

Minutes

**National Library of Medicine
Literature Selection Technical Review Committee (LSTRC)
June 22-23, 2023
Minutes of Meeting**

The ninety-ninth meeting of the Literature Selection Technical Review Committee (LSTRC) (roster under ATTACHMENT A) of the National Library of Medicine (NLM) convened virtually at 10:00 AM on June 22, 2023. Dr. Kelly Sandberg served as Chair of the Committee and presided over the meeting. In accordance with P.L. 92-463 and the determination of the Director, National Institutes of Health (NIH), the meeting was announced in the [Federal Register](#). In accordance with the provisions set forth in Section 552b(c)(9)(B), Title 5, U.S.C., Pub. L. 92-463, the meeting was closed to the public for the review and discussion of journals as potential titles to be indexed by the NLM. The meeting was open to the public from 1:30 – 2:30 PM on Thursday, June 22nd. The open session was videocast and accessible from the NIH Videocasting website (<http://videocast.nih.gov/>).

For the Record¹

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Dr. Norma Alcantar
Dr. Armand Antommaria
Dr. Angela Arenas-Gamboa
Dr. Erik Black
Dr. Jonathan Eldredge
Dr. Sharon Greenblum
Dr. Kelly Sandberg
Dr. Nutan Sharma
Dr. Marina Sokolsky-Papkov
Dr. Julie Ann Sosa
Dr. Henry Young
Dr. Pamela Bagley
Dr. Steven DiBartola

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT

Dr. Praveen Arany
Dr. Erika Newman

OBSERVERS PRESENT

Dr. Weiqun Wang
Dr. Kristen Anderson
Dr. Diana-Lyn Baptiste

NLM STAFF PRESENT

Ms. Dianne Babski
Dr. Michael Huerta
Mr. Philip Banh
Ms. Rebecca Black
Ms. Mary Ann Collins
Ms. Judith Eannarino
Ms. Kristina Elliott
Mr. Chris Kelly
Ms. Erin Zellers
Dr. Iulia Kristanciuk
Ms. Karlyn Schumacher
Ms. Jennifer Marill
Dr. Lauren Topper
Ms. Annemieke van der Sluijs
Ms. Amanda J. Wilson
Mr. Bill Wischmann
Ms. Nicole Sroka
Ms. Julie Silverman

¹ It is noted that members absent themselves from the meeting when the Committee is discussing journal titles in which a conflict of interest might occur.

I. Call to Order

Dr. Kelly Sandberg called the meeting to order at 10:00AM, Thursday, June 22, 2023, and welcomed the members and NLM staff.

II. Administrative Matters

A. Introductions:

Dr. Kelly Sandberg led introductions of the LSTRC members. Dr. Lauren Topper led introductions of NLM staff members and welcomed the new members attending as observers. Dr. Topper and Ms. Dianne Babski thanked the outgoing members for their service to the committee.

B. Consideration of the minutes from the February 2023 meeting: The minutes were approved as written.

C. Conflict of Interest Forms: Conflict of Interest forms were distributed to LSTRC members prior to the meeting, and were completed before members participated.

D. Dates of future meetings:

- Fall 2023: October 19-20, 2023 (Confirmed)
- Winter 2024: February 22-23, 2024 (Confirmed)
- Summer 2024: June 27-28, 2024 (Proposed)

E. Other matters:

- The upcoming Fall 2023 meeting is planned to take place in-person. The Winter 2024 meeting is confirmed as virtual.

III. Director's Update

Dr. Michael Huerta gave the Director's update to the LSTRC, as Dr. Patricia Flatley Brennan was unable to attend. Dr. Huerta announced that Jerry Sheehan, NLM's Deputy Director of Policy and External Affairs, recently left NLM to take a new role as Director of Science, Technology, and Innovation at the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) in Paris, France. Dr. Huerta gave an overview of the current NLM leadership and upcoming changes, as many leadership positions are currently filled in an Acting capacity. NLM is working to fill the Acting positions and will bring on a new scientific director.

Dr. Huerta gave an update on the intramural research program trainees programs including the NLM data science and informatics scholars program, which welcomed 55 summer interns. He covered several recent training activities, including the recent T15 extramural research training conference at Stanford University, and announced that Dianne Babski had completed the AI Federal Leadership Program. He explained that NLM is investing in personal health informatics, through extramural research funding. NLM's extramural funding was open between 2017-2021 and 12 applications have been funded. The funded research has resulted in a variety of products including a Natural language processing system linking medical jargon in electronic health records to definitions and open-source tools supporting end-to-end collection, management, and use of self-tracked health data. NLM held a workshop in February for the funded researchers to discuss research opportunities, challenges, and recommendations/best practices.

Dr. Huerta described recent improvements in NLM services, including the introduction of a new PMC disclaimer. He noted that NLM is able to provide leadership across the NIH through Digital NIH, which is an NIH-wide initiative on managing its digital systems and bring coordination to lifecycle of enterprise/digital infrastructures. These include both research management systems as well as administrative management systems.

Finally, Dr. Huerta gave an update on the budget, which includes \$18 million of investments in new initiatives at NLM. Some of this money will go to advancing DEIA efforts and strengthening security.

IV. Presentations

Dr. Lauren Topper presented to the LSTRC on MEDLINE and PMC Updates. She gave an update on fiscal year 2022 statistics for MEDLINE, including the acceptance rate. Dr. Topper briefed the committee on an update to the policies on changes in PMC and MEDLINE journals, including

improved guidance on what changes journals need to report to NLM and what NLM monitors. This guidance was published in the NLM Technical Bulletin in March 2023 and the language is available on both the PMC and MEDLINE policy public pages. Finally, Dr. Topper notified the committee of a recent update to PMC's language policy; non-MEDLINE journals applying to PMC previously had to be published primarily in Spanish, but now PMC is reviewing journals publishing in English and Spanish.

Ms. Dianne Babski then presented to the committee on AI in the Scientific Landscape. She gave some background information on the use of Generative Pretrained Transformers (GPTs), including some of the many chatbots that currently exist. She noted that its broad versatility is making AI a more useable/newsworthy set of technology. With respect to the scientific landscape, AI has the potential to analyze large and complex datasets more efficiently, identify patterns and trends that may not be visible to the human, and assist with many aspects of the research process, from hypothesis development to writing a scholarly article. She covered several different use cases exemplifying these AI applications, including one example from Stanford where researchers created BioMedLM, which uses PMC/PubMed literature answer medical questions.

Ms. Babski noted that NLM staff have been thinking of how AI can be applied to its work, such as for creating efficiencies in production steps/process, customizing customer service responses, and/or processing/harmonizing large amounts of data. She gave an explanation of different types of AI and examples of different AI tools and models. Finally, she covered some of the short-term opportunities for federal agencies with respect to AI.

V. Examination and Review of Titles

A total of 48 titles were reviewed at the meeting. The review of titles began on Thursday, June 22, 2023 at 10:28 AM and continued until 12:40 PM. The committee resumed the review of titles in the afternoon, after the open portion, at 2:30 PM and continued until 3:48 PM. The review of titles resumed on Friday, June 23rd at 10:00 AM and continued until 12:30 PM. The committee resumed review of journals at 1:30 PM and concluded at 2:30 PM.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:37 PM.

VI. Certification

I hereby certify that to the best of my knowledge, the foregoing minutes and attachments are accurate and complete.

Dianne Babski
Scientific Review Administrator

Kelly Sandberg
Chairperson