Happy New Year, CapLits readers!

In 2018, the division is holding the DPHT meeting in June, co-locating with the SLA Annual Meeting in Baltimore, Maryland. DPHT is scheduled for Saturday and Sunday June 9-10, 2018, and SLA Annual is scheduled for Monday, June 11 through Wednesday June 13, 2018.

DPHT volunteers and Board members are incredibly excited about the learning opportunities for attendees and cross-fer-tilization of ideas that we expect from this co-located meeting. The Program Planning Committee has submitted sessions for SLA Annual and we have a phenom-enal list of topics and speakers. Attendees from the 2017 Spring Meeting provided feedback after the conference, including needing more take-aways from these meetings, such as “tools and templates” that they can learn from and leverage in their own organizations. Our sponsors are key partners for the DPHT and Annual meetings, and we’re looking forward to continuing to build on those relationships and the success of both meetings with SLA’s leadership, infrastructure and support.

As many of you know, I start to sound like a broken record when I mention that we need more content at DPHT and Annual for leaders and for attendees who want to learn more, and we have speakers lined up who have the expertise — and want to share it.

For the SLA Annual Meeting, the following sessions are planned. Monday will be the day that we anticipate scheduling the sessions that focus on Leadership. The speaker roster includes your pharma colleagues in leadership roles, Information Scientists and Operations as well. Titles of presenters include: Director, Head, Senior Manager, Client Engagement Manager, Senior Director, Associate Director and Principal.

» The Evolving Global Information Manager: Staying Ahead of the Curve
» Best Practices to Secure Leadership Approval for Proposals
» Going Global: 7 Information Management Considerations to Keep in Mind
» Constructing a Strategic Plan: Essential Processes and Components.
» How to Effectively Manage a Remote Workforce: Dos and Don’ts
» Developing Service Level Agreements (SLAs) for your Organization
» 3D Printing: Bringing Manufacturing Devices/Diagnostics into the Future Today
» Best Practices and Strategies for Vendor Negotiation

Please note that topics are subject to change.

“Chair’s Message” continued on page 2
“Chair’s Message” continued from page 1

For the DPHT meeting, the Program Planning Committee generated a list of ideas that you can review below. These ideas are still under consideration by the SLA DPHT committee members. I know many pharma colleagues have expertise in these areas, so if you are interested in presenting at the DPHT meeting or the Annual meeting please contact me so the sessions can be put on the agenda.

• Best practices for submitting a budget and maintaining your forecast
• A Seat at the Table: Integrating Library / Knowledge Services into Cross Functional teams–Successes and Deltas
• Healthcare / Pharma and the Blockchain – effect on Libraries and Knowledge Services
• Finding the Gain (Positive, etc.) when you are Reorg’d
• Customer Services –Navigating rough waters / Effective Communication to the C-Suite: Maximizing your 15-minutes of Fame
• Maryland/DC local interest: Entrepreneurial Women in STEM in Maryland

• Freedom of Information. Session would include–what FOIA does, the basic exemptions, how it works in most agencies. Major changes to the statute over the years.
• Resume review session: hear from hiring managers from the corporate, academic, legal and the supplier side on the background, expertise and education their recent hires had along with what new skills might be needed. Then meet with representatives to obtain feedback on your resume

Tony and I would like to thank all of the volunteers who keep this organization running, and I would like to thank the Program Planners for their ideas and for executing on them! Thank you, Blanca Chou, Sue Gleckner, Marjorie Greer, Saundra Ketner and Colleen Pritchard.

If you would like to get involved with planning, or be a speaker at the meeting, please reach out to me!

Mindy Beattie
2018 DPHT Chair
mindy.beattie@gilead.com

Meet Our 2018 Chair-Elect – Candace Norton!

Candace Norton has been a member of DPHT since 2010. She is a second year fellow in the NLM Associate Fellowship Program, currently in residence at the NIH Library focusing on bibliometrics and strategic planning. Prior to the NLM Fellowship, she was the manager of library services at Evidera, a pharmaceutical and life sciences consulting company headquartered in Bethesda, MD. In addition to her involvement in SLA, Candace is serving as the 2017-2018 treasurer for the DC Area Health Sciences Libraries (DCAHSL) group. She holds a Master’s degree in Library Science from Texas Woman’s University.

SAVE THE DATE!

In 2018, the DPHT meeting will be held in June with the SLA Annual Meeting in Baltimore, MD

DPHT is scheduled for Saturday June 9th and Sunday June 10th, 2018

SLA Annual is scheduled for Monday, June 11 through Wednesday June 13, 2018
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Please contact Chair Mindy Beattie if you would like to serve in a position that is currently open. Our Division is as strong as its volunteers!
A Message from Past-Chair, Tony Landolt

This issue of CapLits is a look back on 2017. In these pages you will find a recap of our Spring meeting in Philadelphia, biographies of some of our members and a handful of other great stories. Credit for CapLits goes Kimberly Flanagan-Bouchard, our editor. Thank you, Kimberly, for your passion and persistence.

I want to thank many folks who made 2017 an unbelievable year for the Pharmaceutical Division. I would like to recognize, in no particular order, Karen Mirabile, Janet Weiss, John Chu, Robin Fogel, Carenanne Torrey, Cindy Crane, Laura Westendorf, Stephen Cox, Sidney McNab, Magan Stephens, Patrice Skelly, Anne Rothman and Chrissy Geluk. A special thanks to our incoming chair, Candace Norton, and to our 2018 Chair, Mindy Beattie. Lastly, thank you to all the members and to our vendor partners — without all of you, we wouldn’t have a division.

2018 will be a year of transition. For the first time ever, our DPHT meeting will be co-located with the Annual SLA Conference. It will still have the same format and take place directly before the conference. The DPHT conference will start midday, Saturday June 9th and end the evening of Sunday, June 10th. The Annual SLA Conference begins on Monday. Mindy Beattie and her team are planning a robust schedule, which will no doubt, be on par with what you expect from our division.

Meet Our 2018 Treasurer – Robin Fogel!

Robin Fogel is a Life Sciences Consultant for Elsevier Inc. Trained as a medical librarian, she has over ten years of experience delivering information services in academic health science centers as well as hospitals. Applying her experience delivering services for professionals, Robin assumed product management, sales, and related roles with vendors such as Ovid, Elsevier and EBSCO. She has managed digital resources from licensing to requirements development, has served as an account manager for point of care solutions for physicians and nurses and for the last eight years, has held customer engagement roles in support of QUOSA and related literature management solutions for Elsevier. It was almost immediately after she began in her current position that she attending her first Pharmaceutical & Health Technology Division Spring meeting in 2012 (in lovely California!) and since then has continued to regularly attend this meeting as well as SLA Annual. Having benefited from the conference planning and logistics activities of other members and especially having enjoyed the opportunities for conversation presented by the meetings, Robin decided to contribute to chapter activities. In 2015 and 2016 she served as the Division SLA Annual Program Chair and in 2017 assumed the same role as Program Chair for the Spring meeting. Robin is looking forward to the opportunity to once again volunteer for the Division in a new capacity as Treasurer.
For over 40 years, WT Cox Information Services has been a trusted provider of professional serials management services. Experience expert customer service, user-friendly tools, and a host of integrated services.

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Pharmaceutical & Health Technology Division

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Member Profile: Andrew White
Key Account Manager, Taylor & Francis

WHERE DO YOU LIVE?
Hudson, Massachusetts

HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN A MEMBER OF PH&T?
One year

IF YOU COULD BE ANY FICTIONAL CHARACTER, WHO WOULD YOU BE?
Indiana Jones.

WHAT DO YOU LOVE
Traveling and meeting people is an exciting part of my job. But, I love being part of creating innovative ideas for the future. The publishing world has undergone many changes over the last few years and speaking directly with customers creates great opportunities to share and propose new product ideas, business models or improvements to information delivery options.

DOGS OR CATS?
Dogs. But, I’d prefer one of each, if possible.

WHAT DON’T YOU LIKE ABOUT YOUR JOB?
Traveling is great, but sometimes a quiet night at home is great too.

WHAT WOULD YOU DO WITH A MILLION DOLLARS?
I’d buy an island off the coast of Maine and create a summer camp for kids.

WHAT DOES THE PHARMA DIVISION GIVE YOU?
The pharma division provides great networking opportunities and insights to customer trends to help improve our products and services.

WHY IS YOUR LIBRARY SPECIAL?
The public library has always been a special place for me. You get to read any book you want, rent movies, read magazines or newspapers, or use the computer. All for free. Plus, if I return anything late, which happens sometimes, the ‘fine’ is so small I always pay with a smile. The library is a great place to learn and grow at any age or stage.

FAVORITE BOOK:
There are so many good books. It’s hard to pick one. But, if I had to pick one, then “The Giving Tree” would have to be high on my list. The story is more for adults than children.

WHAT MADE YOU DECIDE TO WORK IN THE INFORMATION/LIBRARY WORLD?
I’m interested in consumer behavior, and the way people consume and exchange information always seems to change or grow. There’s been a lot of change in the last ten years in how customers interact with content, track usage and making systems more efficient. Keeping up with these changes is an exciting challenge.

TELLS US SOMETHING ABOUT YOU THAT NO ONE KNOWS ABOUT.
I once cut through someone’s yard on my way home in middle school, and there was a large black steel fence with spikes. I hopped over the fence and my jeans got stuck on the fence leaving me hanging upside down. Traffic started to slow down and people stared with a little confusion. Finally, a guy rolls down his window and asked me if I needed help. To which, I smiled and said “Yes.” The lesson: shortcuts can lead to an embarrassing situation.

WHERE DO YOU SEE YOURSELF IN 10 YEARS?
Retired, but work part time as a ski instructor during the winter in New Hampshire and run a fishing charter in the summer.

WHERE DO YOU WANT TO RETIRE FROM?
I’ll retire from using my cell phone...is that possible?

COFFEE OR TEA?
Coffee in the morning and tea in the afternoon!
Member Profile: Anna Rothman
Information Manager

WHERE DO YOU LIVE/WORK?
Boston, MA

HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN A MEMBER OF DPHIT?
5 years

WHAT DO YOU LOVE ABOUT YOUR JOB?
Getting the chance to work with so many interesting people on their areas of expertise. I’m forever learning something new!

WHAT DON’T YOU LIKE ABOUT YOUR JOB?
Wish I had more hours in the day to be able to follow up on all of the opportunities I see.

WHAT WOULD YOU DO WITH A MILLION DOLLARS?
Keep the heat turned up through a Boston winter!

WHAT DOES THE PHARMA DIVISION GIVE YOU?
A group of colleagues with excellent ideas and experiences. It’s been so valuable to be able to talk through shared challenges and seek input on new initiatives with other Pharma Division members.

FAVORITE BOOK:
[I’ll cheat on this one and say “favorite books to recommend”!] Read-aloud to children: Jamberry by Bruce Degen, middle-grade: Enchanted Forest Chronicles by Patricia C. Wrede, YA: Bellweather Rhapsody by Kate Racculia, Adult: Rebecca by Daphne du Maurier

WHAT MADE YOU DECIDE TO WORK IN THE INFORMATION/LIBRARY WORLD?
I’ve always enjoyed how information is the beating heart of everything. The rural public library growing up was where all the news was exchanged, and I wanted to get in on the action! Now, I enjoy turning to coworkers across the globe for their insights, and getting to tackle projects with them on a wide range of topics.

TELLS US SOMETHING ABOUT YOU THAT NO ONE KNOWS ABOUT (KEEP IT CLEAN!)
I love food-related factory tours, like Ben & Jerry’s and Cabot Creamery. Many years ago, I called off a date with a guy because he was not suitably enthused about touring the Vlasic Pickle factory.

WHERE DO YOU WANT TO RETIRE FROM?
Working with information in an organization with weird and wonderful people. Maybe we’ll finally get that moonbase library that I’ve been holding out hope for…

COFFEE OR TEA?
Tea, with a bit of milk

Skyline of Boston, Massachusetts
Public domain photo by Nelson48, via Wikimedia Commons
Commercialization of Intellectual Property: A Role for Librarians
Co-Sponsored by IEEE

Presenters:
Jennifer Martin, Associate Librarian, University of Arizona Health Sciences Library
Sherry Hoskinson, Director, Business Development Resources Group, Tech Launch, University of Arizona
John Jackson, Assistant Director, Business Operations and Development, University of Arizona
Cynthia Elliot, Assistant Librarian, Liaison to the Arizona Cancer Center, University of Arizona Libraries

This session highlighted how the Business Intelligence Unit (BIU) of the University of Arizona (UA) Libraries holds a valuable role in the commercialization of the University’s intellectual property.

The University of Arizona’s Libraries consists of eight departments, with close to 200 employees. Library leadership includes administrators, department heads, and representatives from shared governance groups for library faculty, appointed professionals, and staff.

In 2014, Tech Launch Arizona teamed up with the UA Libraries to gather information to help researchers and faculty members make smart, well-informed business decisions. The new Business Intelligence Unit (BIU) brought together high-quality market and commercialization decision support for UA individuals and teams working toward protecting and patenting inventions, developing effective commercialization plans and starting companies.

Today, the intersection of academics, libraries, and industry occurs daily at the BIU. The unit is promoting scientific discovery, and turning ideas into inventions that can be licensed out to various organizations. Since the collaboration between UA’s Libraries and Business department (Tech Launch) began, the BIU has supported the development of over 200 projects, which have been sold to innovative corporations such as Pfizer and Boeing.

The role of the Libraries in this operation serves as the facilitator of research—for historical innovations, as well as copyrights and patents. The BIU is staffed by several full-time librarians, dedicated to finding the best information for researchers.

As the Dean of the UA Libraries, Karen Williams stated, “Libraries are in the information business. With our rich and extensive content resources and savvy search skills, librarians are perfectly positioned to assess information needs and fill those needs with timely, reputable and reliable information on products, companies, markets and more.”

The UA Libraries staff believes their collaborative model can be replicated by libraries throughout the country, both academic and special. The relationship between libraries and business leaders not only promotes innovation, but ensures the long-term stability of these information-intense organizations.

More information about the BIU can be found on the UA website: https://uaatwork.arizona.edu/lqp/new-business-intelligence-unit-aims-improve-ua-startup-successes

Practical Tips / Lessons Learned from Mergers and Acquisitions! Learn How to Maximize Your Chance to Not Only Survive But Thrive!

Presenters:
John Chu, Retired

This presentation was be based on the John’s three decades of experience spanning his career within the biopharmaceutical industry covering close to a dozen mergers and acquisitions across three major corporations and one 18-month contract position (for a U.S.-Japan joint venture).

John Chu, former chair of the Division of Pharmaceutical and Health Technologies, hosted this brief discussion on how to successfully navigate the merger/acquisition process at for-profit corporations.

John shared a number of useful tips from his thirty years of experience as a special librarian in the biopharmaceutical industry. He had experienced close to a dozen mergers and acquisitions, across three major corporations and an 18-month contract position.

John talked to session attendees about how to prove value to new management, and how to work with or merge into the library of the newly acquired corporation. He also offered some personal advice at the conclusion of his discussion.

This Quick Take, a session lasting only twenty minutes, packed a lot of information in a very short period of time. While the session could have easily been extended into a longer one, the concise format allowed attendees to learn quite a bit, absorbing the key points. This particular session was extremely beneficial to information professionals who are currently going through an M&A process, or those who anticipate it could happen at some point in their career.
Predictive Analytics: Be a fortune teller!

Presenters:

Jeff Saffer, President and CEO, Quertle
Ricardo Valerdi, Associate Professor, University of Arizona
Moderator: Megan Stephens, Gilead Sciences

If people knew the future, they could make their companies profitable and weather the possible storms ahead. The speakers on this panel offered ways to help detect trends in big data/visual analytics.

The session began with presenter Ricardo Valerdi, handing each attendee a baseball card. He explained that the cards were from the late 1980s. He then directed our attention to the statistics on the back of the cards. These statistics, he said, were examples of descriptive statistics that have little value to predicting a player’s success. Walks, Hits, and Homeruns are variable, based on the team for which the professional plays, who the teams is versing, and the stadium in which the game is taking place.

For example, it is possible for a player who only hits 20 homeruns for the Kansas City Royals – who have one of the largest outfields in the league – to hit 40 homeruns in a smaller stadium, such as San Francisco’s AT&T Park. Predictive statistics are those that predict a player’s success, in any circumstance, including average, slugging percentage, and walks/hits per inning pitched (for pitchers). The use of predictive statistics was popularized by the Oakland As of the early 2000s, as portrayed in the film Moneyball.

These kinds of statistics—according to Jeff Saffer of Quertle—can be extrapolated from any field/industry. In the healthcare industry, “predictive analytics” can be used to determine the likelihood of a disease manifesting in an individual or community, predict future trends, or enhance the effectiveness of artificial intelligence. Because predictive analytics can be used to identify a health trend before it actually shows in the larger population, the information may allow medical researchers to “see into the future.” By identifying an emerging health problem, they could work on solutions—such as a new drug or device, or a preventative measure. And, their company could stand to make millions or billions of dollars.... Needless to say, the race to develop the best predictive analytic software is rather heated. The winner of the race might just be the next founder of the globally-renowned corporation.

Some segments of the panel presentation were quite advanced, but structured so that attendees could not only learn something about predictive analytics, but more importantly, understand the role of a librarian in this venture.

Both Ricardo Valerdi and Jeff Saffer were excellent. They shared their invaluable knowledgeable and experience, and really sparked an interest in predictive analytics for many attendees!

Brady Lund is a graduate student, research and administrative assistant at the School of Library and Information Management at Emporia State University. Additionally, he has worked as library staff member at Wichita State University, where he received his Bachelor’s degree in Communication Sciences and Disorders. His research interests include medical/health information, applied study of linguistics in information, employment for individuals with communicative and developmental disabilities, and emerging technology such as advanced computing and hidden networks.

Professionally, Brady is interested in libraries specialized in health and/or communication, as well as public rural libraries, and schools of library and information science. Brady serves as student ambassador for the Kansas and Western Missouri Chapter of the Special Libraries Association, and is a proud member of the Pharmaceutical and Health Technology Division. He can be reached at blund2@emporia.edu
2017 DPHT Awards Recipients

By: John Chu

As the Awards Chair, I am delighted to inform you that the 2017 SLA DPHT Awards were announced at the SLA Annual Conference in Phoenix.

Distinguished Member Award Winner: Kimberly Flanagan-Bouchard

The Distinguished Member Award honors a DPHT Division member for notable and enduring contributions and service to the Division and the profession. The award represents a cumulative evaluation of an individual’s career and emphasizes sustained division leadership and activity of an exemplary nature.

Horizon Award Winner: Carenanne Torrey

The Horizon Award (also known as the New Member Award) honors a DPHT Division member of five (5) years or fewer who has shown promise of becoming an outstanding member of the profession. This award represents an evaluation of an individual’s work and participation in professional and division activities. Particular attention should be given to involvement and contributions to the DPHT Division.

Student Travel Award Winner: Brady Lund

Please join me in congratulating these three outstanding members for their efforts and accomplishments serving/contributing to the DPHT community. I also would like to thank Laura Westendorf for her hard work in managing the Student Awards process!

SLA 2017 Annual Conference: Overall Impressions of SLA

By Brady Lund, MLS Student @ Emporia State University

The Special Libraries Association’s 2017 Annual Conference was a career-altering experience for me. The conference – for those who have never attended – is much smaller than other national conferences, which comes with a few negatives, but many more positives.

The SLA Annual Conference feels like a family reunion, with many old friends and familiar faces. It is compact, which means you are bound to see the same faces over and over again. Even strangers become close connections by the end of the four day meeting. It is not uncommon to run into an individual on the walk over to the Convention Center who works in the same state as you, or who has an opening for an internship or job opportunity. Unlike the American Library Association (ALA), SLA’s conferences are designed so that activities and hotels are within walking distance. The conference encourages socialization within its many receptions, which offers great opportunities for networking, and – importantly to a graduate student – free food! Offering the ability to meet new people and form connections within the field, SLA’s conference has no rival.

One ‘negative’ point I observed is that there are sessions that were not well attended. It was a little disappointing to attend a session, at a national conference, where only 10-15 people were in the audience. I do not believe this is any reflection on the presenters, or on the quality of their presentations, but perhaps there just weren’t enough attendees to meet the number of accepted sessions (or vice versa), or there were too many competing interests from which attendees had to choose. Although, this could be a positive, in that there are plenty of educational opportunities offered to meet a wide-variety of interests? Some attendees wrangle with the decision to choose, or try to split their time between several sessions in a time period. I guess it depends on how you look at it.

The choice of host city was a bit curious as well. Phoenix was experiencing a heat wave during the conference, which in Phoenix means a daily temperature of 115 degrees or more. In my opinion, Phoenix may not have been the best venue for a summer conference. However, the city was immaculate, with beautiful urban art and cultural experiences, framed by mountains on all sides.

Overall, the 2017 Annual Conference provided me the opportunity for introspection about my future career and where I could see myself working. I was grateful to be able to attend courtesy of the Student Travel Award I was granted. I immensely value the relationships I was able to form in Phoenix, and know that they will lead to great opportunities!
Member Profile: Erin Lanham
Manager, Library and Knowledge Services, Mallinckrodt Pharmaceuticals

WHERE DO YOU LIVE?
St. Louis, MO

HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN A MEMBER OF PH&T?
Seven years. I joined DPHT when I joined Mallinckrodt in 2010.

IF YOU COULD BE ANY FICTIONAL CHARACTER, WHO WOULD YOU BE?
I’m having trouble with this one. I don’t think I’ve ever wanted to be a particular fictional character. The character/people that I’ve wanted to be on some level throughout my life are Laura Ingalls Wilder (but she’s not fictional) and Holly Golightly. Laura Ingalls Wilder because as a kid I wanted to be a pioneer girl, and Holly Golightly because as an adult, I love her hats (not so much her occupation.)

WHAT DO YOU LOVE ABOUT YOUR JOB?
I enjoy the variety of the work I’ve done while at Mallinckrodt. One reason I started working at Mallinckrodt was the potential for learning and growing within the company. In my seven years here, I’ve held three positions, worked at four locations (due to site closures, library space consolidations, etc…), and am constantly learning something new. At times I think it’d be nice to have a week or two where there are no surprises or tight deadlines, but at the same time, I enjoy the variety and challenge. I also enjoy working with the employees at Mallinckrodt, and appreciate the company’s purpose.

WHERE DO YOU WANT TO RETIRE FROM?
I’d like to have the opportunity retire from Mallinckrodt; however, if that isn’t in the cards, I’d like to retire from a company or university with a strong library presence, awesome employees, and an all-around positive vibe.

DOGS OR CATS?
Do I have to choose just one? Today I have two dogs; however, I grew up with cats. I like them both for different reasons. I love my dogs for their energy and dedication; they get me out of the house to walk them. I’d like to have cats so that it’s easier to take vacations.

WHAT DON’T YOU LIKE ABOUT YOUR JOB?
I don’t enjoy the periods of ambiguity, but I do my best to keep the Library Services team informed.

WHAT WOULD YOU DO WITH A MILLION DOLLARS?
Pay off the house. With no mortgage payment, I’d encourage my husband to find a job that affords him more time to do his hobbies. We’d use some of the balance for travel and invest the rest. Hopefully the investments will grow and then we’d have even more money for traveling and living a comfortable lifestyle.

WHAT DOES THE PHARMA DIVISION GIVE YOU?
Best practices, learning opportunities, and a network of colleagues dealing with many of the same challenges that I am.

WHY IS YOUR LIBRARY SPECIAL?
The library’s lineage began with what is now known as the first/oldest chemical library west of the Mississippi River. Many of the pieces in our archives tell the 150-year story of Mallinckrodt, as well as a bit of St. Louis and WWII history. 2017 marks Mallinckrodt’s 150th anniversary. Our largest library location is located in the same area as the original Mallinckrodt Chemical Works building back in 1867.

FAVORITE BOOK?
I can’t think of a favorite. The last book I read and really enjoyed was The Nightingale by Kristin Hannah. I rarely read a book twice; however, the one book that I have read twice, and enjoyed both times was Silence of the Lambs. I also really enjoy reading any of Agatha Christie’s Poirot works (especially if I’m looking for something a little lighter than stories of WWII suffering and psychopaths.)

WHAT MADE YOU DECIDE TO WORK IN THE INFORMATION/LIBRARY WORLD?
I actually tried to steer away from the Library world, because my mom was an academic librarian for most of her career. I ended up getting my MLS because I didn’t know what I wanted to do with myself after college. I had taken classes in multiple disciplines, and didn’t really care to forge a career in any of them. Then I asked myself, what was the one thing that I have done, that I have enjoyed, and the answer was my three years of ILL and circulation work at the college library as an undergrad. So, I decided to get my Masters degree and I’ve really enjoyed the flexibility and challenges that I’ve encountered during my 18 years as a professional.

TELLS US SOMETHING ABOUT YOU THAT NO ONE KNOWS ABOUT (KEEP IT CLEAN!)
I think it’s pretty neat that my grandfather was a superintendent on the St. Louis Arch project back in the 1960’s.

WHERE DO YOU SEE YOURSELF IN 10 YEARS?
On May 4, 2027, I’d like to be on a scuba diving vacation with my husband and friends, not thinking about the demands of “real life.” I suspect 2027 will be much like 2017 for me in most aspects (work, challenges, hobbies, etc…) I think this is a good thing!

COFFEE OR TEA?
Coffee! On my back porch, on a sunny morning, with a good book. That’s the BEST!
Member Profile: Jack Morris
Director, The Library, Merck & Co.

WHERE DO YOU LIVE?
Suburban Philadelphia

HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN A MEMBER OF DPHT?
3 years

WHAT DO YOU LOVE ABOUT YOUR JOB? (MOST SATISFACTION)
Helping to aid research that betters people’s lives.

WHY IS YOUR LIBRARY SPECIAL?
The people I work with – I know, I know, it’s clichéd but it’s true!

FAVORITE BOOK?
Lord of the Rings trilogy

WHAT MADE YOU DECIDE TO WORK IN THE INFORMATION/LIBRARY WORLD?
I love searching! I wish I did it more these days.

TELLS US SOMETHING ABOUT YOU THAT NO ONE KNOWS ABOUT (KEEP IT CLEAN!)
Hey, I’m an open book. But something that my peers might not know about me is that I was a sportswriter for five years at a daily suburban Philly paper before being a librarian. Oh, and that over this past December holiday break I was forced to binge watch the first season of One Tree Hill with my 20-something daughters.

WHERE DO YOU SEE YOURSELF IN 10 YEARS?
Retired

WHERE DO YOU WANT TO RETIRE FROM?
Merck, of course

COFFEE OR TEA?
Neither are my cup of tea. Ha!

DOGS OR CATS?
Two German Shepherds – Tucker and Sheba

WHAT DON’T YOU LIKE ABOUT YOUR JOB?
Budget cuts

WHAT WOULD YOU DO WITH A MILLION DOLLARS?
Definitely take a trip to see a baseball game at every major league stadium I haven’t been to yet.

WHAT DOES THE PHARMA DIVISION GIVE YOU?
A place to network with peers
Fake Medical News


By Elaine Siegfried, M.D. and reviewed by Mark Domke, MLIS, Pharmaceutical Information Specialist, Prescott Medical Communications Group.

Rumor, propaganda and sensationalism have been used for centuries to manipulate public opinion. “Fake news” is a 21st century neologism that gained attention during our recent presidential election. But the attention is well deserved, because sophisticated marketing techniques and social media have increased the power of disseminated information, regardless of factuality. Although science and medicine are disciplines ostensibly built on fact, they are affected by their own specialized purveyors of fake news.

The power of definitions

The ethics of scientific publication have recently come under increased scrutiny. While politics has always played a role in widespread acceptance of research conclusions, definitions of research quality by “evidence level” and of journals by “impact factor” were attempts to increase objectivity. These definitions gradually influenced the nature of publications in high-impact-factor journals. Increasingly, only level I (meta-analyses) or level II (multicenter, randomized, controlled trials) are deemed worthy of space in these periodicals. However, these types of studies are intrinsically multifaceted, expensive and dependent on collaborative relationships between industry and clinician investigators. Data analysis is often performed by an industry sponsor; authors are selected by variable criteria (e.g., the highest number of subjects enrolled); and manuscripts are drafted by professional ghost writers, with variable amounts of input by the authors.

It is much more difficult to find a publication venue for small cohort studies or case series. Although the level of evidence for these reports is considered inferior (IV-VI), they can provide a nidus for higher-level investigation.

The subversion of Open Access

The need for additional publication opportunities, coupled with technologic advances in the setting of net neutrality, helped inspire a new business model. The new venue, termed “open access” (OA), allows authors to retain copyright, but shifts the costs from subscribers and advertisers to authors and institutions. OA manuscripts are available online, without charge to the reader.

The success of this model is reflected by the exponential growth in the number of OA journals to ~10,000, and by professional standards, as developed by the Open Access Scholarly Publishers Association (OASPA). Unfortunately, the OA process has been compromised by an exploitative paradigm, dubbed “predatory publishing” by Jeffrey Beal, a University of Colorado librarian and researcher, who began compiling a so-called “Beall’s List” in 2008 that grew to include over 1,000 offending journals.

Beall’s “predatory” OA journals do not adhere to good publishing practices as defined by organizations such as the International Council of Medical Journal Editors. They widely solicit manuscripts, manipulate authors with flattery and coercion, lack editorial services and have looser quality standards. A common predatory maneuver is to bill authors sometimes exorbitant fees that are hidden until after the manuscript has been completed and accepted, and then to refuse the author’s request to withdraw, preventing submission to another journal.

The most vulnerable victims of these practices are investigators from developing countries and, of course, the many naïve readers who have limited access to subscription-only peer-reviewed literature.

In 2016, the U.S. Federal Trade Commission recognized the problem and initiated legal action against an India-based firm that was also accused of organizing fraudulent conferences. Beall’s list was voluntarily withdrawn last January amid backlash from the same firm (including a threatened $1 billion defamation lawsuit). However, the process has been resurrected by Stop Predatory Journals.

KOLs or HOLs?

While pharmaceutical companies sponsor a tremendous amount of credible medical education, mishandling of this opportunity can be a potent portal for fake news. The FDA Office of Prescription Drug Promotion (OPDP) has responded with a wide array of laws, regulations, guidelines, and enforcement actions. Among these is the “Bad Ad Program” designed to alert healthcare providers about

“Fake Medical News” continued on page 15
misleading drug promotion and to allow easy reporting of this activity to the agency.\(^4\)

It is common industry practice to identify and recruit clinicians and clinical investigators as “thought leaders” (aka “key opinion leaders” or “KOLs”) to help educate colleagues about new treatments. These often well-respected individuals are also paid for their services and expertise (including consulting, live lectures, webinars and manuscripts), prompting the alternative insidious acronym “HOL” (Highly Paid Opinion”).

For many well-meaning and objective KOLs, the ethical ambiguity of accepting honoraria for these teaching activities compels them to decline invitations. But in the complex world of human interaction, the consequences of this rejection may be to jeopardize the relationship between the clinical and pharmaceutical investigators, along with subsequent opportunity for input into pipeline projects. For those who do participate in promotional endeavors, a facsimile of their earnings is public record on two websites.

**The Open Payment Act**

The newest website is a government-sponsored result of Section 6002 of the Affordable Care Act.\(^5\) This law (aka the “Open Payment” or “Sunshine Act”) requires reporting of payments and other transfers of value (“TOV”) from all manufacturers of medical products to physicians and teaching hospitals, starting in 2013.

This system was designed to be impartial and allows physicians to dispute erroneous reports, but it is characteristically complex, and navigation (as explained in a 474-page User Guide) is difficult. After several attempts made over several hours, I was finally able to register.

Unfortunately, an unintended consequence of this requirement has been, in some cases, to obfuscate rather than authenticate pharmaceutical support. For example, my profile included all payments made to my university for clinical trials in which I served as principal investigator, suggesting personal gain, rather than additional unpaid effort. (I am awaiting reply to my dispute.) And because the rules do not apply to trainees or non-physician prescribers, payments TOV to them are reported under the physician’s name.

Furthermore, interpretation of the rules is not consistent among pharmaceutical companies, such as reporting the cost of providing medical literature as TOV. I believe most clinicians would be pleased if the millions of dollars spent on food for office lunches were redirected to programs that help defray patients’ out-of-pocket costs for drugs. But, as designed, the public record will simply give the impression that physician decisions are manipulated by pharmaceutical companies.

**Dollars for Docs**

The provocatively titled “Dollars for Docs” is a precedent-setting public website sponsored by ProPublica, a nonprofit, multi-Pulitzer-Prize-winning newsroom focused on the public interest.\(^6\) It originally based its data on payments disclosed by 17 pharmaceutical companies between 2009 and 2013, without mechanism for physician dispute.

Eli Lilly reported the highest total payment amount ($811.7 million), perhaps reflecting Lilly’s conservative corporate culture.\(^7\) Lilly also sponsors an FDA OPDP Regulatory Pharmaceutical Fellowship designed to train selected candidates about regulatory aspects of drug advertising and promotion, and to “maintain and enhance a scientific link among the FDA, academia, and the pharmaceutical industry.”\(^8\)

It appears that, despite ProPublica’s efforts and other attempts to oversimplify and impugn the importance of these relationships, their value is also recognized and supported.

Like the fake political news that affected on our presidential election, fake medical news and fake medical publishing become real if enough people believe the statements they present. Dissemination of fake information is a threat to the clinical scientific community and the physician-patient relationship. The best way to overcome the challenges is to stay informed and help educate colleagues, trainees and patients.

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Day 1

As the 2015 – 2017 Eugene Garfield Resident in Science Librarianship at the University of Pennsylvania, I was excited to attend the 2017 SLA Division of Pharmaceutical and Health Technologies (DPHT) Spring Meeting in Philadelphia. As an early career STEM librarian who lives and works in the City of Brotherly Love, I was thrilled to network with meeting attendees and share my knowledge about a city that I have called home since October 2015. Philadelphia is also where I started my journey with SLA during last year’s Annual Conference.

I first met John Chu, the 2017 SLA DPHT Past-Chair who has been a member of the division since 1983, who enjoys “coming to the Spring Meeting to network with members and vendors.” John believes that networking is key – great for job seekers, those hiring, vendors, those buying, MLIS students, seasoned information professionals, and everyone in between. I also had a chance to chat with Janet Weiss, a 2016 SLA Hall of Fame inductee. After over four decades in librarianship, she was inducted at last year’s SLA Annual Conference in Philadelphia. Janet first became a pharmaceutical librarian in 1975. After working as an academic science liaison librarian for a while, she returned to pharmaceutical librarianship in the late 1990s.

Janet was back in Philly as the 2017 SLA DPHT Fundraising Chair. She believes that volunteerism and leadership as a way to connect with others. By giving her time and energy to be an active SLA member and leader, she has built a professional support network of fellow SLA members, pharmaceutical librarians, and vendors. She was looking forward to reconnecting with her peers at this conference.

At the Open Board Meeting, I was able to meet the rest of the Executive Board, a knowledgeable and collaborative group of leaders who worked hard to plan the Spring Meeting. I learned that checking out the DPHT website (http://pht.sla.org/) is a good way to learn about the division. I also suggest reading (and contributing!) to CapLits, the division newsletter (http://pht.sla.org/caplits-issue-archive/).

At the evening’s Dinner & Exhibits Kick-Off, I chatted with fellow attendees and vendors, as suggested by John and Janet. There were many vendors at this event giving away freebies and demonstrating products and services.

The pharmaceutical industry is in great need of quality information sources. Janet informed me that pharmaceutical librarians are usually called information specialists or competitive intelligence specialists.

Janet Weiss is in the middle staffing the registration desk with fellow Executive Board members.
Below is John and Janet’s recommended checklist for MLIS students and recent graduates interested in pharmaceutical librarianship. Attending professional development events such as the Spring Meeting and actively participating in divisions such as DPHT could provide interesting fodder during job interviews and meaningful conversations with vendors. John and Janet both are long-time attendees of SLA events and continue to learn about new products at each event.

- Become a member of the DPHT ASAP. This can be done online when joining or renewing SLA membership!
- Join DPHT Community on SLAConnect
- Attend the Annual DPHT Meeting
- Get to know Executive Board members
- Network, network, and network!
- Get as much science education as you can.

With almost 35 and 42 years of experience in the pharmaceutical industry, John and Janet respectively recognize the importance of professional development, as the LIS jobs continue to evolve. John is looking forward to this year’s DPHT Meeting, because the meeting will focus on big data and analytics and its impact on biopharma industry and the information profession from multiple perspectives. John is looking forward to hearing about case studies about collaborations between IBM Watson Health and biopharma companies, in particular in respiratory therapeutics, Parkinson’s Disease, and artificial intelligence. Janet also emphasized that big data, text mining, and metadata are hot topics in pharmaceutical librarianship.

As an early career professional, I am excited to learn more about pharmaceutical librarianship. Day 2 of the conference offered educational sessions starting with the keynote speaker, Dr. William Hayes, Vice President of Data Science at Applied Dynamic Solutions.

**Day 2**

During the second day of the 2017 SLA Division of Pharmaceutical and Health Technology Spring Meeting, I attended educational sessions, ate meals with attendees, and visited the Mütter Museum. I did a lot of learning and networking!

The keynote speaker was Dr. William Hayes, Vice President of Data Science at Applied Dynamic Solutions. Dr. Hayes presentation was titled “Challenges and Opportunities for the Future.” He discussed the impact of deep learning automation on jobs in general and particularly on the information profession. Hayes believes that deep learning automation should take on routine mindless tasks, so that information professionals can focus on non-routine tasks that require a higher level of cognition. As an early career professional, I like the idea of having a robot assistant that can do some of the boring repetitive tasks, so I can focus on being creative and interact with colleagues.
Following Dr. Haye’s presentation, Sean Grullon, Data Scientist at IBM Watson Health discussed “Health Care in the Era of Artificial Intelligence and Cognitive Computing.” Unlike Google’s keyword search, IBM Watson started as a smart semantic search using a high level of natural language. Today, IBM Watson is a technology platform for cognitive computing, which combines natural language processing & machine learning to reveal new insights from large amounts of unstructured data. Grullon shared several examples of how IBM Watson Health has been used in health care.

Erin Wagner, Lead Statistician at BioStat Solutions, Inc., presented “Drug Discovery and Precision Medicine in the -Omics Era.” -Omics is study of entire body of info in a particular field of study such as genomics for DNA and Transcriptomics for RNA. Precision medicine is medical treatment tailored to optimize a patient’s therapeutic benefit to that individual’s genes, environment, and lifestyle. Each patient receives the right medicine for them based on -omics data.

Following lunch, Timothy Hoctor, Vice President of Professional Services Corporate R&D at Elsevier moderated a panel focused on “Literature Surveillance for Pharmacovigilance Tools and Systems for Driving Efficiency.” The panelists were: Sandra Bausback-Aballo, Director of Vigilance at BTG plc.; Krisztina Debreczeni, M.D. Group Medical Director of Medical Safety Review, Global Pharmacovigilance and Epidemiology at Bristol-Myers Squibb Co.; and Gurdyal Kalsi, M.D., Chief Medical Officer of SVP Clinical Development & Medical Affairs at TissueGene. In a new drug’s first years on the market, additional side effects are discovered, because the drug is no longer used in a controlled lab environment. The industry keeps track of these reports, because adverse drug reactions (ADR) are a major public health issue is the fourth leading cause of death in U.S. hospitals. Bausback-Aballo, Debreczeni, and Kalsi discussed how they collaborate with information professionals and vendors for literature searching (where ADR signals are published).

Following the panel, Susan Keckler, Senior Manager of Medical Communications at Teva Pharmaceuticals, presented “The Shape of Things to Come: Medical Devices and The Internet of Things (IoT).” The Internet of Things is a system of wirelessly connected objects that can transmit & receive data. Sensors are embedded into these objects, which can controlled remotely or via apps. These devices have a great potential to healthcare to be more patient-centered at a lower cost, particularly for patients in remote areas, with limited mobility, and/or chronic illnesses. Real-time tracking of patient data through these devices tells clinicians and patients more accurate health information pertinent to the individual.

Sougato Das, Managing Director of Partnering & Business Development at Biotechnology Innovation Organization presented “Biopharma Intelligence from Partnering Conferences: A New Source of Business Development, R&D Strategy & Competitive Intelligence.” BIO lobbies on behalf of biopharma and industrial and agriculture biotechnology and organizes large partnering conferences, where biotechs, inlicensors, investors, academics, research institutes, patient groups, and vendors can schedule meetings with each other. These partnering conferences are the lifeblood of the entire biotech industry.
During the last presentation of Day 2, Stephen Weitzman, Executive Director at MedDATA Foundation presented “The FDA Web Site/Improving Transparency.” Weitzman discussed the challenges related to searching for information on the current FDA website and presented about a better way to find information coming from the FDA. The Free FDA Information Repository has advanced search capabilities and is organized like a textbook.

Day 2 ended with a trip to the Mütter Museum, where attendees ate hors d’oeuvres and continued networking. Some even dared to get dessert after doing a scavenger hunt, while paying close attention to the medical oddities showcased at the museum, which should be on everyone’s bucket list when in Philadelphia.

Day 3

During the third and last day, I realized that I was part of something greater. During SLA President-Elect Roberto Sarmiento’s opening remarks, I learned that SLA has been supporting innovative librarians and strategic partners for 110 years! SLA continues to evolve to meet the needs of LIS professionals. I am looking forward to SLA Annual in Phoenix to see what it has to offer me as I continue to develop into an effective librarian.

Being a Eugene Garfield Resident in Science Librarianship, I was thrilled to hear several speakers mention Dr. Garfield’s name in their presentations. Peter Derycz, CEO and President of Reprints Desk, started off paying tribute to Dr. Garfield, who passed away in late February. Dr. Garfield’s work inspired Derycz to systematize manual processes like document delivery and ensure customers get articles with supplemental data including a “Cited By” section.

During the “Analytics in the Pharma Marketplace and the Future” Panel, Dr. Garfield was again mentioned several times by each speaker. Dan Penny, Head of Market Intelligence at Springer, mentioned that researchers struggle with finding journals to which to submit their papers. Penny listed multiple things that researcher should consider and thanked Dr. Garfield for giving us the journal impact factor. Ann Beynon, Manager of Solutions Specialists, North America, Clarivate Analytics (formerly part of Thompson Reuters), thanked Dr. Garfield for Web of Science. She demonstrated a new dashboard with data including author and article metrics that librarians and admins can use to make data-driven decisions. Sara Rouhi, Director of Insights at MedImmune, stated that analytics need to go beyond journal impact factors. Scientists need to know where to submit articles and how their teams compare with other teams. Libraries are able to provide analytics to multiple stakeholders.

As an early career professional, I was also intrigued with Soraya Assar’s presentation, “Philosophy and Science of a Career Transformation from Information Professional to Informatics Professional.” Assar is an Independent Consultant who has worked in several types of libraries and around the world. Assar stated that career changes are as normal as job changes and that information professionals
2017 Spring Meeting

can transfer their skills to the field of informatics, which is similar to health sciences librarianship. Librarians who are interested in transitioning into informatics-related roles should consider take medical coding and SQL courses and learn more about mapping terminology.

Saundra Ketner, Manager and Group Leader/Senior Librarian, and Carenanne Torrey, Research and Development Librarian both work at Alkermes, Inc. Together, Ketner and Torrey centralized and expanded library services. They worked with several vendors to integrate everything into one content management system to get rid of the duplication of materials and make sure that everyone has system-wide access to pharma intelligence resources. They described the planning and implementation phases of this massive project.

The last educational session focused on how Ed Silverman, Pharmalot Columnist and Senior Writer at STAT did his research. Silverman likes to use the Public Access to Court Electronic Records (PACER) database to find interesting law suits, and talks to clinicians, other hospital staff members, and pharma company spokespeople. He evaluates the information to make sure that it is credible. Sometimes, his research takes weeks. Within his articles, he includes links to original sources, so his readers including pharma company employees, legislators, and consumers also click and read the original sources.

During closing remarks, Tony Landolt, the 2017 DPHT Chair, led a discussion about the co-location of the 2018 DPHT Spring Meeting, which will be held in Baltimore the weekend before the 2018 SLA Annual Conference.

June 2018 is over a year and a half away, so I wish the DPHT the best in planning another successful conference. I look forward to seeing DPHT members again at future SLA and DPHT events!

4th & Final Post

Reflecting on my time at the DPHT conference, I thoroughly enjoyed my experience meeting attendees, attending sessions and social events, and getting to know SLA leaders.

The DPHT is comprised of 180 close-knit librarians and vendors, who were open with talking to me about the education and experiences needed to succeed as a pharmaceutical librarian. DPHT members also embraced me as the official conference blogger. Several members gave me career advice and offered to review my CV and connect me with potential employers, since they knew that my residency ends later this year.

I also enjoyed getting to know my fellow SLA Philadelphia Chapter leaders who staffed the hospitality table, as well as representatives from SLA, including SLA President-Elect Roberto Sarmiento who presented on how we are all one SLA. During President-Elect Sarmiento’s remarks, I learn more about the history and structure of the organization that I joined last year.

I also enjoyed attending the educational sessions. From Dr. William Hayes’ opening keynote address on deep learning automation, through Ed Silverman’s closing session on how he evaluates information to use in Pharmalot. About halfway through the conference, I started using pharma librarian lingo. It is easy to pick up the hot topics within the division when you are surrounded by DPHT members and immersed in the professional development sessions. I was touched each time a speaker or attendee spoke about Dr. Eugene Garfield’s contributions to information science.

All in all, I had a great experience! If you would like to learn more about the DPHT, visit http://pht.sla.org/.

Amanpreet “Aman” Kaur currently serves as the 2015 - 2017 Eugene Garfield Resident in Science Librarianship at University of Pennsylvania. Aman earned a Master of Library and Information Science from Rutgers University, where she continues to tutor Master of Information (MI) students taking the MI 550 Information Technologies for Libraries and Information Agencies, an online course at School Communication & Information.

Aman previously earned a BS in Family & Consumer Sciences (FCS) Education with an Engineering Studies minor at Iowa State University. After her residency in early November, Aman will continue her working at Penn as the inaugural Community Health & Engineering Librarian. She can be reached at amankaur@upenn.edu.
Member Profile: Mary Chitty

Library Director & Taxonomist, Cambridge Healthtech

WHERE DO YOU WORK?
Cambridge Healthtech, in Needham Massachusetts. We primarily organize life science conferences on biopharma topics, informatics and technologies experiencing rapid progress in applied research.

WHERE DO YOU WORK?
Davis Square, Somerville Massachusetts

HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN A MEMBER OF SLA AND PH&T?
I’ve been involved with DPHT since 2001, but belonged to SLA much of the 1980s and 1990s. I was DPHT chair in 2013 and a founding member of the Taxonomy Division and Secretary of the original Taxonomy Board.

WHAT DOES THE PHARMA DIVISION GIVE YOU?
I went through a phase when I thought if I spent more time at work I’d catch up. Then I realized I was never going to catch up, and I truly needed to get out and talk with colleagues. In 2002 I went to the spring DPHT meeting. Someone talked about how patrons didn’t want to know about the latest new journals or databases, but wanted “just in time information 24/7/365.” This resonated and I’ve been trying to figure out how to deliver that ever since.

WHAT MADE YOU DECIDE TO WORK IN THE INFORMATION/LIBRARY WORLD?
My first job after college was as a fact checker and picture researcher, at the Franklin Mint, outside Philadelphia. UNC Chapel Hill Library School had a great ERPA library internship program, and that’s how I became a medical librarian. After I moved to Boston I ended up working at Mass College of Pharmacy and eventually in biotech.

WHAT DO YOU LOVE ABOUT YOUR JOB?
I’m always learning about cutting to bleeding edge new technologies and developments in the life sciences. Today’s science fiction can sometimes be tomorrow’s science – but not in a linear or predictable fashion. Getting to meet and talk to scientists, such as Jonas Salk, and seeing how he was working on HIV vaccines to the end of his life was inspiring. I’ve had a Biopharmaceutical Glossaries and Taxonomies http://www.genomicglossaries.com/ on the web since 2000 and have learned so much from it. I’m just starting a collaboration with Ontoforce, a Belgian semantic search engine company.
I’m also convinced that no human lifetime is long enough to learn everything you need to know to get drugs to market and keep them there, and think that information professionals can provide valuable bridges between disciplines and the many silos in drug discovery and development.

WHAT DON’T YOU LIKE ABOUT YOUR JOB?
I struggle with my tendencies to be too relentlessly informative.

WHY IS YOUR LIBRARY SPECIAL?
It is a very specialized niche library, which is always trying to be ahead of the curve, or as hockey great Wayne Gretzky says “Just skate to where the puck is going to be.”

TELLS US SOMETHING ABOUT YOU THAT NO ONE KNOWS ABOUT:
I’m a recreational historian. I have letters from my great-great grandmother EJ Phillips (1830-1904) a Broadway actress who traveled to California six times in the 1880s and 1890s. You can read more about her on my website http://maryglenchitty.com/ including her interactions with Grover Cleveland, Oscar Wilde, Sarah Bernhardt and Gilbert and Sullivan.

WHAT WOULD YOU DO WITH A MILLION DOLLARS?
Travel slowly– I went to Russia by train during my college sophomore year abroad, and would love to ride the Trans-Siberian railroad. I also want to recreate more of my great-great grandmother’s train trips, especially Chicago-Denver-Salt Lake City-San Francisco. I’d also donate to causes such as the ACLU, Planned Parenthood, Sierra Club, Union of Concerned Scientists, climate change and immigration rights.

WHERE DO YOU WANT TO RETIRE FROM?
I’ve been profoundly influenced by Sara Lawrence-Lightfoot’s Third Chapter: Passion, Risk and Adventures in the 25 Years after 50. I want to keep re-inventing myself rather than retiring. Still working on just how to do that.

WHERE DO YOU SEE YOURSELF IN 10 YEARS?
Still doing challenging work, having adventures and learning from friends, colleagues and family.

COFFEE OR TEA?
Always drank tea, hot or iced but I started drinking coffee more enthusiastically after I went to Italy years ago, and to an opera the day after I arrived – was feeling jet lagged at intermission until I had a good strong espresso.
Member Profile: Susan Keckler
Senior Manager Medical Communications, Teva Pharmaceuticals

WHERE DO YOU LIVE?
Philadelphia, PA. Specifically West Philadelphia, the suburbs of the 1890s.

HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN A MEMBER OF PH&T?
Approx. 20 years

IF YOU COULD BE ANY FICTITIONAL CHARACTER, WHO

WHAT MADE YOU DECIDE TO WORK IN THE INFORMATION/LIBRARY WORLD?
I was unhappy working in a research lab. I was interested in what I was doing, but not interested in doing it.

TELLS US SOMETHING ABOUT YOU THAT NO ONE KNOWS ABOUT:
I have a “prison tattoo”.

WHERE DO YOU SEE YOURSELF IN 10 YEARS?
Dead in my home, having been eaten by cats

DOGS OR CATS?
Cats

COFFEE OR TEA?
Coffee

WHAT DO YOU LOVE ABOUT YOUR JOB?
Telling people outside the industry that I’m a Drug Librarian

LET’S SAY YOU ARE 99 YEARS OLD. WHAT ONE PIECE OF LIFE ADVICE WOULD YOU GIVE?
Start therapy at 18 and be sure have your crap in order by the time you are 42.

WHAT DON’T YOU LIKE ABOUT YOUR JOB?
Long commute on a particularly terrible highway

WHAT WOULD YOU DO WITH A MILLION DOLLARS?
Save endangered historic properties in Philadelphia

WHAT DOES THE PHARMA DIVISION GIVE YOU?
A chance to talk shop

WHY IS YOUR LIBRARY SPECIAL?
Because it’s a virtually virtual library…not really a library per se

FAVORITE BOOK?
Neuromancer by William Gibson

View of West Philadelphia from atop Calvary United Methodist Church
By Axcordian (Own work) [CC BY-SA 3.0], via Wikimedia Commons
SLA and its Pharmaceutical and Health Technologies Division Partner to Bring DPHT Annual Meeting to Baltimore

Partnership brings SLA’s popular unit meeting to SLA 2018 Annual Conference

McLean, Virginia, 15 November 2017—The Special Libraries Association (SLA) and the SLA Pharmaceutical and Health Technologies Division (DPHT) are pleased to announce a partnership that will bring DPHT’s annual meeting to Baltimore, Maryland, next year.

DPHT will hold its 2018 annual meeting immediately prior to SLA’s well attended annual conference. The DPHT meeting is scheduled for June 9–10, 2018, and the SLA 2018 Annual Conference will officially kick off the morning of Monday, June 11, with pre-conference activities also on June 9 and 10.

The co-location of the DPHT Annual Meeting and SLA’s annual conference will give pharmaceutical and health technologies specialists in the information profession two major education opportunities in one location. After the successful SLA 2017 Annual Conference in Phoenix, Arizona, SLA leadership is proud to bring this energy to Baltimore.

SLA President Dee Magnoni shared her excitement, “SLA wants to provide its members and other information professionals with every opportunity to learn and network in person, but we understand the demands of everyday life that can make it hard to travel multiple times a year. This is why we’re so excited to bring one of the popular unit meetings together with the SLA 2018 Annual Conference in Baltimore next year.”

Bringing the DPHT Annual Meeting to Baltimore helps increase buying power for DPHT by integrating its registration, housing, and other conference vendors with SLA’s annual conference. SLA staff will work to enhance opportunities for sponsors and exhibitors, bringing even more SLA members to supportive industry partners. Mindy Beattie concurred, “As chair-elect of DPHT, I’m really excited to see this partnership come together. Combining resources and efforts with SLA staff and leadership will help us produce an even better experience for our unit members and our partners.”

“SLA is about connecting information professionals. Co-locating the DPHT meeting with the SLA annual conference demonstrates the strength of our mission,” shared SLA Executive Director Amy L. Burke.

Registration is set to open in early December for both education opportunities.
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