

NEWS LETTER

TO EUROPEAN
HEALTH LIBRARIANS

DES BIBLIOTHECAIRES EUROPEENS
DE LA SANTE



European Association for Health Information and Libraries

Association Européenne pour l'information et les Bibliothèques de santé

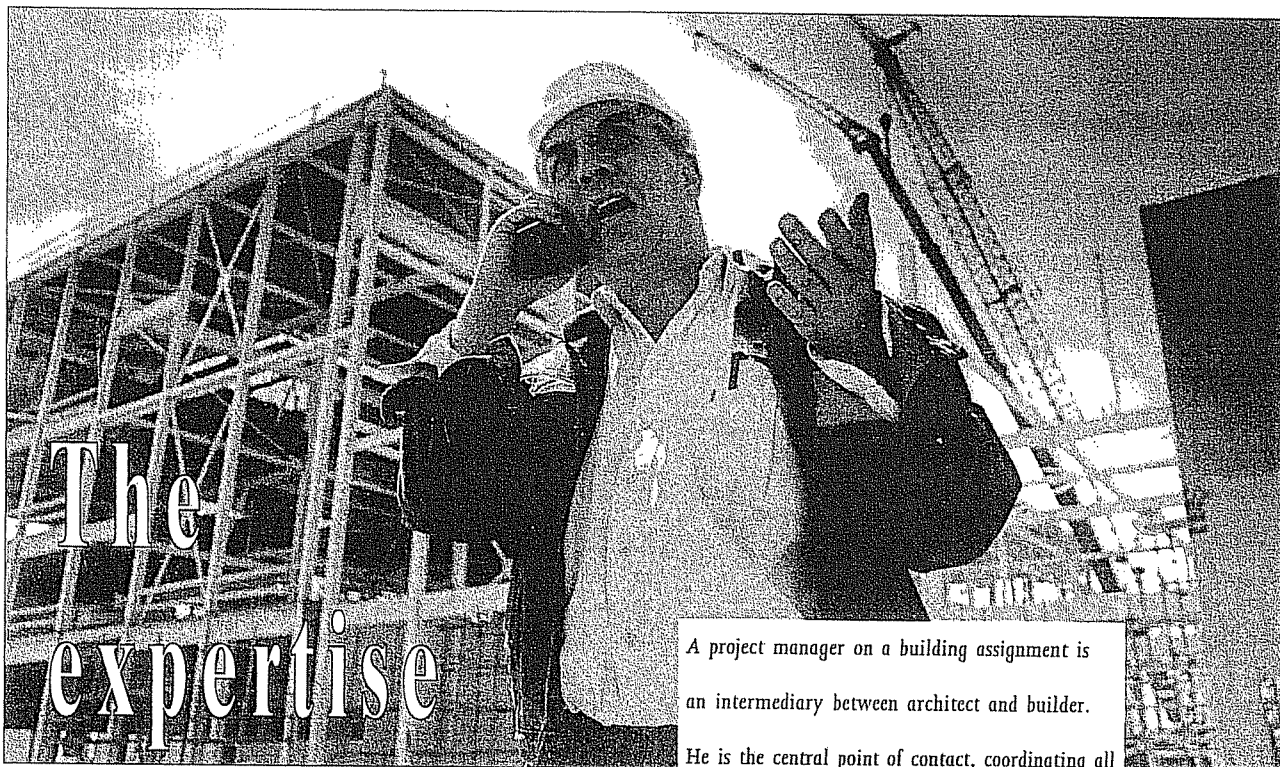
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EDITORIAL

Your Newsletter

The Editorial Board of the Newsletter took the opportunity of meeting during the Conference at Montpellier. We discussed ways in which we might make the Newsletter more interactive and interesting to our readers.

On the whole we felt that having one or two longer articles added variety, but we were all a little disappointed with the lack of any on-going debate about important or not so important matters.

We decided to add some sections to the newsletter in the hope that they will inspire some of you to write something for it. The first appeared in the January Newsletter - "Reference Books for Europe". Surely someone can describe a reference book that they find useful, and thus benefit the rest of us, who many not have come across it?

We would also like to start a section for letters on any topic - "Letters to the Editor". If you want to ask a question, to comment on the newsletter as a whole or on a particular item, please share your thoughts with the rest of us. For instance in the previous issue we started a series on doing research (provided I can find someone to write the them!). Perhaps you could write to tell us of your experiences - good or bad. The letters need not be long, but we would like to hear from many more of you.

We also looked at the Publications Section. It is difficult to know what to put in this since other library publications cover the field in some depth. We felt that we should not try to duplicate what is already being done, but to further the aims of the Association by including as far as possible, the publications of EAHIL members. But that depends entirely on you. Please would you send citations to anything that you have recently published to Beatrice Wilhelm (her address if given in "Information to Authors". Indeed if anyone would like to help by looking out for such publications in the journals that they see, Beatrice would be most grateful to hear from you.

In this issue I hope to include a short questionnaire to ascertain your views on the newsletter - what improvements you would like to see and so on. This questionnaire is loosely based on one which was sent to our Italian colleagues, and whilst the Editorial Board may not respond to all your good suggestions (finance dictates much of what we are able to do), I can assure you that we will take your views into account.

So please do at least one of the following :

Write a letter for "Letters to the Editor".

Send some references of particular relevance to Europe, or written by yourself or another EAHIL member to Beatrice Wilhelm.

Write a description of a reference book which you think might interest your colleagues.

Fill in the questionnaire (p. 25) to say what you think the Newsletter should be doing. What subjects would interest you ?

Jean Shaw
Editor

EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION FOR HEALTH INFORMATION AND LIBRARIES

ASSOCIATION EUROPEENNE POUR L'INFORMATION ET LES BIBLIOTHEQUES DE SANTE

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Toute correspondance concernant la publicité dans notre Bulletin d'Information doit être adressée aux Business Managers :

Claude DARIS and Jean-Claude SMEETS
c/o EAHIL - 60 rue de la Concorde
B-1050 Bruxelles, Belgium

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individual: BF. 1.760; Institutional: BF. 4.260; Collective: BF. 4.730

Full information regarding the Association may be obtained from the EAHIL secretariat/toute information concernant l'Association peut être obtenue de :
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B-1050 Bruxelles
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EDITORIAL

Votre Newsletter

Le Comité de Rédaction de la Newsletter a tenu sa dernière réunion lors de la Conférence de Montpellier en septembre dernier. La discussion porta sur les différentes façons de rendre la Newsletter plus interactive et intéressante pour nos lecteurs.

Dans l'ensemble, nous avons trouvé qu'un ou deux longs articles ajoutaient de la diversité, mais force fut pour nous de constater le manque de réels débats de fond.

De nouvelles rubriques furent décidées dans l'espoir que certains d'entre vous éprouvent le besoin d'y écrire. La première apparut dans la Newsletter du mois de janvier - "Livres de référence pour l'Europe". Vous utilisez certainement dans la pratique courante un ouvrage que vous jugez utile : pourquoi ne pas le décrire pour que vos collègues l'utilisent également ?

Nous aimerions également lancer une rubrique "Lettre au Rédacteur en chef", sur quelque sujet qui vous touche. Si vous désirez poser une question, faire un commentaire sur la Newsletter dans son ensemble ou sur un sujet particulier, faites-le partager aux autres!. Par exemple, dans le numéro précédent, nous avons commencé la publication d'une série sur "Comment effectuer une enquête". Peut-être pourriez-vous parler de vos propres expériences, bonnes ou mauvaises ? Ces lettres n'ont pas besoin d'être longues, mais nous aimerions avoir l'avis d'un grand nombre d'entre vous.

La rubrique des Publications fut également examinée. La difficulté est de savoir ce que cette rubrique peut contenir dans la mesure où d'autres publications bibliothéconomiques sont exhaustives dans ce domaine. Il ne s'agit donc pas de répéter ce qui se fait déjà, et très bien, mais de prolonger les buts de l'Association en incorporant aussi complètement que possible les publications des membres de l'AEIBS/EAHIL. N'oubliez pas de faire parvenir à Beatrice Wilhelm (dont l'adresse figure dans "Informations aux auteurs") les références de vos publications. Béatrice sera très heureuse de recevoir ces renseignements pour sa rubrique.

Dans ce numéro, je désire inclure un questionnaire assez court afin que vous donniez votre opinion sur la Newsletter, quelles améliorations vous désirez voir apporter, etc. Ce questionnaire est basé sur celui qui a été envoyé à nos collègues italiens. Même si le Comité de Rédaction ne peut répondre à toutes vos excellentes suggestions (la plupart du temps pour des raisons financières), je peux vous assurer que nous en tiendrons compte.

Alors il n'y a plus de temps à perdre !

Ecrivez une lettre pour "Lettre au Rédacteur en Chef"; Envoyez les références d'une publication intéressante au niveau européen écrite par vous ou un membre de l'AEIBS/EAHIL à Beatrice Wilhelm;

Donnez les références d'un livre que vous jugez intéressant pour vos collègues;

Remplissez le questionnaire (p. 25) sur la Newsletter et dites ce qu'elle doit être pour vous, quels sujets vous intéressent ?

Jean Shaw
Rédactrice en Chef

SEVENTH INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS ON MEDICAL LIBRARIANSHIP
Washington, DC, May 1995

EXTENDED CALL FOR CONTRIBUTED PAPERS

The 7th International Congress Subcommittee on Contributed Papers of the International Organizing Committee is requesting papers from all countries under the overall theme "Health Information for the Global Village".

- Subthemes are :
- the impact of culture, language and history on health information
 - education for health information delivery
 - measuring the effectiveness of health information on patient care
 - the role of government in the delivery of health information
 - standards for health information in hospitals and medical schools
 - medical informatics and telecommunications
 - legal and ethical questions in the delivery of health care and health information.

Please send abstracts by October, 1993 to (Mrs) Frances Groen
Chair, Subcommittee on Contributed Papers, International Organizing Committee, c/o McGill University Libraries,
3459 McTavish Street Montreal, Quebec, Canada H3A 1Y1
Fax : (514) 398-2423

NEWS FROM OUR ASSOCIATION

Eahil Policy Statements

In the previous Newsletter the 2 last policy statements (nr. 2 and 3) were published. You will find below the policy statements nr. 1 as recorded and revised by the Council. The policy statements nr. 2 will be appearing in a next issue.

Policy Statement nr. 1 - Travel Expenses

Art. 10 of the EAHIL statutes: "Finances"

".. The expenses of the Secretariat shall be and travel expenses for members of the executive Board and the Council may be part of the budget, but no remunerations or fee will be allowed to them."

Guidelines for reimbursement of travel expenses for Board Members and Council Members

- The budget of the Association may include a provision for travel expenses. This provision is not binding. Reimbursement of travel expenses will be effected only and when all other expenses being paid, the end of the year financial statement shows a positive balance. In no way should any reimbursement of travel expenses deplete the remaining fund. As a general guideline, travel reimbursement will be effected up to an amount equal to 50% of the total remaining positive balance.
- Travel expenses will not be reimbursed when meetings take place within the context of another event.
- Travel expenses will be reimbursed first to requesting Board Members, and then to Council Members.
- Any request for reimbursement must be made in writing and be accompanied by some kind of proof indicating that the institution will not reimburse the expenses (for example a copy of the request which has been made to the institution accompanied by the refusal).
- The reimbursement will take into account the travelling distances and the possibility for travel between train and plane. In all cases, within a distance of less than 900 km, reimbursement will not be more than the amount equal to a train fare. No reimbursement will be made for distances less than 400 km.
- Because each country offers special travel bargains (Apex, superapex, charter, etc.), the amount to be reimbursed, beside the consideration of distance, will be fixed for all requesting members, independently of the distance if the travelling is done by air.
- Request for reimbursement should not be made if the institution or any other kind of funding reimburse all or part of the trip.
- Every member has to understand that reimbursement

will be made only in the most extreme conditions and depending on the state of the finances.

- All requests for reimbursement will be filed. Reimbursements will be effected at the end of the year when the accounting for the year is near closing, as long as the association has to operate on a year to year budget, without any capital.

February 1992



Our Fourth European Conference of Medical and Health Libraries in Oslo, June 28-July 2, 1994



You will find in this issue again the Conference themes together with all information about the call for papers. Please don't wait to send your abstracts to the President of the Programme Committee, Mr Arne Jakobsson.

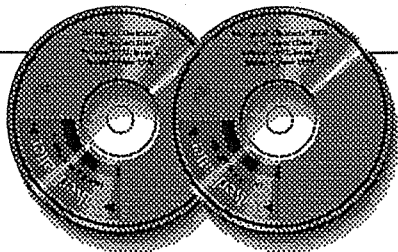
For your information, you will find below the name of the Programme Committee members :

- Jean Philippe Accart, Centre Hospitalier d'Argenteuil, France
- Barbara Aronsson, WHO, Geneva, Switzerland
- Suzanne Bakker, University of Amsterdam, the Netherlands
- Elisabeth Buntz, Medical Library, Rikshospitalet, Oslo
- Arne Jakobsson, Spri Library, Stockholm, Sweden
- Christiane Kay, Zentralkrankenhaus Reinkenheide, Bremerhaven, Germany
- Elisabeth Kjellander, MIC-KIBIC, Stockholm, Sweden
- Ragnhild Lande, University of Trondheim, Norway
- John van Loo, Wills medical Library, London
- Deonilla Pizzi, Università degli Studi di Siena, Italy
- Otakar Pinkas, National Medical Library, Prague, Czech Republic
- Pirjo Rajakiili, Folkhälsoinstitutets bibliotek och, Helsingfors, Finland



New Member of the Newsletter's Editorial Board

Jelka Petrak, the chief librarian at the Central Medical Library, Sredisnja Medicinska Knjižnica, ZAGREB (Salata 3, 41001 Zagreb, Croatia) and EAHIL member, has agreed to join the Editorial Board of the Newsletter. Jelka Petrak will help to represent the needs of the growing number of new countries in Europe.



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EAHIL Board and Council Meetings

The EAHIL Board and annual Council meetings will be held in the Medical School, Centro Didattico "Le Scotte" in Siena, on September 17-18, 1993.

Siena, with her medieval character, surrounded by the rich countryside of the Chianti, is a site of international culture, boasting an University 751 years "young". The Medical School is as ancient as the University. The University clinics have been moved from the ancient Santa Maria della Scala Hospital to the new Hospital (where the meetings will be held).



Congratulations !

It is with great pleasure that we announce that Mr Jean Philippe Accart, EAHIL Council Member and a member of the Editorial Board for our Newsletter, has been elected as a member of the IFLA Standing Committee of the Section of Biological and Medical Sciences Libraries.



New EAHIL Membership

We are pleased to welcome two new **Affiliated Members**:

- **CD PLUS LTD.**, 1 Lamington Street, London W6 0HU, Tel.: +44 81 748 3777 - Fax: +44 81 748 2302. Contact: Mrs Heather Taylor, Marketing Manager; and **CD PLUS**, 100 Valiusstraat, 1075 GC Amsterdam, The Netherlands. tel. 3120 672 0242, Fax: 3120 673 8041.

CD Plus is a leading provider of medical, drug and health care databases on CD-ROM and magnetic media for use on standalone machines or on network systems. All databases run under the Ovid search and retrieval soft-

ware, operating under Windows, DOS or UNIX, which includes powerful search commands for beginners and experts alike. A range of medical journals in full-text format will shortly be available.

- **JOHN WILEY & SONS LTD.**, Baffins Lane, Chichester, West Sussex P019 1UO, tel. +44 243 779 777. Contact: Mrs Lesley Valentine, Marketing Manager.

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

- ALLUE BLANCH Viceng UAB - Biblioteca Fac. de Veterinaria, Bellaterra, Spain
- ASABIME, Mr Antonio Moreno de la Fente, Sevilla, Spain
- CASAS ramona, Collegi Oficial de Metges de Barcelona, Barcelona
- DOYLE Gabrielle, St Luke's Institute of Cancer Research, Dublin, Ireland
- GAWELL Margareta, Regionsjukhuset, Medical Library, Orebro, Sweden
- HAIRE Muriel, Nursing Board, Dublin, Ireland
- KOCIENE S., Medical Library, Vilnius, Lithuania
- KALUSKEVICIUS Benjaminas, Kaunas Medical Academy, Kaunas, Lithuania
- MANCUSO Patrizia, Polo Biologico Inegrato CNR, Roma
- MARKOM D.O.O., Ljubljana, Slovenia
- MAS Maria Teresa, Hospital santa Creu I Sant Pau, Barcelona
- PEKNIKOVA Miriam, Faculty of Medicine of Comenius University, Bratislava, Slovak Republic
- FLEMISH INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH PROMOTION, Mrs Hilde Van Ongevalle, Brussels



NOUVELLES DE NOTRE ASSOCIATION

Règlements internes de l'AEIBS/EAHIL - Prises de position

Dans la Newsletter précédente les accords de l'AEIBS/EAHIL nr. 3 et 4 ont été publiés. Vous trouverez ci-après l'accord nr. 1 qui a été revu et approuvé par le Conseil. L'accord nr. 2 paraîtra dans une prochaine édition.

Accord nr. 1 - Remboursement des frais de voyages des Membres du Bureau Exécutif et du Conseil.

Statuts: Art. 10: Finances

"Les dépenses du secrétariat seront comprises et les frais de voyages des membres du Bureau exécutif et du Conseil pourront être compris dans le budget, mais aucune rémunération ni honoraires ne leur seront accordés."

Indications pour le remboursement des frais de voyage des membres du Bureau et du Conseil

- Le budget de l'Association peut comprendre une clause concernant les frais de voyage. Cette clause n'est pas obligatoire. Le remboursement des frais de voyage sera effectué seulement et quand les autres dépenses auront été honorées, et si la clôture annuelle du budget dégage une balance positive. En aucune manière, un remboursement ne sera pris sur des fonds restants. A titre indicatif, les remboursements des frais de voyage ne dépasseront pas 50 % du total de la balance positive.
- Les frais de voyage ne seront pas remboursés quand l'évènement professionnel aura lieu au cours d'un autre évènement professionnel.

- Les frais de voyage seront remboursés en premier lieu aux membres du Bureau qui le demanderont, et ensuite aux membres du Conseil.
- Toute demande de remboursement doit être effectuée par écrit et accompagnée d'une lettre prouvant que les dépenses ne sont pas prises en charge par l'Institution à laquelle le membre est affilié.
- Le remboursement prendra en compte le kilométrage effectué et les possibilités offertes par l'avion ou le train. Dans tous les cas pour une distance inférieure à 900 km, les tarifs des chemins de fer seront appliqués. Aucun remboursement ne sera fait pour des distances inférieures à 400 km.
- Etant donné que chaque pays offre des possibilités de voyager à prix réduits (Apex, superapex, charter, etc.) le montant du remboursement, pour chaque membre demandeur, sera fixé indépendamment de la distance si le trajet s'effectue par avion.
- Les demandes de remboursements ne devront pas être faites si l'Institution prend en charge tout ou partie du voyage.
- Chaque membre doit être conscient qu'un remboursement ne pourra être effectué que dans certaines conditions très précises et cela en fonction de l'état des finances de l'Association.
- Toute demande de remboursement sera classée. Les

remboursements ne pourront être effectifs qu'en fin d'année au moment de la clôture du budget, aussi longtemps que l'Association aura un tel fonctionnement financier, sans capital.

Février 1992



Un nouveau membre au Comité de Rédaction de la Newsletter

Jelka Petrak, bibliothécaire en chef à la Bibliothèque médicale Centrale à Zagreb (Sredisnja Medicinska Knjiznica, Salata 3, 41001 Zagreb, Croatie) et membre de l'AEIBS/EAHIL a accepté de rejoindre le Comité de Rédaction de la Newsletter. Jelka Petrak sera une aide précieuse et représentera les besoins du nombre croissant de nouveaux pays européens.



Félicitations !

C'est avec plaisir que nous annonçons l'élection de Jean-Philippe Accart, Membre du Conseil de l'AEIBS/EAHIL et chef de rubrique en langue française de la Newsletter, en tant que membre du Comité Permanent de la section des Sciences Biologiques et Médicales de l'IFLA (International Federation of Librarian Associations).

NEWS ALERT

NEWS ALERT

New NLM pricing policy for networked CD-ROM systems

La nouvelle politique des prix de la NLM concernant les CD-ROM en réseaux.

Le "NLM Technical Bulletin" en date de novembre-décembre 1992 signale des changements de tarifs dans les produits dérivés des banques de données et notamment les CD-ROM en réseaux. Cela concerne les clients étrangers qui paieront une taxe supplémentaire sur la base de l'utilisation réelle et non plus sur une utilisation supposée: cette taxe se montera à US\$ 2,50 par heure de connexion, à US\$ 0,02 pour 1.000 caractères transmis en ligne et à US\$ 0,02 par citation imprimée par téléchargement (pour un utilisateur unique, l'abonnement inclura une surtaxe de US\$ 25).

Cette décision est importante pour le fonctionnement des bibliothèques : celles possédant un réseau ne pourront prévoir les coûts engendrés. Cela donnera certainement des idées aux autres producteurs de CD-ROM.

De nombreux bibliothécaires ont vigoureusement protesté par rapport à cette nouvelle politique de prix de la NLM, ainsi que du manque de concertation. La réponse des

distributeurs de CD-ROM n'est pas encore connue. Les lecteurs de la Newsletter, concernés par cette nouvelle, peuvent contacter :

- *Lois Ann Colaianni, Associate Director, Library Operations, NLM (Internet address: loisann@lhc.nlm.nih.gov).*
- *Sheldon Kotzin, Chief, Bibliographic Services Division, NLM (Internet address: kotzin@lhc.nlm.nih.gov)*

NLM : 8600 Rockville Pike, Bethesda, MD 20894 (tel: +1 301-496-6217; fax: +1 301-496-0822)

The U.S. National Library of Medicine has announced that a new charging structure for some of its database products will apply from 1993. Details were published in the NLM Technical Bulletin (November/December 1992).

Foreign clients are required to pay a surcharge. NLM has now decided that for networked CD-ROM systems, as for locally-mounted hard-disk networks, this surcharge will be calculated on the basis of actual usage, and will no longer be a flat-rate charge. The surcharge for networked products will be based on rates of US\$2.50 per connect hour, US\$0.02 per 1,000 characters transmitted online, and US\$0.02 per citation printed offline. (Stand-alone, single-user, subscriptions will incur a flat-rate surcharge

of US\$25.00.)

NLM argues that the foreign surcharge is justified because the U.S. government supports NLM's activities. It also wishes to produce usage data (both domestic and foreign) as part of its case for continued government funding, and sees its new policy as a means of combining these two needs. However, there is no proposal at present to record usage on stand-alone CD-ROM facilities.

NLM will recover the usage-based surcharge from the vendors of its CD-ROM databases, and the vendors are therefore expected to develop software which will enable networked usage to be recorded so that the surcharge can be calculated. In NLM's view, the vendors may then decide whether they in turn wish to recover the cost from their library clients, and if so, how.

This decision has important consequences for all libraries running, or planning, networked versions of Medline and other NLM databases. It seems unlikely that the CD-ROM vendors will be able to avoid passing on the usage-based charge to their clients. Libraries using networks will therefore be faced with variable, and largely unpredictable, costs.

There can be little doubt that one of the great advantages of CD-ROMs has been the fixed costs, which have enabled libraries to plan and manage their budgets in a rational and predictable manner. NLM's decision threatens to remove this advantage. In doing so, it will undermine the financial

arrangements of those libraries already committed to networked systems, and will cause those planning such systems to reconsider their plans. It may also be seen by other CD-ROM producers as a precedent to be followed (and not only in the field of health care information), at a time when the database market seems to have been moving increasingly towards fixed-cost pricing methods.

Librarians and library organisations in a number of countries have already protested vigorously to NLM about the new policy, and about the lack of consultation and publicity over its introduction. At the time of writing the debate is still in progress, and it is not yet clear how all the CD-ROM vendors will respond. Readers of the Newsletter who feel concerned about this development, and who wish to make their own views known to NLM, may send comments to:

- *Lois Ann Colaianni, Associate Director, Library Operations, NLM (Internet address: loisann@lhc.nlm.nih.gov)*
- *Sheldon Kotzin, Chief, Bibliographic Services Division, NLM (Internet address: kotzin@lhc.nlm.nih.gov)*

The NLM's address is 8600 Rockville Pike, Bethesda, MD 20894 (tel: +1/301-496-6217, fax: +1/301-496-0822)

Peter Morgan
*Chairman, University Medical School Librarians Group
Cambridge University Medical Library, Addenbrooke's
Hospital, Hills Road, Cambridge, UK, CB2 2SP*

FEATURE ARTICLE

DIALOG buys DATA-STAR : Goodbye to European Online Services for Medical Librarians ?

*DIALOG achète DATA-STAR :
les bibliothécaires médicaux doivent-ils dire adieu aux accès européens en ligne ?*

Dialog et Data-Star fusionnent ! La nouvelle est tombée et a surpris plus d'un professionnel. Mais reprenons tout d'abord le déroulement des événements :

Radio-Suisse, propriétaire de Data-Star, a été privatisée par le gouvernement suisse voici quelques années. Data-Star évolua de façon profitable et pleine de succès dans le secteur privé, partie intégrante de Motor-Columbus, un groupe d'ingénierie basé en Suisse. Ce groupe ayant changé sa stratégie, Data-Star fut vendu à Knight-Ridder Inc. à Miami, propriétaire également de Dialog.

Knight-Ridder est une compagnie internationale de communication : elle détient des quotidiens (29 aux Etats-Unis), des journaux d'affaires, des services d'information et d'électronique, des chaînes de télévision, des imprimeries etc. Aux dires de Pat Tierney, PDG de Knight-Ridder, le rachat de Data-Star permettra de renforcer la présence de Dialog dans le domaine des banques de données biomédicales ainsi que sur le marché européen des accès en ligne : les deux serveurs co-existeront et il n'y a pas de modifications envisagées en ce qui concerne les tarifs déjà pratiqués. Data-Star conservera son siège à Berne. Les seuls changements concerneront tous les aspects de marketing qui seront dirigés par Richard Ream, de l'équipe Dialog.

Malgré de telles assertions, il semble difficile de croire que rien ne changera. Dialog doit gagner de l'argent pour Knight-Ridder, et Data-Star sera obligé de suivre cette ligne de conduite. Comment ?

L'Europe est à l'heure de la récession et cela touche nos services, spécialement le marché des accès en ligne. Les données du problème, en l'occurrence l'aspect financier, ont été modifiées par le comportement des utilisateurs des banques de données scientifiques, techniques et médicales, et par l'arrivée des nouvelles technologies. De plus, Dialog et Data-Star auront une situation de monopole sur un tel marché. Monopole ne signifie pas, loin de là, prix en baisse.

Pour Knight-Ridder, il faudra réaliser des économies : passation de contrats avec les producteurs de banques de données et changements envisageables des coûts.

Il est donc clair que le rachat de Data-Star n'est pas une bonne nouvelle pour les bibliothécaires médicaux européens. Nous avons bénéficié jusqu'à maintenant de la compétition entre serveurs, compétition qui n'existe plus. Il est donc indispensable que nous continuions, en tant que clients, à diversifier nos investissements dans les accès aux banques de données, par l'achat de CD-ROM par exemple.

Dialog n'a pas le monopole des nouvelles technologies, et il faudra également compter avec l'édition électronique de documents de plus en plus prise en compte par les éditeurs scientifiques.

Il semble donc peu probable que deux serveurs puissent continuer à exister parallèlement et indépendamment sous la coupe d'un seul propriétaire, avec tout ce que cela implique en terme de coût et de marché de l'information.

Like most people I was taken completely by surprise by the news that Dialog and Data-Star were to merge, although with the benefit of hindsight there is an obvious logic to what has happened. The purpose of this article is to give a readable account of events and to look briefly at the implications for European medical librarians. I should make it clear that these are my personal views, and do not necessarily represent either those of the EAHIL Board or the BMA.

What Happened

Radio Suisse, operators of Data-Star, was privatised by the Swiss government several years ago. Data-Star has operated profitably and successfully for several years in the private sector, as part of Motor-Columbus, an energy and engineering group based in Switzerland. Recently there have been major changes in the top management of Motor-Columbus and, as often happens, these changes have led to a reappraisal of the corporation's strategic direction. It is a cliché of modern business life that, to be successful, an organisation needs to "know what business it's in". For mega-corporations such as Motor-Columbus, this tends to mean focusing their efforts in a few clusters of business activity where the senior management can become familiar with the issues, and where capital investment can support activity across divisions.

Under the new regime, Data-Star did not fit into the newly-defined core business areas. It was successful and profitable, which made it a good candidate for selling off because it would provide capital to strengthen those parts of Motor-Columbus which designated as core. After a number of possibilities were examined, Data Star was sold to Knight-Ridder Inc of Miami, who also own Dialog.

Knight-Ridder describes itself as an international communications company engaged in newspaper publishing (29 daily papers across the US), business news and information services, electronic retrieval services, cable television, newsprint manufacturing and a few other things besides. And in London at least, the announcement of the merger was handled with an efficiency and style that perhaps reflects this experience of the news business. Along with large numbers of Dialog and Data-Star sub-

scribers, I was given the bare bones of the story by telephone and invited to a working breakfast the following morning at a Central London hotel. There, many of those principally involved at the sharp end of the merger gave short presentations on different aspects of events, and indefatigably answered questions from the 200 or so information users who attended. This was not the only such session in London, and presumably equivalent events were taking place across Europe.

"A Merger, Not A Takeover"

Several interesting things emerged from this meeting. Perhaps one of the most interesting was that it took place at all.

The key messages from Dialog boss Pat Tierney and his colleagues can be summarised as follows:

Knight-Ridder has bought Radio-Suisse because its information and telecommunications businesses provided a good fit with existing products and services, and the price was right. The sale was initiated from the Swiss side for reasons already explained, and was not a predatory strike by Dialog to remove an important competition.

Data-Star will strengthen Dialog's range of biomedical database products, and will also strengthen their presence in the European online market where Tierney acknowledged that Dialog was not as strong as in their other major markets of North American and Japan.

In the short term there will not be any significant changes in services, policies or pricing, and in the longer term it is not proposed to introduce radical changes to the levels of price charged. Dialog and Data-Star will be separate but cooperating operations, and there are no plans for either brand name to disappear.

There are no plans to close the Data-Star computer installation in Berne, or to downgrade any of the operations there to become a satellite of the main Dialog system centre in California. There will be some immediate changes, though. Notably the Dialog and Data-Star European sales, marketing and customer support operations will be merged under the leadership of Richard Ream, formerly in charge of the Dialog team. Peter Martin, until now head

of Data-Star's sales and marketing, will move to California to join the Dialog senior management team as the voice of the European market.

The management of the new, merged company is anxious to be seen to be taking into account the interests of the existing customer base.

What Are The Implications ?

Only the most cynical observer will believe that the position outlined above is a clever story put together to keep the customers docile and the market clear of opportunistic rivals. Dialog has made a good start in reassuring us that (a) nothing much will change, and (b) most things will get better.

However, it would be too naive to take at face value everything that has been said. Dialog is there to make money for Knight-Ridder's shareholders, and the newly merged service will be expected to do the same - including servicing the debt on the Radio Suisse purchase price. In effect, this probably means that some additional money will have to be found from one of the following sources:

New Business: Dialog is making much of the new combine's ability to expand the European market for online services, and we must all hope that their public hopes prove justified. There should certainly be some ability for each service to take advantage of its new access into the other's market. However, Europe is in the grip of a recession and few of us will find it easy to afford a big increase in our online expenditure. The online market is also almost 20 years old. In such an established, mature market explosive growth is uncommon and unlikely. In recent years, revenue growth in the use of scientific, technical and medical databases has been constricted by competing technologies (such as CD-ROM) and by users becoming more sophisticated in our purchase strategies.

Price Increases: Dialog and Data-Star will be approaching a near monopoly position in some areas of the market. Biomedical database access is a particularly clear example, although there remain a few, small-scale competitors. Monopoly and near-monopoly is not a traditional recipe for low prices. Although Pat Tierney said there would be no immediate and severe price increases, he was careful not to rule out gradual increases in the real costs of online searching.

Cost Cutting: There is obvious scope for rationalisation, and an immediate start has been made by creating a single marketing, sales and support operation across Europe. The Knight-Ridder press release also talks of the benefits of a combined research and development effort. Further into the future, there will be savings to achieve, including unified contracts with database producers and introducing combined customer billing arrangements. The new organisation's market position will probably make it easier to drive hard bargains with database producers. In the long term, it is hard to see the two computer centres surviving a major upheaval such

as a new, unified search software or a new generation of computer hardware.

In Conclusion

It seems clear to me that Data-Star's loss of independence is not good news for the European medical librarian. We have all benefitted in recent years from the competition between online hosts, and it is unrealistic to expect the same competitive pressures to operate between two arms of a single supplier. Discount arrangements for large customers, innovation and real choice are all likely to be casualties, and my colleagues and I will miss the bustling medically-aware Data-Star team. Instead, the competition will go on out of the customer's sight as Data-Star and Dialog compete on profitability within Knight-Ridder.

In a European online market which has shown at best moderate growth in recent years, it is unlikely that a new (or newly dynamic) player will arrive to restore competition. As customers, we must do what we can to bolster our strength in the market by continuing to diversify our investment in database access - by CD-ROMs, of course, but also via purchasing consortia such as the mounting of EMbase by the UK's higher education community. Dialog is well aware that they have no monopoly across technologies. Apart from customer pressure, they will also be squeezed increasingly by database publishers who realise that the technology now exists for them to become online micro-hosts in their own right. After all, online hosts are middlemen, and the trend of computer developments is towards simplified chains of service delivery and distribution. The changes have been presented as a merger, but the changes that are actually being made look rather more like a takeover. For example, it has been my subjective view that the Data-Star team has comprehensively out-marketed and out-supported their Dialog rivals, and that their product development team has also been much more effective. It is a little sad to see the customer operations unified under Dialog management, and one must hope that the product development rationalisation does not shake out the same way.

Finally, I cannot see Knight-Ridder continuing to run two online hosts which operate with real independence, and the evidence so far supports that view. There have been upheavals in those areas which are easily changed - in the staff-intensive customer support. In the medium term we are promised unified research and development, accounts and other areas which will need work but which are basically within Dialog's control. In the longer-term we receive reassurances about the future of the Berne operational centre. But profitability in the online business is essentially a matter of keeping the costs down and the market sewn up, and as a customer I must wonder how long it will continue to look sensible to maintain a second base in one of the world's hardest currencies and outside the unified European market.

Tony McSeán
EAHIL President

EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION FOR HEALTH INFORMATION AND LIBRARIES

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The Universal library : Libraries as centres for the global availability of information

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on INFORMATION AND DOCUMENT ACCESS

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with the IFLA Section of Biological and Medical Libraries

IFLA 59th General Conference

BARCELONA

Thursday August 26th, 1993

to be held at the Institut d'Estudis de la Salut (IES)
Ronda de Sant Pere 20, Barcelona, 10.45 - 18.00

Chair : Beatrice DORAN, Mercer Library, Dublin, Ireland

PROGRAMME :

- The Management of an Information and Document Supply Center
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- The view of an informed user on access to information in the future
- Document Delivery : Consideration for the Future
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the view of the vendor and producer
- Group discussions (Spanish, Italian, English, French)
Questions and answers

Teodora Oker-Blom
Graham Cornish
Christian Lupovici
Herbert Fleisch
Lois Ann Colaianni

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The lunch and the coffee breaks are generously offered by the British Library and EBSCO. We also express our sincere thanks to the Institut d'Estudis de la Salut for offering to hold the workshop on their premises.

Send your registration form to / Renvoyez le bulletin d'inscription à :

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EAHIL/IFLA
Section of Biological and Medical Libraries

WORKSHOP
BARCELONA
Thursday August 26th, 1993

The workshop will be open to everyone whether they are EAHIL members or not, whether they are attending the IFLA Conference or not. The IFLA conference registration badge will give access to the workshop. However, because of the limited number of seats available, IFLA conference attendees are urged to register in advance for the EAHIL workshop as well.

L'atelier de travail est ouvert aux personnes membres ou non de l'association et inscrites ou non à la conférence de IFLA. L'inscription à IFLA tiendra lieu d'inscription à l'atelier de EAHIL. Toutefois, à cause du nombre limité de places, il est recommandé de s'inscrire au plus tôt pour l'atelier de EAHIL.

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NEWS FROM EUROPE

APDIS-Portuguese Association in Health Documentation and Information, 2nd General Assembly, Lisbon, January 28, 1993

APDIS-Association Portugaise pour l'Information et la Documentation de la Santé, 2ème Assemblée Générale, Lisbonne, 28 janvier 1993

According to the agenda, the President gave a report comparing the activities plan for 1992 and those which had been carried out. The first issue of the APDIS newsletter "Ponto de Encontro" has been delivered. The working group for document supply presented a proposal asking for suggestions. This document is intended to be the basis for protocols within national libraries and documentation services to enlarge and make the interlibrary loan easier in a near future.

Information was given on the other working groups.

- Union list of periodicals. The data for the new list are being collected and computerized as well. A particular effort from all the APDIS members has been asked to improve this new edition.
- Continuing education. The first APDIS meeting was held in February 1992 with great success. Continuing education courses for technical staff have been carried out.
- Automation support. Some guidelines were presented to support both professionals and users. Not only the use of Mini-Micro CDS/ISIS software will be included but also that of word processors, charts and database software.
- Acquisitions management. Guidelines have been presented. Some libraries and documentation services are already coordinating their acquisitions policies.
- Indexing language. This group has been connected to CLIP (Portuguese Indexing Languages Compatibility) within PORBASE (National Bibliographic Database). APDIS has been appointed by PORBASE to validate health indexing terms. the group aims to provide a useful printed indexing tool based on MeSH, in particular.
- Glossary. A working group has started to prepare a practical, simple vocabulary to support continuing education courses.

The activities for 1993 were presented by the President with a particular stress upon :

- the second edition of the "Directory of Health Libraries and Information Services"
- the second edition of the "List of periodicals in health libraries and documentation services in Portugal"
- the second APDIS meeting will be held next October 28 and 29, with colleagues from Spain, France, Italy and Portuguese Speaking African countries (PALOP).

General information:

- APDIS has become member of EAHL
- APDIS has been represented at the 3rd EAHL General Assembly in Montpellier last September.

Antonia M. Pereira da Silva
APDIS - Alameda D.Afonso Henriques, 45
P-1956 Lisboa Codex, Portugal



Nordic Medical Librarians' Association Founded
La création de l'Association Nordique des bibliothécaires Médicaux

Cooperation between the Nordic countries has always been good. These countries - Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden - form a very natural area for common goals, both historically and geographically, and we have, as long as history goes back, been in touch with each other. The contacts have mostly been peaceful and amiable, despite some discrepancies in history, usually no registered organizations have been needed to guarantee cooperation, but many activities become easier if an association exists.

The boards of Nordic medical librarians' associations have met once a year for some time now, but this year we thought it would be the right thing to have a registered association between us. This time the annual meeting was held in Turku, Finland, and some ten medical librarians from the Nordic boards gathered for a constitutional meeting. The first President is Inger Vibeke Nielsen from Denmark, and Denmark will also arrange the next annual board meeting and the fourth Nordic Conference. The English name of the new association is Nordic Association for Medical and Health Information.

Liisa Salmi
Kuopio University Medical Library,
SF-70210 Kuopio, Finland



Medical Information in the Czech Republic: Current Issues

Information médicale en République Tchèque : Questions actuelles

At the present time, some 350 libraries within the National Health Service System cater for information needs of c. 45,000 physicians and other health professionals in the Czech Republic. In a time of economic constraints and budget cuts most of these libraries are faced with serious financial problems. In this respect gifts of scientific literature provided in recent years by foreign foundations or organizations have proved of immense value. The National Medical Library in Prague has been entrusted with

the task of distributing donated literature to medical libraries over the whole country. Up to now the most generous donation has been provided by Project HOPE, representing altogether 18,000 issues of more than 700 titles of monographs.

Talks are now being held with representatives of Volkswagenstiftung concerning their 75,000 DM gift of medical journals and 35,000 DM worth offer of copying machines. Any aid we have received in the past three years from our colleagues in the Western countries is, however, very valuable and has been equally appreciated by Czech librarians and their users. Considerable progress has been recently achieved in implementation of modern information technology, at least in the major medical libraries. CD-ROM workstations (with MEDLINE as a premium source) have already been set up in 21 information centres. Besides that, some 50 medical hospitals and institutes have been granted temporary access to INTERNET and EARN networks thanks to the initiative of the EC. We hope that substantial progress in international cooperation with our new partners in the world will be made possible in this way (our E.mail adress: EARN - NLK@CSEARN; INTERNET - NLK@CSEARN.BITNET).

Otakar Pinkas

National Medical Library,
121 32 Prague 2, Sokolská 31, Czech Republic
Tel: 422 293682



Medical Libraries in Wartime - A visit to Croatia in April 1993

Bibliothèques médicales en temps de guerre - une visite en Croatie en avril 1993

Regular readers of the newsletter may remember an emergency appeal for books and information on war surgery and medicine made by the Central Medical Library in Zagreb. The librarians there certainly remember with gratitude the help and support given by members of EAHIL.

At the time of my visit in April this year, the main focus of the fighting was in Bosnia-Herzegovina. As a visitor in Zagreb, one could be quite unaware of the war, but in other parts of Croatia the fighting continues or there is an uneasy "peace". The outwardly peaceful scene in the capital belies the tension and problems of the population in general and those of the refugees and displaced people, who have lost everything.

The Central Medical Library of the University of Zagreb is the main resource for medical information in the country. There are 28 medical libraries in the country which have a professional librarian in charge. Eleven of them are in Zagreb itself. The very active co-operation and communication between medical libraries before the war now faces many obstacles. Personal contacts and training courses are almost impossible. Travel between the Dalmatian coast and Zagreb is difficult since the shortest and

cheapest route lies through a war zone. Travel by air is possible but this is generally beyond a librarian's pocket in these straitened times. Nevertheless all kinds of library services (interlibrary loan, on-line searching etc.) function even more vigourously than before and the national importance of the Central Medical Library as a co-ordinator and focus for medical information has been enhanced.

The most obvious casualties of war are those soldiers and civilians injured in the fighting. With the initial help of EAHIL members, the medical librarians were able to provide surgeons and doctors with the literature to help them face the casualties that flowed in. Now Croatian doctors are themselves producing the most up to date literature on war wounds and the other horrific effects of war. Some ten handbooks on war psychology and psychiatry, war surgery, nursing and rehabilitation have been published during the war. Almost every Croatian medical journal has published special issues on medical problems in war. For instance the Croatian Medical Journal (published in English only) has produced two supplements on the subject and its pages continue to document the effects of war for both the military and civilian population.

At one of the major hospitals the librarian helps with the translation of abstracts into English for a Croatian language journal "Klinicka Medicina". The first issue of this journal is devoted to rehabilitation issues. Thus the war has an effect on the type of information needed and on the type of information documented. Fortunately Medline on CD-ROM is available in 7 out of the 28 libraries country-wide, and the librarians at the Central Medical Library ensure that the literature being produced locally is fully documented in their national, biomedical database "Biomedicina Croatica".

War is a drain on the reserves of any nation; refugees have to be cared for (they too have special medical needs), and old trading partners may no longer be accessible. Before the war (1991) Croatian Medical libraries subscribed to 1371 foreign medical journals. Due to financial restraints they are now faced with the danger of severe reductions of in current subscriptions. This is especially the case with the small hospital libraries. There is no money for foreign books - other than a few texts for students, and another of the major difficulties is a lack of equipment. There is only one photocopier in the Central Medical Library and the computers used for literature searching are those bought before the present crisis.

Many libraries in Croatia (three of them medical) have been damaged or destroyed. I have little first hand information on the problems of medical libraries outside Zagreb, but it was evident that despite all their difficulties, the librarians I met, both medical and others, had a determination to exploit to the full all the resources that they had, to develop new services relevant to the situation, and to keep up to date with changes in the information world. One can only salute such courage and dedication.

Jean Shaw
Editor

Database "WHOLIS" Searchable on Spri Mainframe

As of November, 1992, the database "Wholis" is searchable on the mainframe at Spri. WHOLIS (World Health Organization Library Information System) is a bibliographic database for WHO publications. It is produced by the WHO head office in Geneva, in cooperation with the WHO regional offices.

WHOLIS includes:

- WHO reports, including unpublished reports from the WHO main office and regional offices
- Publications of IARC (International Agency for Research on Cancer) and CIOMS (Council for International Organization of Medical Sciences)
- WHO books published by private publishers
- Articles published in WHO journals
- Press releases from WHO

The database was started in 1986, and currently contains 11.000 references.

WHO Documentation Centre

As of 1990, the Spri Library and Research Report Bank is a national WHO Documentation Centre for the WHO Regional Office for Europe. It has all the documents from the Europe office for lending (NB. those published in 1990 or later). One of Spri's duties as a WHO Documentation Centre is to increase availability of WHO material. The Spri Library and Research Report Bank is - outside of WHO - the first database host for WHOLIS in Europe.

Arne Jakobsson

*Library and Research Report Bank of Spri,
Box 70487 - S-10726 Stockholm, Sweden*



Première Foire du Livre et Forum de Bibliothécaires pour l'Europe Centrale et de l'Est à Prague

First Book Fair and Librarian Forum for Central and Eastern Europe in Prague

The Prague First Book Fair and Librarian Forum took place from May 13 to May 16 1993. Pierre Marie Bebenoit-Avich, EAHIL Council Member, had received sponsorship from the French Ministry of Education to attend the Prague Book Fair. His evaluation of the situation in Eastern and Central Europe may shed some light on a difficult situation and help outline effective measures to help our colleagues.

As has been reported in other places, funds are becoming more and more scarce. In the library world, it means that funds for new acquisitions are practically non-existent. The gap between countries of Western and Eastern or Central Europe may enlarge dramatically. Help which has been offered, often seems inadequate because of increasing difficulties or inability for these countries to assure maintenance or continuity in the new technologies installed or services started.

There is a great demand to establish partnerships for

exchanging documents or training staff members and share know-how or to organize seminars and workshops at the national level. Practical aspects of librarianship would be welcome but training in the management of library associations, in the establishment of hospital libraries would also be welcome.

The help which is being requested must be given as a non-return investment. The situation is too desperate to expect any benefit from the help given except for the challenge of offering help in a true spirit of co-operation.

Du 13 au 16 mai 1993 s'est tenue à Prague, République Tchèque, la première Foire du Livre et le Forum des Bibliothécaires pour l'Europe Centrale et de l'Est. L'aide apportée par le Ministère Français de l'Education a permis à Pierre Marie Belbenoit-Avich, Membre du Conseil de l'AEIBS/EAHIL, de s'y rendre et d'essayer de comprendre mieux l'évolution de la situation et la nature de l'aide que nous pourrions tenter d'y apporter.

Deux points semblent être importants : tout d'abord, du moins dans plusieurs pays, la situation ne s'est pas améliorée sur le plan financier. Au contraire, les crédits d'Etat se raréfient, ce qui menace les politiques d'acquisition. Un fossé de plus en plus important semble séparer deux parties d'un même continent qui n'évoluent pas à la même vitesse. De plus, les problèmes politiques constants compliquent tout à fait une situation déjà difficile.

A la vue d'une telle différence, on peut se demander vers quelle solution l'on va. D'autant que, et ceci est le second point, les propositions commerciales de l'Occident sont plus ou moins inadéquates. De nombreuses sociétés présentent des techniques nouvelles ou de pointe (pour la fourniture de documents ou la conservation de livres anciens...) que l'Europe de l'Est ne peut pas se permettre de payer. Ces sociétés leur proposent des technologies gratuitement ou à bas prix pour une durée limitée, ce qui risque de décourager les collègues incapables d'en faire ultérieurement l'acquisition.

Nos collègues souhaiteraient avoir des partenaires à l'Occident, par exemple une ou deux bibliothèques qui pourraient les aider dans l'échange de documents, de personnels ou de savoir-faire. Ils ont demandé à ce qu'on les aide à organiser des séminaires nationaux dans les pays d'Europe de l'Est que cela intéresserait, l'un d'entre eux pouvant être en République Tchèque sur le sujet de la coopération, avec très peu d'orateurs et une partie pratique importante.

Pour conclure, le décollage économique de l'Europe Centrale et de l'Est ne pourra avoir lieu que grâce à un programme d'aide global qui excluerait à court terme toute exploitation économique par l'Occident.

Pierre Marie Belbenoit-Avich
*Bibliothèque Interuniversitaire de Lyon - Section Santé,
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F-69373 Lyon Cedex 08, France*

Announcement

APM International : Naissance de la première agence de presse médicale

APM International: Birth of the First Agency of Medical Press

Les opérateurs du monde économique et financier disposent depuis déjà longtemps d'outils leur permettant d'accéder en temps réel à l'information les concernant directement, avec des agences de presse spécialisées dans ces domaines.

Pourquoi pas tous les professionnels de la médecine et de la santé? C'est à ce besoin que répond APM International, première agence de presse au monde spécialisée dans le domaine de la médecine et de la santé.

Ce n'est certes par l'information qui manque. Mais elle est souvent dispersée, éclatée, difficilement accessible pour des gens qui ont intérêt à en prendre connaissance rapidement.

APM International se donne les moyens de ses objectifs: une équipe permanente de 15 médecins et journalistes professionnels, de nombreux collaborateurs à Paris, en province et dans les principales capitales qui font l'actualité médicale sont là pour alimenter le canal de l'information en permanence, tous les jours de l'année et 24 heures sur 24.

Mrs Olivia Zémor
APM International

91 avenue de la République - 75540 Paris Cedex 11
Fax: 33 1 4806 2700

1993 SUBSCRIPTIONS

Reminders have been sent. Prompt payment would be much appreciated from those members who have not paid the 1993 fee yet (a two year fee (1993/1994) is available to those who wish to pay this way)



COTISATIONS 1993

Les rappels ont été envoyés. Un oubli ! N'oubliez pas de régler votre adhésion AEIBS/EAHIL pour l'année 1993.

Votre prompt paiement serait vivement apprécié.

PUBLICATIONS

NEW PRODUCTS

Stallknecht K, 1993. Nursing's strategy in the European Community. *International Nursing Review* 40:49-52.

It is important that nurses voices are heard in Brussels. The author introduces nurses to the workings of the Commission.

Summersgill P, 1993. Perpetual promotion. *Health Service Journal* 103:29. *Hospitals across Europe are participating in a network which extends their activities beyond clinical and curative services. The Health Promotin Hospital Network is affiliated to the WHO.*

Gazeau M, 1993. L'Europe des sources d'information: économie, finances, marketing. ABDS éditions. 239 p. ISBN 2-901046-53-3. FF350 +port. *Une sélection des sources qui existent évaluées selon trois critères: source de base, aisément accessibles, et de coût relativement modéré.*

Dempsey L, 1992. Library Bibliographic Networks in Europe : a LIBER directory. 2nd ed. 110p. ISBN 90-6252-089-8. Dfl 35.- *Nearly 50 descriptions of library bibliographic networks from 15 European countries. Included are details on the role and management structure, membership, size and content of the database, hardware, software, network environment, operations, central files, standards, finance and copyright etc.*

St Clair G & Williamson J, 1992. Managing the new one-person library. Bowker-Saur. 170p. ISBN 0-86291-630-5. DM 94.- *Revised enlarged edition including information technologies and mangement techniques.*

European Access, a current awareness bulletin on the developments, activities, and policies of the European Community. Published since 1989 by Chadwyck-Healey, LTD, Cambridge Place, Cambridge, CB2 1NR, UK. *Sample copies available from John Russels, Group Promotions Manager.*

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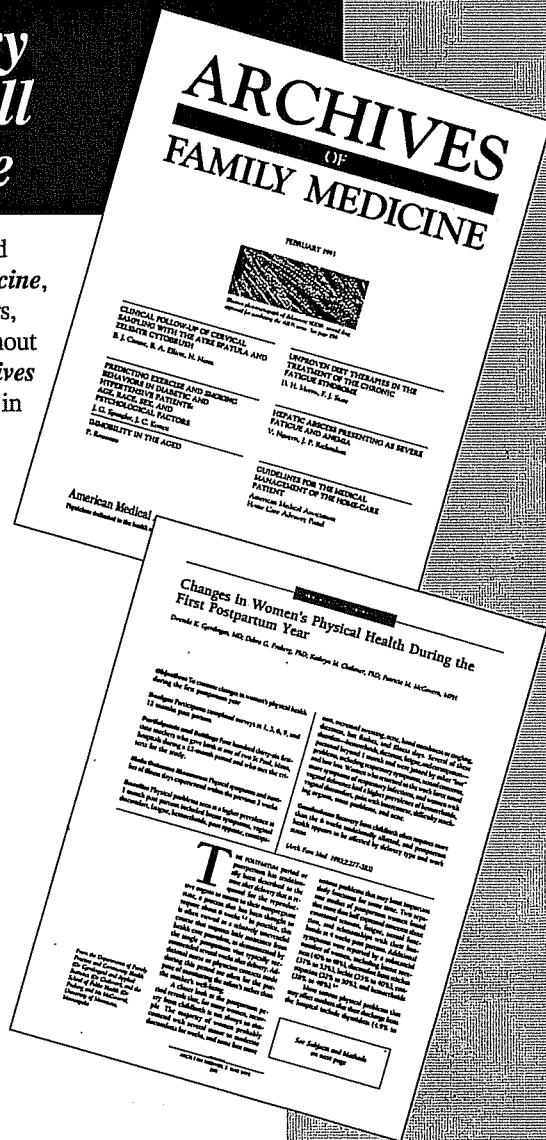
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EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION FOR HEALTH INFORMATION AND LIBRARIES

FOURTH EUROPEAN CONFERENCE OF MEDICAL AND HEALTH LIBRARIES

OSLO, June 28-July 2, 1994



"HEALTH INFORMATION - NEW POSSIBILITIES"

CALL FOR PAPERS AND POSTERS

SUBTHEMES

Human Communication through electronics

- INTERNET and other Network Resources
- Electronic Conferencing
- Electronic Publishing
- Challenges for the Librarian

Management skills for the library and information workers

- Managing Change
- Integrating the Library within the Institution
- Maintaining Quality
- Marketing and Outreach - New Roles and Services

The Library in the Educational landscape

- Problem-based Learning
- Continuing Education
- User Education
- Multi-media
- CAI-Computer Aided Instruction
- Distance Learning

Serving the information needs of nurses

- Nursing Informatics

- Information Sources
- Developments in Nursing Education
- Information Awareness and skills for Nurses

Consumer and patient information

- Assessing User Needs
- Current Practices and Availability of Services
- Production and Delivery of Information
- Legal and Ethical Issues

The Library without money

- Low Budget Library Services
- Income Generation and Charging for Information
- Sharing Library Resources
- Value Added Information
- Cost Savings through Information Technology

Special Group Sessions

- Information in the Pharmaceutical Industry
- Oncology Libraries
- Academic and Research Libraries
- History of Medicine
- Allied Health Libraries

Proposals are invited for papers and posters related to the themes and subthemes of the Conference. Typed abstracts (3 copies) of between 200 and 300 words in English (or French, with an English translation) should be submitted, before **October 31st 1993**, to the Chairman of the Programme Committee (address below). For special group sessions please contact the Chairman of the Programme Committee.

Abstracts should include the author's name, affiliation, address and telephone number. Please indicate whether a paper or poster is proposed. In the case of papers, please indicate whether the oral presentation will be in French or English.

Papers which address future trends in the field of medical and health information are particularly sought. Original research, evaluative and comparative studies and reports on pilot projects are most welcome.

Authors will be notified by the end of December 1993 of the acceptance or not of their paper for oral or poster presentation and, if accepted, will be requested to submit the full text in English or French before April 15th 1994. The full text of the papers will be published in the Conference Proceedings.

Accepted papers will be presented either at plenary, parallel or special groups sessions. The letter of acceptance from the Programme Committee will indicate the form of presentation. All plenary sessions and certain parallel sessions will have simultaneous translations (English/French).

Oral presentations are restricted to English or French. Posters, which may be in other languages, should have accompanying abstracts and legends in French or English. It is expected that posters will be attended by the author at specific times during the Conference.

Call for papers to the Programme Committee (to be sent before October 31, 1993) :

Arne Jakobsson, Spri Library, Box 70487, S-10726 Stockholm, Sweden, Tel. +46 8 7024600; fax: +46 8 7024799

For any further information, Local Organizing Committee:

Elisabeth Husem, Psykiatrisk Institutt, B.P. 85, Vinderen, N-0319 Oslo, Norway, Tel. +47 22 146590, Fax: +47 22 495861

Congress Secretariat :

Noble Incentive AS, Bygdøy Allé 14, N-0262 Oslo, Norway, Tel. +47 22 447041, Fax: +47 22 449787

ASSOCIATION EUROPEENNE POUR L'INFORMATION ET LES BIBLIOTHEQUES DE SANTE

QUATRIEME CONFERENCE EUROPEENNE DES BIBLIOTHEQUES MEDICALES ET DE SANTE

OSLO, 28 juin - 2 juillet 1994



"LA SANTE ET L'INFORMATION - NOUVELLES POSSIBILITES"

APPEL AUX COMMUNICATIONS ET POSTERS

THEMES PARALLELES

Communication et Electronique

- INTERNET et autres ressources offertes par les réseaux
- La conférence électronique
- La publication électronique
- Des défis pour le bibliothécaire

Techniques de gestion des Bibliothèques et le Spécialiste de l'Information

- Les changements dans les techniques de gestion
- L'intégration de la bibliothèque au sein de l'institution
- Le maintien de la qualité
- "Marketing et outreach" - Rôles nouveaux et services

La Bibliothèque dans le paysage Educatif

- L'apprentissage de base
- L'éducation continue
- L'apprentissage de l'utilisateur
- Le multi-média
- L'enseignement assisté par ordinateur (EAO)
- L'éducation à distance

Les Besoins d'Information des Personnels Infirmiers

- L'informatique à destination des infirmiers

- Les sources d'information
- Développements de l'enseignement infirmier
- Suivi et gestion de l'information à destination des personnels infirmiers

L'information du patient et du client

- L'évaluation des besoins de l'utilisateur
- Pratiques courantes et accessibilité des services
- Production et fourniture de l'information
- Problèmes éthiques et juridiques

"Bibliothèque et Budget Réduit"

- Budget réduit de la bibliothèque
- L'information productrice de revenus ou de droits
- Le partage des ressources entre bibliothèques
- Valeur ajoutée de l'information
- Technologie de l'information en tant qu'économiseur de coûts

Les Sessions Parallèles

- L'information dans l'industrie pharmaceutique
- Les bibliothèques spécialisées en oncologie
- Les bibliothèques académiques et de recherche
- Histoire de la médecine
- Les bibliothèques de santé

Les propositions pour les communications et les posters doivent être en relation avec les thèmes et les thèmes parallèles de la Conférence. Les résumés dactylographiés (en 3 exemplaires) de 200 à 300 mots en anglais (ou en français avec une traduction anglaise) devront être soumis avant le 31 octobre 1993 au Président du Comité de Programme (adresse ci-dessous), ainsi que tout ce qui concerne les sessions parallèles.

Le résumé devra comprendre le nom de l'auteur, l'affiliation, l'adresse et le numéro de téléphone. Prière d'indiquer si votre proposition concerne une communication ou un poster. S'il s'agit d'une communication, veuillez préciser si la présentation orale sera en français ou en anglais.

Les communications concernant les tendances futures dans le champ de la médecine ou de l'information de santé sont particulièrement souhaitées. Des recherches originales, des études comparatives ou d'évaluation et des rapports sur des expériences pilotes sont bienvenus.

Les auteurs seront avertis à la fin du mois de décembre 1993 si leur communication ou leur poster est accepté, et si oui, il leur sera demandé de soumettre le texte intégral en français ou en anglais avant le 15 avril 1994. Le texte intégral des communications sera publié dans les Actes de la Conférence.

Les communications acceptées seront présentées dans les sessions plénières ou parallèles. La lettre d'acceptation du Comité de Programme indiquera la forme de la présentation. Toutes les sessions plénières et certaines sessions parallèles auront des traductions simultanées (Anglais/Français).

Les communications orales se feront en anglais ou en français. Les posters qui peuvent être dans une autre langue, devront être accompagnés d'un résumé et de légendes en français ou en anglais. La présence de l'auteur à la session de posters à certains moments de la Conférence est souhaitée.

Comité de Programme (à renvoyer avant le 31 octobre 1993) :

Arne Jakobsson, Spri Library, Box 70487, S-10726 Stockholm, Sweden, Tel. +46 8 7024600; fax: +46 8 7024799

Toutes autres questions : Comité Local d'Organisation

Elisabeth Husem, Psykiatrisk Institutt, B.P. 85, Vinderen, N-0319 Oslo, Norway, Tel. +47 22 146590, Fax: +47 22 495861

Congress Secretariat :

Noble Incentive AS, Bygdoy Allé 14, N-0262 Oslo, Norway, Tel. +47 22 447041, Fax: +47 22 449787

PUBLICATIONS

The National Music and Disability Information Service revised and reprinted its resource paper, RP5: Music in Public Libraries. *It is a valuable information source for librarians as well as disabled library users.* Available from: NMDIS, Dartington Hall, Totnes, Devon TQ9 6EJ. £1.00. Publications/Price list also available.

The Manisses Communications Group, Inc., with Fraser A. Lang as publisher puts various Newsletters in three health related fields: addiction, mental health and long-term care. Some examples: Alcoholism & Drug Abuse Weekly, Mental Health Weekly, The Brown University Geriatric Research application Digest GRAD, The Addiction letter, Psychopharmacology Update, The Brown University Long-Term Care Quality Letter... Write to Fraser A. Lang for more information (205 Governor Street, Providence, RI 02906, USA. Tel: 401-831-6020)

Revised and enlarged a for many other interesting publications DIMDI launched Medikat covering German and European medical books and monographs. The database originates at the Zentralbibliothek der Medizin in Cologne. It contains a quarter of a million references back to 1977. Some 22000 new records are added every year. Records include German and English MeSH terms, searches can easily be transferred to NLM's Catline. Serline and Sedbase are now also available from DIMDI.

Manillier MH, 1993. *Guide de la presse médicale et des professions de santé.* Editions Hospitalières. FF 140. 336p. ISBN 2-9507555-0-x. *Pour la communication avec la presse professionnelle, Contient publications périodiques spécialisées.*

Excerpt a Medical introduced EMBASE Alert, *a new alerting file, with information available online within 7 days of receipt of the journals.*

Hospital Services in the EC; Services hospitaliers dans la CE; Das Krankenhauswesen in der EG; Servicios Hospitalarios en la CE. Hospital Committee of the European Community, Brussels 1993. Price : before 15.10.93 : BF 1350. From 16.10.93 : BF 1650. *Contact : Hospital Committee of the EC, Kapucijnenvoer 35, B-3000 Leuven, fax : 3216-336906.*

Lucas Baloup I 1992 - *Médecins / Cliniques - 100 questions sur le contrat d'exercice.* Ed. Scrof, 15 avenue Victor Hugé, 75116 Paris, 414 p. ISBN 2-909745-00-7. *100 questions sur les obligations respectives des cliniques privées et des médecins y exerçant.*

European Directory of Acid-Free and Permanent Book Paper. Répertoire européen des papiers d'édition sans acide et permanents. Ed. European Foundation for Library Cooperation/Groupe de Lausanne (EFLC), Brussels, 1993. *The aim of the directory is to increase the awareness of professionals in the book sector on the problem of conservation of acid paper and to provide evidence on the availability of permanent paper on the market.* For further information : EFLC/Groupe Lausanne, Chemin des Vieux Amis 17, B-1380 Lasne (Brussels) - Fax : 32-2-633.54.28.



ARTICLES FROM EAHIL MEMBERS

Accart JP, 1993. *BBD et CD-ROM biomédicaux.* ARCHIMAG, le magazine des nouvelles techniques en documentation et archivage no 63, Mai. *Tour d'horizon des bases et banques de données en ligne et sur CD-ROM dans la domaine biomédical. L'avenir de la doc informatisée.*



REFERENCE BOOKS FOR EUROPE

BIOMED 1993 - Catalogue collectif des périodiques biomédicaux belges

BIOMED 1993 - Belgian periodicals

Le neuvième édition du BIOMED, le catalogue collectif des périodiques biomédicaux en Belgique, vient de paraître. Il a été réalisé par la Bibliothèque de l'Université d'Anvers (UIA) à la demande du Comité de Concertation des Bibliothèques Belges. BIOMED est produit à partir de la base de données ANTILOPE, le catalogue collectif de la Bibliothèque Royale et des bibliothèques universitaires et spéciales en Belgique.

BIOMED 1993 signale 6.864 périodiques avec 11.305 entrées (y inclus les titres abrégés selon l'Index medicus et JUDIT) et leurs 19.391 localisations dans 38 bibliothèques biomédicales et générales belges. BIOMED 1993 contient de l'information sur les 38 bibliothèques participantes et le catalogue (380 pages). Le prix est 1.350 FB.

Bibliothèque de l'UIA

BIOMED

P.B. 13 - B-2610 Antwerpen (Wilrijk)

Belgique - Fax: 32 3 820 2159



FORTHCOMING EVENTS

August 1993 - Edinburgh, Scotland

World Conference on Medical Education, Edinburgh.
Contact: Mr H.J. Walton, President, International Medical Education, University of Edinburgh, Teviot Place, Edinburgh EH8 9AG, Scotland, UK. Tel. 031 226 3125, Fax: 031 667 7938

August 19-21, 1993 - Barcelona, Spain

Continuing Education for the Library and Information Science Professions. Second World Conference (IFLA Pre-Conference). *Applications for place and programme: Blanche Woods, Coordinator, IFLA/CPERT CPE 2nd World Conference, University of Pittsburgh, School of Library and Information Science, Pittsburgh, Pa. 15260, USA, Fax: (412)624 5231*

August 26, 1993 - Barcelona, Spain

EAHIL Workshop on Information and Document Access - a satellite EAHIL event at the IFLA 59th General Conference, Barcelona. *Contact: Jean-Philippe Accart, EAHIL Council Member, Bibliothèque Médicale, Centre Hospitalier d'Argenteuil, F-95107 Argenteuil Cedex. Fax: +33 1 3423 2696*

August 22-28, 1993 - Barcelona, Spain

59th IFLA Council and General Conference, Palau de Congressos de Barcelona, Barcelona. Theme: The Universal Library. Libraries as Centres for the Global Availability of Information - La Bibliothèque Universelle. Les bibliothèques comme centres pour l'accès à l'information". *Contact: Viajes Iberia Congresos (IFLA'93), Diagonal 523, 08029 Barcelona, Tel. 34(9) 3 419 51 51 - Fax: 34 (9) 3 405 1390*

September 27-29, 1993 - Vilnius, Lithuania

Central European Conference and Exhibition for Academic Libraries and Informatics: Empowering Users in the 21st Century. *Call for papers (deadline July 31, 1993) and contact: Vida Maceviciene, Vilnius Technical University Library, Ausros vartu 7a, 2600 Vilnius, Lithuania - Fax: (3702) 765210.*

October 18-19, 1993 - Athens, Greece

Second European Health Conference (European Health AGORA II), Athens. Theme: "Health and Regional Development in Europe". *Information: European Health AGORA II, Dept. of Hygiene and Epidemiology, Athens University Medical School, 75 Mikras Asias St. 11527 Goudi-Athens, Greece. Fax: +301 4220 267*

October 25-27, 1993 - Essen, Germany

Jahrestagung der Arbeitsgemeinschaft für medizinisches Bibliothekswesen. Arbeitskreis der Krankenhausbibliothekare Innen und Round Table der Pharmabibliothekare. *Information: Peter Stadler (Vorsitzender), c/o Boehringer Mannheim GmbH, Zentralbibliothek, Postf. 310120, D-W 6800 Mennheim 31. Fax: 0621 759 4419*

December 13-15, 1993 - Amsterdam, The Netherlands

First International Conference on Grey Literature. For further information: and call for paper: GL'93, TransAtlantic, Koninginneweg 201, NL-1075 CR Amsterdam, Netherlands, Combi-tel-fax: +31.(0)20 671 1818

June 18-23, 1994 - Orlando, USA

World Congress on Biomedical Communications. Theme: "Global Images in Health and Science". *Contact: Steward L. White, Chairman Scientific Program Committee, World Congress on Biomedical Communications, University of Michigan Biomedical Communications, 1327 Jones Drive, Suite 104, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48105, USA. Tel: (313) 998-6140.*

June 28-July 2, 1994 - Oslo, Norway

4th European Conference of Medical and Health Libraries, Oslo, organized by the European Association for Health Information and Libraries: "Health Information - New Possibilities". *Contact: Noble Incentive AS, Oslo Organizing Committee, Bygdoy allé 14, N-0262 Oslo, Norway, Fax: +47 22 44 97 87*

September 18-22, 1994 - Chambéry, Savoy, France

14th International CODATA Conference. "The quest for a healthier environment". *Call for Papers: Prof. Jacques-Emile Dubois. ITODYS, Université Paris 7, 1 rue Guy de la Brosse, F-75005 Paris, France.*

May 10-12, 1995 - Washington DC, USA

7th International Congress on Medical Librarianship. "Health Information for the Global Village". *Call for papers (before Oct.1993): Mrs Frances Groen, International Organizing Committee, c/o McGill University Libraries, 3459 McTavish Street, Montreal, Quebec, Canada H3A 1Y1*

QUESTIONNAIRE

Newsletter to European Health Librarians Newsletter des Bibliothécaires Européens de la Santé

This questionnaire is a follow up to a survey conducted among our Italian colleagues about a year ago. We would very much like to have your views about the Newsletter and would be grateful if you would take the time to give us your opinions. Please would you return the completed questionnaire to the Editor, Jean Shaw, if the replies are in English, or to J.P. Accart, Chef de rubriques en langue française, if the replies are in French.

Ce questionnaire est un prolongement de l'enquête conduite auprès de nos collègues italiens voici un an. Nous vous serions très reconnaissants de nous donner vos impressions et opinions sur la Newsletter. Pourriez-vous avoir l'obligeance de retourner ce questionnaire complété à la Rédactrice en chef, Jean Shaw, pour les réponses en anglais, ou à Jean-Philippe Accart, chef de rubriques en langue française (voir les adresses page 26)

1. Are you a regular reader of the newsletter ?
Etes-vous un lecteur régulier de la Newsletter ? Yes - *Oui* No - *Non*

2. Which sections of the Newsletter interest you most ? (Please number from 1 = most interesting to 8 = least interesting)
Quelles sections de la Newsletter vous intéressent le plus ? (numérotez de 1 à 8 par ordre de préférence)

- | | |
|---|---|
| a. Editorial
<i>L'éditorial</i> | e. News from Outside Europe
<i>Les nouvelles hors de l'Europe</i> |
| b. The longer articles
<i>Les articles de fond</i> | f. Forthcoming events
<i>Les événements à venir</i> |
| c. News from Our Association
<i>Les nouvelles de notre Association</i> | g. Publications
<i>Les publications</i> |
| d. News from Europe
<i>Les nouvelles en provenance d'Europe</i> | h. Reference books for Europe
<i>Livres de référence pour l'Europe</i> |

3. Would you like to see new or different sections introduced ?
Aimeriez-vous voir introduites de nouvelles sections ? Yes - *Oui* No - *Non*

If so, please give examples
si oui, lesquelles ?

.....
.....
.....

4. Are there ways in which you feel the present sections might be improved ?
Pensez-vous que les sections actuelles puissent être améliorées ? si oui, de quelle manière ?

.....
.....
.....

5. Any other comments ?
Avez-vous d'autres commentaires ou suggestions ?

.....
.....
.....

NEWSLETTER TO EUROPEAN HEALTH LIBRARIANS

INSTRUCTIONS TO AUTHORS

Editorials and Invited articles: These will be commissioned by the Editorial Board, though suggestions regarding suitable subjects and contributors are most welcome. **News from Europe** is intended for short reports from our members on virtually any subject; discussion of items that have appeared in the Newsletter, the Association's activities, meetings, or comment on any point that might interest your colleagues. The official languages of the Association are French and English. *News from the Association*, and the editorials will generally be translated; summaries in the second language will normally be published with Invited Articles, but otherwise only the title may be translated. The final copy should reach the Editor, or the appropriate section compiler, by the following dates: 15th November for the January issue; 15th February for the April issue; 15th May for the July issue; 15th August for the October issue. Items for the sections listed below should be sent directly to the section compiler. All other items should be sent to the Editor, Jean Shaw.

INSTRUCTIONS AUX AUTEURS

Editoriaux et Tribunes Libres: Le comité de rédaction choisit les articles mais toute suggestion concernant des sujets pertinents et toute contribution seront bien accueillies. **Nouvelles d'Europe:** petits compte-rendus de nos membres concernant en principe tout sujet; débats sur des articles ayant paru dans la Newsletter, sur les activités de l'Association, rencontres, ou tout commentaire pouvant intéresser nos collègues. **Langues officielles de l'Association:** français et anglais. *Les nouvelles de l'Association* et les *éditoriaux* sont généralement traduits; des résumés dans l'autre langue seront normalement publiés avec les tribunes libres, sinon, seul le titre sera traduit. La copie définitive de l'article doit parvenir à la Rédactrice en chef ou au chef de rubriques aux dates suivantes: 15 novembre pour la livraison de janvier; 15 février pour avril; 15 mai pour juillet, 15 août pour octobre. Les articles pour les rubriques ci-dessous doivent parvenir directement au chef de rubriques. Tout autre article doit être envoyé directement à la Rédactrice en chef, Jean Shaw.

Editor - Rédactrice en chef : Jean SHAW

Clinical Sciences Library, University of Leicester, Leicester Royal Infirmary,
P.O.Box 65, Leicester LE2 7LX, UK. Tel.: +44/533/52 31 00 - Fax: +44/533/52 31 07

Publications: Beatrice WILHELM Medizinbibliothek, Öffentlich Bibliothek der Universität, Kantonsspital Basel, Hebelstrasse 20, CH-4031 Basel (Switzerland) Tel.: +41/61/267 3195 - Fax: +41/61/261 1500

Forthcoming events/Agenda: Roselyne HOET, EAHIL, 60 rue de la Concorde, B-1050 Brussels, Belgium - Fax: 32/2/514 11 72

News from Outside Europe/Nouvelles hors d'Europe: Liisa SALMI Medical Library, Kuopio University Central Hospital, SF-70210 Kuopio, (Finland) Tel.: +358/71/17 37 70 - Fax: +358/71/16 34 29

The following are members of the Editorial Board and are available to advise intending contributors if necessary / les autres membres du Comité de Rédaction ci-dessous sont également à la disposition des auteurs:

French Language Editor / Chef de rubriques en langue française :

Jean Philippe ACCART, Bibliothèque Médicale, Centre Hospitalier d'Argenteuil,
69 rue du Lieutenant-Colonel Prudhon, F-95100 Argenteuil, France
Tel.: +33/1/34 23 24 69 - Fax: 33/1/34 23 26 96



Dariusz KUZMINSKI Medical Information Center, Central Medical Library,
22 Chocimska Street, 00-791 Warsaw (Poland) Tel. 49 78 53, Tlx 81420

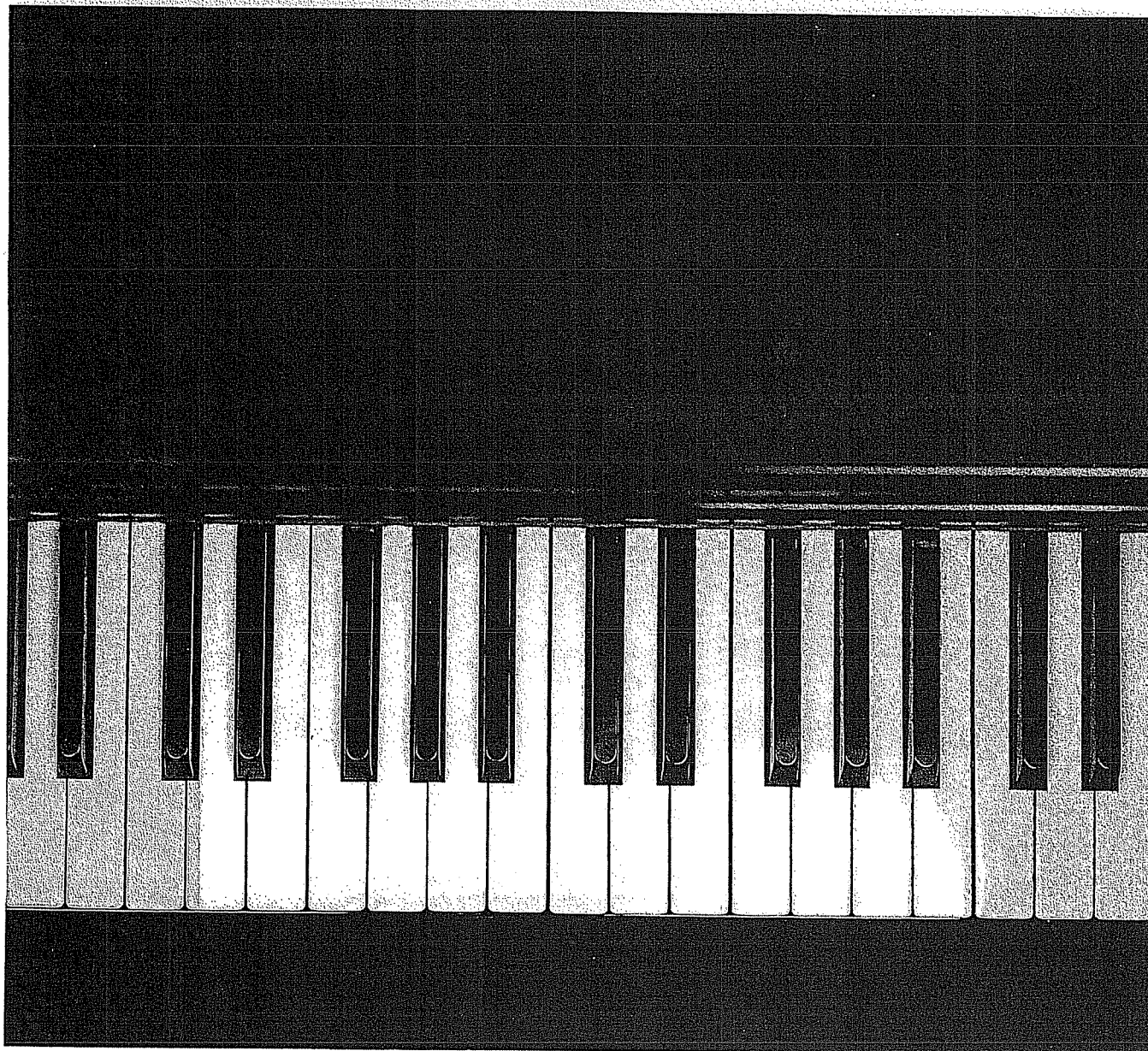
Leslie LOCHE Biblioteca Centralizzata, USL 28, Via Albertoni 15, 40138 Bologna (Italy)
Tel.: +39/51/63 61 111 - Fax : +39/51/63 61 278

Jelka PETRAK Central Medical Library, Salata 3, 41001 Zagreb, Croatia

Maria Francisca RIBES COT Hospital Nacional "Marques de Valdecilla", Instituto Nacional de la Salud E-39008 Santander (Spain) Tel.: +34/942/34 75 93

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

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



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