



THE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA
MEDICAL LIBRARIANS' SECTION VICTORIAN GROUP

MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING HELD ON 25 FEBRUARY, 1982 AT OFFICES OF MEDISHIELD RAMSAY'S.

1. Apologies were read.
2. Joan Martin, as Group President and Chairperson welcomed members and thanked Medishield Ramsay's for their hospitality. She announced that state groups of the L.A.A. Medical Librarians' Section have now been formally approved in N.S.W., S.A., W.A., and Vic.
3. Minutes of the previous meeting were read and accepted.
4. Business arising from the minutes:

a) Office Bearers are:

President	Joan Martin
Secretary	Sue Hill
Treasurer	Judith Quilter
Committee members	Anne McLean
	Sandra Russell

- b) Sandra Russell announced that she will be resigning her position in June because of an impending job exchange with a librarian in Seattle (U.S.A.).

5. Voting rights.

Only L.A.A. members may vote on matters pertaining to L.A.A. business, including the election of office-bearers for the Group and Section. All Group members could vote on other matters. It was agreed that in each case, issues would be decided by a simple majority of eligible voters. Non L.A.A. members who wish to remain on the mailing list would be designated Affiliate Members of the Group.

6. The Group approved the powers of the Executive to:

- a) Pass invoices
- b) Generate and respond to correspondence

(Moved Jane Kapsa; seconded Peg Smith).

7. Correspondence was tabled.

a) Inwards

- ✓ i) L.A.A., advising approval of the formation of the Victorian Group of the Medical Librarians' Section.
- ✓ ii) Jo Marshall, advising of a lecture to be held at Alfred Hospital.

- iii) Joan Martin, about the Disability Resource Kit for Librarians. Copies are available from Graeme Dudley, State Library.

b) Outwards

- ✓i) Introduction letter for Kathleen Gray's study tour in Canada.
- ✓ii) Medishield Ramsay, confirming acceptance of their offer of a meeting venue.
- ✓iii) InCite, giving news of Group activities.
- ✓iv) S.A. Group, advising of change of address.

c) Additional Outward Correspondence In Draft

- i) British Council, requesting the program of Stephen Lock.
- ii) Brenda Heagney, requesting publicity for the Section's formation and activities. The Group has maintained close contact with the National President, Brenda Heagney. She has proposed that a national newsletter be issued, the format yet to be decided.
- iii) Bert Pribac, congratulating the A.C.T. Group on Life Science Libraries: a directory, making suggestions and offering the Victorian Group's assistance in compiling the next edition. This directory was reviewed by Anne McLean. Members were asked to consider whether the Victorian directory should be continued, as there now appears to be some duplication of effort. A decision was postponed until all members had seen a copy of the new directory.

The correspondence was accepted. (Moved, Bernadette Sellick; seconded, Geoff Lawson).

8. Judith Quilter submitted the Treasurer's Report. Per capita allowance from the L.A.A. should arrive via the Branch Treasurer within a month. Receipts for the dinner and associated payments to Melbourne University Union were explained at members' request. The dinner was subsidized from Group funds. Further payments have been held over until the account has been changed to the new Group name. The Treasurer's report was received.
9. Results of the survey of members were announced by Joan Martin. Detailed results are shown in the appendix to these minutes.

Some questions provoked further comment or discussion:

- a) L.A.A. insists that non-members pay more for activities for which a charge is levied (4b).
- b) It seems reasonable to rotate meetings on weekdays, except Fridays. (5b).
- c) Two-hour meetings are favoured (but members are still to decide whether this includes refreshment time) (5d), quarterly (5a), starting at 6 p.m. (5c).
- d) About 20 main topics and a few other interesting ideas appeared. (7).

- e) "Industrial matters" was widely interpreted but most agreed that activities should be directed through the L.A.A. Industrial Officer. 7.
- f) We should continue work on devising standards. 7.

Motion from the Chair on items from the survey:

Item 4 (Amended) That refreshments be served half an hour before the meeting. (Seconded, Peg Smith; carried).

Item 6 (Amended) That one meeting each year be held at a country centre on a weekend day. (Carried). Members suggested that a country meeting could be combined with a workshop or other long meeting and that the country centres would have much interest to offer metropolitan members.

Item 7 The proposal by Joan Martin to form a Program Committee provoked discussion from the members:

- i) Many topics suggested by members have been covered by other L.A.A. Sections. Members should support these.
- ii) We need to be careful to avoid clashes of dates and work through the Branch Council clearinghouse of information on functions.
- iii) The present Committee, with additional members if required, should be responsible for the program.
- iv) Ad hoc Committees could be appointed for special work, e.g. workshops.

The motion put to the meeting was: That the program be organized by the Executive Committee augmented by two additional members. (Moved, Jane Kapsa; seconded, Geoff Lawson. Carried).

The formation of working groups was discussed. Members are already working on publications and standards and some members also work with the separate industrial group for hospital librarians. Present working group members should be made known to the members and invited to continue, while volunteers could contact the Executive Committee. It was proposed: That working groups numbers 2 - 5 should be formed.

(Moved, Joan Martin; seconded, Jane Kapsa. Carried).

- 10. Joan Martin reported that as Group Representative she has full voting membership of L.A.A. Victorian Branch Council. Points of interest from the last meeting were read and the minutes were tabled.
- 11. Judith Quilter reported on the present state of the move to impose sales tax on books. The Incite articles appears to be the most accurate summary.
- 12. Members would have received questionnaires from Carmel Maguire for comment on their Hospital Library Manual feasibility study. She has suggested that the Medical Librarians' Section may wish to take up the project. Paul Hodgson explained the background to the feasibility study and the National Library's role in providing a study grant of \$10,000. The grant included travel funds to allow consultation with medical librarians.
- 13. A newspaper article warning of liability for giving away wrong advice was read and tabled. Paul Hodgson reported that

Mr. Justice Else Mitchell* has advised the National Library on this matter, and a set of guidelines has been issued at Melbourne University. Copies of these documents will be made available to the Group. Mr. David Newberry spoke on this topic at a recent meeting of the Australian Society of Hospital Pharmacists.

14. As there was no further business, Joan Martin introduced the guest speaker,

Mr. Paul Hodgson,
Principle Librarian,
Life Sciences Section
National Library of Australia.

Mr. Hodgson explained the reasons for the proposed introduction of charges for MEDLINE and other NLA/Department of Health online services, and discussed the likely effects of MEDLINE use to further development of the network and the production of the Australian Medical Index. He also thanked members for their assistance in answering the questionnaire on the NLA's collection policy. The results had supported his own views and assisted in deciding which titles could be cancelled. The NLA collection should now supplement rather than duplicate those of the Department of Health and other medical libraries. The Medical Librarians' Section could make its views known to the NLA or to Professor Weinstock, who is conducting a study of inter-library lending.

Anne Harrison thanked Mr. Hodgson for his talk and the meeting closed at 9.00 p.m.

* Paul Hodgson later asked that this be amended to Sir Peter Crisp.

Membership questionnaire

Jan.-Feb. 1982

115 sent

5 aborted

110 effectively sent

50 (45.5%) returned. (+4 letters)

Q2. Membership breakdown

36(72%) LAA members
 13(26%) non-LAA members
 1(2%) no response

f) Meetings out-of-town

62% favoured some meetings out of town.

Q3. (Non LAA members) Members likely to be influenced to join L.A.A. Section activities

10(77%) Would be influenced
 3(23%) Would not be influenced

g) Of positive responses to f)

68% favoured weekend meetings

Q4. (Non LAA members) Charges

- a) 10(77%) Would pay cost of mailing
 3(23%) Would not
- b) 6(46%) Would pay more for participation in activities
 5(38.5%) Would not
 2(15.5%) Declined comment

Q6. Active involvement

38% were prepared to be actively involved
 40% were not
 14% might be later

Q7. a)b)c)d)e)j) and Q8.

Responses closely related and often overlapping. Detailed consideration required.

Q5. a) Frequency of meetings

62% favoured quarterly meetings
 32% favoured bi-monthly

Q7. f) Pursuing formal educational opportunities

46% in favour

b) Day of meetings

Response evenly distributed on Mon-Thurs, with 22% nominating "variable".

g) Involvement in industrial matters

40% in favour

c) Time

40% favoured 6 pm
 30% favoured 5:30 pm
 Other responses not numerically significant

h) Involvement with standards

60% in favour

d) Duration of meetings

66% favoured 2 hours
 32% favoured 1 hour
 Other responses not numerically significant

i) Involvement with publications program

44% in favour

e) Refreshments

66% favoured serving refreshments
 20% did not

ii/...

General areas of interest expressed:

management/administration
communication
industrial information
copyright
new developments in librarianship
National Library/ABN/Life Sciences
promotions/public relations
reader education/displays
sole librarian/librarian in isolation
patient education
interlibrary loans/rationalization
librarian in organization/status
networking
medical terminology
clinical librarian
genuine social functions
Infotex

Areas of interest expressed repeatedly:

user needs
computers/automation
Audio visual program/materials
computer-based information services/data
bases/online workshops
AACRII
Dewey 19/classification systems
functions of CML0