Engine for PubMed](#). *Journal of the Medical Library Association*, 2011 April; 99(2): 176-177. doi: 10.3163/1536-5050.99.2.017.PMCID: PMC3066589

Coppernoll-Blach, Penny and Turnbow, Dominique. Assessing Reference Services Using the READ Scale (Reference Effort Assessment Data). Paper presented at the Medical Library Association Annual Conference, May 16, 2011, Minneapolis, MN.

New Members and Membership Report

Dorothy Barr, Membership Committee Chair

DBIO welcomes the following new members:

- Karen Bruchey, Myersville, Maryland
- Catherine Devion, Toronto, Ontario
- Linda Doerre, San Antonio, Texas
- Marie Kmonicek, Greenville, South Carolina □ Acacia Reed, Laurel, Maryland
- Carissa Brown, Addison, Texas
- Raceyann Crawford, Brampton, Ontario
- Sharone Fogarty, Las Vegas, Nevada

Currently the division membership is holding steady at 544.

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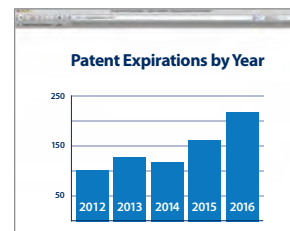
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—Outsell, Inc. Insights Report,
September 28, 2010

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nancy.curtis@umit.maine.edu

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dcschmid@illinois.edu

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Editor: Susan K. Kendall, Michigan State University Libraries, 100 Library, East Lansing, MI 48824-1048; (517) 884-0902; skendall@msu.edu

Associate Editor: Buzz Haughton; (916) 468-9027; bxhaughton@ucdavis.edu