

CHICAGO COLLABORATIVE

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Meeting: November 11, 2009
Marriott Copley Place Hotel
Boston, MA

The fourth meeting of the Chicago Collaborative was held at the Marriott Copley Place Hotel in Boston, Massachusetts on November 11, 2009.

Member Representatives Present (association affiliation): Karen Butter (AAHSL), Jeff Drazen (U.S. ICMJE Journals), Marty Frank (FASEB/DCP), Norman Frankel (SSP), Michael Homan (AAHSL), Michael Mabe (ASTMP), Tony Mazzaschi (AAMC-CAS), Scott Plutchak (AAHSL), Tom Richardson (SSP), Irving Rockwood (ALPSP), Rita Scheman (FASEB/DCP), Jean Shipman (AAHSL), Betsy Solaro (FASEB/DCP), John Tagler (AAP/PSP), Pat Thibodeau (AAHSL), and Gail Yokote (AAHSL).

Actions Taken Since April 8, 2009 Meeting: The following actions and projects were summarized on the Chicago Collaborative distribution list in advance of the November 11, 2009 meeting:

- Biomedical Publishing 101: The team developing the Chicago Collaborative Biomedical Publishing 101 course with a target population of librarians has made significant progress with the creation of course objectives, a course content outline, and assignments for content development. A preliminary target for completion is Jan/Feb 2010.
- Logo Development: A Chicago Collaborative logo has been developed with input from members and may now be used for slides, web design, etc. The logo packet will be shared with all Collaborative members soon and the presentation template for slides has already been shared with selected members for their fall presentations about the Chicago Collaborative.
- AAHSL Exhibit at AAMC 2009: An exhibit featuring the formation and work of the Chicago Collaborative was created and displayed at the AAMC Annual Meeting in Boston in November 2009. The exhibit incorporated the new Collaborative logo and concepts included in the statement of purpose.
- Libraries 101: An opportunity to trial the "Libraries 101" course has been offered at the June 2010 annual meeting of the Society for Scholarly Publishing in San Francisco. Panel presenters have been identified. 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, but the target population is publishing and editing personnel.
- Web Development: A distinctive URL was obtained for the Collaborative (www.chicago-collaborative.org), and existing static content initially posted on the AAHSL website was migrated. Further work to create a distinctive website using the recently designed logo will now proceed.
- Grant Application: A grant writer funded by AAHSL and an informal oversight committee were established to complete an Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) grant application for submission in early December. Letters of support have been requested from Chicago Collaborative founding organization representatives.

Purpose and Organizational Structure: The Chicago Collaborative statement of purpose and current organizational structure were reviewed. Members provided perspectives on their involvement with the Collaborative and the importance of establishing a structure and forum for

discussing the broad issues and challenges facing international scientific communication and STM publishing in an atmosphere without animosity or the usual adversarial stances common to other forums. Members affirmed that the many issues in common among editors, librarians and publishers benefit from interactions which are ongoing and not episodic.

Current Challenges: A wide ranging discussion included a variety of issues, challenges and opportunities in scientific communication and STM publishing focusing on digital technologies: 1) faculty do not understand the publishing and licensing process; 2) faculty want embargo and intellectual property protection but also want online access to everything; 3) general sense of “versioning confusion” and the need for education; 4) editors want a firewall between the editing and publishing side of the house but also realize that if there is no margin, there is no mission; 5) there is global/local tension or splintering between local access provisions and global availability; 6) the desire to enhance users interaction through technologies, e.g., podcasts, raises the issue of what a journal publisher really is – video producer, radio/TV station; 7) metadata allows all types of linkages, but users need to be assured that linkage is to the authoritative version/content; 8) the changing nature of libraries from collection-based content to access-based content has implications for the historic library archiving mission; 9) there has been a transformation in how people use STM content with print now viewed as more of a supplement to other formats; 10) health professionals are not paying as much attention to published content which has implications for format, presentation, and long-term viability of some journals.

Following the general discussion two challenges, scientific integrity and archiving, were explored in depth with next actions for each area identified for follow-up. The interest of Collaborative members in these areas and the discussion that has taken place about them during all four meetings of the working group underscores their status as key areas for Collaborative actions.

Scientific Integrity: There are new challenges for authenticity and integrity in STM publishing driven by the ubiquitous digital environment. Authenticity and integrity are core values in scientific communication and are also issues that involve all Chicago Collaborative membership categories. Members see ethical concern cases rising exponentially including issues of plagiarism and image manipulation. Medical schools are realizing the growing importance of research integrity as they educate physicians and future researchers. Students are also realizing the importance of this area for their careers. The subject is of importance beyond the biomedical domain as it impacts all sciences and the humanities. Libraries are interested and poised to work in this area through educational efforts and institutional partnerships.

The issue of Collaborative scope was raised during this discussion. Members reaffirmed that the focus of the Chicago Collaborative is international with an emphasis on issues that impact a global setting.

Scientific Integrity Follow-up Actions: 1) Repurpose scientific integrity content from Biomedical Publishing 101 and course content funded by the Collaborative grant application for development of education modules for STM student and researcher audiences; 2) Establish a portal to scientific integrity resources on the Collaborative website initially focusing on existing publisher/society and publisher association produced resources and resources available from government authorities internationally.

Archiving: Disruptive technologies are having an impact on integrity, content availability, and archiving. Publishers, particularly large publishers, are using a variety of archiving methods to ensure future access to authoritative content, including the use of national libraries, CLOCKSS, LOCKSS, Portico, and other platforms. Chicago Collaborative discussion reframed the general issue of archiving into a discussion about what might be done for the “at risk” or “endangered species” in which valuable content could easily be lost as scientific societies and organizations cease publishing or cease to exist. At risk content includes content produced by small societies that may publish only one or two titles, the approximately 1700 small publishers that publish only

one or two journals, and other content such as homegrown journals in university departments, oral history transcripts, documents pertaining to the founding of societies and organizations, grey literature, and data.

Archiving Next Actions: 1) Begin the task of drafting a set of archiving principles for use by policy makers by first developing a problem statement illustrated by the fate of smaller publishers, defining key concepts, and building on the experience and knowledge of others active in this area; 2) Contact key organizations as research background and to assist in defining the problem statement and creating a compelling narrative.

Chicago Collaborative Membership: The issue of membership composition has existed since the initial meeting when representatives of AAHSL and other founding organizations first met in Chicago in May 2008. The initial group met without a representative from an editing organization such as the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors (ICMJE). Participants at the initial meeting immediately recognized the gap and a representative from the U.S. ICMJE journals was subsequently invited to join. Other gaps may exist including potential representation from other library organizations. Author representation was discussed but there was less concern about direct author representation on the Collaborative since STM authors generally do not see themselves in the same ways that authors who are Authors Guild members do (paid to publish authors). STM authors typically identify with their other non-author institutional roles – faculty, student, and administrator.

There was group consensus on the need to identify rules of engagement or guidelines for participating in the working group – memorializing key attributes such as the importance of trust, adoption of the statement of purpose, and open and candid discussion.

Membership Next Actions: 1) Founding members recommended contacting an additional editing organization for potential membership in advance of the spring 2010 Collaborative meeting; 2) A set of membership rules of engagement or participation guidelines will be drafted for discussion and adoption at the spring 2010 meeting of the Collaborative.

Reports and Other Activities: Reports on the progress of an Institute of Museum and Library Service (IMLS) grant application and other activities concluded the fall meeting of the Chicago Collaborative.

- An IMLS grant application to develop synchronous and asynchronous curricula to orient and train librarians about the STM publishing process is on target and will be submitted well before the December 15, 2009 deadline. AAHSL is the sponsoring organization with an advisory board drawn from members of the Collaborative.
- The consensus report of the Scholarly Publishing Roundtable of the Office of Science and Technology Policy on the repository disposition of published articles funded by the U.S. government is expected soon. The set of recommendations is likely to be of importance to STM publishing and will be included on the spring 2010 meeting agenda.
- Members involved in the production of Biomedical Publishing 101 will meet face-to-face in December to finalize content.
- A follow up presentation (BMP 101) on the Collaborative from the 2009 NASIG annual meeting has been accepted for the 2010 NASIG annual meeting.

