

NEWS LETTER

TO EUROPEAN
HEALTH LIBRARIANS
DES BIBLIOTHECAIRES EUROPEENS
DE LA SANTE



European Association for Health Information and Libraries
Association Européenne pour l'information et les Bibliothèques de santé

APRIL 1991 • NUMBER 15

AVRIL 1991 • NUMERO 15

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MONDINO de LUZZI.
*Cy est l'anatomie
de maistre Mundin boullonoys.*
Paris, A. Lotrian et D. Janot, 1532.
Leçon de dissection.

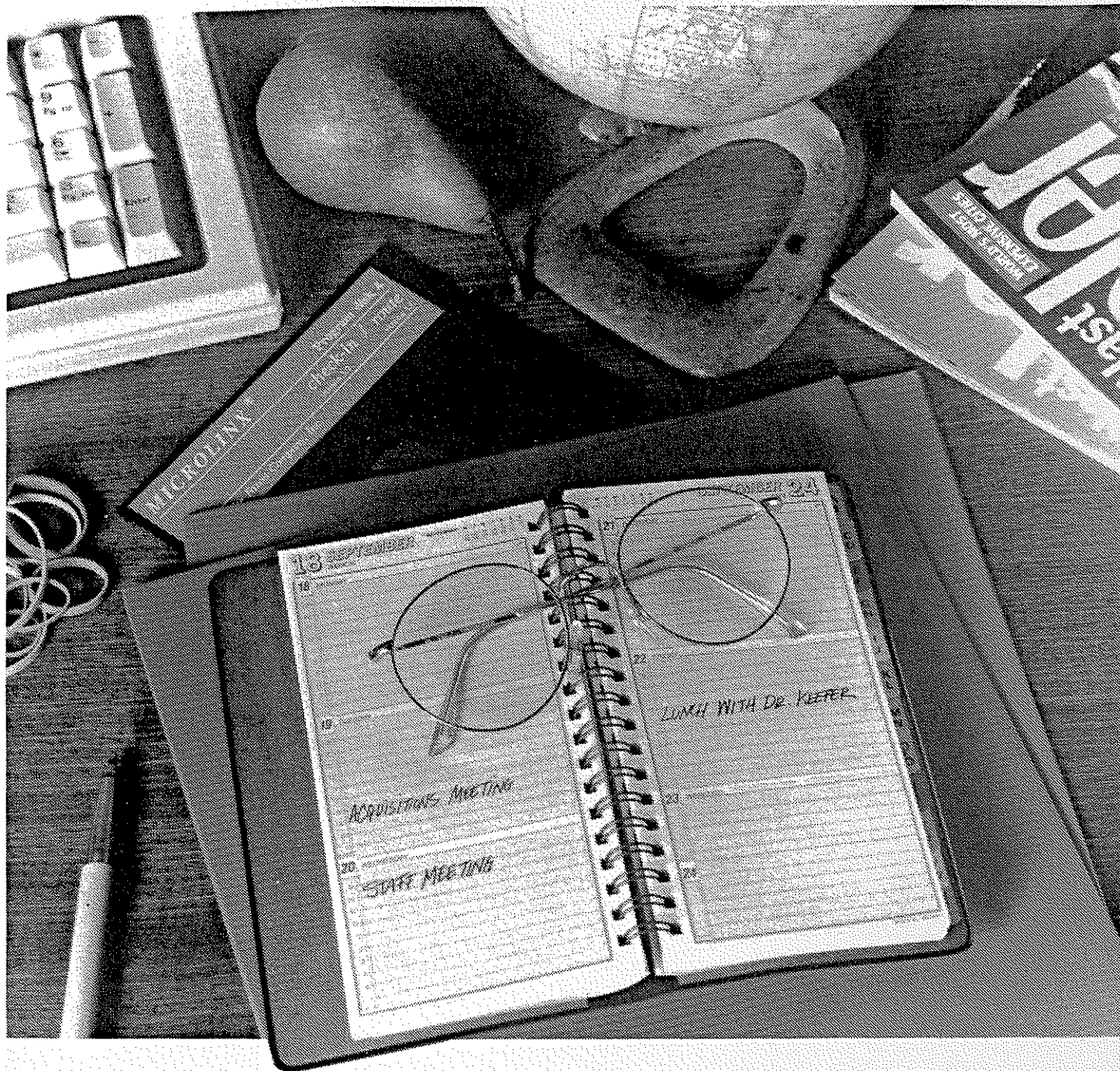
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EDITORIAL

Medline end user training on CD-ROM

For the past couple of years medical libraries have been blessed by a new information storage technique, CD-ROM. We now have some experience of it and can begin to evaluate whether the time devoted to end user training has been worthwhile. My answer is YES - but what are your opinions?

In very few libraries is an information specialist available after office hours. This restricts the online use of MEDLINE to the day time. Every hospital has, however, physicians on duty. They may need information from the database urgently or during the evening they may have some peaceful periods, which they could use for searching. MEDLINE on CD-ROM enables them find information and in this respect our clients are no longer dependent on our presence.

We all have clients who are not too willing to turn to an information specialist with their information problems. The reasons vary: some people are very simply just shy, others do not trust the information specialist's subject knowledge. Then we have the microcomputer fans and those who like to do everything themselves. We have the "traditional" clients who will never start using CD-ROMs themselves if they can avoid it. We gladly accept this situation and should be happy to offer alternatives to suit the client.

Every library has to decide to what extent they give end user training. However the structure of MEDLINE being rather difficult for a beginner, some knowledge of its hierarchies and unique searching possibilities are to be recommended. For instance, exploding is a powerful tool and often gives a better result than just using textwords. In my experience it has proved useful to have an introductory session for those interested in searching on CD-ROM. After that, hands-on training in searching on their own topics under the information specialist's guidance gives physicians a good idea of what it is all about. MeSH terms and explosions have turned out to be the most difficult things to explain. It needs patience and time to teach these, but we need to bear in mind that our clients may be less perfectionist in searching than we are.

My answer will remain YES, although we shall soon come to a stage where our worries over MeSH terms and explosions are out of date. The producers are hectically developing systems with natural language input. The users will not need to know any specific terms, as the machine converts their chosen words into MeSH terms. Similarly the explode function will become much easier to use; at the moment it is still rather clumsy on CD-ROM. Indeed the first products using these features are already on the market. For instance they were demonstrated at the London Online Meeting in December 1990. When the Unified Medical Language System - an ambitious project being undertaken by the U.S. National Library of Medicine - comes into operation, our work will again have new features to learn and be explained.

Such developments can only be applauded, because before CD-ROM becomes the tool of choice for end users, the search languages and the whole system have to be made very easy for them. Our efforts in end user training so far have helped the producers improve their systems. We also now know more about what and how our clients think.

EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION FOR HEALTH INFORMATION AND LIBRARIES

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But what of the future? As systems demand less in the way of information skills, will end user training change to address other challenges or will it become unnecessary? We naturally see "our work" from our own point of view, but should we find out more about the users point of view and make that the basis of our planning?

Liisa Salmi
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Liisa Salmi is one of the "founder" members of the Editorial Board of the Newsletter and has written many items for us. She is also a member of the Publications Committee.



EDITORIAL

Formation de l'utilisateur final du medline sur CD-ROM

Une nouvelle technique de conservation de l'information, le CD-ROM, a été octroyée aux bibliothèques médicales depuis plusieurs années. Nous possédons à l'heure actuelle quelque expérience de cette technique et pouvons commencer à évaluer si le temps imparti à la formation de l'utilisateur final a été valable. Ma réponse est un "oui" indubitable, mais quelle est votre opinion ?

Peu de bibliothèques offrent les services d'un spécialiste de l'information après les heures de bureau. Ceci réduit l'utilisation du Medline en ligne aux horaires de la journée. Chaque hôpital a cependant des médecins de garde. Il se peut qu'ils aient besoin en urgence d'information provenant de la base de données, ou bien qu'ils aient un moment calme dans la soirée, utilisable pour de la recherche. Le Medline sur CD-ROM leur permet de trouver l'information et, sur ce point, nos clients ne sont plus dépendants de notre présence.

Nous avons tous des clients qui ne tiennent pas trop à demander l'avis d'un spécialiste de l'information au sujet de leurs problèmes d'information documentaire. Et les raisons en sont variables : certaines personnes sont tout simplement timides, d'autres ne font pas confiance aux connaissances du spécialiste de l'information. Et puis il y a les fanatiques de l'ordinateur et ceux qui aiment tout faire par eux-mêmes. Nous avons les clients traditionnels qui, s'ils peuvent l'éviter, ne se serviront jamais d'un CD-ROM. Nous acceptons volontiers cette situation et serions heureux de proposer des choix différents convenant au client.

Chaque bibliothèque doit décider de l'importance à donner à la formation de l'utilisateur final. Toutefois, la structure de Medline étant plutôt difficile pour un débutant, on

recommande quelque connaissance de son arborescence et de ses possibilités de recherche unique. Par exemple, l'explosion est un outil puissant et donne souvent un meilleur résultat que juste l'utilisation des mots-clés. Selon mon expérience, il s'est avéré utile de faire une session préparatoire pour ceux qui sont intéressés par la recherche sur CD-ROM. Après cela, une formation pratique sur ordinateur pour la recherche sur leurs propres sujets avec l'aide d'un spécialiste de l'information donne aux médecins une bonne idée de ce qu'il en est. Les mots-clés du MESH et les explosions sont des choses très difficiles à expliquer. Cela prend de la patience et du temps pour enseigner ces choses mais il faut garder en tête que nos clients peuvent être moins perfectionnistes que nous pour la recherche.

Je maintiens mon affirmation selon laquelle "oui" une formation reste nécessaire malgré le fait que, bientôt, nous allons passer au stade où nos soucis concernant les mots-clés du MESH et les explosions seront dépassés. Les producteurs sont en train de développer, frénétiquement, des systèmes introduisant le langage naturel. Il ne sera plus nécessaire aux utilisateurs de connaître les termes spécifiques car la machine convertira les mots choisis en mots-clés MESH. De même, la fonction d'explosion sera tout à fait facilitée; pour le moment, cette fonction n'est pas encore au point sur le CD-ROM. Il est certain que les premiers produits utilisant ces caractéristiques sont déjà sur le marché. Ils ont, par exemple, été montrés en décembre 1990, lors de la réunion "London Online Meeting". Lorsqu'un système de langage médical unifié — projet ambitieux entrepris par la N.L.M. aux Etats-Unis — sera mis en service, notre travail aura, à nouveau, de nouvelles caractéristiques qu'il faudra apprendre et se faire expliquer.

On ne peut qu'applaudir à ce tels progrès car avant que le CD-ROM ne devienne l'outil de choix pour les utilisateurs finaux, les langages de recherche et tout le système doivent être facilités pour eux. Nos efforts pour former les utilisateurs finaux jusqu'à présent ont permis d'aider les producteurs à améliorer leurs systèmes. Actuellement, nous avons aussi une meilleure connaissance de ce que pensent nos clients et comment ils pensent. Mais pour l'avenir ? Tandis que les systèmes seront moins exigeants concernant les compétences liées à l'information, est-ce que la formation de l'utilisateur final changera pour faire face à d'autres défis ou bien cela ne sera-t-il plus nécessaire ? Bien évidemment, nous voyons notre travail selon notre point de vue, mais devons-nous apprendre davantage sur les points de vue des utilisateurs et en faire la base de notre planification ?

Liisa Salmi
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SF-7021 Kupio, Finland.

(Erratum: Nous vous prions de bien vouloir nous excuser pour l'erreur bien involontaire qui s'est glissée dans l'éditorial de Jean Shaw, de notre précédent numéro, nr. 14: p. 3, 29e ligne, lire: "Henry King" à la place du Roi Henri. Merci)

INVITED ARTICLE

Networking in British Medical Libraries

Réseaux dans les bibliothèques médicales de Grande Bretagne

Deux aspects des réseaux des bibliothèques médicales anglaises préoccupent l'auteur : l'aspect humain et l'aspect informatisé. A cause de la grande variété des bibliothèques médicales dans ce pays (nombreuses bibliothèques d'hôpital, bibliothèques de C.H.U. - ou d'enseignement-, au nombre de 34, bibliothèques du National Health Service) et de la prolifération des centres médico-universitaires du 3e cycle avec leurs propres bibliothécaires, à cause aussi de la complexité des fonds alloués, il a été nécessaire de créer un groupe dépendant de la Library Association, intitulé le "Library Association Medical Health and Welfare Libraries Group". Celui-ci propose des réunions professionnelles et stages et édite une revue "Health Libraries Review". Beaucoup d'autres groupes informels se sont créés pour rassembler les intérêts communs des bibliothécaires médicaux.

Sur le plan des réseaux informatisés, les Britanniques sont reliés à JANET (Joint Academic Network), mais il existe aussi N.H.S., ce qui ne simplifie pas la tâche de l'utilisateur voulant interroger MEDLINE, par exemple. L'auteur insiste donc sur l'importance des réseaux humains déjà en place: ils facilitent l'introduction progressive des réseaux informatisés.

Medical librarianship is a well-developed separate branch of the profession in the United Kingdom, with its own identity, its own ethos, and its own professional associations. Several reasons may account for this separate identity: medical librarians feel that they are closer to the "sharp end" of real life than other branches of librarianship; the educational process for their clients - medics (doctors) - is very long: and medics treat librarians as another profession with its own skills and expertise. Out of this background, networks of medical librarians have developed, acting as support groups, and more recently as the foundation stones for automated networks.

There are a variety of types of medical libraries in the U.K. with many different organisations involved in the funding. Most are very small hospital libraries; and these small libraries will be the first point of contact for most users. There are a smaller number of larger libraries. Some of these are the quasi-national libraries, such as the British Medical Association, the Royal Society of Medicine, and the library of the government Departments of Health and Social Security. Then there are the libraries with which I am most involved - the university medical school libraries, of which there are 34 in the U.K.

The medical school libraries are usually jointly funded by their University or medical school and by the local District or Regional Authority, with occasional additional funding coming from the Research Councils and other sources. These libraries serve both the staff and students of the university, but also the medical, dental, paramedical, scientific, administrative and nursing staff working for the National Health Service (NHS). Within the NHS, some Regional Health Authorities have appointed Regional

Librarians to co-ordinate the service of the smaller hospital libraries in the Region. In some other Regions, there is a loose regional structure based on the local medical school library.

The variety of medical libraries in the U.K. has led to many professional associations, or human networks, of which the Library Association Medical Health and Welfare Libraries Group is probably the most important. This Group holds many meetings and training seminars, including a well-attended annual study conference, and publishes Health Libraries Review.

During the 1960s and 1970s, there was a proliferation of postgraduate medical centres, increasingly staffed by professional librarians, who wanted to have contact with other local professional librarians in similar situations. As a result a number of local groups were set up, for example the Association of Scottish Health Sciences Librarians. The main purpose of such groups was to bring people together in a supportive network, but such groups have recently been finding new roles: in arranging training courses, in producing directories of resources, in compiling union lists of serials, and most notably, in arranging photocopy exchange schemes. These informal networks, which often cross funding boundaries and include members from university, NHS, private and commercial organisations, are very strong because the librarians want them to work.

In addition, there are a number of specialised groups of medical librarians which come together to discuss matters of mutual concern. The University Medical School Librarians' Group (UMSLG) is a meeting of the academic

medical librarians which meets twice a year, to exchange experience, for example in the provision of CD-ROM, or developments in the undergraduate curriculum. This group encouraged the setting up of an Advisory Committee on Medical Materials (ACMM) under the auspices of the Standing Conference of National and University Libraries (SCONUL). ACMM has, in effect, acted as the executive arm of UMSLG and has prepared a number of responses to important papers, has organised surveys in relationship to the NHS contribution to university medical libraries, and has monitored the effects of governmental policy on university medical libraries. For example, it is studying how a university medical library would be affected if a teaching hospital "opted out" of the NHS. Recently SCONUL ACMM has worked in conjunction with the NHS Regional Librarian's Group (RLG) on a number of policy issues.

These and other networks have been prominent in some recent developments. Groups such as UMSLG and RLG have been instrumental in arranging for the collection of performance indicators and management statistics. These indicators will allow libraries to compare their performance, and perhaps more importantly their income and expenditure, with each other. With the emphasis on audit and quality assurance in the health care professions, including medical librarianship, this is becoming very important.

Another recent factor has been the development of Library and Information Plans for Health (Health Information Plans or HIPs). These plans look at the total information resources in a geographical area, with the aim of improving the supply of information to all information users, health professionals and consumers. The success of such developments is dependent on the presence of a network of enthusiastic information providers.

All these "human" networks could be taken much further. At the moment there is no national network of medical libraries, nor is there a U.K. "National Library of Medicine", as there is in the United States. The biggest medical library in the U.K. is the British Library. The British Library has the largest collection of medical materials, and it is very active on behalf of medical users. For example, the British Library Document Supply Centre estimates that one third of its requests are for medical and biomedical items. But there is no single body in the U.K. which fulfils all the roles of the National Library of Medicine, in resource provision and in providing a lead to research and development for medical information and informatics.

I have considered the "human" networks in medical libraries before coming on to the automated networks, because the automated networks will not work without the humans.

The university medical libraries are, like all university library sections in the U.K., dependent on the use of local communications networks linked to JANET (Joint Academic Network). Medical libraries use JANET for making available library catalogues, information networks and bulletin boards, for electronic request facilities, and for on-line searching. In the future the availability of databases such as Science Citation Index and Medline and full text document supply will be a considerable attraction.

But medical libraries face a particular problem, because not all of their users will find it easy to use the university network and JANET. In some places the NHS is setting up its own networks, often not using the same standard as the neighbouring local university network. This may lead to the situation where a microcomputer user who needs to use information on both the university and NHS networks many need to have two communications boards. For example, a user may wish to look at information about the cost of a particular procedure, and at the published information available in the local library about the same procedure. One set of information would be on the NHS network, the other might mean accessing the Medline database over the JANET network, then using the local university network to check on local availability. Medical librarians are going to have to strive to ensure that library information is easily available to all potential users.

The easy availability of document delivery to the user's desk is a goal of medical librarians. The networks, particularly the human networks already in place will ease the introduction of such developments.

This paper was originally read at a joint conference of the Library Association, Universities, Colleges and Research Libraries Group and L'Association des Bibliothécaires Français. Section des Bibliothèques Universitaires, Caen, 12-16th September, 1990. It is to be published in the ABF Bulletin, and it is with their kind permission that it is reproduced here.

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NEWS FROM OUR ASSOCIATION

Have you ordered your copy of the EAHIL Directory of Medical Libraries in Europe yet?

This greeting should be the leitmotiv of EAHIL members all over Europe! Indeed, we are pleased that this long awaited project has finally been brought to completion. Copies of the Directory are now available in the Secretariat in Brussels and you should write quickly to order your own copy if you have not yet done so (see order form in the "Publication section").

In fact, this Directory is more than a mere list of names and places. It should facilitate the location of important collections in one subject or another, inform its readers about services available, provide points of contact. Are you wondering who is willing to lend periodicals? Who is running a media centre? Who has an automated system up and running? The proper and imaginative use of this Directory should help find answers to these questions, and more.

We wish to thank all of you who answered the preliminary questionnaire. Well over 100 libraries are represented in the Directory, thanks to the cooperation of our members all over Europe.

We wish also to thank the EBSCO Subscription Services Company for its help in financing part of this publication.

We hope that you will find the Directory useful and that you will let us know about what is good in it or perhaps, what may be not so good about it. We are pleased that this new year started with the completion of this project which should help all of us find answers for the ultimate "end-user" (see Jean Shaw's editorial, EAHIL Newsletter, January 1991, p.2).

Continuing Education Courses

Continuing Education Courses were another project for this year! We are pleased to announce that two courses have been planned for late August and September (see announcements in this Newsletter). As usual, the number of participants will be limited. You should register early.

Third European Conference of Medical Libraries, Montpellier, September 1992

The other project which we are actively working on is the 1992 Third European Conference of Medical Libraries in Montpellier. The committees have been formed. Ideas are already being put to work. The place chosen, its rich

history, the modern facilities and no doubt an enticing programme will all contribute to the success of this event. Make a note in your calendar, 24-26 September 1992.

There are four committees for the organisation of this Conference, as follows:

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Maggy PEZERIL, Directeur, Bibliothèque Universitaire, Montpellier

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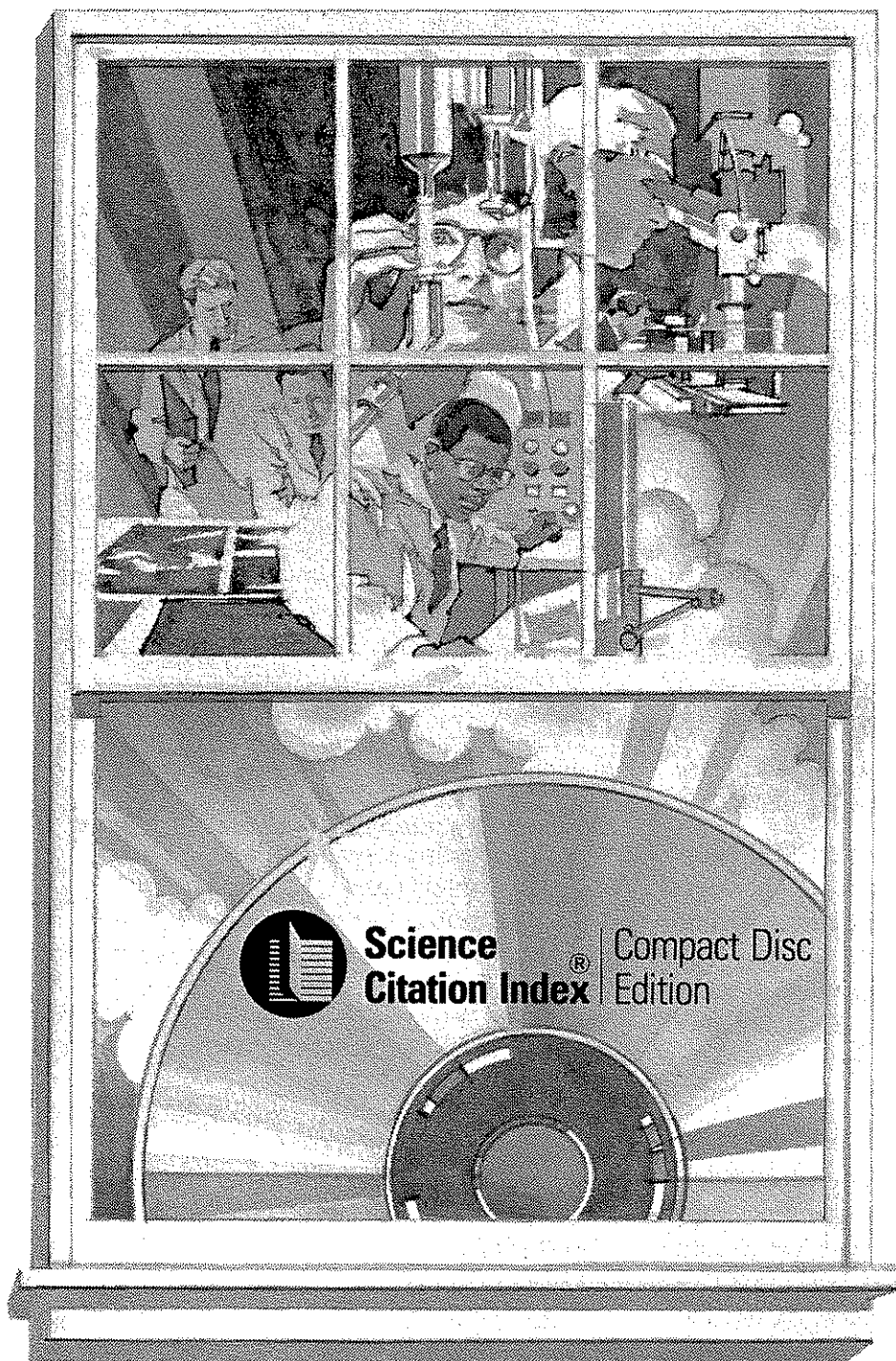
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- Maggy PEZERIL, Bibliothèque Universitaire, Montpellier

A *Continuing Education Committee* is being formed. Members of this Committee will be announced in the next Newsletter.

Monique C. Cleland
EAHIL President



The Quorum

According to Webster's dictionary the QUORUM is "the smallest number of members that must be present at a meeting of some group to carry on its business". It is an instrument to ensure that decisions and actions of groups represent the opinion of the majority of all its members.

This is relevant also for meetings of our Association. EAHIL Statutes in Art. 7 mention "the quorum of the General Assembly is half of the Full Members of the Association present or represented". Art. 9 stipulates "the Council shall be able to conduct business only if at least fifty percent of its members are present or represented by proxy". In order to ascertain that business can be conducted at meetings of the governing bodies of our Association members should keep these rules in mind and remember to send before a meeting a written statement (proxy) to the Executive Secretary indicating the name of another full member who may represent him in case of absence. A form to use for this purpose will be enclosed with each invitation to a meeting.

In the case of the General Assembly meeting it means that "each member may be represented...by another Member of the same category". But "no Member shall hold more than five proxies". At Council meetings the Statutes rule that "no Member shall hold more than two proxies". While every member of the Association, and particularly the national representatives in the Council will want to attend scheduled meetings unforeseen events may occur which render their presence impossible at that time.

The Meeting of the EAHIL Council planned for this autumn will be an occasion at which this part of our Statutes may have to be applied. We ask you to keep these rules in mind as the date approaches.

Ursula Hausen
Past President



EAHIL New Membership

We very much appreciate the following AFFILIATED MEMBERS who have renewed their membership for 1991. Their continuing support and encouragement are of great help to our Association:

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We renew our thanks to OVP-Editions Vidal, France and BNA International, UK who became affiliated members late in 1990.

We are pleased to welcome a new affiliated Member:

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Contact: Mr Marc Guichard, Marketing Director, representative of INIST Diffusion to our Association.

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We also extend a warm welcome to the following new EAHIL FULL MEMBERS:

- Susan FLOATE, Royal College of Psychiatrists, London, UK;
- Marsal GIGLIOLA, Milano, Italy;
- Helmut KALTENBORN, Bereichsbibliothek Medizin, Univ. Göttingen, W.Germany;
- B. HOGSBRO, Medical Library, University Hospital, Copenhagen, Denmark;
- Päivi PEKKARINEN, Central Medical Library, Helsinki, Finland.



Change of Addresses

Please note the following:

- Vilma ALBERANI,
President of the EAHIL Publication Committee and Council Member:
Fax: +39/6/44 40 236
- Alice NORHEDE,
Danish delegate to the EAHIL Council:
Fax nr.: +45/44/53 53 32



NOUVELLES DE NOTRE ASSOCIATION

Avez-vous déjà commandé votre répertoire de l'AEIBS/EAHIL des bibliothèques médicales d'Europe ?

Ce refrain devrait accompagner toutes les salutations des membres de l'AEIBS/EAHIL dans toute l'Europe !

En effet, c'est avec plaisir que nous pouvons définitivement annoncer que les exemplaires du Répertoire sont maintenant arrivés au secrétariat de l'AEIBS/EAHIL à Bruxelles. Que chacun commande son exemplaire, si ce n'est déjà fait. Ce Répertoire est plus qu'une simple liste de noms et d'adresses. Il devrait devenir un outil efficace pour localiser des collections importantes, pour pouvoir informer correctement nos lecteurs sur les services disponibles dans une ville d'Europe ou dans une autre, permettre des contacts entre membres de notre Association. Vous demandez vous qui serait d'accord de prêter des périodiques ? qui a développé une médiathèque ? ou encore où trouve-t-on des systèmes de gestion opérationnels ?

Une utilisation imaginative de ce Répertoire devrait vous aider à trouver des réponses à ces questions et à bien d'autres encore.

Nous désirons remercier tous ceux d'entre vous qui ont répondu au questionnaire préliminaire. Plus de 130 bibliothèques sont représentées dans ce Répertoire, grâce à la coopération des membres de l'AEIBS/EAHIL de toute l'Europe.

Nous désirons aussi remercier EBSCO Subscription Services pour leur soutien et le financement important de cette publication.

Nous espérons que vous trouverez ce Répertoire utile et que vous partagerez avec nous vos impressions sur cette publication. Nous sommes heureux que ce début d'année ait coïncidé avec l'achèvement de ce projet qui devrait tous nous aider à trouver les réponses pour "l'utilisateur final" (voir éditorial de Jean Shaw, EAHIL Newsletter, janvier 1991, p. 2).

Cours de Formation Continue

Le cours de formation continue était un autre projet pour cette année.

Nous sommes heureux de vous annoncer 4 cours planifiés pour la fin août et pour le mois de septembre (voir les annonces dans cette Newsletter).

Le nombre de participants sera limité. Il est conseillé de vous inscrire au plus vite.

**Troisième Conférence Européenne des Bibliothèques Médicales, Montpellier, Septembre 1992.**

Un autre projet sur lequel nous travaillons activement est la **Troisième Conférence Européenne des Bibliothèques Médicales** à Montpellier. Les comités sont maintenant formés. Des idées trouvent déjà des applications.

L'endroit choisi, la richesse de son histoire, les facilités ultramodernes réservées pour cette Conférence Européenne, tout devrait en faire un grand succès. Faites déjà une croix dans votre agenda pour en réserver les dates, les 24-26 septembre 1992.

Quatre comités pour l'organisation de cette Conférence européenne ont été formés et se présentent comme suit:

Comité Local d'Organisation:

Présidente:

Mme Maggy PEZERIL, Bibliothèque Universitaire, Montpellier

Comité Européen d'Organisation:

Présidente:

Mme Monique Cleland, CHUV, Faculté de Médecine, Lausanne

Comité de Programme:

Présidente:

Mrs Suzanne Bakker, Centrale Medische Bibliotheek, Université d'Amsterdam

(liste complète des membres de ces comités en pages 9 et 11 du présent Bulletin)

Un **Comité de Formation Continue** est sur le point d'être constitué. Les membres de ce comité seront annoncés dans le prochain numéro de notre Bulletin d'Information.

Monique C. Cleland
Présidente de l'AEIBS/EAHIL

**Le Quorum**

Selon le dictionnaire Webster, le quorum signifie: "nombre le plus réduit des membres devant être présents à une réunion de quelque groupement dans le but de présenter un ordre du jour". C'est un instrument permettant de s'assurer que les décisions et les actes de groupements représentent l'opinion de la majorité de tous leurs membres.

Ceci est également valable pour les réunions de notre Association. Dans les statuts de l'AEIBS/EAHIL, l'Article 7 stipule que "le quorum de l'Assemblée Générale est

constitué de la moitié des membres de plein droit présents ou représentés, ...". L'Article 9 stipule que "le Conseil sera en mesure d'agir si au moins 50 % de ses membres sont présents ou représentés par procuration". Afin de s'assurer que l'ordre du jour pourra être présenté aux réunions du Conseil d'Administration de notre Association, ses membres doivent avoir ces règles en tête et se souvenir d'envoyer avant toute réunion, un écrit (procuration) indiquant le nom d'un autre membre de plein droit qui soit susceptible de le représenter en cas d'absence. Le formulaire à utiliser dans ce but sera inclus avec chaque invitation à la réunion.

Pour une Assemblée Générale, cela veut dire que "chaque membre peut être représenté ... par un autre membre de même catégorie". Mais "aucun membre ne peut recevoir plus de cinq procurations". Aux réunions du Conseil, les statuts stipulent qu'"aucun membre n'aura plus de deux procurations". Alors que chaque membre de l'Association, et en particulier les représentants nationaux au Conseil, désireront assister à des réunions programmées, des événements inattendus pourraient se produire, rendant leur présence impossible à ce moment-là.

La réunion du Conseil de l'AEIBS/EAHIL prévue en automne prochain sera une occasion d'application d'une partie de nos statuts. Nous vous demandons de garder ces règles à l'esprit pour cette prochaine réunion.

Ursula Hausen
Past President



Adhésions à l'AEIBS/EAHIL

Nous remercions sincèrement les MEMBRES AFFILIES suivants qui ont renouvelé leur adhésion à notre Associa-

tion pour l'année 1991. Leur soutien continu et leur encouragement sont d'une grande aide pour la réalisation de nos projets:

- EBSCO Subscription Services, Hollande
- FAXON Europe, Hollande
- SWETS & ZEITLINGER, Hollande.

ainsi que les membres affiliés qui ont adhéré à notre Association fin de l'année 1990, OVP-Editions Vidal, France et BNA International, Royaume Uni.

Nous avons le plaisir d'accueillir un nouveau membre affilié:

- INIST DIFFUSION, 2 Allée du Parc de Brabois, F-54514 Vandoeuvre-les-Nancy, France, Tel. 33/83 50 46 64, Fax: 33/83 50 46 66. Contact: Mr Marc Guichard, Marketing Director, représente INIST Diffusion auprès de notre Association.

INIST Diffusion commercialise un ensemble complet de produits et services documentaires élaborés par l'Institut de l'Information Scientifique et Technique du CNRS.

Nous souhaitons la bienvenue aux nouveaux MEMBRES DE PLEIN DROIT suivants:

- Suzan FLOATE, Royal College of Psychiatrists, Londres;
- Marsala GIGLIOLA, Milan;
- Helmut KALTENBORN, Bereichsbibliothek Medizin, Universität Göttingen, W. Germany;
- B. HOGSBRO, Medical Library, University Hospital, Copenhagen;
- Päivi PEKKARINEN, Central Medical Library, Helsinki, Finlande.



NEWS FROM EUROPE

Library and Information Studies in Europe 1992

Les études de bibliothécaire et de sciences de l'information en Europe 1992

Key academic staff in the teaching of library and information studies (LIS) throughout the European Community need to know about many things.

The spring seminar being organised by the Library Association in London is one of them. This is a five day event 26-31 March 1992 designed to examine significant issues for educators in LIS. During the event participative working groups will explore such

topics as educational standards; the relevance of course content in the changing environment of Europe in the 1990's and beyond. Keynote papers will be delivered on:

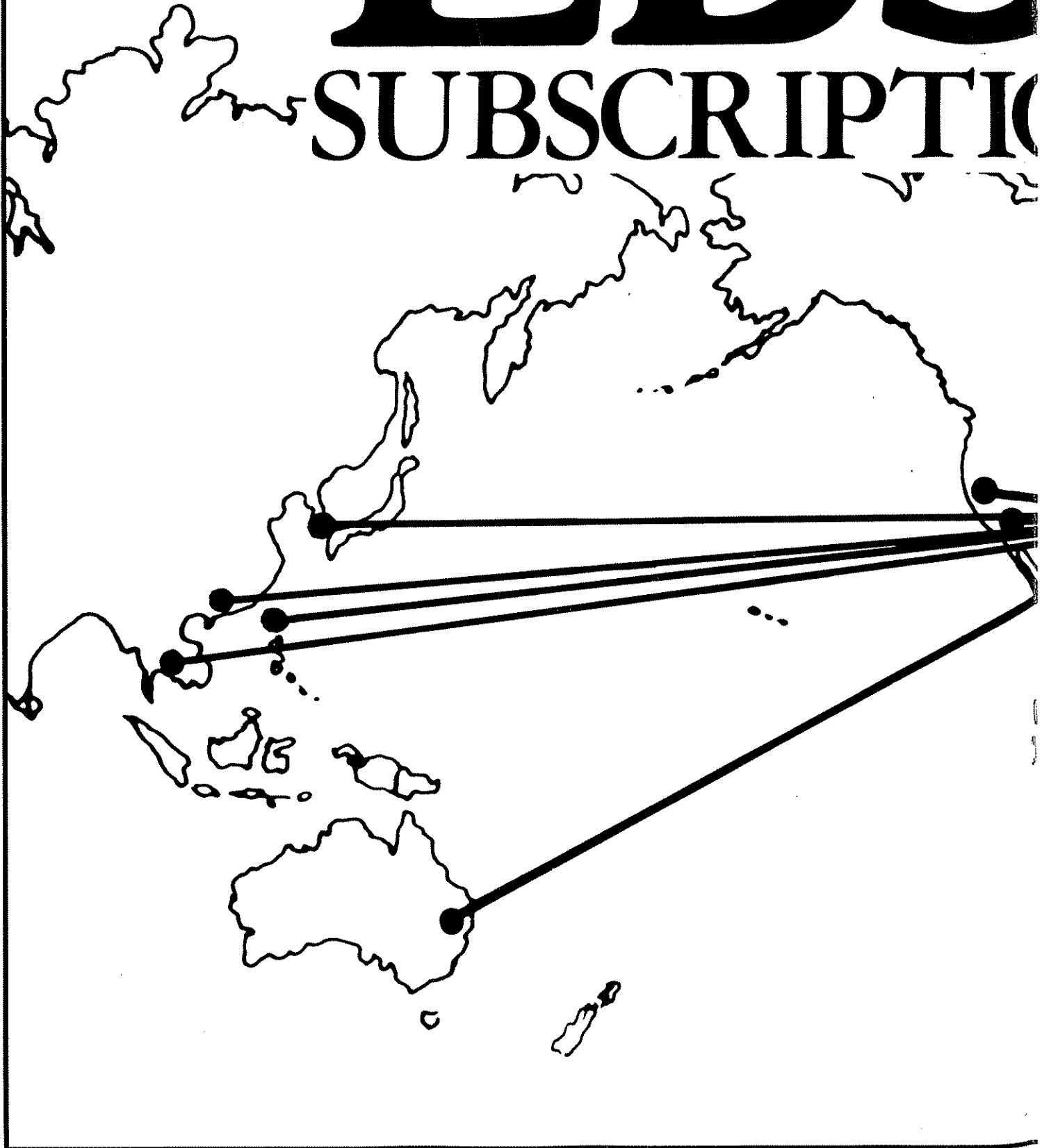
- Educational policies in the Community
- Library and information studies in the Community
- Curriculum development

Visits to two departments of library & information studies in the UK will take place in order to review materials and methods and to stimulate exchange of experience.

The number of places is limited, a selection process may be necessary to ensure a balanced representation from Member States and across subject areas.

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The event is part of the Continuing Professional Development Programme of the Library Association. Sponsorship from the British Council and the British Library Research and Development Department is gratefully acknowledged.

Press Release

The Director of studies is Miss Gileon Holroyd to whom correspondence should be addressed c/o Continuing Education Department, The Library Association, 7 Ridgmount Street, London WC1E 7AE, UK - Tel. +44/71/636 7543 - Fax: +44/71/436 7218.



MEETING REPORT

Working group on WHO documentation and health for all in Europe, Berlin, 12-15 November 1990.

Groupe de travail sur la documentation de l'Organisation Mondiale de la Santé et sur la médecine pour tous en Europe, Berlin, 12-15 novembre 1990

Organised by the WHO Regional Office for Europe (EURO) and chaired by Dr Paul Weiss of the Institut für Wissenschafts-information in der Medizin (IWIM), this Meeting reviewed the publishing and documentation practice and strategy of EURO, and recommended improvements. The Group's members were drawn from 12 member states and included librarians, documentalists, and community health physicians. EAHIL was represented, on invitation, by our President, Ursula Hausen. Representatives from EURO, and from WHO headquarters in Geneva participated, chiefly to provide group members with information on current practice.

Two major developments are likely to come out of the Meeting, though to be accurate, both were envisaged in outline already.

Firstly a network of WHO Documentation Centres is to be formed, usually one in each member state. These centres will play a more active role than the earlier depository centres in providing access to, and referral services on WHO publications and documents. (Publications have an ISBN, are priced, and are sold from Geneva; documents have no ISBN, are unpriced, and are distributed from Copenhagen, or the originating technical unit in Geneva). These newly designated centres will be expected to develop databases including records of Health for All (HFA) materials reproduced in their own country, and to make these available to EURO. For the sake of complete coverage of health issues in UN and its agencies, they will have links to the documentation of UNICEF, FAO, UNESCO, etc.

Where appropriate, the WHO Documentation Centres will advise on translations of WHO items into vernacular languages, and on distribution within their country. Member states are to be encouraged to provide resources for more translation, because it is clear that vernacular versions of WHO publications, where they have been provided, are much more used.

The Group spent some time discussing what use is made of WHO documentation, and some stimulating working papers had been contributed on use in different environments. What emerged was that more studies are needed, and more work on the methodology of use studies.

The second major innovation, actually already at a late stage of development, is the availability of two online databases WHOLIS (from Geneva) and EURODOC (from Copenhagen). WHOLIS is the electronic version of WHODOC, covering periodical articles, publications and available documents originating anywhere in WHO. EURODOC is the in-house database of EURO, which includes all their own publications and documents, resolutions of the European Regional Committee, material acquired by the EURO library, and HFA material from member states. Since many librarians seem not to have heard of WHODOC, it seems worth repeating that it is a printed bimonthly, cumulating list, available from the WHO/HQ Office of Library and Health Literature Services.

It is likely that these will both be made available on one or more major hosts, and the data contained in them may also be included by services compiling national HFA databases. Both are, or soon will be, available direct as dial-up services. The EURODOC search software allows Boolean searching on several variables, and choice of fields for output.

The Group met in an excellent modern hotel set in woodland on the Müggelsee southeast of the city. A visit to the Institut für Krankenhausbau, courtesy of Dr. Rüdiger Schneemann, allowed us to see EURODOC online from Copenhagen. An all too brief guided tour of the unified city by coach, and the leisurely evening mealtimes enabled personal contacts to develop, and friendships to be made or renewed.

Tony A. King
Wessex Medical Library,
University of Southampton
Southampton SO9 5NH, UK



Informationseminar, Zentralbibliothek der Medizin and Dimdi, Köln 10-14 December 1990

The Central Medical Library (ZBMed) together with the Deutsche Institut für medizinische Dokumentation und Information (DIMDI) and supported by the Federal Minister for Youth, Family, Women and Health held an information seminar for thirty health and medical librarians from the new Länder in the Eastern part of Germany.

The well prepared and organised seminar offered a wealth of information and views covering the structure of the library system in Federal Germany as well as practical questions of accession, subject cataloguing, user services, interlibrary loans. The work of information intermediaries, databases offered by DIMDI were demonstrated by the Central Medical Library Information Services Depart-

ment. Explanations of the technical requirements for online searching and a search session completed the demonstration.

Our colleagues from Eastern and Western parts of Germany met in an open-minded and cordial way. Thanks to the the hosts, Drs Franz-Josef Kühnen and Rolf Fritz the seminar took place in a very pleasant atmosphere. The East German librarians considered their week in Cologne a particularly valuable experience.

Evelyne Hanke
Medizin Zentralbibliothek
St Georg Krankenhaus
141, Strasse der DSF
D-Ost 7021 Leipzig



CD-ROM

CD-ROM Technology at the Institute of Scientific Health Information, Bratislava, Czecho-Slovakia

Technologie du CD-ROM à l'Institut des Sciences de l'Information sur la Santé, Bratislava, Tchécoslovaquie

With great pleasure I took part at the Workshop on Human Issues in Library Automation (WHILA) at Brussels in May 1990.

Our Institute is undergoing structural changes, which we will be explaining in a future issue of the Newsletter. We are very happy to have the opportunity of being a full Member of EAHIL.

The favourable experiences of other colleagues decided our Institute to subscribe to Medline on Silverplatter from July 1990. Our users have found it very useful and exciting to become familiar with this technology. We have made 200% more searches on CD-ROM Medline (1983-1990) than on on-line data centres abroad. The CD-ROMs are now installed at more hospitals and institutes in Slovakia. We also have the database Excerpta Medica Library Service (1984-1989) and the factographic database CHEMBANK.

Because of the great interest from our users and because of our central position in Slovakia as a great library and information centre, we have decided to buy one more CD player and we hope in the future to buy a multiplatter to manage our CD-ROM collection.

The excellent function of Medline is the ability to use the MeSH thesaurus on each disc. Both the main databases in the field of medicine complement each other and make it possible to do successful searches for our physicians and researchers.

With great pleasure our Institute will take part in the work of EAHIL.

Dr. Sylvia Kovacova
The Institute of Scientific Health Information
ul. Cs. armady c. 24, S14 42 Bratislava,
CZECHO-SLOVAKIA



Roumanie - Lettre de l'association des bibliothécaires de l'enseignement

Rumania - Letter from the Association of the Education Librarians

Chers Collègues,

15 octobre 1990

Après la Révolution de décembre 1989, lorsque le peuple roumain a choisi, fermement, la liberté et la démocratie, des perspectives nouvelles se sont ouvertes, vis-à-vis de l'organisation professionnelle dans tous les domaines. Envisagée depuis longtemps comme une nécessité de la bibliothéconomie roumaine, l'Association des Bibliothécaires de l'Enseignement - Roumanie (A.B.I.R.) a été créée au mois de mars 1990. L'Association a été enregistrée et certifiée légalement, elle a constitué ses cadres de direction et a adopté son propre statut. Le siège central est à Bucarest: 6, rue Transilvaniei, Sector 1, 70778 Bucarest.

Neuf filiales fonctionnent dans les principaux centres universitaires du pays, (Bucaresti, Iasi, Brasov, Sibiu, Timisoara, Cluj, Creaiova, Constanta, Suceava). Le programme de l'Association des Bibliothécaires de l'Enseignement - Roumanie (A.B.I.R.) comprend des mesures en vue de l'émancipation de la profession de bibliothécaires en Roumanie, en liaison avec les progrès acquis dans le domaine, sur le plan international; il s'occupe de la formation et du perfectionnement des bibliothécaires de toutes les institutions d'enseignement, ainsi que de la meilleure circulation de l'information dans l'enseignement et dans la recherche scientifique; il donne aussi une importance considérable aux constructions des bibliothèques scolaires et universitaires, etc.

L'activité de l'Association est pratiquement au début, en ce qui concerne l'organisation et les ressources. Les cotisations versées par les membres de l'Association étant insuffisantes pour le moment il n'est pas possible pour ceux-ci de bénéficier concrètement, au moins cette année, des avantages de leur adhésion.

L'année prochaine nous nous proposons d'éditer un bulletin de l'A.B.I.R. pour refléter la structure interne de l'Association ainsi que l'ensemble des problèmes de la bibliographie, sur le plan mondial. Tout à la fois nous souhaitons la constitution d'une bibliothèque de profil, au siège même de l'Association et nous nous proposons, dans les limites des ressources disponibles, d'organiser en Roumanie des sessions de conférences et de participer à des manifestations similaires, organisées sur le plan international.

Comme vous le voyez bien, nous avons de nombreux projets et nous sommes optimistes pour leur mise-en-oeuvre.

Chers Collègues, veuillez considérer cette lettre comme un salut des bibliothécaires roumains adressé à tous les membres de votre Association.

Avec la conviction qu'en stimulant la profession de bibliothécaire en notre pays, nous contribuerons au mouvement d'idées dans le domaine de la bibliologie sur le plan international, nous vous prions d'agréer, chers Collègues, l'expression de notre gratitude et de nos meilleurs sentiments.

Dr Ion Stoica, Président
Dr. Mircea Regnealà, Secrétaire

Asociația Bibliotecarilor din Invatamint, România
Str. Transilvaniei, 6, Sector 1
70778 Bucarest, Roumanie - Tel. 15 35 94



Medical Libraries in London, EAHIL Promoted study tour, 3-14 September 1990

Bibliothèques Médicales à Londres, voyage d'études organisé par l'AEIBS/EAHIL

In 1989 EAHIL members agreed to provide training courses for young European colleagues in medical librarianship in Belgium, Italy, Switzerland and the United Kingdom in order to improve their professional experience and, at the same time, to encourage cooperative efforts among European medical libraries in the future. As a result, a two week study tour of selected U.K. Medical Libraries was arranged for the author by Ms Fiona Mackay Picken, Regional Librarian of the North West Thames Library and Information Service, London. The programme's special emphasis was on the technological aspects of library management.

The present and future organizational structure of the National Health Service (NHS) was the subject of theoretical instruction given by Ms Picken on the first day. Regional systems and library networking, as well as regional co-ordination of online and CD-ROM search techniques were explained by her colleague, Mr Wentz. Three retrieval products of MEDLINE on CD-ROM have been introduced in medical libraries in London so far: the Silverplatter version, CSA (Cambridge Scientific Abstracts) and CD PLUS, the last one being the most comfortable one at present. Of the institutions which provide - in many cases by mail box - more specialized medical resources at a national level, the author visited the largest medical library in Britain, at the Royal Society of Medicine, and the British Medical Association Library, which is of great importance to the medical profession. European specialists of medical librarianship might also be familiar with the information resources and services offered by the Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain. The National Poisons Unit, at New Cross Hospital, has been established to provide information on the toxicity of chemical compounds in man, and advice on the diagnosis and treatment of poisoning is available to doctors on a

24-hour daily basis. The Health Education Authority is a part of the NHS in England. Their library sends teaching material and information resources to local authorities and people concerned with health education. Users of the NHS administration may access the library computer of the Departments of Health and Social Security Library via an Ethernet local area network. The main library database DHSS DATA, mounted by DATASTAR, holds bibliographical references to all material acquired since mid 1983 and contains books, journal articles and all DHSS publications.

Two typical medical school libraries at St. George's Hospital and the Charing Cross and Westminster Medical School gave an impression of the high standard of English library services in that field. St George's library is a part of the automation network of London University. The OPAC module of LIBERTAS has been installed recently and enables readers to search for author or subject information. They can look at their own registration details at the same terminal, see what books are on issue to their ticket and make reservations. End-user education in information retrieval, as well as the large collection of interactive videotapes in medical training for undergraduates, indicate that work in academic libraries is more user-oriented than it has been in Germany up till now. In Germany services are traditionally more stock-oriented. The documentation centre of the Tropical Child Health Unit is worth mentioning for its resources on Third World Child Health and the TALC (Teaching Aids at Low Cost) collection.

A new dimension of library services to patients is the NHS Health Information Service, located at Lister Hospital in Stevenage. Free information about any medical problem or treatment, written in ordinary language and not medical jargon, is available for everyone. About 600 enquiries per month were dealt with in 1989. In co-operation with British Telecom, taped information on medical topics such as child health, cancer, alcohol and first aid are given by telephone. Each topic has its own 'phone number and the information is regularly updated. The Popular Medical Index provides patients or any interested non-professional with bibliographic information on popular articles and books. The library also offers small collections as "waiting room collections" to general practitioners in the local area.

From all this information, received during my study tour in London, I finally came to the conclusion that medical libraries in Britain should be accepted as one of the "pacemakers" of European medical librarianship.

Dr. Regine Schmolling
Giessen University Library
Otto Behagel Str. 8 - D-6300 Giessen, Germany



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Des bibliothèques médicales en bonne santé : l'exemple américain

Medical Libraries in good health : the American example

Grâce à une bourse Fulbright, l'auteur a pu faire un séjour dans deux bibliothèques médicales américaines : la Bibliothèque du Texas Medical Center à Houston (Texas), grande bibliothèque académique, d'enseignement et de recherche médicale, et la Bibliothèque du Centre Médical Régional du Michigan, à Midland (Michigan), petite bibliothèque d'hôpital.

Ces deux bibliothèques, comme l'ensemble des bibliothèques médicales américaines, ont un large accès de jour et de nuit. Elles orientent leurs achats selon des plans de développement de collections. Elles ont des règles de fonctionnement et des objectifs précis. Elles font partie du réseau. Elles facilitent l'accès à l'information médicale grâce à de gros moyens, à des outils performants et à un personnel exigeant, bien formé, à l'écoute des lecteurs. L'information aux malades est un souci constant. Le mécénat - "Les amis de la bibliothèque" - y est courant et entretient l'image de marque de ces bibliothèques.

Françoise Alptuna

Bull. Bibl. France, Paris, t.35, nr. 4, 1990, pp. 306-311.



NEWS FROM OUTSIDE EUROPE

The Medical Library Association announces Election Results

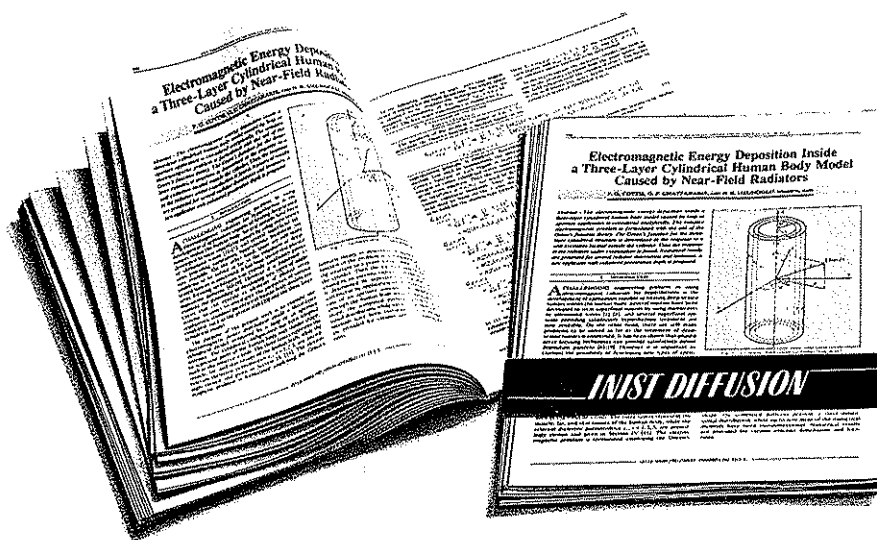
Résultats des élections de la Medical Library Association

The Medical Library Association (MLA) held its election of officers and board members on November 19, 1990. Jacqueline D. Bastille (director, Health Sciences Library, Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, MA) was elected as MLA's incoming president-elect. Francis A. Bischoff (Computer Training and Library Consultant, Tucson, AZ) and Karen Brewer, Ph.D. (Director, Frederick L. Ehrman Medical Library, New York University Medical Center, New York, NY) have been elected to serve three-year terms on the Board of Directors. Bastille, Bischoff and Brewer will be installed at MLA's 91 Annual Meeting in San Francisco, CA, on June 5, 1991.

Contact: **Mary Langman**
MLA - Suite 300
6th N. Michigan Avenue
Chicago, Ill. 60602, USA



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May 9-10, 1991, London, UK

Health Informatics. ASLIB. *Contact: ASLIB, Professional Development Group, 20-24 Old Street, London EC1V 9AP, UK - Tel. 44/71/430 0514*

May 15-17, 1991 - Paris, France

First European Workshop on Drug Information. An initiative of the European Society of Clinical Pharmacy's Drug Information Special Interest Group. *For further information: Secrétariat, Centre d'Information PCH, 7 rue du Fer à Moulin, BP 05, F-75221 Paris Cedex 05, Tel. +33/1/43 37 11 00 (xt. 205), Fax: +33/1/43 36 92 97*

May 28-30, 1991 - Bordeaux, France

IDT 91, 9ème Congrès sur l'Information et la Documentation, organisé par l'ADBS et l'ANRT. Thème: "L'information, une dynamique pour l'Europe". *Contact: ADBS, IDT91, 25 rue Claude Tillier, 75012 Paris, France - Tel.: 1/43 72 25 25.*

May 31-June 6, 1991 - San Francisco, USA

Medical Library Association, 91st Annual Meeting, San Francisco. *Contact: Medical Library Association, Inc., 6th North Michigan Avenue, Suite 300, Chicago, Ill. 60602, USA - Tel. 312 419 9094. (Source : Professional Calendar, UK, vol. 4, n°1, 1991)*

June 10-11, 1991, Wolfsburg, Germany

Fortbildungsseminar "Bibliotheksarbeit im Krankenhaus". The Seminar will be held at the Stadtkrankenhaus Wolfsburg. *Contact: Ms Inge Pawel, Bibliothek, Stadtkrankenhaus Wolfsburg, Sauerbruchstr.7, D-West-3180 Wolfsburg - Tel. 49/5361/461 557; Fax: 49/5361/461 364*

June 15-19, Hamilton, Canada

15th Annual Conference of the Canadian Health Libraries Association/ L'Association des bibliothèques de la santé du Canada. *Contact: N. Bhatnagar, CHLA/ABSC Conference 1991, c/o Health Sciences Library, McMaster University, 1200 Main St. West, Hamilton, Ontario L8N 3Z5, Canada - Tel. 416/525 9140*

June 16-21, 1991 - Helsinki, Finland

The Finnish Council for Health Education will host the XIV World Conference on Health Education in Helsinki, Finland. Theme: "Health - United Effort" ("La santé - Un effort commun") - ("La Salud - Un esfuerzo conjunto"). *For General information, please contact: Mrs Aira Raudasoja, Project Manager, The Finnish Council for Health Education, Karjalankatu 2C 63, SF-00520 Helsinki, Tel.: 358/0/717 611 or the Conference Secretariat Office: Congrex Finland, P.O.Box 1031, SD-00101 Helsinki, Finland, Tel.: 358/0/175 355.*

July 5-7, 1991 - Leeds, UK

Annual Conference of the Library Association in Leeds, UK "Under one umbrella", a Library Association Group Training Event. *Contact: Rob Palmer, Conference Director, Library Association, 7 Ridgmount Street, London WC1E 7AE (Tel: +44/71/636 7543) or Alison Ray for MHWLG, Scarborough Postgraduate Medical Centre Library, Scarborough Hospital, Scarborough, N.Yorkshire YO12 6QL (tel. +44/723/368111, ex.24)*

July 7-14, 1991 - Harare, Zimbabwe

Association for Health Information and Libraries in Africa (AHILA) - Association pour L'Information et les Bibliothèques de Santé en Afrique (AIBSA). 3ème Congrès

et Assemblée Générale de l'AIBSA - Thème: L'automatisation et les Services d'information. *For information, contact: Mrs Helga Patrikios, Medical Library, University of Zimbabwe, P.O.Box MP 45, Mount Pleasant, Harare, Zimbabwe*

August 18-24, 1991, Moscow, USSR

57th Council and General Conference of IFLA, Moscow. Theme: "Libraries and Culture: their relationship" ("La bibliothèque et la culture : leur interaction"). *For further information, please contact the USSR Preparatory Committee at the address: The Lenin State Library, 3 Kalinin Prospekt, Moscow 101000, USSR.*

August 26-28, 1991 - Helsinki, Finland

Third Scandinavian Conference of Medical Librarians, Helsinki. The Conference will be arranged by the Finnish Medical Librarians' Association, Bibliothecarii Medicinæ Fenniae. *Contact: Eeva Kihlberg, Chairperson of the Organizing Committee, Helsinki University, Dental Library, Mannerheimintie 72, SF-00300 Helsinki, Finland - Tel. 358/0/4735 324 - Fax: 358/0/414 272.*

September 9-10, 1991, Vandoeuvre-les-Nancy, France

SCICOM-2 - Deuxième Conférence Internationale "Communication Scientifique et Sciences de la Vie" - Second International Conference "Scientific Communication in Life". Technopôle Nancy-Brabois, France. *Avant programme/Preliminary programme: contact: Laboratoire d'Immunologie, Faculté de médecine, avenue de la Forêt de Haye, B.P. 184, F-54500 Vandoeuvre les Nancy, France, Tel. 83 51 59 64.*

October 3-5, 1991 - Grenoble, France

IDEX 91 - 2ème Bourse Internationale des Banques de Données. L'ADBS et le GRD participeront activement à son organisation. *Contact: Elisabeth Fontannaz, CGIG, 1 place André Malraux, BP 297, F-38016 Grenoble Cedex - Tel. +33/76 47 20 36*



March 26-31, 1992, London, UK

Library and Information Studies in Europe. Spring seminar for key academic staff in library and information professional studies in all countries of the European community. LA/British-Council/BLRDD. *Contact: Gileon Holmrotyd, Director of Studies, c/o Education and International Div., The Library Association, 7 Ridgmount Street, London W C1E 7AE, UK*

August 30- September 5, 1992, New Delhi, India

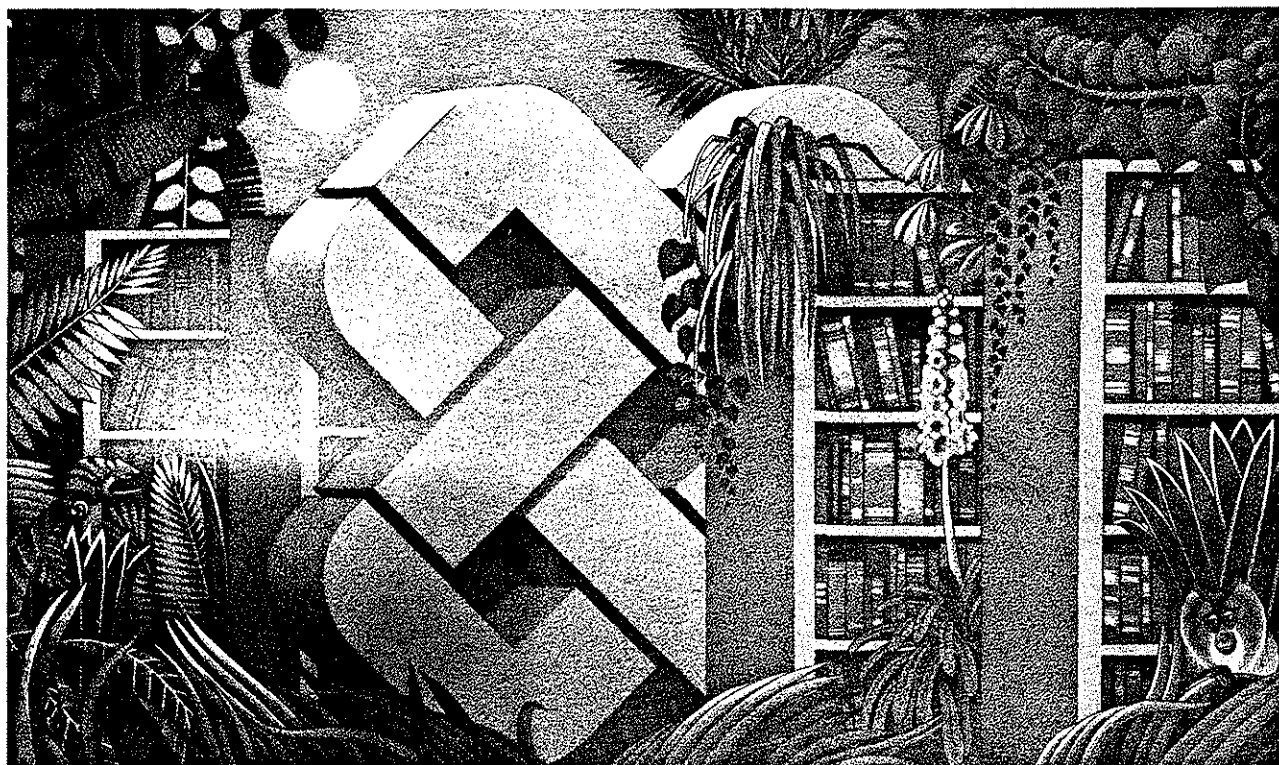
IFLA General Conference. *Contact: Prof. Krishan Kumar, President, Indian Library Association, IFLA 1992, A/40-41, Ansal Building, Mukherjee Nagar, Delhi, India*

September 24-26, 1992 - Montpellier, France

Third European Conference of Medical Libraries - 3ème Conférence Européenne des Bibliothèques Médicales, preceded by continuing education courses - AEIBS/EAHIL *For information: Mrs Jeanet Ginestet, SANOFI Recherche, rue du Prof. J.Blayac, 34082 Montpellier, France - Tel. 33/67400133 - Fax: 33/67756321*

October 22-30, 1992, Madrid, Spain

FID 46th Conference and Congress. International Federation for Information and Documentation. *Contact: FID'92 Organizing Committee, ICYT, Joaquin Costa 22, 28002 Madrid, Spain. Tel. 34/1/563 54 82. (Source : Professional Calendar, UK, Vol. 4, n°1, 1991)*



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PUBLICATIONS

NEW PRODUCTS

Haines-Taylor M and Wilson T (1991) Quality assurance in libraries: the health care sector. London: Library Association Publ. For more information call 71-6367543 or FAX 71-6363627.

Thesaurus Biomedical Français-Anglais 1990. Version bilingue du Medical Subject Headings de la National Library of Medicine (NLM - Etats-Unis) et sa correspondance avec le lexique pascal de L'INIST-CNRS. Vol.1: Liste alphabétique des descripteurs français MeSH et des qualificatifs.

Vol.2: Index français-anglais des descripteurs MeSH. Index Français PASCAL-MeSH.

Vol.3: Liste systématique et list permutée des descripteurs français MeSH.

Prix pour les 3 volumes: 2400FF. Ouvrages disponibles à l'INSERM (101, rue de Tolbiac - 75654 Paris Cédex 13, Tel. (1) 45 85 68 56, Fax (1) 45 85 68 56) et à INIST DIFFUSION 2, allée du Parc de Brabois 54514 Vandoeuvre-les-Nancy Cédex, Tel. 33 83 50 46 64, Fax 33 83 50 46 66).

Lexique Medical Europeen Arnette (1991). 1200 pages. Available from: Arnette, Edition Librarie Diffusion Publicité, 2, rue Casimir Delavigne - 75006, Paris. Tel. 1-43260960, FAX: 1-46336797. FF 600. In five sections: French, English, Spanish, Italien, German. Approximately 3000 key words.

World Pharmaceutical Standards Review, published by BNA International Inc. is available on a three-month approval subscription basis. Annual subscription rate £288 for twelve monthly issues plus storage binder and indexes. The Review provides expert analysis of international trends and developments shaping the pharmaceutical community. It includes health and safety standards, clinical trials, product authorization issues, patents and trademarks, pricing and reimbursement systems, product liability, biotechnology etc. For more details contact: BNA International in London. Fax: 44-71-2225550, Tel: 44-71-2228831.

BRS Morning Search: BRS is offering substantial connect hour and online citation discounts between

23.00 and 13.00 hrs UK time. For further details contact BRS Information Technologies, Achilles House, Western Avenue, London W3 0UA. Tel: 44-81-9939962 Fax: 44-81-9937335.

DIMDI introduced ECDIN, the European Chemicals Data and Information Network, with factual information on environmental toxicology. The database has been created in the framework of the Environmental Research Programm of the Commission of the European Communities by its Joint Research Centre JRC in Ispra, Italy. It contains all substances of EINECS (European Inventory of Existing Commercial Chemical Substances). For more than 120'000 substances data on chemical and physical properties, manufacturing and use, health risk, poisoning and its treatment, toxicity, carcinogenicity, mutagenicity, concentration or degradation in the environment are provided. GRIPS-Chem on DIMDI - menu guided retrieval of chemical substances. The brochure DIMDI's User Guidances can be ordered free of charge. For further information contact Susanne Brönerhorst 49-221-4724-271. More from DIMDI: CHECK DUPLICATES, an enhancement of the retrieval system. For further information contact Dr. Kaiser 49-221-4724-262.



EUROPE

Borchardt P (1991) Neue Informationen zum Aktionsplan der Europaeischen Gemeinschaft fuer die Bibliotheken in Europa. *Bibliotheksdienst* 25: 51-55.

Leitner H (1990) Der Neubau der Fakultaetsbibliothek fuer Medizin an der Universitaet Wien. *Biblos* 39: 84-96.

From Information World Review (1991, February): Career prospects - the EC Position (*Mutual recognition of qualifications nears p 22*); Career prospects - Moving abroad (*Languages the key to mobility p 20*); Career prospects - Professional prospects set for great change p 18.



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PROFESSIONAL LITERATURE

Alptuna F (1990) Des bibliothèques en bonne santé: l'exemple américain. *Bulletin des Bibliothèques de France* 35(4).

Brahmi F and Tyler J (1990) The effect of CD-ROM MEDLINE on online end-user and mediated searching: a follow-up study. *Medical Reference Services Quarterly* 9(3):15-22.

Belbenoit-Avich P (1990) Online vs CD-ROM bibliographic searches in the biomedical fields. *Outlook on Research Libraries*, Dec: 2-5. CD-ROM and online in a large French biomedical library.

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Dow SC (1990) Teaching reprint file management : a hands-on approach. *Medical Reference Services Quarterly* 9(3):31-41.

Dupont G and Dutcher GA (1990) AIDS information from the National Library of Medicine. *Medical Reference Services Quarterly* 9(2)- 1-19.

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Cunningham D et al (1991) Biotechnology awareness study, part 2: meeting the information needs of biotechnologists. *Bulletin of the Medical Library Association* 79(1):45-52.

Hunter JA (1991) MEDLINE on BRS, Data-Star and DIALOG - does it make a difference? *Database* 14(1) : 43-50. Extensive evaluative review of MEDLINE offered by the three vendors. Note: As of Feb 25, 1991, Data-Star introduced double-posting to MEDLINE considered to be one major disadvantage.

Shultz SM (1990) Beyond the online databases: an annotated checklist of selected sources for retrospective history of medicine searching. *Medical Reference Services Quarterly* 9(2):41-60.



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EAHIL CONTINUING EDUCATION COURSES

August 29, 1991, 10.00 am to 4.00 pm

THIRD NORDIC CONFERENCE FOR MEDICAL LIBRARIANS

Den Tredje Nordiska Konferensen för Medicinska Bibliotekarier
Helsingfors 26-28.8.1991

Lecturer: Maria MONIK, MIC

The course will be given in ENGLISH

MESH - INDEXING ORIENTATION

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MESH - INDEXING ORIENTATION

PROGRAMME

Time	Thursday 29.8.1991, from 10.00 am to 4.00 pm
Cost	BF. 4,200 (FM350.-)
Place	The National Archives of Finland Fredsgatan 17 Helsinki
Lecturer	Marie MONIK from MIC, Stockholm
10.15 - 12.00	MESH indexing Introduction Policy Tools Applications, use
12.00 - 13.00	Lunch (Cafeteria in the vicinity - not included in the fee)
13.15 - 15.00	MESH - vocabulary Main headings Subheadings
15.00	Coffee
15.15 - 16.00	1991 Indexing news

For more information:

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ABO AKADEMI/Department of Library and Information Science
Henriksgatan 9
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Three seminars will be offered this autumn by the Rijkshogeschool of Groningen, The Netherlands

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A.- Information Storage and Retrieval Software for Microcomputers

September 2, 1991 - September 4, 1991

Price: BF. 8,000.-

Objectives of the course:

- Participants will become acquainted with, and acquire knowledge of and insight into the possibilities of Information Storage and Retrieval System (ISRS) software packages for microcomputers.

B.- Selection and Evaluation of Information Storage and Retrieval Software

September 5, 1991 - September 6, 1991

Price: BF. 5,600.-

Objectives of the course:

- to look at information problems and information needs;
- to formulate functional requirements;
- to formulate selection criteria;
- to evaluate specific software.

C.- CD-ROM in Health Information and Libraries

September 9, 1991 - September 10, 1991

Price: BF. 6,800.-

Objectives of the course:

- to learn about the pro's and con's of CD-ROM;
- to get an overview of the CD-ROM market (hardware, software, products);
- to learn why and how to train end-users.

The three seminars will take place in Groningen, The Netherlands, at the Rijkshogeschool, Sector Communicatie en Informatie, at the date indicated.

See at the verso for the registration form

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- Seminar C** CD-ROM in Health Information and Libraries
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You may register for more than one seminar.

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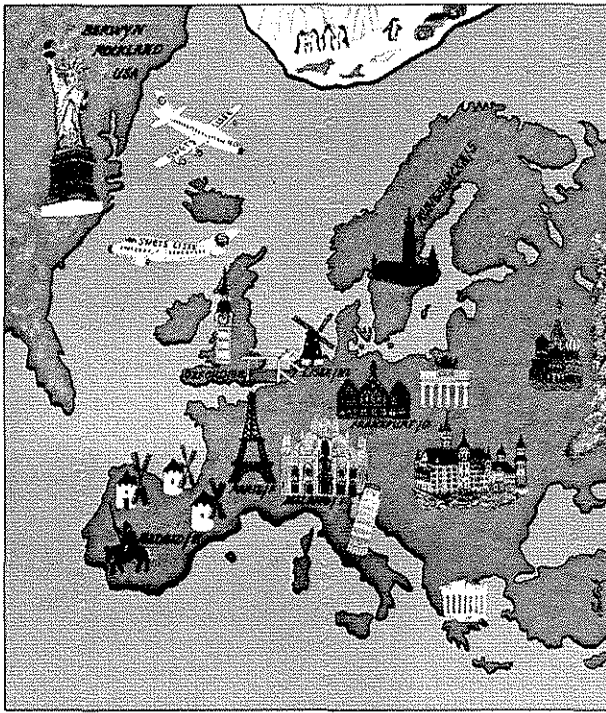
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INSTRUCTIONS TO AUTHORS:

Invited articles: These will be commissioned by the Editorial Board, though suggestions regarding suitable subjects would be welcome. **Important:** *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.* **News from Europe:** these should be short - not more than about 400 words long. **Regular sections:** contributions to the **Publications and Forthcoming Events** sections are invited. They should be sent to the Editor of the section concerned (**Publications: Beatrice Wilhem; Forthcoming Events: R. Hoel**). The Editor would be pleased to hear of any ideas for invited articles - editorials and for general comment on the Newsletter of the Association's activities. These will be followed up where possible and may be published if, as with other items, the constraints of space and balance permit. At the moment the final copy has to reach the Editor at least two months before the publication date, though we hope to reduce production time. *The official languages of the Association are English and French.* News from the Association and the editorials will generally be translated; summaries in the second language will normally be published with invited articles, but otherwise items will be given only in one language. Contributions, other than those for the **Publications and Forthcoming Events** sections should be sent to the Editor.



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