



Minutes of HSLG AGM 2021

Venue: Online

Date: 2 December 11am – 11:40am

Attendees**Affiliation**

Barrett, Bernard	Tusla Research Office
Colley, Bernadette	Cork University Hospital
Doheny, Michael	Technological University of the Shannon: Midlands Midwest
Dunne, Mary	Health Research Board, Dublin
Farragher, Louise	Health Research Board, Dublin
Halton, Linda	Our Lady's Hospital, Navan
Lawler, Fiona	Our Lady's Hospice & Care Services
Lee, Caitriona	Health Research Board, Dublin
Lucey, Niamh	St. Vincent's University Hospital, Dublin
Madden, Anne	St. Vincent's University Hospital, Dublin
McHugh, Noreen	St Michael's Hospital, Dublin.
Murtagh, Noeleen	Food Safety Authority, Dublin.
Nelson, Mairead	Health Research Board
O'Byrne, Anne	Rotunda Hospital, Dublin.
Peppard, Elaine	Rotunda Hospital
Williams, Miriam	Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital, Drogheda

Item 1: Welcome by the Chair (Niamh Lucey).

Niamh welcomed all online attendees and outlined the protocol for the meeting.

Item 2: Minutes of HSLG AGM held on-line 26th November 2020

The Minutes from 2020 were shared on screen by the Chair and attendees were also sent a copy of the 2020 minutes before the meeting. Louise Farragher proposed the minutes as accurate and Noreen McHugh seconded, no objections.

Item 3: Reports from officers

3 (a): Secretary Report.

Secretary's Report by Miriam Williams

HSLG Committee Members 2020-2021

Niamh Lucey (Chair)

Mary Dunne (Vice Chair & Research Officer)

Miriam Williams (Secretary)

Noreen Mc Hugh: (Treasurer)

Mairea Nelson: (Events & Membership Officer)

Linda Halton (Communications Officer).

HSLG Meeting since last AGM 26th November 2020

The HSLG committee held 9 meetings on:

15th December 2020

26th January 2021

25th March 2021

13th May 2021

12th July 2021

7th September 2021

11th October 2021

8th November 2021

22nd November 2021

There were also numerous communications and planning via basecamp and phone etc.

3 (b): Treasurer's Report 2020: Prepared by Noreen McHugh, Treasurer

HSLG Treasurer's Report 2020

The balance at the end of 2020 was healthy at **€26,047.32**.

Total expenditure for the year was **€4,505.71** and total income was **€7,428.14**. That is a positive balance of **€2,922.43**.

2020 income was primarily generated from sponsorship for our Seminar in February, and from fees for CPD events.

The costs for the Seminar, CPD events and bursaries amounted to approximately **€3,002**.

Other expenditure includes ongoing costs for Administration and Bank fees.

These accounts have been approved by the LAI auditors.

Online attendees voted to accept the accounts as accurate:

Details of vote: 15 voted in favour and none against.

3 (c): Communications Officer Report by Linda Halton

1. HINT

In the past year we have published three bumper issues of the HSLG newsletter **HINT**. The winter issue will be circulated shortly. On behalf of the committee, our sincerest thanks to everyone who made a submission to HINT this past year. A special word of thanks to our regular contributors: Bernard Barrett, Mary Dunne, Elaine Peppard, Caitriona Lee, and Niamh O'Sullivan. Your contributions are varied, engaging, timely, informative, and appreciated by all. As we head into another new year and consider our plans and aspirations for 2022, we would ask you all to consider sharing your experiences, findings, and insights with others by publishing in HINT.

2. HSLG Virtual Journal Club

The HSLG established a virtual journal club in the spring of 2021. The committee facilitates journal club sessions and acts as a central support when needed. We developed a guidance document to assist members, but we keep direction and input to a minimum. This is to enable the journal club to evolve organically, and to encourage collaboration amongst members. Content, themes and topics for presentation and discussion are selected by journal club members, with a recommendation that reading

material originate from open access sources. To date, three virtual journal club sessions have taken place.

Our thanks to:

- Anne Madden who presented on the Wikipedia version of “Librarian”
- Breda Herlihy who led a discussion on reflective practice in health librarianship
- And Niamh O’Sullivan for leading an engaging debate around fake news and the COVID-19 pandemic.

The HSLG Virtual Journal Club continues to grow, and at present has 18 members.

The HSLG website is regularly updated. If anyone has anything they would like us to add to the blog or HINT please email it to us. We currently have 953 followers on Twitter so if you don’t currently follow us on Twitter, please do at @healthlibraries.

3 (d): Events Officer Report by Mairea Nelson

Events officer report 2020-2021

As you all know by now, our main event, our annual conference, which was due to take place on the 26th of November 2021 in the Ashling Hotel Dublin had to be postponed. We made this difficult decision in light of the surge in Covid-19 numbers, and because a significant number of delegates and presenters were unable to attend.

It takes a lot of work to organise an event like this, but all is not lost as most presenters and sponsors have already agreed to the have already agreed to a new provisional date in 2022.

Julie Glanville will give a virtual talk on the ISSG Search Filter Resource in January. And we expect we’ll have other such events in 2022. All LAI members are invited to attend.

The pandemic has limited our usual CPD events. We have, however, regularly contacted our members by email with information about online conferences and other CPD events and encouraged everyone to avail of our bursaries to cover attendance costs. HSLG members are all entitled to apply for funding to attend relevant courses and other such events. The bursary form is on our website <https://hslg.ie/committee-documents/>.

We hope you can attend our conference in 2022. As a group, we are all looking forward to getting together. We will send updated details of this and other events when we have them.

3 (e): Address by HSLG Chair: Niamh Lucey.

Chair's report – 2020-2021 HSLG Chair's Report

2021 was another busy year for the Health Sciences Libraries Group and, while we may not have had the opportunity to meet one another face to face as we would have hoped, the Committee worked very hard to support our members as you will read about in the following Officers' reports.

Our year started with a goodbye to our friend and colleague Michael Doheny who resigned his place on the Committee and his position of Secretary in December after 17 years of faithful service. Michael was such an intrinsic part of our small group, and his departure has left a big gap.

At the end of 2020, we launched our new HEAnet-hosted discussion list which grew in numbers throughout the year, totaling 87 sign-ups by December. I am pleased to report that the list is very active, and we've had some very positive feedback about how great it is to be able to communicate with one another and support one another in this way, while we cannot meet in person.

One of our aims for this year was to compile a new database of HSLG members and to that end, we set up a survey on our discussion list to find LAI members from among those signed up we now have 49 registrations in our system. We hope to work with the LAI Council to grow this number further in 2022.

I was delighted to be invited to attend a meeting of the LAI Groups and Sections on 7 September which was chaired by the LAI President and well attended by Council and Group/Section committee members alike. The President gave an overview of recent changes and outlined plans for future developments with the Association and the HSLG Committee looks forward to working closely with the Council and other groups and sections in the coming years.

Our biggest disappointment this year was the postponement of our Annual Conference which we had planned to hold in person in November but we have rescheduled for early next year and are hopeful it will go ahead. Our greatest achievements, however, were the launch of our Virtual Journal Club in February and the survey on membership of professional librarian associations which we carried out in November, both of which you can read more about in the reports below.

I conclude this report by thanking the HSLG Committee members who have worked so hard and with such good humour over the past year to deliver a vibrant, supportive, and interactive suite of services to our members. I would also like to thank the members themselves for being such a participative group of people, for sharing ideas and for supporting one another. New members are always welcome and can contact the Committee on contacthslg@gmail.com or through our website www.hslg.ie

4) HSLG Survey.

Research and evidence by Mary Dunne

Professional library association survey

In November 2021, the HSLG committee conducted a survey about the perceived benefits of membership in our group and in professional library associations. As an association group, we wanted to understand why librarians have, or have not, become members. We also needed to know what members expect from us, so that the HSLG committee can make informed decisions about activities. This survey was open to librarians/information professionals from any sector based in Ireland. It was promoted through our membership list, discussion email list, the LAI newsletter and via Twitter. We had a 46% response rate from the HSLG group (n=21) and had responses from 28 others. Although numbers are small, they provide an insight into our members' views and expectations. We also have a better understanding of the reasons for membership and non-membership in library associations. We will analyse and report on the information collected.

5. Election of incoming committee members

Introduced by Miriam Williams (Secretary).

All committee members, except for Mairea Nelson, are currently in the middle of a two-year term. Mairea was nominated for another term as follows:

Nominations received	Nominator 1	Nominator 2
Mairea Nelson	Mary Dunne	Catriona Lee

6: AOB

Louise Farragher suggested that a motion should be brought before the next LAI Council meeting regarding the issue of membership. Louise would like to see the LAI actively addressing the issue of membership promotion.

Mary Dunne thanked Niamh Lucey for all her hard work as Chair throughout the year.

Niamh Lucey (Chair) thanked all for attending.
