

Minutes of Annual General Meeting of the Health Science Libraries Group, at the Hodson Bay Hotel, Athlone, 20th February 2008

1. Welcome

Bernard Barrett, outgoing Chairperson, welcomed all present

2. Apologies

Apologies were noted

3. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 21st Sept. 2006

These were duly proposed and seconded and passed by all in attendance.

3. Matters Arising

None

4. Reports from Officers

4.1 Chairpersons report

Bernard Barrett gave an overview of the work carried out by the committee and the various working groups over the past year. He laid particular stress on the preparations underway for the EAHIL Workshop to be held in Dublin in 2009 and emphasised the need for a strategic approach to recognising and preparing for changes to our roles as Health Science Information professionals.

4.2 Treasurers Report

Brian Galvin presented a financial statement. The budgetary policy that had been introduced earlier in the year was also briefly described. The purpose of this was to ensure that the committee and group took a planned approach to both expenditure and income generation.

4.3 LAI Executive Board

Louise Farragher was re-elected to the LAI Executive Board last year. The Executive Board meets approximately 8 times a year in Dublin, usually from about 11am - 1pm. Additionally, there are two committees of the Executive Board, namely the Finance and General Purposes Committee (which usually meets before each EB meeting) and the Education Committee. Membership of/presence on the Executive Board enables the HSLG to possess an overview of the sector as a whole, as well as to have access to key LAI personnel in the case of events such as EAHIL etc.

4.4 International Liaison Officer

Joanne Callinan, International Liaison Officer gave a brief report of her work during the year. This included horizon scanning for news and events likely to be of significance to HSLG members and undertaking a joint presentation with Bernard Barrett, HSLG Chairperson, at the EAHIL Workshop in Krakow the previous September. The year also saw the launch of a HSLG/EBSCO Bursary. The bursary was awarded via a written competition and the two lucky winners received an all-expenses paid trip to the annual MLA conference in Philadelphia, USA.

4.5 Communications Officer

Jane Farrelly, HSLG Communications Officer, reported that a second re-vamped issue of HINT was published in December 2007. The intention is to produce four issues per year and to facilitate this, and encourage greater participation in the production of the newsletter the intention is to form a HINT working group. Additionally, business cards have been produced for all HSLG committee Officers so that they can promote HSLG at both national and international events. A new publicity brochure was also produced during 2007.

4.5 Cochrane Library Liaison Officer

A number of international Cochrane events took place during 2007. The Cochrane Library Liaison Officer promoted news of all these via the HSLG mailing list and the HSLG website.

4.6 Continuing Professional Development Working Group

Aoife Lawton stepped down from leadership of this group during 2007, to be replaced by her colleague Fiona McCarthy. The group met five times during the year and organised five CPD events, the majority of which were fully booked out. It had been hoped to run a course on Teaching Methods, but this had to be postponed due to the unavailability of the planned trainer.

4.7 EAHIL Workshop Local Organising Committee

In January 2006 the HSLG Committee was informed by EAHIL, the European Association for Health Information and Libraries, that we were successful in our bid to host the EAHIL Workshop in Dublin in 2009. This is chaired by Louise Farragher, the group's Vice-Chair.

In addition to the Local Organising Committee, an International Programme Committee (IPC) has also been convened. This will be responsible for determining the theme and content of the workshop, and the Continuing Professional Development courses. Paul Murphy, Deputy Librarian at RCSI will chair the IPC and will be inviting EAHIL members to join the committee shortly.

The LOC has engaged the professional conference organisers Conference Partners to aid us in our work organising the Workshop. The LOC formally met five times during 2007, but additionally, members attended other related meetings with professional conference organisers and toured potential venues.

Four members of the Local Organising Committee and 1 member of the IPC attended the EAHIL Workshop in Krakow, Poland in September 2007.

There will not be a HSLG conference in 2009; our primary event will be the EAHIL workshop, to be held in Dublin in June.

The LOC Chair wishes to formally thank all the members of the LOC and IPC for their work during the year. This work is voluntary and taken up in addition to members' full time work. The success of the EAHIL Workshop is guaranteed by their continuing efforts.

4.8 Conference Planning Working Group

This has been meeting since last August in preparation for what has now become a very successful annual event. The event is becoming both more participative as well as a learning experience with each year. We were also fortunate to stage a coup with the European premiere of the "Hollywood Librarian" and to have Ann Seidl, the film's creator, in attendance.

5. Election of Committee Members

The following have been duly proposed and seconded were elected to the HSLG Committee to serve a two year term, as per the HSLG agreed policies and procedures

Susan Boyle (UCD)
Louise Farragher (HRB)
Jane Farrelly (HSE)
Brian Galvin (HRB)
Seán Hughes (RCSI Beaumont)
Fiona McCarthy (Temple Street Hospital)
David Mockler (Trinity College Dublin)

Michael Doheny (Athlone Institute of Technology) was elected last year and is now serving the second of a two-year term on the HSLG Committee.

6. Any Other Business

Bernard Barrett thanked everyone for attending.

A vote of thanks to Bernard Barrett was proposed by Brian Galvin (Health Research Board) and seconded by Tim Collins (NUI Galway) for his work with the HSLG over the last eight years.