



January - March 1998 Volume 19 Number 1

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Letter from the Chair

Maryanne Blake blakema@u.washington.edu

What's your excuse? No support from your administration? You can't even keep up with what you have to do at work? You get no funding to go to meetings outside your local area? You volunteered five years ago - it's someone else's turn? You would like to have a life outside of work? Time? Money? Energy? My excuse was that too much was happening at work and I had no time or energy at home to write this "Message from the Chair". So I delayed and procrastinated. A firm, but kind, nudge from the Northwest Notes Editor reminded me that I had made a commitment, as Chair, to write this message. And, if I didn't get it done the space under "Message from the Chair" would read "Has Not Been Heard From". What motivates you? Obviously guilt is what pushes my button!

Lately I have noticed that some of our fellow medical library organizations are having trouble getting people to participate in the life of the association. The Pittsburgh Chapter of MLA, a small chapter with only 82 members, found itself charting an uncertain future as they did a survey of their members, saying: "Each year it becomes more difficult to recruit officer candidates and keep members active with the pressures of managed care and multiple mergers in our city. We have recently learned that our issues are not unique. Membership is shifting, members are not willing to commit their time and energy as they have done in the past...". WMLA, the Washington Medical Librarians Association, weathered just such a storm and, happily, will continue to exist. These organizations are not alone. PNC/MLA is facing the same kinds of challenges. We have a relatively small membership spread out over a large geographic area. We all have too little time and too much to do. We must rely on our members to volunteer not just once, but many times, in order to accomplish the work of PNC/MLA. Our meetings are sometimes in far-flung places making travel costly both in money and time. Our recent membership survey showed that the majority of our members are of the age that remembers Howdy Doody - and watched him on the small screen! TIME! MONEY! ENERGY!

You know why you want PNC/MLA to continue as an organization. A chance to network with colleagues. Continuing education in the region. Mentoring by colleagues. Interesting meetings held in our region.. And the relationships we build as we work and learn together. I know it may sound hokey - but remember how you look forward to seeing friends again at the annual PNC/MLA meeting.

PNC/MLA is changing as a group. For this year my challenge, AND YOURS, is to think about how we can participate and still have time for the rest of what happens in our lives. A chance to network with colleagues. How can I get you to join me in making this organization work? Tell me, what motivates you?

Now, let's see. I think the updating of the responsibility manual needs...

Note from the Editor

This issue of the newsletter was created by Loretta Andress. Many thanks!

Around the Region

Editor's Note: Unbeknownst to many below the 48th parallel, Jim Henderson has been working towards improving access to medical information by building a support structure we take for granted. The U.S. Medical Libraries Assistance Act does not have a counterpart in Canada. Jim (and Joanne Marshall) are trying to build this national infrastructure. The following letters and reports concern this vital objective.

BRITISH COLUMBIA

submitted by Jim Henderson (originally posted in canmedlib Jan. 21)

Subject: Proposal for a National Network of Health Libraries

There has been some response to the proposal I sent on Oct. 30 to the Honourable Allan Rock. I received a letter late last week that was encouraging. Mr. Rock said "I agree with many of the points you raised in your proposal". He suggested that I work through the Advisory Committee on the Health Info-Structure, which I have been doing.

Monday's edition of the Vancouver Sun (p. B7, Health pages). has an article on the College Library and the proposal by Rebecca Wigod. I found it encouraging, first, that she thought the topic to be of general interest and, second, that she was able to understand the proposal readily. The headline of the story is "Strong library links can save costs, lives - B.C. librarian makes compelling case for federal legislation to link all health libraries in a national network".

We have had a number of calls as a result of the article from doctors and the public, and, certainly, much support from BC colleagues. I am willing to supply copies of Mr. Rock's response (2 pages) and of the Sun article (1 page) via fax upon request. I have received written support from the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons and verbal support from a number of quarters, including the Canadian Association of Research Libraries, the Canadian Nurses Association, and various BC physicians.

I received a less encouraging letter from the BC Minister of Health via a staff member, who felt the Canadian Institute for Health Information could play a role perhaps as well as CISTI. Response from non-librarians with whom I have discussed the proposal has been: "Why don't we have a network like this already?"

For further information on the Advisory Committee, link to the MLS web site at <http://www.mls.cps.bc.ca>. In the first paragraph of the covering letter of the proposal is a link to the press release on the Advisory Committee, although the site, including the list of members,

has not been updated since the establishment of the Committee in August. Frank Winter, Director of Libraries, University of Saskatchewan, is the library rep on the Committee. I have discovered, speaking with Monique Charbonneau, President and CEO of CEFRIO (Centre francophone de recherche en informatisation des organisations) in Quebec City, that she is trained as a librarian and is knowledgeable on the issues.

I understand that Susan Murray, Joanne Marshall, and Lois Wyndham (representing CHLA/ABSC) are attending the Feb.8-10 meeting of the Committee in Edmonton. No one from CISTI, ACMC, ASTED or Health Canada libraries has been invited, it would appear. I have contacted the Globe and Mail and anticipate a call from the health policy reporter, Jane Coutts. She has been attending the pharmacare conference in the past week. I spoke with her last week and sent information in response to her interest. We clearly have a good opportunity to move the cause of health libraries ahead.

Our case is stronger since the proposal was submitted, with the publication of the NHS Guidance on Library Services in the UK and the addition of consumer health journals to MEDLINE in the US. A good number of you have written letters to Mr. Rock - thank you! I encourage each of you who have not yet written to do so (Allan Rock's address is on the MLS web site at <http://www.mls.cps.bc.ca> at the beginning of the covering letter or available upon request). With the Advisory Committee meeting in Edmonton in February 8-10, you should write something as soon as possible. Even a very brief letter will make a difference. If you can encourage users to write, so much the better. Critical appraisals and alternative ideas are certainly welcome too.

The Co-Chairs of the Advisory Committee are Dr. Tom W. Noseworthy, Professor and Chair of Public Health Sciences, Faculty of Medicine, University of Alberta, and Mr. Alan B. Nymark, Associate Deputy Minister, Health Canada, should you wish send copies to the Committee. Bernard Dumouchel, CISTI/ICIST Acting Director is writing a letter to Mr. Rock. The Canadian Association of Research Libraries considered the proposal at its meeting over the past weekend. ACMC, ASTED and CHLA/ABSC jointly have produced a 1-page vision statement relating to concepts in the proposal. If you want a copy of the proposal, it is posted on our web site (<http://www.mls.cps.bc.ca>) with hypertext links to explanatory information. I can provide a 1 page summary in point form, which is not yet posted on the web site, via fax or e-mail. I can e-mail copies of the proposal as a Microsoft Word file attachments, and can handle a limited number of requests for copies.

I will supply further information as I am able. Thanks to all who have sent along support and who have contributed ideas and comments on drafts of the proposal! Seems we may be making progress. jh

Subject: Advisory Council on the Health Info-Structure

submitted by Jim Henderson (originally posted on canmedlib Feb. 4)

Joanne Marshall alerted me to a site which I think is quite new. It is Health Canada's Office of the Health on the Information Highway. In particular, detailed information on the advisory Council on the Health Info-Structure is available, including minutes of meetings and the

programme of the Edmonton meeting next week. URL for the Advisory Council home page is: http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/ohih-bsi/achis_e.html

Interestingly, the original Aug. 97 press release is still posted, with a link to an out of date list of members . . .

submitted by Madelyn Hall

Southwest Washington Medical Center in Vancouver, WA has a new library technician (.5fte). His name is Rebel C. Martin, and he is a UW MLS graduate

ALBERTA

submitted by Jim Henderson (originally posted in canmedlib Feb. 23)

Quick Report on the Meetings of the
Advisory Committee on Health Info-Structure (ACHI) and the
National Conference on Health Info-Structure
Edmonton, AB, February 8-11, 1998
Prepared by Frank Winter
February 13, 1998

Introduction:

Prior to the conference I benefited greatly by the teleconference on Feb. 5 initiated by the health library groups (Lois Wyndham, CHLA; George Beckett, ACMC; and Germaine Chouinard, ASTED-Section Sante), telephone conversations with Jim Henderson and by the opportunity to caucus with Joanne Marshall, Lois Wyndham and Susan Murray on Sunday afternoon before the meeting started.

I think that it is fair to say that the combined efforts of the four librarians present at these meetings plus the briefs from Jim Henderson and Joanne Marshall resulted in a very high awareness that the concerns of health libraries had to be addressed. On the downside, despite prolonged formal and informal lobbying by all four of us my assessment is that there appears still be some reluctance to actually start a process (such as a study) that would achieve anything concrete and positive.

Results of the National Conference:

Although it would be tedious to thoroughly describe the structure of the National Conference, it might be helpful to understand the manner in which things were arranged so that the strategy we adopted will make some sense. There were plenary, theme and working group sessions. Issues started at plenary were then referred to a theme group (such as the Stakeholder Issues group) and then to working groups within each theme (the Stakeholder Issues group had four working groups: priorities and needs of the public; priorities and needs of health service providers/researchers; priorities and needs of policy makers/administrators; and priorities and needs of Aboriginal peoples). From that point, the working groups presented recommendations to the theme groups and the theme groups reported back to the plenary session.

As a result of the teleconference on Feb. 8 and a caucus among the four of us before the National Conference, we knew that we had to get a recommendation out of a working group, through a theme group and before the plenary. We spread ourselves around appropriately and were successful at this stage. Susan apparently did a very effective job in the Priorities and Needs of the Public working group in starting and leading a debate on the various meanings of information and why "library" type information was important.

I do not have the actual wording of the recommendation that the Stakeholder Issues theme group presented to plenary but, in essence, it was that health libraries, clearing houses and information centres needed study and support.

So far, so good. The co-chair of the ACHI, Alan Nymark (ADM, Health Canada), was particularly pleased by the facts that the health librarians had had a teleconference and a caucus before the national conference. He was pleased to hear that the health library community was working to reconcile the various proposals that were coming forward. I assured him that the health library community did not see any inconsistencies among the Henderson, Marshall and shortly-to-be-produced CHLA/ACMA/ASTED-Section Sante proposals but that they did understand that the proposals had to be harmonized. He checked at the end of the national conference that "the librarians were satisfied." I assured him that we were pleased with the outcome of the meeting.

ACHI and Health Libraries, Before and After the Conference:

Where matters began to get off track was during the work of the ACHI after the conference. The ACHI met prior to the national conference and immediately after it. The various ACHI working groups also met and the Working Group on the Health Information Needs of the General Public took advantage of that opportunity. One of the draft recommendations in our draft interim report was, "Support the networking of all medical libraries in Canada through funding and technical assistance." This was massaged one way and another through the next few days and now reads, "Investigate the feasibility of a national network of health information centres that support the needs of the general public, administrators, policy makers and practitioners." My aim in all of this was to obtain ACHI (*not* Health Canada) funding for a study that would result in a proposal that had concrete deliverables.

I had hoped to get approval for this study at the final session of the ACHI meeting but it did not work out that way. Instead, I am to draft a response to the Henderson and Marshall proposals -

which does not seem a particularly productive step but which is one that ACHI has adopted to deal with unsolicited proposals - and I will also continue to ask ACHI to fund a study.

So Now What?

Anyway, so what now? I will draft the responses and I will continue to push for funding for a study. I hope that I will be able to report some positive progress in this area in the near future. The next ACHI meeting is in mid-May (although the Working Group could meet face to face or by teleconference before then) and that is definitely too long to wait for something to get started. ACHI would like to issue an interim report by late summer, at the latest, in order to try to influence the February 1999 budget. The final report will try to contain some recommendations that might also influence the February 2000 federal budget - in other words, two kicks at the budget.

Conclusion:

This report has been fairly rushed, it was a busy meeting and I could very well have overlooked or omitted something relevant. I would invite Joanne, Lois or Susan to amend, add, correct or whatever anything above.

Frank Winter WINTER@sklib.usask.ca
Member, Advisory Council on Health Info-Structure
Director of Libraries, Library Administration,
University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan

Comment on Frank Winter's report from Joanne Marshall

submitted by Nancy Ottman Press (originally posted in canmedlib Feb. 23)

First I would like to thank Frank for being such a "quick study" around health library issues in Canada and for being such an effective spokesperson on the Advisory Council. In one of the theme sessions that I attended, Frank was acknowledged as "Mr. Library" by the chair when he stood up to make a comment which says a lot about what he has been doing for us.

This was a very political conference and there were lots of contenders for the \$50m that the government has made available for a "national health info system". I was reminded that health info means many things to many people and that library-based info is just one of the meanings.

The predominant interest at the conference from my observation was in the electronic patient record and telehealth -- two incredibly expensive forms of health info. The major issue at the beginning of the conference was seen as privacy of health info in these contexts.

At the very least, I think we were reasonably successful in broadening the definition of health information during the conference. We had something of an ally in Bryan Haynes who pointed

out several times that there less expensive forms of health info available (like evidence-based info) and he seemed to get considerable support. You may have notice the big spread that Brian and Evidence Based Medicine got in Globe and Mail during the conference. I suggested to Bryan that his position had a lot to do with libraries where the evidence is located in the form of peer-reviewed literature and I gave him a copy of a two page handout supporting the idea of a National Network of Health Libraries that Jim Henderson had prepared. Susan, Lois and I gave out copies of this handout throughout the conference and spoke to as many people as possible.

On the Friday before the conference I received a faxed letter from Alan Nymark, ADM thanking me for the revised version of the concept paper for a National Health Library Network that I submitted on Dec 19/97. He stated that the paper would be referred to one of the Advisory Council committees for action and that it would be combined with other similar ideas from others (presumably Jim's, ACMC etc).

I had an opportunity to speak with Mr Nymark at the very end of the conference and I re-emphasized that the different initiatives that had arisen only showed that there were similar ideas coming from different parts of the country. He agreed that we were all at the same track. I also expressed a concern that traditional services like libraries were being taken for granted even though everyone supported them in principle. I definitely had the impression that he wanted some action to be taken on the idea of a national network.

It was generally difficult to get the word "library" specifically into the recommendations. I did manage to get it into the stakeholder's recommendations from the administrators and policy makers group chaired by Doreen Neville. The recommendation recognized the broad range of info required by admin and policy makers (from data to synthesized info in the form of health care literature found in libraries). I tried to emphasize that, in addition to meeting their own info needs, admin and policy makers were responsible for information services for all others in their institutions or areas of responsibility. At one point, Mary Ellen Jeans, one of the subcommittee chairs said that everyone agreed libraries should be supported but that they should not be a "focus". I tried again to point out that many hospital libraries were being closed or merged in response to restructuring and that by focusing only on data, that another extremely valuable info source (the library) could be lost, but it was not an easy sell.

I felt that there were two points that we tried to make most strongly as librarians attending the conference: 1. that the definition of health info had to go beyond data and the health record to include information in all formats for all groups. 2. that support for existing health info resources, including libraries, had to be part of a national health info system.

I was sorry to hear Frank's comments that all did not go so well after the conference. I spent quite a bit of time with the National Pop Health Clearinghouse group. They were working on their own action recommendations and I wrote the following recommendation which they incorporated:

4. Investments must be made strategically to build on existing systems, information and partnership networks.

-All new investments must leverage existing investments, knowledge and networks such as information services offered by consumer and self-help groups and health and public LIBRARIES (caps mine)

-Not all information is available electronically, nor will it be in the near future. In addition, most Canadians do not have access to hardware and software required to retrieve info electronically. The Canadian health info-structure must take this into acct and facilitate access in multiple formats.

I think this is the time to keep up the pressure if we want health libraries to play a major role in the national health info system in the future. I hope the CHLA/ABSC Board will be instrumental in doing this because they have the national mandate. We also need to get the word out about the core services that health sciences and consumer health libraries are taking in Canada. Unfortunately at the present time, I do not think we are seen as being on the leading edge either on the consumer health or health sciences library sides.

Sorry to go on so long about this, but I do think this conference was a key event for health libraries in Canada and that we need to share our experience and keep on working on these issues in the months ahead.

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WASHINGTON

submitted by Mike Scully

Swedish Medical Center is pleased to announce that Cheryl Goodwin has accepted the position of Manager, Swedish Medical Center Libraries at First Hill and Ballard. Cheryl joins Swedish after many years of service with other Washington libraries. She brings to Swedish the expertise gained from technology upgrades, varied medical library experience, and Internet know-how -- all crucial to the Swedish Libraries' continued progress.

We would also like to thank Bob Hollowell for serving as Acting Manager over the past year. Bob will continue as a full time Medical Librarian serving both campuses.

submitted by Eve Ruff

After seven years as director of the Arnold Library and Internet Services, I have resigned to pursue further education in the health sciences and physical fitness disciplines. My plan is to combine a degree from the University of Washington's Institute on Aging and certification from the American College of Sports Medicine as a physical fitness specialist. Eventually, I plan to combine these graduate studies with my expertise in and advocacy for women's health information and issues. I expect to merge research activities with hands-on experiences with women from mid-life through the later years.

It was not without mixed emotions that I made this decision. The experience at the Hutchinson Center has been magnificent. I am pleased to leave a very different library than what I encountered in 1991. Some of you may know that we have just recently moved into entirely expanded and refurbished quarters (in our same location) and that within weeks we will be closing the original Arnold Library on the First Hill site. But beyond the physical site, together with a most wonderful present and past staff, we have woven the library services into the very fabric of how science is done at the Center, raised faculty expectations of what a robust information service should provide, and built a resource and staff energized to supply that and more.

I ask you all to join me in congratulating Ann Marie Clark who has been promoted to director of the Arnold Library and Internet Services. She and I have worked together for five years, ever since she came to provide temporary reference coverage while I attended an MLA meeting in Chicago! Over this time, Ann Marie has held several positions in the library including Clinical Research Division reference librarian and, more recently, associate director of operations for all of the Center libraries. She has also been the primary architect of our new facility and is now serving on the Washington State Council for Libraries. Many of you know Ann Marie and I know that you all will extend to her every professional courtesy and support that you always have to me.

Finally, to Ann Marie, Susan Way, Cynthia Stevens, Seungja Song, Nancy Crase, Beth Levine, Shauen Trump, Jennifer Behrends, Christy Cronn, Pia Fish, Heidi Heilemann, Joan Wilson, Ellen Piro, Magdaline Quinlan, Katy Gunville, Lisa Sebastian, Amy Postel, Dawn Hathaway, Betsy Levine, Linda Whitford, and any others who I am sure to have left out: thank you for tenure with me and for committing yourselves to the work of the Center and the libraries. Thank you also for affording me the opportunity to learn something from each of you and to offer you what I could. I am indeed a better person for knowing each of you.

And to the many of you who will read this, thank you for enabling me to be part of one of the most creative, intelligent, hard working and rewarding communities.

Sincerely, Eve Ruff

(My email address "eruff@fhcrc.org" will remain the same--the Hutch won't let me really leave!)

Hello Everyone!

I am the new librarian at the Planetree Health Library at Highline Community Hospital. I am working full time here replacing Valerie Lawrence who moved down to Portland. I have been working in the medical library at Virginia Mason Medical Center for the last four years and now have my own library. :)

I am excited and will do my best to respond to requests for consumer health information that is unique to this collection. Please feel free to call, fax or email me. My docline should be turned on sometime this week so you can start sending me interlibrary loans as soon as it is up and running.

I am not new to the Seattle area but am new to this hospital and I am looking forward to working with all of you in this new capacity.

Ingrid Maksirisombat, MLS <hchnet@halcyon.com>
Planetree Health Library
Highline Community Hospital Health Care Network
16251 Sylvester Road SW, Burien, WA 98166-3052 USA
Voice 206/244-4052; Fax 206/244-4674
Library URL: <http://www.halcyon.com/hchnet/library.htm>

MONTANA

Dear NorthWesters' - an update for those of you who are interested:

from by Suzy Holt

There's Good news and Bad news -

The Bad News :-)

What appeared to be the culminating position for my particular career, so eagerly and proudly announced at PNC last year, soon went awry. "The devil is in the details" they say, and after two months on the job, it became apparent that what seemed to be the perfect match wasn't going to work as a match at all. After an excruciating re-examination, I resigned.

Luckily we had not yet rented out or sold our home in Helena. The Shodair position was still open and my boss asked me if I wanted to come back. "Not really" I replied. But I do go in once a week to keep up with the lit searches they don't manage themselves with PubMed.

They've been reviewing the salary schedule and will re-advertise the position soon I think. It's still a good position for someone that's new to it. Keep in mind that there is only a half-time LTA there right now, with only a month's training, so have patience! She's really very good. Her name is Donna Stone.

The Good News: :-)

After working steadily for 25 years, I'm giving myself a sabbatical! I'm updating and expanding the genetics literacy course, creating a syllabus and working on the Genomics symposium for Philadelphia. Hope some of you plan to attend! (My course is offered the previous day - sign up for that too!)

I'm spending a *lot* more time supporting my husband and son in what *they* are doing -- which is going great. Spending a *lot* more time with friends ... with books ... with art and creative pursuits. :-) :-) :-) :-)

Biggest regret - not having that opportunity to work more closely with all the Seattle folk!!

Biggest pleasure - being able to RELAX!

What's next? I'm never at a loss for ideas, but I'll figure that out after being a bit longer in this sabbatical mode. It feels really really good.

Warm regards to all - I'll stay tuned to HLIB-NW and hope to be in touch.

Suzy
sholt01@sprynet.com
576 Third Street
Helena, MT 59601
406-442-6331

OREGON

Dear Northwest colleagues,

I just wanted to update you all on my new contact information. I can now be reached at Western States Chiropractic College in Portland, and my phone number is (503)251-5756. This email address will still work, but I'll also be getting an account through OHSU to use for work purposes. I'll let you know what that address is when I know it.

Valerie Lawrence <lawrencv@ohsu.edu>

Chapter Business

PNC Membership in the Academy of Health Information Professionals

submitted by Kim Granath, kimg@selway.umt.edu

I'm sure all of you read the article in the October 1997 **Bulletin of the Medical Library Association**, reviewing the Academy of Information Professionals [1](#), right? And, after reading that article I'm sure you are all wondering how well the Pacific Northwest Chapter is represented in the Academy. So, without further delay, here are some facts and figures regarding our representation in the Academy of Health Information Professionals.

	MLA	PNC
Total Members:	4891	183
Total AHIP Members:	1369	44
Percentage of Members in AHIP:	28%	24%

PNC's membership is slightly lower than the national percentage, but over half of our members are represented at the Distinguished level of the Academy. That's 20% higher than the national figures. If you always thought you associated with a distinguished group of librarians in the Pacific Northwest, you were right!

Just looking at the figures for our own academy members is kind of interesting too. Of the 44 AHIP members in PNC, 18 are hospital librarians, 17 are academic librarians, and 9 fall into that nebulous category of "other."

Every state and province in this region has a least one AHIP member. Here's that breakdown:

Alaska:	4	Alberta:	1
Idaho:	2	British Columbia:	1
Montana:	3		
Oregon:	10		
Washington:	23		

See...you all know someone who can help you with those application forms! Ready to join? Want more information about the Academy? Contact me or visit the Academy's web site: <http://www.mlanet.org/academy/>

[1](#) Forsman, Rick B. and Nelson, Patricia P. "The Academy of Health Information Professionals: a review of the first five years," **Bulletin of the Medical Library Association** 85(4):362-372.

Pacific Northwest Chapter/Medical Library Association
submitted by Pam Spickelmer

Revised 1998 Budget

April 7, 1998

INCOME	1997 Budget	1997 Actual	1998 Proposed
Membership Dues	2250.00	2703.00	2800.00
Checking Interest	90.00	75.48	75.00
CD Interest	180.00	195.90	200.00
Meeting Income	500.00	542.44	2800.00
	3020.00	3516.82	5875.00
EXPENSES			
Annual Meeting Advance	1000.00	1250.00	1000.00
Board Meeting Expenses	1500.00	2468.21	1200.00
Board Travel to MLA	-0-	-0-	1000.00
Supplies & Software	150.00	141.16	50.00
Development Fund (Scholarships)	1500.00	1241.00	1500.00
Printing & Postage	300.00	745.46	300.00
Liability Ins./501c(3)/Incorp. Fees	750.00	623.00	225.00
Lending Library	300.00	107.00	300.00
Centennial Project	1000.00	732.30	1000.00
Newsletter Expenses	-0-	-0-	50.00
Unpaid Board Member Reimbursmt.	-0-	-0-	300.00

Annual Meeting Photos	-0-	-0-	50.00
Canadian Exchange Deductions	-0-	74.08	80.00
Bank Charges (Checks, etc.)	-0-	21.45	40.00
	\$6500.00	\$7403.66	\$7095.00

In the News

submitted by: Rich Greenfield

For those with RealAudio installed, there are some interesting clips at
<http://www.thesis.co.uk:80/tp/10004660/PRN/OPEN/EVENTS/BEYONDHYPE/hype.html>

The contention that there is no future for libraries outside of electronic media was defeated 52 to 32, even though the contention that the Internet will revolutionize British higher education was approved by an even larger margin.

Here's a brief description of the three recent debate topics:

Thursday 23 April 1998
The Debating Chamber, Oxford Union

A one-day colloquium organised by the Humanities Computing Unit, University of Oxford.

1. Teaching

This house believes that the Internet will revolutionise teaching across British Higher Education.

Introduction from the Chair: Stuart Lee, Centre for Humanities Computing, University of Oxford

For: Gary Alexander, Director of the Electronic Media in Education Research Group, the Open University.

Against: Nicky-Sinead Gardner, Joint Information Systems Committee of the UK higher education funding bodies

The motion was passed by 51 votes to 21 (6 abstentions).

2. Libraries

This house believes that there is no future for Libraries outside the Electronic Medium.

Introduction from the Chair: Sarah Porter, CTI Textual Studies, University of Oxford

For: John Tuck, Deputy to the Director of University Libraries and to Bodley's Librarian, University of Oxford

Against: Mike Crump, Director of Reader Services and Collection Development, The British Library

The motion was defeated by 52 votes to 32.

3. Publishing

This house believes that the New Technologies are raising publishing standards.

Introduction from the Chair: Michael Popham, Oxford Text Archive, University of Oxford

For: Michael Upshall, Executive Director of Publishing, Helicon Publishing Group PLC

Against: Jane Dorner, freelance writer and Author's Licensing and Collecting Society Director

The motion was defeated by 43 votes to 10 (3 abstentions, 1 spoiled ballot).

Rich Greenfield, Technology Coordinator
Alaska State Library, P.O.Box 110571
Juneau, Alaska 99811 (Tel. 907-465-2928) rgreenfi@educ.state.ak.us

Position Available

submitted by Caroline Mann

ANNOUNCEMENT Portland Campus Librarian Linfield College Portland, Oregon 97210.

POSITION: Visiting full-time faculty position; one-year appointment, 1998/99 Search for a tenure-track incumbent will occur during 1998/99. Screening begins April 27.

STARTING DATE: July 1, 1998 RANK AND COMPENSATION: Assistant Professor; salary commensurate with qualifications, experience, and salary scale. POSITION SUMMARY: Provides services to Linfield students and faculty who study at the Portland Campus. Oversees the branch library that is housed within and operated in conjunction with the Legacy Good Samaritan Hospital Library. Duties include bibliographic instruction, reference, collection

development, acquisitions, and cataloging. Schedule includes some weekend and evening work. Reports to the College Librarian and maintains liaison with the Director of the Portland Campus.

RESPONSIBILITIES: 1. Assists and counsels library users at the Portland Campus with reference or research questions. Performs database searches and teaches users to search using a variety of electronic and print resources including Medline, CINAHL, and other databases. 2. Teaches research strategy and the effective use of library resources in an active, course-related instruction program. Collaborates with other Portland Campus faculty to integrate library use into the curriculum and achieve instructional goals. Prepares instructional materials. 3. Provides interlibrary loan services for students and faculty using OCLC and Docline; maintains liaison to libraries with reciprocal loan agreements and works to utilize available resources at those libraries and Northup Library at Linfield's McMinnville campus. 4. Collaborates with faculty creatively to develop small, focused collections that support specific course offerings. 5. Acquires library materials from a variety of vendors; catalogs library materials for the local Innovative Interfaces system and Orbis union catalog using OCLC and national standards including AACR2, LCSH, and NLM. Works in cooperation with the Technical Services Librarian and staff in McMinnville. 6. Develops and oversees the Portland Campus Library budget and maintains liaison with Linfield administrators. 7. Plans and oversees systems needs for the library including all aspects of Portland Campus online catalog and public CD-ROM workstations. Works in cooperation with the Systems Librarian and staff in McMinnville. 8. Works in cooperation with Legacy Libraries Coordinator and staff to assure even coverage of library service points. Provides back-up reference assistance for users from the hospital community in the absence of the Legacy reference librarian. 9. Hires, trains, schedules, supervises, and evaluates 1 FTE library technical assistant and approximately 15 student library workers. 10. Develops as a professional through appropriate reading, writing, public presentations, continuing education, and participation in professional library organizations; participates in faculty governance.

QUALIFICATIONS: 1. MLS from an ALA-accredited library school required. Broad liberal arts education preferred. 2. Experience in an academic library and/or health sciences library preferred. 3. Requires ability to use reference sources, online catalogs, online databases, including Medline and CINAHL, and current emerging technologies, including the World Wide Web. 4. Experience in bibliographic instruction, reference, collection development, acquisitions, cataloging, and PC troubleshooting preferred. 5. Requires excellent organizational, interpersonal, planning, and analytical skills. 6. Requires excellent oral and written communication skills. 7. Requires an active service orientation with an ability to work with physicians and staff in a hospital library setting and faculty, students, and colleagues in a private, liberal arts college setting.

APPLICATION PROCEDURES: Nominations are welcome. Send letter of application; resume; names, addresses, and telephone numbers of three references; and transcripts of all college and university work (unofficial transcripts acceptable for initial screening). Official correspondence should be directed to Lynn Chmelir, College Librarian, Linfield College, McMinnville, OR 97128. Telephone 503/434-2262 and FAX 503-434-2566. Screening begins April 27, 1998.

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Gryte, Tamara C.	McKenzie Willamette Hospital/Springfield OR
Holbrooks, M. Zoe	U. Washington in Seattle
Horner, Melissa Ly	Adventist Medical Center/Portland

Hull, Emily	University of Washington/Seattle
Inselberg, Diana	Vernon Jubilee Hospital/Vernon, B.C., Canada
Johnson, Mary	OHSU/Portland
Leppo, Tricia	Providence Medford Medical Ctr./Medford OR
Moore, Gail	Royal Alexandra Hospital/Edmonton, ALB, Canada
Mychajlunov, Lorr	Alberta Assoc. Regis. Nurses/Edmonton, ALB, Canada
Parker, Julia	Student/U. Washington
Starks, Bonnie J	Sacred Heart General Hospital/Eugene OR
Tietjen, Robert	Madison Memorial Hospital/Rexburg ID

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Press Releases

March 1998

MLA RECOMMENDS INCREASE IN NLM FUNDING FOR 1999 FISCAL YEAR

The Medical Library Association (MLA) recommended that Congress provide an additional 15% increase in fiscal year 1999 funding for the National Library of Medicine (NLM). Marianne Puckett, AHIP, Associate Professor, Medical Library, Louisiana State University–Shreveport, testified before the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies on January 28. Puckett is chair of the Joint MLA/Association of Academic Health Sciences Libraries (AAHSL) Legislative Task Force and vice-chair of the MLA Governmental Relations Committee.

Emphasizing the importance of NLM services to the medical library community, Puckett gave MLA’s recommendations that included funding for basic NLM services and personnel, the NLM Outreach Program, and access to quality health care information.

Following Puckett’s testimony, Congressman John Edward Porter (R-IL), chair of the Appropriations Subcommittee, spoke highly of medical librarians and stressed their important role in providing quality health sciences information.



March 1998

MLA/NLM LEITER LECTURE BROADCAST VIA SATELLITE

Jean-Claude Guedon, Ph.D., professor, Department of Comparative Literature, University of Montreal, Quebec, Canada, has been selected the MLA/NLM Leiter Lecturer for 1998. In honor of the Medical Library Association’s (MLA) Centennial anniversary, the National Library of Medicine (NLM) and MLA are making the lecture available via satellite for the first time.

Titled, “The Digital Library: An Oxymoron? A Colloquium to Honor Medical Librarians,” the free teleconference is scheduled for May 12, 3-5 p.m. EST, and is expected to draw more than 3,000 viewers at approximately 200 locations across the United States and Canada.

Participants will be allowed to tape the conference, which in addition to the lecture will include a panel discussion featuring:

* Robert S. Braude, AHIP, Assistant Dean, Information Resources, Wood Medical Library, Cornell University Medical College, New York, NY

* Michele S. Klein, AHIP, Director of Library Services, Medical Library, Children's Hospital of Michigan, Detroit

* Lucretia W. McClure, AHIP, Librarian, Edward G. Miner Library, University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry, Rochester, NY

* Judith Messerle, AHIP, Director, Countway Library of Medicine, Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA.

For more teleconference information, please visit the MLA Web site, MLANET (www.mlanet.org) or contact Kathleen Gaydos, coordinator of continuing education at 312/419-9094 x29 or mlapd1@mlahq.org.

Publications

submitted by Dianne Pammett

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Interested in having an updated PubMed/IGM training workbook? You may now download the workbooks used in the two NLM/National Online Training Center PubMed/IGM classes (Introduction 2-day class and the 1-day Transition class). The workbooks are available to download in three formats: PDF, WordPerfect, and PostScript. These workbooks are not copyrighted. Feel free to use any part of the workbooks -- you may customize part of the workbook for your own training program, demo, or workshop. Or you may use the workbooks as a training guide for yourself if you can't get to a class or your scheduled class is not until several months.

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Also, look for a revised and updated online Help in PubMed soon (probably next week). The online Help can also serve as an excellent training tool.

Look for that on Monday. Feel free to announce or link to these!
Thanks again.

Janet Zipser
MEDLARS Management Section