

**President**

**Annual Report**

**2014-2015**

# Goals & Objectives

In addition to the official duties of the MDMLG President, outlined in the bylaws and procedural document, I have identified the following goals for 2014-2015.

1. Review the budget and take action if necessary to maintain a fiscally strong organization.
2. Encourage member participation in organizational activities.
3. Integrate relevant objectives, from the Michigan Health Sciences Libraries Association’s strategic plan, to provide tools and resources to assist members in adapting and advocating library services in the evolving healthcare arena.
4. Promote relevant and quality professional development opportunities for members.
5. Continue to support the Wayne State University LIS program through MDMLG-sponsored speaking engagements, encouraging student participation in the profession, and awarding the yearly MDMLG scholarship for health science librarianship.
6. Continue to support and promote the conduction of organizational business electronically when feasible.
7. Explore ways to increase new membership and retain current members.
8. Review and update the Bylaws, if necessary, to reflect changing dynamics of MDMLG.

# Accomplishments

*Meetings Coordinated:*

* Coordinated and conducted three Executive Board meetings:
  + August 6, 2014
  + November 5, 2014
  + March 4, 2015
  + May 6, 2015 – led by President-Elect, Nancy Bulgarelli, in my stead due to illness
* Conducted four General Business meetings:
  + September 11, 2014 at Oakwood Physical Therapy & Wellness Center, Dearborn
  + November 6, 2014 at Providence Hospital, Southfield
  + March 12, 2015 at the University of Detroit Mercy, School of Dentistry, Detroit
  + June 4, 2015 at the McGregor Memorial Conference Center, Wayne State University, Detroit

*Major Projects:*

**MDMLG Financial Health Review:** Lead the organization in a critical discussion of our finances as a result of 2013 -2014 President Jill Turner’s initial assessment and concerns with our financial health. Tasks included:

* Presenting a six-year overview of MDMLG’s organizational finances at the November 6, 2014 General Business Meeting. Presentation may be found on the MDMLG website at: <http://www.mdmlg.org/MDMLG%20Budget%202014.pptx>
* Creating and distributing an electronic survey to the membership on November 18, 2014 soliciting feedback on how to address MDMLG’s financial health. The survey remained open for one month with a total of 39 responses.
* Presenting the results of the survey at the March 12, 2015 General Business Meeting where a motion was passed to hold an electronic vote on increasing membership dues. The vote proposed to increase personal and institutional dues by $10 with emeritus and student dues remaining at $15. The presentation of survey results may be found on the MDMLG website at: <http://www.mdmlg.org/members/MDMLG_Financial%20Health%20Survey%20Results.pptx> Raw survey results are also available: <http://www.mdmlg.org/members/MDMLG%20Financial%20Health%20Survey%20%20Raw%20Results.pdf>
* Creating a dues increase ballot in SurveyMonkey. The ballot was emailed to all personal and institutional members on April 15, 2015 and remained open until 5:00pm on April 30, 2015. Fifty-three votes were cast (Yes – 49; No – 4) with the dues increase being passed by the membership. As of July 2015, personal dues will increase to $35 per year and institutional to$50 per year. Emeritus and student dues will remain at $15.

**Bylaws Review:** Based on recommendations from the 2013 – 2014 Nominating Committee Chair, Keith Engwall, the Bylaws Review Committee was formed to review and recommend changes to the Bylaws to the Executive Board and general membership. I chaired the committee with two members: Emily Ginier and Catherine Phillips. The committee had one virtual meeting on December 15, 2014 via Anymeeting.com and reviewed the suggested bylaws changes. The committee presented its recommendations to the Board at the March 4, 2015 Board meeting, which were approved with minor changes. Final recommendations were presented at the March 12, 2015 General Business Meeting to the membership and the presentation slides were emailed to members in May 2015. The recommendations may be found on the MDMLG website: <http://www.mdmlg.org/members/Bylaws%20Review%20Committee.pptx>. A vote to approve the Bylaws changes will occur at the June 4, 2015 Annual Business Meeting.

**National Library of Medicine Request for Information:** On behalf of MDMLG, I submitted a response to the NLM Request for Information regarding NLM resources, services, and programs. Comments and feedback were collected from the Board and membership to craft the responses. The submitted response may be found on the MDMLG website: <http://www.mdmlg.org/NLM%20RFI.pdf>

**Outreach to Wayne State University’s School of Library & Information Science:** MDMLG was invited to attend a WSU LIS School retreat in September 2014 to discuss future directions for the program including how to increase participation of professionals and professional organizations in school activities. An email with the following text was sent to Stephen Bajjaly, Dean, with ideas from MDMLG on how to increase participation:

* ***New Student Orientation:***
  + *Inviting local professional associations, like MDMLG, to participate in new student orientation may be very valuable as all students are required to attend in person. This could be in the form of a fair with information tables or having a representative of the organizations on a panel, etc.*
  + *From the health sciences librarianship perspective, it seems most students coming in are set on public or youth/school libraries. Perhaps exposing students to a variety of librarianship specialties, again in a panel or similar, during orientation might increase interest.*
* ***Course Participation:***
  + *In the health sciences course, a health sciences librarian used to be invited to come and speak to the students. Since many students are online only now, would a pre-recorded video that could be posted to Blackboard be a possibility?*
* ***Counseling on Career Choices:***
  + *I've heard from several alumni (and from others in MDMLG) that the school's career counselors actually dissuade students from health sciences librarianship and encourage them to be more generalists. This may be true of other specialties as well, but if a student is truly interested they should be encouraged to pursue their area of interest.*
* *In addition, there are ways that MDMLG is looking to increase participation in the organization. An ad hoc group is currently looking into options for making our general meetings available online either by recordings or other if members who are not able to attend want to view the meeting. This could also apply to student members who may live out of state or are unable to attend the meetings as they are during the day.*
* *Finally, we're in talks with the state organization, MHSLA, to either combine membership fees for students so that if they join the local they will also get membership in the state and vice versa OR waiving membership fees completely for students.*

As a result of this feedback, MDMLG was invited to participate in New Student Orientation and promote MDMLG and the health sciences librarianship as a profession. Stephanie Stebens, Public Relations, and myself attended two orientations this year on December 5 and April 17. Interest remains low, but this method should be continued in the future to ensure continued relations with WSU.

**MDMLG Health Sciences Award Scholarship:** Coordinated scholarship application submissions, including blinding and making available to the Board for voting. This year, MDMLG received six total applications with Kimberly Kelly, a current Wayne State student and intern at Oakwood Hospital, as the recipient. This was the first year the scholarship was available to University of Michigan students as well.

**MDMLG Newsletter:** Contributed the President’s Message to four issues of the newsletter this year.

# Events Attended

* Attended the annual MHSLA Conference on October 16 and 17 in Mount Pleasant with registration generously funded by MDMLG
* Attended the WSU New Student Orientation to promote MDMLG and health sciences librarianship on December 5, 2014 with Stephanie Stebens, Public Relations
* Attended the MDMLG-sponsored CE Course, PubMed for Experts, on April 2, 2015
* Attended the WSU New Student Orientation to promote MDMLG and health sciences librarianship on April 17, 2015 with Stephanie Stebens, Public Relations
* Attended the WSU SLIS Recognition Ceremony on April 23, 2015 at the McGregor Memorial Conference Center

*Respectfully submitted*,

Stephanie Swanberg

President