

**Final**  
**AAHSL Annual Business Meeting Minutes**  
**10/16/2024**

President Stephanie Fulton convened the meeting via Zoom at 9:34 AM PT with approximately 90 members present. She ran through a brief update on the agenda.

Attendees were reminded of their agreement to abide by AAHSL's Code of Conduct and noted that complaints may be submitted anonymously via the online form.

**Recognition of Retired, New, Interim and Acting Directors**

Directors who have retired in the last year included:

Ruth Riley – University of South Carolina

Mary Shultz – University of Nevada, Reno School of Medicine

New/Acting/Interim Directors since November 2023:

Hanna Norton – University of Florida

Rozalynd McConaughy – University of South Carolina

Sonja Settle – Oklahoma State University Center for Health Sciences

Annabelle Nunez – University of Arizona

Geoff Pettys – Southern Illinois University School of Medicine

Katie Jefferson – University of Nevada, Reno School of Medicine

Wendy Herman – Zucker School of Medicine at Hofstra/Northwell

Tony Nguyen – Rutgers The State University of New Jersey in Newark

Emily Hurst – University of Maryland, Baltimore

Julia Esparza – Louisiana State University Health - Shreveport

Pat Hawthorne – University of Texas Health San Antonio

Elle Galbreath – Larkin University

Lynn Kysh – University of California, Davis

Kimberely Miller – Idaho College of Osteopathic Medicine

David Sibley – The Chicago School

Alexia Riggs – Alice L. Walton School of Medicine

Tiffney Gipson-Goodwin – University of Kentucky

Theresa Carlson – Northern Arizona University

**President's Year-in-Review**

President Fulton continued to thank the current board members and complimented them on being an engaged and responsive group. She also thanked the AAHSL Office for their expertise and guidance. She thanked the entire membership for their time, energy, and resources they put toward AAHSL. She continued noting that her goal during her year of presidency was to focus on members being central to planning and communication. This resulted in AAHSL running a pilot with the Annual Meeting extending to a one-and-a-half-day program to allow for more content sessions and networking opportunities. President Fulton this also established two new task forces - Onboarding and Educating of Librarians New to Health Sciences & the Website Refresh. The Onboarding grew out of an eSalon talk in which AAHSL members stepped up to address an ongoing discussion of how we can help each other as we hire new

librarians into our teams. We will hear from them at the November meeting in Atlanta.

The Website Task Force was planned by the Board with funding for this past year. That group looked at streamlining content and highlighting our programs, including our hardworking Committees!

It was noted that the Joint Legislation Committee also continued their advocacy which included signed letters that called on Congress to finish the FY24 appropriations and to fully fund non-defense discretionary funds to keep pace with rising costs for the FY2025 budget.

And with MLA, AAHSL Submitted a statement to the Senate Subcommittee on Labor, Health, and Human Services, and Education and Related Agencies supporting appropriations for the National Library of Medicine for a \$521 million budget for NLM in FY24, representing a 5% increase.

### **Committee Highlights**

President Fulton highlighted the work of several AAHSL committees. During this time, she included a review of the website updates to various committee pages as part of the Website Refresh Task Force.

- Assessment and Statistics Committee reported that we are on track to have 130 surveys completed this year and that the data is due on November 8, 2024.
- The Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee held another successful book club with 58 participants reading & discussing “Better Allies: Everyday Actions to Create Inclusive, Engaging Workplaces” by Karen Catlin.
- The Future Leadership Committee is waiting for the findings from the evaluation on ten years of cohorts and the Leadership Fellows Program. The firm contracted to evaluate the program garnered a 72% response rate. With funding from Region 1 of the Network of the National Library of Medicine, a professional coaching pilot program for early to mid-career health sciences librarians was launched in September. There are 9 participants in this pilot program. The AAHSL Director Recruitment Guide is being updated and the revised edition will be ready for a roll-out by the Annual Meeting in Atlanta, GA. The 2024-2025 class for the Leadership Fellows Program was selected and more to come later in this presentation on this year’s Fellows & Mentors.
- The New & Interim Directors Committee is hosting a symposium at this year’s Annual Meeting. All 20 available positions were filled. 15 new/interim directors were partnered with experienced AAHSL directors as part of the Buddy program. In partnership with AAHSL Staff, new ways were created to track new/interim directors.
- The NEW Onboarding and Educating Librarians New to Health Sciences Task Force is developing a scaffolded learning framework; completed an environmental scan with AAHSL members; communicated with MLA’s New Health Sciences Librarianship Curriculum Workgroup and ensured efforts are complementary; performed a literature review; and explored cohort models.
- The Program and Education Committee has organized an exciting day and a half conference for our members! Highlights include the half-day workshop sponsored by the DEI committee; member-driven content for onboarding new librarians, AI Case Presentations; and Open Science Panel; and finally, a dynamic Matheson Lecture from Dr. Melissa Boneta Davis, Director of the Institute of Translational Genomic Medicine at Morehouse School of Medicine. They continue to offer the director-only monthly networking eSalons from January – October.

- Scholarly Communications Sponsored a well-attended webinar, “Promoting Citational Justice in the Health Sciences” on January 30th, 2024. This committee is the AAHSL connection to the SPARC Open Access Working Group.
- The Website Refresh streamlined the pull-down menus, created individual Committee pages; Updated the Meeting pages & Resource pages to bring more content top of pages; and Updated Member Center landing page. Recommendations were provided to continue the work next year with new members reviewing the updates and moving forward with preservation and archival practices.
- Starting soon is a new Task Force with MLA, the Educational Research /Assessment Task Force.

President Fulton concluded by thanking the committee members and chairs for their time, energy, and expertise.

### **Secretary/Treasurer’s Report**

Megan von Isenburg noted that Full Membership is up now that Osteopathic Schools are included as Full Members instead of Associate Members. Also, with 18 Developing Libraries and 2 New Libraries, membership in general is up. She described AAHSL’s current membership: 143 full members, 19 associate members in the US, 4 associate members in Canada, and Developing Schools at 18, and new schools at 2 members, for a total of 186 members.

AAHSL’s financial reserves as of September 30, 2024 were as follows:

Checking	\$319,802
Savings	\$107,338
Certificate of Deposit	\$103,851
LPL Financial Account	<u>\$707,962</u>
Total	\$1,238,953

Megan continued that AAHSL had a very successful year, financially ending the year with a net operating income of \$63,250. This income reflects that AAHSL received two years of \$65,000 payment from NLM as contribution to the Fellows Program. Without the extra payment, the budget would have been basically flat, with a loss of under \$2,000. In addition, the budget reflects funding received from the pilot coaching program. AAHSL’s investments also continue to do well.

The FY2025 budget was approved by the Board as follows:

Income	\$460,800
Expenses	<u>\$478,393</u>
Net Revenue	\$ (17,593)

Megan noted that the board is not concerned with the small loss projected in the FY2025 budget. It was stated that the loss comes from higher costs anticipated with hosting a 1.5 day annual meeting. This is a pilot year and costs as well as member feedback will be considered in assessing this longer meeting format. She opened the floor for questions, and none were asked.

### **2024-2025 NLM/AAHSL Fellows Class Welcome**

President Fulton thanked Judy Cohn, the faculty, the Future Leadership Committee, and the participating

Fellows and Mentors for making this program successful.

**NLM/AAHSL Leadership Fellows Program 2024-2025 Roster**

Lindsay Blake, EdD, MLIS, AHIP

Clinical Services Coordinator

Professor Adjunct Faculty, Department of Emergency Medicine

Division of Research and Evidence-Based Practice

University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences

Little Rock, AR

**Mentor:** Melissa L. Rethlefsen, MSLS, AHIP

Executive Director & Professor

Health Sciences Library & Informatics Center

University of New Mexico

Albuquerque, NM

Francisco J. Fajardo, Ph.D., MLIS, MPA, MA, AHIP-D

Assistant Director, Public & Information Services

Medical Library

Herbert Wertheim College of Medicine

Florida International University

Miami, FL

**Mentor:** Michelle Kraft, MLS, AHIP, FMLA

Director, Cleveland Clinic Libraries

Cleveland, OH

Shalu Gillum JD, MLS, D-AHIP

Head of Public Services

Associate Medical Librarian

Harriet F. Ginsburg Health Sciences Library

University of Central Florida College of Medicine

Health Sciences Campus

Orlando, FL

**Mentor:** Amy Allison, MLS, MPH, AHIP\*

Associate Provost for Library Services

Geisinger College of Health Sciences and Geisinger Health

Scranton, PA

Brian Leaf, MS

Executive Director, Region 3

Network of the National Library of Medicine

University of North Texas Health Science Center

Fort Worth, TX

**Mentor:** Anne K. Seymour, MS

Associate Dean and Director, Welch Medical Library

Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine-

Biomedical Informatics and Data Science Section

Johns Hopkins University & Medicine  
Baltimore, MD

Faith Steele, MLS, AHIP  
Interim Executive Director, Region 1  
Network of the National Library of Medicine  
Health Sciences and Human Services Library  
University of Maryland, Baltimore  
Baltimore, MD

**Mentor:** Joy Summers-Ables, MLIS, AHIP  
Director, Robert M. Bird Health Sciences Library  
Professor & Chair, Health Sciences Library and Information Management  
University of Oklahoma Health Sciences  
Oklahoma City, OK

### **Recognition of Board Service**

Outgoing board members were recognized - Past President Nadine Dexter, University of Central Florida College of Medicine and Member at Large Fatima Barnes, Howard University.

### **Nominating Committee and Election of Officers**

The slate for election of Board members for 2024—2025 is:

Member At Large: Bart Ragon, University of Virginia for a full 3-year term

President-Elect: Shannon Jones, Medical University of South Carolina

The slate passed by vote of the membership.

### **New President's Remarks**

President Elect Rios is ready to build upon the work of President Fulton as well as continuing AAHSL's excellence. He shared AAHSL's Mission Statement and will be revisiting the 2020 Strategic Plan to revise the association's goals. The changes in our workplace after the 2020 Pandemic will be considered in supporting developing of our members as well as the update to Osteopathic schools being considered Full Members and ensure we meet their needs. He states AAHSL is always looking to grow our future leadership, and we have several new and interim directors as well as a large group of second-in-command leaders. After a broad overview of his goals with this revision to the strategic plan, he informed members he will be making a call for volunteers for this task force. He wants to build a task force with someone seasoned in their director position, someone from an Osteopathic school, a second-in-command member, and a new director. He reminded members that we are always looking for constant communication and all members of the board are open and available to feedback and building the association up.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:05 AM PT.

Drafted by Kelsi Brisebois

Reviewed by Megan von Isenburg