

JOINT AAHSL/PUBLISHER LIAISON TASK FORCE

Annual Report 2009

The Joint AAHSL/Publisher Liaison Task Force continued to support the activities of the Chicago Collaborative, an organization which the Task Force and representatives from publishing and editing organizations founded in 2008. Founding organizations and members of the Task Force are listed following the annual report.

Meetings: The Task Force met twice in 2009 (Honolulu, May 2009; Boston, November 2009) in support of Chicago Collaborative activities. The Chicago Collaborative met twice in 2009 (Chicago, April 7-8, 2009; Boston, November 10-11, 2009). Summary notes of the April 2009 meeting are available on the Collaborative website (see: http://chicago-collaborative.org/pdf/Chicago_Collaborative_April_8_2009.pdf). A Chicago Collaborative briefing by the Task Force for AAHSL members is scheduled for Sunday, November 8, 2009 in Boston. Summary notes from the November 10-11, 2009 Collaborative meeting will be posted on the website following the meeting.

Significant events and activities occurring since the 2008 Annual Report include the following:

Statement of Purpose & Press Release: A press release announcing the establishment of the Chicago Collaborative was issued in March 2009 (see: http://chicago-collaborative.org/pdf/Chicago_Collaborative_press_release.pdf) followed in April 2009 by the publication of a statement of purpose.

One of the most important developments in 2009 was the development of the statement of purpose which helped define a relationship of trust and a spirit of collaboration among the members of the Collaborative and provided context to the Framework and FAQ documents initially crafted and previously posted on the website (see: http://chicago-collaborative.org/pdf/Chicago_Collaborative_statement_of_purpose_April_2009.pdf).

The statement of purpose states in part: “The members of the Chicago Collaborative believe that collaboration is essential to the development of a scholarly communication system that serves the best interests of the entire scholarly community. The future of scholarly communication will, we believe, be determined not only by the opportunities and challenges before us, but by the way we approach them. While the opportunities before us today far exceed the imaginings of those visionaries from past eras, making the most of these opportunities will require the active, constructive engagement of not just some but all stakeholders.”

Web Presence: A web presence was established on the AAHSL website and currently includes a link to the Chicago Collaborative on the left navigation bar on the main page. Chicago Collaborative public documents are posted on this site. Additionally, the AAHSL site contains information related to the Joint AAHSL/Publisher Liaison Task Force (charge, roster, annual reports).

A distinctive new URL was obtained on behalf of the Chicago Collaborative by AAHSL (www.chicago-collaborative.org) and temporary pages were created by the Association's web service bureau. Existing public documents were transferred to this new site, but are also retained on the AAHSL site. The new Chicago Collaborative website currently has static web pages, but will be enhanced with a new logo design (see below) and other changes in the future.

Chicago Collaborative Logo: Special thanks are due to Collaborative member Jean Shipman, Director, Spencer S. Eccles Health Sciences Library, University of Utah for offering the design services of library staff member Susan Roberts who did a superb job on the design and execution of a distinctive new Collaborative logo and suite of digital resources including a PowerPoint slide template. The new logo was developed with input from members and will now be used for slides, web design, and other digital products. The slide template has already been used by Collaborative members for fall presentations.

Education Projects: Two projects are underway to create courseware to educate STM constituencies. Initial offerings will be "Libraries 101" and "Biomedical Publishing 101":

- **Libraries 101:** Course development is targeted at publishing and editing personnel and will include information about library processes, budgets, policies, and systems related to scientific publishing and communication. An opportunity to trial a panel session similar to the "Libraries 101" course has been offered at the 2010 annual meeting of the Society for Scholarly Publishing in San Francisco thanks to SSP Program Committee members Norman Frankel and Jean Shipman. The AAHSL members of the Chicago Collaborative have agreed to work as a team to develop this course with input from other Collaborative members on content. The course will be similar in length to Biomedical Publishing 101 (see below).
- **Biomedical Publishing 101:** Course development is targeted at librarians and library school students to educate them about biomedical publishing. The Collaborative team is lead by Jean Shipman and includes 5 Collaborative members representing publishing organizations. The team is developing a one-hour overview course. Course objectives and a course content outline were developed, and individual assignments for content development were made. A preliminary time target of Jan/Feb for course completion has been set and recommendations have been made for several other course modules to be created that would elaborate on the content briefly covered within the one-hour course.

IMLS Grant: Under the auspices of AAHSL, the Chicago Collaborative is preparing a grant application to the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) with a December 15, 2009 deadline. The grant will further the education objectives of the Collaborative by focusing on educating librarians about biomedical publishing. Funding would begin June 2010. A grant writer (Margaret Reich, former Collaborative member) has been hired by AAHSL and letters of support have been solicited from Collaborative sponsoring organizations and representatives. Connie Poole and Jean Shipman will serve as co-PIs for the grant. An advisory group will be named to assist with the implementation of the grant. Jean Shipman serves as the liaison to the Chicago Collaborative with Gail Yokote and Michael Homan serving in an informal oversight capacity. Synergies with the Biomedical Publishing 101 efforts are part of the grant application.

Presentations & Other Activities: The Collaborative explored a variety of venues for presentations or orientations on the purpose and work of the Collaborative including the Frankfurt Book Fair, NASIG, Charleston Conference, and SSP meetings. An MLA 2010 Symposium application was prepared by Scott Plutchak, but priority was given by MLA to other topics. In addition to the AAHSL presentations reported above, Chicago Collaborative members have presented at the following meetings in 2009.

Medical Library Association, Honolulu, HI, May 2009 Annual Meeting Panel
Presentation – (Scott Plutchak, Norman Frankel, Tom Richardson, Jean Shipman and Pat Thibodeau)

North American Serials Interest Group 2009 Annual Meeting, Asheville, NC -- June 2009 (Pat Thibodeau and John Tagler)

Highwire Press – 2009 fall meeting (Marty Frank)

40th annual meeting of the International Association of STM Publishers, Frankfurt-am-Main, Germany, October 13, 2009 (Scott Plutchak)

Chicago Collaborative Founding Organizations

Association of Academic Health Sciences Libraries
Association of American Medical Colleges, Council of Academic Societies
Association of American Publishers, Professional and Scholarly publishing Division
Association of Learned and Professional Society Publishers
Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology/DC Principles
International Association of Science, Technical & Medical Publishers
International Committee of Medical Journal Editors
Society for Scholarly Publishing

Joint AAHSL/Publisher Liaison Task Force

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