

Minutes

**National Library of Medicine
Literature Selection Technical Review Committee (LSTRC)
June 27-28, 2024
Minutes of Meeting**

The one-hundred-and-second meeting of the Literature Selection Technical Review Committee (LSTRC) (roster under ATTACHMENT A) of the National Library of Medicine (NLM) convened at 8:30 AM on June 27th, 2024. Dr. Armand Antommara 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 9:15 AM to 10:30 AM on Friday, June 27th. 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 Antommara
Dr. Sharon Greenblum
Dr. Nutan Sharma
Dr. Julie Ann Sosa
Dr. Henry Young
Dr. Praveen Arany
Dr. Steven DiBartola
Dr. Diana Baptiste
Dr. Kristen Anderson
Dr. Weiqun Wang
Dr. Jonathan Eldredge

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT

Dr. Erika Newman
Dr. Erik Black
Dr. Angela Arenas-Gamboa

NLM STAFF PRESENT

Dianne Babski
Philip Banh
Rebecca Black
Kristina Elliott
Dr. Lauren Topper
Julie Silverman
Esther Lee
Margaret McGhee
Dr. Iulia Kristanciuk
Stacey Arneson
Dr. Stephen Sherry

OBSERVERS

Dr. Olga Garbuzenko
Dr. Jennifer Walter
Dr. Steven Steiner

I. Call to Order

Dr. Armand Antommara called the meeting to order at 8:30 AM, Thursday, June 27, 2024, and welcomed the members and NLM staff.

II. Administrative Matters

A. Introductions:

Dr. Armand Antommara led introductions of the LSTRC members and new member observers.
Dr. Lauren Topper led introductions of NLM staff members.

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.

- B. Consideration of the minutes from the February 2024 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 2024: October 24-25, 2024 (Confirmed)
 - Winter 2025: February 20-21, 2025 (Proposed)
 - Summer 2025: June 26-27, 2025 (Proposed)
- E. Other matters:
 - The upcoming Fall 2024 and Winter 2025 meetings are confirmed as virtual. The Summer 2025 meeting dates are tentatively scheduled as in-person.

III. African Journal Partnership Program Presentation

Annette Flanagan, Vice President, Editorial Operations, JAMA and JAMA Network began the session by giving an overview of the African Journal Partnership Program (AJPP). The mission of the AJPP is to promote wider dissemination of African health and medical research published in African health and medical journals. She described the history of the program, which began with four African journals in 2004 and expanded in 2008 to include additional journals. She briefed the committee on how there are annual meetings, and the African journals work together with mentors from established journals to achieve goals such as achieving indexing in major journal indexes and improving the overall quality of the publication. She covered some of the current challenges faced by the participating journals, such as attracting high-quality manuscripts, identifying peer reviewers, and addressing concerns such as paper mills and predatory publishers. She also noted that many of the journals are actively working toward improving inclusivity through efforts such as recruiting more women and international editors and editorial board members.

Next, Dr. David Ofori-Adjei, Editor in Chief of Ghana Medical Journal, described his journal and their experience in the AJPP. He began with a brief history of the journal, which was established by the Ghana Medical Association and published its first issue in 1962. He noted that Ghana Medical Journal is currently included in several major databases, such as MEDLINE, the Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ), PubMed Central (PMC), Scopus, and African Journals Online (AJOL). He described several benefits of being in the AJPP, including association with established journals, access to leading support services such as Clarivate ScholarOne, Strive for XML conversion, and African Journals Online (AJOL), as well as enhanced international exposure, capacity building, and succession planning.

Dr. James Kigera, Editor in Chief of Annals of African Surgery, closed the session. Dr. Kigera gave a brief overview of the Annals of African Surgery, which was established in 2007, and covered the progress made since that time, including doubling their submissions, establishing a quarterly publication schedule, and achieving indexing in multiple major indexes. He covered ongoing training and engagement efforts at the journal, including social media and website updates, and ended by covering the future steps for the journal.

IV. Director's Update

Dr. Stephen Sherry, Acting Director of the National Library of Medicine, gave the Director's Update. Dr. Sherry gave updates on leadership changes at the NLM, including the recruitment for the next NLM Director and several new leadership appointments. He covered current NIH priorities for NLM, including data collections and services, as well as the current appropriations budget.

Dr. Sherry updated the committee on the status of several ongoing NLM projects. NLM's Center for Clinical Observational Investigations has recently launched several dataset profiles and the Dataset Catalog and is currently seeking feedback. He noted that the All of Us research data is now available through ClinVar and contains more than 32,000 variants in 61 genes. Dr. Sherry also announced that NLM will be developing and launching a system to find information on Women's Health Research, consistent with a recent Executive Order from the White House. He gave an update on the transition of PubMed indexing to using the Medical Text Indexer-NeXt Generation (MTIX), covered multiple use cases for the NLM Gen AI 2023-2024 project, and announced that NLM has begun using Google Analytics to evaluate its own products and services. Finally, Dr. Sherry covered several training outreach and recruitment efforts at the NLM and recent NLM Investigator awards.

Dr. Sherry concluded by thanking the outgoing members of the committee, especially the current LSTRC chair, Dr. Armand Antommara, before opening the session up for discussion and questions.

V. Examination and Review of Titles

A total of 48 titles were reviewed at the meeting. The review of titles began on Thursday, June 27, 2024, at 9:00 AM and continued until 12:00 PM. The committee resumed the review of titles in the afternoon at 1:00 PM and continued until 2:10 PM. The review of titles resumed at 3:30 PM, after a tour of the NIH Children's Inn, and continued until 5:00 PM. The review of titles resumed on Friday, June 28, at 8:30 AM and continued until 9:10 AM. The review of titles resumed after the open portion at 10:45 AM and continued until 11:30 AM. The meeting was adjourned at 12:03 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

Armand Antommara
Chairperson