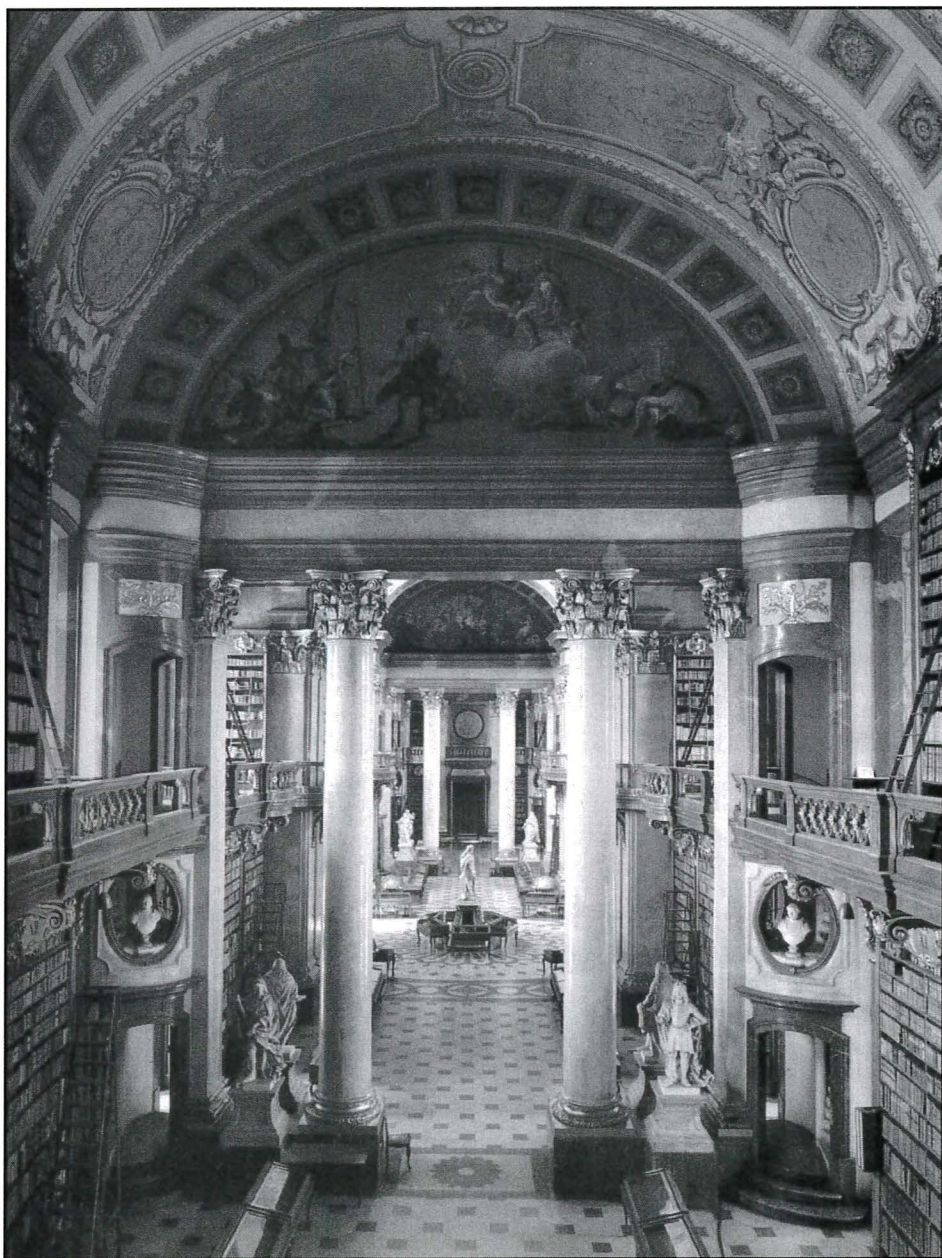


European Association
for Health Information and Libraries

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



1st May • 1^{er} Mai 2000 • N° 51



National Bibliothek in Wien

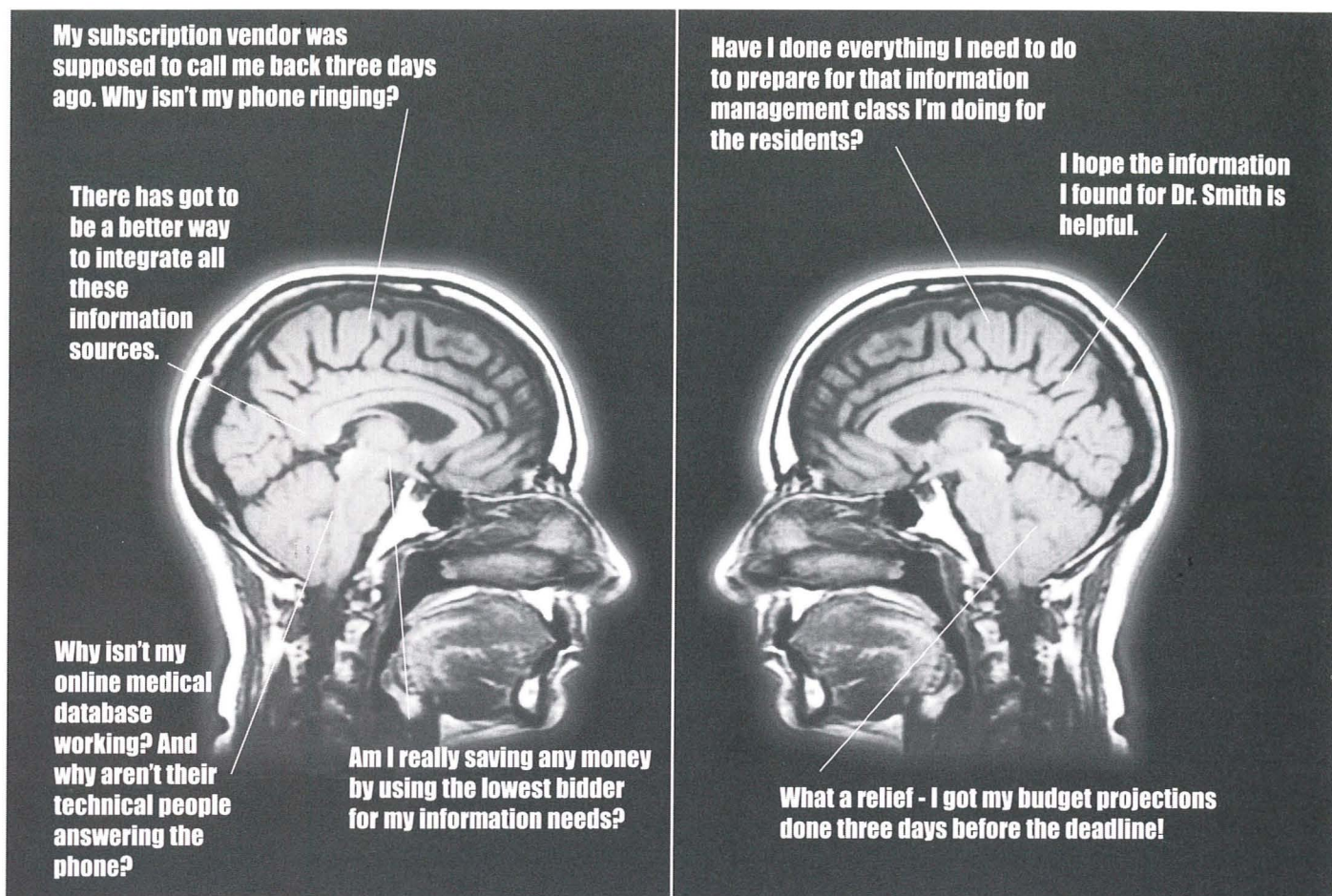
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to European Health Librarians • des Bibliothécaires Européens de la Santé

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Instructions for Authors

Manuscripts either in English or French should be about 3-4 standard (1.50 space) typewritten pages and provided by e-mail or on a diskette. Informative title, short summary and keywords should be provided. References should be expressed in Vancouver style. Authors of submitted papers accept editing and re-use of published material by EAHIL.

Les manuscrits, qu'ils soient rédigés en français ou en anglais, devront être présentés sous forme de pages dactylographiées, de standard 3-4 (espace de 1.50) et fournis par e-mail ou sur disquettes. Le titre, un bref résumé ainsi que les mots-clés devront également être joints. Les références devront être formulées selon le "style de Vancouver". Les auteurs ayant soumis des articles acceptent que ces derniers soient édités et utilisés à nouveau dans les publications pour l'AEIBS.

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

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

The full membership subscriptions including the subscription to our quarterly Newsletter remain unchanged for 2000. *Les cotisations de 2000 comprenant l'abonnement à notre Bulletin d'Information trimestriel restent inchangées.*

• Full information regarding the Association, membership fees and advertisements in the Newsletter, may be obtained from the EAHIL secretariat in Amsterdam.

• *Toute information concernant l'Association, les cotisations de membres et les annonces publicitaires dans la Newsletter peut être obtenue au secrétariat de l'AEIBS à Amsterdam.*

EAHIL / AEIBS



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Dear Everyone,



This issue features Focus on Austria as its central theme and I am sure you will agree that the two articles give valuable material not only on medical libraries but also on medical information sources in Austria. I thought it might be appropriate to let you know what other countries we are planning to focus on in 2000 and 2001. Maybe with advance notice, many of you might consider contributing an article about your country to the EAHIL newsletter. As has been said in many former issues, this newsletter attempts to centralise news of all European medical libraries and its associations and moreover European medical information into one forum and as such relies totally on its members to provide this. Everyone is so busy nowadays that many of our members cannot find the time to sit down and write, perhaps also thinking that what is happening in their country is not so important as others. In my short time as Chief Editor, however, I have learnt a great deal about other European medical libraries just by reading these articles and even more so I have been able to establish links in these countries by having this brief contact with the authors. In addition with Constantin's article I have been able to make an excellent list of information sources on Austria which I have handed over to our library's reference department.

I would hope that we can continue to do this with every country that we feature in the EAHIL Newsletter, building up a valuable database of principal information sources in European countries. I hope that some of you will respond to this advance calendar of focussed countries and maybe even consider writing something about medical libraries and information in your country.

ISSUE 52 - LATVIA - deadline date / June 15 2000
 ISSUE 53 - ISRAEL - deadline date / Sept 15 2000
(Israel is not technically in Europe but we do have members there and the IFLA Conference will be held in Jerusalem in August 2000. I shall of course be looking for one of our members to write about the conference too.)
 ISSUE 54 - IRELAND - deadline date / Dec 15 2000
 ISSUE 55 - LITHUANIA - deadline date / Mar 15 2001
 ISSUE 56 - ?? - maybe a Scandinavian country? - deadline date / June 15 2001
 ISSUE 57 - ITALY - deadline date / Sept 15 2001

I look forward to hearing from you
Sally



Chers Collègues,

“Regard sur l’Autriche” représente le thème central de ce numéro et je suis sûre que vous êtes d’accord que les deux articles nous informent non seulement sur les bibliothèques médicales d’Autriche mais aussi sur les ressources en information médicale en Autriche.

J’ai pensé que vous aimeriez savoir sur quels pays nous dirigerons notre regard pendant l’an 2000 et 2001. Etant informé à l’avance, plusieurs d’entre vous pourront considérer rédiger un article sur votre pays pour notre Bulletin d’Information.

Ainsi que nous l’avons déjà dit dans des numéros précédents, ce Bulletin s’efforce de rassembler des informations sur toutes les bibliothèques médicales Européennes et les associations correspondantes, et essaye ainsi de créer un forum qui dépend entièrement de la participation de ses membres.

Le travail quotidien est une telle charge pour chacun que nul ne trouve le temps

de s’asseoir et d’écrire et considère peut-être que les informations des autres pays sont plus importantes que celles de son propre pays. Pendant cette période encore brève comme Editrice en Chef, j’ai appris beaucoup de choses sur les bibliothèques médicales des autres pays, seulement en lisant les articles qui me sont parvenus mais plus encore, j’ai pu établir des liens grâce au contact direct avec les auteurs. De plus, grâce à l’article de Constantin, j’ai pu établir une liste des ressources sur l’information médicale en Autriche, liste que j’ai remise au responsable de la section du service aux lecteurs. J’espère que nous pourrions poursuivre cette activité avec tous les pays qui feront l’objet d’un article dans notre Bulletin d’Information, et ainsi établir une base de données utile pour les ressources d’information médicale dans les pays Européens. J’espère que plusieurs d’entre vous saisiront cette occasion pour rédiger un article sur les bibliothèques et l’information médicale dans votre pays.

[Les pays concernés dans les numéros à paraître sont:]

Numéro 52 - Latvia date limite 15 juin 2000

Numéro 53 - Israel date limite 15 septembre 2000 (bien qu’Israel ne soit pas techniquement en Europe, nous avons des membres en Israel et IFLA aura sa conférence annuelle en août 2000 à Jérusalem. Je compte bien sur un de nos membres pour rédiger un article sur cette conférence.)

Numéro 54 - Irlande date limite 15 décembre 2000

Numéro 55 - Lithuanie date limite 15 mars 2001

Numéro 56 - ?? peut-être un pays Scandinave? date limite 15 juin 2001

Numéro 57 - Italie date limite 15 septembre 2001

Je me réjouis de vous lire.

Sally



Letter from the President / Lettre de la Présidente



Dear Colleagues and Friends,

It is while I am on my flight back from the USA to Milan that I am writing you this letter. My stay was very short, but it offered me the possibility of participating in a meeting of the medical information managers of many companies affiliated to mine. Altogether 18 people participated from different European countries and also Canada, USA, Mexico and Australia. The topic of the meeting was: what are we doing and how can we do it better. It is interesting to note, that not only state hospital and university libraries have tended to form consortias, but also pharmaceutical companies, at least the big ones, have attempted to find methods of co-operation.

Co-operation is also the theme of our EAHIL session during the next ICML conference in London, where I hope to see you all. On the same occasion we will have our General Assembly, important this year as we have to vote for the new Statutes and Rules of Procedures. In order to be prepared to take this momentous decision, you can find and read the new versions of both documents on our homepage: <http://www.eahil.org>

During the General Assembly we will also inform all Members about the Election results. I hope to see motivated people entering the Board and the Council, people who can bring in new ideas and new projects. The 'old' Members have taken EAHIL into the third millennium, the 'new' ones have to reinforce its position.

Council Members have already initiated new forms of cooperation; I strongly

wish them to continue under the auspices of the new President.

I am convinced that we have a lot of work to do. Let us do it together, for the well-being of our Association.

Yours sincerely,
Manuela Colombi
EAHIL President



EAHIL General Assembly

Wednesday 5th July 2000 1.45 pm

See Newsletter 50 page 8 or the Web
for invitation and agenda.

Chers Collègues et Amis,

C'est pendant mon retour en avion des Etats-Unis à Milan que je vous écris. Mon séjour a été bref mais il m'a permis de participer à une réunion des directeurs d'information médicale de compagnies semblables à la mienne. Dix-huit personnes étaient présentes venant des pays Européens, du Canada, des Etats-Unis, du Mexique et d'Australie. Le sujet de la réunion portait sur ce que nous faisons et comment le faire mieux. Il est intéressant de remarquer que non seulement les universités et les hôpitaux ont essayé d'établir des consortia mais aussi des compagnies pharmaceutiques, du moins, les plus importantes ont essayé de

trouver des moyens de coopérer. La Co-opération est également le thème de l'AEIBS/EAHIL pour notre réunion du CIBM/ICML à Londres, où j'espère vous voir tous. A cette même occasion nous aurons notre Assemblée Générale où nous devons voter les nouveaux statuts et les Règles de procédures. Afin d'être mieux préparé pour cette votation, vous pouvez lire le texte de ces deux documents sur la page du site de l'AEIBS/EAHIL. Pendant l'Assemblée Générale nous annoncerons aussi les résultats des élections. J'espère que des personnes motivées se présenteront pour le Bureau et le Conseil, des personnes qui peuvent apporter des idées et des

projets nouveaux. Les anciens membres ont mené l'AEIBS/EAHIL jusqu'au troisième millénaire, les nouveaux membres doivent renforcer sa position. Les membres du Conseil ont déjà établi de nouvelles formes de coopération et j'espère vivement que cette initiative sera poursuivie sous l'égide du nouveau Président. Je suis convaincue que nous avons beaucoup de travail devant nous. Que nous le fassions pour assurer un avenir solide à notre association.

Sincèrement vôtre,
Manuela Colombi
Présidente de l'AEIBS/EAHIL



Looking forward to 8ICML in London

The Event of the new millenium is approaching. The deadline for the early bird registration for EAHIL members was postponed until the 10th of April, so we hope many of you used this to your advantage to register at the lowest price. ICML will be the largest Health Sciences conference ever held and it will be exciting to participate in this international occasion. EAHIL will have its meetings there too and the General Assembly will decide on some important matters; first of all the new statutes, the draft of which has been on the home page for some time now. These are crucial to the membership, and we hope that all of you have read them and have commented or will comment on them. A revision was necessary because the world has changed tremendously in our profession since the time these statutes were first written

In the mean time the election committee (Angelique Mattioli and Gertie Veldman) is active nominating candidates for the vacancies in the Board and Council. The committee meets on Thursday May 25th to count the votes, so make sure that you have returned the ballot in due time!

Nominated candidates for the Presidency are: Tony McSeán, UK
Christo G. Mutafov, Bulgaria

Nominated candidates for the Board are: Tony McSeán, UK (re-election)*
Arne Jakobsson, Norway (re-election)
Meile Kretaviciene, Lithuania
Linda Lisgarten, UK
Christo G. Mutafov, Bulgaria*
Gabiella Poppi, Italy
Marta Viragos, Hungaria

*If either Tony McSeán or Christo G. Mutafov is elected to become President and also elected to the Board, his position in the Board will be taken by the first unelected candidate."

Vacancies (as from 1.1.2001) in the Council for representatives of the Czech Republic, Ireland, Italy, Sweden, and Switzerland have to be filled as well. Members from these countries have received information about candidates.

The results of the elections will be presented at the General Assembly in London.

The Board and the Council will have their meetings as well at the congress. Last January at our joint meeting in Amsterdam we put a lot of effort into a discussion about the forms of activities EAHIL could have and as a result, quite a few new working groups were formed. It will be interesting to see the results achieved by these new groups so far.

The greatest concern of the Association is its membership. What are the factors that make one active in an association? For my own part, I can say that the most important thing is the feeling of belonging to an international professional community. We cannot always receive appropriate answers to our problems from the Association, but through EAHIL I have been able to get to know many colleagues in other countries. The world has in a very concrete way become smaller and it is easy to contact colleagues in whichever European country they work. Also with the European cooperation, our need of

international information has grown greater, and I find it delightful to be able to contact someone personally in another country. With personal contacts it is also much easier to keep up with what other countries are doing.

What I said above about being an EAHIL member is very much on a personal level. If we think generally on the professional level, it is more important than ever to know each other and to be able to work together. I am thinking principally of the rapid change in IT that has been taking place for some time in the past, at present and which will develop even further in the future. On one hand it is a privilege to work in a field developing so fast - I always say that I don't need to get another job because there are always such a lot of new things almost every day that I don't have time to get bored

On the other hand it is also our duty and responsibility to select using our best professional skills, the most useful ways of dealing with information and knowledge for the ultimate advantages to our organisations. I am also a bit idealistic in thinking that we do not only benefit our organisations but we also have the possibility to make the world a little better with our activities. On this level, I think it is of utmost importance that we form a good professional community in Europe. This does not mean that we should all be alike; on the contrary, the cultural differences between our countries are always a richness that contributes to our cooperation.

Liisa Salmi



En vue du 8ème CIBM/ICML à Londres...

Pendant ce temps, le comité des élections (Angelique Mattioli et Gertie Veldman) travaillent activement pour la nomination de candidats aux postes vacants dans le Bureau et le Conseil. Le comité des élections se réunira le jeudi 25 Mai pour compter les bulletins de vote, aussi soyez certains de retourner vos bulletins de vote à temps.

*Les candidats se présentant pour le poste de Président sont les suivants: Tony McSeán, UK
Christo G. Mutafov, Bulgarie*

*Les candidats se présentant pour le Bureau sont: Tony McSeán, UK (ré-élection)
Arne Jakobsson, Norvège (ré-élection)
Meile Kretaviciene, Lithuanie*

*Linda Lisgarten, UK
Christo G. Mutafov, Bulgarie
Gabiella Poppi, Italie
Marta Viragos, Hongrie*

Les places vacantes au Conseil concernent (en date du 1.1.2001) les pays suivants: La Tchèque, Irlande, Italie, Suède et la Suisse.



Les membres de ces pays ont été informés sur les candidats qui se présentent.

L'Événement du nouveau millénaire approche. La date limite de pré-enregistrement a été prolongée jusqu'au 10 avril pour les membres de l'AEIBS/EAHIL et j'espère que vous êtes nombreux à avoir bénéficié de cette inscription à prix réduit. Le CIBM/ICML sera la plus grande conférence de bibliothèques médicales qui ait jamais eu lieu et ce sera excitant de participer à cet événement international. L'AEIBS/EAHIL y aura aussi son Assemblée Générale pour débattre de questions importantes dont les nouveaux statuts. Leur texte est accessible sur le site de l'AEIBS/EAHIL depuis déjà quelque temps. Ces questions sont importantes pour tous les membres et j'espère que vous avez tous lus ces textes et que vous les commenterez. Cette révision était nécessaire car le monde a changé autour de nous depuis la première version de ces statuts.

Le Bureau et le Conseil y auront aussi leur réunion. En janvier dernier, à Amsterdam, nous avons mis beaucoup d'effort dans une discussion pour déterminer quelles activités l'AEIBS/

EAHIL pourrait entreprendre et c'est pour cela que plusieurs groupes de travail ont vu le jour. Il sera intéressant d'entendre le rapport de ces groupes.

Une des questions importantes est celle concernant les membres de l'AEIBS/EAHIL. Quels sont les facteurs qui font qu'on est actif dans une association? Pour ma part, je peux dire que c'est le sentiment d'appartenir à une communauté professionnelle internationale. Nous ne pouvons pas nous attendre à ce que l'Association réponde à toutes nos questions, mais grâce à l'AEIBS/EAHIL j'ai pu établir des contacts avec de nombreux collègues d'autres pays. Le monde est plus accessible et il est très facile de retrouver des collègues où qu'ils travaillent. De plus, par la coopération Européenne, nos besoins d'information internationale se sont accrus et il est agréable de pouvoir établir un contact personnellement avec des collègues d'autres pays Européens.

Ce que j'ai écrit sur les raisons de mon association avec l'AEIBS/EAHIL est personnel. Si nous nous plaçons au niveau professionnel, il est aussi important de pouvoir travailler ensemble. Je pense surtout à l'information technique IT qui s'est développée

pour quelque temps déjà et qui se développera encore plus à l'avenir. C'est un privilège de travailler dans un domaine qui se développe rapidement de manière imprévue - je dis toujours que je n'ai pas besoin de trouver une autre occupation, car il y a tant de choses nouvelles chaque jour que je n'ai pas le temps de m'ennuyer.

C'est aussi notre devoir et notre responsabilité d'utiliser nos talents professionnels les plus appropriés, de trouver les moyens les plus utiles d'utiliser l'information et la connaissance pour que notre organisation en bénéficie. C'est aussi un peu d'idéalisme de penser que c'est non seulement notre organisation qui en bénéficie mais que nous contribuons aussi un peu à une amélioration du monde dans son ensemble. C'est à ce niveau qu'il me semble être de haute importance que nous formions aussi une bonne communauté professionnelle Européenne. Ce qui ne veut pas dire que nous devons tous nous ressembler, au contraire, les différences culturelles sont toujours un enrichissement qui augmentent la coopération.

Liisa Salmi

EAHIL General Assembly

Wednesday 5th July 2000 1.45 pm

See Newsletter 50 page 8 or the Web for invitation and agenda.

New members:

- Mrs. B. Akersten, Swedish University of Agricult. Sc. Library, Skara Veterinary Library, Skara, Sweden
- Mrs. Ch. Bassi, Resp. Biblioteca Ce. V.E.A.S./ Ctr Valutazaine, Efficacia Ass. Sanitaria, Modena, Italy
- Mrs. A. Lind, Swedish University of Agricult. Sc. Libraries, Veterinary Medical Library SVA, Uppsala, Sweden
- Mr. M. Musek, Institute of Oncology, Library & Information Services, Ljubljana, Slovenia
- Mr. R. Otten, University of Utrecht, Medical Library Utrecht, Houten, The Netherlands
- Mrs. H. Stromme, Norwegian Library Association, Section for Medicine and Health, Oslo, Norway
- Mr. E.B. Undeli, Oppland Central Hospital, Gjøevik Medical Library, Gjøevik, Norway
- Mr. N. Vos, Trimbos Institute, Library, Utrecht, The Netherlands
- Mrs. H. Bouzkova, Narodni Lekarska Knihovna, National Medical Library, Praha 2, Czech Republic
- Mrs. I. Robu, Biblioteca Centrala Universitatea de Medicina si Farmacia, BC U.M.F., Cluj-Napoca, Romania
- Mrs. G. Serra-Mina, Generalitat De Catalunya, Dept. Sanitat Seg. Social-Biblioteca, Barcelona, Spain
- Mrs. A. Vine, Friends of the Hospices, Manacor, Spain



NEWS FROM EUROPE

..... from Ireland

The Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland Selects ALEPH

Ex Libris (UK) Ltd announced today that the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland has signed a contract for the installation of the latest version of ALEPH 500.

The Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland is one of the world's oldest and most prestigious medical institutions. Founded in 1784, the RCSI regulates the practice of surgery in Ireland, and also provides medical, surgical, nursing and physiotherapy education at undergraduate and postgraduate level. The RCSI Medical School is one of the largest in Ireland, with over 1,000 students. In addition, the Library serves

over 3,000 staff and students in the College's associated hospitals, and a wide range of health-care professionals throughout Ireland. It is a truly international organization, with more than 60 countries represented among its students and alumni. The RCSI is actively engaged in research, with over 100 research students and many projects covering a wide range of biomedical disciplines.

The RCSI Library is one of Ireland's best equipped and most modern health information resources, but it also contains a rich heritage of rare books and archives, with over 20,000 books in the history of medicine collections. The ALEPH library system will form an important part

of the College's IT strategy for the new millennium. The RCSI is the second ALEPH site in Ireland.

"We selected ALEPH," says RCSI Librarian Beatrice Doran "because we were impressed by its functionality and its ultra-modern design. ALEPH represents the best in cutting-edge technology, and we wanted to ensure that the College would remain at the forefront of medical education and training in Ireland - and throughout the world."

Further information on the RCSI can be obtained from the College's World Wide Web site at <http://www.rcsi.ie>

Beatrice Doran

..... from Poland

Last year at the end of May the XVIII Conference of Medical Libraries with the title Collaboration of scientific libraries and broad computer network services – new challenges and perspectives took place in Kraków. The professionally prepared programme included 32 oral presentations grouped in 9 subject sessions. About a hundred people attended this conference. The discussion focussed on the following topics:

- services based upon new electronic technologies
- common electronic catalogues (central catalogues, consortia using the same integrated library systems)
- the quality of the library and its staff in the era of new technology
- the library in computer networks under the eye of the law
- on-line journals and network databases
- specialist medical information services and educational tools
- informative-searchable languages in medicine and related disciplines

In addition to librarians, computer science specialists, physicians, pharmacists, scientists and students took part in the conference. Many presentations and exhibitions organised by publishers and companies specialising in the provision of library services accompanied this meeting.

Cultural events were also a nice supplement. A cocktail-party was given on the Renaissance courtyard of the Jagiellonian University Museum of Pharmacy where a unique exhibition displayed medical and pharmaceutical old prints and manuscripts dating from the XVI and XVII centuries. Running through the whole conference was the wonderful music of the philharmonic orchestras. The participants of the conference also attended a marvellous dinner party given in the court in Nieposomice.

The main conference organiser - the Jagiellonian University Medical Library - has published the conference materials in CD-ROM format where full text lectures,

presentations of companies and an animated exhibition of old prints can be found.

This librarian meeting in Kraków will remain an important event for us from a professional point of view. Alas it was overshadowed by the news of the sudden death of Professor Janusz Kapuscik, the head of the Main Medical Library in Warsaw. Professor Kapuscik initiated the medical librarian's conferences and zealously supported the idea of collaboration of various health care system libraries. Now we shall do our best to keep readers informed about ways of future collaboration.

It is worth mentioning here that for the last few years medical librarianship in Poland has been undergoing considerable transformation, with regard to automatization and extending access to Internet. The new century paves the way for making future plans with all our past progress in mind.

Anna Uryga



..... from France

Seminar for Medical Librarians from Francophone Countries, Tours

Between 27 February - 7 March 2000 the International Conference of the Deans of Medical Faculties of French Expression (Conférence Internationale des Doyens des Facultés de Médecine d'Expression Française - C.I.D.M.E.F.) organized a seminar for medical librarians from francophone countries in Tours, France. Such seminars are organized (and fully financed, including all participants' expenses) periodically by the CIDMEF at various levels targeting various audiences. This year the theme was New Technologies for Information and Communication and of the 16 participating librarians, 10 were represented by the respective number of medical libraries in Romania; the other 6 were from Lebanon, Morocco, Senegal, Togo and Cambodia. The Faculty of Medicine in Tours was chosen as the venue because it is the home of the organizers, Professor Etienne Lemarié (Pneumology) and Professor Christian Binet

(Hematology). Both working and living conditions were excellent, plus there was the bonus of being in the Loire valley and region, famous for its exquisite chateaux and also its wine. Tours itself revealed its graceful beauty and noble atmosphere in the early spring sun. The seminar benefited from excellent lecturers, invited to present and discuss the topics included in the programme: Anne Parrical from the Faculty of Medicine Library in Lausanne, Switzerland - Information resources on the Internet; Search Engines, and Electronic vs. print-full text publications: Benoit Thirion, Librarian, University Hospital Centre in Rouen, France; Health Information in French on the Internet, CISMef, Listservs: Jean-Francois Deneff, Professor of Histology at the Leuven Catholic University; Digital images, multimedia: Gislaine Massard-Decleve from the Medical Library of the Leuven Catholic University; MeSH and Search strategies on PubMed: E. Lemarié;

Evidence-based medicine: Corinne Touchelay from the Tours Medical Library and Eric Boissinot, Audiovisual Laboratory of the Tours Faculty of Medicine. Presentations were extremely professional and attractive and the interventions from participants and discussion lively. The benefits were manifold: new skills acquired through hands-on experience but especially the awareness of the richness of French resources. One site alone, the CISMef (Catalogue and Index of the French Medical Sites, at <http://www.chu-rouen.fr/cismef>) manages to gather in an excellent structure, so many resources of such a wide range of topics that it is bound to reward any (re)searcher. The event, as these events usually are, was also a wonderful opportunity to establish new contacts and to forge new friendships, a new stimulus to keep the ball rolling.

Ioana Robu

NEWS FROM THE MLA

Report of the 1999 Mid-Atlantic Chapter Meeting of the Medical Library Association

The Medical Library Association is comprised of geographic chapters as well as subject oriented sections. Geographic chapters meet at least once a year. I had the joy of being in charge of the local arrangements for the Mid-Atlantic Chapter Meeting of MLA. The Mid-Atlantic Chapter is composed of states primarily along the middle eastern sections of the US. These states are



Local librarians welcoming attendees of the Welcome Reception.

North Carolina, Virginia, West Virginia, Maryland, and the District of Columbia. Our Mid Atlantic Chapter meeting was held October 5 - October 9, 2000 in my hometown Wilmington, North Carolina.

Five Continuing Education Courses were taught:

- Multimedia Basics
- Copyright Law in the Digital Age
- The ABCs of Intranet Development
- Power and Influence
- Evidence Based Medicine

Some of the presentations included:

- The Clinical Librarian
- Skills and competencies for Health Sciences Librarians for the 21st Century
- Building the Virtual Clinical Campus
- Providing Consumer Health Information Electronically
- Beautifying the Library with Little or No Dollars
- We Do Publish! Don't We?
- Managing Electronic Subscriptions
- Charting the Successful Voyage Into the Information Frontier

- Intranets
- Programs and Resources for Chaplains and Pastoral Care
- The Information Audi
- Molecular Biology

There was a Professional Issues Forum with panelists including our MLA President, Frieda Weise.

The social program included a Welcome Reception at the antebellum Bellamy Mansion which was built in 1858. (This is considered old in the USA.) The local librarians wore period costumes to welcome the attendees. The conference also featured a Shrimperoo on the beach at Wilmington with a seafood feast and a dance.

ADDENDUM: Carol Jenkins, Library Director of the Health Sciences Library at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, was elected President-Elect of MLA. She will begin her President-Elect term in May 2000.

Donna Flake



Focus on . . . Austria The Austrian Central Medical Library, Vienna



By Dr Helmut Leitner, Director

The Medical Faculty Library, University of Vienna, was founded in June 1986. In the beginning, the head office was located in the main university library. In October 1989, the clinical library moved into the then recently completed building of the University Clinics General Hospital. Essentially, the new library's stock consisted of medical journals and monographs which had been removed from both the main university library's stack rooms and the main reading room. From 1991, medical services relating to outpatient and inpatient care were continually moved into the General Hospital building and by 1995, all clinics and clinical institutes had been transferred to the new building. The holdings of 45 individual clinics and clinical institutes were set up together in the new Central Medical Library. Only preclinical sciences remained with the decentralised institute libraries. The structure of the Viennese Medical Faculty was adapted to European standards.

The institutes and clinics were reorganised to eight special clinical units: internal medicine, pediatrics, gynaecology and obstetrics, radiology, surgery, neurology/psychiatry, clinical institutes, special institutes. The clinical units were split into 25 clinics, 12 clinical institutes, 25 outpatient departments, 300 special outpatient departments. Before reorganisation many branches had been divided into two independent clinics, e.g. 1st and 2nd Surgical Clinic. Each of those had their autonomous book collection of literature and consequently there were numerous duplicate titles. The Central Medical Library cancelled these surplus subscriptions and, in their place, ordered many new titles.

The Medical Faculty Library was designed to function as a central library of medicine for the whole of Austria. In 1994, the library therefore officially became the independent Central Medical Library in Vienna (though legally its new name is the Austrian Central Medical Library). Its mission is to collect, organise and provide access to printed and non-print materials in the field of medicine and related disciplines. The library is the national centre for collection, cataloguing, classification and the document supplier of medical literature.

The library is divided into two sections:

- The stock of the central section of the

clinical library provides primarily clinical materials. These include a student textbook collection of 12,000 items and a reading room has been established in the hospital area.

- The decentralised section comprises five departmental libraries of the following branches: preclinical sciences, brain research, cancer research, dental medicine, history of medicine. 35 institute libraries (unstaffed) feature preclinical and theoretical literature.

The collections of both the main library (central section stocks) and the departmental libraries have over 520,000 volumes and approximately 2,500 current journals which is increased by about 11,000 volumes yearly. Therefore, the Central Medical Library ranks first among Austrian medical libraries.

Statistics of the Central Medical Library:

- There are 400 seats, 250 of them located in the students' reading room.
- The area of the clinical library in the General Hospital covers a total of 5,000m².
- The staff consists of 33 professionals.
- In 1998, the acquisition budget was 26 Million AS.

The clinical library is open-access:

- Monographs are classified using the US National Library of Medicine Classification. They are shelved according to subject fields.
- Journals are shelved in alphabetical arrangement.





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The library is a non-lending though in March 2000, a limited lending service will commence. Photocopying services are provided in the library. Eleven self-operated machines (coins or copy cards copy) are available.

In 1999 the library system ALEPH (developed by the Israeli company Ex Libris) replaced the former library system BIBOS. The ALEPH catalogue is available through a Web search mask ("Web OPAC"). It will be used as an Austrian Central Catalogue (ACC) as well as local system (ZBM). During university terms the reading rooms of the main library and the departmental libraries are open from 9 a.m. from Monday-Friday. The main library closes at 8 p.m., the departmental libraries close at 4 p.m.

Since May 1996 the Central Medical Library has offered a homepage (<http://www.univie.ac.at/ZBMed>) containing information on different services and online access to the catalogues, databases and online journals.

The departmental library for History of Medicine houses a collection of approximately 95,000 volumes. In addition to being the sole Austrian specialist library in this subject it represents a documentation centre of international prominence. Founded by Emperor Joseph II, the present day library was developed from the original teaching library for military doctors. The ancient "Josephinian Library" (7,500 items) accounts for its extraordinary size and the diversity of its valuable collection of old and rare books. Literature from all over Europe dating from the 15th century until the Biedermeier era is represented. The collection includes 20 incunabla and early prints before 1520. However, most items of the collection date from the 17th and 18th century, since these books formed the basis for medical teaching around 1780, at the time when the military academy was founded and is set to

become Austria's central medical archive library.

- The departmental library for the History of Medicine provides also the most comprehensive collection of literature on ethnomedicine.
- About 30 percent of the 2,500 subscriptions of the Central Medical Library are unique in Austria. These holdings have increased the interlibrary loan requests from medical faculties, hospitals, pharmaceutical companies and practitioners. Copies of articles are transmitted via mail or fax, or online by email. In 1997, the Central Medical Library was the first Austrian library to scan and send articles as attachments by email.
- In order to provide all clinics and institutes of the Viennese medical faculty with bibliographic information the library established a network using Electronic Reference Library (ERL) technology from Silverplatter. The network offers access to the following databases: Current Contents, Embase, Medline, PascalBiomed, Psyclit, PsyndexPlus, Serline, ToxlinePlus. A special license agreement for Medline and PascalBiomed enables the Central Medical Library to offer access to these important medical databases to all

Austrian universities. The co-operating partners benefit from the optimal utilisation of the network and a reduction in costs for server maintenance.

- Since 1998 the Central Medical Library has offered access to medical journals for members of the Viennese Medical Faculty. Initially beginning with medical titles from Springer LINK, access now to approximately 250 electronic journals is guaranteed. Last year, the Central Medical Library in co-operation with other university libraries began negotiations concerning an electronic journals consortia with publishers and agencies.

In Austria no specific association for medical librarians exists; they are part of the Austrian Librarians' Association (Vereinigung Österreichischer Bibliothekarinnen und Bibliothekare – VÖB). Some Austrian medical librarians are members of the German Medical Library Association (AgMB: Arbeitsgemeinschaft für medizinische Bibliotheken). The next annual meeting of the AgMB will take place in Vienna from 11th to 13th September 2000. (See also the report of Ursel Lux in EAHIL Newsletter nr 50 Feb 2000 p. 17)





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A Viewpoint on the Medical Information Infrastructure in Austria

Constantin C. Cazan

Though Austria has a famous library tradition documented by its many monastery-libraries, along with a well developed library infrastructure (<http://info.uibk.ac.at/c108/obib.html#w>) with many modern libraries and a modern electronic infrastructure (<http://www.bibvb.ac.at/verbund-opac.htm>), it must be said that the medical information infrastructure as a whole cannot be compared to that which may be found in the Anglo-American or Scandinavian framework. In addition, in a small country with single funding resources mostly from the state and/or regional federal boards, highly regulated market traditional requirements for developing a proactive and dynamic information infrastructure in money-intense specialities are far from ideal. Most of these rely on medical and clinical research too. This must be considered when making a report of the Austrian library setting within the medical library infrastructure. While H.Leitner in this issue deals with the newly founded Central Medical Library attached to the Vienna University General Hospital, this article will try to give some additional information on the medical information environment throughout Austria. With the initiation of a new information era, facilitated by the growing mass of computer networks, the term information environment is probably more appropriate than the term library environment to describe the domain of universities facilities, though libraries still play an important role.

Principal Medical Libraries in Austria

Apart from the Library of the General Hospital of Vienna (see article of H.Leitner) defined as the Central Medical Library of Austria, there are currently four other main medical libraries in Austria. Three of these are attached to the medical faculties of Graz (<http://www-ub.kfunigraz.ac.at/>), Innsbruck (<http://info.uibk.ac.at/c108/>) and to the Veterinary University in

Vienna (<http://www.vu-wien.ac.at/bibl/biblhome.htm>) [1], while the fourth is the library of the Society of Physicians in Vienna (<http://www.billrothhaus.at>).

Graz

Though the eminent achievements of the University of Graz's (Styria) Medical Faculty and the sophisticated university library infrastructure are evident, they are still waiting for their new library. After 143 years the new Medical Library is under construction and will be opened by 2003, supplemented by a preclinical library in 2002. Within the planned center of medical research, the library and a student learning center will form a functional unit with about 1000 sqm for each. The library will have storage for 250.000 volumes of which 100.000 are planned to be on public access while the remainder, due to reduced storage capacity after more ambitious plans earlier, will now be stored on compact shelves. Today the main university library serves as a central acquisition and cataloguing facility delivering books and journals to about 40 remote institutes and clinics. Despite this situation and the more or less complete lack of librarians, journals are not bound and therefore easily lost without trace to many places. The main library also maintains a CD-ROM network connected to the central medical library in Vienna. The third Austrian medical faculty belongs to the University of Innsbruck (Tyrol) that has had a biomedical branch library since 1978 mostly related to theoretical medical research literature. Being the first specialized medical library in Austria it is organized as self-service comprising about 1100 journals selected according to the ISI Impact Factors. Since its founding it has been expanded three times and today it comprises a student learning center and open shelves for another 30.000 volumes. Nowadays its user community is represented by 60% students and 40% professors, lecturers and clinical staff. It is also connected to the CD-ROM network of the central medical library in Vienna for the use of Medline and PascalBiomed. Both of the

above mentioned libraries are engaged in the newly founded library consortia negotiating for cheaper and better journal acquisitions as well as access to electronic journals. Their holdings are included in the Austrian Library network and accessible by OPAC and a webinterface worldwide. The Library of the Society of Physicians of Vienna is in many respects outstanding. Though today it is supported solely by governmental funds, it is by its history and organization, independent, with a valuable stock of many medical journals and a few books. Originally its principal users were the members of the medical society, the physicians, professors and lecturers in Viennese medicine where they held meetings and maintained a CME-center for more than hundred years. Thus the library was founded for its members offering them prompt and easy access to the medical clinical literature during times where access to this special material was not available in the university environment or scattered in many remote locations. On account of this eminent and long-standing effort – comparable to the history of the National Library of Medicine, USA, - this library holds many historical journals from the very beginning of systematic clinical publishing in the last century. It offers the opportunity not only to access current information but also historical items especially in times when it has become commonplace to copy original descriptions of pathological or therapeutical issues thus transferring old errors through many years. The storerooms of the Society library thus offer specialists with professional knowledge and detective instincts superb possibilities to solve most of such erroneous citations. In addition to the possibility that Umberto Eco might have found some input for his well known novel here, I would further recommend to those visiting Vienna to take a look at the wonderful architecture at Frankgasse 8. In the latter years the Library has undertaken solid efforts to serve its members through sophisticated technology offering web-access to Medline, copying-services and virtual



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access to CME-events. Over and above serving its members it also provides a considerable user base comprising physicians and professional societies in Austria including research institutes and pharmaceutical companies. Not only topographically close but also organizationally it is today linked through several agreements to the Central Medical Library of Vienna. At this point it is worth mentioning that though Salzburg does not have a medical faculty it has a biological faculty and library and recently there have been some moves to set up a fourth medical faculty.

Medical information resources at hospitals

The hospital infrastructure of Austria (<http://www.bmsgsgv.at>) comprises 325 hospitals consisting of 73.000 beds with 14.000 physicians, 33.000 nurses, 8.000 medical-technical staff and 19.000 sanitary staff serving about 1.6 million people a year. Of these hospitals 70% have less than 200 beds, 35% less than 100 beds. It is well known that nowadays most hospitals rely on public access to Medline (i.e. PubMed) and other sources available from the internet. The majority of hospital departments purchase and manage their own journal collections lacking central cataloguing or management facilities, though in most cases there are budget allocations for medical literature. Depending on the approach and disposition of their Heads of Department and the storage space given by hospitals funds, a considerable percentage of journal or database access is provided through services offered by pharmaceutical or medical equipment companies and their sales forces. There appears to be no strategic plan regulating such issues in the majority of hospitals. From a professional point of view it is also strange that only a few pharmaceutical companies have solid library and medical information infrastructures in Austria. Due to the small market few companies have research and/or production units here and rely heavily on their headquarters. One of the

better known facilities was the SANDOZ library attached to an important research institute which today has become part of Novartis. Of the few pharmaceutical research companies most have some sophisticated pharmaceutical/medical information infrastructure: These comprise companies like Immuno, today a Baxter subsidiary, the former Chemie Linz, today part of Nycomed, Kundl and Gebro-Fieberbrunn both part of Novartis and some further subsidiaries of major players in the pharmaceutical world.

Institutes with specialities related to the medical field

There are a few federal institutions that are affiliated to authorities such as the Ministry of Health and the Federal Institute of Health comparable in its duties to the NIH, USA, and also drug approval authorities, food and market authorities, water authorities etc. The advent of the access of remote-databases (later called online) in the late 70s to 80s in Austria brought in a few people in the medical community to the Bundesinstitut fuer Gesundheitswesen and a few other institutions thereby establishing the online scene and initiating meetings at the newly founded Austrian Online User Group (AOLUG). Since my personal entrance into the medical library field I remember at that time only a few professionally trained librarians in the Austrian medical field namely the bibliographer Dr. Rupert Hink and his counterpart the dentist and theologian Dr. Bosmans, the physician Dr. Robert Csepan, the librarian of the neurological institute Mag. Schlögl and the retired Dr. Trandjiski of the Society of Physicians in Vienna-Library. In addition there were of course the librarians in charge of medical literature in the University Libraries of Vienna, Graz and Innsbruck and the Veterinary University in Vienna. With the advent of medical libraries after 1978 a small group of people formed in Innsbruck a group that could be classed as medical librarians. Most of them meet at the meetings of the Austrian Online User Group

(AOLUG) or through the Austrian Documentation Society. Some of them also take part in the German Medical Library Association (AGMB) or the German Documentation Society (DGD/DGI) which now is also taking steps towards participation in EAHIL. Interestingly the rise of internet-technology facilitated also some medical initiatives in the form of medical ISPs. Of these MedicalNet (<http://www.medicalnet.at>) and Med.at (<http://www.med.at>) are competing with medical professionals. Apart from the Austrian Scientific Libraries-OPAC there still is no Austrian Database specifically related to the medical field

Medical Journals in Austria

There are at least two clinical journals which are renowned for historical and local reasons namely the Wiener Klinische Wochenschrift today published by Springer-Wien (17 journals in total and some 130 books/year) and the Wiener Medizinische Wochenschrift published by Blackwell. These journals which both go back to the 19th century still represent the backbone of clinical journals though in many respects they have lost their international reputation (represented by few impact points on the Impact Factor) but they still retain their national importance. Nonetheless there are many medical journals serving the local medical community for information dissemination. Some of these can be found on their publisher's websites such as <http://www.springer.at/>, <http://www.universimed.at> or Krause & Pachernegg http://www.eunet.net/k_u_p.htm (8 journals)

Some further Austrian medical journals and newspapers

Mitteilungen der österreichischen Sanitätsverwaltung (Social medicine, Hygiene) Österreichische Apotheker-Zeitung (Pharmacists Association) Österreichische Ärzte-Zeitung (Physicians Association Austria) (circulation 36.000) Forum Dr.med <http://www.fdm.at>



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(circulation 22.500) Journal of Clinical and Basic Cardiology http://members.eunet.at/k_u_p/cardiol.htm
Arzt Praxis (circulation 11.000) ÖKZ Österreichische Krankenhauszeitung (circulation 9.000) Ärzte Magazin: (circulation 16.000) weekly: Ärztewoche <http://www-aerztewoche.co.at> (circulation 16.200) and Medical Tribune (14.200) .

Medical book sellers and publishers

There are three to five principal medical book sellers in Austria:
Wilhelm Maudrich and Facultas that also work as medical publishers (<http://www.maudrich.co.at>),
Urban & Schwarzenberg a subsidiary of the Munich Publisher.
Of the more known publishers there is Springer-Wien, Krause & Pachernegg (http://members.eunet.at/k_u_p/),
Universimed (<http://www.universimed.at>),
Österreichischer Apotheker-Verlag and a few others.

Some medically related Internet sources

Apart from those already named there is Austrian Health Net <http://www.ich-net.net> containing a valuable resource on self help groups (SIGIS) "self help group information system".

<http://www.aponet.at> a directory of Austrian pharmacies

<http://www.krankenanstalten.at> a directory of Austrian Hospitals

<http://www.magwien.gv.at> the homepage of the city of Vienna leading to information about the cities health infrastructure

<http://www.forum-ernaehrung.at> an excellent resource on eating and health-related issues

<http://www.akh-wien.ac.at> the site of the General Hospital of Vienna Information on the medical faculties may be found on the universities sites:

<http://www.univie.ac.at>,
<http://www.kfunigraz.ac.at>,
<http://www.uibk.ac.at>
For a web-view on Austrian information infrastructure concerning libraries
<http://www.ac-info.ac.at/owwbs.html>

Annotations:

[1] For information on the veterinary information sources in Austria: Reinitzer, Doris: Veterinary Medical Library Services in Austria. Proceedings 5th ECMHL Health information management: What strategies ? 1996 pp. 111-113
Reinitzer, Doris: Solving the information needs of veterinarians in Austria. Proceedings of the 6th European Conference of Medical and Health Libraries, Utrecht 22-27 June 1998. pp142-144

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Brandstötter, Elisabeth: INFODOC. Bibliotheken, Informations-und Dokumentationseinrichtungen in Österreich. (Bundesministerium für Wissenschaften u. Forschung) Graz: Neugebauer 1994. ISBN 3-85376-056-2 [This is a more recent directory on Austrian libraries - however not exclusively specialized in medicine]

Gergely, Stefan M: Medizin Wien 1983 (Fachinformationsführer 2) ISBN 3-205-06102-0 267s [This title, however, is rather outdated because it is a compilation of the medical infrastructure of Austria from 1983-]

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Sauper, Bruno: Naturwissenschaftlich-medizinische Literatur und die medizinisch-biologische Fachbibliothek in Innsbruck. in: Die wissenschaftliche Bibliothek. Traditionen, Realitäten, Perspektiven. Festschrift für Oswald Stranzinger zum 65.Geburtstag. Ed. by Heinz Hauffe, Karin heller, Walter Neuhauser. Tyrolia-Verlag Innsbruck-Wien: 1990 (Biblos-Schriften 153): pp.187-202

The author thanks Dr.Sigrid Reinitzer, Graz and Dr.Helmut Hauffe, Innsbruck for information relating to their medical libraries in this article.

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HOW TO ... Write a Good Press Release



Soon or later in his/her professional life a manager deals with something which could be noteworthy of communication to the layman or the specialist press. A clue to understanding whether what you are willing to communicate or to which media it should be given, is by evaluating the common definition of news. It is news as such, if it contains three elements: timeliness, the possibility of sharing, public interest or worries to a given audience.

If you still think you have something to communicate through media, you can write a press release.

Even if your institution has an external relations department or officer, the following tips could still be useful. In fact it is common practice for them to ask you to write down the core of your press release which helps them to define the mailing list of potentially interested media.

Here are some hints to deal with what could be an unusual exercise.

- Remember that journalists will decide to read (or discard) a press release from its title so provide a self-exhausting and comprehensive title, anticipating the contents. Don't bother to be too creative. Most media have journalists skilled in titling and providing appealing headlines for all the articles published.
- Indicate clearly and in bold if your press release is not expected to be published before a given date or time (embargo). Even so, do not be convinced that your news will have an early publication.
- Journalists love having a few articles ready for publication with minimum effort on their part. In fact, they are frequently asked to provide a few lines at very short notice. So write your press release keeping in mind that news is featured by 5 Ws:
Who, What, Why, Where, When

There is no need for an introduction.

You can safely start supplying the news:

- 5Ws for the news, followed by
- an explanation of its meaning
- either general information on your institution
- or general information on the topic

You can also provide additional information, e.g.

- current information on your institution
 - current information on the topic
- There is no need for a conclusion.

- Decide on the order of the general/current information keeping in mind that the latter items of information will have less chance of being published.
- In addition to the news given, a good journalistic article will provide at least two different points of view. Use the general information to provide either the opinion of a senior executive of your institution or an expert, or both.
- Write double spaced and keep the contents within 1500-2000 characters. Provide a contact person in case further information is needed.
- Monitor the publication and do not be too disappointed if the article is not published : reasons for non-publication are usually lack of space which is more common than lack of interest and interestingly, if your institution is producing a lot of press releases, your chances decrease.

Luisa Vercellesi



Dear Colleagues,



A special issue of *Health Libraries Review* is dedicated to the role of professional associations on continuing professional development for librarians and information professionals. Distance learning opportunities, career development kits, mentoring and qualification processes (fellowships) are the proposals of Medical Library Association (MLA), Australian Library and Information Association (ALIA) and Library Association (LA). An "active policy" to support continuing professional development could influence government's Library and Information Commissions. Moreover this active policy could facilitate transmission of professional value, and also offer an individually targeted attraction to professional to join and then retain their membership.

Giovanna F. Miranda
Co-Editor & Publications

Note: A reduced rate is available for EAHIL members for the HLR subscription 2000: GBP35.00 (Europe) More information from: Sharon Kershaw
<sharon.kershaw@blacksci.co.uk>

JOURNAL ISSUES

Since the February Newsletter, the following journal issue of *Health Libraries Review* has been received: vol. 16, 1999, no. 4

A. Brice and D. Stewart: Editorial p. 213

A. Ritchie and P. Genoni. Mentoring in professional associations: continuing professional development for librarians. p. 216-226. Professional associations should include mentoring as a form of continuing professional development. Mentoring programmes and activities have the advantage of being immediately responsive to individual learning needs, and their availability to "members only" can be designated as one of the advantages of professional association membership.

G. Walton and C. Edwards. Staff development in the electronic library: lessons for the health sector from the IMPEL2 eLib project. p.226-233. Information Technology for Library and Information Services is less developed in the NHS than in higher education. More and more clinicians want to use information and communication technologies (ICT) to access information remotely. The ability of librarians to develop their "skills" is crucial. This study identifies that attention should be most keenly focused on two areas, IT skills and skills to support the changing role.

K. Wood. CPD: What the Library Association offers. p.234-242. This paper explores the role of The Library Association in providing and supporting opportunities for continuing professional development. Emphasis is placed on the opportunities offered to gain practical skills through active participation in professional activities.

K. Nesbit. Distance learning for MLA's centennial! p.243-248. In celebration of the Medical Library Association's Centennial, their Continuing Education Committee developed a year of distance learning opportunities concerning evidence-based health care. The Centennial Distance Learning Program strove to reach as many members as possible by offering a wide variety of formats, including a teleconference, Web resources, journal clubs and a suite of traditional CE courses at the annual meeting.

G. Fennessy. Continuing professional development in Australian health libraries. p.249-255. This article provides an outline of current issues in continuing professional development within the Australian health library sector. The role of The Australian Library and Information Association is explored.

Innovations on the Internet.

B. Anagnostelis Series Editors. p 256
S.W. Glover. The impact of the Internet

and electronic journals on biomedical publishing.

F. Norman and Y. Hibbott. The SuperJournal project: the value of electronic journals to biomedical users.

V. Fraser. Continuing professional development in the NHS-what is to be done?. p. 268

P. Levy. Professional development in a virtual learning community. p. 270

J. Blenkinsopp. Reflections on evidence-based practice training. p. 274

Consumer Health Information - New Directions Consumer Health Information study Day. St. Thomas' Hospital, London, 13 April 1999. p. 277

Research (J. Farmer and D. Williams) p. 278

BOOKS REVIEW

Copyright: interpreting the law for libraries, archives and information services. 3rd edn. By G.P. Cornish 1999. 188 pp. £19.95. Library Association Publishing, London. ISBN 1-85604-344-4. This book is laid out in the form of 600 questions and answers. It is intended as a practical work of reference for library staff at all levels and all types of libraries, providing simple answers to the most common types of copyright query.



Copyright in health libraries. 3rd edn. By S. Norman 1999, 84 pp. £9.95. Library Association Publishing, London. ISBN 1-85604-323-1. The book is an introductory guide to UK copyright law for librarians, aimed specifically at those working in non-profit health libraries.

Health Care resources on the Internet. A guide for librarians and health care consumers. By M.S. Wood, 1999, 208 pp. \$39.95 hard, \$24.95 soft (outside USA \$48 or \$30). The Haworth Information Press, Inc., New York. ISBN 0-7890-0632-4 hard; 0-7890-0911-0 soft. The book discusses how to locate and search for health care information on the Internet. Librarians will find many useful tables and figures as well as specific web sites and Internet addresses.

PAPERS REVIEW

About the web: selected magazines and journals for Academic Librarians. J.M. Hackenberg and M. K. Moody. *Internet Reference Services Quarterly*, 1999, 4 (2), 79.

The Public Library and the Internet: who has a right to what? A.J. Grafstein. *Internet Reference Services Quarterly*, 1999, 4 (2), 7.

MD Consult: One-stop web-based clinical information. F.A. Brahmi. *Medical Reference Service Quarterly*, 1999, 18 (3), 29.

Web sites for Midwives. D. A. Anderson. *Medical Reference Service Quarterly*, 1999, 18 (3), 39.

Professors use web to catch students who plagiarise... R. Dalton. *Nature*, 1999, 402, 222.

INFORMATION SOURCES

..... Web-based

Encyclopaedia Britannica has made its entire 32 volume content set freely available on the web. The site offers all 44 million words from the Encyclopaedia, as well as news and articles from 75 magazines. <http://www.britannica.com>

Thesaurus on consumption, abuse and addiction to psychoactive substances

Produced by TOXIBASE, the French bibliographic database on addictions and national information network. This thesaurus drawn up in French has been translated into English (keywords and entry terms). It presents a structured alphabetical list, a thematic list, an appendix list of geographical terms, a cross-reference list and bilingual lists (French-English/English-French). Suitable for any centre that has begun to organise documentation in this field, it is already used in the 9 documentation centres of TOXIBASE network and also by some French speaking and other European Partners such as E.M.C.D.D.A. (European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction). <http://www.drogues.gouv.fr>. For further information : toxibase@toxibase.org

Tobacco Industry Documents 27 million pages of tobacco industry documents are now accessible. Users can conduct full-text searches. <http://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/industrydocs>

..... CD-Rom Based

The Laboratory Interpreter, version 1.0. Is a useful program for learning the basics about clinical laboratory test interpretation and it is a source and list of clinical conditions that can lead to a specific laboratory abnormality. Requirements: PC with 386 or higher processor, Windows 3.1, 3.11, 95, 98, NT, 4MB hard disk space. Cost \$ 39.95, ISBN 0-683-30594-8, Lippincott Williams & Wilkins, Baltimore, 1999.

..... on Video

Introduction to good clinical practice is a video course and text that includes 3 hours and 20 minutes of video and a 160 pp. work-book, produced by the Columbia University and New York Presbyterian Hospital Office and Clinical Trials. Cost : \$1500, but special terms are available for non-profit organisations. For further Information : francoc@cuadmin.cis.columbia.edu

NEWS FROM EDITORS

The British Library has announced that users of the National Library of Medicine's Pub Med and Internet Grateful Med can now use Loansome Doc to request articles from the Document Supply Centre. Before attempting to send requests you must contact The British Library for a unique NLM identification number (LIBID). Payment can be made by using an account with The British Library or credit card. For further information contact the Lexicon office: dsc-lexicon@bl.uk

ISI has launched ShopISI an e-commerce online store. ShopISI offers the individual researcher to learn about and order ISI products online using a secured credit card system or an invoice billing option. www.shopisi.net

OVID has announced a new database [Books@Ovid](http://www.ovid.com). With the focus on medical, nursing, and drug-related contents it contains electronic versions of important reference textbooks from multiple publishers, all collated and integrated under a single search engine and interface. For more information, call Ovid in the UK on +44-(0)181 748 3777 or e-mail: shave@ovid.com

NEWS FROM EUROPE

Internet access for everyone - The key objective of a European Commission initiative - eEurope - launched in early December is Internet in every home and school, and in every business and administration in the 15-nation European Union. In June 1999 just 60 million Europeans were using the Internet, as compared to more than 80 million in the United States, which has a much smaller population than the European Union. eEurope has 10 priority areas of action. The first of these relates to young people and schools. The goal proposed for the end of 2001 is access not only for schools but also public places, including those located in the most disadvantaged areas. e-Europe is also designated to reduce the cost of Internet access. Eurofocus 1999, n.42, 2



FORTHCOMING EVENTS

6-9 May 2000, Vancouver, Canada Medical Library Association (MLA) and the Canadian Health Library Association/Association des bibliothèques de la santé du Canada (CHLA-ABSC)

For further information:

<http://www.mlanet.org/am/am2000/program>

2-5 July 8th ICML, London, UK (including EAHIL Conference and General Assembly) for further details, registration forms, programme and other information see the website: <http://www.eahil.org>

On 30 June and 1 July continuing education courses will take place. A special "event" will be the workshop/symposium "The Impact of Genomics on Health and healthcare Libraries" by Frank Norman.

See also: <http://unicorn.sanger.ac.uk/icml/symposium.htm>

EAHIL General Assembly

All members are invited to attend the General Assembly of the Association taking place in London, during the 8ICML in the Queen Elisabeth II Conference Centre, on **Wednesday 5th July 2000 1.45 pm**

Preliminary agenda for this meeting:

- minutes of the General Assembly in Utrecht 1998
- Presidential report
- Treasurer's report
- 2001 & 2002 membership fees
- Secretary's report

- REVISION OF THE EAHIL STATUTES AND RULES OF PROCEDURE

the proposed revision will be published on EAHIL's website <http://www.eahil.org>

Members who are not able to access the web to review and download the draft of the revised Statutes can request a printed copy from the EAHIL secretariat.

Please note that the notary might have to make minor revisions due to obligations and restrictions of Dutch law. The Dutch version of the Statutes will be the legal and final version. For usage within the Association an authorized translation shall be made.

- Results of the 2000 Elections for the Board and Council
- Future EAHIL workshops and conferences

6-11 July 2000, Chicago, Illinois, USA American Library Association Annual Conference 2000 "Library build community"

For further information : <http://www.ala.org/events/ac2000>

13-18 August 2000, Jerusalem, Israel 66th General Conference and Exhibition of the IFLA "Information for co-operation: creating the global library of the future"

For further information: <http://sites.huji.ac.il/IFLA2000>

Giovanna F. Miranda



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letter to the Editor (1)

Dear Mrs. Sally Wood-Lamont,

The Medical Library of Estonia has read with great interest in the last issue of Newsletter to European Health Librarians, 1st February 2000, No 50. that "Harrison's Principles of Internal Medicine" is now available via web We are very much interested in advertising this possibility to hospitals of Estonia. But I am very sorry to say that the address given in the Newsletter Internet address <http://www.harrisononline.com> didn't open for us but gave the answer "that URL is not found" so we hesitate in giving the named address to our hospitals. Please, can you be so kind and inform us about our possible mistake in no achieving this connection.

With warmest Spring regards and sincerely

Peeli Mikelsaar,

Head of Department of Information and Lending
The Medical Library of Estonia

Reply

Dear Peeli

How nice to hear from someone in Estonia. First of all I am sorry that you have had so much bother tracing the address of the online version of Harrison's Principles Internal medicine. There is a mistake in the address. I found it after a little detective work and I apologise for the lack of proofreading in my role as Chief Editor. The address is:- <http://www.harrisononline.com> - we omitted the all important "s" after Harrison.

Though there is a subscription rate for individuals of \$89 and very much more for Institutions according to number of users. I also noted that there is a 4 week free trial offer available which I am sure will interest your network of hospitals. Good luck and thank you so much for writing.

Best wishes

Sally Wood-Lamont

Letter to the Editor (2)

Dear Suzanne Bakker,

in my feature article "Why not use Journal Impact Factors?", EAHIL Newsletter No. 47, I erroneously used a wrong journal name in the 10th reference. Instead of the journal "Scientometrics", the right source is "Journal of Documentation". The full reference must be:

Moed HF, Van Leeuwen TN, Reedik J. A new classification system to describe the ageing of scientific journals and their impact factors. Journal of Document-ation 1998;54(4):387-419.

Thank you very much, best regards,

Johannes Stegmann

Reply

Thanks to the benefits and dynamics of electronic publishing we will be able to update the web-version (and therefore the electronic archives) for future reference.

Suzanne Bakker



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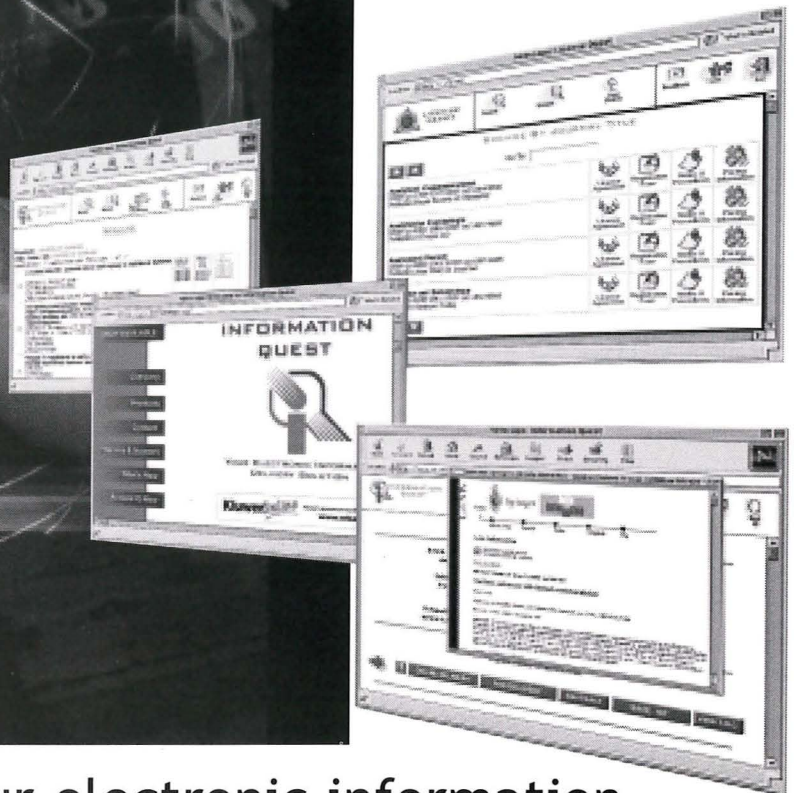
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PhInfoG Questionnaire

As you know we are trying to revamp the Pharmaceutical Information Group. The first step, of course, is knowing potential members. Would you please devote a few minutes to fill in and send this questionnaire to the Secretary of our group Ingeborg van der Burgt e-mail: by fax: +31 30 6938460 or by mail by the end of May.



Mail-address: **Glaxo Wellcome B.V.**
Att. Ingeborg van der Burgt
PO Box 780
3700 AT Zeist
The Netherlands

Name

First Name

- Affiliation**
- Pharmaceutical Industry
 - Academic
 - Hospital
 - Other Public Institution
 - Consultant
 - Others, specify

- Role in the Company/Institution**
- Head of information/documentation department
 - Information officer
 - Information assistant

 - Head of library
 - Library assistant
 - Other, specify

Key interests

	<u>high</u>	<u>medium</u>	<u>low</u>
Medical writing			
Internet/Intranet publishing			
Assessment and selection of sources			
Literature searching			
Internet searching			
Managerial skills			

Other, specify

.....

Wants from PhInfoG

	<u>high</u>	<u>medium</u>	<u>low</u>
Training			
Workshop			
Alerting, Specify			

Other, Specify

Comments and suggestions

.....

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Thank you very much for your time!