



*European Association
for Health Information and Libraries*

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

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Newsletter

to European Health Librarians • des Bibliothécaires Européens de la Santé



*EAHIL SYMPOSIUM
September 20 - 21, 1995*

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

EDITORIAL

THE INTERNET

Some five years ago, a group of medical librarians and information specialists were discussing professional matters.

We came to the conclusion - as so many others all over the world - that it would be an excellent idea to have a common network for all information transfer needed in our profession. Of course this was not a new idea, but we said it aloud once more, tired of all the technicalities needed in using more or less compatible software and hardware, fully knowledgeable that we did not have the competence of computer professionals.

Here we are, in 1995, with the desperately needed network! Internet has been with us for rather a long

time, especially in the university community, but only now are we realising all the possibilities it includes.

The explosion of Internet into the consciousness of the whole world gives us a picture of its capability, at the same time putting us, medical information professionals, in the right place and proportion carrying out our duties and tasks.

For me at least, after 30 years in my career, it came like a flash to become aware of the vast entity Internet offers.

I also see here a possibility towards a more democratic societies, mainly because some greater power has been able to prevent the network from becoming commercially managed.

As to our position as users of Internet, we have to work hard to keep the standard of health information mediated through it at a high level safe and reliable. It is quite obvious that we are not the only health information intermediaries in the world - although we are of course the best!

We cannot accept anything ethically suspect and it is we who have to ensure for our part, that the use of the network is made as easy as possible for as many as possible. This can be achieved by making navigating the network user-friendly for our community, by creating systemised searching and teaching our clients to use it.

Liisa Salmi
Editor

L'INTERNET

Il y a cinq ans, un groupe de bibliothécaires médicaux et de spécialistes de l'information discutaient "métier". Nous arrivâmes à la conclusion - comme tant d'autres dans le monde - que ce serait une très bonne idée d'avoir un réseau commun d'informations pour notre profession.

Ce n'était naturellement pas une idée nouvelle, mais nous le disions un peu plus fort, fatigués de tous ces problèmes techniques tel que l'incompatibilité des logiciels et des matériels, pleinement conscients que nous n'avions pas la compétence des informaticiens.

Nous sommes en 1995, et toujours avec ce réseau si désespérément attendu ! Internet existe depuis un certain temps déjà parmi nous, surtout dans la communauté universitaire, mais nous réalisons seulement maintenant toutes ses possibilités.

L'explosion d'Internet dans la conscience universelle nous donne une image juste de celle-ci, et nous positionne à la juste place, nous, spécialistes de l'information médicale, devant nos de-

voirs et nos tâches. Pour ma part, après 30 ans d'activités, la conscience de tout ce qu'offre Internet est comme un éclair. Je vois aussi une société plus démocratique, principalement parce que ce réseau n'est pas commercial.

En tant qu'utilisateurs d'Internet, nous devons travailler ardemment à ce que l'information de santé soit toujours d'un niveau élevé, sûr et digne de confiance. Il est évident que nous ne sommes pas les seuls intermédiaires de l'information de santé dans le monde, même si nous sommes bien sûr les meilleurs !

Nous ne pouvons accepter ce qui serait en dehors de notre éthique et c'est à nous de veiller à ce que l'utilisation d'un tel réseau soit aussi facile que possible pour le plus grand nombre.

Ceci sera effectif en créant un système de navigation dans le réseau accessible à notre communauté, ainsi qu'un système de recherche et d'apprentissage pour nos utilisateurs.

Liisa Salmi
Rédactrice en Chef

Editorial Board

Le Comité de Rédaction

We welcome Mrs Luisa Vercellesi from Italy as a new member of the Editorial Board. She succeeds Mrs Leslie Locche, whom we cordially thank for her contribution in making the Newsletter.

Nous accueillons Mme Luisa Vercellesi d'Italie, en tant que nouveau membre du Comité de Rédaction. Elle succède à Mme Leslie Locche, que nous remercions de sa participation à la Newsletter.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

At the time of writing, the month of February has just started, and I realise that I have been EAHIL President for one month, and that there are still 23 more months ahead of me. It seems a lot of time, but we all know that time hurries along, so I'd better get down to work as soon as possible. The new Executive Board had their first Board meeting on January 20 in London, at the British Medical Association. Socially it was a very pleasant and nice event, thanks to the well known British hospitality and the careful attention of our host, Tony McSeán. Professionally it was a very satisfying experience. I am fortunate to work with a Board, which seems to be very efficient and cooperative, and with many years of experience from work inside EAHIL. Monique Cleland, after many years of active achievement, has now left the Executive Board, but I hope very much to keep in close contact with her and to take advantage of her long experience of EAHIL and the international library work. Jean-Philippe Accart is the only new member of the Executive Board, but he has been working inside EAHIL as a Council member, so it is almost as if he has been there all along.

It is with pleasure and great expectation that I start my period as President in close cooperation with the Executive Board, and last, but not least, with Roselyne Hoet and the secretariat in Brussels. Roselyne is maybe the one who knows our Association best at present, and who is carrying out the work for EAHIL with enthusiasm and competence. I think every new president has his/her own ideas about what are the most important tasks of the Association and how they should be carried out. Our Association has proved itself to be an important professional and Europe-wide association with many activities, such as conferences, workshops, continuing education courses etc., which certainly should continue but what more could be done? There are still more potential members to reach - what do they want from us, and what

do we require in return? I think one of the most important challenges for the Association in the near future will be to double its number of members! In that respect the formation of sub-groups is a happy event for the Association, and at our last meeting in London, two groups were approved as such: the Pharmaceutical Information group and the European Veterinary Libraries Group. And there will maybe be more groups to join us in the future.

As I have said many times before - cooperation between Eastern, Central and Western European libraries is important because we want to have a more unified Europe. Here is the source of one of my very concrete goals as President - to improve cooperation between these libraries and thus reach many new members. The workshop in Prague in September this year is certainly an important event, and another good occasion to broaden our personal network and make new friends. But a unified Europe also means that we should strengthen the ties between North and South. From the last EAHIL Conference in Oslo, high up in the North, we are moving to the South, to beautiful Coimbra in Portugal, where Antonia Pereira da Silva and her colleagues are working hard to ensure another high quality conference. I am surely looking forward to that event. But there is also a considerable event coming up this year outside Europe, where EAHIL will be represented: the 7th International Congress on Medical Librarianship: "Information for the Global Village", and the 95th Annual Meeting of the Medical Library Association, to be held in Washington DC in May 1995. This is really a big chance to meet colleagues from the whole world, and to enlarge

your network, but also to ensure your professional skills. And what about a visit to the Mecca for all librarians working with medicine and health - the National Library of Medicine.

In my opinion, one of the most important goals of the Association is to ensure: easy access to professional documentation for all medical and health-related libraries in Europe, thus being equal members of the "Global Village". We need to communicate and cooperate across frontiers and to consolidate our personal and professional networks. To reach this goal we need a strong and active association with an increasing number of members.

One of our very useful tools in this respect is the EAHIL Newsletter, which should be the link between all the members, and between the Association and its members. We have to learn to use this tool more actively. Liisa Salmi, the Editor, and her Editorial Board, who make the Newsletter an attractive and interesting paper to read, surely welcome your contributions. Once again, I am most concerned with achieving concrete goals. I hope we can all work together and that we are moving in the same direction. Please do not hesitate to contact me or somebody else on the Board, directly or through your Council member, with any good idea or suggestion you may have for the future of our Association.

I am very much looking forward to meeting many of you in the course of 1995-96, in Washington, Prague or Coimbra - or somewhere else.

Elisabeth Husem
EAHIL President

EAHIL COUNCIL - CONSEIL DE L'AEIBS

The Annual Council Meeting will be held in Prague, in the context of the EAHIL Symposium on Cooperation of Medical Libraries, on Tuesday September 19, at 2:30 p.m.

La réunion annuelle du Conseil de l'AEIBS se tiendra à Prague, dans le cadre du Symposium "La Coopération et les Bibliothèques Médicales", le mardi 19 septembre, à 14:30 h.

REPORT OF THE EAHIL BOARD MEETING HELD ON 20 JANUARY 1995 AT BMA HOUSE IN LONDON

The new Board had its first meeting on 20 January this year, at the British Medical Association in London. The BMA's warm hospitality was very much appreciated.

The new Executive Board : Elisabeth Husem, President; Tony McSeán, Past President; Beatrice Doran, Vice-President; Deonilla Pizzi, 2nd Vice President; Pascale Delausnay, Treasurer; Teodora Oker-Blom, Executive Secretary and Jean Philippe Accart, Assistant Secretary.

The most important items on the agenda were the past and forthcoming events of EAHIL, Eastern and Central European medical libraries and the creation of two new sub-groups.

The report from *the Oslo Conference* was positive both from a professional, social and financial point of view. There were 536 delegates from 36 countries including USA, Australia, Zimbabwe, Canada and 40 participants from Eastern and Central Europe. Some 200 delegates attended the continuing education courses. The Exhibition consisted of 21 exhibitors and was also a great success.

The Proceedings of the Oslo Conference should be published by Kluwer Academic Publishers in April 1995. Copy can still be ordered.

The Coimbra Conference is on its way. The first meeting between the Local Organizing Committee and the Programme Committee will take place in Coimbra on March 31. The Board stressed the importance of having a programme committee with members from the whole of Europe, and Arne Jakobsson from the Oslo Programme Committee was nominated by the Board to this committee. The Portuguese members will contact other members from outside Portugal to join this Committee. The first announcement for the Coimbra Conference will appear in March. It was suggested that the General

Assembly of EAHIL should be held after the official opening of the Conference. Other countries will be needed to contribute to the continuing education courses.

Prague Symposium (see the preliminary programme and more information in this issue). The Board and the Council will meet on Tuesday September 19, the day before the opening of the Symposium. Lois-Ann Colaianni (NLM) will give the keynote address. The maximum number of delegates is limited to 150 people (do not hesitate to book early!).

1998 6th Conference Location. A proposal has been received from Amsterdam offering that city for the 1998 Conference and eventually to combine the EAHIL conference with the 1998 IFLA conference. The Board accepted the offer, but decided not to combine the two conferences.

London Conference report. The EAHIL Conference of the year 2000 will be arranged in London in conjunction with the 8th International Congress on Medical Librarianship. Tony McSeán is on the Planning Committee. They have booked the Wembley Conference Centre and hope to achieve an attendance of 2000. The Board agreed to holding the EAHIL 7th European

Conference of Medical and Health Libraries in conjunction with the 8th International Conference in London.

Approval of EAHIL sub-groups. The policy statement on EAHIL sub-groups has been approved and two new sub-groups have been officially accepted:

- 1) the European Veterinary Libraries Group (EVLG) and
- 2) the Pharmaceutical Information Group.

The Board agreed that Pascale Delausnay would be responsible and represent the new Pharmaceutical Information Group and Tony McSeán the European Veterinary Libraries Group within the Board.

Eastern European Medical Libraries. Elisabeth Husem recommended co-operation on a bilateral basis. There is a need for collaboration between medical organizations both at home and with those in Central and Eastern Europe for combined aid. Norway has a long tradition of working with the Baltic countries, and the Norwegian group of Medical and Health Libraries has entered into a co-operative effort with the Norwegian Medical Association to support the Baltic countries.

Beatrice Doran
EAHIL 1st Vice President

OSLO PROCEEDINGS - LES ACTES DE NOTRE CONFÉRENCE À OSLO

"HEALTH INFORMATION - NEW POSSIBILITIES - LA SANTÉ ET L'INFORMATION - NOUVELLES POSSIBILITÉS"

The Proceedings of our 4th European Conference of Medical and Health libraries held in Oslo in June 1994 will be published and mailed in **JUNE**. We apologize for any inconvenience caused by this delay and thank you for your understanding in this matter.

A few copies are still available. For any additional orders, please contact the EAHIL secretariat in Brussels.

Les Actes de notre 4ème Conférence Européenne des Bibliothèques Médicales et de Santé paraîtront dans le courant du mois de JUNE. Nous regrettons ce délai et vous remercions de bien vouloir nous en excuser.

Quelques exemplaires sont encore disponibles. Pour toutes commandes supplémentaires, nous vous prions de contacter le secrétariat de l'AEIBS à Bruxelles.

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LETTRE DE LA PRÉSIDENTE

Acet instant, le mois de février vient juste de commencer, et je réalise que je suis Présidente de l'Association depuis un mois; 23 autres mois m'attendent. Cela peut paraître long, mais nous savons tous combien le temps passe vite : autant se mettre au travail tout de suite. Le nouveau Bureau Exécutif a tenu sa première réunion le 20 janvier dernier à Londres, à la British Medical Association.

Ce fut une rencontre très agréable et tous mes remerciements vont à la célèbre hospitalité britannique ainsi qu'à l'attention de notre hôte, Tony McSeán. Professionnellement, la recontre fut très satisfaisante. J'ai beaucoup de chance de travailler avec ce nouveau Bureau, efficace, aimant coopérer et au fait du fonctionnement de l'Association.

Monique Cleland, après un certain nombre d'années très actives parmi nous, a maintenant quitté le Bureau Exécutif; cependant, je souhaite vivement rester en contact étroit avec elle afin de profiter de sa longue expérience au sein de EAHIL et du monde international des bibliothèques. Jean-Philippe Accart est le seul nouveau membre du Bureau, mais travaillant depuis longtemps pour l'Association, sa présence au sein du Bureau paraît aller de soi.

C'est avec plaisir et une grande attente que je commence mon mandat de Présidente en étroite coopération avec le Bureau Exécutif, et également, et ce n'est pas négligeable, avec Roselyne Hoet et le Secrétariat de Bruxelles. Roselyne est peut-être la personne qui connaît le mieux l'Association, et qui contribue à son essor avec enthousiasme et compétence.

Chaque nouveau Président a ses idées propres sur ce qui est le plus important pour l'Association et comment y arriver. notre Association a déjà fait ses preuves aux niveaux professionnel et européen en lançant un certain

nombre d'activités : conférences, ateliers de travail, cours de formation continue, ... et nous continuerons. Mais que pouvons-nous faire de plus ? Il y a encore la possibilité d'obtenir des adhésions supplémentaires : qu'attendent ces nouveaux membres de l'EAHIL et qu'attendons-nous d'eux en retour ?

Un des défis les plus importants pour l'Association dans un futur proche serait de doubler le nombre d'adhérents. Dans ce sens, la formation de sous-groupes est une bonne chose, et durant la dernière réunion du Bureau Exécutif à Londres, la mise en place de deux sous-groupes a été approuvée : sur l'information pharmaceutique et les bibliothèques vétérinaires. Et d'autres sous-groupes verront le jour!

Comme je l'ai déjà dit, la coopération entre les bibliothèques d'Europe de l'Ouest et celle d'Europe Centrale et de l'Est est importante, car elle va dans le sens d'une Europe plus unie. C'est l'un de mes buts les plus concrets en tant que Présidente : faire coopérer ces bibliothèques et ainsi obtenir de nouvelles adhésions. L'Atelier de travail prévu à Prague en septembre prochain est certainement un évènement important, et une occasion supplémentaire d'élargir notre réseau personnel et de rencontrer de nouveaux amis.

Mais une Europe unie, cela signifie également que nous devons élargir nos liens d'amitié entre le Nord et le Sud. D'Oslo, ville nordique s'il en est, nous nous déplaçons vers le Sud, à la très belle ville de Coimbra au Portugal, où Antonia Pereira da Silva et ses collègues travaillent ardemment à la prochaine conférence; celle-ci sera certainement de qualité et je l'attends avec impatience.

Mais un autre évènement considérable se tient cette année, en mai, en dehors de l'Europe, où l'Association sera présente : la 7ème Conférence Internationale des bibliothèques

Médicales couplée avec le 95ème Congrès annuel de la Medical Library Association, à Washington DC. C'est une chance extraordinaire de rencontrer des collègues du monde entier, d'étendre notre réseau, mais également de renforcer notre niveau professionnel. Et que dire d'une visite à la Mecque des bibliothécaires médicaux et de santé : la National Library of Medicine.

Selon moi, un des buts les plus importants de notre Association est de faciliter l'accès à la documentation professionnelle pour les bibliothécaires médicaux et de santé en Europe, afin d'être des membres égaux du "Village Terre". Nous avons besoin de communiquer par dessus les frontières et de consolider notre réseau personnel et professionnel. Pour atteindre cet objectif, il nous faut une Association forte et active, avec un nombre croissant d'adhérents.

Un des outils les plus utiles est la Newsletter, lien entre tous les membres, et entre l'Association et ses membres. Nous devons apprendre à l'utiliser plus efficacement. Liisa Salmi, Rédactrice en chef, et son Comité de rédaction chargés de rendre la Newsletter plus attractive et intéressante, accueilleront volontiers votre contribution.

Une fois de plus, ce sont les tâches concrètes qui m'intéressent. Je souhaite que nous puissions travailler ensemble et que nous allions dans la même direction. N'hésitez pas à me contacter (ou un membre du Bureau), directement, ou par l'intermédiaire de votre délégué national pour toute idée, suggestion concernant l'avenir de notre Association.

Je serai très heureuse de vous rencontrer dans le courant 1995-1996, à Washington, Prague ou Coimbra, ou ailleurs !

Elisabeth Husem
Présidente de l'AEIBS

Rapport de la réunion du Bureau Exécutif l'AEIBS tenue le 20 janvier 1995 à la British Medical Association à Londres

Le nouveau Bureau Exécutif a tenu sa première réunion à Londres, avec l'hospitalité de la British Medical Association, le 20 janvier dernier.

Le nouveau Bureau a été constitué : Elisabeth Husem, Présidente; Tony McSeán, Président sortant; Beatrice Doran, Première Vice Présidente; Deonilla Pizzi, Seconde Vice Présidente; Pascale Delausnay, Trésorière; Teodora Oker-Blom, Secrétaire Exécutive; Jean-Philippe Accart, Secrétaire adjoint.

Les points les plus importants de l'ordre du jour se sont rapportés aux évènements passés et futurs de l'Association, aux bibliothèques médicales des pays de l'Europe Centrale de l'Est et à la création de deux sous-groupes au sein de l'AEIBS.

La Présidente a confirmé que *la Conférence d'Oslo* a été un grand succès, tant au niveau professionnel qu'au niveau social et financier. Il y eut 536 délégués en provenance de 36 pays dont les USA, l'Australie, le Zimbabwe, le Canada et 40 participants de l'Europe Centrale et de l'Est. Près de 200 délégués ont assisté aux cours de formation continue. L'exposition commerciale - qui comptait 21 exposants - fut également un grand succès. Les Actes de la Conférence devraient être publiés par Kluwer Academic Publishers en avril 1995.

La Conférence de Coimbra, Portugal, en septembre 1996 est en bonne voie. La première réunion du Comité Local et du Comité scientifique se tiendra le 31 mars. Le Bureau Exécutif a insisté sur l'importance que le Comité Scientifique soit constitué de membres en provenance de toute l'Europe. Arne Jakobsson a été mandaté comme un des membres de ce Comité par le Bureau Exécutif. Il a été suggéré que l'Assemblée Générale de l'AEIBS ait lieu après l'ouverture officielle de la Conférence.

Symposium de Prague. La plupart des orateurs pressentis ont accepté. Lois-Ann Colaianni (NLM) fera la discours d'ouverture. Le programme préliminaire et le formulaire d'inscription seront publiés dans la Newsletter d'avril. Le Bureau Exécutif et le Conseil tiendront leur réunion le mardi

19 septembre, la veille de l'ouverture du Symposium. La participation est limitée à 150 délégués (n'hésitez pas à vous y inscrire au plus tôt).

Localisation de la 6th Conférence de l'AEIBS en 1998. La candidature d'Amsterdam comme lieu de la 6ème Conférence Européenne des bibliothèques Médicales et de Santé en 1998 a été reçue. Il a été également proposé de combiner la Conférence de l'AEIBS avec celle de l'IFLA à Amsterdam. Le Bureau a marqué son accord pour Amsterdam, mais a rejeté la dernière proposition.

Rapport de la 7ème Conférence européenne à Londres. La 7ème Conférence de l'AEIBS sera organisée à Londres en l'an 2000 conjointement avec le "8th International Congress on Medical Librarianship". Tony McSeán fait partie du Comité de Projets qui a réservé le Centre de Conférence Wembley et espère y accueillir quelque 2000 participants.

Approbation de la *création de sous-groupes*. Le règlement interne des sous-groupes de l'AEIBS a été approuvé et deux sous-groupes ont été officiellement acceptés:

- European Veterinary Libraries Group (EVLG)
 - Pharmaceutical Information Group
- Le *European Veterinary Libraries Group* et le *Pharmaceutical Information Group* seront respectivement représentés au sein du Bureau par Tony McSeán et Pascale Delausnay.

Bibliothèques médicales de l'Europe de l'Est. Elisabeth Husem a recommandé une coopération sur une base bilatérale. La Norvège a une longue tradition d'aide aux pays baltiques et le Groupe Norvégien des Bibliothèques Médicales et de Santé est entré en collaboration avec l'Association Norvégienne Médicale dans un effort de soutien aux pays baltiques.

Beatrice Doran
1ère Vice Présidente

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Journal of Continuing Professional Development



Advances in Psychiatric Treatment

Editor: Andrew Sims, *Director of Continuing Professional Development, Royal College of Psychiatrists, London*

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CREATION OF NEW EAHIL SUB-GROUPS

At the EAHIL Board Meeting of January 20, the Board has approved the policy statement for EAHIL sub-groups and has officially accepted the foundation of two sub-groups: the **European Veterinary Libraries Group (EVLG)**, President, Drs Paul W. van Olm, Netherlands, and the **Pharmaceutical Information Group**, President, Marie Danielle Meunier, France.

Lors de sa réunion du 20 janvier à Londres, le Bureau Exécutif a approuvé le règlement interne des sous-groupes de l'AEIBS et a officiellement accepté la création de deux nouveaux sous-groupes au sein de l'Association : le groupe European Veterinary Libraries Group, Président, Drs Paul W. van Olm, Pays-Bas et le groupe Pharmaceutical Information Group, Présidente, Marie Danielle Meunier.

POLICY STATEMENT NR. 4 EAHIL SUB-GROUPS

What are sub-groups?

EAHIL sub-groups work within EAHIL to bring together groups of members on a subject, special interest, national, regional or other basis. They contribute to the strength of EAHIL and encourage members to take an active interest in professional affairs. They are financially self-supporting and may not enter into sponsorship arrangements without the approval of the EAHIL Board. Sub-groups are expected to be run in accordance with EAHIL's aims and objectives and to work in collaboration with other professional bodies.

How are sub-groups formed?

The setting-up of new sub-groups must be approved by the EAHIL Board. Normally proposals for a new sub-group should take the form of a paper submitted to the Board which includes the following information:

- the name of the proposed sub-group
- a simple statement of the aims and objectives
- the names of at least 10 current, paid-up members of the Association

How are sub-group affairs managed?

The aim is to keep procedures as simple as possible. There must be a Chair, a Treasurer and a Secretary, these officers must be elected by secret ballot either at a meeting or by post, and there must be new elections at least every four years. A copy of all sub-group papers (minutes, circulars, newsletters, etc.) must be sent to the EAHIL secretariat for the archive. The sub-group must also submit a formal annual report to the EAHIL Board including the following information:

- names of Chair, Treasurer and Secretary
- details of activities in the past year
- membership
- summary of financial accounts

Who can be members of sub-groups?

Only people and organisations who are paid-up members of EAHIL. EAHIL depends for its income on members' subscriptions, and sub-groups play an important role in attracting and retaining members. For example, sub-group events should always have one price for members and a higher price for non-members.

EAHIL support for sub-groups

EAHIL officers and its Secretariat are there to help sub-groups operate as effectively as possible. Help

can be practical, such as supervision of postal elections, or take the form of advice and guidance on practical or professional matters. Sub-groups may use EAHIL's advice and guidance on practical or professional matters. Sub-groups may use EAHIL's name and logo for communications, for announcements of events and for similar purposes.

The Newsletter

Subject to the Editor's discretion, EAHIL's Newsletter may be used to propose the setting up of new sub-groups and to keep all members in touch with sub-group news and activities.

How are sub-groups dissolved?

The EAHIL Board may wind up a sub-group if it has (a) become defunct, (b) failed to submit an annual report, (c) become bankrupt, or (d) failed to observe any of the other conditions set out in this document. Normally sub-groups will only be wound up as a last resort and after other courses of action have been tried and failed.

Adopted by
the Executive Board,
January 1995

RÈGLEMENT INTERNE NR 4 SOUS-GROUPES DE L'AEIBS

Qu'est-ce qu'un sous-groupe ?

Les sous-groupes travaillant au sein de l'AEIBS rassemblent des membres autour d'un même sujet, ou d'un intérêt particulier, sur des bases nationales, régionales ou autres. Ils contribuent à l'élargissement de l'AEIBS et encouragent les membres à prendre une part active sur le plan de la vie professionnelle. Ils sont auto-financés et un soutien financier extérieur doit être approuvé par le Bureau Exécutif. Les sous-groupes doivent avoir des buts et des objectifs en accord avec ceux de l'Association, et travailler en collaboration avec d'autres corps professionnels.

Comment est formé un sous-groupe ?

La mise en place de nouveaux sous-groupes doit être approuvée par le Bureau Exécutif. La proposition d'un nouveau sous-groupe doit être normalement formulée sous forme écrite au Bureau Exécutif avec les informations suivantes:

- le nom du sous-groupe proposé
- un simple énoncé des buts et des objectifs
- les noms d'au moins 10 membres actifs de l'Association ayant réglé leur cotisation.

Comment le sous-groupe gère-t-il ses activités ?

Le but est que les procédures soient aussi simples que possible. Il doit y avoir un Président, un Trésorier et un Secrétaire, ceux-ci devant être élus à bulletins secrets soit au cours d'une réunion, soit par voie postale; de nouvelles élections doivent être organisées tous les 4 ans. Une copie des écrits produits par le sous-groupe (minutes, circulaires, bulletins etc...) doit être envoyée au Secrétariat de l'AEIBS pour être archivée. Le sous-groupe doit également soumettre un rapport annuel au Bureau Exécutif avec les informations suivantes:

- les noms du Président, Trésorier, Secrétaire
- le détail des activités de l'année écoulée
- les adhérents
- un résumé des comptes financiers

Qui peut être membre des sous-groupes ?

Seules les personnes et organisations ayant réglé leur cotisation à l'Association. L'AEIBS dépend, pour ses recettes des cotisations de ses adhérents, et les sous-groupes ont un rôle important à jouer afin d'attirer et de retenir de nouveaux membres. Par exemple, tout ce qu'organise le sous-groupe (réunions, etc.) doit comporter un tarif pour les membres et un autre tarif, plus élevé, pour les non-membres.

Le soutien des sous-groupes par l'AEIBS

Les représentants officiels de l'AEIBS et son secrétariat sont là pour aider les sous-groupes à être aussi opérationnels que possible. L'aide peut être pratique (contrôle de votes par correspondance), ou prendre la forme de conseil et d'orientation touchant des sujets professionnels. Les sous-groupes peuvent utiliser le nom et le logo de l'Association pour des conférences, des annonces d'événements ou des buts similaires.

Le Bulletin d'information de l'AEIBS

Soumis à la discrétion du Rédacteur en chef, le Bulletin d'information de l'AEIBS peut être utilisé pour lancer de nouveaux sous-groupes et pour tenir les membres informés de leurs activités, au sein de ces sous-groupes.

Comment dissoudre un sous-groupe ?

Le Bureau Exécutif de l'AEIBS peut dissoudre un sous-groupe si (a) celui-ci n'a plus de membres, si (b) le rapport annuel ne lui a pas été soumis, (c) s'il est devenu insolvable, ou si (d) une des conditions formulées dans ce document n'a pas été remplie. La dissolution d'un sous-groupe intervient en dernier ressort et après que des actions aient été intentées sans succès pour le soutenir.

Adopté par
le Bureau Exécutif,
Janvier 1995

THE EUROPEAN VETERINARY LIBRARIES GROUP OFFICIALLY INSTALLED ! Le Groupe Européen des Bibliothèques Vétérinaires est officiellement créé.

At the last Board meeting of the European Association for Health Information and Libraries (EAHIL) the decision was made to install sub-groups inside EAHIL. One of these is a group focused on animal health / veterinary information. So the "club" of veterinary colleagues in Europe have gained an official status at last. The subgroup will be called European Veterinary Libraries Group (EVLG). Since its unofficial birth in Oslo during the 4th European Conference of Medical and Health Libraries last year we have gathered 24 members from 15 countries. Our goals will be to unite all those who are interested or employed in the animal health information field and to develop and encourage cooperation between veterinary medical libraries. We will maintain contacts between EAHIL and other international organizations, f.i. the World Veterinary Association (WVA) and the European Association of Establishments for Veterinary Education (EAEVE).

THE BOARD OF EVLG CONSISTS OF :

- Paul W. van Olm - chair
- Friedhelm Rump - treasurer
- Marta Prosbová - secretary.

The participation of members of the group in meetings will be emphasized. Proposals have to be worked out for papers and presentations for the next EAHIL conference in Coimbra, Portugal in September 1996. Besides there are plans for a coming together in Prague, Czech Republic, September 20-21 this year during the EAHIL workshop "Library cooperation in the era of electronic technology". In 1997 the Second International Conference of Health Information Specialists will be organized in Copenhagen, Denmark. Summing it all up there are enough events in the near future to look forward to!

We would like to start a semi-annual publication, which would have to focus not only on EVLG-matters but also on general information about veterinary and related libraries. Topics

may include national profiles of literature supply in our field, personnel portraits, library-portraits, literature reviews, events, new developments, anything in our line, which looks as though it deserves dissemination. Also contributions to the EAHIL Newsletter are welcome.

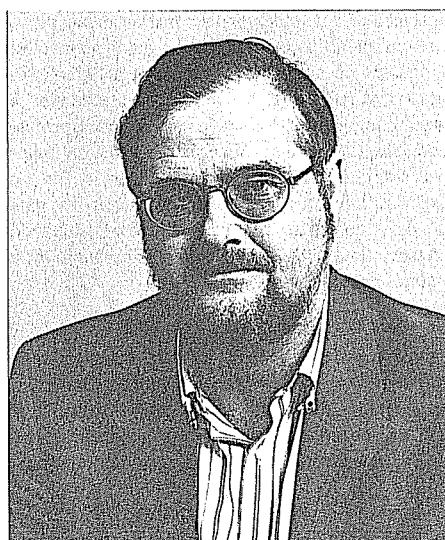
If you want to become a member of EVLG it is prerequisite to be a member of EAHIL. Membership applications can be forwarded to anybody of the Board. A little fee of 10,- ECU or DM 19,- is asked. Please contact one of the following persons:

Drs. Paul W. van Olm - chair

Library of the Institute for Animal Science and Health
Edelhertweg 15
P.O. Box 65
8200 AB Lelystad
The Netherlands
Tel: +31 3200 38238
Fax: +31 3200 38050
E-mail: P.W.VAN.OLM@ID.AGRO.NL

Dr. Friedhelm Rump - treasurer

Bibliothek Tierärztliche Hochschule
Hannover
Postfach 711180
D-30545 Hannover
Germany
Tel: +49 511 953 7110
Fax: +49 511 953 7119
E-mail: RUMP@BIB.TIHO-HANNOVER.DE



Paul VAN HOLM - EVLG Chair - The Netherlands
European Veterinary Libraries Group

Bank: Kreissparkasse Hannover
Account number: 14225
Bank code: 25050299

Dr. Marta Prosbová - secretary

University of Veterinary Medicine
Library and Institute for Scientific Information
73 Komensky Str.
Kosice 04181
Slovakia
Tel: +42 95 36864
Fax: +42 95 767675

We hope that the installation of EVLG will bring together many colleagues in the veterinary information field. Clearly speaking, the success and future of it depends to a great extent on the quality and intensity of information exchanged. For a lot of the members the E-mail discussion list VetLib already works as an information exchange medium with colleagues. But a publication would help a lot in the effort to achieve a regular exchange of information beyond daily news. Our group, small it may be, is not so small, that all the information can go over the phone or by E-mail. So, please send your contributions to us.

Paul, Friedhelm and Marta
EVLG Board



Vincent MAES - Ph Infg secretary - Belgium
Pharmaceutical Information group

PHARMACEUTICAL INFORMATION GROUP

Groupe Pharmaceutique d'Information

A little bit behind schedule, the Pharmaceutical Information Group is finally alive and well after the approval by EAHIL Executive Board (20th Jan.), the adoption of the Statutes and the election of the PhInfG Executive Board and of the Decision Committee.

The objectives of the Group are :

To ensure high quality standards of information for the pharmaceutical industry. Extensive exchange of information evaluation between members is needed;

- To promote and develop access to and spreading of pharmaceutical information while respecting copyright and other intellectual property rights;
- To promote contacts between information specialists in pharmaceutical industries in Europe, with a view to encouraging the exchange of ideas and experience while all respecting copyright and other intellectual property rights;
- To defend the interests of people dealing with information in pharmaceutical industries in Europe;
- To establish contacts between international and national, sister organisations.

The three persons appointed to the *PhInfG Executive Board* are :

Mrs Marie-Danielle Meunier, from Pfizer France, who will act as Chairperson. The Treasurer will be Mrs Pascale Delausnay from Rhône-Poulenc Rorer Belgium and the Secretary will be Mr Vincent Maes from Pfizer Belgium.

The Decision Committee's task will be to receive and select suggestions for papers and present them to the Coimbra Programme Committee. It is constituted by Mrs Jeanet Ginestet (Sanofi Recherche, France), Mrs Muriel Carcano (SmithKline Beecham Pharma, Belgium) and Mrs Nada Trzan-Herman (Lek-Ljubljana, Slovenia).

Do not hesitate to submit papers or to express views about the Pharmaceutical Information Programme to transmit your views to the Scientific Programme Committee. We will have the support of Mrs Maria do Rosário Leitão (SmithKline Beecham, Portugal) and of Mr Vincent Maes, who are on the Scientific Programme.

If you are interested in our activities, you can affiliate now. *If you are a member of EAHIL, no additional dues are asked for. It is FREE.*

Please just send the form below by mail, fax or e-mail to Vincent Maes. This Group is also open to people who do not work in the pharmaceutical industries, with the restriction that they will not have the right to vote. Please feel free to duplicate the following Affiliation Form to inform all people who might be interested.

Executive Board

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Vincent Maes (Pfizer)

102 rue Leon Theodor
B-1090 Brussels

PHARMACEUTICAL INFORMATION GROUP • AFFILIATION FORM

Affiliation : Collective Individual

Name : First name : Institution / firm:

Address : Country :

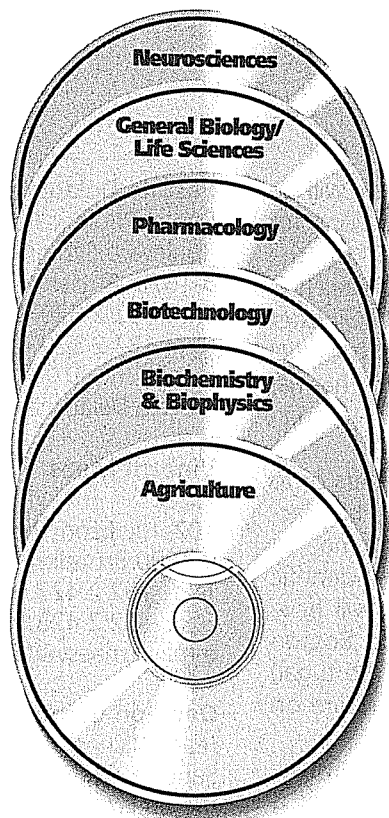
Phone : Fax : E-mail :

Are you already a member of the EAHIL ? Yes No Member of other Pharmaceutical Information Associations ?

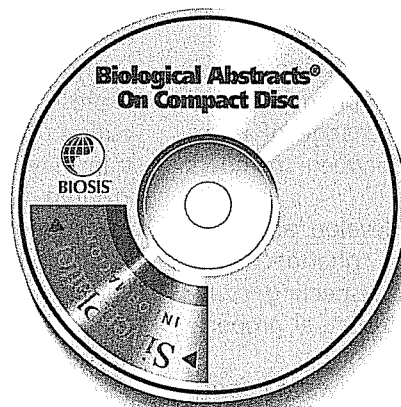
Do you work for a pharmaceutical industry ? Yes No Which one ?

Please return this form to :

Vincent Maes, Pfizer, 102, rue Léon Theodor, B-1090 Bruxelles, Belgium - Tel : +32 2 423 07 12 - Fax : +32 2 423 07 99 - e-mail : maesv@belgium.eu.net



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THE MEDICAL LIBRARY NETWORK IN LITHUANIA

The first attempts of setting up medical libraries in Lithuania were made just before World War II and were interrupted by the onset of it. Net-working began in 1944 after the foundation of Lithuanian Library of Medicine (LLM) the formerly Central Medical Library. Since that time smaller libraries have emerged throughout the country: in the district central hospital, major city hospitals, medical teaching and research institutions, health resorts. At present the network consists of 104 medical libraries scattered all over the country, including LLM located in Vilnius and the Library of Kaunas Medical Academy, which is the second largest medical library in Lithuania. The network's combined resources total over 1300 thousand volumes providing information services for 48 thousand users. Over 30 thousand items are added to the collection annually. Libraries differ in size from 2 to 30 thousand items. The users are medical practitioners, administrators, researchers, teaching staff and medical students and some also serve patients. Links among libraries are maintained for document acquisition, bibliographic and reference activities, and interlibrary

loans supervised since 1951 by LLM which is the coordinating centre in the network.

Close cooperation between medical libraries ensure availability of holdings for every user in the country. LLM with the largest collection of medical literature, works under the supervision of the Ministry of Public Health. It has 12 branch libraries in major hospitals and research institutions and holds about 700 thousand items, books and periodicals in health care, medical and related sciences. The main functions include literature acquisition, cataloguing, lending, bibliographic and reference work. Traditional card catalogues based on indexing by medical subjects are still in use. The reference system includes issues of current awareness bulletins on new acquisitions (6 per year) and current periodicals (once a year), regular new literature displays, topic lists for health promotion and individual searches on specific subjects.

Recently the LLM started to use the CD-ROM version of Medline and the Current Contents on diskette-database for medical information searches. The searches are delivered in a printed ver-

sion and on diskette. The availability of a modern computerized database is of great help in fulfilling the need for Western medical literature as acquisition of primary sources (periodicals, books) is hindered by the critical financial situation of the LLM.

Since 1959 the LLM has been producing the fundamental medical bibliographic edition "Lithuanian Medical Literature", covering the period from 1940. Since there is no other specific training for health library personnel, the LLM is also involved in the professional development of medical librarians. Every year a one week workshop and regional seminars are held to present changing library techniques and innovations. In 1993 the LLM was granted official status as the WHO Documentation Centre with specific responsibilities to promote WHO ideals and help to implement specific targets on national levels by means of information resources.

Salvinija Kociene

Lithuanian Library of Medicine

Kastonu 7 - Vilnius 2600

Tel./Fax: 7012 619041

THE LITHUANIAN LIBRARY OF MEDICINE

I received a letter from Dalia Daujotiene, principal librarian of the Lithuanian Library of Medicine, who was one of our guests from the Baltic States at the EAHIL European Conference of Medical and Health Libraries held in Oslo last summer, as well as from Salvinija Kociene, the Director of the Library. These letters made me very upset about the bad conditions imposed on medical libraries in Lithuania.

J'ai reçu une lettre bouleversante de Dalia Daujotiene, bibliothécaire principale de la Bibliothèque de Médecine de Lithuanie, qui était une de nos hôtes lors de notre Conférence Européenne à Oslo, ainsi que de Salvinija Kociene, Directrice de la Bibliothèque. Ci-contre, des extraits.

E. Husem

" Dear Elisabeth,

... I must confess that we are very much upset here, in Vilnius. We are so much disappointed and upset with the attitude of our government towards libraries, and namely, towards our library. It's almost a year that we are fighting hard for the existence of our Library. After almost 20 years of waiting, we are now in the centre of town and in our own building given by the former government. ...

Now that we are successfully functioning for almost three years, we have to give up our building for this government has decided to give it to the Court of Appeal. We have to move till the end of March, and that with a collection of 700,000 books and journals!

We have appealed here and there. The press and the medical society and librarians, supported our struggle, but nothing helped. We even were scared that if we do not go, our Library will be closed and the holdings given to the University. ... Some of us are leaving the library for good, because they are tired of such an uncertainty. ...

I am staying, but I am upset and helpless because I know what it is to carry books and things all way up 5 floors without any lift.... That building is a factory in the suburbs, and we think that means a slow death for our library. ... Our director still fights, meets people, is doing a lot to fight back our building which is given to the Ministry of Justice. ... "

Dalia Daujotiene

Lithuanian Library of Medicine

(extracts, letter Jan. 21, 1995)

EAHIL LETTER TO THE PRESIDENT OF LITHUANIA

On behalf of EAHIL and as President, I wrote to the President of Lithuania, with a copy to the Prime-Minister, the Speaker of the Parliament, and the Minister of Health in Lithuania, to different institutions and ministries in Europe, such as medical associations, social and health ministries, WHO, Lithuanian embassies, etc. as well.

Au nom de l'AEIBS et en tant que Présidente, j'ai écrit au Président Lithuanien, avec copie au Premier Ministre, au Responsable de Parlement et au Ministre de la santé, ainsi qu'à différentes institutions et Ministères européens dont des ambassades Lithuanienes et autres groupes européens.

Your Excellency,

I am writing on behalf of the European Association for Health Information and Libraries to express the Association's grave concern at recent developments concerning the Lithuanian Library of Medicine.

An effective and properly funded medical information service is an essential component of a national policy for Health. Without such services, it is impossible for health care professionals to provide proper and cost-effective care for the population. International accreditation and recognition of medical education programmes and qualifications is also likely to be at risk in such a situation.

To develop and perform effectively, library and information services require a relatively stable environment within which proper collection and service planning to take place.

The difficult economic climate in which Europe's emerging countries have to operate makes it more than usually difficult to achieve an ideal operating environment, but the enforced removal of the Lithuanian Library of Medicine to unsuitable accommodation and at short notice threatens the viability and future of an important national resource.

On behalf of this Association, I urge you to reconsider the Lithuanian Library of Medicine's position in the light of my letter and to take steps to provide it with adequate and assured accommodation in which to contribute effectively to the development of Lithuania's national health care system.

Elisabeth Husem
EAHIL President

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

May 7-10 and 10-12, 1995

Washington DC, USA

95th Annual Meeting of Medical Library Association and 7th International Congress on Medical Librarianship. "Health Information for the Global Village".

For further information: Mrs Frances Groen, International Organizing Committee, c/o McGill University Libraries, 3459 McTavish Street, Montreal, Quebec, Canada H3A 1Y1.

Registration form to be sent to :

Washington Hilton Towers,
1919 Connecticut Ave,
Washington DC 20009 - USA
Fax: 202 797 5755

May 18, 1995 - Harpenden, Herts., UK

ASLIB Conference. Biosciences on the Internet. Rothamsted Experimental Station, Harpenden, Herts.

Information: Nigel Robinson,
BIOSIS UK, - 54 Micklegate,
York YO1 1LF, UK
fax: 44 1904 612 793

June 13-15, 1995 - Paris, France

IDT 95 - Marchés et Industries de l'Information. Paris, Palais des Congrès. information: ADBS - IDT 95, 25 rue Claude Tillier, F-75012 Paris, France fax: 33 1 4372 3041

August 20-26, 1995 - Istanbul, Turkey

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

August 21-24, 1995 - Copenhagen, Denmark

4th Nordic Conference for Medical Libraries. "Health Information - Research and Development".

Call for papers and 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

LIBTHEC international 95. "Breaking barriers between the professions". University of Hertfordshire. Contact: Cathy Parr, tel.: 44 707 284 667.

September 21-22, 1995 - Prague, Czech Republic

Symposium on Cooperation of Medical Libraries. Theme: "Library cooperation in the era of electronic technology". Further information: Mr O. Pinkas, Nat-

ional Medical Library, 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

November 15-17, 1995 - Madrid, Spain

6as Jornadas de Información y Documentación de Ciencias de la Salud, Información; 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

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

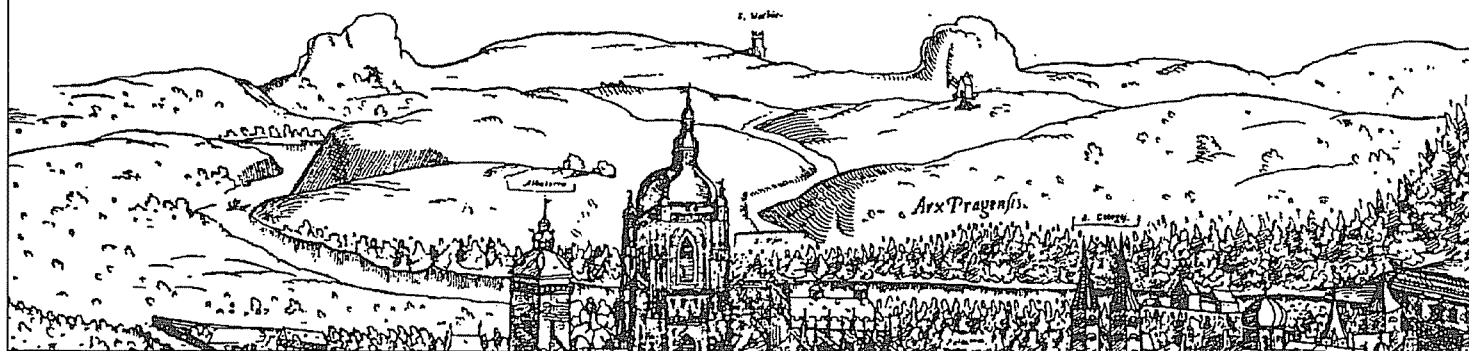
Company/Institution name City Country

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 renowned 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.

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,

Preparations for the Symposium are well under way. In this Newsletter issue you will find the preliminary programme as well as some more information about the Symposium and about Prague.

The final programme should be published in the July issue. We invite you to register as soon as possible, registration after June 20 would be more costly for you. After this date, confirmation note and the last information will be distributed to those who will have sent their registration to our address.

We can promise you:

- . an attractive professional programme,
- . an enjoyable social programme,
- . reasonably priced, first-class hotels,
- . opportunity to experience unique cultural heritage of Prague.

Prague - aptly called the Heart of Europe - ranks among the world's most beautiful cities. You will seldom get the chance to enjoy this beauty more cheaply than this time, so do not hesitate to book a few extra days in our city.

Should you have any question, contact us. 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: 4232 2491 4625
e.mail: pinkas@nlkdec.nlk.anet.cz

PRELIMINARY PROGRAMME

Tuesday, September 19

- Registration - *Inscription*
- 09:00 - 13:00 :
Meeting of the EAHIL Executive Board
- 14:30 - 18:00 :
Meeting of the EAHIL Council
- Meeting of the European Veterinary Libraries Group Board
- Guided sightseeing tour - *Visite guidée*

This sightseeing tour will be reorganised on Friday for the Board, Council and Veterinary group members who could not join the visit on Tuesday. / *Une visite guidée sera réorganisée le vendredi pour les membres du Bureau, du Conseil et du Groupe Européen Vétérinaire qui n'auront pu y participer le mardi.*

Wednesday, September 20

- Opening ceremony
Cérémonie d'ouverture
- Exhibition opening
Ouverture de l'exposition
- Lunch
- Parallel sessions - *Sessions parallèles* :
Classical and modern methods of acquisitions / *Le développement des collections méthodes classiques et modernes*
- Shared cataloging and union catalogs / *Le catalogage en commun et les catalogues collectifs*
- Welcoming reception Vila Lanna
Réception de bienvenue à Vila Lanna

Thursday, September 21

- Parallel sessions - *sessions parallèles* :
- Document supply : new ways and approaches / *L'accès aux documents méthodes et approches nouvelles*
- Networking : impact on library and information service / *Le travail en réseau : son impact sur les bibliothèques et leurs services*
- Closing ceremony - *Cérémonie de clôture*
- Lunch
- Excursion to historical parts of the National Library / *Visite de la partie historique de la Bibliothèque Nationale.*

EAHIL SYMPOSIUM ON COOPERATION OF MEDICAL LIBRARIES

PRAGUE, CZECH REPUBLIC, SEPTEMBER 20-21, 1995

REGISTRATION FORM

Return registration form to:

Národní lékařská knihovna
121 32 PRAGUE 2, Sokolská 31
Tel. 422 2491 5775
Fax 422 2491 4625

Notable dates:

Advance registration : June 20
Late registration : September 1st
90% refund until : June 20
50% refund until : September 1st

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.....

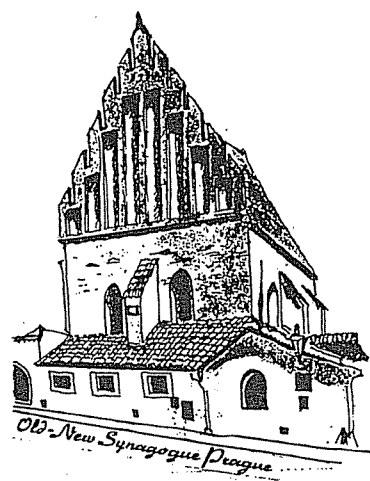
City code : City : Country :

SYMPOSIUM REGISTRATION:

Price	before June 20	After June 20
EAHIL member	<input type="checkbox"/> US\$145	<input type="checkbox"/> US\$175
non-member	<input type="checkbox"/> US\$180	<input type="checkbox"/> US\$216
Accompanying person	<input type="checkbox"/> US\$ 40	<input type="checkbox"/> 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).



Date: signature:

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

Deadline for payment: June 20, 1995

LA BIBLIOTHÈQUE CENTRALE DE L'INSTITUT PASTEUR DE PARIS Institut Pasteur Central Library, Paris

Specialised in microbiology, the Institut Pasteur Central Library had its collections scattered in different premises. It needed a re-gathering into one place in order to direct the development of collections, to adapt to the evolution of new technologies as well as to meet and have professional training. The project of a new building was started in 1991.

The new library is now open: the new surface area tripled the old one. It has four levels including two public floors (offering 130 seats); two-thirds of the collections are in open access; an area with computers allows access to databases and the Internet; working-tables are equipped with plugs for personal portable computers. Other important modifications, like the creation of a bibliographic retrieval service on computer, has changed the information service. New staff could also be appointed.

The new policy of the Institut Pasteur Central Library offers a better opening on to the scientific world and, because of the future partnership with B.N.F. (Bibliothèque Nationale de France), it has promoted itself to the rank of the richest scientific libraries in the world.

La nouvelle bibliothèque centrale de l'Institut Pasteur a ouvert ses portes fin septembre 1994 dans le bâtiment du Centre d'information scientifique inauguré fin septembre.

La bibliothèque était, depuis sa création en 1888, hébergée dans le bâtiment historique de l'Institut Pasteur, qui abrite encore les appartements de Louis Pasteur transformés en musée.

Ces locaux étaient devenus totalement inadaptés, les collections étaient dispersées dans plusieurs bâtiments, et la bibliothèque ne pouvait plus assurer correctement ses missions, ni pour la conservation des documents, ni pour le développement des services documentaires et informatiques.

C'est pourtant, et depuis sa création, une des plus importantes bibliothèques de recherche en microbiologie.

L'accroissement des collections, et la nécessité d'adapter les structures aux besoins actuels des technologies documentaires, ont ouvert la voie à la définition des fonctions d'une nouvelle bibliothèque : rassembler l'ensemble des collections dans un lieu unique, se doter d'espaces évolutifs, étendre les possibilités d'accueil, adapter les locaux aux technologies informatiques, et en faire un lieu d'échanges et de formation. On fut donc amené en 1991 à mettre en chantier un nouveau bâtiment équipé d'installations plus conformes à l'expansion des fonds et aux méthodes de gestion et de diffusion de l'information scientifique.

Occupant les trois quarts du bâtiment, la bibliothèque s'étend sur quatre niveaux : deux niveaux de services publics, un niveau de services internes et un niveau de magasins en sous-sol, équipé de rayonnages compacts mobiles prévus pour un stockage de plus de 7000 mètres linéaires.

Les deux étages publics (dont un en mezzanine) offrent 130 places assises, réparties en tables "ouvertes" de 12 places ou de 4 places individuelles, en postes informatiques, en boîtes fermées (12 carrels) et en fauteuils de lecture.

La superficie actuelle fait plus que tripler la surface de l'ancienne bibliothèque, permettant de présenter les deux tiers des collections en libre accès, notamment quinze années de toutes les collections vivantes de périodiques, tous les ouvrages récents, les séries annuelles, thèses, congrès et rapports des organismes de recherche.

Une véritable zone de consultation informatique très évolutive a été créée avec des espaces de formation en petit groupe. Une dizaine de postes informatiques sont mis en service pour la consultation des bases bibliographiques, ainsi que huit postes de consultation du catalogue et un poste relié à Internet. Les tables de travail sont équipées de prises, les lecteurs pouvant travailler avec tout type de matériel informatique portable.

Avant le transfert de ses collections, la bibliothèque a procédé à l'informatisation de sa gestion : acquisitions, catalo-

gage, prêt et enregistrement des périodiques. Les laboratoires de l'Institut, qui sont tous reliés à Internet par l'intermédiaire du réseau de campus, seront prochainement connectés au catalogue informatisé de la bibliothèque.

Un certain nombre d'améliorations ont précédé l'installation définitive dans le CIS. En ce qui concerne les collections, les efforts ont porté sur la reconstitution d'un fonds documentaire qui avait accumulé des lacunes importantes. Ils ont porté par ailleurs sur les moyens d'accès à ces fonds : refonte du catalogue, élaboration d'un plan de classement scientifique, regroupement de collections, orientation des demandes des lecteurs.

Les services documentaires ont été redéfinis : réglementation du prêt, partenariat pour l'accès aux documents extérieurs, enquêtes de besoins, service de fourniture de documents. L'informatique tient une place centrale dans ce développement général.

La création d'un service de recherches bibliographiques informatisées, le renouvellement du matériel et la veille sur les nouveaux produits documentaires ont déjà contribué à un essor de la fréquentation. Une feuille de liaison mensuelle, enfin, rencontre un accueil favorable de la part des chercheurs.

Le recrutement de personnel supplémentaire a contribué à renforcer l'équipe de la bibliothèque et à professionnaliser une activité en pleine mutation. L'objectif est de constituer une base

aussi solide que possible, sur laquelle prendra racine toute la vie de la bibliothèque, ainsi que son ouverture vers la communauté scientifique.

Les relations nouées avec divers organismes en France ou à l'étranger laissent présager des collaborations fructueuses pour un meilleur transfert de l'information.

Les liens indispensables avec des établissements étrangers, comme la National Library of Medicine, les National Institutes of Health, l'Organisation Mondiale de la Santé, et bien d'autres, devraient être facilités par l'image et le dynamisme que devrait impulser cette nouvelle structure.

Au niveau national, le statut de pôle associé à la Bibliothèque Nationale de France, ainsi que sa participation à des programmes nationaux comme le Catalogue Collectif de France, devraient donner à la bibliothèque de l'Institut Pasteur toute sa place parmi les grandes bibliothèques scientifiques.

Corinne VERRY-JOLIVET
Bibliothèque-CIS
28 rue du Dr Roux
75724 Paris Cedex 15
Tel. 33 (1) 45-68-82-81
Fax. 33 (1) 40-61-30-48

QUELQUES CHIFFRES

- Fonds : - 230 000 volumes
- 30 000 monographies
- 2 350 collections de périodiques
- 5 000 livres anciens
- Superficie : - 2 300 M2 en accès libre
- 540 M2 de magasins
- Stockage : - 2 850 mètres linéaires en accès libre
- 7 000 Mètres linéaires en magasins
- Accueil : - 130 places assises
- 12 box individuels et 2 salles de réunions

LES COLLECTIONS IMPRIMÉES :

- En accès direct : - une partie du fonds ancien
- périodiques de l'année en cours
- périodiques à partir de 1979
- usuels, ouvrages généraux, bibliographies,
- ouvrages spécialisés postérieurs à 1970
- littérature grise
- Accessibles sur demande :
- périodiques et séries ayant cessé de paraître
- périodiques vivants antérieurs à 1979
- ouvrages anciens et brochures

LES BASES DE DONNÉES CONSULTABLES SUR CD-ROM :

- Medline (SPIRS, OVID, Knowledge Finder)
- Biosis
- Science Citation Index
- Current Contents
- Embase Alert
- Pascal
- CD-Thèses
- Cancer CD
- Extra Med
- Genome Interactive Database
- Lilacs/WHO

WHO OUTREACH IN EUROPE L'organisation Mondiale de la Santé et son expansion en Europe

L'Organisation Mondiale de la Santé est un organisme des Nations Unies pour la santé internationale et la santé publique. L'OMS, créée en 1948, permet aux Etats Membres d'échanger leur connaissance et leurs expériences dans le but de créer pour l'an 2000 la "Santé pour Tous". Le Bureau Régional de l'Europe de l'OMS est un des six bureaux régionaux dans le monde. Il dessert plus de 850 personnes répan dues du Groenland au nord-ouest à la Méditerranée au sud, aux rives Pacifiques russes. En février 1995, cette étendue de l'OMS comprenait 50 pays:

The World Health Organization is the specialized agency of the United Nations with primary responsibility for international health and public health. Through this organization, which was created in 1948, Member States exchange their knowledge and experience with the aim of creating Health for All by the year 2000.

The WHO Regional Office for Europe is one of six regional offices throughout the world. It serves the needs of more than 850 people living in an area stretching from Greenland in the northwest and the Mediterranean in the south to the Pacific shores of Russia. As of February 1995, the WHO European Region comprises 50 countries:

Albania, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxemburg, Malta, Monaco, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova,

Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Kingdom, Uzbekistan, Yugoslavia.

"Spreading the word" about the work of the WHO Regional Office for Europe is one of the key functions of the Library - one that presents a challenge at any time and especially in the changing Europe of today. In 1989, the WHO European Region had 32 Member States. Today, it has 50 - an astounding increase in just a few years. The new democracies have added new health needs to existing ones, broadening the range of challenges facing WHO.

The "new Europe" has meant a reorientation of policy and programmes to meet the strong needs of the countries of central and eastern Europe and the newly independent states of the former USSR in primary health care and basic health-related services such as garbage collection and clean drinking-water.

It has also meant involvement, for the first time in the existence of the Regional Office for Europe, in war-torn areas. To better serve its Member States, the Regional Office for Europe now has 27 offices spread throughout Europe, as well as a growing network of collaborating institutes. It has stepped up its efforts to bring medical and public health information into the countries - and in the national languages. In addition to direct queries to the Library at the WHO Regional Office for Europe, librarians and documentalists can also access information about the work of the Office through the network of WHO Documentation Centres in Europe, Internet and various databases.

WHO Documentation Centres

The Library is the hub of a Europe-wide network of documentation centres that disseminate information on the programmes and activities of the Regional Office. Launched in 1990, this international project now has 32 documentation centres in 28 countries (as of January 1995) and the

aim is to have a documentation centre in each European Member State. At present, half of the documentation centres are located in central and eastern Europe and the newly independent states. Recognizing the special needs of these countries for health information, the Regional Office puts particular emphasis on establishing documentation centres in this part of Europe.

The principle aim of the documentation centre is to disseminate information, both literature and statistics, from the Regional Office as widely as possible within that country.

This means answering queries and fulfilling requests for documentation from the Regional Office. Each documentation centre is requested to fulfil, subject to financial, staffing and physical constraints, as many of the following functions as possible:

- Reproduction and distribution of WHO documentation to fulfil requests from within the country
- Support to Regional Office campaigns, for example, involving the mass media
- Translation of WHO documentation into national languages
- Collection, indexing, cataloguing and storage of national Health for All (HFA) material (especially "grey" literature); transfer to the Regional Office of records and copies of selected items
- Provision of addresses of national medical, public health and professional journals that should receive review copies of WHO publications and documents
- Promotion, where possible and as appropriate, of the review, note or summary of WHO documentation and activities in professional newsletters, journals and other media
- Setting up on-line WHO statistical databases
- Advice to the Regional Office on national distribution of WHO documentation
- Inclusion of WHO documentation in bibliographic retrieval systems
- Promotion of priced publications in cooperation with WHO sales agents
- Evaluation of the impact and usefulness of different forms of WHO documentation

The overall purpose is to encourage health workers to go to a centre in their own country to obtain WHO information, books and documents, which both greatly improves the dissemination of WHO material and relieves the pressure of such requests on the limited resources of the Regional Office.

To stimulate information exchange between the documentation centres, a newsletter called *Ex Libris* is produced twice a year (June and December) in English. It carries articles by members, contributions showing how the documentation centres promote WHO, and news about WHO programmes and new books. To receive a sample copy, contact the Library at the WHO Regional Office for Europe.

Spreading the word in countries

The WHO documentation centres promote the work of WHO according to their capabilities and resources. For example -

Bulgaria - The medical Information Centre in Sofia regularly reviews notes or translates WHO material in its journals, which reach about 10 000 readers

Italy - The Istituto Superiore de Sanita in Rome recently offered a short course on WHO databases, attended by some 50 librarians and other personnel in public health administration, research institutes and universities.

United Kingdom - Acting on the premise that "if our clients cannot come to us, we will go to them", the British Medical Library, has started a mobile library for WHO material.

This travelling collection is available for loan to the Library's 600 institutional members, most of which are hospital or postgraduate medical centre libraries.

This unique approach is aimed at increasing awareness of the range of WHO materials among public health staff.

WHO Documentation Centres are currently located in:

Albania: Ins. of Hygiene and Epidemiology, Tirana
Armenia: Med. Scient. Lib., Min. of Health, Yerevan
Belarus: Republican Scientific Medical Library, Minsk
Belgium: RESODOC-UCL, Brussels
Bosnia and Herzegovina: Univ. Med. Centre, Sarajevo
Bulgaria: Medical Information Centre, Sofia
Croatia: Andrija Stampar Sch. of Public Health, Zagreb
Czech Republic: National Medical Library, Prague
Finland: National Library of Health Sciences, Helsinki
France: Méd. Prév. & Sociale, Fac. de Méd.St.Antoine, Paris
Germany: Landesinstitut öffentlichen Gesundheitsdienst des Landes Nordrhein-Westfalen, Bielefeld and Zentralbibliothek der Medizin, Köln
Hungary: National Institute of Medical Information and Library of Medicine, Budapest
Iceland: Directorate of Health, Reykjavik
Israel: National Medical Library, Jerusalem
Italy: Istituto Superiore di Sanita, Rome
Kyrgyzstan: WHO Inform. Centre for Asian Rep., Bishkek
Latvia: Latvian Medical Academy, Riga
Lithuania: Kaunas Medical Academy, Kaunas and Lithuanian Library of Medicine, Vilnius
Netherlands: Nederlandse Zorgfederatie, Utrecht
Norway: Norwegian Board of Health, Oslo
Romania: Institut. of Hygiene and Public Health, Bucharest
Russian Federation: Medsoceconominform Inst., Moscow
Slovakia: Slovak Medical Library, Bratislava
Slovenia: Institute of Public Health, Ljubljana
Spain: IVESP, Valencia
Sweden: SPRI Lib. and Research Report Bank, Stockholm
Switzerland: Swiss Inst. of Pub. Health, Lausanne & Aarau
UK: British Med. Ass. and King's Fund Centre in London; Nuffield Institute for Health in Leeds

From gopher client:

gopher.who.ch
port 70

By telnet:

telnet gopher.who.ch
login: gopher

From root gopher server, choose:

Option "8" (Library and Health Literature Services HLT)

In the near future, EURODOC will also be accessible directly via the Regional Office gopher on the Internet.

Health for All Database

Faced with a question about what is the life expectancy of men versus women in Bulgaria or what is the leading cause of death in Latvia, where would you find the answers? The Health for All Database is the place to look for such ready-to-use statistical information on European countries.

The Database contains annual data by country, usually in the form of rates known as Health For All (HFA) indicators. It has regularly updated data on communicable diseases, life expectancy at different ages, mortality rates by cause of death, and some aspects of lifestyles, environment and health services all relating the 38 European HFA targets.

The database has been extensively used to assess the health situation and trends in Europe since 1985. It is also used by researchers and public health administrations to produce national public health reports.

Comparison with other countries helps each country to highlight specific problems, making it an indispensable element in the national health monitoring system of any country.

The Health for All Database is available on diskette together with software that allows user-friendly access and display data. Data can be displayed as maps, bar charts, line charts, box plots, histograms, scattergrams or tables. There are two similar versions, one for WINDOWS and one for MS-DOS. An update of the database is issued about once a year. Diskettes with the HFA Database are available

from the unit of Distribution, WHO Regional Office for Europe (fax +45 39 17 18 18). The HFA Database is also available using FTP on Internet:

Start up your FTP software and connect to GOPHER.WHO.DK. Use ANONYMOUS as the user ID and your own Internet ID as the password. Choose files from the library/IN. There are two sets of files: SETUPDOS.EXE and README.DOS (Dos version) and SETUPWIN.EXE and README.EXE (Windows version). For more information contact the unit of Epidemiology, Statistics and Health Information, WHO Regional Office for Europe (fax +45 39 17 18 95).

Diet and nutrition database

Ever been asked how much meat people eat in Australia or whether stroke rates are higher in Belgium or in Bulgaria?

The Food and Health Indicators from Europe and Selected Countries around the World database will help you to answer these questions.

It gives policy-makers, researchers and teachers an idea of how dietary patterns have changed over the last generation and how at the same time the patterns of nutrition-related diseases have evolved. It includes 50 countries and offers the only source of internationally comparable data on dietary patterns.

The database covers some 15 different food groups, representing such wide-ranging items as rice, treenuts, buffalo meat and fish.

Nearly 70 health and lifestyle indicators, such as rate of infant mortality, life expectancy at age 45 and annual alcohol consumption per person can be accessed. Data can be displayed in a variety of graphs or tables. The database is for sale in the DOS format.

For more information, please contact the WHO Collaborating Centre for Mass Catering, Hoerkaer 2, 2730 Herlev, Denmark: tel (+45) 44 942 490, fax (+45) 44 942 429.

Elaine C. Grandjean, Manager, Library,
WHO Regional Office for Europe,
Scherfigsvej 8, 2100
Copenhagen, Denmark
Fax: 45 39 17 18 18
e.mail: ECG@who.dk

To obtain the detailed list of WHO Documentation Centers in Europe, please contact Elaine C. Grandjean in WHO Regional Office for Europe in Copenhagen.

Tapping into our information

The following databases bring bibliographic data or up-to-date-health statistics from the Regional Office directly into your library or information centre.

EURODOC

EURODOC contains documents and publications, and resolutions from the Regional Committee (in English, French and German) of the Regional Office for Europe. EURODOC is part of WHOLIS, the bibliographic database of all WHO publications and documents, and as such can be accessed on the Internet as follows:

A CENTRAL CATALOGUE REALISED BY MEDICAL LIBRARIES IN HOLLAND - a successful project after close cooperation for ten years

Un catalogue centralisé et réalisé par des bibliothèques médicales en Hollande - la réussite d'un projet après 10 ans d'étroites collaborations

The following article tells you the story of a very successful cooperation between several small hospital libraries in the Netherlands. Starting some ten years ago, as a cooperation between three libraries based on their using the same library software package, the cooperation now extends to the building and maintaining of a central, online available, catalogue of all (several dozen) participating libraries. Their story is an example of how small libraries can achieve something big. By presenting this article we hope to encourage similar projects in other countries.

The article is written by Marjan van Wegen, librarian of the St Luke hospital in Amsterdam, who plays an important role in the project of the central catalogue and is an active member of the division of Biomedical information of the Netherlands Organization of Libraries, Documentalists and Information specialists (NVB-BMI). Second author is Ger de Bruyn, employee of PICA (centre for library automation) in Leiden, the Netherlands.

L'article qui suit décrit une coopération très réussie entre plusieurs petites bibliothèques d'hôpitaux hollandais. Cette coopération qui a commencé il y a 10 ans entre trois bibliothèques, fondée sur l'emploi de mêmes logiciels spécifiques aux bibliothèques, s'étend maintenant à toutes les bibliothèques (plusieurs douzaines) qui participent à ce projet sur le maintien d'un catalogue central disponible en-ligne. Cette coopération montre comment de petites bibliothèques peuvent accomplir de grandes choses.

L'article est écrit par Marjan van Wegen, bibliothécaire à l'Hôpital St. Luc à Amsterdam qui joue un rôle important dans ce projet de catalogue central. Elle est un membre actif de la division Information biomédicale de l'Organisation Néerlandaise des Bibliothèques, Documentalistes et Spécialistes de l'Information (NVB-BMI). Ger de Bruyn, employé à PICA (Centre pour l'automatisation des bibliothèques) à Leiden, Hollande, est le second auteur.

Miebet Wilhelm-De Gouw
Dutch EAHIL Council member

In 1984, a number of small medical libraries initiated a project to reach a common goal: the automation and centralisation of their catalogues. This has led to a central catalogue containing more than 50,000 titles, the result of combined efforts of 38 medical and psychiatric libraries. Ten years of intensive collaboration makes quite a story.

In the past decade, medical libraries in hospitals have become more professional. An enormous flow of clinical sciences texts and an increasing demand for library services in hospitals have forced the often small libraries to expand and adapt their organisation. By joining forces, these medical libraries have managed to develop into modern information centres. With the help of the library automation expertise of the Pica company, which supervised the project from 1992 onwards, a central catalogue was achieved in 1993.

A medical library in Holland

A medical library offers services for the medical profession in a hospital. The

sizes of library collections vary, ranging from 5,000 to 10,000 titles per library. In addition, each library is subscribed to an average of 200 medical journals.

A medical library primarily serves clinical staff. Depending on a hospital's educational function, its library also serves medical students during their clinical training at the hospital. Larger hospitals (with about 500 beds) usually offer training schemes for medical specialisation. In addition to these specialisation schemes, some hospitals provide housemanships for university students.

For the past few years, medical libraries have also been open to other hospital workers. There are trainee nurses that use the library for study purposes. Other nurses are taking a university degree in nursing science and make use of the medical library to complete their studies. A growing demand among paramedical staff (social workers, physiotherapists, dieticians and lab technicians) for professional information, forces the medical library to expand its services to paramedical literature as well.

Automation ideas

The automated catalogue has become a regular facility in most medical libraries. In fact, attempts to automate individual catalogues brought together the present group of collaborating medical libraries. In 1984, a medical librarian employed at a hospital in the mid-east of the Netherlands, appealed to fellow librarians in the periodical for medical librarians, *Biomedities*. In this magazine, issued by the biomedical section of the NVB, Dutch Association of Librarians, this librarian wondered if her colleagues had any experience and expertise in automating their libraries, since she wanted to automate her card catalogue. Although she received many response from librarians who were wondering the same, there was no medical library that had completed or even started automation. This appeal led to the formation of a national working group for the automation of medical libraries. This working group represented four general hospitals, three psychiatric hospitals and a rehabilitation centre. Its goal was to join forces and exchange

ideas in order to design a system that would be usable for as many medical libraries as possible. As a result of its work, the group wrote a report about its findings and concluded that a sophisticated information storage and retrieval system was needed to automate each catalogue. This system could also become a framework for automating the library's desk work.

The Strix package

On the basis of the report, three medical libraries decided to work with a software package for information storage and retrieval, called Strix. For practical purposes, a so called Strix Group was formed in 1986.

Libraries participating in this group agreed on precise regulations with regard to the structure of the database and the storage of data. A number of other medical libraries soon joined this group. In fact, without any effort the group attracted an increasing number of new members in a very short time. Initially, libraries of general hospitals were the ones who felt the need to join. Later on, libraries of psychiatric institutions followed suit. By the end of 1994, the group had more than 60 participants. To keep in contact, its members met twice a year.

This close cooperation between medical libraries began to expand to areas other than just automation. This was only natural, since all libraries offer the same kind of service. That is why participants of the group put together a Dutch thesaurus of 2,000 medical reference terms. Joint considerations were made on the purchase of CD-ROMs for libraries. These collective equipment decisions provided medical libraries with a good basis for further collaboration. Another example of efficiency promoting efforts was a collective list of journal collections. This list was used to order urgent photocopies of articles and to borrow complete journal issues from each other. A complete journal issue is often not available through the IBL, the national automated system for inter-library loan.

Another common project was the translation of the NLM (National Library of Medicine) classification

system by a small group of librarians. The NLM is part of the American Library of Congress classification. A selection from this classification had to be made, because the integral adoption of this system proved to be too extensive for Dutch medical libraries.

Strive for a central catalogue

As the Strix Group developed into a permanent platform for collaboration, its name was changed into Working Group Central Catalogue Medical Libraries, in Dutch abbreviated as CCZ. It became an official working group of the biomedical section of the NVB in 1992.

The new name implied that the group had taken on a new objective. The increasing number of participating medical libraries meant that a centralised catalogue finally became feasible. Understandably, this had always been a long cherished wish, because there are a number of good reasons this central catalogue would serve the medical libraries in hospitals very well.

Firstly, it could be used for bibliographic references, for quick information services, and for determining new purchases. Secondly, with a central catalogue libraries would be able to make use of existing bibliographical entries from each other's separate libraries. It would particularly reduce the number of subject headings to be newly assigned, since making titles accessible is very labour-intensive.

Centrally assigned subject headings would, for instance, reduce the amount of work that normally had to be done on doctoral theses sent in great numbers to each and every medical library. One large common catalogue would enable limited library staffs to work more efficiently and to have access to many more titles. At the same time, the central catalogue system could be a quick medium for ordering titles from other locations. The national system for inter-library services rarely proved to be reliable when publications or reference books were ordered. With a common catalogue, medical libraries could fall back on each other's collections, which, in fact, would be one collective medical library.

The CCZ Group initially tried to build the common catalogue on its own. It soon turned out to be too labour-intensive to collect all existing titles, check redundant data and make this catalogue technically accessible. That is why an Information Management expert was asked to list the possible ways medical library catalogues could be centralised into one. The CCZ Group also needed the help of an automation expert to supervise the entire operation at an affordable price.

The Pica Company

A special task group of the CCZ Group studied the findings that the Information Management Consultant had laid down in a report and presented a plan to finance and organise centralisation. According to the task group, a central catalogue could be achieved if supervised by Pica, the Dutch centre for library automation. When approached, Pica proposed a financial and organisational scheme for supporting the project. Pica's proposal was a threefold plan.

Firstly, the medical libraries would have to shift their catalogue activities from their individual systems to the Dutch Automated Cataloguing System (GGC).

Secondly, the individual libraries should read in their own automated catalogues into this GGC, which would lead to approximately 50,000 centrally catalogued titles.

The final part would be the implementation of the central catalogue of medical libraries in the Pica storage and retrieval database system. Beside this, E-mail would be implemented for electronic communication among the participating libraries.

The plan could be realised in twelve months' time. Since the medical libraries would join this project as a group, Pica agreed to charge the hospitals these medical libraries belonged to, not the usual fee but a fixed price. Within six months, a total of 25 medical libraries in hospitals participated in the project, turning it

into a successful operation for both Pica and the libraries. Three libraries had offered to coordinate the project. They helped other participants in work and deed. At the same time, this group of coordinators acted as a sounding board for Pica in the many cases decisions had to be made during the project. Thesauruses with medical headings and NLM codes were created in the Common Automated Catalogue System. These thesauruses were used for title input.

This worked very well, as the number of catalogued titles in the GGC increased rapidly. From April 1993 on, more than 2,000 titles per month were filed in the GGC, increasing to nearly 3,000 titles per month in 1994. By that time, individual libraries could retrieve 90% of the data for their own collections from the central database. The major part of new titles that had been purchased individually, could be retrieved directly from the GGC.

Central catalogue available

According to plan, the central catalogue was ready for use 12 months after the project started. The central database, named CCZ, was officially presented in Amsterdam in September 1993. CCZ refers to the objective that the CCZ Group took on to realise this Central Catalogue of Medical Libraries in Hospitals. By January 1995, the central catalogue contained nearly 50,000 titles.

These titles can be retrieved via the usual headings, such as author, title words, series and keywords. It is also possible to look up titles under conferences or theses. Moreover, the catalogue of one library can be separated from the rest and then looked through exclusively. When necessary, a library can exclude its own collection while searching in the CCZ.

In order to assist the CCZ user, the Common Automated Catalogue System thesauruses of medical headings and NLM-codes have been integrated in the CCZ.

This makes it easier to look up titles under subject headings. The same applies to thesauruses of last names and names of corporations.

Each title is also retrievable via a variety of last names and acronyms of corporations. Each record consists of the publication's title, its author, its references and its NLM code.

A record also indicates in which libraries a title is available and under which shelf mark it can be found. Libraries still create and maintain their own catalogue separately.

Titles are catalogued in the GGC. These titles are then downloaded from the GGC to the own library and incorporated in the catalogue.

Current situation

Within 18 months, the medical libraries have been able to realise an ambitious project. Its manifest result is a collective database containing many medical library catalogues accessible to all participating libraries.

By common use of references and system codes, a considerable amount of time could be saved in daily cataloguing work. Besides, future developments have been anticipated in the construction of the technical infrastructure. After all, computer networks will be playing a more and more prominent role in the library field.

The users of an individual medical library now have a considerably larger collection at their disposal. In addition to their own libraries stock medical collections in other hospitals can be consulted via the CCZ. And that is not all, since additional titles are made available by the national library network.

Thanks to the CCZ Project, any medical library that wants to automate now or wishes to extend their automated services, can join a cooperative that has been tried and tested. It is to be expected that more libraries will participate in the CCZ in the years to come.

The number of participants is still growing. Among them, there is a remarkably increasing number of psychiatric libraries.

As a consequence, the references and NLM thesaurus in the CCZ were extended with specific psychiatric subject headings.

Further Developments

Several libraries are extending their services by offering their catalogues and other medical bibliographical files on hospital computer networks. Using computers in their consultation rooms or surgeries, physiotherapists and specialists can log into the network to look up relevant information in library files. Another example is an electronic library experiment carried out in Slotervaart General Hospital in Amsterdam. As well as the usual information, the catalogue of this hospital's medical library also lists tables of contents of medical journals and supplies patient information brochures.

This information has been purchased on floppy discs from software companies or other institutions. Expectations are that this kind of service, a relatively cheap and easily manageable one, will be increasingly used in medical libraries in the near future.

Dutch medical library services improved

By voluntarily combining forces, Dutch medical libraries in hospitals have achieved intensive cooperation between similar libraries. Pica's technical support enables the libraries to put their common ideas into practice and realise a central catalogue for general use.

The acquired knowledge, the newly developed services, and the technical infrastructure are made available to fellow libraries. This collaboration has led to more efficiency and has substantially improved the facilities of individual medical libraries in hospitals.

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RENATER, L'INTERNET FRANÇAIS POUR LA RECHERCHE, LA TECHNOLOGIE, L'INDUSTRIE ET L'ENSEIGNEMENT

RENATER, the French Internet for research, technology, industry and education

Created in 1992 to interconnect higher schools and public and private research centres, and to ensure connections with other countries telecommunication networks, Renater is now open to industrial users since 1994. Like the Internet with its numerous resources, Renater constitutes in France the first realisation of infrastructure open to everybody which carries multimedia information all over the world.

La création de Renater

Début juin 1992, les organismes fondateurs de Renater (CEA, CNES, CNRS, EDF, INRIA, Enseignement supérieur) ont créé le réseau Renater, pour interconnecter l'ensemble des établissements d'enseignement supérieur, les centres publics ou privés de recherche, et pour assurer la connexion avec les réseaux de télécommunications des autres pays.

Ils ont également décidé d'unir leurs moyens au sein du GIP (Groupement d'Intérêts Publics) Renater, et ont confié la mise en oeuvre du réseau à France Télécom.

La quasi-totalité des organismes de recherche, de développement technologique, ou d'enseignement supérieur utilisent maintenant également ce réseau.

Citons à titre d'exemple :

- le BRGM,
- le CEMAGREF,
- le CIRAD,
- Gaz de France,
- l'INRA,
- L'INSERM,
- l'IFP,
- L'IFREMER,
- l'Institut Pasteur,
- l'IRCAM,
- l'OCDE,
- l'ONERA,
- l'ORSTOM,
- le Ministère de l'Industrie,
- le Ministère de l'Agriculture.

En 1994, le Ministre de l'Enseignement supérieur et de la Recherche a demandé à Renater de s'ouvrir aux utilisateurs industriels.

Les services de recherche ou de développement technologique de grandes entreprises industrielles, ainsi que de nombreuses petites ou moyennes entreprises, se raccordent maintenant à Renater.

Le déploiement de Renater en octobre 1994

Après une phase pilote qui a commencé en octobre 1991, le démarrage opérationnel de Renater s'est déroulé en nombre 1992.

Aujourd'hui, toutes les régions sont raccordées au réseau national d'interconnexion de Renater, et ont donc accès à l'ensemble de ses services.

En octobre 1994, plus de 300 sites sont déjà raccordés, représentant plus de 800 réseaux IP (il y a souvent plusieurs réseaux dans les grands sites).

Renater transporte 2 téraoctets par mois, et ce volume continue de croître de 15 % chaque mois.

Un réseau à haut débit

La volonté de ses fondateurs est que Renater possède de puissantes connexions vers les réseaux de la recherche d'autres pays et l'Internet (aujourd'hui 6Mbit/s vers l'Europe et 3,5 vers les Etats Unis), dont

il est aujourd'hui l'un des noeuds mondiaux.

L'épine dorsale Paris-Lyon-Marseille-Montpellier est opérationnelle à 34 Mbit/s; les réseaux régionaux raccordés sur cette artère offrent à leurs utilisateurs des débits de raccordement atteignant 34 Mbit/s.

Les services offerts

Renater offre divers services de télécommunication :

- le service Internet IP
- le service IP sur X25
- un service de messagerie multiprotocoles
- les services de l'annuaire

Les divers modes d'accès

Les moyens d'accès sont variés. Ils peuvent être classés en quelques grandes catégories :

Accès permanents :

- 24 heures par jour, toute l'année
- accès directs du moyen débit (64 kbit/s) au très haut débit (34 Mbit/s),
- accès indirects du bas débit (10 kbit/s au moyen débit)

Accès temporaires :

- quelques minutes ou quelques dizaines de minutes par jour :
- par téléphone (très bas débit : quelques kbit/s)
- par Numéris (moyen débit)

Ainsi du particulier au grand campus universitaire, de la PME au grand groupe industriel, pour chacun existe une possibilité d'accès à Renater et à l'Internet selon ses besoins et ses moyens.

L'accès à Internet par le réseau Renater

L'Internet, c'est le réseau mondial d'échange d'information sous forme électronique, pour l'enseignement, la culture et le patrimoine, la recherche, la technologie, l'industrie...

L'Internet est accessible à partir des PCs (Windows ou McIntosh) et des stations de travail scientifiques.

Aujourd'hui, l'Internet relie quelque 60 000 réseaux, dont 55 % sont en dehors du monde de la recherche, proportion qui va croissant.

Plus de 2 000 000 d'ordinateurs et stations sont connectés à ces réseaux; ils desservent vingt millions d'utilisateurs.

Une immense bibliothèque mondiale vivante

Les informations sont stockées dans des serveurs. Un serveur est une station de travail ou un PC relié à l'Internet.

Ces serveurs mettent l'information à la disposition de tous les utilisateurs de l'Internet, où qu'ils soient.

L'information s'y trouve sous forme multimédia : textes et images, qui commencent à être accompagnés par du son (commentaire parlé, séquences musicales, etc....

De courtes séquences d'images animées sont également proposées. C'est un hypertexte multimédia, réparti entre tous les serveurs.

De serveur en serveur, les thèmes les plus variés sont accessibles : des résultats des plus récentes recherches en physique des particules au dernier discours du président des Etats Unis, des informations économiques régionales à des images d'une exposition dans un musée, des documents de la bibliothèque du Congrès aux images météoro-

logiques satellitaires (remises à jour toutes les trois heures!).

Bien entendu, on y trouve aussi des informations techniques, des données scientifiques ou techniques (éventuellement soumises à autorisation d'accès,) des logiciels du domaine public.

Le chercheur en sciences humaines y trouve un moyen d'accès privilégié aux documents d'archives, aux documents de grands bibliothèques, comme celle du Congrès à Washington.

Cette immense variété d'information, cette bibliothèque mondiale vivante, est structurée par des pages d'accueil et des menus thématiques ou régionaux, qui permettent d'y trouver ce que l'on cherche, de flâner de serveur en serveur, avec la même facilité que pour acheter un livre dans une grande librairie.

L'ensemble de ces informations est souvent appelé le livre Internet. C'est une extraordinaire encyclopédie électronique.

Que trouve-t-on dans le livre Internet ?

Voici quelques exemples de ce que l'on fait aujourd'hui avec le livre Internet. Les premiers concernent le domaine de l'information scientifiques:

Au Centre Européen de Recherches Nucléaires (CERN) des serveurs W3 contiennent les résultats des recherches en cours, à l'intention des chercheurs concernés, qui sont répartis dans toute l'Europe et les Etats Unis.

En recherche biomédicale, le serveur W3 du Généthon, rassemble les résultats les plus récents sur l'étude du génôme humain et permet aux chercheurs et aux milieux médicaux de les consulter.

Les grands organismes, les Universités, mettent en place des serveurs W3 d'informations générales :

- présentation de l'organisme,
- renseignements pratiques,
- enseignements, inscriptions,
- thèses et recherches,
- bibliothèque universitaire...

Des fonds documentaires de la Bibliothèque du Congrès, ceux du British Museum, sont accessibles; une exposition organisée par la Bibliothèque du Congrès concernant le Vatican fut connue en quelques semaines dans le monde entier grâce à la remarquable présentation faite dans le serveur W3.

En France, dès que musées, bibliothèques et autres organismes à vocation culturelle nationale ou régionale seront reliés à Renater, le patrimoine sous toutes ses formes, artistique, architectural, musical, historique, pourra commencer à être mis en valeur avec W3, tant pour les spécialistes que pour le public intéressé du monde entier.

Une première utilisation de l'auto-route électronique de l'information

L'auto-route électronique de l'information, c'est l'infrastructure ouverte à tous qui transporte, à travers la France et le monde, l'information multimédia.

L'Internet, et en France, Renater, en constituent aujourd'hui la première réalisation opérationnelle.

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From the next issue, a column will be devoted to **THE INTERNET**. It will be focused on the advantages and resources that are of interest to the health information professionals in their daily work.

A partir du prochain numéro, une colonne sera consacrée au réseau de L'INTERNET. L'accent sera mis sur ses avantages et ses ressources qui peuvent intéresser les professionnels de l'information de la santé dans leurs pratiques quotidiennes.

PUBLICATIONS

For this issue various members made contributions to the Journal Literature part of the Publications Section. I would like to thank all who took the time to let me know what they thought to be of interest in their reading. Please, keep up the good work - I hope to hear from everybody who sees something interesting pertaining to the vast area of information in medicine and related disciplines.

THE JOURNAL ISSUE IN DEPTH

**Health Libraries Review vol 11no.3
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Madge B., From the **Editorial**: "Medical Informatics or, more broadly speaking, Health Informatic, is the marriage of computer science and health care. It is a potentially vast area..." Several topics are quoted as well as books, journals and conferences mentioned that cover the subjects. The introduction to the various contributions of the issue reflect the varied nature of the field. *p. 153-154.*

Roberts J., **Audit of health services** the crucial role of information. Information plays an important role in defining the actual situation for any kind of audit and provides the baseline for measurement of any changes resulting from the audit. *p. 155-159.*

Rambo N., **An operational view of the role of health librarians in informatics.** The author discusses the Pilot Connections project to promote and support use of the INTERNET in community health care settings and the important role of the health librarian in managing information and affecting change within an organization. *p. 161-166.*

Murphy J., **The evolution of undergraduate medical informatics programmes.** "This article summarizes developments in the teaching of medical informatics to undergraduate health care professionals." The implications of informatics programs on libraries are being discussed and important issues raised. *p. 167-176.*

Booth N., **What are the Read Codes?** *p. 177-182.*

Davies M., **The information handling techniques of research** (laborat-

ory and clinical) scientists: preliminary indications of current practice. The results of the study so far establish the following preferences for keeping abreast of new developments (in this order): verbal communication, conferences/meetings, and in-house current awareness service from Science Citation Index source tapes, written communications including fax and electronic mail, preprints, referring, online databases/electronic bulletin boards. *p. 183-195.*

ALSO IN THE JOURNAL LITERATURE

Tedd L.A. (1995) **An introduction to sharing resources via the Internet in academic libraries and information centres in Europe.** An introduction to some of the resources of Internet. Emphasis is on library catalogues, document delivery services, shared information products such as access to commercially available databases, and campus wide information sources. The Bulletin Board of Libraries (BUBL) is recommended as starting point. *Program 29(1) : 43-61.*

Hauptman R. & Anderson C.L. (1994) **The people speak: the dispersion and impact of technology in American libraries.** The results of a survey of 800 libraries in the US in 1990. Conclusions: only a very small portion of libraries provide the services made possible by technology in the information field due to too many demands, not enough staff and not enough in the budget. The authors have suggestions for areas where librarians can take a proactive role in shaping their profession for the future. *Information Technology and Libraries 13(4) : 249-256.*

Schaffner A.C. (1994) **The future of scientific journals: lessons from the past.** The author demonstrates that the development of the scientific journal over the past 150 years has been dri-

ven by forces in science itself and not by the availability of technologies to produce them. Electronic journals will first have to meet the criteria established over years: peer review, permanence, stability, wide distribution, inherent information content by layout, organization etc. Economics and copyright will also be important factors in how fast EJ's are being accepted. *Information Technology and Libraries 13(4):239-247.*

Naylor B. (1993) **The future of the scholarly journal.** Looking at the economics of the journals problem the author argues that printed journals in libraries and electronic document delivery services will coexist for some time to come. The electronic journal will have to prove that it serves the communication process in the same way and that they can pay for itself. *European Research Libraries Cooperation: the LIBER Quarterly 3: 283-289.*

Hirsch C.H. (1995) **SUBITO - eine neue Initiative von Bund und Ländern zur schnellen Lieferung wissenschaftlicher Dokumente.** The initiative for a document delivery service for Germany that will realise its first component in 1996. *ZfBB 42 : 31-43.*

Courtial J.P., Pocbon J. & Vilain C. (1994) **l'Etude d'un concept nouveau à partir de réseaux de mots-clés - Application à la didactique des sciences.** The appearance of a new scientific concept is a phenomenon that can be validated by the use of a bibliographic databank. The present article analyses the dissemination of the concept "compartmental analysis in biology" as a means of grasping the development of its use by scientists specialised in different fields. This was done by tracing the net-word "compartment" or its root derivatives. Morphological analysis of this network using

associated words and leximappe software led to an acceptable semantic definition of this concept. In addition to the standard method of frequency calculation the method of using keyword-derived informatics products is of interest in the analysis of the content of a particular field. Useful to the history of science and to research policies, this method could result in new tools in science education. *Documentaliste, science de l'information* 3(4/5) : 199-204.

Kale J. (1994) Health information for the developing world. *BMJ* 309(6959) : 939-42.

Black J. (1994) Health information for the developing world. *BMJ* 309(6966) : 1437. *Reply*.

Brown C. (1995) Best books on orthopedics: a personal choice. The selection by specialist in the field, useful for an acquisitions librarian in a small or medium sized medical library. *BMJ* 310(6973) : 201.

Matheson N.W. (1995) The idea of the library in the twenty-first century. Janet Doe Lecture on the history or philosophy of medical librarianship, presented at the ninety-fourth Annual Meeting of the Medical Library Association, San Antonio, Texas, May 16, 1994. "The roles of present-day librarians and libraries will begin to differ-entiate sharply over the next decade. Some must seize the opportunity to participate in the transformation of libraries into knowledge servers." *Bulletin of the Medical Library Association* 83(1) : 1-7.

Perednia D. A. & Brown N. A. (1995) Tele dermatology: one application of telemedicine. The authors define telemedicine as the use of telecommunications technologies to provide medical information and services. They describe the Oregon HPCC funded tele dermatology research program. *Bulletin of the Medical Library Association* 83(1) : 42-47.

Nilsson I. (1994) Document Delivery. The summary of studies investigating the Ariel Project, Adonis and Uncover at the Karolinska Institute Library, itself a resource library. *micnews* 3:6-9.

Smith J. (1994) Gift authorship: a poisoned chalice? *BMJ* 309 :1456-1457.

Court C. & Dillner L. (1994) Obstetrician suspended after research inquiry. *BMJ* 309 : 1459.

Goodman N.W. (1994) Survey of fulfillment of criteria for authorship in published medical research. *BMJ* : 309:1482.

Richardson D.A. (1994) Maximizing use of the journal literature with an integrated software environment. *Special Libraries* 85(3 Summer) : 124-128.

Special Libraries (1994) 85 (4 Fall) is a theme issue on virtual libraries and the librarian's (or the cybarian's) role in it. Focus on enterprises and firms, but "benchmarking" is always useful.

Leon R.E. (1994) The world of Internet: a client-server architecture and the new generation of information servers. *Online & CD-ROM* 18(5) : 279-283.

Meadows J. (1994) Target 2000: the future of research communication. *Online & CD-ROM* 18(5) 301-303.

Koenig M.E.D. (1994) Target 2000: some thoughts and predictions. 18(6) : 364-365.

PUBLICATIONS FROM EAHIL MEMBERS

Accart J.P. (1995) The medical library and media center of Keio University in Tokyo: report on a visit. *Bulletin of the Medical Library Association* 83(1) : 91-92.

Belbenoit-Avich P (1994) Electronic document delivery: an update. Reviews the new partners in document delivery services: database producers, publishers, subscription agencies, national libraries. *Information Management Report August:16-17*.

Thirion B., Understanding MeSH for Literature Searches : To the Editor. *JAMA, January 18, 1995, vol. 273, nr. 3, p. 184*.

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EUROPE

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PUBLICATIONS FROM THE WHO

(1994) Health in Europe: The 1993/1994 health for all monitoring report. Within the context of its initiative "Health for all" the Regional Office of WHO has carried another evaluation of progress in the WHO European Region. This most recent report reflects the various political, economic and social changes that have occurred in the Region. It covers 50 European countries. Numerous graphs and tables illustrate the findings. An annex lists the technical databases in use by WHO Regional Office in Europe. *WHO regional publications. European series; no. 56*.

NEW PRODUCTS

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

THE INTERNET

As Secretary of the Pharmaceutical Information Group, I am convinced that the subgroups are one precious service that EAHIL will give to its members. But other services are essential to boost membership.

What services ?

An Internet discussion group or mailing list is a computer list of Internet addresses summarised by one address.

A software automatically and instantaneously redistributes to all the list the messages sent to that address.

Such a list, restricted to EAHIL members, could, by allowing very fast communication between members at low price and energy, offer real services to members, induce more discussion about health information and enhance participation of members in EAHIL activities.

Moreover, by ensuring the presence of EAHIL on the Internet, it would constitute a good publicity for EAHIL activities. My Internet provider gave as costs BEF 16,000 as once as set-up fee, and BEF 6,000 per month per 100 users. There are perhaps other cheaper

possibilities. A "list-manager" is also necessary; this will have the security codes to include members; and will also have to manage possible problems with help of the Internet connection provider. I really think such a discussion group will help members of EAHIL in their daily professional life and will constitute a real advance for EAHIL and its members. The more EAHIL-members will benefit from specific services, the more people will be interested in affiliating to it.

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EAHIL MEMBERSHIP

We would like to express our warm gratitude to EBSCO EUROPE and SWETS & ZEITLINGER who have renewed their sponsorship for the Newsletter. Thanks to their generous support and their interest in our Association, the publication of the Newsletter is made possible.

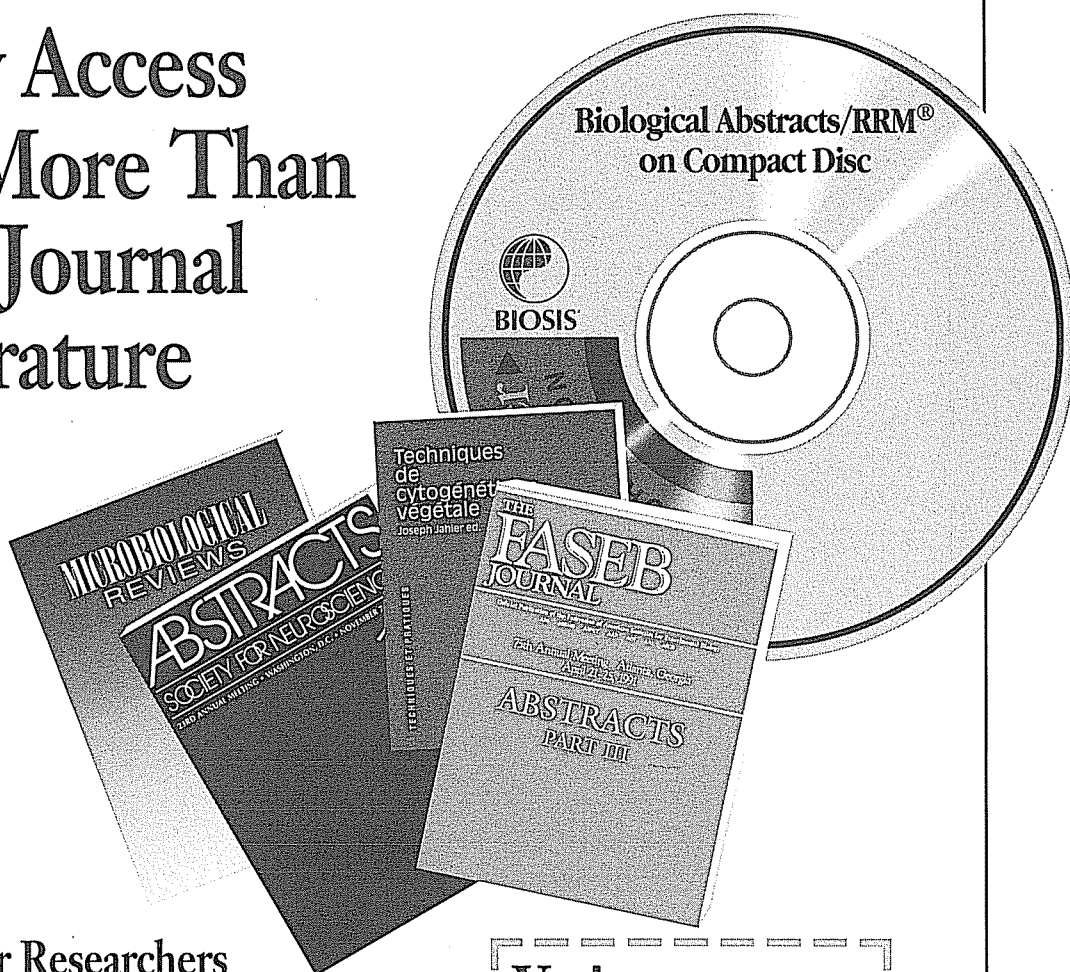
We would also like to thank the AFFILIATED MEMBERS who have renewed their 1995 membership which represents an important support to EAHIL. We very much appreciate their encouragement and renewals:

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