



BROOKLYN, QUEENS, STATEN ISLAND, MANHATTAN AND THE BRONX HEALTH SCIENCES LIBRARIANS

President's Report **April 27, 2009**

This is my final report as BQSI/MB President and I would like to begin it by saying that it was a great experience for me, both challenging and enjoyable; it was an opportunity to learn many new things and I very much appreciate this. I want to say that none of BQSI/MB successful ventures and initiatives over the past couple of years would be possible without our members' efforts. Thanks all of you for your enthusiasm, encouragement, and support.

For this period between the November 2008 & April 2009 meetings, we worked with Laraine Tursi, the BQSI/MB Vice-President, and Jeanne Strausman, MEDLI President, on organizing the first joint meeting of BQSI/MB and MEDLI. Kalpana Desai took this initiative during the last meeting and Jeanne approached me with this issue later on. The organization of the meeting required many of coordination efforts; I am grateful to members of both groups for their support of this idea. Laraine Tursi, as usual did a great job of developing a program for the meeting. Today we are going to have a panel discussion on valuing library services moderated by Arpita Bose, Outreach and Communications Coordinator from the National Network of Libraries of Medicine. Arpita presented a few excellent classes at our previous meetings; at this meeting she along with three panelists: Dorothy Schwartz, Laraine Tursi, and our guest, Carolyn Reid from Cornell University, will discuss a topic, which is of much interest and importance for all medical librarians today. The program also includes a vendor show; the representatives from Exam Master will discuss new modules and updates for the product that was first shown to BQSI/MB three years ago.

During the reported period we met with the members of Cooperative Purchasing Committee. A meeting took place in December 2008 at the Lenox Hill Hospital; the Committee watched presentations of two vendors, PubsHub and Unbound Medicine, and discussed a few other products. Deborah Bonnelly, Cooperative Purchasing Committee Chair, will report on this issue more in detail.

One more important initiative was organization of the first BQSI/MB professional development class in cooperation with METRO that provides us with facilities for this event. This was a full-day class on Adobe Photoshop; during this class the participants got familiar with this new application and learned some basic skills of graphic design. The workshop had 13 participants and received very good evaluations. We plan to organize the second workshop in this series that will be focused on practical applications of Photoshop. The workshop had 13 participants and received very good evaluations. I would like to thank Joan Napolitano and other METRO people – Tom Nielsen, John Fazio, and Migdalia Cortes who provided practical help in organizing this event. The official thank you letters were sent to the instructor,

Boris Rabinovich, and to Dottie Hiebing, the METRO Executive Director. This collaboration with METRO opens new, very interesting perspectives for BQSI/MB, so I hope we will continue this practice.

At the end, I want to express my gratitude to some people whom I worked especially closely for these two years: first of all to Laraine Tursi, who was such a wonderful Vice-President; her expertise, motivation, and sense of humor are incredible. I knew I could rely on Laraine completely and at any time, and this has meant so much for me. I also want to thank all Committee Chairs and Executive Board members for their work during this period; finally I want to thank George Wahlert, Carol Cave-Davis, Narciso Rodriguez, Dotty Schwarz, Lydia Friedman, Debra Bonelli, Natasha Ryvkin, Liza Zigelbaum, and others that helped me all the time with their assistance and advice. I am tremendously grateful to all of you.

Respectfully submitted,

Yelena Friedman