

## AAHSL Scholarly Communication Committee 2011 Year Report

The AAHSL Scholarly Communication Committee was appointed in February 2003 to develop, recommend, and guide the implementation of a plan and activities in support of the Association's stand on the range of issues relating to scholarly communication.

*The Committee undertook the following activities:*

**Participation in SPARC and the Open Access Working Group (OAWG) and various Declarations** - The OAWG is a coalition of open access advocates coordinated by SPARC that includes major library associations, PLoS, Public Knowledge, and the SPARC lobbyist. AAHSL contributes financial support to both organizations and has a representative seat on the OAWG (the SCC Chair). The OAWG meets monthly or less by conference call and relevant information is sent to the AAHSL membership, as permitted since much of the information is considered confidential. Much of the work centers on advocacy for the NIH Public Access Policy including letters and testimonies, support for FRPAA, the America COMPETES Act, and Open Access initiatives such as COPE, (Compact for Open Access Publishing Equity) and COAPI (Coalition of Open Access Policy Institutions). News on SPARC's Open Access Week was shared with the AAHSL membership.

This year, the SCC made a formal recommendation to the AAHSL Board regarding not continuing participation and membership in the OAWG (but staying with SPARC) and was asked to reconsider its decision. The committee discussed this issue during the annual meeting and recommended that AAHSL maintain its membership in SPARC and OAWG with the committee documenting the benefits and actions as a result of membership.

At its annual meeting, the SCC discussed whether to recommend that AAHSL sign on as endorsers of two documents – the Washington Declaration on Intellectual Property and the Public Interest and the Berlin Declaration on Open Access to Scientific Knowledge. The committee voted and recommended to the Board that AAHSL endorse these documents after much discussion..

**MLA Member Survey on Impact of NIH Public Access Policy on Subscriptions –**  
The Ad Hoc MLA Committee for Advocating Scholarly Communications surveyed association members in the summer of 2010 to identify the impact of the NIH Public Access Mandate on collection development decisions including journal subscription cancellations. The SCC helped to prepare survey result information.

### **Chicago Collaborative -**

Jean Shipman applied on behalf of the Chicago Collaborative (CC) to MLA for a Biomedical Publishing 101 CE course to be taught at MLA 2012, which was approved. She along with a CC representative offered a second webinar entitled "BioMedical Publishing 101" to two regions of the National Network of Libraries of Medicine using Adobe Connect on December 8, 2011. The first was given to three regions on Dec. 7, 2010 with great evaluations. The three remaining NN/LM regions had a similar webinar scheduled on January 18, 2012.

Jean Shipman consulted with the CC Conveners and AAHSL President-Elect regarding future plans for AAHSL members serving on the CC, as the Joint AAHSL Publisher/Liaison Task Force's term ended in fall 2010. A new plan was derived for the SCC with a co-chair being appointed for the SCC to create a succession plan for the leadership of the SCC. Rajia Tobia was appointed co-chair starting in November 2010, with Chris Frank appointed co-chair elect.

### **Program Sessions -**

The SCC hosted a Hot Topics at the Saturday AAHSL educational program devoted to scholarly communication. Presenters and title were:

Title: Who Should Pay for Open Access Author Fees? Institutions? Funding agencies? Authors? Libraries?

Debating this issue will be Karen Butter, University Librarian and Assistant Vice Chancellor, Library and Center for Knowledge Management, University of California, San Francisco, and Jane Blumenthal, Director, Taubman Health Sciences Library, University of Michigan.

The SCC has partnered with the Ad Hoc MLA Committee for Advocating Scholarly Communications and Chicago Collaborative to request a plenary session for MLA 2013 on scholarly communication issues. As this was not accepted, this same partnership will offer an Open Forum instead..

Jean Shipman participated in the Ad Hoc MLA Committee for Advocating Scholarly Communication's Open Forum session at MLA on May 16, 2011. She discussed trends for medical librarians related to scholarly communications.

### **Other Efforts –**

The co-chairs and committee members distributed email updates to AAHSL members on developments related to scholarly publishing and communications, including frequent highlights from the SPARC OA Newsletter by Peter Suber. We asked the membership about the value of the OA Newsletter updates and received confirmation that they should be continued. This responsibility is now being shared by a number of SCC members who volunteer to summarize the newsletter.

The co-chairs represented the SCC on the Ad Hoc MLA Committee for Advocating Scholarly Communications, the Chicago Collaborative (CC), the Joint AAHSL/MLA Legislative Task Force (this ended in November although information continues to be shared for informational purposes), SPARC and OAWG.

The SCC responded to the AAHSL Board request to consider how to incorporate the suggestions of members of AAHSL regarding scholarly communication issues that were identified through a membership survey. Many of the desired items are already being performed by the SCC. In order to highlight this better to the membership, any correspondence issued by the SCC included a statement indicating such was being offered by the SCC.

Jean Shipman worked with Barbara Epstein and NLM on seeing if it would be possible to connect PubMed Central entries with local university institutional repositories. Discussions about potential connections began in October. Jean did poll the membership to see if anyone had determined a means of doing so with no positive results shared. Jean also talked with PMC technicians and while technically this is possible, rights management issues permits only about a third of PMC as being a potential for uploading to institutional repositories. Adding to PMC from IRs is not possible.

Linda Walton continued to monitor activities related to ORCID.

A letter to Elsevier was drafted but not sent to encourage a change of policy for interlibrary loans of their eJournals. In April, news was shared with members that the policy was altered in favor of recommendations from librarians and library organizations.

The committee continues to monitor university campus-wide OA mandates and the Google Books settlement and Hathitrust issue. It is also monitoring the limitations of publishers to consider publications resulting from institutional repository content such as theses and dissertations or preprints.

Leslie Schick updated the SC toolkit available on the AAHSL site.

### **Committee Meetings -**

The committee met in-person on November 7, 2010, at the 2010 AAHSL meeting. In lieu of an in-person meeting at MLA, the SCC held a conference call meeting on May 27, 2011. The SCC held its annual committee meeting on November 7.

The SCC co-chairs assisted the CC Conveners with providing an activities briefing to the AAHSL membership on November 7, 2010, and did the same at the 2011 AAHSL meeting in Denver on Sunday, November 6. .

Gretchen Arnold (2008-2011)

Carlene Drake (2009-2012)

Sandra Franklin (2008-2011)

Chris Frank (2010-2013)

Evelyn Morgen (2008-2011)

Leslie Schick (2009-2012)

Barbara Shearer (2010-2013)

Jean Shipman, Co-chair (2009-2011)

Tom Singarella (2010-2013)

Rajia Tobia, Member 2009-2010, Co-chair (2010-2012)

Linda Walton (2009-2011)

Board Liaison: Karen Butter (2010-)