



*European Association
for Health Information and Libraries*

*Association Européenne
pour l'Information et les Bibliothèques de Santé*

July - Juillet 1996 • N° 36

Newsletter

to European Health Librarians • des Bibliothécaires Européens de la Santé



Fifth European Conference of Medical and Health Libraries
Coimbra, Portugal - September 18-21, 1996

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Whilst the Editorial Board endeavours to obtain items of interest, the facts and opinions expressed in those items are the responsibility of the authors concerned. They do not necessarily reflect the policies and opinions of the Association.

La Rédaction s'efforce d'obtenir des articles intéressants. Cependant, les faits et opinions exprimés dans ces articles sont de la responsabilité de leurs auteurs. Ils ne reflètent pas nécessairement les politiques et opinions de l'Association.

EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION FOR HEALTH INFORMATION AND LIBRARIES



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• Full information regarding the Association and advertisements in the Newsletter may be obtained from the EAHIL secretariat

• Toute information concernant l'Association et les annonces dans la Newsletter peut être obtenue au :

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Opening hours: 9:00 to 13:00

EDITORIAL

WELCOME TO COIMBRA!

It is a great pleasure to host our European Colleagues at the EAHIL Fifth European Conference of Medical and Health Libraries in Coimbra.

Libraries are in a phase of great change at present - somebody has compared this period with that of Gutenberg - and one might even believe that the survival of libraries is at stake. And more than that, organised and systematic ways of seeking and acquiring information for our clients, for health personnel, may be vanishing.

Are we as information professionals able to change ourselves to meet the new challenges? Can we alter our working habits from the printed word to the digitalised form; are we able to give up our allegiance to secure and safe traditions to new media with still unforeseen sequelae; are we prepared for totally new modes of reporting research results?

More than ever before we need cooperation between health libraries in order not to let the information chaos overcome us. We have to forget national boundaries in this most international field of ours and look for unprejudiced solutions wherever they can be found. We simply need to know each other, to meet new colleagues and to discuss common problems face to face. European congresses are extremely good means to do all this.

In the continuing education courses at the Coimbra conference, we have tried to build a bridge between conventional tools and new information technologies. The high standard of papers and posters of this conference shows that the medical library community is at the research frontier in making information easily accessible and available to our clientele - here we are fortunate to have well-known speakers from three continents. At the exhibition we can get acquainted with our close collaborators, the publishers, database producers and other information enterprises, together with whom we can make the information flow from

producer to user as smooth and flexible as possible.

We have also paid special attention to the social programme, during which perhaps the most important connections are tied. We hope that the site of the conference, the old city of Coimbra, will give you unforgettable experiences with typically Portuguese surprises.

On behalf of the Local Organising Committee I wish you all cordially welcome to the EAHIL Fifth European Conference of Medical and Health Libraries.

BIENVENUE À COIMBRA !

C'est pour nous un grand plaisir d'accueillir nos collègues européens à Coimbra, Portugal, où se tiendra la 5ème Conférence Européenne des Bibliothèques Médicales et de Santé de l'AEIBS/EAHIL.

Les bibliothèques sont actuellement en phase de profonde mutation - d'aucuns ont comparé cette période avec celle de Gutenberg - et on peut même envisager que la survie des bibliothèques est en jeu. Et plus encore, les moyens systématiques et organisés de recherche et d'acquisition de l'information pour "nos clients", pour les professionnels de la santé, peuvent être réduits à néant.

Sommes-nous capables en tant que professionnels de l'information de nous adapter à ces nouveaux défis? Pouvons-nous modifier nos méthodes de travail à partir de la version papier vers une forme numérisée; sommes-nous capables d'abandonner nos attitudes traditionnelles de confort et de stabilité pour aller à l'encontre de nouveaux médias qui peuvent avoir des séquences imprévisibles; sommes-nous préparés à des nouveaux modes de présentation des résultats de recherches?

Plus que jamais, nous avons besoin de coopération entre les bibliothèques de santé afin de ne pas nous laisser envahir par le chaos de l'information. Nous

devons oublier nos frontières nationales dans ce monde international qui est le nôtre et chercher les solutions sans préjugés, là où elles peuvent être trouvées. Nous avons simplement besoin de nous connaître les uns et les autres, de rencontrer de nouveaux collègues et de discuter face à face de nos problèmes communs.

Les congrès européens constituent d'excellents moyens pour réaliser tout ceci.

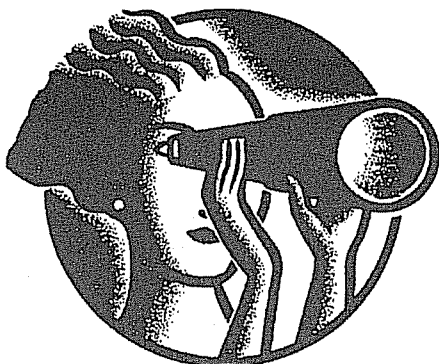
En organisant les cours de formation continue lors de la Conférence de Coimbra, nous avons essayé de construire une passerelle entre les moyens conventionnels et les nouvelles technologies de l'information. Le haut niveau des présentations et des posters lors de cette conférence montrent que la communauté des bibliothèques médicales est à la frontière de la recherche permettant de rendre l'information facilement accessible et disponible pour "nos clients". Nous avons la chance d'avoir des conférenciers renommés issus des trois continents. L'exposition nous donnera l'opportunité d'être mis en contact avec les éditeurs, les producteurs de banques de données et avec d'autres entreprises dans le domaine de l'information avec lesquels nous pourrions faire en sorte que le flux de l'information passe de façon aussi souple et flexible que possible, du producteur à l'utilisateur.

Nous avons également particulièrement soigné le programme social. Nous espérons que le lieu de la Conférence, la vieille ville de Coimbra, vous apportera d'inoubliables expériences mêlées de surprises typiquement portugaises.

Au nom du Comité Local d'Organisation, je voudrais vous souhaiter à tous très cordialement bienvenue à la 5ème Conférence Européenne des Bibliothèques médicales et de Santé de l'AEIBS/EAHIL.

Antonia Pereira da Silva
*President of the Local
Organising Committee
Coimbra, Portugal*

Liisa Salmi
Editor



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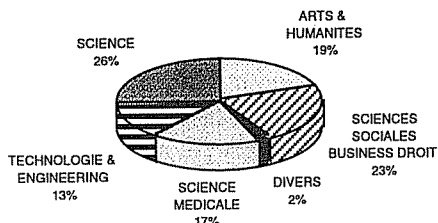
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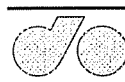
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NEWS FROM OUR ASSOCIATION

EAHIL - AIMS TOWARDS YEAR 2000

VISION

That the European Association for Health Information and Libraries (EAHIL) is an active professional association uniting and motivating all librarians and information officers working in medical and health science libraries in Europe.

MAIN GOALS

Work for professional development, and improve cooperation and exchange of experience, amongst its members. Raise standards of provision and practise in medical and health science libraries in all European member countries. EAHIL has a special commitment to reach and assist its members working in smaller and isolated libraries. Reach potential new members.

Aims to achieve 1995-2000, and how to reach them :

1. Conferences and workshops

Conferences and continuing education courses of high quality, every two years, and workshops in between:

- 1.1 Influence and follow up the organizing of conferences, workshops and continuing education courses at within the frame of EAHIL, to ensure organizing ability, skilled content and financial capacity.

2. Efficient network system

Develop an efficient network system to be used by all members in order to increase the communication and information amongst them:

- 2.1 Increase the accessibility of the EAHIL Newsletter, through a printed and an electronic version (some parts)
- 2.2 Establish the use of new technology as means of communication and information within the Association
 - 2.2.1 Create EAHIL discussion groups and electronic mail on Internet
 - 2.2.2 Create a WWW home page for EAHIL on Internet

3. Education

Provide help for continuing education courses on national and local level:

- 3.1 Provide details of different professional courses offered by EAHIL members, given on request from members.

- 3.2 Establish a "bank" with the names of course supervisors and teachers, in the form of an information resource on Internet, including course contents and course supervisors

4. Cooperative agreements between European libraries

Establish agreements for cooperation with medical and health science libraries, in Eastern and Central Europe in particular.

- 4.1 Develop and strengthen cooperation with libraries through intensified contact, workshops and minor financial incentives (education grants, travel grants, etc).

- 4.2 Establish bilateral agreements between libraries, library-associations, etc.

- 4.3 Initiate EAHIL members into making working alliances with national medical and health associations in their own country for joint efforts/support towards European libraries in need.

Each country should have the responsibility for planning and organizing, but within a common frame of reference.

5. European representation

Represent its members at a European level.

- 5.1 Representation and cooperation with European organizations through EAHIL members appointed by the Executive Board.

6. Membership

Reach a membership of 1000 members before the year 2000.

- 6.1 Launch a recruiting-campaign with incentives.
- 6.2 Intensify information campaigns about EAHIL in all European countries.
- 6.3 Offer to members reduced fees to EAHIL conferences, workshops, continuing education courses, etc.
- 6.4 Keep the membership fee at an acceptable level.
- 6.5 Cooperate with other national and European organizations in order to stimulate membership, and facilitate fee-payment.

Elisabeth Husem
EAHIL President

NEWS FROM THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

Unexpectedly, **Pascale Delausnay**, EAHIL Treasurer on the Executive Board, retired from Rhône-Poulenc Rorer in April and is no longer on the EAHIL Executive Board. We would like to thank Pascale very much for her dedication to EAHIL. She has been an active member from the very beginning, a Belgian delegate on the EAHIL Council (1988/1990), an elected member on the Executive Board as Treasurer (1991/1994) and was re-elected for another term of 4 years in 1994. She has expressed the wish to become a retired EAHIL member and to remain active in some way within EAHIL. She has accepted the post of French Language Editor for the Newsletter.

Jean-Philippe Accart has announced his change of work and that he will be leaving for Lyon. He will leave the field of health and medical information and regretfully will not remain within EAHIL. We regret his departure and would also like to thank him for his active participation to EAHIL. He has devoted his time as a French delegate on the EAHIL Council from 1992-1994 and was elected as a member of the EAHIL Executive Board in 1994 for a term of 4 years. He has been of great assistance to the Newsletter as an author and the French Language Editor.

The EAHIL elections will provide us with both replacements.

We would like to thank them both again for their dedication and enthusiasm for EAHIL.

NOUVELLES DE NOTRE ASSOCIATION

AEIBS - OBJECTIFS POUR L'AN 2000

Introduction

L'Association Européenne pour l'Information et les Bibliothèques de Santé est une association professionnelle active unissant et motivant tous les bibliothécaires et les documentalistes travaillant dans les bibliothèques médicales et de santé en Europe.

Buts Principaux de l'AEIBS

- Travailler pour le développement de la profession, et améliorer la coopération et les échanges d'expériences entre ses membres.
- Relever les standards de prestations et de pratique dans les bibliothèques médicales et de santé de tous les pays européens membres.
- Assister ses membres qui travaillent dans des bibliothèques petites et isolées.
- Entrer en contact avec des nouveaux membres potentiels.

Buts à atteindre de 1995 à 2000, et comment les réaliser

1. Conférences et séminaires

Des conférences et des cours de formation continue de haut niveau auront lieu tous les deux ans en alternance avec des séminaires qui prendront place entre les années de conférences.

1.1 Influencer et soutenir l'organisation des conférences, séminaires et cours de formation continue dans le cadre de l'AEIBS afin d'assurer les compétences quant à l'organisation, la qualité du programme et la gestion financière.

2. Un système de réseau performant

Développer un système de réseau performant qui puisse être utilisé par tous les membres dans le but d'accroître la communication et l'information entre eux.

2.1 Accroître l'accessibilité à la Newsletter tant dans sa version papier que dans une version électronique (pour certaines sections)

2.2 Utiliser les nouvelles technologies comme moyen de communication et d'information au sein de l'Association.

2.2.1. Créer des groupes de discussion ainsi qu'un cour-

rier électronique de l'AEIBS sur Internet.

2.2.2. Créer une page www d'accueil pour l'AEIBS sur Internet.

3. Formation

Fournir l'aide nécessaire pour les cours de formation continue au niveau national et local.

3.1 fournir tous les détails concernant les cours offerts par l'AEIBS

3.2 Etablir une "banque de données", accessible sur Internet, comprenant les noms des professeurs et responsables des cours, ainsi que les programmes.

4. Accords de coopération entre les bibliothèques européennes

Etablir des accords de coopération avec les bibliothèques médicales et de santé, en particulier avec l'Europe de l'Est et Centrale.

4.1 Développer et renforcer la coopération entre les bibliothèques en intensifiant les contacts, séminaires et en instaurant des primes d'encouragement (bourses d'étude, frais de voyage pour conférence, etc.)

4.2 Etablir des accords bilatéraux entre les bibliothèques, les associations professionnelles, etc.

4.3 Encourager les membres de l'AEIBS à réaliser des alliances professionnelles dans leur propre pays afin d'apporter un soutien commun aux bibliothèques européennes qui en ont besoin.

Chaque pays aura la responsabilité du planning et de l'organisation dans les limites d'un cadre commun de références.

5. Représentation européenne

Représenter ses membres à un niveau européen.

5.1 La représentation de l'AEIBS et la coopération avec les organisations européennes se feront par l'intermédiaire de membres nommés par le Bureau Exécutif.

6. Membres adhérents

Atteindre un nombre de 1000 membres adhérents avant l'an 2000.

6.1 Lancer une campagne de recrutement avec primes d'encouragement.

6.2 Intensifier les campagnes d'information sur l'AEIBS dans tous les pays européens.

6.3 Offrir aux membres des réductions pour les inscriptions aux conférences, séminaires et cours de formation continue de l'AEIBS, etc.

6.4 maintenir les frais d'adhésion à l'AEIBS à un niveau acceptable.

6.5 Coopérer avec d'autres organisations nationales et Européennes afin de stimuler les adhésions et faciliter le paiement des cotisations.

Eisabeth Husem

Présidente de l'AEIBS

SPONSORSHIP AND MEMBERSHIP

SILVERPLATTER Information BV, has generously renewed its sponsorship for another year. EAHIL appreciates their financial support very much and warmly thanks SilverPlatter for its encouragement.

SilverPlatter Information Ltd., P.C. Hooftstraat 116 ii, NL-1071 CD Amsterdam, The Netherlands, Tel: 31 20 625 9650, Fax: 31 20 673 7408, email: ConnieM@Silverplatter.com

We are happy to welcome new EAHIL Members:

Individual Members:

- Carlos MORENO DUQUE, Pfizer Spain
- Demetrio R. CICHI, Università Cattolica Sacro Cuore, Roma
- Anne-Marie KLINT, Danish Institute for Clinical Epidemiology, Copenhagen
- Wenche SAETERDAL, University of Oslo, Fac. of Dentistry, Oslo, Norway
- Anna URYGA, Medical Library of Jagiellonian University, Cracow, Poland

Institutional Members:

- FIPE SANTE DOC, Fac. de Médecine St. Antoine, Chantal Lheureux, Paris
- UPPSALA UNIVERSITY & LIBRARY, Barbro Krüger, Uppsala, Sweden

THE EAHIL FUND

The EAHIL Executive Board is pleased to announce that an EAHIL Fund has been created by the Local Organising Committee of the Fourth European Conference of Medical and Health Libraries held in June 1994 in Oslo. It will be administered by the Norwegian Library Association, Section for Medicine and Health Sciences (SMH). The final rules are under preparation, but the full text of the rules for the EAHIL Fund will be published in a forthcoming issue of the EAHIL Newsletter.

Even if the final details are not formalized yet, we would like to announce this fund prior to the Coimbra Conference. It is a little late, but it might help three or four members who want to participate in our Coimbra Conference.

Guidelines for applying a travel grant for the Coimbra Conference:

1. The applicant must be an EAHIL member
2. The grant can only be distributed to individuals
3. The applicant must present a budget together with the application
4. The applicant must give details about other contributions
5. The applicant must submit a report to EAHIL and SMH after the conference.

EAHIL reserves the right to publish the report in the EAHIL Newsletter

Please send a letter of application as soon as possible, and not later than AUGUST 15, to Elisabeth AKRE, SMH.

BOURSES DE VOYAGE DE L'AEIBS

Le Bureau Exécutif de l'AEIBS/EAHIL a le plaisir d'annoncer qu'un Comité de Bourses a été créé par le Comité Local d'Organisation de la 4ème Conférence Européenne des Bibliothèques médicales et de Santé qui s'est tenue à Oslo en juin 1994. Ce Comité de Bourses sera géré par l'Association Norvégienne des Bibliothèques, Section Médecine et Santé (SMH). Le règlement est en préparation et le texte intégral sera publié dans un prochain numéro de la Newsletter.

Ce règlement n'est pas encore établi officiellement, mais nous souhaitons annoncer la création de ces bourses pour la Conférence de Coimbra. Bien que tardives, ces bourses pourraient être d'une grande aide à trois ou quatre membres de l'AEIBS/EAHIL qui désireraient participer à notre Conférence à Coimbra.

Instructions pour la demande d'une bourse de voyage en vue de la 5ème conférence à Coimbra :

1. Le demandeur doit être un membre de l'AEIBS/EAHIL
2. La bourse est individuelle
3. Le demandeur doit présenter un budget ainsi qu'une demande écrite
4. Le demandeur doit donner des détails sur ses autres contributions
5. Le demandeur doit soumettre un rapport à l'AEIBS et SMH après la Conférence.

L'AEIBS se réserve le droit de publier ce rapport dans la Newsletter.

Nous vous prions d'envoyer votre demande le plus rapidement possible, le 15 AOÛT au plus tard, à Elisabeth AKRE, SMH.

Ms Elisabeth AKRE - S M H

*Diakonhjemmets sykehus - Medical Library,
P.O. Box 23, Vinderen, - N-0319 Oslo, Norway
Tel: 47 22 45 16 38 - Fax: 47 22 45 16 99*

Elisabeth HUSEM
EAHIL President

EAHIL SUB-GROUPS



Pharmaceutical Information Group

Groupe Pharmaceutique d'Information

First, a word from our Chair, Mrs Meunier :

"Just a few months before meeting you again at the EAHIL conference, I would like, first of all, to congratulate and thank Vincent Maes for everything he has done for our group, since it was initiated during our last conference in Oslo.

Let me remind you of some of our objectives:

- to increase the participation of information specialists from the pharmaceutical area,
- to promote and to develop access and dissemination of pharmaceutical information,

- to promote contacts between information specialists from the pharmaceutical area in Europe, and to defend our interests.
- to establish contacts between international and national sister organisations.

Now, more than ever, we need to strengthen the collaboration and cooperation between members, at the international level. Indeed, many things are changing. Pharmaceutical companies are reorganizing, new technologies are being developed and we need reactivity to the changing health care environment at pan-european and country levels. From across the ocean, managed care is reaching Europe. We are all players in the healthcare value chain, patients, health, diseases, treatments, drugs. The fate of managed care in Europe, in the future, will remain unsettled without involving partnership and cooperation at all levels and across a large number of sectors.

In the last newsletter, you will have seen the programme which has been prepared for our special interest group. Of course, everyone is invited to participate, and we encourage everybody to make this event known to others around them. A last word about continuing education. In this domain, our goal is not to replace local associations, we can't do everything and go everywhere, but, perhaps, we should reinforce our contact in each country to enhance knowledge and facilitate mobility. Cooperation at a European level is essential".

Interesting conferences :

Profiting from the Internet in the Pharmaceutical Industry

"Uncover and exploit the real business opportunities of the Internet in your company". London, 22nd July 1996, The Park Lane Hotel. For further information : +44 171 915 5073

A hands-on technical guide to the Internet in the Pharmaceutical Industry

Intensive one-day workshop. London, 23rd July 1996, Cyberspy café. For further information : +44 171 915 5073

The International Chemical Information Conference and Exhibition

Information in chemistry and chemical patents. Nîmes, 20 - 23 October 1996 <http://inforortics.com/chemical.html>
For further information :
Tel: +44 (0)1249 814 584 /
Fax : +44 (0)1249 813 656

56th World Congress of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences

Preparing for the Challenges of Tomorrow, Jerusalem, 1-6 September 1996
<http://www.mcc.ac.uk/pwmirror/pwj/pharmwebj2.html>. For further information : email the International

Pharmaceutical Federation (FIP) with your full postal address to m.swakhoven@fip.nl

Pharmaceutical Forum

Due to lack of participants, the Pharmaceutical Forum planned in Brussels and in Ljubljana was cancelled. We thank those that have expressed their interest.

PhInfoG Elections

The following people are candidates for the Pharmaceutical Information Group Executive Board :

Chair :

Mrs M.D. Meunier (Pfizer France)

Secretary :

V. Maes (Pfizer, Belgium)

Treasurer :

Mrs M. Carcano (SmithKline Beecham, Belgium)

The election will take place at the Pharmaceutical Information Group General Assembly, **during the Coimbra Conference, Thursday 19th Sept., 10h30-12h30.**

Vincent Maes

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B-1090 Brussels - fax: 32 2 421 16 93
email: maesv@popost.eunet.be*

COIMBRA NEWS

Summary of the Pharmaceutical Information Group activities in Coimbra :

Wedn. 18th Sept	Morning	10h10-11h30	Pharmaceutical Information Session I: General aspects (1)
		11h30-12h00	Sandwich break
		12h00-13h35	Pharmaceutical Information Session I: General aspects (2)
Afternoon	Evening	16h30-18h30	Pharmaceutical Information Session II: Technological aspects
			Dinner (restricted to Ph.Info.G members - A reservation is requested)
Thur. 19th Sept	Morning	10h30-12h30	Pharmaceutical Information Group General Assembly

REGISTRATION FORM

To be returned to Vincent Maes before September 1st (Pfizer, 102, rue Theodor, B-1090 Brussels • Fax : + 32 2 421.16.93)

- I am a member of the Pharmaceutical Information Group (EAHIL) YES NO
- I will attend the Pharmaceutical Information Session in Coimbra, on Wedn. 18th Sept YES NO
- I will attend the dinner in Coimbra, on Wedn. 18th Sept. (Evening) YES NO

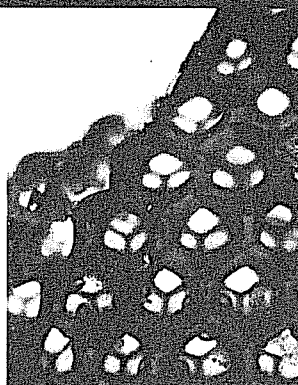
NAME : INSTITUTION :

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Referring to your letter on Internet at Hospitals in the April issue of the Newsletter, Hospital Erasme, just behind the Medicine Library at the Université Libre de Bruxelles seems to have the same problem with data confidentiality. That is why they only have SL/IP connections with the Net. But, even with this solution, it is impossible to guarantee data security completely. The only solution I know, and the simplest, is to dedicate a computer to network applications. This computer, is of course, not connected with other in the hospital and contains no confidential data. See also

Ghislaine Declève, Brussels, Belgium
email: gdeclève@vub.ac.be

CUNNINGHAM FELLOWSHIP

The Medical Library Association (MLA) offers a four month fellowship for medical librarians who reside outside of the United States or Canada. The Cunningham Fellow spends four months in supervised work and observation in medical libraries in the United States or Canada. The stipend is US\$3,000 and US\$1,000 for approved travel for one individual within the United States and Canada. Interested candidates must submit an application in English to the Cunningham Memorial International Fellowship Jury chair by December 1, 1996. To be eligible, the applicant must have a master's level degree and be working in a medical library in his or her country of origin, have citizenship in a country other than the United States or Canada, and not be a past Cunningham fellow.

For more information and Cunningham application materials, please contact the MLA, Professional Development Department, 6 North Michigan Avenue, Chicago, IL 60602, USA - tel: 312 419 9094; fax: 312 419 8950; Internet: mlapd@mlahq.org (Application form can be obtained from EAHIL as well)

HOPITAL-EXPO, PARIS

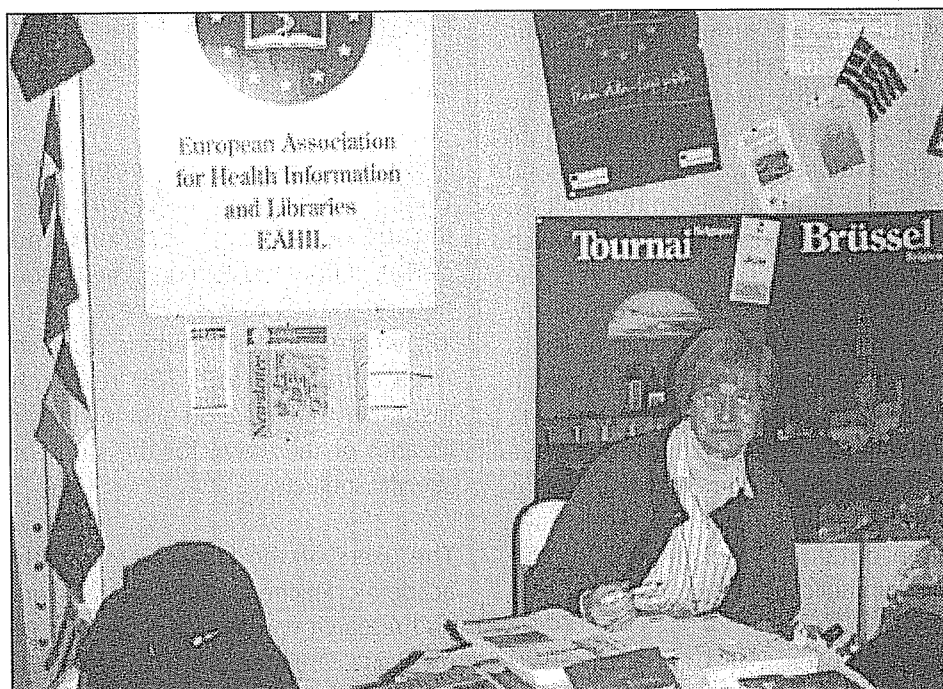
Du 25 au 29 mars 1996, s'est déroulée au Parc des Expositions de Paris-Nord, Hôpital-Expo 96, la plus grande manifestation française dans le domaine de la santé, réunissant quelque 50.000 professionnels de la santé dans leur ensemble. Salon professionnel avec quelques centaines d'exposants de toute l'Europe proposant les dernières innovations technologiques en matière hospitalière. EAHIL y tenait un stand, invitée par l'Association Européenne des Jeunes Managers de la Santé (JMS), le Comité Hospitalier Européen (HOPE) et l'organisateur de la manifestation, la Fédération Hospitalière de France (celle-ci ayant sponsorisé la Conférence de EAHIL à Oslo en 1994).

A côté du Salon des Exposants, se tenait également une série de conférences sur des thèmes ayant trait principalement aux dépenses de santé, à la planification hospitalière et aux nouvelles technologies.

L'Internet faisant une entrée en force dans les hôpitaux, l'AEIBS/EAHIL avait été sollicitée afin d'organiser une demi-journée sur ce thème. Furent présentés les réalisations du Laboratoire Infobiogen de l'INSERM, celles de l'Assistance Publique-Hôpitaux de Paris, ainsi que l'aspect universitaire avec les URFIST (Information Scientifique et Technique).

Une deuxième journée, organisée en collaboration avec Jean Michel, Président de l'ADBS et Jean-Philippe Accart, a eu pour thème: "La documentation : un atout stratégique pour l'hôpital". Différentes expériences de réseaux nationaux y furent présentées (réseaux hospitaliers et psychiatriques), ainsi que certains aspects novateurs de la documentation : la Banque de Données en Santé Publique (BDSP) et l'Internet à l'hôpital (CHU de Rouen). Enfin, les activités de l'AEIBS/EAHIL, son histoire, son développement furent présentés à une audience de 80 assistants. EAHIL continue ainsi d'être présente et de collaborer activement aux événements européens.

Jean Philippe Accart
Membre du Bureau Exécutif
de l'AEIBS/EAHIL



Roselyne HOET, EAHIL Permanent Secretary - Hôpital - Expo Paris

FEATURE ARTICLES

THE CENTRAL LIBRARY OF THE NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL

La Bibliothèque Centrale du Conseil National de la Recherche

Le Conseil National de la Recherche est un organe de l'Etat fondé en 1923 pour représenter l'Italie au Conseil International de la Recherche à Bruxelles. Sa Bibliothèque Centrale, fondée elle en 1927, représente la principale bibliothèque scientifique d'Italie et a été déclarée en 1991 "Bibliothèque Dépositaire des Publications de la Communauté Européenne". Elle coopère avec d'autres bibliothèques européennes pour la réalisation de projets concernant la bibliothéconomie, la documentation et les sciences de l'information. Avec ses 800.000 volumes, ses 10.000 titres de périodiques et son personnel d'encadrement de 50 personnes, la Bibliothèque Centrale s'adresse principalement aux professeurs, étudiants et chercheurs. Les domaines de la médecine, de l'architecture, des mathématiques et de l'ingénierie sont les plus demandés. La Bibliothèque Centrale offre les services courants de toutes les grandes bibliothèques et offre de plus l'accès au SIGLE (System for Information on Grey Literature in Europe) et au NTIS (National Technical Information System) pour les communications relatives à la recherche internationale et est pour ces deux services la bibliothèque de référence en Italie. Les activités scientifiques de la bibliothèque Centrale se sont développées sur des bases nationales et internationales en coopérant avec les bibliothèques de la Communauté Européenne à des projets communs, en participant activement à des associations professionnelles nationales et internationales (membre actif de l'AEIBS), et en participant à diverses autres activités telles que expositions scientifiques, cours de formation continue et publications scientifiques.

The National Research Council (CNR) is an organ of the State founded in 1923 to represent Italy at the International Research Council in Brussels. In course of time it became an organization which promotes, co-ordinates and regulates Italian scientific research in the interests of the country's scientific and technological progress.

The CNR Central Library is the organization's largest bibliographic structure; founded in 1927, it is the main scientific library in Italy. Since then a special law established its right to receive one copy of all scientific and technical publications edited in Italy. This has given rise to a library which has acted as a depository library for the country in science and technology. Later money was obtained in order to buy those foreign publications which were considered suitable for its collections. More publications have come as gifts from institutions or private people, many periodicals have been obtained in exchange for the official publications of CNR.

Nowadays the CNR Central Library is the Italian national, scientific and technical library and moreover, since

1991 it was declared the "Depository Library" for publications from the European Union.

It co-operates with other European libraries to realise research projects concerning scientific library documentation and science information. As it is now, the Central Library has nearly 600.000 volumes and 10.000 titles of periodicals, 5.000 of which are current. The yearly budget assigned to the acquisition of foreign publication was 1600 ECU in 1995.

There is a staff of 50 people (the Director of the Library, researchers, librarians, assistant librarians and clerks). It operates as a documentation network centre, as it is connected with 18 remote libraries (scientific research Area Libraries) and 300 research institutes that have smaller or larger libraries of their own for the study of specific subjects.

The users of the Library are mostly academic teachers, students, scholars and research workers; the sections of medicine, architecture, mathematics, engineering and physics are the most used.

After obtaining a free-pass or reader's ticket, the users are introduced to the head of the reading room to whom they will make specific requests for publications.

Then they are shown the electronic catalogue, using a computer for local databases. Users needs are satisfied through direct consultation of the monographs and periodicals, and after receiving and seeing all the requested storage units, they are welcomed in the photo reproduction laboratory.

At present the premises are as follows:

- Six reading rooms (two reference rooms, two devoted to the reading of periodicals, a room for the EU depository library, and an information room)
- the catalogue room (in which there are electronic and traditional catalogues)
- the social and human sciences room (with encyclopaedias)
- the photo-techno-graphical and audio-visual laboratory
- offices for the staff

final Announcement :
Preliminary Programme
Registration forms

Annonce finale :
Programme Préliminaire
Demande d'inscription

HEALTH INFORMATION MANAGEMENT :
"What Strategies ?"

LA GÉSTION DE L'INFORMATION DE SANTÉ :
"Quelles Stratégies ?"

Septembre, 18-21 1996

COIMBRA - PORTUGAL

5

E A H I L
FIFTH EUROPEAN
CONFERENCE
OF MEDICAL
AND HEALTH LIBRARIES

A E I B S
CINQUIÈME CONFÉRENCE
EUROPÉENNE DES
BIBLIOTHÈQUES
MÉDICALES DE SANTÉ



PROGRAMME

tuesday 17 sept	thursday 19 sept	friday 20 sept	saturday 21 sept
09.00-17.00 Continuing education courses	09.00-10.00 Plenary sessions	09.00-10.00 Plenary sessions	09.00-11.00 Parallel sessions
10.00-13.00 EAHIL Board Meeting	10.00-10.30 Coffee break	10.00-10.30 Coffee break	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knowledge-base of health care • National policies and practices • Libraries in the changing market • History of medicine and medical information
15.00-17.30 EAHIL Council Meeting	10.30-12.30 Parallel sessions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information support for clinical decision making • Professional education and development • Information professional issues • Special interest group session: Veterinary 	10.30-12.30 Parallel sessions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Networking and cooperation • Management of academic libraries • New trends in health information management • Special interest group session: Veterinary 	11.00-11.30 Coffee break
	12.30-14.00 Lunch	12.30-14.00 Lunch	11.30-12.00 Plenary session
	14.00-15.00 Plenary sessions	14.00-15.30 Parallel sessions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Electronic document delivery I • Managing INTERNET resources II • Consumer health information 	12.00-12.30 Closing Ceremony
	15.00-15.30 Attended poster session	15.30-16.00	12.30-13.00 Farewell Surprise
	15.30-16.00 Coffee break	16.00-17.30 Parallel sessions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Managing INTERNET resources I • Evidence-based health care • Total quality management application 	
	16.00-17.30 Parallel sessions	16.00-17.00 Parallel sessions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coffee break • Information skills for problem based-learning • Electronic document delivery II • Bibliometrics in health information management 	
	17.30 General Assembly of EAHIL members	20.00 Gala dinner at Palácio de S.Marcos (included in the registration fee)	
	20.00 Typical Portuguese evening (included in the registration fee)		
wednesday 18 sept			
08.30-17.00 Registration			
09.00-13.00 Continuing education courses			
10.00-13.30 Special interest group session: Pharmaceutical Information			
14.30-15.00 OPENING CEREMONY			
15.00-15.30 Plenary session			
15.30-16.00 EXHIBITION OPENING			
16.00-16.30 Coffee break			
16.30 Visit to the University			
16.30-18.30 Special interest group session: Pharmaceutical Information			



PROGRAMME

mardi 17 sept	jeudi 19 sept	vendredi 20 sept	samedi 21 sept
09.00-17.00 Cours de formation continue	09.00-10.00 Sessions plénières	09.00-10.00 Sessions plénières	09.00-11.00 Sessions parallèles
10.00-13.00 Réunion du Bureau Exécutif de AEIBS	10.00-10.30 Pause café	10.00-10.30 Pause café	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Formation initiale en soins de santé• Politique et pratiques nationales• Les bibliothèques dans un marché économique en mutation• Histoire de la médecine et de l'information médicale
15.00-17.30 Réunion du Conseil de AEIBS	10.30-12.30 Sessions parallèles <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Soutien documentaire pour la prise de décision clinique• Formation professionnelle et développement• Problèmes liés à l'accès à la documentation professionnelle• Session des groupes spécialisés: Bibliothèques Vétérinaires	10.30-12.30 Sessions parallèles <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Le travail en réseau et la coopération• La gestion des bibliothèques universitaires• Les nouvelles tendances pour gérer l'information de santé• Session des groupes spécialisés: Bibliothèques Vétérinaires	11.00-11.30 Pause café
mercredi 18 sept	12.30-14.00 Déjeuner	12.30-14.00 Déjeuner	11.30-12.00 Session plénière
08.30-17.00 Inscription	14.00-15.00 Sessions plénières	14.00-15.30 Sessions Parallèles <ul style="list-style-type: none">• La fourniture électronique de documents I• Gérer les ressources d'INTERNET II• L'information de santé pour les patients	12.00-12.30 CÉRÉMONIE DE FERMETURE
09.00-13.00 Cours de formation continue	15.00-15.30 Session des posters	15.30-16.00	12.30-13.00 Surprise d'adieu
10.00-13.30 Session des groupes spécialisés: Information Pharmaceutique	15.30-16.00 Pause café	16.00-17.00 Sessions parallèles <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Gérer les ressources d'INTERNET I• Les soins de santé basés sur des rapports techniques d'observation• Les applications du concept "qualité totale"	
14.30-15.00 CÉRÉMONIE D'OUVERTURE	16.00-17.30 Sessions parallèles <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Gérer les ressources d'INTERNET I• Les soins de santé basés sur des rapports techniques d'observation• Les applications du concept "qualité totale"	16.00-17.00 Sessions parallèles <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Techniques documentaires appliquées à la résolution de problèmes• La fourniture électronique de documents II• La bibliométrie dans le management de l'information de santé	
15.00-15.30 Session plénière	17.30 Assemblée Générale des membres de AEIBS	15.30-16.00	
15.30-16.00 EXPOSITION OUVERTURE	20.00 Soirée typique portugaise (inclue dans les droits d'inscription)	16.00-17.00 Sessions parallèles <ul style="list-style-type: none">• La fourniture électronique de documents II• La bibliométrie dans le management de l'information de santé	
16.00-16.30 Pause café		20.00 Dîner de gala au Palácio de S.Marcos (inclu dans les droits d'inscription)	
16.30 Visite de l'Université de Coimbra			
16.30-18.30 Session des groupes spécialisés: Information Pharmaceutique			



CONTINUING EDUCATION COURSES - PARALLEL SESSIONS

CONTINUING
EDUCATION
COURSES

full-day courses

9.00-17.00

- A. INTERNET: Navigating through the network
Course Leader: Prof. Dias Figueiredo
- B. MeSH indexing: MeSH vocabulary in a more extensive way, both in theory and practice
Course Leader: Marie Monik and Gun Brit Knutsson

half-day courses

9.00-13.00

- C. Pharmaceutical Information on the INTERNET
Course Leader: Antony D'Emanuele

TUESDAY
17th SEPT.
1996

14.00-18.00

- D. Evaluation of information sources in health economics or outcome research
Course Leader: Vincent Maes

half-day courses

9.00-13.00

- E. Databases in medicine and nursing research/health care
Course Leader: Christine Wickman
- F. INTERNET from a medical perspective
Course Leader: Maj-Lene Hedenborg

- G. Fourniture de documents
Course Leader: Marc Walckiers

WEDNESDAY
(morning)
18th SEPT.
1996

- H. Critical appraisal skills
Course Leader: Gill Needham

- I. Electronic information organization, access and evaluation
Course Leader: Lynne Fox and Lisa Blankenship

PARALLEL
SESSIONS
Special Interest
Groups

18 sept

(10:00-13:30)

1. S.I.G. session: Pharmaceutical Information I (16:30-18:30)
2. S.I.G. session: Pharmaceutical Information II

19 sept

(10:30-12:30)

3. Information Support for Clinical Decision Making
4. Professional Education and Development
5. Information Professional Issues
6. S.I.G. session: Veterinary Information I (16:00-17:30)
7. Managing INTERNET Resources I
8. Evidence-based Health Care
9. Total Quality Management Applications

20 sept

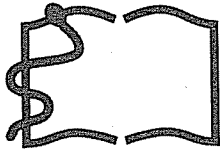
(10:30-12:30)

10. Networking and Cooperation
11. Management of Academic Libraries
12. New Trends in Health Information Management
13. S.I.G. session: Veterinary Information II (14:00-15:30)
14. Electronic Document Delivery I
15. Managing INTERNET Resources II
16. Consumer Health Information (16:00-17:00)
17. Information Skills for Problem Based Learning
18. Electronic Document Delivery II
19. Bibliometrics in Health Information Management

21 sept

(09:00-11:00)

20. Knowledge base of Health Care: National Policies and Practices
 21. Libraries in a Changing Market
 22. History of Medicine and Medical Information
-



REGISTRATION FORM TO THE CONFERENCE

		Registration until 30 JUNE 1996	Registration after 1 JULY 1996
HALF-DAY COURSES	EAHIL MEMBERS	PTE 12 500	PTE 15 000
	NON-MEMBERS	PTE 15 000	PTE 17 500
FULL-DAY COURSES	EAHIL MEMBERS	PTE 25 000	PTE 30 000
	NON-MEMBERS	PTE 30 000	PTE 35 000

17 september

A. B. C. D.

18 september

E. F. G. H. I.

1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7. 8. 9. 10. 11.
12. 13. 14. 15. 16. 17. 18. 19. 20. 21. 22.

**PRE-CONFERENCE
CONTINUING
EDUCATION
COURSES
REGISTRATION**

DEADLINE for registration to Conference and Pre-conference Continuing Education Courses: Friday, 23 AUGUST 1996. Registration on-site will be possible upon cash payment. Hotel accommodation will be offered subject to availability.

**PARALLEL
SESSIONS**

**PAYMENT
INFORMATION
(PTE Portuguese
Escudos)**

| conference registration fee: | please fill in applicable fees | payment to: |
|---|----------------------------------|---|
| EAHIL Members 50 000 | _____ | Bank:
EAHIL'96 |
| Non-members 60 000 | _____ | |
| Accompanying person 18 000 | _____ | |
| continuing education courses registr. fee | | |
| EAHIL Members | Full-day _____
Half-day _____ | Post:
EAHIL'96 |
| Non-members | Full-day _____
Half-day _____ | Hospitais da Universidade de Coimbra
Apartado 9023
P-3049 COIMBRA CODEX
PORTUGAL |
| tourist programme | | |
| T1 <input type="checkbox"/> | T2 <input type="checkbox"/> | T3 <input type="checkbox"/> |
| TOTAL payment enclosed with registr. form: _____ | | |

PAYMENT: Please notice that ONLY BANQUERS CHEQUES and POSTGIROS made out in PORTUGUESE ESCUDOS will be accepted as payment. Payment by CREDIT CARD, PERSONAL OR COMPANY CHEQUES WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.



CONTINUING EDUCATION COURSES - REGISTRATION

Return Registration Form to the Conference Secretariat:

HOSPITAIS DA UNIVERSIDADE DE COIMBRA
Apartado 9023, P-3049 COIMBRA CODEX
Tel. 351.39.32269; Fax: 351.39.23907

Notable Dates:

Advance Conference Registration: 30 JUNE
Late Registration: 23 AUGUST
90% Refund until: 9 AUGUST
50% Refund until: 23 AUGUST

Please fill in block letters the space below. Please use one Registration Form for each participant. If further more forms are required, please make photocopies.

surname/ _____ first name/ _____

company/institution/ _____

address/ _____

city code/ _____ city/ _____ country/ _____

area code/tel.number/ _____ fax number/ _____

accompanying person registration

surname/ _____ first name/ _____

home address/ _____

city code/ _____ city/ _____ country/ _____

conference registration

| All prices indicated are in Portuguese escudos (PTE) | Registration until
30 JUNE 1996 | Registration after
1 JULY 1996 |
|--|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| PARTICIPANT / EAHIL MEMBERS | PTE 50 000 | PTE 60 000 |
| PARTICIPANT / NON-MEMBERS | PTE 60 000 | PTE 70 000 |
| ACCOMPANYING PERSON | PTE 18 000 | PTE 25 000 |

Registration fee for Conference participants (accompanying person*) includes:
Plenary sessions, parallel sessions, exhibition, poster session, simultaneous translation English/French, French/English, English/Portuguese, abstract book, coffee breaks, two lunches, visit to the University, typical Portuguese evening*, Gala dinner*.



HOTEL RESERVATION

| HOTEL* | Category | Single room | Double room | Room type | | Priority choice | | |
|-------------|----------|-------------|-------------|-----------|--------|-----------------|-----|-----|
| | | | | Single | Double | 1st | 2nd | 3rd |
| Sol-Coimbra | * * * * | PTE 12 600 | PTE 13 600 | | | | | |
| Tivoli | * * * * | PTE 9 000 | PTE 11 000 | | | | | |
| Astória | * * * | PTE 12 000 | PTE 15 000 | | | | | |
| D. Inês | * * * | PTE 8 500 | PTE 9 700 | | | | | |
| Almedina | * * * | PTE 6 700 | PTE 7 800 | | | | | |
| Bragança | * * * | PTE 6 200 | PTE 7 800 | | | | | |
| Oslo | * * * | PTE 6 100 | PTE 7 700 | | | | | |
| Ibis | * * | PTE 8 550 | PTE 9 300 | | | | | |

All prices indicated are per room per night, including breakfast.

* The organization will not allocate people to double rooms. So, if you are sharing a room, please indicate here the name of the person whom be sharing with.

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DATE OF ARRIVAL/ / / DATE OF DEPARTURE/ / / NUMBER OF NIGHTS/ _____

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- BY CHEQUE in Portuguese Escudos, payable to:

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(Personal cheques are NOT ACCEPTABLE and bank draft cheques or money orders in escudos are ACCEPTED ONLY when free of charges to the agency).

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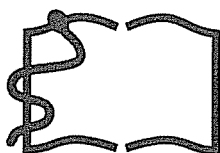
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FULL ADDRESS/ _____

COMPANY/INSTITUTION/ _____

FULL ADDRESS/ _____

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P-3000 COIMBRA
Phone 351.39.40 20 11
Fax 351.39.40 10 33



PROCEEDINGS - LES ACTES

The proceedings of the 5th European Conference of Medical and Health Libraries to be held in Coimbra will be published by KLUWER ACADEMIC PUBLISHERS, The Netherlands.

The contributions of all authors have to be sent to the Editor of the Proceedings, Suzanne Bakker, as indicated in the instructions sent to the authors end of June (A diskette with the text in WordPerfect 4.2 or 5.1 format, IBM compatible, or ASCII is required). The text of posters should include a maximum of 400 words.

For further information, please contact Suzanne Bakker, the Editor, preferably by fax or email.

The Proceedings will be offered at a reduced price during the Conference in Coimbra (BF. 1,950, postage included). The EAHIL members not attending the Conference should send their order to the EAHIL Secretariat in Brussels before October 1st, 1996.

Les Actes de la 5ème Conférence Européenne des Bibliothèques Médicales et de Santé qui se tiendra à Coimbra seront publiés par KLUWER ACADEMIC PUBLISHERS, Pays-Bas.

Il est demandé aux auteurs de faire parvenir leur contribution à la Rédactrice-en-chef, Suzanne Bakker, suivant les instructions qui leur ont été communiquées fin juin (l'envoi d'une disquette avec le texte en WordPerfect 4.2 ou 5.1, IBM compatible, or ASCII est exigé). Le texte des posters ne peut dépasser plus de 400 mots.

Pour plus d'information, il y a lieu de contacter Suzanne Bakker, de préférence par fax ou par email.

La publication des Actes de la Conférence pourra être commandée à un prix réduit lors de la Conférence à Coimbra (BF. 1.950, port inclus). Les membres de l'AEIBS non présents à la Conférence et désireux d'obtenir un exemplaire, peuvent envoyer leur commande au Secrétariat de l'AEIBS à Bruxelles avant le 1er octobre 1996 pour bénéficier du prix réduit précité.

Suzanne Bakker - Editor of the Coimbra Proceedings

Central Medical Library - University of Amsterdam, AMC - Meibergdreef 15 - NL-1105 AZ Amsterdam ZO

Tel: 31 20 566 4993 - Fax: 31 20 691 3179 - email: s.bakker@amc.uva.nl

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(To be returned to the EAHIL Secretariat, 60 rue de la Concorde, B-1050 Brussels, Belgium, Fax: 32 2 511 80 63).

- The magazine for books and periodicals, which is an iron tower 14 floors high, 15.000 meters of shelves.

The library is open from 9.00 to 19.30 from Monday to Friday, Saturday from 8.30 to 13.30.

Main services of the Library

- Consulting and reference centre
- Data information and documentation
- Reproduction of documents etc.
- Audio-visual laboratory
- Document delivery
- Local databases
- Remote databases and data banks (online services)
- CD ROM (there are about 60 CD ROM of scientific, technical, humanistic, social and legal databases)
- Electronic mail
- Telefax
- Inter-library loans (local and national)

Moreover there are two services relevant to the retrieval of grey literature: the first is SIGLE (System for Information on Grey Literature in Europe), the second is the NTIS (National Technical Information System) for international research communications. For both these services the Central Library is the reference centre for the whole of Italy.

The Information System

After some experiments made through an IBM Service Centre, the Central Library has been equipped with an information system; in fact the bibliographic database and electronic catalogues run on a Microvax 3100/3300 with an increasing function of mass storage R 215 F (Digital); the library system is equipped with several computers and one server.

The Area Libraries are provided with similar PCs (mini IBM or Vax) connecting to the main frame

computing centres. In fact a necessary task is the creation of a channel between the Central Library and the various Institutes and Research Centres of CNR, all of which require the creation or harmonisation of their library services.

As a central bibliographic service, it has to ensure the co-ordination of information and services for every publication included in the bibliographic asset; therefore it employs a starlike structure; a Central Library connected to the peripheral libraries of research bodies.

The automatic connection acts over an Italian scientific network (Harmonisation Group) to which the National Research Council's Central Library belongs as the Decnet node. Furthermore, as an information retrieval service, it connects to Knight Ridder Information for online literature searching.

Information to users

Every year the library sets a list for the external dissemination of information. Many tools have been realised in the last few years because of the increasing interest by users and librarians in order to meet the demand of CNR National Committees and of the various centres. In addition the CNR Central Library produces scientific and bibliographic publications, editing, distributing and selling them.

Loan and document delivery

The loan of books is both on a local and on a national basis. Document deliver, both on the premises and by letter or fax is increasing in use. Scientific documents are sent by mail or transmitted by fax and by network to the 18 CNR Research Area Libraries, to the university net and several industries. As the EU Depository Library it daily distributes the EU Official Gazette through the electronic network and by fax.

Because of the increasing documentation and information needs

of users, a document delivery system has been created among the Central Library and the Research Area Libraries.

Interlibrary and scientific activities

The Central Library scientific activities are developing on a national and international basis:

- Co-operation with other foreign libraries in European Community Projects concerning the application of common interests in research in information and telematics (e.g. the INCIPIT project);
- Co-operation within national professional organisations (particularly IFLA and the UNESCO special programmes for universal bibliographic control and universal open access to publications);
- Participation at meetings, congresses and conferences; in fact the Central Library is an active member within EAHIL, AIB (Associazione Italiana Biblioteche) and other professional associations;
- Scientific exhibitions. The Central library organises book fairs for Italian and foreign book sellers; British Council, Springer-Verlag and DEA (Diffusione Edizioni Anglo-Americane);
- Education and Training. To ensure standard procedures with peripheral libraries, the Central Library provides education and training courses about twice a year;
- Printed publications and catalogues. The Central Library publishes various printed catalogues and technical reports for training courses and education by researchers of the library.

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PARTNERSHIP AND COLLABORATION - WHAT DOES THAT ENTAIL?

Association et collaboration - Quelles en sont les implications ?

Dans les deux numéros précédents, notre Présidente, Elisabeth Husem, a fait allusion aux "accords de coopération" entre bibliothèques médicales. Il est évident que certaines parties du monde sont plus riches que d'autres dans le domaine de l'information médicale et que des accords de coopération peuvent partiellement pallier à ces disparités. Ceci doit être la priorité pour notre Association européenne. Et c'est dans ce but que l'AEIBS agit très efficacement en organisant des conférences, des séminaires et des cours de formation continue et en renforçant ainsi les contacts entre les membres de la profession.

Dans ce contexte, l'aide que tente d'apporter SatelLife UK, qui est une association entre SatelLife USA (qui possède Healthnet - un réseau électronique accessible aux professionnels dans le domaine de la santé au niveau mondial). Quatre associations SatelLife entre des bibliothèques du Royaume-Uni et des bibliothèques universitaires africaines ont ainsi été mises sur pied avec des fortunes diverses qui nous conduisent à conclure que les bibliothèques africaines ont toutes peu de ressources. Ceci est dû principalement à une situation financière instable qui ne leur permette pas d'acquérir des périodiques chaque année par exemple. L'accès à Medline sur CD-ROM est accessible mais l'accès à l'Internet bien qu'étant possible est très coûteux. Une passerelle de connexion à l'Internet via SatelLife a été mise sur pied pour ceux qui ont accès à Healthnet.

Outre l'aspect technologique, la coopération comporte également une implication humaine. Les difficultés de coopération entre la "Clinical Science Library" de l'Université de Leicester et la Bibliothèque de la Faculté de Médecine de l'Université de Makerere sont relatées ici. Beaucoup de ces difficultés pourraient être évitées si la base de la coopération était définie depuis le tout début, au niveau des capacités et des responsabilités des bibliothèques partenaires. Il est important que les bibliothécaires aient une perception claire de leur bibliothèque partenaire afin que ce type de collaboration ne devienne pas une charge. Les collaborations entre bibliothèques peuvent apporter d'énormes satisfactions et être très intéressantes, mais elles peuvent également être une cause de frustrations quand les choses vont mal. Etant donné que l'Internet a rapproché tous les individus dans le monde, ces partenariats pourraient constituer une étape vers une collaboration fructueuse qui pourrait se développer au travers d'un réseau mondial, renforçant et complétant les activités d'associations telles que l'AEIBS.

In the past two issues our President, Elisabeth Husem, has mentioned "agreements for co-operation" between health science libraries (Husem 1996a & b). Perhaps agreements for co-operation fall a little short of "partnership" but both imply some sort of collaboration, and it would be interesting to find out what health science libraries from all parts of Europe believe to be important in this respect.

It is obvious that there are "information rich" parts of the world and "information poor", and that co-operative arrangements are particularly, though not exclusively, designed to create greater equality in the access and acquisition of health information throughout Europe. This must be the priority for our European Association, but the world is a very small place. Killer diseases such as tuberculosis is on the increase and they know no political boundaries: it is a world-wide battle for health.

So, given that the will is there, how best can we achieve it? There are many things that our Association can and does do. It arranges conferences, continuing education courses and workshops, so that, as well as instruction, contacts between

members of our profession can be made and strengthened. EAHIL has arranged grants to those who could not otherwise have attended conferences. It provides a newsletter as an outlet for news, opinion and reports of work in progress, as well as a means of continuing contact between members. In fact there is probably little more that an Association can do - the rest is up to us as individuals and as libraries.

One of the ways in which both SatelLife and SatelLife UK has been trying to help libraries in Africa may be of interest in this context. SatelLife UK is an associate and collaborator with SatelLife in the USA (Salmi 1993), which owns HealthNet - the affordable electronic network for health care professionals throughout the world. Four partnerships between libraries in the UK and similar libraries in Africa (at the moment they are all University libraries) have been set up. Exactly what is meant by "set up" differs from partnership to partnership. In some cases the Medical School at the U.K. end has been involved from the outset; in others the health sciences librarian has been the chief instigator. I cannot stress too strongly how much of a difference good institutional backing can make. It is

thus very important that the involvement of the organization (medical school or college as well as the library) is sought at the start, and if this can be built on existing projects so much the better. Thus, ideally, library partnerships would extend collaborative arrangements which were already in place.

It is impossible to generalize about the four SatelLife partnerships except to say that the libraries in Africa have comparatively little in the way of resources. It is also clear that recurrent finance for the African partners is insecure. They may be able to purchase periodical subscriptions one year but there may be nothing the following year. Medline on CD-ROM is now generally available in African health libraries and access to the Internet is possible, but generally expensive. For those who have access to SatelLife's HealthNet, there is a gateway to the Internet at the SatelLife ground station in the USA. This should become even more efficient as the technological capabilities of HealthNet is improved.

But partnership is not based on the technology itself; partnership is a human activity which makes use of technology. Communication is all

important in partnerships - to share information, develop professional skills and awareness, and promote the interchange of ideas. To be successful and sustainable they need to be a two way process, each partner must feel that they are benefiting from the association in some way. The 'currency of benefit' may not be the same, since one partner is likely to have greater material resources than the other or others (a three way partnership can work very well). So if the currency were only in photocopies, donated books or duplicate journals, then there would soon be 'debtors' and 'creditors'. This is not to say that the provision of these items is not of great importance, it is, but if the currency is also in ideas, the sharing of experience, and electronic friendship, then both, or all, partners will benefit.

Many of the problems we currently face seem to be common to all information professionals - in Europe and America as well as Africa:

- the training of library personnel (particularly in new technology);
- the problems of "outreach" or making access to resources possible and easier;
- convincing an organization that library and information services are important;
- evidence based health care.

These are just a few of the topics which partners might explore to their mutual advantage, but first a relationship of trust needs to be built up.

If I take my experience of a library partnership between the Clinical Sciences Library at the University of Leicester and the University of Makerere School of Medicine in Uganda as an example it will seem like a catalogue of things that went wrong. Indeed they did - one electronic mail message containing requests for photocopies took 6 weeks to arrive (it was hotly followed by a similar message saying that the original message could not be delivered!), and in the early days messages seem to have gone astray, photocopies got lost en route to Uganda and we were all too polite to follow these up quickly and set things right. So whilst

patience is a virtue, I would now advocate that the partners are not too patient - honest but not irritated.

It is probably wisest to agree at the very outset what type of messages needs acknowledgement and to agree the process for following up unacknowledged messages - a second message, a telephone call etc. after an agreed period of time. The precise arrangements need to take into account the difficulties most likely to be encountered. For instance 'replying' to e-mail messages is not so easy if you have to walk to another building to send your reply or have it sent for you. On the other hand there is a responsibility on those, who do have their own network access (on their desks), to ensure that if they are away for some time, some fall-back arrangement to receive and acknowledge messages will be put into operation. With all 'distant relationships' it is important that communication is maintained.

Many difficulties can be avoided if the basis of the partnership is defined in terms of capabilities and responsibilities from the very beginning. After all if you do not think your library is capable of handling more than x requests per month; or the funding will not allow for material to be obtained from other libraries then you should say so (and where possible send a list of what can be provided).

So did I do all this? No - but nevertheless a friendly relationship built up over the years and this was perhaps the most valuable, since it can be built upon. But if I were to start again, I would include the following in an agreement or 'memorandum of understanding':

- acknowledgement of all requests made and items received;
- an agreed length of time before messages or items were chased up;
- exchange of lists of library personnel and their job titles;
- exchange of periodical lists or list of current subscriptions (if any);
- exchange of brief descriptions of the library - its location, the services offered, relationship to other libraries

or organizations; a list of the users it serves, what it would particularly like to be able to achieve within a reasonable period of time, and the major challenges that it faces;

- exchange of annual reports.

The above list is not exhaustive, but it is important that librarians have a clear perception of the partner library without such an exercise becoming a burden. In addition there will need to be some agreement about how gifts, photocopies and exchanges should be handled and the best ways of passing information from library to library. Lastly, and this is something, which to my shame I did not do very well, both partners need to keep records of their transactions. Technology moves on - if at any stage we wish to make a submission for new equipment or more advanced equipment, then we will have to make a case for it, and detailed data are a great help in making the case - at both ends.

Partnerships are rewarding and interesting - frustrating when things go wrong - and require both commitment and a fair degree of honesty. As the Internet has brought individuals all over the world together, so might partnerships be a stage in fruitful collaboration between libraries and information personnel which can develop into a global network, supplementing and complementing the activities of associations such as EAHIL.

I would be very interested to hear of anyone else's experience with 'international partnerships' and indeed from anyone who might be interested in developing a library partnership of this type.

References

- Husem E (1996a) Letter from the President. *NewsL Eur Health Libr* no. 34:p.6.
- Husem E (1996b) In press.
- Salmi L (1993) *Global communication for health - SatelLife*. *NewsL Eur Health Libr* no.23:22.

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SatelLife UK - The Old Rectory
Shoscombe - BATH BA2 8NB - U.K.*

DRUG INFORMATION CENTERS IN PORTUGAL

Centres d'information des médicaments au PORTUGAL

Before 1984, Portuguese pharmacists and physicians had no private or independent structures to keep them informed about drugs. If they had any doubts about drugs during their work, or if they wanted to be informed about new drugs, they had to ask the pharmaceutical industry to provide the information. But in 1984 the Pharmaceutical organizations decided to create Drug Information Centres (DIC). The first DIC to come into being was the one from the Pharmaceutical Society (OF), named CIM followed by CEDIME from the National Association of Pharmacies (ANF). Both have pharmacists as their main users and drug information as their main goal. Enquiries are mainly from community pharmacists, but hospital and industrial pharmacists also use the Portuguese DICs frequently. The Centres also receive questions from the other health professions. The libraries are different sizes, according to need, but they both have the most important sources of drug information, such as some hundred or thousand books, some journals, international databases (IDIS, Micromedex) and some databases constructed by the DICs. It should also be mentioned that in some hospital pharmacies there are Drug Information Services, whose activities are hospital related.

The main activities developed by CIM are as follows:

- A Answers to the questions received
- B Written drug information
- C Pre and post graduate education

A. Answers the questions received

Most of these come from community pharmacists, but, other health professionals such as hospital and industrial pharmacists also send queries to the DICs.

B. Written drug information

Removable leaflets are provided in the Journal of the Pharmaceutical Society. CIM has published about 350 drug monographs.

CIM has its own Bulletin, issued every two months, which is sent to Portuguese pharmacists and other institutions. CIM has also published a leaflet on patient information entitled "How to use medicines".

C. Pre and Post graduate education
CIM collaborates in the training of pharmacy students and is involved in several other educational activities as well.

The CEDIME activities can be classified as follows :

- A Answering questions received
- B Written drug information
- C Scientific and commercial information for the Pharmacy Information Technology System - Sifarma
- D Pre and Post graduate education
- E Patient information
- F Health promotion and disease prevention programmes and campaigns.

A. Answering questions received

Most of these come from community pharmacists but other health professionals, such as hospital and industrial pharmacists, also use the service.

B. Written drug information

Since 1984 Cedime has been responsible for written drug information in the ANF Journal. There are two therapeutic revision articles in each issue. A special section in the Journal of Cedime has been created containing several different kinds of drug information. This was the forerunner of the Cedime Information Bulletin, published every two months. The Cedime Bulletin contains different kinds of drug information, for instance there are sections about new adverse reactions to drugs, new drug interactions, what to say to your patient, questions to the Cedime etc. This Bulletin is sent to all the Portuguese community and hospital pharmacies and to some physicians who work in the national health structure and to some in private practice. Cedime publishes drug monographs mainly on those that are new in the market. It has also been working on other non-periodic publications, mostly material sent to community pharmacies, such as The Pharmacy Library Manual, Diabetes Mellitus Manual, Non-prescription Drugs Manual. All of these are the total responsibility of Cedime, but it

has collaborated with other colleagues in other publications.

C. Scientific and Commercial Information for the Pharmacy Information Technology System

Cedime is the organization responsible for the information in this system and for its updating, which is done twice a month. It is also responsible for the codification of non-drug products sold in pharmacies.

D. Pre and Post Graduate Education

Cedime collaborates in the training of pharmacy students and in the Continuing Education Programme in Clinical Pharmacy settings for community pharmacists. It has been involved in several other education activities as well.

E. Patient Information

Since 1985 Cedime has been involved in the publication of Patient Leaflets, 3-4 different subjects per year, which are delivered to every community pharmacy. It has also been collaborating in the provision of different kinds of patient information through the mass media, newspapers and the health specific press.

F. Health Promotion and Disease Prevention Programmes and Campaigns

Cedime has been developing and collaborating in several projects in these areas, establishing programmes for community pharmacists intervention in their customers health. The main subject areas are the non-transmissible diseases, included in the European WHO Programme (named CINDI), which involves diabetes, hypertension, osteoporosis, smoking, care of the elderly, etc. Finally both CIM and Cedime have been involved in pharmacosurveillance for community pharmacies, together with the National Institute for Medicines of the Minister of Health.

Soares, M.A.

Cedime-Associação Nacional das
Farmácias

Simon, A.

CIM-Ordem dos Farmacêuticos Lisbon,
Portugal

PUBLICATIONS



THE JOURNAL ISSUE IN DEPTH

MEDICAL REFERENCE SERVICES QUARTERLY vol 14 no 4 1995

(Winter). Article copies are available from the Haworth Document Delivery Service. Pre-payment required (check or credit card). Call ++1-800-342-9678. For more information: FAX ++1-607-722 1424. 10, Alice Street, Binghamton, NY 13904-7581, USA.

Wood E.H. Legi-Slate: a federal information database. *p.1-10.* Legi-Slate is a database following bills, votes and deliberations of the U.S. Congress containing verbatim testimony in the House and Senate, the full text of bills past and present, the voting records of members of Congress, the Federal Register, the Congressional Record, and the United States Code plus relevant material from the Washington Post and other material. It is accessible through a modem or over the Internet. An annual subscription is required with prices starting at \$2,000 per year (academic institutions receive 50% discount). Menu driven with many special features. The database is very current and thoroughly indexed. (For further information contact Legi-Slate, Inc., 777 N. Capitol Street, Washington, D.C. 20002. FAX: ++1-202-898 3030.

Running W.E. Health Physics Quest: a bibliographic database for health physics. *p. 11-21.* Health physics studies the biological consequences of radiation exposure. It also includes the

identification assessment and monitoring of the environmental consequences of radiation exposure or release. The database, produced by Radiation Technology, Inc., of Silver Spring, MD., covers fourteen core journals and technical report series in health physics. It is distributed on floppy diskettes and runs on most available PC platforms (no Mac version). The article features a comparison with MEDLINE, CA File, INIS Atomindex and Applied Health Physics Abstracts and Notes.

Pendergast N. & Gray S.A. A core collection on minority health: resources about people of color. *p. 23-43.* A list of recommended materials for a core collection on health issues of people of color. (Minorities defined as American citizens and residents who are not of European origin.)

ONLINE UPDATES: a column for search analysts provides a review of the McGraw-Hill Multimedia Encyclopedia of Science and Technology by Susan E. Woods. *p. 45-50.*

The column **navigate the net** provides "Cancer Information on the Net" by Janet L. Nelson. *p. 51-57.*

The section on **hospital and information services** carries an article by Ralph Miller on "Writing proposals with your audience in mind: a case study on desktop information services". *p. 65-76.* How to rewrite proposals for project funding in order to address different levels of management.

In **education and training** Kerryn A. Brandt and Jayne M. Campbell (Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, Division of Biomedical Information Sciences, William H. Welch Library, Baltimore, MD) present "Bibliographic instruction plus: a short course in

scientific communication for graduate students in the basic sciences". *p.77-85.*

ALSO IN THE JOURNAL LITERATURE

Malinconico S.M. & C. Warth (1996) Electronic libraries: how soon? *Program 30(2):133-148.*

"This paper describes the nature of the problems posed by print publications and trends involving the use of electronic documents in libraries. It discusses the progress made toward introducing electronic documents as alternatives, and complements, to print collections. It also describes a study that the IFLA Information Technology Section is undertaking to assess how rapidly libraries are adopting alternatives to locally held, print sources."

Heaton G.T. (1996) Rethinking the provision of reference services in academic medical school libraries. *Bulletin of the Medical Library Association 84(1):17-24.*

Following a survey of all academic medical school libraries in North America investigating the reference desk staffing the author suggests that services be reconfigured to make more effective use of both professional and nonprofessional staff.

Moran B. (1996) The role of the medical departmental library. *Bulletin of the Medical Library Association 84(1): 25-31.*

Departmental libraries continue to play an important role amid the debate over centralized versus decentralized library systems.

Schoonbart D. (1996) SPIRS, WinSPIRS, and OVID: a comparison of three MEDLINE-on-CD-ROM interfaces. *Bulletin of the Medical Library Association 84(1):63-70.*

Though the database is the same, there are significant differences the

data are presented and searched. Discussion of the different approaches and a comparative table.

Turney J. (1996) Public understanding of science. *Lancet* 347:1087-1090.

This is a first of an eight part series of articles on "Medicine and the media" that will explore newsworthiness, sources of news and the issue of scientific fraud, the influence of news and power of the media, television doctors and patients' expectations, journal peer review etc. The first article introduces some of the political issues surrounding science and the public.

Nicq C. (1996) Une collection singulière à la Bibliothèque Interuniversitaire de Montpellier. *BBF* 41(3):42-44.

Brief description of the special collection (containing many rare medical treatises) the construction of an archive with photographs, film and dias, and efforts undertaken to provide pictures, films and video for researchers and the general public.

Schott M (1996) Corporate downsizing and the special library (getting tired of lemons). *MLA News*, no 284: 1,7-8.

Downsizing of a hospital library. Two out of 6 staff members are not replaced. Discussion and advice.

Sohn, M.J. (1996) Internet firewall basics. *MLA News*, no 284:14-15.

Computers in medical libraries and information centers are often connected to a hospital wide-area network that comprises systems containing sensitive information about medical records, radiology, billing and the like. A firewall is a means of allowing access to a network from the Internet while providing a barrier to ill-intentioned visitors (hackers, vandals...) With limitations it defends a network from attack. Definitions, possibilities, costs, recommended reading.

Stigleman S. (1996) Bibliography programs do windows. *Database* 19(2):57-66. A comparison of EndNote plus 2.0.0.0 for Windows, ProCite

3.0.5 for Windows and Reference Manager 7.0 for Windows.

Lescher J. (1996) DIALOG on the Net: KR ScienceBase. *Online* 20(3):39-50. A product evaluation.

NEW PRODUCTS

On April 1, 1996, **Ovid Technologies Inc.**, released the **Ovid Web Gateway** which extends the functionality of Ovid software to the World Wide Web, and allows users to access Ovid and **Z39.50 databases** using a web browser such as Netscape Navigator or Microsoft Internet explorer. It keeps track of search histories and allows for manipulation of previous search sets. It provides the mapping from natural language to controlled vocabulary, graphical thesauri and links to OPAC servers and Z39.50 databases.

The **Ovid Homepage** at <http://www.ovid.com>, now has a direct link to the Ovid Web Gateway, and for a larger set of evaluation databases over a longer time period, contact Ovid Technologies for an access password.

Amsterdam: tel: 31 20 672 0242; fax: 31.20.673 8041 - London: tel: 44 181 748 2302; fax: 44 181 748 2302 - Paris: tel: 33 1 4722 4249; fax: 33 1 4722 4309 - Bonn: tel: 49 228 475088; Fax: 49 228 476289.

Aside from its **Ovid Core Biomedical Collection** Ovid announces the **Ovid Biomedical Collection II** with full text and graphics of 15 additional biomedical journals (<http://www.ovid.com>). Users can link from the bibliographic information in Medline to the full text of articles in the Collection, link from one document to another and article references to their context in the article.

The **Ovid software** has been chosen to provide an education database server (ERIC, BEI) to the UK higher education community.

As in previous years, **Ovid Technologies** will be holding their European Update during the **EAHIL meeting at Coimbra**. This will take place on **Friday 20 September** at the Hotel Sol Melia Coimbra (adjacent to

the conference location) from 15:15-19:00, including a reception after the presentations. All delegates and visitors at the EAHIL Conference are invited to attend this popular event. Please return the application form enclosed in this issue.

For further information: Heather Taylor, Ovid Technologies, Valeriusstraat 100, 1075 GC Amsterdam, Netherlands, tel: 31 20 672 0242, fax: 31 20 673 8041, email: euro@ovid.com

Wellcome Institute for the History of Medicine: Online Bibliography.

Current work in the history of medicine, the international quarterly indexing journal in the history of medicine and allied sciences, is now available not only in printed format but also online with the Wellcome Institute Library's database (WILDcat). For Internet users the address is wihm.ucl.ac.uk, and for JANet users: u.ac.ucl.wihm. Once linked to WILDcat all searches are free. References from previous issues of Current work back to April 1991 are amalgamated with the main Printed Books and Serials database, which contains records for the library's holdings. For further editorial information about Current work, or with comments and suggestions contact Cathy Doggrell or Kate Bishop at: Wellcome Institute for the History of Medicine, Current Work in the History of Medicine, 183 Euston Road, London NW1 2BE, UK. email: c.doggrell@wellcome.ac.uk; k.bishop@wellcome.ac.uk

CINAHL Informations Systems has developed a comprehensive site on the World Wide Web <http://www.cinahl.com> making available information on all the products and services including the new CINAHL direct online service.

JAMA & Archives Journals on CD-ROM using Ovid software are now available from 1994 on for an introductory price \$39.95. An additional shipping charge of \$40 to orders shipped outside the U.S. Contact American Medical Association, Publications Marketing & New Media Tel. ++1-312-464-2029,

FAX: ++1-312-464-5834, E-Mail :
ama-subs@web.ama-assn.org

The 2nd edition of the **Art of Abstracting** by Edward T. Cremmins has been published providing a practical, systematic approach to the abstracting and summarizing of literature in the biological, physical, engineering, behavioral and social sciences and the humanities. The new edition revises, expands upon and refines Cremmins' three-stage analytical reading method for preparing informative and indicative abstracts and summaries. Available from *Information Resources Press, Suite 550, 1110 North Glebe Road, Arlington, VA 22210, FAX: ++1-703-5585979.*

Schwartz FW, Glennerster H & Saltman R.B. (1996) Fixing Health Budgets: Experience from Europe and North America. *New York: Wiley. Appr. 300p, L40.00.* Reviews the current studies in the field of health services research on the impact of financial reform on the quality and delivery of health care. Featured are the Netherlands, Germany, Sweden, the UK, Austria, and Canada.

Health Online Service is a Web based online service developed by the German publisher Burda aimed in its initial offering solely at doctors. It contains information on medical products, conferences, publications, and discussion lists. *Over 30 databases including Medline, Cancerlit and AidsLine are also accessible.* <http://www.hos.de>

BIOSIS provides Internet access to over 150 reviews of life science software including programs in anatomy, physiology, and general medicine. <http://www.biosis.org>

HospitalWeb is a listing of hospitals worldwide on the Web. It has been developed by John Lester of the Department of Neurology at Massachusetts General who noted the absence of such a resource. He is maintaining it and is seeking additions. To join send email to : hospitalweb@neuro-www2.mgh.harvard.edu. In the

subject line type "help" for information on how to subscribe.

ISI, the Institute for Scientific Information, has made available the **Focus on : Veterinary Science and Medicine** and **Focus on: Sports Science and Medicine** in a Windows platform. Each database is also cumulated in a multi-year CD-ROM version. *Contact ISI European Branch, Brunel Science Park, Uxbridge UB8 3PQ UK (FAX: ++44-1895-256710).*

Feldbaum E.G. & Kratz L.A. (1996) Process Improvements in the Health Industry: Management Strategies in Response to Healthcare Reform. Explains the health care systems of the US, UK, Canada and Germany and the methods used to improve the processes within each system. Available from *Financial Times, Marketing Dept., Maple House, 149 Tottenham Court Road, London W1P 1LL. FAX ++44 (0) 171-896 2213.*

SwetScan electronic tables of contents service is accessible via the World Wide Web. It covers more than 13'000 scholarly journals. *Details of the service: <http://www.swets.nl>*

Recherche d'information dans Internet: outils et méthodes par Jean-Pierre Lardy. *Collection Sciences de l'information, série Recherches et documents. ISBN 2-0901046-79-7. 96p. 175 F. (Disponible auprès de l'ABDS, 25 rue Claude Tillier, F-75012 Paris.*

L'identité professionnelle des documentalistes: le cas des Medias par Christine Leteinturier. *Collection Sciences de l'information, série Recherches et documents. ISBN 2-901046-91-6. 370p, 300F.*

De la presse écrite à la presse électronique: vers un nouveau média? par **Christina Marino.** *Collection Sciences de l'information, série Recherches et documents. ISBN 2-901046-94-0. 143p, 165F.*

The British Library Health Care Information Service (HCIS) was officially launched on January 17, 1996. It will provide health care professionals with access to a wide range of information on all aspects of medicine and health care. Brief inquiries about sources of information are free of charge, whereas database searching and document supply is a priced service. HCIS is also in charge of the production of the Alternative Medicine Database (AMED) started by BL in 1985. The service is coordinating the UK's input for Index Medicus. The HCIS program will also include a series of publications and seminars in the health care field.

European Veterinary Libraries Group Newsletter. The veterinary subgroup of EAHIL is now producing a twice-yearly Newsletter. It is available free to members of the veterinary subgroup (BF. 1990/year for EAHIL membership). The Newsletter was set up to help further the basic aims of the European Veterinary Libraries Group, which are to develop and encourage cooperation between veterinary medical libraries and to provide a forum for the exchange of ideas. However, although EVLG is based in Europe, this Newsletter also aims to encourage the free-flow of information between those working in the area of animal health throughout the world. We will do our best to get them translated into English, which is at present the language in which we publish. *For further information please contact the editors: Linda Warden, Library, Royal Veterinary College, London NW1 0TU, UK.*

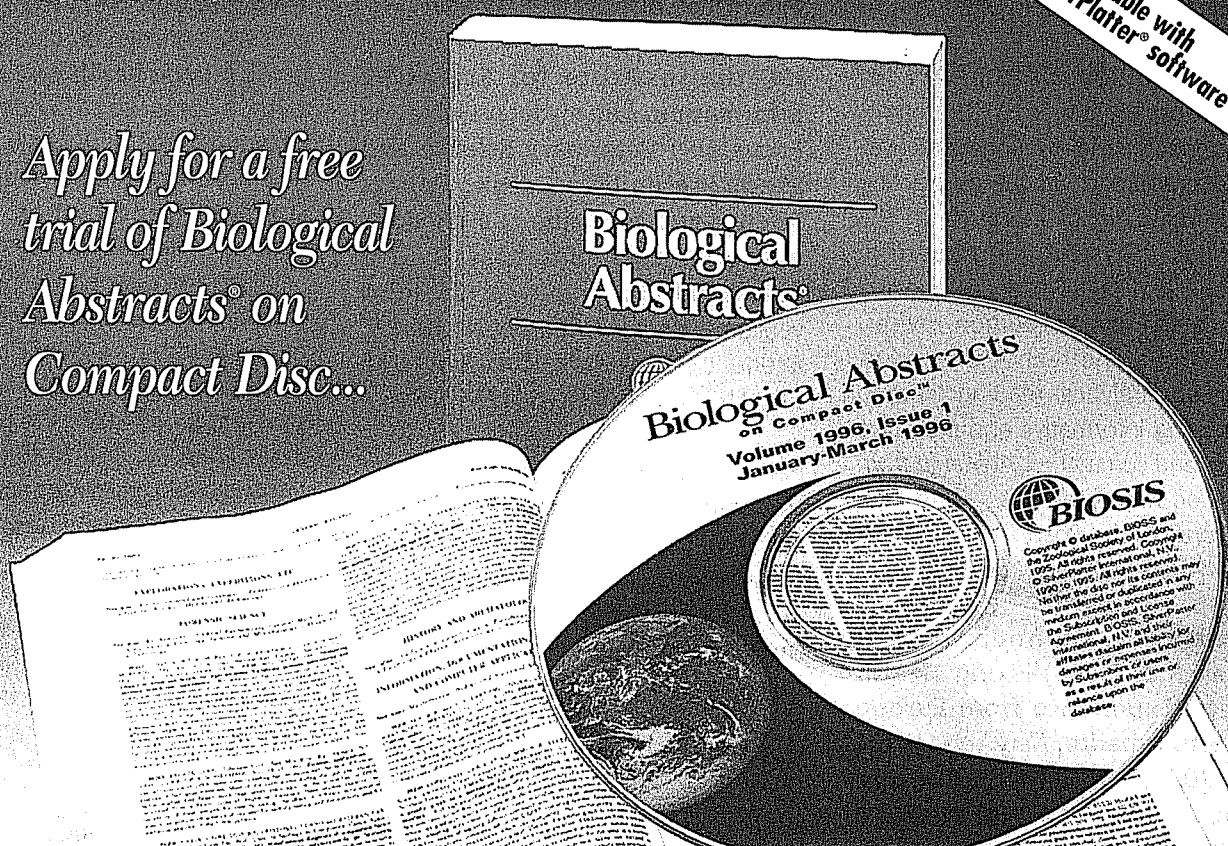
email: iwarden@rvc.ac.uk; Rosemary Warner, Library Veterinary College, Ballsbridge, Dublin 4, Ireland, email: Rosemary.warner@ucd.ie.

INASP Directory 1996 - International Network for the Availability of Scientific Publications. *Information: INASP, P.O.Box 2564, London W5 1ZD, UK - Fax: 44 181 810 9795, email: inasp@gn.apc.org*

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World Wide Web URL: <http://www.biosis.org>

INFORMATION

Today, we will talk about another Internet tool : IRC, for Internet Relay Chat (With great help from the "IRC Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)")

What is it ?

Created by Jarkko Oikarinen in 1988 in Finland, it allows people all over the internet to talk to one another in real-time. This program is a substitution for 'talk', and many other multiple talk programs you might have read about. When you are talking on IRC, everything you type will instantly be transmitted around the world to other users who might be watching their terminals at the time, they can then type something in answer to your messages, and vice versa. IRC gained international fame during the Persian Gulf War, when updates from around the world came across the wire, and most people on IRC gathered on a single channel to hear these reports. After connecting to a server, people convene on "channels" (a virtual place, usually with a topic of conversation) to talk in groups, or privately. You can compare conversations on a channel to a conversation among a group of people: you see/hear everything that is said, and you can reply to anything that's said. What you type is received by everyone who's willing to listen - and everyone who is late will not hear what was said before, unless repeated by one of those who were there

Here are some servers in Europe :

- irc.funet.fi
- cismhp.univ-lyon1.fr
- caen.fr.eu.undernet.org
- othello.ulb.ac.be
- irc.belnet.be
- amsterdam.nl.eu.undernet.org
- irc.span.ch
- irc.nada.kth.se
- sokrates.informatik.uni-kl.de
- bim.itc.univie.ac.at
- stork.doc.ic.ac.uk

Usually, to chat with others, people take a nickname, rather than be known by their login name. Topics of discussion on IRC are varied, just like those of the topics of Usenet newsgroups. Technical and political discussions are popular, especially when world events are in progress. IRC is also a way to expand your horizons, as people from many countries and cultures are on, 24 hours a day. Most conversations are in English, but there are always channels in German, Japanese, French, Finnish, and occasionally other languages.

To participate in IRC you must have an IRC Client, compatible with your system. A lot of these are available free, by ftp :

UNIX client->

- cs-ftp.bu.edu /irc/clients
- ftp.acsu.buffalo.edu /pub/irc
- ftp.funet.fi /pub/unix/irc
- coombs.anu.edu.au /pub/irc
- ftp.informatik.tu-muenchen.de /pub/comp/networking/irc/clients

MSDOS->

- cs-ftp.bu.edu /irc/clients/pc/msdos
- ftp.funet.fi /pub/unix/irc/msdos

MSWindows->

- cs-ftp.bu.edu /irc/clients/pc/windows
- ftp.demon.co.uk /pub/ibmpc/win3/winsock/apps/wsirc
- ftp.demon.co.uk /pub/ibmpc/win3/winsock/apps/mirc

Macintosh->

- cs-ftp.bu.edu /irc/clients/macintosh

The following site also contains a lot of free- and shareware (not only IRC Clients) :

- The Ultimate Collection of Winsock Software Winsock Applications <http://www.eunet.fi/tucows/software.html>

To test, connect to the closest of these servers and join the channel #irchelp.

It's probably best to take a look around and see what you want to do first. All IRC commands start with a "/", and most are one word. Typing /help will get you help information. /names will get you a list of channels names.

The output of /names is typically something like this :

Pub: #hack @jircc

"Pub" means public (or "visible") channel. "hack" is the channel name. Another thing you might see is "Prv" which means private. You will only see this if you are on that private channel. No one can see Private channels except those who are on that particular private channel. "#" is the prefix. A "@" before someone's nickname indicates he/she is the "Channel operator" of that channel. A Channel Operator is someone who has control over a specific channel. It can be shared or not as the first Channel Operator sees fit. The first person to join the channel automatically receives Channel Operator status. An IRC operator is someone who maintains the IRC network. They cannot fix channel problems.

To join a channel, type /join #channelname. You will then receive the conversations.

Note that you will often come in in the middle of a conversation. Unless you're familiar with the channel you may want to sit and watch it for a minute or two to see what the conversation is about. Often the channel name has nothing to do with what conversation goes on on the channel.

To start talking, just type! And when you're done saying what you have to say, just hit the [return] key.

You can start with something simple like "hello!". You don't have to type <nickname> hello! because IRC will insert <nickname> before all of your channel messages.

When you choose to leave a channel, just type /part #channelname

Security note

Always keep in mind that messages you send to someone over IRC are passed along all the servers between you and the person you are writing to. When you're sending a letter to someone, any postman on the way could open it and read its contents...

SOME READINGS :

• **Stuart Harris .The IRC Survival Guide**

Talk to the world with Internet Relay Chat
Addison-Wesley, February 1995, \$17.95 — 213 pp.
<http://w3.thegroup.net/~zoom/isg.html> (for a description)

• **Nederlandse IRC FAQ**

<http://www.nijenrode.nl/~steven/ircnl-faq.html>
IRC Related Resources on the Internet
http://www.math.virginia.edu/~khw2x/irc_stuff.html

• **Health Canada / Santé Canada - Internet Relay Chat**

<http://hpb1.hwc.ca/employee/irchat.html>

• **Internet Relay Chat - World Networks!**

<http://urth.acsu.buffalo.edu/irc/www/ircdocs.html>
The main purpose of this page is to provide an index of all the IRC networks in the world. This includes a short description of each IRC as well as lists of (or links to) servers, telnet connections and where available links to specific information on an IRC, including material in languages other than English.

REFERENCES

• **IRC Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)**

ftp to: [cs-ftp.bu.edu /irc/support/alt-irc-faq](ftp://cs-ftp.bu.edu/irc/support/alt-irc-faq) (latest version)
ftp to: [ftp.kei.com /pub/irc/alt-irc-faq](ftp://ftp.kei.com/pub/irc/alt-irc-faq)
www to: [http //www.kei.com/irc.html](http://www.kei.com/irc.html)

• **10th Revision Directory of Scholarly and Professional E-Conferences (D. Kovacs)**

www to: <http://n2h2.com/KOVACS/>

RESOURCES

You will find here a lot of information about the Annual Meeting of the Medical Library Association in Kansas City, MO, June 1-5, 1996
www to: <http://www.kumc.edu/MLA/MLA96/>

A subjective selection of discussion lists on medical items from Diane Kovacs_s Directory.

Reminder :

Subscribe a list:

Listproc, Listserv : SUBSCRIBE [listname] Firstname Lastname
Mailbase : JOIN [listname] Firstname Lastname
Mailserv : SUBSCRIBE [listname] Firstname Lastname [address]
Optionally, include the e-mail address at which you wish to receive list mail
Majordomo : SUBSCRIBE [listname] [address]
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- AI-MEDICINE - Artificial Intelligence & Medicine
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- ANEST-L - Anesthesiology
Email to: listserv@ubvm.cc.buffalo.edu
- BIOMED-L - Biomedical ethics.
Email to: listserv@vm1.nodak.edu - bit.listserv.biomed-l
- CANCER-L - Cancer-related issues.
Email to: listserv@wvnm.wvnet.edu

- COMPMED - Comparative medicine, laboratory animals (all species) and related subjects.
Email to: listserv@wuvmd.wustl.edu
- COMPUMED - Discusses the role of computers in medicine
Email to: listserv@sjvum.stjohns.edu
- DBLIST - Databases for Dentistry
Email to: listserv@umab.umd.edu
- DENTALMA - Dentistry-related articles, reports and techniques. Email to: listserv@ucf1vm.cc.ucf.edu
- DIABETES - International Research Project on Diabetes
Email to: listserv@irlearn.ucd.ie
- DNH-PILOT - The Diet, Nutrition and Health project covers Sociology, Food Science and Technology, Agricultural Economics and Psychology.
Email to: mailbase@mailbase.ac.uk
- EMFLDS-L - Electromagnetics in medicine
Email to: listserv@ubvm.cc.buffalo.edu
- FET-NET - Basic and/or clinical research in fetal and perinatal physiology. Email to: listserv@hearn.nic.surfnet.nl
- HEALTH-L - International Discussion on Health Research.
Email to: listserv@irlearn.ucd.ie
- HEM-ONC - Discussion of Leukemia, Lymphoma, and Myeloma
Email to: listserv@sjvum.stjohns.edu
- IBDLIST - Inflammatory Bowel Diseases, with particular emphasis on Crohn's disease and Ulcerative Colitis.
Email to: ibdlist-request@menno.com
- LEISH-L - Leishmaniasis Discussion Topic areas
Email to: listproc@ftpt.br
- LIVE-EYE - Color science and/or vision research.
Email to: listserv@vm1.yorku.ca
- LONGEVITY - Discusses ways to extend human life.
Email to: listserv@vm3090.ege.edu.tr
- MEDLAB-L - Medical laboratory science
Email to: listserv@ubvm.cc.buffalo.edu
- METHODS - Biomedical Research methodology.
Email to: comserve@cios.llc.rpi.edu - bit.listserv.methods
- NEURO1-L - Neuroscience Information Forum.
Email to: listserv@uicvm.uic.edu
- OMERACT - Outcome Measures in Rheumatoid Arthritis Clinical Trials. Email to: listserv@nic.surfnet.nl
- OPHTHAL - Ophthalmology.
Email to: listserv@ubvm.cc.buffalo.edu
- PRENAT-L - Perinatal health data and information resources
Email to: listserv@uacsc2.albany.edu
- SMDM-L - Theory and practice of decision making
Email to: listserv@dartcms1.dartmouth.edu

Next time, we will see discussion lists dealing with medical practice, nursing, medical personnel or patients, and also specific UK medical lists.

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O V I D

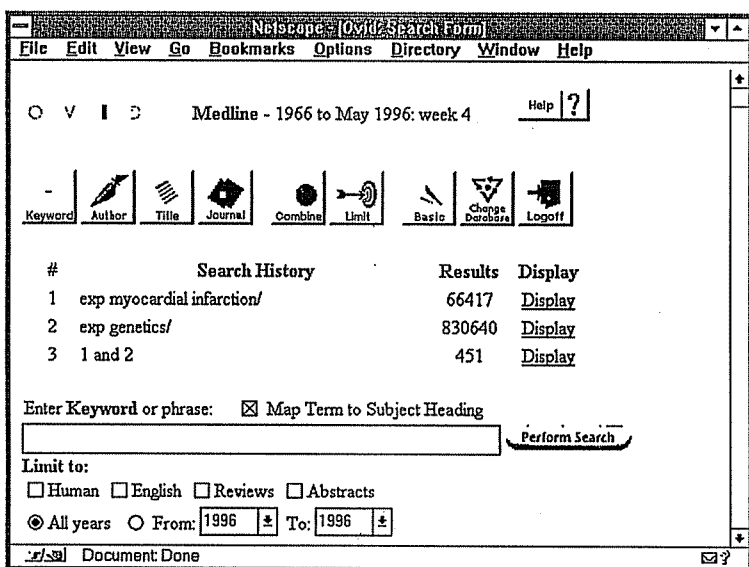
OVID TECHNOLOGIES EUROPEAN UPDATE

Hotel Sol Melia, Coimbra (adjacent to EAHIL conference centre)

Friday 20 September, 1996
1715-1900

Delegates and visitors at the Fifth European Conference of Medical and Health Libraries in Coimbra will be able to see many new developments from Ovid Technologies. Here are just some of the highlights:

- Ovid Full Text - fully searchable collections of full text journals, complete with full colour graphics, and links to and from the MEDLINE database
- Ovid client/server - fully Z39.50 compliant for effective resource sharing
- Ovid Web Gateway - Internet access to Ovid and Z39.50 databases using a Web browser



Try the Ovid Web Gateway now! Please contact your nearest Ovid Technologies office for a free access password so that you can try out this new service.

In addition to visiting our stand, we hope you will be able to join us at the Ovid Technologies European Update, for an overview of the latest developments and future plans, and a presentation by a guest speaker. The Update will include a reception, and takes place from 1715-1900 on Friday 20 September, so that delegates may also attend the conference banquet afterwards if they wish. All delegates at the EAHIL conference are invited to attend this popular event, but advance registration is requested. Please complete and return the form below, or email euro@ovid.com

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