



University of Connecticut Health Center Library

update

fall 1995

volume X, number 1

INFORMATION SERVICES

Hello and Welcome from the Information Services Department at the UConn Health Center Library. We are looking forward to the challenges and responsibilities of this new academic year. The library is a central part of your education and we want to do our best to fulfill that role. The Information Services staff is led by Elizabeth Connor, and other members include Nancy Carter-Menendez, Melissa Wisner, Judy Kronick, and Marion Levine. We'd like to take this opportunity to tell you about the range of services and resources we provide to our patrons.

First and foremost we provide reference consultation. The Reference Desk is open Monday-Friday between 9 and 4pm, with the exception of Wednesday when it opens at 9:30am. You may reach the Reference Desk by calling, coming in, or via e-mail. During this time professional librarians are available to assist in locating relevant resources, answer ready reference questions, guide patrons in the construction of search strategies, help navigate the Internet and the World Wide Web, troubleshoot MEDLINE and LYMAN, and offer search tips for the databases available in Electronic Reference and on the Network.

We will conduct professional searches for a fee. The Information Services staff has access to hundreds of databases not available in the Electronic Reference area. Departmental staff are trained and experienced search analysts. Search request forms are available at the Reference Desk, or you may also phone us with the necessary search request information. We have a departmental policy of 24 hour turn-around time for search results. By choosing this option our goal is to provide patrons with professional, expedient and relevant results.

Our staff provides instruction on a number of different databases and computer systems. We offer weekly Internet and World Wide Web instruction, MEDLINE instruction and a variety of tailored instruction for different departments and disciplines. If you like, we can also provide library tours and orientation. Most of our teaching is delivered in the End User Support Center and Computer Education Center in the library. We are also available to visit remote networked sites, such as staff offices or the Green and Blue Auditoria. We will continue to increase the variety of classes available, and you are welcome to come to us with your suggestions.

The Reference collection features resources with the latest information on medical diagnosis and treatment, graduate medical education, nursing trends, healthcare reform, Connecticut libraries' holdings, community resources and more. If you have any suggestions or recommendations for the Reference collection please let us know. We are currently in the process of evaluating

(continued p. 4)

SELECTED NEW BOOKS:

by Lorna Wright

The Challenge of problem based learning.

New York : St. Martin's Press, 1991.

Book Stacks **W 18 C437 1991**

Almost a revolution : mental health law and the limits of change / Paul S. Appelbaum.

New York : Oxford University Press, 1994.

Book Stacks **W 270 A646a 1994**

Sickness and healing : an anthropological perspective / Robert A. Hahn.

New Haven : Yale University Press, 1995.

Book Stacks **WZ 40 H371s 1995**

Neural networks and fuzzy systems : a dynamical systems approach to machine intelligence / Bart Kosko.

Englewood Cliffs, NJ : Prentice Hall ; London : Prentice Hall International, 1992.

Book Stacks **WL 102 K86n 1992**

Science and the quiet art : the role of medical research in health care / D.J. Weatherall.

New York : W.W. Norton, 1995.

Book Stacks **W 61 W355s 1995**

Man and microbes: diseases and plagues in history and modern times / Arno Karlen.

New York : Putnam, 1995.

Book Stacks **WA 105 K18m 1995**

The saffron scourge : a history of yellow fever in Louisiana, 1796-1905 / Jo Ann Carrigan.

Lafayette, La. : Center for Louisiana Studies, University of Southwestern Louisiana, 1994.

Book Stacks **WC 530 C316s 1994**

Choices in healing : integrating the best of conventional and complementary approaches to cancer / Michael Lerner.

Cambridge: MIT Press, 1994.

Book Stacks **QZ 201 L617c 1994**

NEW AUDIOVISUALS:

by Nancy Carter-Menendez

Slide atlas of clinical gastroenterology/ J. J. Misiewicz.

WI 100 S633 1994 SL

Medical Spanish for every situation/ Gary L. Monroe.

PC 4121 M489 1994 AC

A Complete map of the information superhighway or "Internet"/ New Technologies.

TK 5105.5 I61i 1994 VHS

Managed care college (series):

Health care reform and health care economics: where are we going/ Stuart Altman.

W 130.1 M266a 1995 VHS

Primary care driven systems: implications for primary and specialist physicians/ Joseph Cook.

W 130.1 M266b 1995 VHS

Medical management: the physician-health plan partnership/ Stephen Upham.

W 130.1 M266c 1995 VHS

Quality of care: outcomes, critical paths, and data/ Stephen Strongwater.

W 130.1 M266d 1995 VHS

Primary care: a study on the future/ Neal Vanselow.

W 130.1 M266g 1995 VHS



Audiovisuals are available in a variety of formats, including audiocassettes, laser disks, slides and videocassettes. They may be borrowed from the library for up to two weeks, or you may view them in one of the carrels or group rooms. We welcome your requests and suggestions for future acquisitions; please contact Nancy Carter-Menendez at - 4052 or menendez@nso.uchc.edu.

Biomedical Journals: Library Holdings, Costs, Cancellations and Access

Ralph D. Arcari, Ph.D.

Assistant Vice President for Academic Resources and Services

Director, Library

The University of Connecticut School of Medicine is now preparing for an accreditation site visit from the Liaison Committee on Medical Education in 1996. The LCME is composed of representatives from the Association of American Medical Colleges and the American Medical Association. Consideration of library resources are included in this institutional review as a component of a general evaluation of faculty, financial, clinical and space resources. Consequently, I have had the opportunity recently to place library journal holdings in an historical perspective comparing the number of current subscriptions to the number of subscriptions held at the time of the last LCME visit. In the middle of the 1980s the library had 3,500 journal subscriptions; today, journal and serials subscriptions total 2,100. What factors have resulted in this 40% decrease?

Clearly, the recessionary economy of the State of Connecticut, which had been dependent for so long on U.S. Department of Defense contracts during the Cold War, has had an impact on public higher education financing in general and library budgets in particular. The Lyman Maynard Stowe Library acquisitions budget was flat for three fiscal years in the early 1990s. At the same time block grant funding for Connecticut's colleges and universities provided financial flexibility, but meant an end to a specific budget line for library materials for each academic institution.

The effect of the Connecticut economy, however, was only a contributing factor to the decrease in journal and periodical subscriptions. The average price per Index Medicus title in 1986 was \$135.58; this figure for 1994 was \$330.70, a 143% increase.

In contrast the Consumer Price Index from the U.S. Labor Department increased by 35% from 107 in 1985 to 144 in 1993. Even in a non-recessionary economy it would be difficult for any library to maintain its subscription commitment with the type of price increase experienced in medical journal subscriptions.

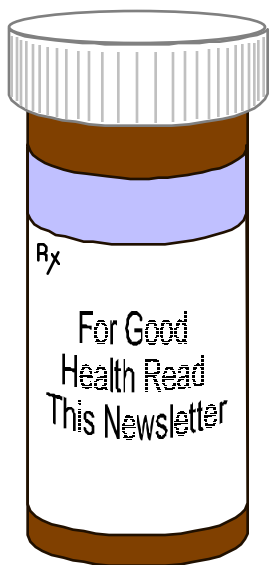
The journals that are the most expensive are in the basic sciences; clinical journals are less expensive. In 1994, the average price for journals in Index Medicus in analytical chemistry was \$1,095; in biochemistry, \$996; in anatomy, \$720. In the same year, the average price for journals in pediatrics was \$234; in internal medicine, \$207; in surgery, \$202. Pharmaceutical advertising and a larger number of individual paid subscriptions in the clinical journals helps account for this price difference.

The clinical journals, although less expensive, also experienced substantial price increases. The average subscription price for a journal in the Brandon-Hill list of recommended titles for the small hospital library was \$70 in 1985. This price was 153% more in 1994, \$181. Nevertheless, when journal cuts were made a disproportionate share were made in the basic sciences because of the higher costs.

In order to provide accessibility to articles in cancelled high cost journals, interlibrary loan requests from UCHC faculty for those articles are paid for from the library's budget. A listing of journal titles for which articles will be obtained without charge through document delivery is available from the library's interlibrary loan department. The customary fee for other interlibrary loan requests is \$8.00 per transaction. There are no interlibrary loan charges for UCHC students. It is less expensive to obtain individual articles even through commercial providers, than to subscribe to journals with average subscription costs around \$1,000 a year. The inconvenience factor is acknowledged. However, with MEDLINE on the UCHC institutional network, article abstracts are available to the UCHC community, which can serve as a minimum interim measure of access until the full article arrives.

Biomedical Journals (continued p. 3)

There seems to be little possibility that there will be any mitigation of biomedical journal price increases. Basic science journal publishing is dominated by a group of European-based publishers: Springer-Verlag, Elsevier, Pergamon, and Gordon and Breach. Elsevier and Pergamon are owned by the Reed publishing conglomerate which in 1993 had pre-tax profits of 24%. The marketing approach is to charge what the market will bear using a dual pricing scheme, so that libraries as "institutions" are charged more than individuals for the same subscription. Electronic publishing may change the format in which articles are received. Electronic journal pricing, however, is likely to remain equal or greater than print subscription costs to augment company earnings.



Information Services (continued p. 1)

and redesigning the Reference Collection and Reference Area to make them more useful and easier to access.

In Electronic Reference we offer access to MEDLINE 1966 to present, our online catalog LYMAN, PSYCINFO, Health Reference Center Gold, Science Citation Index, Current Contents, POPLINE, FREIDA, and GRATEFUL MED. Each LYMAN computer also offers access to the Internet via World Wide Web and the UCHC gopher.

IN LYMAN, HAVE YOU EVER COME ACROSS THE MESSAGES...

UCHC LIBRARY HAS CANCELLED THIS HIGH COST JOURNAL. CONSULT LIBRARY STAFF FOR ASSISTANCE IN OBTAINING 1992 - ISSUES.

Translation: Library staff cancelled the Library's subscription to this high priced journal in 1991 and are providing speedy delivery of articles from this journal title published 1992 to the present upon request. The Library budget is underwriting the cost of the first 5 articles requested by UCHC faculty and staff in these particular high-priced journals per year so you will not be charged the customary \$8.00 Interlibrary Loan charge. For further clarification, see Ralph Arcari's article on **Biomedical Journals: Library Holdings, Costs, Cancellations and Access** in this issue of the newsletter. If you have any other questions, please phone the Library's Interlibrary Loan Department at x2940.

FOR 1992-, UCHC LIBRARY WILL PROVIDE THIS JOURNAL ON DOCUMENT DELIVERY. CONSULT LIBRARY STAFF FOR ASSISTANCE.

Translation: Rather than purchase (catalog, shelve, and bind) this journal for just a few known users, the Library staff will quickly get copies of needed articles for you from another library. The Library budget is underwriting the cost of the first 5 articles requested by UCHC faculty and staff in these particular journal titles per year so you will not be charged the customary \$8.00 Interlibrary Loan charge.

LIBRARY SUB-BASEMENT CLOSING FOR 2 MONTHS

Compact shelving is going to be installed in the Library's sub-basement during the months of August and September. To make this installation possible and have it proceed quickly and safely, staff move parts of the older journal collection out of the library to a nearby storage area and temporarily close the sub-basement to patrons. Circulation Desk staff will retrieve needed journals on a schedule which will be posted prominently within the library. Staff will work with users to minimize any inconvenience experienced during this time period.

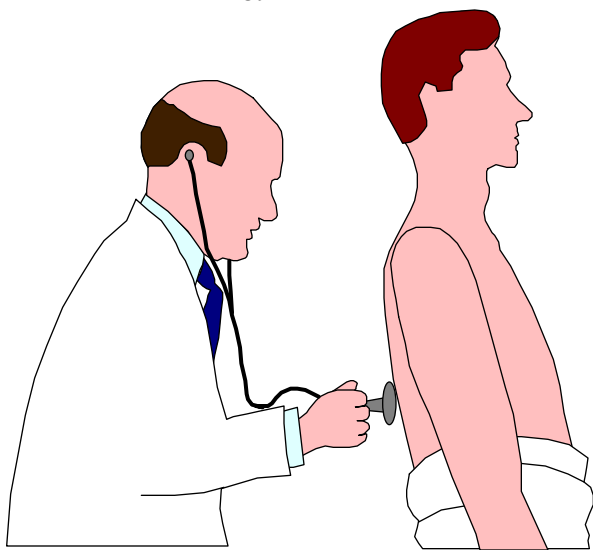
MORE THAN MEDLINE

by **Melissa A. Wisner, MLS**

Thousands of new books and articles on biomedicine are published monthly. It is a challenge for healthcare professionals to keep up with new information and techniques, and easily locate and identify relevant literature discussing those areas of patient care and research. Most people turn to MEDLINE, the premier database for biomedical literature. In order to make searching and retrieving that literature easier, the National Library of Medicine developed a software package called GRATEFUL MED. It is a user friendly software package that you install on your home or work computer.

In addition to having easy access to MEDLINE, GRATEFUL MED also provides access to over 20 other databases including:

- *AIDSLINE (AIDS information onLINE)
- *AIDSTRIALS (AIDS clinical TRIALS)
- *HEALTH (HEALTH planning & administration)
- *POPLINE (POPulation information onLINE)
- *DENTALPROJ (ongoing dental research projects)
- *PDQ (Physician Data Query)
- *CANCERLIT (CANCER LITerature)
- *TOXLINE (TOXicology information onLINE)



The purchase of GRATEFUL MED software guarantees you access to the biomedical literature so crucial to your profession, long after graduation from UConn, as you continue your career and throughout your lifetime. It is a small investment with priceless benefits for your future.

The software may be purchased for a one-time cost of \$29.95. That price includes the discs, the

GRATEFUL MED/NLM newsletter, updates to the software and database, a complete User's Guide, \$20.00 of free search time, and technical support from the staff at NLM, and the staff of NN/LM NE here at UCHC. The software is easily installed on your computer. There are versions available for IBMs and Macs. All you need is a minimum of 512K RAM, 1.9-2.4MB of free hard disk space, and a modem. The average cost of a search on GRATEFUL MED is \$1-\$3.00.

If you would like more information about purchasing the software contact:

National Technical Information Services
U.S. Dept. of Commerce
5285 Port Royal Road
Springfield, VA 22161
1-800-423-9255

For more information or questions about searching or using the software contact:

MEDLARS Management Section
National Library of Medicine
8600 Rockville Pike
Bethesda, MD 20894
1-800-638-8480
E-mail: mms@nlm.nih.gov

To discuss the possibility of instruction for your UCHC group or class on using the software contact:

National Network of the Libraries of Medicine-New England Region-UCHC Library at:

1-800-338-7657 then press 1

Or, contact the Information Services Department of the Lyman Maynard Stowe Library to discuss the possibility for instruction, or using GRATEFUL MED in the Electronic Reference area. Our phone number is (203) 679-2942.

While you're at it check out the listserv for GRATEFUL MED users by sending a subscription message to:

listserv@vm1.nodak.edu



THE FUTURE AS WE DON'T KNOW IT: HIGH PERFORMANCE COMPUTING

by Elizabeth Connor, MLS, AHIP
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As a recent entry in our culture's vocabulary, the **information superhighway** has generated a wealth of nautical and automotive metaphors. Clever comparisons have included on-ramps, off-ramps, road maps, gas stations, navigation and surfing. The metaphors are intended to create a tangible context for improved computing, including the lesser-known high performance computing and communications (HPCC) initiatives.

Often our ability to foresee the future is grounded in the present, as improvements or extensions of the possible and the familiar. Imagining new computer applications requires more information about HPCC. Just as piloting a riverboat or driving an automobile require dexterity, skill, training and practice, so does effective exploration of information resources. If improved computing's potential is difficult to imagine or appreciate, we can compare two types of change. First order change refers to use of a new technology to improve and streamline a manual routine. Using word processing software to develop a set of mailing labels is an example of first order change.

Second order change refers to the redefinition and reconceptualization of work routines. Electronic mail exemplifies a technology that has revolutionized the workplace, in anticipated and unanticipated ways. Fifteen years ago, virtually no one envisioned the ease, immediacy and convenience of national and international electronic communications. The high performance computing and communications (HPCC) program is a federal initiative intended to accelerate the development and proliferation of high performance computers and networks, create a National Information Infrastructure (NII), and improve computing applications throughout government, business and American society.

HPCC research areas include aerospace, basic science and technology, education, energy, environment, health, library and information science, manufacturing, military systems and national security systems. HPCC features five components: HPCS, NREN, ASTA, IITA and BRHR.

HPCS (High Performance Computing Systems) partners conduct future computer system generation research, develop system design tools,

design prototypes and evaluate early systems.

National Research and Education Network's (NREN) goals include establishing gigabit networks, improving network connectivity and network capabilities, and ensuring network stability and security.

ASTA's (**Advanced Software Technology and Applications**) initiatives develop parallel algorithms and software support for HPCC's grand challenges.

IITA (**Information Infrastructure Technology Applications**) collaborators develop tools and interfaces to support HPCC's national challenges.

BRHR (**Basic Research and Human Resources**) researchers produce results in molecular dynamics, parallel numerical algorithms and virtual environments, and provide cross-disciplinary computer training opportunities.

Twelve government agencies (including the National Institutes of Health, NASA, the Environmental Protection Agency, Federal Aviation Administration and the National Science Foundation), various private industries and academic institutions work together to address identified challenges, develop applications and create testbeds. HPCC's national office coordinates program implementation, and serves as a liaison to congress, industry, educational institutions and the public.

As part of HPCC's strategic planning, several grand challenges and national challenges have been identified. Some grand challenge problems include more energy-efficient automobiles and aircraft, better weather forecasting, improved drug design and greater understanding of galaxy formation. Grand challenges have been translated into national challenge application areas including education, lifelong learning, digital libraries, health care, manufacturing processes and the environment. Early HPCC successes have included improved climate forecasting, Internet graphical interfaces such as Mosaic and NetScape, and sustained high performance system operations.

High performance computing can be broadly interpreted as computing for anyone, anywhere and at any time. Additional and improved networks, greater connectivity and expanded use of satellite, wireless and cable communications are needed to transform raw data into information into knowledge.

To view some of HPCC's successes in greater detail, URL to <http://www.hpcc.gov/> or gopher to <gopher.hpcc.gov>



EDITOR'S TOP 10 URL'S

URL's are uniform resource locators. They are addresses for specific Web documents and homepages. Enter them *exactly* as they appear into the open URL box. If you are using Netscape type the URL in the box labeled *Netsite*. If you are using Mosaic, pull down the File menu and select the *Open URL* command. Then type the desired URL in the box that appears. If there is already a URL entered in the box just use your mouse to highlight the address entirely, then start typing over it with the new URL you want.

http://www.nlm.nih.gov/extramural_research.dir/photos.html

-Visible Human Male Photos

<http://www.nih.gov>

-National Institutes of Health homepage

http://www.mednexus.com/med_illustrator/health.html

-a collection of Health Sciences Resources on the Internet

<http://charlotte.hsc.missouri.edu/>

-Generalist Physician Initiative

<http://thomas.loc.gov>

-legislative database

<http://www.cdc.gov>

-the Centers for Disease Control's homepage

http://rs.internic.net/scout_95069.html

-The Scout Report; a weekly publication offering a selection of new and newly discovered Internet resources.

<http://www.ncsa.uiuc.edu/General/Internet/WWW/HTMLPrimer.html>

-a beginner's guide to html

http://www.nlm.nih.gov/top_level.dir/nlm_images.html

-a collection of architectural images associated with the National Library of Medicine.

<http://watt.seas.virginia.edu/~acs5y/friends.html>

-Friends tv show home page.

The World Wide Web, or simply the Web, is a special part of the Internet. It has the capacity to incorporate text files and multimedia, including sound, graphics, and video. The Web is a major development in information access on the Internet. It includes just about everything you could find elsewhere on the Internet through gopher, ftp, or telnet, and the Web makes it easy for users to find their way around a large amount of data. When you turn on your computer to access the Internet you are no longer staring at a system prompt that looks like this % wondering what Unix command to type. At this stage in its life the Web is experiencing an annual growth rate of over 200,000 %.¹

¹ Tittle, Ed; James, Steve.

HTML For Dummies Foster City, California: IDG Books Worldwide;1995; p.26.

Update is published four times a year.
If you have any comments, questions, or submissions for the newsletter please refer them to Melissa A. Wisner, Editor
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Keep those cards and letters coming!

Update fall 1995

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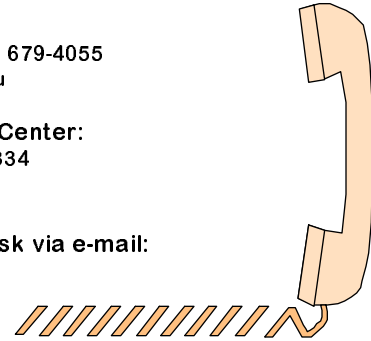
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