

**CONBLS Meeting**  
**Southern Chapter/MLA 2009**  
**Peabody Hotel in Memphis, TN.**

Attending: Judy Burnham, Susan Clark, Nadine Dexter, Sandra Franklin, Matt Grayson, Cynthia Henderson, David King, Carolyn Klatt, Jan LaBeause, Maria Melssen, Fatima Mncube-Barnes, Kathy Moeller, Mary Moore, Suzanne Nagy, Richard Nolan, T. Scott Plutchak, Suresh Ponnappa, Ruth Riley, Charles Segui, Beverly Shattuck, Barbara Shearer, Tracy Shields, Tom Singarella, Geneva Staggs, Rachel Walden, Rick Wallace, Deedra J. Walton, Randall Watts.

Chair Mary Moore expressed appreciation to Tom Singarella and Richard Nolan for their part in developing such an outstanding program. She welcomed all attendees and asked for introductions.

Jan LaBeause moved and Cynthia Henderson seconded that the minutes be approved as distributed via the listserv. The motion was approved.

Suresh Ponnappa presented the Treasurer's Report, noting that membership dues were increased for this year. The balance as of 10/29/2009 was \$7472.46. Ruth Riley moved and Beverly Shattuck seconded approval of the Treasurer's Report. The report was approved as submitted

**Reports:**

Nominating Committee – Barbara Shearer asked for two volunteers to serve on the Nominating Committee to put slate together for vote at retreat. Suresh has agreed to remain in the Treasurer position until the vote. Jan LaBeause And Cynthia Henderson volunteered.

Bylaws Committee – no report

Awards Committee – Tom Singarella announced that the Distinguished Library Award, awarded to the University of South Alabama Biomedical Library for their participation the STARS & STRIPES program, a program designed to encourage health related careers for students from disadvantaged schools. Judy Burnham will now chair the Awards Committee. Barbara Shearer, Fatima Barnes and Cathy Moeller volunteered to serve on this Committee.

AdHoc Oral History Group – Cynthia Henderson discussed the possibility of doing oral histories of CONBLS members. Tom Basler wrote the first CONBLS history and Scott Plutchak has volunteered to edit it. Cynthia asked if members wanted to continue the process of developing a history of CONBLS. Ruth Riley asked about overlap with the Southern Chapter//MLA Oral History. It was pointed out that SC/MLA doesn't include questions related to CONBLS. Cynthia distributed a list of suggested questions modified from SC/MLA Oral History questions. Tom Singarella asked if the final history would reside on the CONBLS web page. Barbara Shearer noted that Tom Basler's contribution to the history concerned the period of time covering collaboration, formation of CONBLS, etc. Jan LaBeause noted that enough CONBLS stories that are unique and separate that the history should be captured. A question was asked about needed funds. Cynthia Henderson noted that a budget had not been developed. That will be the next step if the association wants to pursue. Cynthia will plan to start interviews at the 2010 Retreat. Cynthia Henderson made the motion that the CONBLS' history continue to be developed. Jan LaBeause seconded and the motion was approved. Cynthia asked that members consider the draft questions and give her feedback. She will prepare a budget and submit it to the Executive Board.

### 2010 Retreat

Judy Burnham announced that the 2010 Retreat will be in Mobile, AL, April 7-9, 2010 with the Hampton Inn Downtown as host hotel. The speaker will be Dr. Henry Sondheimer, Senior Director, Student Affairs and Programs, AAMC. He will focus on the recent report from AAMC, Scientific Foundations for Future Physicians: Report of the AAMC-HHMI Committee and how medical libraries can contribute to achievement of these competencies. Details will be sent via the listserv as they are developed.

### Old Business

No additional old business was noted

### New Business

There was not additional new business.

### Brief Reports from member Library Directors

Medical College of Georgia – There has been a change in University administration; budget issues will result in cut resources

East Tennessee State University – There has been a change in University administration. Administration has looked at combining units but no decision yet. Stimulus funding helped with resources so no cuts this year. The library is fully staffed.

Meherry – the library has received great support from Provost, with an increased budget and renovation planned.

Florida State University – plan to look at Open Access textbooks as part of state-wide project.

University of South Alabama – reserve funds have prevented cutting/resources. The library is fully staffed. The hospital library moved into the hospital from another building and is now called the Health Information Resource Center. Based on recommendation from the University attorney, SOUTHmed, the fee-based outreach program has been discontinued. The library has developed a Disaster Preparedness/Service Continuity plan.

University of South Carolina – Library is fully staffed. The medical school was reaccredited by LCME in February. USC applied for expanded class size and smaller than requested number was approved. Ruth Riley will serve on a task force to decide how to spend stimulus funds; the library will ask for computer lab expansion.

University of South Florida – the library experienced budget cut; staff has not had to be cut. Some funding was identified for adding some group study rooms; the library received a digitization grant and a Carnegie Whitney grant to develop a guide for consumers for Alzheimer's clinical trials. Funding was identified for a Scholarly Activities Librarian (joint funding.) The Biomedical Media Center was closed and staff was laid off.

Florida International – The University has their first COM class. The library is fully staffed and is planning to add more electronic resources

University of Tennessee Health Science Center – The library has experienced the third year of a flat budget but has not experienced any cuts. There are staff cuts forthcoming. The library received a grant from NNLM to teach smart phone technology. Vacant positions have not been taken from budget line, but they cannot be filled.

University of Alabama at Birmingham – The budget was impacted but the library retained control over how to spend funds. Five library staff members were laid off and positions were frozen. Library went

from 60FTE to 50 FTE and cut resources expenditures by one-half. However, the library is more engaged with faculty and students. They are rethinking what library will be assuming that budget situation will not approve.

Because of lack of time, others CONBLS members asked to send reports to Judy. (Note: no additional reports were received.)

Scott Plutchak reported that the Association of American Universities Scholarly Communication Roundtable is working to develop consensus recommendations to improve access to non-NIH and non-DOE agencies. The Roundtable is composed of librarian, provosts, and publisher representatives. The Roundtable is now developing a report.

The gavel passed to incoming Chair, Sandra Franklin. Sandra thanked Mary Moore for her leadership and presented her with a plaque.

The meeting adjourned.

Minutes submitted by Judy Burnham