

*European Association
for Health Information and Libraries*

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

Juillet - July 1995 • N° 32

NewsLetter

to European Health Librarians • des Bibliothécaires Européens de la Santé



*EAHIL SYMPOSIUM
September 20 - 21, 1995*

*PRAGUE
CZECH REPUBLIC*

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CONTENTS • SOMMAIRE

• EDITORIAL	4
• NEWS FROM OUR ASSOCIATION : Letter from the President	5
• NOUVELLES DE NOTRE ASSOCIATION : <i>Lettre de la Présidente</i>	7
• NEWS FROM THE EAHIL SUB-GROUPS News from the European Veterinary Libraries Group.....	8
News from the Pharmaceutical Information group.....	9
• EAHIL MEMBERSHIP	10
• NEWS FROM EUROPE The Sabre Foundation Zagreb	11
EUROFUNDING : the new European Union Libraries Programme	11
<i>EUROFUNDING : le nouveau programme des Bibliothèques de l'U.E.</i>	11
• GENERAL NEWS	15
• FEATURE ARTICLES : Strategies to Improve Health Information in Portugal.....	16
<i>Stratégies afin de promouvoir l'information de santé au Portugal</i>	16
The Electronic Documents Suppliers : Panacea or Disappointment?	18
<i>La fourniture électronique de documents : panacée ou déception ?</i>	18
• FORTHCOMING EVENTS :	21
• PUBLICATIONS :	22
• INTERNET PAGE:	25
Enclosure : EAHIL Symposium on Cooperation of Medical Libraries, Prague	

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EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION FOR HEALTH INFORMATION AND LIBRARIES



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- Institutional: BF. 4.820
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EDITORIAL

GOING ELECTRONIC ?

Several members of the EAHIL have contacted the Editor about the possibility of publishing the Newsletter or at least certain parts of it electronically on the Internet. This is a fundamental question which has to be pondered thoroughly.

There are issues that have to be analysed: how many of us have access to the Internet, what kind of information do we want there, what are the advantages compared with the printed version, who is going to do and maintain it and where do we get funds for it?

Another question is whether an Internet/world wide web home page should be created for EAHIL. The questions that arise are the same as above.

There have been quite a few informal discussions whenever EAHIL members have met, and it seems that going electronic will soon be a necessity. Many of us know how easy it is to communicate via e.mail and how great amounts of information can be quickly transferred.

Now it seems that there are possibilities of getting EU funds for our electronic purposes. The EU has programmes where this kind of activity could well fit in, and there are some members who have expressed their willingness to carry out this kind of project. The discussions with the Executive Board members have been informal so far, but serious consideration should be given to this matter.

I am personally very much for electronising EAHIL and the Newsletter. The main reason is to improve communication between us, which does not mean that the printed Newsletter should be discontinued. I am also very much for the printed word, for many reasons, and I think that the printed and electronic versions should operate side by side making it possible for every member to choose the way she or he wants to receive information from the Association.

Please send me letters, faxes, e-mails or give me a call telling what you think about going electronic.

Liisa Salmi
Editor

VERS LA PUBLICATION ÉLECTRONIQUE ?

Plusieurs membres de l'Association m'ont contactée avec l'idée que la Newsletter (ou tout du moins une partie) soit publiée sous forme électronique sur l'Internet. Cette question est fondamentale et il faut y réfléchir avec pondération.

Certains aspects doivent être analysés : combien d'entre nous ont accès à l'Internet; quel type d'informations désirons-nous y voir publier; quels sont les avantages par rapport à la version papier; qui peut s'en charger et assurer la continuité d'un tel travail; aurons-nous de l'argent pour cela?

Une autre question est de savoir s'il faut créer un WWW (World Wide Web) spécifique à l'Association. Les questions posées sont les mêmes que celles abordées plus haut.

Des discussions entre membres ont déjà envisagé ce point, et la publication électronique est à considérer comme une nécessité proche. Nombre d'entre nous savent combien il est aisé de communiquer par le courrier élec-

tronique et la quantité d'informations que l'on peut y transférer.

L'Union Européenne semble être prête à débloquer des fonds pour ce type de projet. Des programmes européens existent pour promouvoir cette technologie, et plusieurs membres sont prêts à s'en charger. Le Bureau Exécutif n'a pas encore parlé sérieusement du problème, mais il faudra le prendre en considération.

Personnellement, je crois beaucoup dans le fait que l'AEIBS et la Newsletter soient publiées sous forme électronique. La principale raison est que cela faciliterait la communication entre nous, mais sans pour cela supprimer la forme papier. Je crois aussi dans cette dernière pour beaucoup de raisons, et je pense que les deux versions devraient exister ensemble, à chaque membre de choisir comment il désire recevoir l'information en provenance de notre Association.

Liisa Salmi
Rédactrice en Chef

Editorial Board

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FROM OUR PRESIDENT - EAHIL IN WASHINGTON DC, IN MAY 1995

I am just back from beautiful Washington DC, where I spent an exciting week with the 95th Annual Meeting of the Medical Library Association/7th International Congress on Medical Librarianship held on May 7-12. I thoroughly enjoyed both of them.

The two congresses shared the theme "*Health Information for the Global Village*", which is really a challenging title. Yes, we certainly need to communicate and cooperate across all frontiers to create a unified world. Health sciences librarianship and information management are international in character and networking is becoming more and more important.

To summarize some of the major trends at the congresses: the quantity of technological changes in the world today are really overwhelming; Internet, with its access to electronic information resources all over the world, opens the flood gates to an enormous amount of new knowledge; the changing roles of librarians, who should be willing to look into the future, while keeping intact their traditional skills, and who can and should act as guides in these new fields of information.

We need to be updated, we need to be in contact with our colleagues to facilitate discussions and to be kept informed about all these developments.

Through the many papers given and the people we met, we came to learn and understand more about each other and the environment in which we work. To have access through Internet to the entire globe is exciting, but to meet one's colleagues "live" is even more thrilling. Internet needs a balance in personal networking. It is indeed true that high technology must be balanced by high touch.

Some of the papers of the 7ICML focused on special health problems in the world, such as HIV/AIDS and Women's health, and the pressing need for more information and knowledge. As to the activities of EAHIL, I had the privilege to greet the delegates at the opening of the 7th International Congress on Medical Librarianship which started on Wednesday, May 10th. Lois Ann Colaiani, Chair of the International Organizing Committee, gave a warm welcome to 750 delegates coming from over the world.

On Thursday afternoon, EAHIL had an informal meeting for those of its members present at the MLA/7ICML and for non-members. A special welcome was given to Donna B. Flake, from Robert M. Dales Health Sciences Library, Wilmington, NC who has been appointed as the MLA representative to EAHIL for a three year term. Short presentations of the forthcoming activities of EAHIL

were given, and copies of the EAHIL Newsletter and leaflet were available. The meeting was planned as an opportunity for people to get together and become better acquainted. Thanks to the sponsorship of SWETS, we could offer some very good cheese.

Salvinija Kociene, Director of the Lithuanian Library of Medicine in Vilnius was also present at our meeting. She said it was probably as a result of the letter sent by EAHIL to the Lithuanian president that they are still in their library while "waiting". Let us hope that they are able to stay there permanently.

To be in Washington during the congresses, gave me that good feeling of being a part of the global village.

The next and 8ICML will be in London during June in the year 2000. That will be an integrated, tripartite conference which will combine the International Congress with the biennial conference of EAHIL, and the annual meeting of the British Health Libraries Group.

More detailed reports from the MLA95/7ICML in Washington will appear in the next issue of the Newsletter.

Elisabeth Husem
EAHIL President

EAHIL SYMPOSIUM ON COOPERATION OF MEDICAL LIBRARIES, PRAGUE, SEPTEMBER 20-21, 1995

It is my pleasure to invite you to Prague and the EAHIL Symposium.

Prague is surely one of Europe's most scenic cities, rich in history, culture and art treasures. So who can afford to miss this unique opportunity, of combining an interesting and well-planned professional meeting, with a wonderful experience of history and beauty? Otakar Pinkas and his Organizing

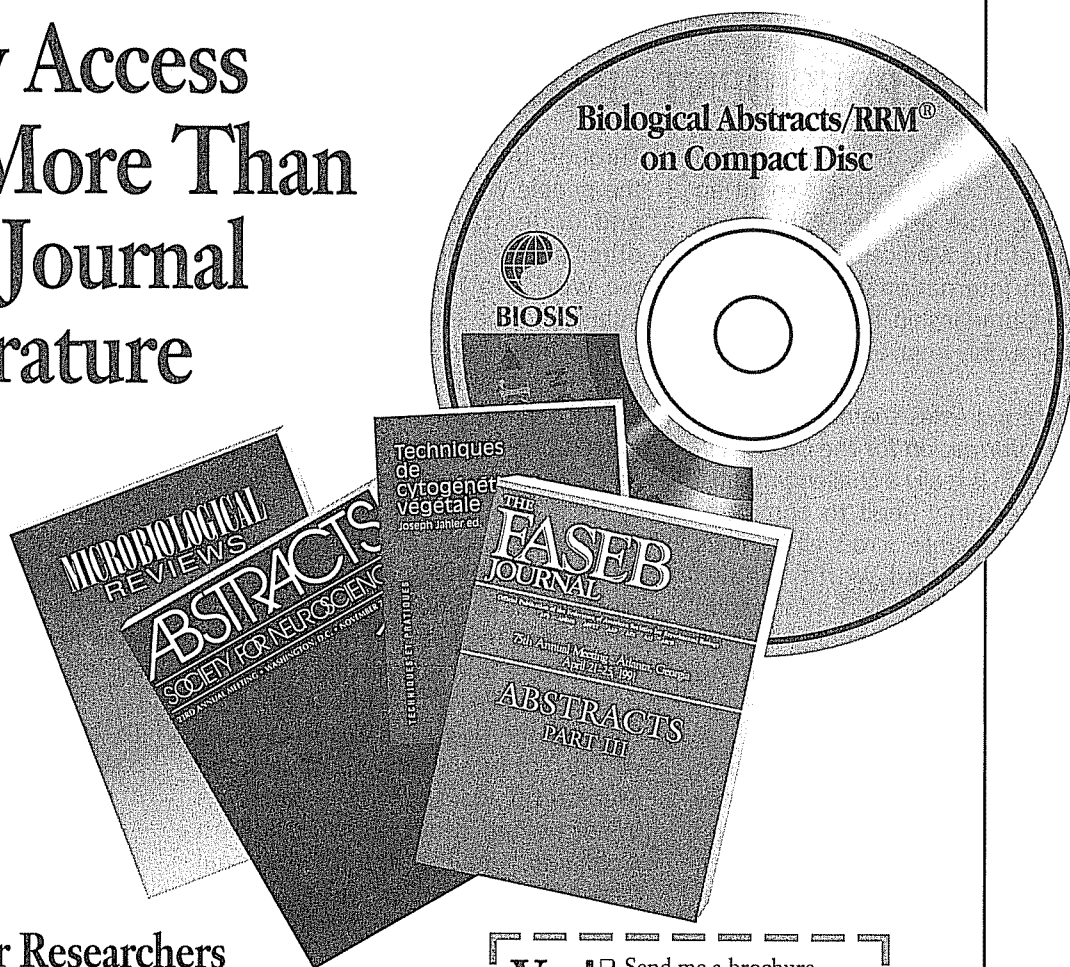
Committee have put together a programme which promises to be of great interest and pleasure to us all.

The theme of the symposium is "*Library Cooperation in the Era of Electronic Technology*". The rapid changes in the development of Internet and of the electronic information resources make this a very hot topic. And one of the most important goals of EAHIL must be to ensure easy access to professional

documentation for all medical and health-related libraries in Europe, thus becoming equal members of the "Global Village". I urge you to make your reservation as soon as possible, if you have not already done so. Join us in Prague and help us make the EAHIL Symposium one of the most exciting events of the year.

Elisabeth Husem
EAHIL President

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LETTRE DE LA PRESIDENTE

Commentaires sur la 95^{ème} Conférence Annuelle de la Medical Library Association et le 7^{ème} Congrès International des Bibliothèques Médicales, des 7-12 mai 1995.

Je viens de rentrer de Washington DC, où j'ai passé une semaine passionnante durant laquelle j'ai participé au Congrès MLA-95/7ICML. C'était la première fois que j'assistais au Congrès de la MLA ainsi que celui du ICML et je les ai infiniment appréciés tous les deux.

Les deux congrès ont partagé le thème suivant: *"Information pour la Santé dans le "Village Global"*, thème qui relevait un formidable défi. Il est évident que nous avons besoin de communiquer et de coopérer au-delà des frontières afin de créer un monde unifié. Les sciences de l'information dans le domaine de la santé ainsi que la gestion de l'information ont une vocation internationale et les réseaux deviennent de plus en plus importants. Certaines tendances majeures exprimées lors de ces congrès pourraient se résumer de la façon suivante : d'une part, la quantité des changements technologiques dans le monde actuel est vraiment irrésistible; Internet, avec son accès à toutes les ressources documentaires mondiales ouvre la porte à un flux énorme de connaissances; et d'autre part, les bibliothécaires voient leurs rôles modifiés, ils devront désormais regarder vers le futur, tout en gardant leurs compétences professionnelles traditionnelles intactes, et agir en tant que guides dans ces nouveaux domaines de l'information.

Nous avons besoin de nous remettre sans cesse à jour, d'être en contact avec nos collègues, de faciliter les discussions et de rester informés de tous ces développements; Au travers des nombreuses présentations et grâce aux contacts personnels, nous arrivons à apprendre, à mieux nous comprendre les uns les autres et à mieux appréhender l'environnement dans

lequel nous vivons. Avoir accès grâce à Internet à la planète entière est certes très excitant mais aller à la rencontre de nos collègues d'une manière vivante grâce à ce méta-réseau est encore plus enthousiasmant et émouvant. Certes Internet a besoin d'être équilibré entre les utilisateurs et les différents réseaux accessibles et il est vrai en effet que la haute technicité doit être contrebalancée par une haute maîtrise intellectuelle. Certains papiers présentés au 7ICML ont mis l'accent sur des problèmes particuliers dans le domaine de la santé de part le monde, comme par exemple le SIDA et la santé des femmes, et sur le besoin pressant d'obtenir plus d'informations et de connaissances.

En tant que Présidente de l'AEIBS, j'ai eu le privilège de saluer les délégués lors de l'ouverture de la 7ICML qui débutait le mercredi 10 mai. Lois Ann Colaianni, Présidente du Comité Local d'Organisation, a accueilli chaleureusement les 750 participants venant du monde entier. En ce qui concerne les activités de l'AEIBS, le jeudi après-midi 11 mai, l'AEIBS a tenu une réunion informelle destinée à ses membres présents ainsi qu'aux non-membres. Donna B. Flake de la Bibliothèque des Sciences Robert M. Fales à Wilmington NC, a été accueillie chaleureusement comme la représentante de MLA au sein de l'AEIBS pour une période de 3 ans. De courtes présentations sur les activités futures de l'AEIBS ont été données, et des copies de la Newsletter ainsi que des brochures d'information ont été mises à la disposition de chacun. Cette réunion a été organisée dans le but de donner l'opportunité aux participants de se rencontrer et de mieux se connaître et, grâce au soutien financier de SWETS, nous avons pu offrir de très bons fromages!

Salvinija Kociene, Directeur de la Bibliothèque Lithuanienne de Médecine de Vilnius, participait également à notre réunion. Elle nous a déclaré que c'était probablement grâce à la lettre envoyée par l'AEIBS au Président de

Lithuanie qu'elle se trouvait toujours dans les locaux de sa bibliothèque "dans l'attente". Espérons qu'elle puisse y rester de façon définitive. Etre à Washington durant ces deux congrès m'a procuré le sentiment profond et positif d'appartenir au "Village Global". Le prochain et 8^{ème} International Congress on Medical Librarianship se tiendra à Londres durant le mois de juin de l'année 2000. Ce sera alors une conférence intégrée et tripartite qui combinerà ce Congrès International avec la Conférence biennale de l'AEIBS et la réunion annuelle du Groupe des Bibliothèques Médicales Britanniques.

Un rapport détaillé issu de la Conférence de MLA95/7ICML de Washington paraîtra dans la prochaine Newsletter.

PRAGUE

J'ai le plaisir de vous inviter à Prague ainsi qu'au Symposium de l'AEIBS qui s'y déroulera les 20 et 21 septembre 1995. Le thème du Symposium est *"La coopération des bibliothèques, l'électronique et la technologie"*. Les changements rapides dans le développement d'Internet ainsi que dans les ressources de l'information électronique rendent ce thème d'une actualité brûlante. Et l'un des buts essentiels de l'AEIBS doit être d'assurer à tous les professionnels de l'information un accès aisé aux bibliothèques médicales et aux bibliothèques dans le domaine de la santé en Europe et donc de devenir des membres à part entière du "Village Global".

Je vous demande instamment d'effectuer votre réservation dans les plus brefs délais, si vous ne l'avez pas encore fait.

Rejoignez-nous à Prague et aidez-nous à faire de ce symposium de l'AEIBS l'un des événements les plus marquants de cette année.

Elisabeth HUSEM
Présidente de l'AEIBS

EAHIL SUB-GROUPS

NEWS FROM THE EUROPEAN VETERINARY LIBRARIES GROUP (EVLG)

Des nouvelles du Groupe Européen des Bibliothèques Vétérinaires



A lot of things are going on, although specific initiatives by the members of the group (or the board of the Group) are scarce. Just looking backwards and looking ahead, we can see that the VetLib-discussion list on E-mail is doing very well. It's run by our American colleagues, the last number I heard was that there are now 163 participants worldwide.

The stream of messages is ever growing. One of the questions is whether it makes sense to start an own list. It is my opinion that if it is possible to operate such a list on a global scale the profession is "small enough" to do just with one list.

Further we are looking forward to the home-pages for the veterinary libraries to be created on the World Wide Web, if they are set up in the framework of their parental organization they could be copied and grouped under a (European) Veterinary Libraries section. I would favour a common format for home-pages, maybe it's a good topic for the next EVLG-meeting to discuss. The Proceedings of the First International Conference of Animal Health Information Specialists that was held in Reading in 1992 is now available. At this meeting the idea of a European Veterinary Libraries group was born. The book is edited by Mitsuko Williams, C. Trenton Boyd, Vicki F. Croft and Carol M. Downs. In 189 pages it gives you a complete tour of the different topics discussed at this lively conference. The main topics discussed are: Animal health information resources, specialized resources and unique services, managing animal health information and services in the 90s and beyond, historical collections and information sources, using technology for better access to animal health information and users.

Copies of the Proceedings can be ordered at the price of US\$ 25,- from:

Ditte Rosentoft, Secretary
The Danish Veterinary and Agricultural Library
Bulowsvej 13 - 1870 Frederiksberg,
Copenhagen - Denmark
Tel.: 45 35 28 21 80
Fax.: 45 35 28 21 38
E-mail: dr@dvjb.kvl.dk or
E-mail: ael@dvjb.kvl.dk

The Annual general meeting of the EVLG is scheduled for September 19th, 1995 in Prague. Apart from AGM-topics, there will be ample opportunity to discuss future development and strategies. The meeting is in conjunction with the EAHIL-meeting of September 20-21th, 1995. More information on this can be found elsewhere in this issue of the EAHIL-news.

The plans for the EAHIL conference in Coimbra in 1996 are already growing. In 1997 the Second International Conference of Animal Health Information specialists is scheduled and will be held in Copenhagen. The board of EVLG will meet the Nordic organizing committee this summer to avoid "duplication". In 1998 The Netherlands will be the host to the EAHIL conference.

In the United Kingdom a "regional" group of Animal Health Information Specialists was formed and is quite active. More than 35 members are already listed in the ranks of the AHIS UK. Their last meeting had the challenging title: "The electronic jungle: finding your way to animal health information." The group is at present considering the possibilities of a connection with EAHIL.

The Deans of the Veterinary Universities met in Helsinki on the occasion of the anniversary of the Finnish College of veterinary medicine, our colleague

Raisa livonen welcomed them and made them familiar with EVLG and EAHIL.

On a "continental" level more progress is to be reported: from 3 - 6 July 1995 the 1st African Conference of Animal Health Information Workers will be held at the University of Pretoria, South Africa. Congratulation for this event from Europe to our African colleagues is appropriate!

Paul W. van Olm

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(Please do not forget to change my telephone and fax-numbers as above)

Official EAHIL Business

Board and Council Meetings in Prague

Both the EAHIL Board and Council will meet in Prague on September 19, 1995. I hope Board and Council members will be able to attend so that we can discuss and decide on matters important to the future of our Association.

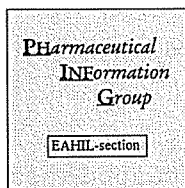
Le Bureau Exécutif et le Conseil de l'AEIBS se réuniront à Prague le 19 septembre 1995. J'espère qu'il sera possible aux membres du Bureau et du Conseil d'y être présents de sorte que nous puissions discuter et décider des activités futures de l'Association.

The EVLG Annual Meeting

will be held in Prague on September 19 at 14:30. Join us!

PHARMACEUTICAL INFORMATION GROUP

Groupe Pharmaceutique d'Information



Dear Colleagues,

After the announcement of the official creation of our Group in the last issue of the Newsletter and on several lists of Internet, the MLA News and Scrip have also echoed the news.

At present, some 20 people are members of the Pharmaceutical Information Group: most are individuals and working for the pharmaceutical industry. Moreover, about 40 people have expressed their interest in our Group or wanted to become members (most are not members of EAHIL yet).

Contacts have also been made with several sister organizations, for collaboration:

- AIOPI (Association of Information Officers in the Pharmaceutical Industry)
- PDR
- MLA (Medical Library Association), Drugs and Pharmacology section
- PILS (Pharmaceutical Information Librarians)
- SLA (Special Library Association), Pharmacy section
- Mr Peter Heffernan, from Australia, coordinator of a global group of over 400 technical and CompSci Phds who provide very high-level technical support to medical research

Statutes (bye-laws)-the rewriting process is going on, and some matters have been discussed regarding for the Pharmaceutical Information Program at the next EAHIL Conference in Coimbra.

Following projects are planned:

- in the U.S.A., a Pharmaceutical Forum is set up regularly by Mrs Bonnie Snow from Knight Ridder Information. It gives some search tips for pharmaceutical information scientists. For example, the last

issue dealt with "Drugs-in-Development Directories" and "Pharmacoeconomics Searching". We plan to set up similar meetings in Europe, probably in February next year.

- A discussion group dedicated to pharmaceutical information scientists is also discussed. Contacts have been made with sister organizations to use it as an exchange tool between members.
- We also plan to set up (or collaborate to) a pharmaceutical information World Wide Web server, with links to interesting pharmaceutical information data.

• • •

Chers Collègues,

Après l'annonce de la création officielle de notre groupe dans le dernier numéro, ainsi que sur quelques listes spécialisées sur Internet, MLA News et Scrip ont également répercuté la nouvelle. Une vingtaine de personnes sont à ce jour membres de notre groupe:

la plupart sont des membres individuels, et travaillent dans l'industrie pharmaceutique. De plus, une quarantaine de collègues sollicitent plus d'information sur notre groupe, ou demandent leur affiliation (La plupart d'entre eux ne sont pas encore membres de l'AEIBS).

Des contacts ont été pris avec les organisations similaires en vue de dégager des collaborations:

- AIOPI (Association of Information Officers in the Pharmaceutical Industry)
- PDR
- MLA (Medical Library Association), Drugs and Pharmacology section
- PILS (Pharmaceutical Information Librarians)
- SLA (Special Library association), Pharmacy section

- Mr Peter Heffernan, d'Australie, coordinateur d'un groupe de plus de 400 pharmaciens spécialistes dans les domaines techniques et informatiques qui offrent des services d'une très haute technicité pour la recherche médicale

Le processus de réécriture des Statuts est en cours, et d'intéressantes choses se profilent pour le programme Information Pharmaceutique de la prochaine Conférence à Coimbra.

D'autres projets sont également en cours:

- aux U.S.A., un Pharmaceutical Forum est régulièrement organisé par Mme Bonnie Snow de Knight Ridder Information. Des stratégies de recherche spécifiques pour l'information pharmaceutique y sont démontrées. Par exemple, la dernière en date s'occupait de "Médicaments en développement" et de "Recherche en pharmacoeconomie". Nous envisageons d'organiser des réunions similaires en Europe, probablement au mois de février de l'année prochaine.
- La mise sur pied d'une liste de discussions spécifiques à l'information pharmaceutique est également en préparation. Certains contacts ont été pris avec des organisations similaires pour l'utiliser comme outil d'échanges entre les membres.
- Nous envisageons également de construire ou de collaborer à un site World Wide Web spécifique à nos besoins.

Vincent Maes

secretary

Pharmaceutical Information Group
Pfizer S.A. - 102, rue Léon Theodor

B-1090 Bruxelles - Belgique

Tel : +32 2 423.07.12

Fax : +32 2 423.07.99

e-mail : maesv@belgium.eu.net

EAHIL MEMBERSHIP

SPONSORSHIP

We would like to warmly thank **SilverPlatter Information BV** which has offered a financial support to our Newsletter for 1995. We very much appreciate its sponsorship.

SilverPlatter Information is a world-wide facilitator of the publication and distribution of electronic information. It offers over 250 databases from 100 international information providers on Cd-ROM and over the Internet, with SPIRS software for data retrieval and ERL-Electronic Reference Library-technology for the collection, organisation and distribution of information over networks.

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AFFILIATED MEMBERS

We are pleased to welcome 3 new Affiliated Members:

BMJ Publishing Group,

BMA House, Tavistock Square, London WC1H 9JR, England - Tel. 44 171 387 4499 - Fax: 44 171 383 6661 Contact: Eunice Walford, Marketing (Tel. 171 383 65 46)

BMJ Publishing Group, the publishing arm of the British Medical Association, runs one of Europe's largest medical publishing programmes. Its flagship publication, *the British Medical Journal*, has a weekly English Language circulation of over 110,000 and is recognised as the voice of doctors in the UK. A further thirteen overseas *Local Editions* are published and have a combined circulation of 140,000 and the recently launched *Student BMJ* is read by more than 9,000 medical students. In addition, **BMJ** publishes in excess of twenty five specialist journals across a wide sphere of medical fields, and its Books Division has over 5,000 titles in stock ranging from the well known *ABC* series through the specialist topics.

Elsevier Science BV,

*Secondary Publishing Division,
European Marketing Office,
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NL 1014 AG Amsterdam,
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Contact: Kim Briggs,
European Marketing Manager
(k.briggs@elsevier.nl)*

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Oxford University Press,

*Walton Street,
Oxford OX2 6DP, UK
Tel. 44 1865 267 785
Fax: 44 1865 267 782
Email: gedyer@oup.co.uk
Contact: Mr Richard Gedye,
Journals Marketing Manager*

Oxford University Press publishes across the whole spectrum of medical specialities and in all major media - books, journals, CD-ROM, and (from 1996) online.

From the Oxford Textbook of medicine through to its latest Human Reproduction Update journal on CD-ROM, it aims to combine innovation and excellence with a 400 year tradition which is unique in medical publishing.

If you have access to the World Wide Web, you can find out more on :

<<http://www.oup.co.uk>>

CHANGE OF NAME

CD PLUS, EAHIL Affiliated Member, changes its name.

At the beginning of May the CD Plus family of products changed their names - all products will now adopt the Ovid name, the same name which has identified the Ovid graphical user interface on all platforms for the last two years. In addition the entire company worldwide has been renamed **Ovid Technologies**.

The company's office details and personnel are unchanged. For further details please contact your nearest **Ovid Technologies** office:

Amsterdam: Ovid Technologies,
Valeriusstraat 100, NL-1075 GC
Amsterdam, The Netherlands
Tel: 31 20 672 0242 - Fax: 31 20 673 8041 - Email: info@cdplus.nl

London: Ovid Technologies,
1 Larnington Street, London W6 OHU, UK
Tel: 44 181 748 3777 - Fax: 44 181 748 2302 - Email: info@cdplusuk.com

NEW MEMBERSHIP

FULL MEMBERS :

- CENTER OF CLINICAL MEDICINE "LINEZERS", Astrida Cimure, Med. Library, Riga, Latvia
- GENERALITAT DE CATALUNYA, Mrs Gemma Serra, Dept.Sanitat I Seguretat Social, Barcelona, Spain
- REINITZER Doris, Veterinärmedizinische Universität, Wien, Austria
- SCHMID Silvia, Glaxo Pharmazeutika, Wien, Austria
- VAN BOOM Martin, Lilly Services (Eli Lilly), Mont-St.Guibert, Belgium

ASSOCIATED MEMBERS :

- FLAKE Donna, Coastal AHEC Library, Wilmington, N.C., USA
- HINDAWI Kamal, Kamal Khalil Hindawi, Aleppo, Syria

THE SABRE FOUNDATION ZAGREB

The Sabre foundation was founded in the USA in 1969 as a private humanitarian organisation for cultural, educational, and humanitarian affairs. Since 1986 it has been helping the East European countries with scientific and technical literature in the fields of English language, history, business, economic, medical, political and computer sciences, etc. The Sabre foundation cooperates with more than a hundred American and European publishers.

Sabre-Zagreb is the branch of its US parent institution, founded in 1991. It is a non-profit and a non governmental

organization, a clearing-house for selection and dissemination of the donated publications.

Sabre-Zagreb has been for three years developing the following programmes:

- book donations,
- journal subscriptions on a 50% discount basis.

In the period 1991-1994, 125,000 books were donated, 20,000 of them in the field of biomedicine. The books were distributed to universities, scientific institutes, schools, hospitals and libraries.

Through the journal programme 248 titles were made available on subscription to 21 hospital libraries in Croatia on a three years basis and 50% discount.

Under our present circumstances, this is a great help meaning US\$65,000 saving per year.

Jelka Petrak

Central Medical Library
University of Zagreb
Salata 3, P.O.B. 445
41000 Zagreb, Croatia
Fax: 38 41 424 001

EUROFUNDING: notes from an Information Day on the new European Union Libraries Programme under the Fourth Framework.*

EUROFUNDING : journée d'information sur le nouveau Programme des Bibliothèques de l'Union Européenne

L'auteur nous communique un rapport sur cette journée: Il n'y a pas de récompenses financières immédiates à attendre si vous entreprenez des recherches soutenues par l'Union Européenne, mais vous pourrez en tirer des bénéfices à long terme au niveau de l'image de votre bibliothèque au sein de votre institution, au niveau national et international. Pour être accepté, votre projet doit avoir une portée européenne, et rejoindre les objectifs de l'Union. Les bibliothèques biomédicales peuvent jouer un rôle dans le Programme Biomédecine & Santé. Plusieurs rôles sont possibles : depuis celui du "coordinateur" jusqu'au "groupe test".

Les principales difficultés se situent au niveau de la part importante de financement qui incombe aux partenaires, du soutien total et indispensable de la part de la direction de votre institution, de la composante administrative dans les différentes étapes du projet, et de la participation de vos collègues à sa réalisation. Votre proposition sera passée au crible pour tous les critères en considération.

Les membres de l'AEIBS peuvent certainement y trouver un grand intérêt pour le bénéfice de leur bibliothèque, et pour atteindre les objectifs que s'est fixée notre association pour une Europe de santé par une utilisation plus efficace de l'information. La Newsletter peut les aider à trouver des partenaires qui seraient intéressés à collaborer.

This was the first time I have ever seen a real live European Commissioner. The occasion was a meeting timed to coincide with the first call for proposals (1995) in the Telematics Applications Programme 1994-1998, (this grand title includes Libraries) which closed on 15th June 1995. The 2nd call for proposals, closes on 15th September 1995, and for those of us who have not made a proposal before it would be very difficult to do all the necessary preparatory work in time. But maybe we should all give serious considera-

tion as to how we can best further the aims of our libraries (and those of the Association) by thinking, planning and arranging things, so that we would be in a position to make or participate in research proposals in the next round. One thing I learned from the meeting is that, they who start early have a better chance of winning the race!

Why should you want to apply for Eurofunding to do research ?

Let us be clear that there are no direct financial rewards in undertaking EU

funded research. You have to genuinely want to find answers to a problem that faces your library or its users, to the extent that if your research proposal is not accepted, your library/institution will think the incidental expenses and staff time involved in the preliminary work was worth while. If you are successful, such research should enable you to solve the original problem or at least go some way towards it. It will take you and your research partners to the leading edge in research and development, and, very importantly,

SilverPlatter

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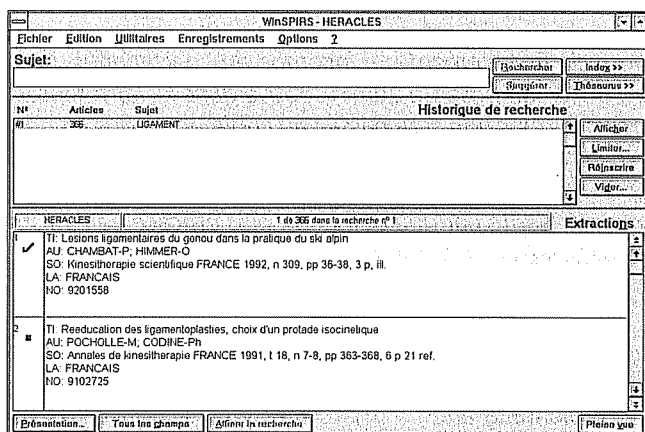
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its prestige will enhance your library's profile both within the institution and perhaps nationally and internationally.

Thus it may count towards research assessment and other such other evaluative exercises, or make further research grants easier to obtain.; no immediate financial gains but beneficial in the long run.

Why should the EU want to fund it?

Their priorities are paramount. The European Commission has specific objectives for each Programme and Sector. The closer your objectives can fit with these, the better the chance of success. The relevant documentation should be available from your local European Documentation Centre and will require very careful reading. CORDIS**, the EU's electronic database gives brief descriptions of projects that have already been funded as well as other relevant information.

Your research proposal must conform to three important principles:

The project must have a European focus - it should not be something that ought to be funded locally or even nationally, but must have a potentially widespread application in Europe;
It must include research partners from more than one EU country;
It should build on, or take into account, projects already funded by the EU.

What opportunities are available?

OPLES (Opportunities for Libraries in Europe)*** has identified a number of Programmes and Sectors in which library and information services could have a role especially in the effective dissemination of research findings, information products etc. Medical libraries might well have a role in the Biomedicine & Health Programme, though the main programme for Library Networks & Services (and Education & Training) is the Telematics Applications Programme. Acceptable research areas are described in Appendix A1 of the Call for Proposals 1995*. Although both cross sector (within a Programme) and cross Programme funding is possible, it would certainly increase the complexity of initiating the proposal, since two sets rather than a single set of documentation would need careful and detailed attention, if the

proposal were to get past the formal part of the evaluation process. Not for beginners perhaps, but then medical departments often have experience in project management and proposal writing - so maybe they would be good partners.

The co-ordinating partner has the toughest task. To them falls the unenviable task of collecting/collating management work reports from each partner every two weeks (fax or e mail essential); these are included in the monthly management reports which go to the Commission. Every now and then a significant point in the project (a "milestone") is reached requiring a further, "progress report".

In addition, of course, reports on the results of the "tasks" and "workpackages" (i.e. the research itself) must be collated and disseminated to partners. The co-ordinating partner is often the initiator of the project, who may wish to exert intellectual control over the project as a whole. On the other hand there have been projects which are managed by specialized consultants.

If all this sounds too much there are other ways of participating. For instance, although the other partners in a research project must also have the same commitment, it is probably easier to manage a subsidiary role than to take the lead.

The project will probably not be successful in obtaining funding unless the work and responsibilities are shared and the "partnership" is meaningful in terms of contributed resources and staff time. But there is yet another level of collaboration which may appeal to those who would like to gain some experience before taking on the responsibilities of partnership. You can be part of a "test group", so that the findings of a research project can be tried out in the real world.

What are the problems?

Resources in terms of expertise, finance, and technology are the most formidable. It is important to remember that at least half of the costs of doing the research will have to be borne by each partner. There are two ways in which funding is given under the Libraries programme:-

50% of actual costs (It is very important that all overheads are included e.g. office space 'rental')

100% of the additional marginal costs (i.e. additional staff costs, travel, equipment and large items of necessary expenditure).

The full backing of your institution is absolutely necessary to support the preliminary phases of the project, which may or may not be successful, as they will have to finance all expenses before any funding is received. Indeed it is necessary anyway since the signature of the legally authorized person - the Vice Chancellor, Principal etc. for the institution - is the only acceptable signature on the Proposal.

Some help may be given if one of the partners is an SME (Small to medium (commercial) enterprise of up to 500 persons), these "enterprises" are eligible to apply for an "expansion award", which may help to tide them over the long period before any funding is forthcoming. It has its uses in that the process evaluates the company, which you propose to take on as a partner, but SMEs may bring conflicts with regard to commercial confidentiality. A judicious choice of partners should enable you to harness skills in particular areas, so that the team is well balanced.

Finding partners ought not to be a problem for EAHIL members! You can use the pages of this Newsletter to find others that might be interested in collaboration. Failing that your National Focal Point may be able to help, you can make use of the appropriate CORDIS database, or you might find help through town twinning arrangements etc.

Language can be a problem and the recruitment of backup in this area is probably a wise move from the outset. "Eurospeak" is another, which covers not only the language but the general culture in which proposals have to be made. It is necessary to follow the letter of the instructions and rumour has it that "optional" in Eurospeak means "mandatory"! It was suggested that attending a "Proposers' Day" or an "Information Day" is one of the best ways of soaking up this alien culture

and enabling you to comprehend more fully the formal process (some might say bureaucracy) which will enable your Proposal to go forward.

Last but by no means least you will need the understanding of your colleagues in order to pursue the research with an easy conscience. So skills in welding your partners into a team need to be complemented by ensuring that the "home team" is not left out in the cold, when "researchers" are apparently enjoying themselves in exotic places.

Oh, yes, and there will be totally unexpected problems - so contingency planning with regard to personnel and resources is necessary.

What happens?

EXAMPLE OF A TIMETABLE	
18 MONTH RESEARCH PROJECT	
(Projects are not normally for more than 3 years and many are shorter.)	
START UP TIME - SIX MONTHS OR SO	
Proposal sent in time for deadline	Jan 93
Proposal evaluated	
Proposal accepted	May 1993
More work & negotiation	
Technical Annex agreed	Dec 1993
Started project	Jan 1994
Funding received	Mar/Apr 1994
Finish	Sept 1995

Proposals are strictly governed in their format and you must use a standard form. If they arrive at their destination late, they will not be eligible. One speaker advised that you had a perfectionist on your team to ensure that every detail required is covered down to the last comma, and that the forms are signed by the legally authorized person from each partner.

In this way and after a considerable amount of preparatory work your proposal should get through the formal evaluation stage. (Many do not and are rejected at this point on the grounds that they do not conform to the rules).

After this proposals are evaluated in two phases by independent experts. Those which conform closely to EC objectives, take other EC funded work into account, do not fudge difficult issues (such as copyright) but state how they intend to deal with them, are written clearly, stick to facts, and use open standards - these have a chance of being accepted. Note that there is little emphasis on the "brilliance" of the idea, the adoption of which will lead to a "greater, golden age for Europe".

The evaluators are not fools (I am assuming you have a good idea anyway) and too much prose to this effect can be counter productive. The evaluators will be looking to see whether the the partners have experience and the relevant competence, that the inclusion of a LFR (less favoured region) is not merely to gain Brownie points, but brings with it some particular expertise or relevance to the research. Also, that the costings are credible and do not include items specifically excluded under the regulations.

The Technical Annex is a detailed document. It spells out each "work-package" and the "tasks" to be undertaken, which partner is going to do them, and how many "man-days" to complete each part. This is perhaps another of the phases where help will be needed and it was suggested that a "mentor", someone or some institution that has already undertaken a successful project, can be very helpful. National Focal Points in each EU country and Project Officers are officially there to help also.

This is surely something that EAHIL members should pursue for the benefit of our own libraries and to further the aims of our Association in making Europe a healthier place, through the efficient use of information. In this short space I cannot hope to do justice to all the

good advice given by the speakers at our one day meeting. Even the bibliography is minimal, but I hope it will at least provide a starting point.

(**European Commission. Directorate General XIII (Feb 1995) Telematics Applications Programme 1994-1998. Telematics for Libraries. Call for proposals 1995. Background Notes. [Brussels: The European Commission].*

- **CORDIS** - Online service giving access to a number of databases including: Community funded programmes, projects being carried out within the programmes, abstracts and bibliographical information on related publications reports etc, news, partner search, contacts, etc.
- To register as a CORDIS user & other enquiries:-Postal address: ECHO/CORDIS Customer service B.P.2373, L-1023 Luxembourg Tel. +352 34981 240 Fax. +352 34981 248.
- **Brophy P.- Opportunities for Libraries in Europe.** British Library (Library & Information Research Report, nr. 105). ISBN 0-7123-3296-0. Available through Turpin Distribution Services Ltd., Black Horse Road, Letchworth, Herts. SG6 1HN, UK. -

Other recommended reading

Great Britain. Office of Science & Technology. (1995). Funding from the fourth framework programme for research & technological development (1994-1998). A guide to participation in European Community research and developmental programmes. London.

This is aimed at U.K. researchers but has useful advice and information of general use.

EC-funded research and technological development: an insight into the handling of project proposals - an introduction to contract negotiation. Brussels: European Commission, 1994.
Collins, M. 1993. A complete guide to European research, technology and consultancy funds: guidelines for successful applications, lobbying, acquisition and use. 2nd ed. London: Kogan Page.

Jean Shaw

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University of Leicester
Leicester Royal Infirmary
Leicester LE2 7LX, UK
Fax: 44 116 252 3107*

EAHIL SYMPOSIUM ON COOPERATION OF MEDICAL LIBRARIES
SYMPOSIUM DE L'AEIBS/EAHIL: LA COOPÉRATION ET LES BIBLIOTHÈQUES DE SANTÉ

PRAGUE, CZECH REPUBLIC, SEPTEMBER 20-21, 1995

"LIBRARY COOPERATION IN THE ERA OF ELECTRONIC TECHNOLOGY"
"LA COOPÉRATION DES BIBLIOTHÈQUES, L'ÉLECTRONIQUE ET LA TECHNOLOGIE"



Dear Colleagues,

This is the last Newsletter issue to appear before the Prague "EAHIL Symposium on Cooperation of Medical Libraries" takes place. Preparations are well under way and by the middle of May first registration forms from across Europe and also from Canada and USA have already reached us.

As you know, the advance registration date was June 20. We invite you not to wait until the last minute.

In July confirmation notes will be distributed to all who will have sent us their registration. If it is possible, kindly send also a copy of the bank draft (confirmation of payment). When filling the number of Czech bank account (19-228-021/0710), please take the utmost care.

More than 20 speakers will take their part in the Symposium. The keynote address "Interlibrary Cooperation" will be given by Lois Ann Colaianni (USA).

The four sessions of the Symposium will be introduced by invited review papers:

"Classical and modern methods of acquisition" - Albert Prior (UK);

"Document Supply" - Tony McSeán (UK);

"Share Cataloguing and Union Catalogues" - Monique C. Cleland (Switzerland);

"Networking" - Teodora Oker-Blom (Sweden).

Grateful acknowledgement is extended to all colleagues who up to now have assisted us in organising the Symposium.

We shall do our best to ensure a pleasant stay in Prague for you. Besides taking part in a varied professional and social programme you will get a splendid chance to experience the unique cultural heritage and beauty of our city.

We are looking forward to meeting you in Prague.

Otakar Pinkas

Organizing Committee - Národní lékařská knihovna

Sokolská 31, 12132 Prague - Czech republic

tel. 422 293 682 - fax: 422 2491 4625

e.mail: pinkas@nlkdec.nlk.anet.cz



EAHIL SYMPOSIUM ON COOPERATION OF MEDICAL LIBRARIES

PRAGUE, CZECH REPUBLIC, SEPTEMBER 20-21, 1995

PROGRAMME

Tuesday, September 19

9.00 - 17.30 :

Registration - *Inscriptions*

9.00 - 13.00 :

Meeting of the EAHIL Executive Board
Réunion du Bureau Exécutif de l'AEIBS

14.30 - 18.00 :

Meeting of the EAHIL Council
Réunion du Conseil de l'AEIBS

Annual Meeting of the European
Veterinary Libraries Group
Réunion annuelle de l'EVLG

15.00 - 18.00 :

Guided sightseeing tour - *Visite guidée*

Wednesday, September 20

9.00 - 10.00 :

Opening ceremony - *Cérémonie d'ouverture*

10.00 - 10.30 : Coffee

10.30 - 11.30 :

Plenary Session - *Session plénière*

11.30 - 12.00 : Exhibition opening
Ouverture de l'Exposition

12.00 - 13.00 : Lunch

13.00 - 14.30 :

Parallel sessions - *sessions parallèles*:

Albert Prior (UK): : Classical and modern
methods of acquisitions -

*Le développement des collections et
méthodes classiques et modernes*

Monique C. Cleland (Switzerland):

Shared Cataloguing and Union Catalogues
*Le catalogage en commun et les catalogues
collectifs*

Teodora Oker-Blom (Sweden):

Networking I - *Le travail en réseaux I*

14.30 - 15.00 : Coffee

15.00 - 16.00 :

Parallel sessions - *sessions parallèles*

19.00 - 23.00 : Welcoming reception

Thursday, September 21

9.00 - 10.30 :

Parallel sessions - *sessions parallèles* :

Tony McSeán (UK):

Document Supply : New Ways and
Approaches / *L'accès aux documents
méthodes et approches nouvelles*

Teodora Oker-Blom (Sweden):

Networking II : Impact on Library and
Information Service / *Le travail en réseau
son impact sur les bibliothèques et leurs
services*

10.30 - 11.00 : Coffee

11.00 - 11.30 :

Closing ceremony - *Cérémonie de clôture*

12.00 - 13.00 : Lunch

15.00 - 17.00 :

Excursion to historical parts of the
National Library / *Visite de la partie his-
torique de la Bibliothèque Nationale.*

Friday, September 22

9.00 - 12.00 :

Guided sightseeing tour - *Visite guidée*

REGISTRATION FORM

Return registration form to: Národní lékařská knihovna • 121 32 PRAGUE 2, Sokolská 31 • Tel. 422 2491 5775 • Fax 422 2491 4625
(Please print in spaces below, use one form for one participant, if further forms required, kindly make photocopies.)

Surname : First name :

Company/institution :

Address :

City code : City : Country :

Area code / Tel. nr. : Fax :

Accompanying person registration:

Surname : First name :

Home address.....

City code : City : Country :

Date: signature:

SYMPOSIUM REGISTRATION: Price : EAHIL member US\$175
non-member US\$216
Accompanying person US\$ 50

Total payment : US\$

- 40% discount for participants from East European countries.
- Please join copy of the bank references of your payment.
- Note: 1 US\$ = cca 27 Kc (Czech crowns).

PAYMENT TO: CESKÁ NÁRODNÍ BANKA, 110 03 PRAGUE 1, PŘÍKOPY 28 • BANK ACCOUNT 19-228-021/0710

EAHIL SYMPOSIUM ON COOPERATION OF MEDICAL LIBRARIES

PRAGUE, CZECH REPUBLIC, SEPTEMBER 20-21, 1995

HOTEL RESERVATION REQUEST

Return with registration form to Národní Lékařská Knihovna, Prague

Hotel	Address	Phone	Fax	Single	Double	Apt.
Panorama*	Milevská 7	6116 1111	426 263	\$170	\$200	\$318
ILF*	Budejovická 15	6121 1332	422 255	\$ 56	\$ 67	\$ 85
BETA	Roskotova 1	462 791	462 811	—	\$ 19	—
Garlik	Na Dvorcích 9	7867 083	7867 083	\$ 26	\$ 37	—

When calling from abroad all phone and fax numbers are to be preceded by 422.

Note:

Above rates (* breakfast included) are in US dollars and may be subject to minor changes. Parking is available in all cases. All these hotels are located close to ILF Congress Centre in the district Prague 4. You will find them clean and comfortable. Information about other hotels is available upon special request.

ILF Hotel, being part of ILF Congress Centre, should be recommended to you as your hotel of choice. Single and double rooms with bath, toilet and telephone are available, as well as apartments with a minibar, a desk and TV. By underground from Budejovická station just opposite the hotel you reach in only ten minutes the centre of the city - Wenceslas Square.

Hotel Panorama (100 m. from the underground station and then seven minutes to Wenceslas Square) offers de luxe accommodation and invites you to its modern restaurants, cafés or relaxation centre with complexes of saunas, swimming pool, etc.

Hotel BETA and *Hotel Garlik* provide standard accommodation at moderate prices in a quiet part of the city. BETA offers cells with two double rooms and one facility. Garlik is a quiet family type boarding house with limited number of rooms. ILF Congress Centre may be reached from both of them in seven minutes by bus.

Please complete one hotel reservation request for each room reserved photocopy as necessary.

Hotel preference

(number the hotels in order of preference)

1st choice single double apartment

2nd choice single double apartment

Arrival date Departure date Total number of nights

Surname First name

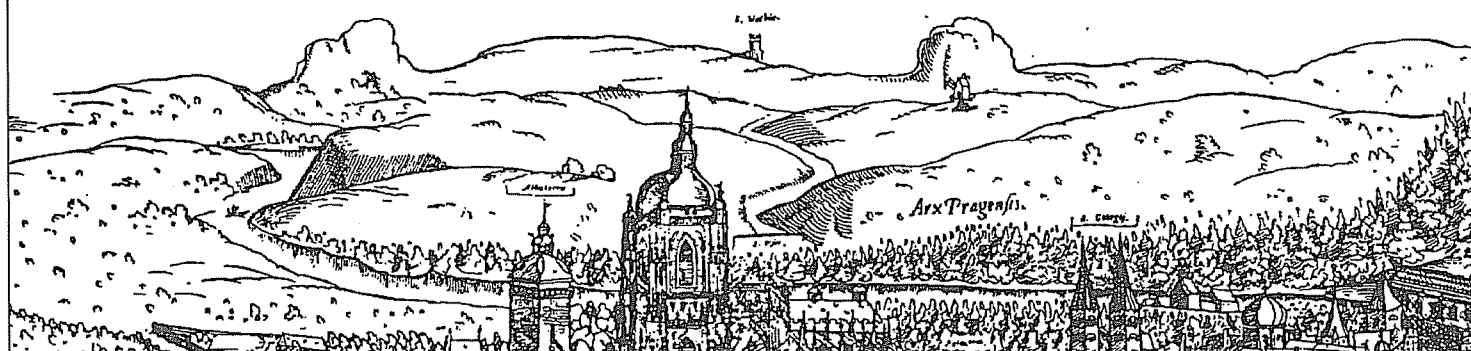
Company/Institution name City Country

Sharing with (if applicable) :

Surname First name

Company name* City Country

* (if another conference participant)



EAHIL SYMPOSIUM ON COOPERATION OF MEDICAL LIBRARIES

PRAGUE, CZECH REPUBLIC, SEPTEMBER 20-21, 1995

GENERAL INFORMATION

Registration

Registration fees are specified in the registration form. 40% discount is provided to assist the attendance of delegates from East European countries; Registration without payment cannot be accepted.

The fee includes plenary and parallel sessions, coffee breaks and two lunches, welcoming reception conference kit (conference materials, city map, Prague guide, transport tickets, postcards, etc.), Symposium proceedings, sightseeing tour, excursion to the National Library.

Accompanying person

Guests accompanying Symposium attendants are welcome. Guest registration includes admission to all social events (welcoming reception, sightseeing tour, excursion) as well as a set of transport tickets, city guide and city map, Prague souvenir cards.

Cancellation

If you become unable to attend the Symposium you may be replaced by another person from your Library (organisation), just contact us to let us know.

Refunds

Refund of your registration fee : less 10 % will be issued if you cancel your registration before June 20; cancellations received between June 20 and September 1st will receive a 50% refund; cancellations after September 1st will not be refunded. All refunds will take place after the Symposium.

Confirmation

Upon receipt of the registration form, confirmation of registration will be sent to you.

Symposium site

ILF Congress Centre - Budejovická 15, - 140 00 Prague 4
Tel: 422 6121 1238 - Fax: 422 423 692

Exhibition

Prominent vendors such as EBSCO, Swets and Zeitlinger or Minerva will be demonstrating their new products and systems in the Congress Centre.

Social programme

- Welcoming reception in Vila Lanna, a neo-Renaissance residence in the quiet surroundings of the city;
- Sightseeing guided tour by coach to give you insight of the most famous landmarks of Prague: the Royal Castle (Hradcany), the most valuable cultural monument of the Czech Republic, Old Town square, the historical core of the city, Charles Bridge, spanning the Vltava river for six centuries, the world renown Jewish district;
- Excursion into historical parts of Clementinum, the huge complex of the former Jesuit College, nowadays the seat of the National Library (6000 medieval manuscripts, 3000 incunabula, unique collection of globes and table clocks used by astronomers Tycho de Brahe, Kepler et al.)

Pre and postconvention tours

Right on the spot and according to your taste you may select out of many tours to various parts of the country, organized by Prague tourists agencies. Do not miss, however, the chance to see some of many castles and chateaux in the close vicinity of Prague like Karlstejn, built by the Roman Emperor Charles IV in 1348 for the safe-keeping of coronation jewels, Konopiste with rich exhibits of hunting and knightly paraphernalia collected by Duke Franz Ferdinand d'Este, or Krivoklát, an early Gothic castle in romantic forested scenery.

Some facts about Prague

Prague is the capital of the Czech Republic with the population of 1 200 000 inhabitants. Situated on both banks of the Vltava river it covers the area of some 500 sq. kilometers. It is the seat of the president, the parliament and other leading political authorities. Prague Castle, founded shortly after 880, became a metropolis of the medieval Czech state.

During the reign of Bohemian King and Roman Emperor Charles IV, the founder of the oldest university north of the Alps (1348), Prague became a Gothic metropolis of European importance.

The historical core of the city - the Old Town - is a living testimony of the rich heritage of past ages. At the same time Prague of today is a modern and teeming centre of culture with its wealth of theatre stages, museums, art galleries and concert halls.

AFRICAN INDEX MEDICUS

After a couple of trial issues, the African Index Medicus (AIM) has been launched officially. AIM is a printed publication intended to provide access to Africa's published, official and grey medical literature. The scope of the publication is wider than one might expect, and takes in reports, theses, project papers and other material as well as papers published in conventional journals. Most of the documents are simply not accessible by any other means, even in their country of origin.

The project is a collaboration between WHO and AHILA, EAHIL's African sister. Each participating organisation contributes its "national" medical bibliography. The format and approach are commendably consistent given the practical and logistical difficulties and though the inclusions policy seems to vary from country to country this does not detract seriously from the overall product. The number of AIM participants is steadily increasing as resources permit, and the eventual objective is to include all African countries within its scope.

AIM published is 3 or 4 times a year and is well worth supporting, both for its intrinsic value and because of what it represents in terms of professional self-help in the most unpromising circumstances. Organisations can subscribe to AIM by becoming associate members of AHILA, at a cost of \$80 a year. Payment should be certified bank cheque in UK or US currency to:

*Sabelo Mapasure, AHILA Treasurer
c/o Medical Library, University of Zimbabwe, P.O.Box MP 45, Mount Pleasant, Harare, Zimbabwe*

Tony McSeán

*British Medical Association
Tavistock Square
London WC1H 0JP, UK*

MLA DEBUTS ON THE WORLD WIDE WEB

The Medical Library Association (MLA) is pleased to announce the official pilot of MLANET on the World Wide Web. The MLANET home page contains up-to-date information on MLA, including

membership services and benefits, the code of ethics for health sciences librarianship, and information about events. All files can be reached through the home page; its uniform resource locator (URL) is: <http://www.kumc.edu/MLA/>.

Kimberly Pierceall - MLA

*Suite 300, Six North Michigan Ave
Chicago, Ill. 60602-4805X
email: pierceall@mmlahq.org*

IFLA ELECTIONS

EAHIL is sponsoring *Mrs Christine Deschamps's* candidacy, Head librarian of the University Library Paris V, on the IFLA Executive Board. Mrs Deschamps is a co-founder of EAHIL, and is well-known for her European actions on electronic document delivery projects (EDIL and ION projects). The EAHIL Executive Board was unanimous in supporting her request. The election of the next treasurer of IFLA will take place during the next IFLA General Conference to be held in Istanbul in August. Mrs Marcelle Beaudiquez, Head librarian at the Bibliothèque Nationale de France, was the last Treasurer. Good luck to Christine from EAHIL!

LE RÉSEAU NATIONAL DES DOCUMENTALISTES HOSPITALIERS, FRANCE

Le Réseau National des Documentalistes Hospitaliers en France compte 4 années d'existence et 140 professionnels. La dernière réunion de son Bureau s'est tenue à Paris le 23 mai dernier. L'ordre du jour tenait essentiellement dans la préparation de ses journées annuelles qui se tiendront au Centre Hospitalier Universitaire de Rouen en octobre prochain. Présentation de banques de données en droit et en médecine, l'Internet à l'hôpital, le droit de copie et 4 ateliers de travail seront les temps forts de ces journées. Pour plus d'informations, veuillez contacter: *Françoise Blondel, Centre de Documentation Administrative, CHU Rouen.:
1, rue Germont, 76031 Rouen Cedex
Tél. 33 35 08 86 03.*

OBITUARY

Deborah Avriel died on 3 June 1995 at the age of 59. After three years of medical studies in Paris, Deborah obtained her B.Sc. in Biological Sciences at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem in 1962, graduating from its Library School in 1964. Deborah went on to obtain a Ph.D. in Library and Information Studies at the University of London in 1969. In 1974 she became Director of the National Medical Library at the Hebrew University Hadassah Medical School in Jerusalem. She joined the World Health Organization in 1984, becoming Chief of WHO's headquarters Library in 1987.

Deborah was well loved and respected by her staff and by a wide circle of colleagues within WHO and internationally. Her energy, wisdom and vision not only transformed the WHO Library but increased its contact with many professional institutions, associations and colleagues throughout the world. Deborah's dynamic leadership inspired her staff to build a programme without which other WHO programmes could not operate so effectively, and gave definition and distinction to an essential activity - librarianship - which so often remains invisible.

Deborah has been closely linked, through her participation in the international organizing committees, to the International Congresses on Medical Librarianship. Within Europe, she was an active participant in professional affairs and a welcome guest and valued participant in EAHIL and other conferences. Deborah was an invited speaker at the EAHIL Brussels conference in 1986 which presaged the setting-up of our Association; and in 1992 she presented a paper to a plenary session of our Montpellier conference on the ethical issues that face our profession which demonstrated both her intellectual credentials and her essential humanity.

Her colleagues at WHO and in the international field of medical librarianship will miss her leadership, her humour, and her encouragement to strive to provide the best possible information services.

FEATURE ARTICLES

CO-OPERATION IN COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT: STRATEGIES TO IMPROVE HEALTH INFORMATION IN PORTUGAL

Coopération et Développement des collections : les stratégies mises en place afin de promouvoir l'information de santé au Portugal

Une vue globale de l'information de santé au Portugal fait apparaître l'isolement des bibliothèques et des services de documentation. Une action commune, celle du GTIS, vise donc à coordonner les efforts et à mettre en place des coopérations. Ce fut son premier travail et les résultats sont significatifs : un Répertoire national, un catalogue des périodiques et une liste de mots-clés contrôlés en cours d'expérimentation. Les professionnels sont devenus conscients de l'importance du partage des ressources et des expériences.

Puis fut créée l'APDIS, l'Association des Professionnels de Santé, ceci afin d'avoir des buts plus précis et d'attirer l'attention sur des problèmes tels que les réseaux ou la gestion. L'APDIS permet des contacts professionnels plus soutenus, des échanges d'expériences, met en place des études et met l'accent sur les besoins et les changements en cours.

La situation a donc changé, les résultats obtenus sont encourageants notamment en termes de coopération et d'utilisation des ressources.

ABSTRACT

A general view of health information in Portugal is presented. Stress is placed on the efforts and means of achieving co-operation, thus replacing the isolation among libraries and documentation services.

A working group, GTIS, was the first step. It has prepared and delivered very important working tools: a National directory, a Union list of periodicals; and a controlled indexing language is being investigated. Professionals have become aware of the importance of sharing experiences and resources.

Later on a health professionals' association was created, APDIS, defining precise goals and calling special attention to networking and compatibility. Some details of APDIS' history and philosophy are given, emphasizing professional contacts, interchange of experiences, and surveys, and pointing out the remaining unmet needs that can still be detected despite the changes that can already be observed.

The situation has been changing, this new perspective is having good results, co-operation has increased as has the use of the resources available.

INTRODUCTION

Co-operation among libraries and documentation services in the health area

has been achieved by personal contacts rather than by other means.

Everyone has been working almost without connection with one another. Regarding the resources, developmental levels are quite different from library to library.

A reflection upon these facts and being conscious of the Portuguese situation led to the creation of GTIS (Working Group for Health Information) within BAD (the Portuguese Librarians' Association). From this group APDIS (the Portuguese Association for Health Documentation and Information) appeared in 1991 as an important professional association. Networking has become its main goal and co-operation its main strategy. Over the last four years we can demonstrate that the situation has been changing, quality has been improving and we believe we are on the right way to better health information services in Portugal.

APDIS HISTORY

For a number of years a group of professionals in the health area had concerned themselves with a health information network that could supply the maximum information to the maximum number of users. In 1986 a Working Group for Health Information (GTIS) was created within the Portuguese Librarians' Association (BAD) to

carry out this and other related projects. In developing its own activities in a very dynamic way this Group soon realized that it could not survive if it remained dependent on BAD.

By February 1991 APDIS had improved documentation and information in the health area and connected with both national and international systems, thereby contributing to the quality of research, continuing education and health care. It is a very young Association but with its own philosophy and activities it is developing successfully.

APDIS PHILOSOPHY

The most important APDIS strategy is co-operation. Co-operation is considered of particular importance by information professionals and it is even more necessary since documentation and information resources are thin. But to promote co-operation some strategies have to be defined.

It is necessary to contact professionals and alert them to the present developmental problems in our area of activity, making them aware of our main goal. It is also necessary to promote contacts and interchange of experiences among them all, and to make them conscious of everyone's role within this part of the information field. Our project can only be carried out by linking together all professionals through co-operation.

However APDIS philosophy goes further. Beyond co-operation, other strategies must be considered. It is important to pay attention to the national situation in other information areas and in the international field. The European Association for Health Information and Libraries (EAHIL) has been useful in giving us a general view at the European level. In short it is necessary to have a very good knowledge of the Portuguese situation and to act accordingly.

This becomes possible through more professional contacts, more interchange of experiences and surveys.

PROFESSIONAL CONTACTS

The existence of our Association has made contacts easier amongst professionals working in documentation and information in the health area. The Directive Board that co-ordinates every Association activity has been trying to enlarge contacts by promoting general assemblies and by creating several working groups for the National Directory, the Union List of Periodicals, Document Supply and Controlled Indexing Language. There are still more groups but these listed are the first to have been developed.

Annual meetings where professionals from different areas come and present their own experiences have been another means of promoting contacts, as has publishing our newsletter "Ponto de Encontro" giving news to all APDIS members and to those in the health area in general.

INTERCHANGE OF EXPERIENCES

Contacts among professionals have enlarged the interchange of experience and these have been of great benefit to the development and quality of services.

In Portugal there are great contrasts regarding the development of libraries and documentation services. In spite of this some changes have been occurring and the results can be seen.

In the last few years, due to the wider contacts among professionals and more interchange of experience, a great sense of the importance of sharing resources has emerged. Also the influence of the more experienced,

with better working resources and better organized services, makes the others enthusiastic about facing difficulties and solving them. This influence even spreads to administrative levels making them more sensible to the needs of their own services.

SURVEYS

To promote greater interchange among services a better use of the existing resources and a better knowledge of everyone's needs is required, and APDIS has been preparing very important working tools. Inquiries were made of all health libraries and documentation services in order to collect the data for the National Directory and the Union List of Periodicals. The first edition of these working tools were published by GTIS and BAD. APDIS has now revised and enlarged the 2nd edition which was published in February 1994. A careful analysis of these working tools makes it possible to know about existing needs and to define a national information policy.

NEEDS

Different levels in the development of libraries and documentation services can be found. Important changes can already be seen but many needs can still be detected. More qualified personnel, more bibliographic resources and more equipment are necessary. Also we need more planning, organization and management, so that we can better overcome the lack of personnel, resources, equipment, and small budgets.

Resource sharing is being promoted both in acquisitions and information sources but a more co-ordinated policy in this field must be promoted. More user education will let readers know about the existing resources and how to get the most out of them. It is necessary too that librarians get their voices heard by the administration and their authorities at a decision-making level, so that a better information policy can be planned.

Some professionals feel quite unmotivated since they lack the proper means of working, personnel and funds. However to carry on with our project more professional motivation is needed. New information technologies are being used by many libraries in the

health area. Their catalogues are automated, they use databases on CD-ROM and on-line information retrieval systems. But there are services that have no automation at all. And this is another aspect that deserves special attention. Co-operation does exist but is very much based on traditional methods, and we feel, we need more co-operation using the new ways.

CO-OPERATION

Due to the work already carried out we can more easily interchange and deliver services nowadays. We have a better knowledge of one another's activities by using the National Directory of Libraries in the health area and can find the primary documents available through the Union List of Periodicals. This co-operation has been made easier by the use of the new information technologies. Since contacts among professionals have become more and more frequent some meetings have become concerned with the type of information provided by CD-ROM databases and deciding about a rational acquisitions policy in advance of any purchase.

Our efforts in improving information in the health area have succeeded in creating a union of professionals through the activities of APDIS. An information policy can now be defined and our main goal can be achieved - the information network.

CONCLUSIONS

From the foregoing we can conclude:

- There are many things to be done but many of them have already been done
- Co-operation is a reality and it is increasing.
- We have got more resources and ensured better management of those available.
- The importance of documentation professionals is being recognized.
- The benefits derived from information are being better understood.
- A new perspective has been created.
- A new spirit amongst professionals is emerging.

Antonia Pereira da Silva
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P-3049 Coimbra Codex
Portugal

THE ELECTRONIC DOCUMENTS SUPPLIERS : PANACEA OR DISAPPOINTMENT?

La fourniture électronique de documents : panacée ou déception ?

Résumé : La fourniture électronique de documents est apparue récemment dans le paysage documentaire. Une suite progressive d'étapes a permis de connaître successivement les tables de sommaires électroniques, puis la fourniture du texte intégral lui-même. Plusieurs acteurs participent à ce mouvement - et on pourrait regretter que dans l'ensemble ils ne soient pas des bibliothèques au sens classique du terme. Les bibliographies internationales - EMBASE, BIOSIS, CHEMICAL ABSTRACTS, INTERNATIONAL PHARMACEUTICAL ABSTRACTS proposent la fourniture de tout article indexé par leurs soins ce qui n'est pas le cas de MEDLINE. Un certain nombre d'éditeurs leur ont emboîté le pas : WILLIAMS and WILKINS, MOSBY, etc.. résolvant ainsi l'épineuse question du copyright inclus dans le prix du document. On n'aura garde enfin d'oublier UNCOVER qui - également depuis les USA - cherche à devenir une figure de proue dans ce domaine.

Inconvénients et avantages coexistent : dans les premiers on mentionnera le prix plus élevé que dans le circuit dit traditionnel, car prenant en compte non seulement les coûts réels du fournisseur, mais aussi le copyright - souvent oublié dans les établissements universitaires. Par ailleurs ces nouveaux fournisseurs ne sont capables que d'offrir les dernières années publiées. Enfin, chacun publie sa propre liste des titres : on n'a donc pas un panorama global et il peut être nécessaire de se faire individuellement son Catalogue-collectif-des-titres-disponibles-électroniquement (tâche plus malaisée qu'il n'y paraît).

Les avantages sont toutefois à la hauteur des inconvénients : au premier rang duquel l'extrême rapidité et surtout la disponibilité permanente: Aucun risque de se voir répondre que le document demandé est en prêt. Enfin il devient possible de suppléer au fait qu'aucune bibliothèque classique n'offre tous les titres médicaux et en particulier on acquiert la certitude de pouvoir obtenir - et vite - tout document indexé dans une des bibliographies mentionnées ci-dessus.

En conclusion, les fournisseurs électroniques de document sont des nouveaux venus dans le monde de la documentation et de la bibliothéconomie. Il serait imprudent de négliger ce phénomène, d'autant que de toutes façons ils empiètent sur nos parts de marché en matière de fourniture documentaire.

INTRODUCTION

For a very long time, the speed of the traditional inter-loan was not really a problem. Having to search by themselves, manually, through paperform for bibliographies, the libraries patrons could as well wait for the articles. The matter of speed was not so essential. Things began to change, firstly with the development of documentation services in the private industry - where for economic reasons obtaining the full text itself in a short time became more and more important. And, it rapidly appeared to be inconceivable to have to wait for the texts of articles or patents, if the bibliographic search itself could be done in a very few minutes. With the multifile searching, it was suddenly possible to have a comprehensive survey of the literature with the drawback, at the end of the day, of being obliged to go round an assault course to get the full text.

I. HISTORICAL

A first step was reached, some years ago, with the host then named BRS: its subsystem called "CCML Core Comprehensive medical library", enabled the users to limit their search solely to the items for which the full-text was available in the database. Unfortunately, the huge hopes put into it, were progressively disappointed, since the

numbers of titles and years available in CCML has never been very significant. Limiting to full text induced a decrease of 70 to 80 % of the number of the hits. But what was absolutely remarkable was the currency - i.e. the short delay between the publication and the appearance into CCML- and the price, very low, competitive and attractive.

The second step - even if surprising - was the complete publication (instead of being truncated) of the author's abstract in several computerized bibliographies combined with a short currency. Having the complete abstract two weeks after the paper's publication could sometimes avoid the necessity of reading the whole article. At last the electronic delivery systems had been made easier and possible thanks - as it were - to the copyright problems and all the unfair and unauthorized photocopies of articles. To check all this process, many publishers, alone or in cooperation, began to advance towards new ways of delivery, not to speak of electronic publishing.

2. TODAY: A DIVERSIFIED LANDSCAPE

One of the major problems is that we must face different kind of actors, going forwards in a disorganized way, at least from a user point of view. To better understand the difficulties, it is

probably best to introduce all the protagonists and describe their advantages and drawbacks afterwards.

Document-wise, one of the first realizations is certainly the electronic tables of contents, which enable the users to browse even those journals not received in their own library, this possibility being obviously linked with full text orders. This kind of product has been produced by the British Library (Inside Information on CD), and by several subscription agencies such as Swets, Ebsco... Possibly settled in academic networks, they offer university departments possibilities unsuspected so far. Even if very attractive - since offering access to a large range of publications, this product could only take into account journals already published, whereas Current Contents have been proposing a better service for a very long time - service now available also on CDs.

Another part is being now played by many online bibliographies. Because of the fierce competition which exists in this domain, each one wants to improve its mark image, chiefly in front of the big one - Medline. Unable to offer such a low price as the NLM database, they do their very best to propose services not rendered by Medline, in part-

icular document delivery. That is made easier for them, since they already use the process of electronic file transfer and text scanning for their data capture and indexing. So that, since almost the beginning of 1994, BIOSIS (Biosis document express), EMBASE (Emdocs) not to mention CHEMICAL ABSTRACTS or others (such as for instance INTERNATIONAL PHARMACEUTICAL ABSTRACTS) are now able to provide copies of the documents indexed in their bases. CURRENT CONTENTS do the same with "The Genuine Article" and DERWENT or KNIGHT-RIDDER (Dialog-Data/star) for patents. We'll examine the advantages and drawbacks later on.

Several major scientific and biomedical publishers have understood the importance of delivering themselves the copy of their own publications, alone or in cooperation with others. One could mention ELSEVIER, with the US experimentation called TULIP aimed at serving the academic networks and with ADONIS. SPRINGER has also been doing the same task with RED SAGE, which is to be operational in Europe next year. They propose electronic access to the tables of contents and eventually to the text itself. Some others, such as WILLIAMS AND WILKINS or MOSBY are now beginning to provide such a service but only on Internet or by the traditional way. In doing so they all hope to resolve, as far as they are concerned, the tricky problem of copyright payment since it is included in the overall price.

At last, there has arrived a new category of electronic suppliers with CARL, now called UNCOVER. Firstly only a network of libraries in the US state of Colorado, they now include members in other countries outside of the USA. Their purpose is to provide electronic and immediate access to the articles themselves. They have now more than 20.000 journals of which a quarter is in the biomedical field. Basically they allow the user to choose a journal - calling it by the title or ISSN - and to browse an issue, ordering the text of such or such article. We are then really in the world of the so-called "virtual library". As in his own library, the patron can go here and there, take an issue out of the shelf and -as it were- carry it to the photocopier. The UNCOVER principle is that you don't

have to pay to use UNCOVER -except the telecoms, when any- but only to order an article. To explain that, they say you don't pay when coming into a supermarket but only when buying some goods.

The issues seem to be available quickly and the list of journals is provided on a floppy disk; however I have not yet got any assurance about the updating of this list. You are advised to connect through Internet or by an international access, as if you were connecting to other hosts. This way of ordering, only through browsing issues, was certainly regarded as a bit tiresome and certainly time-consuming by users and since some months ago UNCOVER proposed a new procedure called SOS. It allows users to send requests by fax, however the cost is a bit higher as the UNCOVER staff has to retype the request to enter it into the system. Should you hope so, you can be in touch solely with BLACKWELL which is the UNCOVER representative in Europe and not with the headquarters in the USA. It makes the contacts easier as the way of thinking of UNCOVER is, I think, typically North-American: for instance you must pay only with credit cards. So for all of us whose the library cannot use that way, we have to negotiate with BLACKWELL to try to obtain more appropriate methods of payment.

Journals are also electronically available on INTERNET or on OCLC. For one or two years, OCLC has offered online titles which don't have any equivalent in paper form, such as the well-known ELECTRONIC JOURNAL OF CURRENT CLINICAL TRIALS and so on. The indexing of this title by MEDLINE as from 1994 improves its mark image and usefulness. Other ones are to appear in 1995 and following years. OCLC is also able to provide the full-text: with the system called FIRST-SEARCH, you can have a link between online searches on some databases and document delivery. On INTERNET one can get NEWS -interesting to be kept informed of all the changes and developments in one's field; however, how many fundamental journals can we really find there?

Other experts will be definitely more qualified to answer than I am.

3. ARE THE ADVANTAGES EQUAL TO THE DRAWBACKS ?

Actually, and I would like to emphasize this point, I am afraid I am not sure that all these products have come to maturity.

- Let us firstly discuss of the drawbacks. The price is certainly one of the major ones: a request sent to EMDOCS or BIOSIS DOCUMENT EXPRESS or to UNCOVER is certainly more costly than if sent to the BRITISH LIBRARY, because these providers are not granted and have to take into account all their expenses. Moreover, and up until now this matter has not yet been resolved successfully for the users, the price of a document electronically provided is divided into several parts: the basic fee, the fax - if any - and the copyright fee - which cannot be reduced as it is paid to the publisher. This copyright fee generally reaches 4 US dollars per article, if not more. We must bear in mind that the BRITISH LIBRARY, for instance, has a global agreement concerning copyright and pays a smaller fee and anyway, as from May 1995, its own copyright fee will be increased to ú 3.15, not to mention the basic delivery fee. As for all the others here and there in Europe, how many have really signed such agreements? In a nutshell in how many cases are the copyright rules really respected by traditional European libraries?

Another point must not be underestimated: the electronic providers are generally able to provide only the last few years. Chemical Abstracts claims they provide articles published during the last fifteen years and it would be anyway the very maximum. Should you desire articles written before, you would have to use other so-called traditional libraries. Moreover, all the new providers don't cover the same range of years and it is troublesome, not to say irritating because you have to check it each time.

But very probably, the major obstacle is that all these providers have their own list of journals or documents. If you want to work with several of them, you must definitely create in a way your own catalogue, not to say your in-house-collective-catalogue-of-electronic providers. I suspect that issue is essential, because - for instance - if you

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want to get electronically a copy of an article published, say, in the INDIAN JOURNAL OF PARASITOLOGY or whatsoever, you have to browse all the lists to find out which one is able to provide it to you. If doing such a list, you will have to choose for a given title the cheapest provider.

- In front of so many difficulties, I assume the reader will think "*is it worthwhile ? are these new tools really useful for me ?*" And I expect that university colleagues will be sceptical, doubting the interest in this matter. Whatever the disadvantages the electronic supplying of documents has several major advantages. First and foremost, the speed of delivery : using this way you will never get the reply issue not yet arrived or in loan or claimed or at the bindery and so on". The text is always immediately available. I have been told that a copy has been delivered in only half an hour by fax and CHEMICAL ABSTRACTS or others claim that they have a special-rush service. I will also

mention the fact that, using for instance EMDOCS, you will be able to get, without any delay, the text of any article indexed in EMBASE and it is a major advantage compared to MEDLINE. I know that there are in Europe some comprehensive libraries, but even the most important ones recognize they can only provide 92 or 94 % of the requests. What about the rest ?

What about a journal - for instance CHINESE MATERIA MEDICA - awfully difficult to locate ? How irritating to be obliged to tell the readers : " you have this reference, but we are unable to find out which European library holds it ? "

A last question we could discuss is the geographical coverage of all these electronic libraries; none of them offers obviously a complete list of biomedical journals. UNCOVER seems to be more North-American oriented. Surprisingly enough, ARTICLE EXPRESS has quite a number of European titles; as for the international bibliographies such as

EMBASE, BIOSIS, CHEMICAL ABSTRACTS or INTERNATIONAL PHARMACEUTICAL ABSTRACTS, they have their own specificities described elsewhere.

A PROMISING FUTURE ?

It will certainly not be possible to keep saying or thinking we will never use these electronic providers - could we call them libraries anyway ? We cannot expect to keep using the same tools as we have been using for several years. Chiefly for all of us for whom the delivery speed and the absolute comprehensiveness is essential, it is important to be informed of all these new aspects, bearing in mind that the landscape is also evolving, with new products appearing regularly, since anyway they are beginning to compete with us in the market of interloan and document supply.

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LYON I, FRANCE
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FORTHCOMING EVENTS

August 20-26, 1995 - Istanbul, Turkey

61st FILA Council and General Conference. Theme: "Libraries of the future". Conference information and registration: IFLA'95 , Yilkiz Sarayi, Cihannüma Köskü, P.O.Box 90 Besiktas, 80691 Istanbul, Fax: 90 212 227 9739

August 29-31, 1995 - Bournemouth, UK

Routes to Quality: Practical Approaches to Quality in Library & Information Services. registrations before Aug. 15, 1995. Information: Mrs Sally Grant, Bournemouth University, Dorset House Library, Talbot Campus, Fern Barrow, Poole, Dorset - fax: 1202 595 475

August 21-24, 1995 - Copenhagen, Denmark

4th Nordic Conference for Medical Libraries. "Health Information - Research and Development". Information: Inger Vibeke Nielsen, Psychiatric Research Library, Psychiatric Hospital in Aarhus, DK-8240 Risskov, Denmark - fax: 45 8617 7455

September 5-6, 1995 - Hertfordshire, UK

LIBTEC international 95. "Breaking

barriers between the professions". University of Hertfordshire. Contact: Cathy Parr, tel. 44 707 284 667.

September 20-21, 1995 - Prague, Czech Republic

EAHIL Symposium on Cooperation of Medical Libraries. Theme: "Library cooperation in the era of electronic technology". Information: Mr O. Pinkas, National Medical Library, CZ-121 32 Prague 2, Sokolská 31, Czech republic Tel.: 422.2491.5775 fax: 422.2491.4625

September 25-29, 1995

La Habana, Cuba

INFO'95. Theme: "Information: a factor for success in human development". Further details: Lic. Humberto Arango Sales, Aptdo. Postal 2019, La Habana, Cuba. Fax: 537 338 237

October 11-12, 1995 - Brussels, Belgium

European Health Agora III - European Citizens Rights and Health/Les Droits des Citoyens Européens et la Santé. Information: Belgohope, 9-11, rue des Guildes, B-1040 Brussels - Fax: 32 2 230 66 94)

November 7-8, 1995 - Utrecht, The Netherlands

AGSI (Association for Global Strategic Information) - "Information and Intelligence: better-informed corporate decision making". Inf.: c/o Infonortics Ltd., 9a High Street, Calne, Wiltshire, SN11 OBS, UK, Fax: 1249 813 656

November 15-17, 1995 - Madrid, Spain

6as Jornadas de Información y Documentación de Ciencias de la Salud. Information; Facultad de Medicina, Universidad Complutense, Sección Congresos y Exposiciones, Ciudad Universitaria, 28040 Madrid Fax : 3941314

December 4-5, 1995 - Stuttgart, Germany

Internationaler Kongress 1995: "Information Specialists between Conflicting Claims: New Technology and Social Responsibility". Information: Fachhochschule Stuttgart, Hochschule für Bibliotheks- und Informationswesen, Congress 1995, Wolframstrasse 32, D-70191 Stuttgart, Fax: 49 711 25706-47, email : guides@hbi-stuttgart.de



PUBLICATIONS

First of all many thanks to those who contributed to this issue's Publication Section. I am very pleased to get so much help now. Also, your contributions provide a wider focus on our areas of interest. Unfortunately though, since I am in the process of changing jobs, a few items are still in boxes and not accessible at the moment. They will be included next time. Also, because of my changing jobs, please, take note that all material you want to see in this Section should be sent to my home address: Beatrice Wilhelm, Mohrhaldenstrasse 166A, CH - 4125 RIEHEN, Switzerland. My FAX number is ++41-61-641 08 75. (e-mail: Wilhelm@ubaclu.unibas.ch)

Beatrice Wilhelm

Editorial Board - Publication section

THE JOURNAL ISSUE IN DEPTH

The Journal of Academic Librarianship vol 21 no1 1995

This issue's topic is reference service in academic libraries. In my experience reference service has not yet been fully recognized in health science libraries everywhere in Europe, but the questions asked concern us, too.

K. Ewing and R. Hauptman, Is traditional reference service obsolete?

The authors take the position that traditional reference service needs to be eliminated. Some points to consider: new technologies have transformed reference into manual tasks of how to put them to good use. Instruction has taken on new dimensions. Human intermediaries are being eliminated by user friendly interfaces. Really challenging questions are rare, while other tasks are overemphasized using up intellectual energy and leaving dull minds. Administration will ask whether reference positions may be filled more appropriately. p. 3-6.

C. LaGuardia, Desk set revisited: Reference librarians, reality, & research systems design. One should look at services with a critical eye to see where to save effort and where to expand. The time saved should be used not to fix ill-designed systems but to create systems that clients can use without mediation. p. 7-9.

D.W. Lewis, Traditional reference is dead, now let's move on to important questions. The author's reply to Ewing and Hauptman: "Reference,

other library operations, and the library as a whole, need to be able to demonstrate their worth in the current automated and the coming electronic environments". p. 10-12.

L.M Kong, Reference service evolved.

Also a reply to Ewing and Hauptman, emphasizing the reference librarian's role in the electronic environment requiring a greater degree of flexibility and breadth of knowledge and also the acceptance of paraprofessionals. p. 13-14.

L. Goetsch, Reference service is more than a desk.

The author is a strong believer in reference service arguing that reference librarians don't work in the realm of the reference desk only but help design gophers and WWWs and give computer-assisted instruction as well. She feels there is still the task to teach students search mechanics, strategies and techniques. p. 15-16.

S. Fine, Reference and resources: the human side.

"This article presents some assumptions and principles about users' and librarians' behavior in the library." Many thought provoking remarks. p. 17-20.

ALSO IN THE JOURNAL LITERATURE

M.E.Frisse et al (1995) Informatics and medical libraries: changing needs and changing roles. People involved in informatics and librarians emphasize information delivery to the point of decision making; both groups serve

as curators of institutional knowledge bases. Both groups have been early leaders in applying information technology to solve pressing knowledge-management problems. They also have a strong commitment to educating colleagues in the effective use of information. *Academic Medicine* 70 : 30-35.

NEW PRODUCTS

WHO'S WHO in the European Information World 1995/96, 2nd ed., published by tfpl, 17-18 Britton Street, London EC1M 5NQ, UK. FAX: ++44-171 251 8318. £120.

H.P. Geh & M. Walckiers (eds) Library Networking in Europe (1995)

Proceedings. The proceedings of a European Conference organised by EFCL in cooperation with EBLIDA and LIBER with the support of the European Commission, held in Brussels in October 1994. Available from tfpl. £55.00.

Polish Research Directory (1994).

The new English edition of the Directory with essential information about scientific and research units of the Polish Academy of Sciences, almost all schools of higher education and research and development units. £ 70. Available from : Information Processing Centre, Al. Niepodleglsci 188 B, 00-950 Warszawa, PO Box 355 Poland.

Medical Library Association (1995) **The 1995 Product Catalog.** Available from MLA, Suite 300, 6 N. Michigan Ave., Chicago, IL 60602-4805 (Internet: linfo@mla.org). List of booklets,

brochures, promotional material, serials and programs. Ordering information with quantity and member discounts etc.

A Code of Ethics for Health Sciences Librarianship (1993) Adopted by MLA membership, outlining basic goals and principles for ethical medical library practice. *Item #5018-25. \$6.00.*

F. Allegri (ed) (1995) Educational Services in Health Science Libraries. (Current Practice in Health Science Librarianship, vol.2) Available from UPA. FAX: 301-459-2118. 20% discount for MLA members.

The **IDF Bulletin** addresses international diabetes issues including health economics and epidemiological aspects, living with diabetes and diabetes and education. Available from *International Diabetes Federation : 40 rue Washington, B-1050 Bruxelles, Belgium.* FAX: ++32-2-640 85 65. 4x/year, \$40.00.

EBSCO 1990-1994 Index Medicus Price Study (1995) 4th. ed. Includes all serial titles listed in IM. Available from *Lynn Fortney, Biomedical Division Director, EBSCO Subscription Services, Birmingham, AL.* FAX: (205) 995-1518, e-mail: LYNNF@com.

INFORMATION OF INTEREST

EMBASE has added the 6 millions record to its database.

MLA debuts on the World WIDE WEB with MLANET :

(URL: <<http://www.kumc.edu/MLA/>>. Its home page contains up-to-date information on MLA, including membership services and benefits, the code of ethics (see above), etc.

The IMPACT programme has introduced among others **I'M-EUROPE**, a WWW server, offering the following services: information about the EU, 4th Framework Programme, National Awareness Partners, ECHO, CORDIS. (URL: <http://www.echo.lu/>; Telnet: www.echo.lu, login: www).

The Clearinghouse for Subject-Oriented Internet Resource Guides has been established at the University of Michigan. It strives to incorporate all kinds of resources on a particular subject, e.g. listservs, full-text-sources, Usenet groups and electronic journals. For more information contact *Louis Rosenfeld at l-guides@umi.edu.* (From *MLA News*, May 1995).

The May issue of *MLA News* (No275) carries "**International Cooperation Section Highlights**", submitted by chair C.R.Glatt. Established in 1990, the section so far has 183 members that exchange a newsletter and access a listserv. There is a job exchange, a sister library program and the Cunningham Fellowship providing funds to bring a librarian from overseas to the US. Special program at the MLA meeting.

The March-April NLM NEWS (vol 50, no2, 1995) contains as one of 2 fact sheets: National Library of

Medicine (NLM) **Internet accessible resources.**

Le Journal du Sida, mensuel d'informations, de débats et d'analyses sur le sida, publie un supplément au n° 74 de juin 1995: "**VIH et Vacances**", un guide de conseils pratiques aux voyageurs atteints du SIDA (13, bd de Rochechouart, 75009 Paris)

PUBLICATIONS FROM EAHIL MEMBERS

Accart Jean-Philippe, en collaboration avec *Balbine Callou*, **La documentation en soins infirmiers**, Paris, *Expansion Scientifique Française*, 1995, 130 FF. - 208 p.,

V. Maes (1995) Currency of information found in SilverPlatter's Medline CD-ROM.

Prior to conducting the study the author clarified with the help of NLM working procedures for the MEDLARS production. He then looked at the currency of articles on CD-ROM taking also into account priority level of the journal, its periodicity and type of subset. Conclusion: Articles in Medline on CD-ROM are available 3 to 7 months after their publication date.

T. McSeán & J. Van Loo (eds). Health Information News Possibilities/La Santé et l'Information - Nouvelles possibilités (1995). Proceedings of the 4th European Conference of Medical and Health Libraries, Oslo June 1994. Available at the *EAHIL Secretariat, Brussels.*

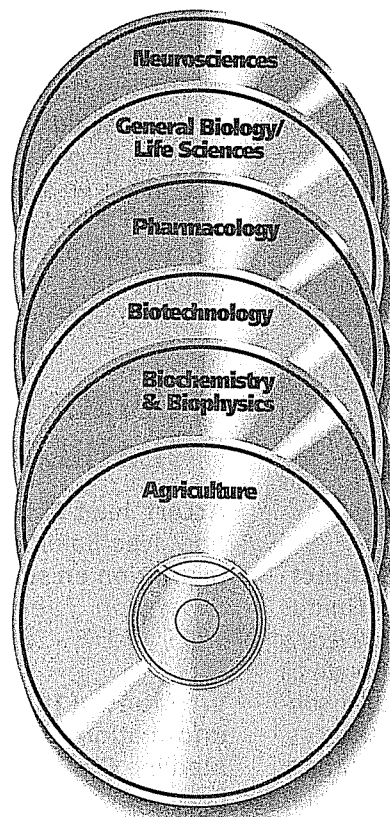
JOURNALS AVAILABLE - FREE OF CHARGE • REVUES DISPONIBLES ET GRATUITES

Due to lack of space, the Research Library of **Janssen Pharmaceutica** is removing a part of its journal collection. It has been decided to remove all volumes before 1980 (approx. 1,000 in all). Fields covered include medicine, pharmacy and chemistry. All volumes are bound and in excellent condition. Libraries interested in acquiring of the collection "for free" can contact the librarian, René Mertens. A list of the available journals will be sent.

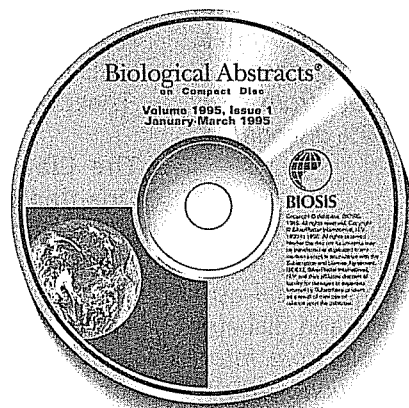
En raison d'un manque de place, la Bibliothèque de recherche de Janssen Pharmaceutica va évacuer une partie de sa collection de revues. Il a été décidé d'éliminer tous les numéros des années avant 1980. Il s'agit d'un millier de brochures sur la médecine, la pharmacie et la chimie. Les revues sont toutes reliées par année et en bon état. Les bibliothèques intéressées par la reprise gratuite d'une partie de la collection peuvent prendre contact avec le bibliothécaire, René Mertens. Une liste de titres disponibles leur sera envoyée.

René Mertens

*Janssen Research Foundation - Janssen Pharmaceutica
Turnhoutseweg, 30 - B-2340 Beerse, Belgium
Tel. 32 14 602456 - Fax: 32 14 605068 - E-mail: Mertensr@jrf.be*



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Introduction

Without any consultation, at the time we start this Internet column, the British Medical Journal announces its presence on the Internet ([www http://www.bmj.com/bmj/](http://www.bmj.com/bmj/)), and starts a series on Medical Informatics. Sign of the times...

This column has one (ambitious) objective : to inform you about the Internet and to give you some tips to make use of it. To achieve this, the column will include two parts :

- A presentation of Internet, its tools and its interest for medical librarians
- A selection of some interesting Internet resources for health information people.

You will probably know some of them and all resources you know will not be in this column... (at least in this issue). This is a selection, and as such, it is always subjective; some choices can be hard. This is my responsibility.

Before starting, some conventions:

The first word of the resources listed in this page gives the type of tool to be used, followed by the address to enter:

- email : program to use: Pine, Elm,...
- news : newsgroup, use your specific system (rn.....)
- gopher
- ftp
- telnet
- www : World Wide Web address. Use lynx, Mosaic, Netscape, or other World Wide Web browsers.
- Can also be used to access some other types of resources.

the addresses given here must be typed as they appear: with dots, lines, and cases (some parts of addresses are case-sensitive because of Unix)

Introduction

Sans consultation, au moment où nous écrivons cette page Internet, le British Medical Journal annonce sa présence sur Internet ([www http://www.bmj.com/bmj/](http://www.bmj.com/bmj/)), et débute une série d'articles sur l'informatique médicale. Signe des temps...

Cette page tentera de vous informer sur ce qu'est Internet, et de vous donner quelques trucs pour en faire usage. Les deux parties de cette colonne reflèteront ces objectifs:

- *Une présentation d'Internet, de ses outils et de son intérêt pour les documentalistes en santé*
- *Une sélection de quelques ressources Internet intéressantes*

Vous en connaîtrez certainement quelques-unes d'entre elles; et les ressources que vous connaissez n'y seront peut-être pas... (a fortiori dans ce numéro).

Ce sera une sélection, et, comme telle, toujours subjective. Certains choix peuvent être difficile à faire. C'est ma responsabilité.

Avant de commencer, quelques mises au point:

Le premier terme d'une ressource telle qu'elle apparaît ci-après indique le type de ressource, suivie de l'adresse proprement dite.

- *email : courrier électronique : utilisez les programmes : Pine, Elm,*
- *news : il s'agit d'un newsgroup*
- *gopher*
- *ftp*
- *telnet*
- *www : adresse World Wide Web. Utilisez Lynx, Mosaic, Netscape, ou d'autres outils World Wide Web.*
- *Ces outils peuvent également accéder à d'autres types de ressources.*

Les adresses données doivent être tapées telles quelles : avec les points, tirets, et majuscules. A cause du système Unix, certaines parties de phrase peuvent y être sensibles.

Information

What is Internet?

Here is a partial answer from E. Krol, author of the famous "Whole Internet Catalog":

"What is the Internet?" The reason such a question gets asked so often is because there's no agreed upon answer that neatly sums up the Internet. The Internet can be thought

about in relation to its common protocols, as a physical collection of routers and circuits, as a set of shared resources, or even as an attitude about interconnecting and intercommunication. Some common definitions given in the past include:

- * a network of networks based on the TCP/IP protocols,
- * a community of people who use and develop those networks,
- * a collection of resources that can be reached from those networks.

Today's Internet is a global resource connecting millions of users; it all began over 20 years ago as an experiment by the U.S. Department of Defense. While the networks that make up the Internet are based on a standard set of protocols (a mutually agreed upon method of communication between parties), the Internet also has gateways to networks and services based on other protocols.

What can Internet bring to me?

Well, lots of things... Adam Gaffin, in his preface of "EFF's Guide to the Internet" (formally "Big Dummy's Guide to Internet") says:

With Internet, you can:

- Stay in touch with friends, relatives and colleagues around the world, at a fraction of the cost of phone calls or even air mail.
- Discuss everything from archaeology to zoology with people in several different languages.
- Tap into thousands of information databases and libraries worldwide.
- Retrieve any of thousands of documents, journals, books and computer programs.
- Stay up to date with wire-service news and sports and with official weather reports.
- Play live, "real time" games with dozens of other people at once.

What is needed to be connected?

- a PC : the more powerful your computer, the more you will get

from the Internet: sounds, images, But any PC can have a connection to it. In fact, it depends mostly on the requirements of the software you use and on the type of connection you will have. It is better to check with the Internet Access Provider for features needed.

- a telecommunication software. Some of them are available free.
- a telephone line (although it seems possible to be connected wireless now)
- an Internet provider. Some of them have subsidiaries all over Europe : EUNET, Innet, Pipex, I-Com,... If you have an Internet connection, try [www http://www.best.beliap.html](http://www.best.beliap.html). It gives a list of Internet Access Providers by country with types of access, prices, points of presence,...

Types of connection

There are four access types, from less developed to most, depending on tools to be used, and time to be spent on Internet (based on RFC 1775 by D. Crocker, March 1995):

• Messaging access

The user has no Internet access, except through electronic mail and through netnews, such as Usenet or a bulletin board service. Since messaging services can be used as a high-latency — i.e. slow — transport service, the use of this level of access for mail-enabled services can be quite powerful, though not interactive.

• Mediated access

The user runs no Internet applications on his/her own platform. An Internet service provider runs applications that use Internet protocols on the provider's platform, for the user. User has simplified access to the provider, such as dial-up terminal connectivity. In Mediated access, the user is on the Internet, but his/her computer platform is not. Instead, it is the computer of the mediating service (provider) which is on the Internet.

Simple and inexpensive (500 BEF/month including a few hours free

connection + 5 BEF 1 min.), you only need a terminal emulator.

• Client access

The user runs applications that use Internet application protocols directly on his/her own computer platform, but might not be running underlying Internet protocols (TCP/IP), might not have full-time access, such as through dial-up, or might have constrained access, such as through a firewall.

Two versions of TCP/IP (Transmission Control Protocol/Internet Protocol) are available: SLIP (Serial Line Internet Protocol) and PPP (Point-to-Point Protocol). You need a TCP/IP stack (software like Chameleon, Trumpet Winsock, ...). It costs approximately 5.000 to 10.000 BEF/month. Time-dependent schemes are sometimes available.

• Full access

This is a permanent (full-time) Internet attachment running TCP/IP, primarily appropriate for allowing the Internet community to access application servers operated by Internet service providers. Machines with Full access are directly visible to others attached to the Internet. It will cost a flat fee of about 50.000 BEF/month.

Resources

To start with Internet exploring, it is suggested to use two types of Internet information.

First select a resources guide that best fits your area. Read it, and surf through the resources that might be of interest to you. Hereafter are some in the health field. Then select some discussion lists with an interesting scope. Next time, we will look at some discussion lists for health librarians.

Some resources guides are available at: Clearinghouse for subject-oriented Internet resources guides

This site offers subject oriented Internet resource created by specialist students at the University of Michigan's School of Information and Library Studies; it also gathers other existing resource guides. They have

identified and evaluated Internet information resources, and organized them in topical guides in ASCII format. These guides are regularly updated.

* *www http:*

//http2.sils.umich.edu/~lou/chhome.html

* *www gopher:*

//una.hh.lib.umich.edu/11/intetdirs

* *gopher :*

una.hh.lib.umich.edu "inetdirs"

* *ftp :*

una.hh.lib.umich.edu cdlinetdirsstacks

Among them, the two most well-known health-related guides are:

Medical Resources Clinical; G. Malet, L. Hancock; v2.3.13;03/13/

Health Sciences; L. Hancock; 03/26/94

Here is a list of other health resources guides with title, author(s), and last version.

- Aging; J. Post; 02/01/95

- Alternative Medicine; J. Makulowich; 07/29/94

- Anesthesia & Critical Care; A. Wright; v23;05/01/95

- Biodiversity (Gophers); S. Gordon; vl.0; 05/03/94

- Cancer; J. Gourdji, S. Hinton; 12/11/94 (UMich)

- Food, Nutrition; R. Thompson; 09/94

- Genetics, General Biology/Biophysics/Biochemistry; L. Balraj; 02/95

- Health Sciences; N. Martin, P. Redman, G. Oren; 09/93 (UMich)

- Medical History; P. Hirtle; 01/94

- Medical Practice, Nursing, Medical Personnel, Patients; L. Balraj; 02/95

- Molecular Biology; D. Hayden; vl.0;05/95

- Neurosciences; S. Bonario, S. Cormicle; vl;12/93 (UMich)

- Nursing; D.M. Anthony; vl.04; 12/17/94

- Psychology, Psychiatry; P. Fehrmann; 02/95

- Psychology; J. Alvoeiro; 04/19/95

Vincent Maes

Pfizer Belgium

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