AAHSL Program Committee
2012 Annual Report

The Program Committee consisted of the following members:

Barbara Cavanaugh, University of Pennsylvania, Chair
Marianne Burke, University of Vermont
Judy Burnham, University of Southern Alabama
Barbara Kern, University of Chicago
Susan Murray, McGill University,
Neville Prendergast, Tulane University
Dorothy Spencer, East Carolina University
Marty Thompson, University of Oklahoma

The committee kicked into full gear in February of 2012, after receiving program and speaker suggestions from the AAHSL Board, regarding both the educational program and the Matheson Lecture. The committee worked in two teams: one for the educational program, and one for the Matheson Lecture. This streamlined the process considerably.

The program committee carefully considered and researched all of the Board’s suggestions. The Board had pointed out that the previous three Matheson speakers had concentrated on the clinical, research and education roles that had been identified in the "Charting the Future" document, and that a speaker dealing with Community Outreach would fill in the fourth role. However, after discussion and research, the Program Committee favored another of the Board’s suggestions, which was for speakers on medical education. The two such speakers they named were Catherine Lucey, Vice President for Medical Education at UCSF, who was well-known for a presentation she had given, called, “What Angry Birds can tell us about educating the next generation of physicians,” and Dr. Molly Cooke, Director of Education for Global Health Sciences at UCSF, and co-author of the landmark report, “Educating Physicians: A Call for Reform of Medical School and Residency.”

Those two remarkable educators, conveniently located in the host city of San Francisco where AAMC was being held, became the anchors of our programming. Dr. Lucey accepted a $1000.00 honorarium to be the keynote speaker for the education program, and Dr. Cooke accepted a $5000.00 honorarium to be the Matheson lecturer. Dr. Lucey’s presentation was entitled, “Technology and Learning: Strange bedfellows or a match made in heaven.” Dr. Cooke’s presentation was entitled, “Data and the Human Touch: Implications of the Information Explosion for Medical Education.” While the topic was well presented and extremely engaging, there was some speculation afterwards that we should have better communicated to Dr. Cooke that we would have been interested to hear more about her work on the landmark medical education report she co-authored.
The educational program, held Saturday, Nov. 3, 2012, from 11am – 3:00pm, was entitled “Emerging ‘User Driven’ Opportunities for Academic Health Science Libraries.” The program opened with Dr. Lucey’s presentation, named above. For the remainder of the educational programming, the committee drew from our own AAHSL membership to report on activities at our own institutions. This portion of the program was called “Hot Topics,” keeping the format from the year prior. We limited the number of hot topics to three, to allow significant time for Q&A.

The three hot topics were:

- “Lessons from Listening to users: Navigating Change in Welch Medical Library,” Blair Anton, Welch Medical Library.
- “Following our Users’ Lead: A case study in Patron Driven Acquisitions,” Barbara Kern, University of Chicago.
- “Building Bridges to Information with Bioinformatics@Becker,” Paul Schoening, Washington University.

The topics and format were selected based on feedback from the prior year’s post-meeting survey. All of the speakers’ presentations were highly engaging and relevant.

The committee worked collaboratively and efficiently throughout the year, meeting via conference calls and in person at MLA.

Barbara Kern will serve as the next Chair.

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Bernoff Cavanaugh
Associate Director, Health Sciences Libraries;
and Director, Biomedical Library
University of Pennsylvania

January 16, 2013