



LIBRARY RESEARCH SECTION NEWSLETTER

SUMMER 1988

CONTENTS

	Page
MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR . . .	1
1988/89 OBJECTIVES	2
BOSTON: CALL FOR PAPERS . . .	3
ATTN: "MEMBERS"	3
RESEARCH RESOURCES CMTE . . .	4
EDITOR'S COMMENTARY	5
MEMBERSHIP FORM	6
NOMINATING CMTE NEEDED . . .	6
RESEARCH REPORT FORM	7
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SECTION OFFICERS 1988/1989

- Chair Carol H. Fenichel
- Chair-Elect Patricia Gibson
- Past Chair Erika Love
- Secy/Treasurer Ann C. Weller
- Section Council Rep
Trudy A. Gardner
- Section Council Alternate
Carolyn Ann Reid
- Section Nominee to MLA Nomin. Committee Jocelyn Rankin
- Government Relations Liaison
Karen Brewer
- Newsletter Editor
Elizabeth H. Wood

CE Liaison Committee
Karen T. Hackleman, Chair

MLA Research Issues Committee
Jacqueline D. Bastille, Chair

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

It is not often that one has the good fortune to take over a job and find that most of the work has already been done. That is what happened to me when I became Chair of the Research Section and for it I thank the Past-Chair, Erika Love. She left me with a terrific "management team" (to borrow a phrase from the corporate world) and most of the members were already started on this year's work.

The new Chair-elect is Patricia Gibson of the Family Health Foundation Library in Kansas City, MO. Pat will coordinate the Section-sponsored program for Boston. Trudy Gardner succeeds Phyllis Lansing (a real hard act to follow) as Section Council Representative and Carolyn Ann Reid is the Section Council Alternate. Our first newsletter editor is Elizabeth Wood. Jocelyn Rankin is the Section's Nominee to the MLA Nominating Committee. Karen Brewer will continue as Secretary/ Treasurer and Government Relations Liaison.

Erika also set up the committee structure described in the Section's Spring newsletter. The chairs are Karen Hackelman (CE Liaison), Jacqueline Bastille (MLA Research Issues), Phyllis Lansing (Research Resources) and Ann Weller (MLA Membership). We have developed together an ambitious set of objectives for the coming year. They are listed below and will (I hope) in one way or another involve all the Section membership.

The question of membership itself is a major dilemma just now. On the one hand, there is a large group of members who are active on committees. And, we had an impressive attendance at the Section business meeting in New Orleans in spite of a mix-up in the scheduling. On the other hand, there is some uncertainty over who really belongs to the Section. See the article ATTN: "MEMBERS."

LIBRARY RESEARCH SECTION 1988/89 OBJECTIVES

CONTINUING EDUCATION

Review and evaluate from the point of view of research content the current MLA CE courses with a view to:

(1) Suggesting ways to improve or integrate a research component in the existing courses where appropriate.

(2) Suggesting new research-related CE courses with the long-term goal of having an integrated series of research-related courses.

(3) Assessing the level of interest in research-related components.

(4) Evaluating the impact of research components.

(5) Reporting the results to the MLA CE Committee and MLA Headquarters, and in a paper at the 1989 national meeting.

MEMBERSHIP

Develop a new membership recruitment program operating at the chapter level.

Recruit more library school faculty.

RESOURCES

Prepare and distribute an up-to-date bibliography on research applicable to medical librarianship.

Revise and distribute the Research Report form to gather information about medical library research activity and resource persons.

Develop mechanisms for disseminating information about research in medical librarianship.

Establish a list of geographically distributed research resource persons or mentors.

ISSUES

Develop a statement of the Section's views on a Research Agenda for MLA.

Write a tutorial on how to write a Case Report for publication.

Collect information on academic release time for performing research.

Offer support to the MLA Board Task Force on Research.
Write an article on research in hospital libraries to be published in the Hospital Library Section newsletter.

OTHER

Publish two issues of the Section newsletter.

Sponsor a contributed papers session at the 1989 Annual Meeting in Boston.

Develop a symposium for the 1989 annual meeting.

It promises to be a very productive year!

Carol Fenichel

89TH ANNUAL MEETING - BOSTON

MAY 1989

CALL FOR PAPERS!

RESEARCH: FOUNDATION FOR THE FUTURE

In its strategic plan, Shaping the Future, the Medical Library Association recognized the importance of library research by making excellence in research one of its three major goals. To that end, the Association has outlined an ambitious program that includes creation of a research agenda, increasing the number of MLA members who are actively engaged in research, recruiting additional members with research skills, and creating an Association award by 1990, that recognizes excellence in

research. Quite simply, the Association recognizes that research, which expands our collective knowledge base, constitutes an indispensable foundation for the future.

The Library Research Section invites you to explore that knowledge base with them as we address significant research questions of the day, identify components of our professional knowledge base, and share reports of research in progress or recently completed.

Each entry will receive careful review by a selection panel. Those which examine a substantive issue using a definable methodology will receive preference. Each abstract should not exceed a maximum of 250 words. Indicate the name, address, and daytime telephone number of the primary author.

Submit three (3) copies of the abstract by September 16, 1988 to:

Pat Gibson, Review
Committee Chair
Family Health Foundation
Library
P.O. Box 8418
Kansas City, MO 64114-0418.

**ATTN: "MEMBERS"
DON'T MAKE US INCLUDE YOU OUT**

Determining our Section membership has become a problem. We have two lists. List number one began with names of persons who expressed interest in the Section as it was being formed. It has been

passed down to, and maintained by, Section officers for several years. This list now has 147 names, 80 of whom paid for the year. List number two came from MLA headquarters. It has the names of 153 MLA members who indicated that they were Section members on the MLA interest form distributed last Spring. I just discovered that the two lists have only 37 names in common!

Only persons on list number one have received the Section newsletter before this. We are sending this issue to both groups because we want you all to join. But this is the last time. Next year the Section dues will be collected as part of your Association membership renewal. Section members will then be defined as those persons who paid the \$5.00 Research Section dues with their MLA membership fee.

Meanwhile, we welcome anyone who would like to become legitimate for 1988. How do you know who you are? Members who have paid will see "P" written on the upper right hand corner of the mailing label for this newsletter. Others may join by filling out and returning the form towards the back of this newsletter. Thanks.

Carol Fenichel

RESEARCH RESOURCES COMMITTEE REPORT

The Research Resources Committee met for the first time in New Orleans to make plans for encouraging research

interest and activity by MLA members. The overall goal for the coming year is to gather and disseminate information about ongoing or completed research.

We ask for your cooperation in gathering information about research by completing the Research Report form which you find in this newsletter. The committee needs each of you to fill in the form yourself or to encourage others to report on their research activity. The form will also be distributed through other section or chapter newsletters and the MLA News to gain access to information about research activity through all groups of MLA. Responses to the form will provide the information for a clearinghouse on research resources (by person, institution, topic, methodology, etc.) which could make collaboration or consultation possible. Watch for progress reports on the Research Resources file.

The annotated bibliography of library research will be reorganized and updated for distribution by the Library Research Membership Committee at the chapter meetings and at the Boston MLA meeting. You, as a Library Research section member, can expect to see the bibliography in the next newsletter.

Research ideas and activity are most apt to grow where there is a chance to talk about those ideas. Access to a mentor, someone who has research experience, can

provide support as well as advice. A list will be developed, of experienced "research mentors" who will agree to be consultants and/or encouragers for a period of time. We would like to find mentors from across the country, to broaden access to experienced researchers.

Completed library research needs to be reported for the benefit of others in the field. With increased attention to and more training on appropriate methodology in a research, a larger number of well-written and well-documented research articles may be submitted to the Bulletin. The committee will also begin compiling a list of publications to which one might submit library research articles.

The Research Resources Committee members are working hard on the above projects, but we would like to have you consider yourself as an adjunct committee member. Talk to people; encourage their (and your) research interests. If you have ideas or comments on any of the proposed projects, please contact the following committee members:

Research Report form and clearinghouse - Neil Rambo, HAM/TMC;
Research Bibliography - Kathryn Reed, HAM/TMC;
Research Mentors - Ruth Fenske, U. Ill., Urbana;
Publishing Research - Dottie Eakin, U. Mich. and Alice Brand, Menninger Clinic.
All of the above projects - Phyl Lansing, Committee Chair, U. Maryland HSL, Baltimore (301) 328-7373.

EDITOR'S COMMENTARY

The job of "Newsletter Editor" is not new to me; what is new is how easy everyone involved is making this job. I actually received more material and suggestions than I could use, it all arrived on time, and much of it was on a disk written with my favorite word processor!

THANK YOU to Carol Fenichel and everyone who sent me their articles and forms. I cannot but wonder if the fact we are all interested in research, which necessarily involves writing and submitting manuscripts on time, has something to do with the efficiency and professional attitude which is so evident.

You will notice that most of the content in this issue is business--membership dues, the call for papers, requests for information, etc. In order to keep mailing costs to a minimum, I have had to omit some suggestions for substantive articles, as well as ideas I had myself. I will investigate ways to enlarge the newsletter next time to include these items.

PLEASE NOTE the forms grouped at the end of this issue that require your attention. Let's follow the example set by the contributors to this issue and respond on time.

Elizabeth H. Wood, Ed.

**MEMBERSHIP FORM
MLA LIBRARY RESEARCH SECTION**

I would like to join the Library Research Section of MLA for 1988.

Name: _____

Institution: _____

Address: _____

Make check for \$5.00 payable to: Ann Weller
and mail to: Secy/Treas Research Section
Library of the Health Sciences
Univ. of Illinois at Chicago
1750 West Polk Street
Chicago, IL 60612

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NOMINATING COMMITTEE NEEDED

Appointments to the Section's Nominating Committee must be made soon. The charge of the committee is to identify candidates for the following officers:

Chair-elect	5/89 - 5/90
Secretary-Treasurer	5/89 - 5/91
Section Nominee to MLA Nominating Committee	5/89 - 5/90

Please contribute by completing and returning this form:

TO: Carol Fenichel, Director of the Library, Hahnemann
University, 245 N. 15th St. M.S. 449, Philadelphia, PA
19102

I wish to serve on the Section's Nominating Committee.

I nominate _____ for _____
(name) (office)

Name: _____ Institution: _____

RESEARCH REPORT FORM

The Research Resources Committee of the MLA Library Research Section is developing a file of recently completed and ongoing research projects. The Committee plans, also, to develop a file of resource people with interests and/or expertise in library research. This file will serve as the basis for a clearinghouse on research resources. If you are currently involved in a research project, or know someone who is, please complete and mail the form below to:

Neil Rambo
Houston Academy of Medicine-Texas Medical Center Library
1133 M.D. Anderson Blvd.
Houston, Texas 77030

Name: _____ Date: _____

Position title: _____

Address: _____

Project title or topic: _____

Primary research methodology (e.g. survey, statistical analysis, experimental): _____

If in progress, what is approximate completion date? _____

If completed, has the project report been published? Y/N

If yes, in which journal did it appear? (include volume/date)

If no, is the project report available for distribution? Y/N

IF POSSIBLE, PLEASE ATTACH AN ABSTRACT OF NOT MORE THAN 250 WORDS DESCRIBING THE RESEARCH PROJECT.

In what research areas are you interested and/or have expertise?

The following individual is involved or has an active interest in research:

Name: _____
Institution: _____
