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Synapse

ALABAMA HEALTH LIBRARIES ASSOCIATION

VOLUME VIII, NO. 2

JUNE 1988

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

by

Lisa Raines Russell

President, ALHeLA 1988

In the last issue of Synapse I reported that the Executive Council had decided to appoint an Ad Hoc Committee for Synapse planning and a long range planning committee. At the April 14 Executive Council meeting we decided to combine the two into one Long Range Planning Committee.

I attended a presentation at the ALaLA meeting by Emily Mobley, SLA President, which seemed to reaffirm the necessity for an ALHeLA Long Range Plan. Ms. Mobley said that a plan should do eight things for an organization:

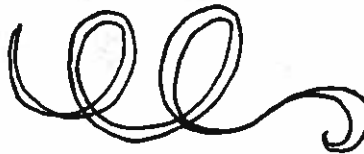
1. give the rationale for existence
2. define the goals and objectives
3. direct resource allocation
4. provide for accountability
5. evaluate
6. disseminate information
7. identify internal and external factors affecting the organization
8. orient the organization to the future

These eight areas seem to describe the issues that ALHeLA Executive Council has been dealing with the last few years. Lynn Fortney and Bob Donnell are the only two committee volunteers. I would like to have at least two other committee members.

I am also still seeking an editor for Synapse. I know there is someone among us that would enjoy the challenge of the editorship!

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS



- June 11-16, 1988
Special Libraries Association Annual Meeting, Denver.
- July 9-14, 1988
American Library Association Annual Meeting, New Orleans.
- October 6-7, 1988
ALHeLA Annual Meeting, Birmingham.
- October 23-27, 1988
American Society for Information Sciences, Atlanta.
- November 2-5, 1988
Southern Chapter/MLA Annual Meeting, Jacksonville, FL.
- April 9-15, 1989
National Library Week.
- May 19-25, 1989
Medical Library Association Annual Meeting, Boston.
- June 10-15, 1989
Special Libraries Association Annual Meeting, New York.
- June 24-29, 1989
American Library Association Annual Meeting, Dallas.

Continued from page 1

Full minutes of the April 14 Executive Council meeting are included elsewhere in this issue.

ALHeLA exhibited at the MASA Annual Meeting in Montgomery, April 21-22 in conjunction with the Cancer Information Center and the Arthritis Information Center. I want to thank Marlyss Giles, Skeeter Rhodes and Atha Louise Henley for representing ALHeLA.

We also exhibited at the ALaHA Annual Meeting in Mobile June 15-17. Mary Ann Donnell and Pat Hall designed, produced and setup the exhibit. I really appreciate their effort. Helping staff the exhibit were Grace Manning, Barbara Shearer and Virginia Vail. A big thanks to all of you!

ALHeLA Executive Council Meeting
Minutes
April 14, 1988

The second meeting of the 1988 Executive Committee was held on Thursday, April 14, in Montgomery at the Governor's House Motel Restaurant.

The following reports were presented:

- Approval of minutes and treasurer's reports. (As of March 31, 1988, the balance was \$2,287.32).
- Tax Report by Marlyss Giles. ALHeLA has engaged an accountant to file a 1987 tax return. Work will be at \$30.00/hour.
- ALHeLA Annual Meeting by A.J. Wright. Reports Annual Meeting to be held at Holiday Inn Medical Center, Birmingham, October 5-7. Vendors will be offered exhibit space for \$50.00.
- Membership by Bobby Powell. Total of 44 members (24 personal and 20 institutional).
- Union List written report from Maureen Battistella. 16 of 23 ABULS participants have now responded in support of changing to AULS as the vendor of the Union List. Council wishes to have support of Lister Hill Library and Biomedical Library, USA.
- Old Business.

The MASA CME meeting in February was very successful. Copies of the resource manual compiled for the CME will be offered for sale at the MASA Annual Meeting, April 21-22 and the ALaHA Annual Meeting, June 15-17.

---New Business.

A.J. Wright read a letter from Mary Claire Cowden, History of Medicine Librarian, Lister Hill Library, requesting financial support for the American Association of the History of Medicine meeting to be held in Birmingham in April 1989. Council elected to offer the services of members rather than financial assistance.

ANA vs. AMA OVER RCTs

by

Mary Ann Donnell

- Mitchell, Karen. Good intentions but poor solutions (editorial).
1988 Nursing economics 6 (4): 158.
- Griffith, Hurdis. Capital commentary: AMA House of Delegates acts
to implement RCT proposal. 1988 Nursing economics 6 (4): 192.
- Terpstra, Michael G. RCT proposal is 'Slap in the Face' (letter).
1988 Nursing economics 6 (4): 195.
- Nursing leaders vow to fight AMA proposal on RCTs. 1988 Nursing
economics 6 (4): 196-8.
- American Medical Association's proposal on Introduction of Registered
Care Technologists (RCTs) (full text). 1988 Nursing economics
6 (4): 198-9.
- Carlen, Amy. AMA backs plan for new caregivers. 1988 Health week
2 (14): 1, 36.
- RCTs top agenda for AMA Delegates. 1988 Medical staff news 17 (7): 1.
- AMA endorses creation of new class of bedside help. 1988 Modern
Healthcare 18 (28): 13.
- AMA, other groups push proposals to replace some hard-to-find-RNs
with technical personnel. 1988 American journal of nursing
88 (6): 894, 912, 914.

One of the hottest hospital topics to come along this summer is the
AMA's proposal to add another layer to the nursing structure. Information
has been surfacing slowly as the nursing profession marshalls its forces to
present a united front.

One of the best journal approaches to this controversial proposal has
appeared in the recently received issue of Nursing economics listed in the
above bibliography.

Some articles on this topic have appeared in obvious places, while
others are in hard-to-find locations. I have copies of all of the above
items and would be willing to copy any you do not have in your collection.
If you have encountered other articles on this topic, let us know of their
existence so that we can add to the bibliography in order to have the
information at hand when our hospital staffs ask for it.

URGE PUBLISHERS TO INDEX THEIR PRODUCTS

by

Mary Ann Donnell

American Health Consultants in Atlanta publish at least seventeen newsletters (see list below), but there are no indexes to these individual publications or any services providing indexing for them.

There is no question as to the timeliness and uniqueness of these, but without indexing the usefulness of these expensive publications is questionable. None are under \$100 a year. My employer, Providence Hospital, alone subscribes to eight of these publications for a 1988 total of \$1,108.00.

If you have experienced this lack of indexing for these newsletters, please write the company and express your concern. Your letter may just be the one that tips the scale in favor of publisher produced indexing. Write to:

American Health Consultants
67 Peachtree Park Drive, N.E.
Atlanta, GA 30309-1398
Attn: J. Hester

Their newsletters include:

Addiction Program Management	Hospital Admitting Monthly
AIDS Alert	Hospital Employee Health
Back Pain Monitor	Hospital Home Health
Clinical Laser Monthly	Hospital Infection Control
Contraceptive Technology Update	Hospital Peer Review
Convenience Care Update	Hospital Risk Management
Drug Utilization Review	Medical Ethics Advisor
Employee Health and Fitness	Same-Day Surgery
	Prospective Payment Survival

1988 ANNUAL MEETING

The ALHeLA 1988 Annual Meeting will be held October 6-7 at the Holiday Inn/Medical Center in Birmingham. On October 5 a pre-conference workshop entitled "Budgeting, Planning and Forecasting" will be offered. The theme of the two day annual meeting is historical and entitled "The Past is Prologue". Among the speakers will be Samuel Eichold, M.D., Professor Emeritus, University of South Alabama College of Medicine, who will deliver "Yellow Fever in Mobile". Two mini-workshops, "Current Awareness Services in Health Science Libraries" and "History and the Hospital Library" will be offered. For more information contact A. J. Wright, Librarian, Department of Anesthesiology Library, University of Alabama at Birmingham, 619 19th Street South, Birmingham, AL 35233-1924, (205) 934-6500. Registration packets should be in the mail to the ALHeLA membership by the middle of August. Be watching for it!