

LIBRARY ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA
MEDICAL LIBRARIES SECTION
VICTORIAN GROUP

Executive Committee Minutes 2/86

Minutes of the Executive Committee meeting (Victorian Group) held at 5.30 pm on Thursday 13th March, at the Medical Library, Alfred Hospital.

1 Present Sandra Russell, Andrew Rooke, Kathy Hutton, Veronica Delafosse, Barbara Jacoby, Joan Martin, Jean Leith.

2 Apologies Max Smith

3 Minutes Correction of spelling error on page 3, line 8 of minutes of the previous meeting, 30 January, 'Leigh' should be 'Leith'. The minutes were accepted as read.

4 Business arising from the Minutes

Gratis ILL Scheme

Elisabeth Giddy (VRWH) spoke on the scheme at the Group's General Meeting on 3rd March, and is to include an item in the next Newsletter. Executive members indicated that they supported the scheme and would be willing to assist in the work involved.

1985 Conference Committee

Joan advised that it was not appropriate for the Victorian Group to suggest or decide on the allocation of profits from the 1985 MLS Conference. All the profits are normally returned to the LAA, however the National Executive may suggest the allocation of monies for special purposes. The National Executive is at present seeking approval for the establishment of the Anne Harrison Fund from the LAA.

Newsletter

The Royal Southern Memorial Hospital has agreed to cover the costs of printing and posting the Newsletter.

Action Kathy to write a letter of thanks to the Hospital, enclosing a donation of \$25.

5 Additional correspondence

Date	From	To	Subject
7.3.86	AACOBS	J. Martin	Transfer of nurse ed.
13.3.86	J. Adams, LAA	President	Transfer of nurse ed.

6 Business arising from correspondence

National Information Policy

The draft policy being considered by LAA General Council and circulated to the Divisions for comment, has been copied for Committee members. A report will be drafted at the next Executive Committee meeting, and sent to the Executive Director of the LAA.

Standards for Hospital Libraries

Pat Nakouz (Health Dept of Victoria) has contacted the LAA and forwarded details of the Victorian Group's activities to the MLS National Executive. The National Executive will act as the liaison point between state groups and make representations to the LAA. Lindsay Harris, National Secretary, is to act as State Convenor for S.A. and National Convenor, while Pat is to be Victoria's contact person. The issue of temporary ratification of the Victorian Minimum standards for hospital libraries 1983 will be raised at the next meeting of LAA General Council on 21/22 March.

Action Sandra to advise Pat on the Victorian representative attending the General Council meeting. Pat to provide the representative with background information.

Courses in medical librarianship

The Graduate School of Librarianship at Monash University intends to propose the establishment of a course/elective in medical librarianship. The School is hopeful of offering a course in 1987, and anticipates contacting the Victorian Group for suggestions regarding specific topics and possible lecturers.

Action Kathy to reply to the letter from T. Rungkat, Department of Librarianship, Ballarat College of Advanced Education, received on 27.11.85, thanking her for the interest shown in establishing a course in medical/health science librarianship, and outlining the response from the Graduate School of Librarianship at Monash.

7 Anne Harrison Fund

Joan has spoken with Anne, who is delighted with the proposal for establishing a fund. Anne indicated that she may like to be involved in the Fund's activities. The MLS National Executive would like the Victorian Group to be involved in the operation of the Fund, if the proposal for its establishment is accepted by the LAA. Action Joan to draft a list of options for conferral and application of the Fund.

8 Transfer of nurse education

Several replies were received to our letter of 5.2.86 that outlined areas of concern regarding library resources.

The Health Department of Victoria advise that the issue of library resources is to be considered by the Department's Nursing Strategy Section.

The Association of Librarians of Colleges of Advanced Education (ALCAE) included our letter in the agenda for their February meeting.

The Executive Director of Geelong Hospital agrees that there would be considerable pressure on the Hospital's School of Nursing Library from Deakin University students, and that the Library must be retained to provide resources to students on field placement and for in-service education and staff development.

A report from the Librarian at the Ballarat Base Hospital, Norma Worswick, notes that the Hospital and Ballarat College of

Advanced Education have agreed to reciprocal borrowing between their libraries, and that quarterly meetings to discuss problems and usage statistics are to be arranged.

The Director of Footscray Institute of Technology writes that a core collection of library materials for nursing courses has been established, and that the Institute does not anticipate clinical placement students will be making substantial demands on the resources of hospital libraries.

The Standing Committee of the Australian Advisory Council on Bibliographic Services (AACOBS) felt that on the information to hand there was no reason to believe the Colleges would not make proper provision for library resources, and that it was too early to assess the impact on hospital libraries. The Committee would welcome any comments the MLS has on the standard of library services for nurse education as the new courses develop.

Pat Nakouz (Health Department of Victoria) advises that the Consultative Committee to the Regional Medical Library Service is taking up the issue of library resources, and that she would like to receive copies of correspondence from the MLS on this matter. Perhaps the most positive response was from the Victorian Post-Secondary Education Commission (VPSEC). Mrs Marli Wallace of the Joint Interdepartmental Committee for the Transfer of Nurse Education from Hospitals to Colleges of Advanced Education, and a member of VPSEC, contacted the President for information to be presented to the Committee. The Committee may require colleges to provide a firm figure for monies allocated for library resources from the start-up funds, and propose that a librarian be included in any accreditation committee established to examine courses offered.

Joan attended a meeting of the Universities and College Libraries Section's National Executive. This year the National Executive is in Victoria, and they are interested in establishing a joint working party with the MLS Victorian Group on the issue of library resources for nurse education.

The LAA Executive Director requests the MLS to prepare a plan of action, and identify the relevant persons to be lobbied and the relevant funding bodies. The issues raised in our letter will be considered at the General Council meeting on 21/22.3.86.

Action Kathy to send copies of our letter of 5.2.86 to MLS National Executive and Pat Nakouz. Kathy to write to the Executive Director, LAA outlining our progress to date, indicating that preliminary discussions are underway and that a joint working party with the Universities and College Libraries Section's National Executive has been proposed. Copies of the letter from AACOBS, and the LAA Executive to be forwarded to the MLS National Executive. Sandra to contact the Victorian representative attending the General Council meeting and provide background information.

9 Corporate Plan and Review

Copies of the Report have arrived, and are being distributed to Committee members. A report will be drafted at the next Executive meeting and copies will be sent to the Executive Director of the LAA, and the MLS National Executive.

10 List of recommended books...small health science libraries

Anne Parkhowell has agreed to compile the new edition of the List. Questionnaires have been sent to selected librarians and doctors to identify titles for inclusion and bibliographic checking is in progress. New areas have been identified for inclusion i.e. Psychiatry, however tools for the librarian have not yet been examined, and subject headings and publication formats have not been finalised. Cath Pivec has offered use of word processing facilities at the Lincoln Institute Library for the project, and Christitine McKeown, Administrative Assistant to the Chief Librarian, has agreed to do the keyboarding. The Committee congratulated those involved with the List on their efforts to date.

Action Kathy to write to Anne confirming her appointment and requesting a progress report. Copies of the letter to Veronica and Andrew. Andrew to write to the LAA regarding payment of the grant. Kathy to write to Cath thanking her for offering the facilities at Lincoln, and to Christine, to confirm her appointment as typist for the project. Veronica to investigate transferring the data to the computers available at Lincoln.

11 Victorian Mailing List

Approximately 44% of the 1985 membership of the Victorian Group could have their mail sent using the existing courier systems. However computer labels would need to be purchased and the list entered in the computer at the Royal Women's Hospital Library. At present labels are received free from the LAA, and the Royal Southern Memorial Hospital is meeting the postage and printing costs of the Newsletter. The Committee decided not to proceed with setting up a separate Victorian mailing list.

Action Kathy to ring Helen Cotsell (VRWH) and advise her that a separate mailing list would not be produced.

12 Peer Review Resource Centre

Sandra attended the State Peer Review Contact Officers meeting on 4.3.86. Activities of various groups were outlined, and Sandra mentioned that the MLS was working on standards for hospital libraries. An Activities Register is being maintained in Sydney by the Centre. The meeting heard that quality review for librarians is one of the areas the Editor of the Australian Clinical Review will be looking at when he visits Canada. Funding for the Peer Review Resource Centre is in jeopardy, with the work of the Centre to be divided between the Australian Medical Association (AMA) and the Australian Council for Hospital Standards (ACHS).

Action Kathy to write to the AMA and ACHS expressing the Committee's concern at the proposed disbanding of the Centre.

13 Exclusive agencies for journal subscriptions

Enid Meldrum (VAH) suggested the appointment of exclusive agencies for several groups of serials be discussed by the Committee. Recent developments are the appointment of R.Hill and Son as sole agents for American Medical Association journals, and C.I.G. Medishield (Sydney) as sole agents for Yearbook publications. The disadvantages for librarians can include extra

time needed to liaise with additional agents i.e. different claiming procedures, separate payments for subscriptions. The new arrangement is meant to speed delivery time of journal issues, but this has not been noted to date. The Committee understands that EBSCO have written to the American Medical Association to protest over the new arrangements.

Action Kathy to write to the Secretary of the Acquisitions Section, Victorian Group suggesting this is an issue for joint discussion and action. Individual libraries may wish to write directly to the publishers concerned.

14 Treasurer's Report and LAA membership allowances

The Victorian group is \$170.70 in credit. It was agreed that the LAA membership allowance of \$1.60 is not sufficient, and that a request for this to be raised be included in the Committee's response to the LAA Corporate Plan and Review Report.

15 Branch Council Report

A seminar on the legal responsibility of librarians providing information has been suggested for 15 October.

The Council has established a sub-committee under the leadership of Christine Crocker to study the 1990 conference proposal for Albury-Wodonga, by the Riverina Group.

Peter Dawe is the Convenor of a committee to review International Relations Activities.

The Council expressed interest in the letter sent by the MLS Victorian Group on the transfer of nurse education, and wishes to remain informed on the problems of library resources and proposals for action by the Medical Libraries Section.

A copy of the proposed Branch Council flyer was available for comment. The Committee noted that the colour was perhaps too vibrant, that contact addresses and phone numbers should be included, and acronyms be explained. Incite reporter for 1986 will be Jeanette Rosengren (Library Council of Victoria). The Executive will again suggest the printing of 'Happenings' as an insert to improve the availability of information on state activities.

The LAA's 50th anniversary is approaching, and a working party has been formed to liaise with the LAA's History Committee.

16 Other business

General Meeting

Jean Leith has accepted the position of Convenor of Continuing Education. Jean suggested arranging with Elizabeth Carvosso for a talk on serials at the next General Meeting around 8th May.

Newsletter

The next issue should be posted in the week ending 25th April.

17 Date of the next meeting

The next Executive Committee meeting will be at 5.30pm on Tuesday 15th April, at the Medical Library, Alfred Hospital.

The meeting closed at 9.06pm.