NNLM/NER Contract Award
by **John A. Stey**, Associate Director, NNLM/NER

The National Network of Libraries of Medicine New England Region and the UCHC Lyman Maynard Stowe Library will continue to serve as the Regional Medical Library for New England. The $4.1 million contract was recently renewed for the years 1996-2001 by the National Library of Medicine (NLM). The NN/LM NER staff and the UCHC Library staff responded to the RFP from NLM in June of 1995 by writing a comprehensive proposal and plan outlining programs and services to health professionals and health science libraries in the region. There are seven other Regional Medical Libraries in the US that are part of the National Network of Libraries of Medicine funded by NLM.

The NN/LM NER has four librarians and two support staff that provide service and assistance to a network of 370 health science libraries and conduct outreach activities to health professionals in New England. The NN/LM NER staff coordinate resource sharing in the region, promote access to NLM programs, products and services, provide outreach activities to unaffiliated health professionals and promote new technologies such as the Internet. Promoting equal access to biomedical information for all health professionals is a key component in our mission.

After leaving academia, many caregivers leave behind their access to current biomedical and allied health information. Access to MEDLINE and other NLM databases via GRATEFUL MED® software or Internet Grateful Med can provide current information that can directly affect patient outcomes. Internet access can also provide continuing education opportunities and a method of keeping in contact with colleagues.

We look forward to another five years of identifying and meeting the needs of the healthcare community in New England. For more information on the NN/LM program, contact our office by calling 1-800-338-7657 or 860/679-4500. Better yet, stop by the office located on the 3rd floor of the ASB.

ONLINE JOURNALS

by **Arta Dobbs**
Collection Management Librarian

More journals are going "ONLINE" everyday. Some journals are full text, some with abstracts or summaries of articles and some only with Tables of Contents. The library is now providing INTERNET addresses for online journals in the journals holdings statements on LYMAN. Log onto LYMAN on any of the OPAC workstations or by telnetting to lyman.uchc.edu and do a search for the journal in which you are interested. The INTERNET address will be located in the HOL 2 area, as shown in the following LYMAN screens:

```
Search Request: T=MMWR                    UCHC MAIN CATALOG
SERIAL - Record 1 of 4 Entries Found         Holdings Detail
──────────────────────────────────────────────────────────────

Title:      Morbidity and mortality weekly report : MMWR


───────────────────────── Location 1 (continued) ─────────────────
Location:      Journal Stacks
Call Number:   Shelved by title (A-Z)


 Current Issues: v.44:no.26 (1995:July 07)
 Library has:   v.25 (1976)-v.44:no.25 (1995)
 Missing:       v.43:no.30 (1994:Aug. 05)
          (Earlier issues may also be missing.)
────────────────────────────── Location 2 ───────────────────────
Location:      On Internet
Call Number:   Enter HOL 2 for INTERNET address
Status:        Check Shelf
─────────────────────────────────────────── + Page 5 of 6 ────
STArt over        VIEw record              <F8>  FORward page
HELp              LONg view                <F7>  BACk page
OTHer options      INDex                   <F6>  NEXt record

 NEXT COMMAND:
```

```
Search Request: T=MMWR                    UCHC MAIN CATALOG
SERIAL - Record 1 of 4 Entries Found         Holdings Detail
──────────────────────────────────────────────────────────────

Title:      Morbidity and mortality weekly report : MMWR


─────────────────────────── Location 2 (continued) ───────────────────
Location:      On Internet
Call Number:   Enter HOL 2 for INTERNET address


NOTE:       http://www.cdc.gov/
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Copy the INTERNET address into your notepad, and then paste it into NETSCAPE or whatever browser you have. Library serials staff will be including these addresses in LYMAN as they are found. If you know of one that the library has not yet found, send a message to : **library@nso.uchc.edu** and we will enter that INTERNET address into the journals holdings statement.

Selected New Books on the Internet
by **Lorna Wright**, Technical Services Department

Editor's note: According to an editorial in the May 1, 1996 issue of JAMA<http://www.ama-assn.org/special/hiv/library/jama96/ed6013.htm>, limited access to technology is one reason why few physicians use the Internet for work, continuing education and leisure purposes. We encourage our faculty. staff and students to explore the Internet at work and in the library,attend library-sponsored instruction or read more about valuable Internet resources.

Physicians' guide to the Internet by Lee Hancock. Philadelphia : Lippincott-Raven, 1996.
　　　W 26.5 H234p 1996

Build a Web site : the programmer's guide to creating, building, and maintaining a Web presence.
　　　Rocklin, Calif. : Prima Pub., c1995.
　　　TK 5105.5 N469b 1995

Internet healthcare resources and information management <videorecording>
　　　Farmington, CT: Produced for the National Network of Libraries of Medicine by the National Net
　　　work of Libraries of Medicine, New England Region, University of Connecticut Health Center, c1995.
　　　Audiovisual Collection　　Z 699.5 .M39 I61 1995

Silicon snake oil : second thoughts on the information highway by Clifford Stoll.
　　　New York : Doubleday, 1995.
　　　TK 5105.5 S875s 1995

TCP/IP for the Internet : the complete buyer's guide to micro-based TCP/IP software by Marshall
　　　Breeding. Westport, CT : Mecklermedia, c1995.
　　　WK 5105.5 B744t 1995

Two books you might want to borrow if you're running Windows 95:

Windows 95 for dummies by Andy Rathbone. Foster City, CA : IDG Books, c1995.
　　　QA 76.62 R234w 1995

Windows 95 quick & easy by Robert Cowart. San Francisco : Sybex, c1995.
　　　QA 76.62 C874w 1995

What is UnCover?
http://www.carl.org/uncover
telnet://database.carl.org

UnCover is a document delivery service that indexes nearly 17,000 English language periodicals. Typical users review the tables of contents for journals in a multitude of subject areas, and order articles not available at their local libraries. Although UnCover charges fees for e-mail delivery of tables of contents and for article ordering, UnCover database searching is free. Connect to either the URL or telnet address listed above, or connect to UnCover from the CARL UnCover icon on workstations in the Lyman Maynard Stowe Library.

HOME PAGE SWEET HOME PAGE

http://www3.uchc.edu/~uchclib

Have you seen the new features, resources, electronic forms and library publications on our home page? Thanks to a library-wide effort to improve the appearance, quality and content of our page, and the hard work and talents of **Allan Lewis**, we are understandably proud of the improvements accomplished so far. Visit and bookmark our Web site and let us know what you think.

^^^

^^^^^^^^^^^^June 24-27,1996^^^^^^^^^^^^^
Current Topics in Health Sciences Librarianship
http://www.welch.jhu.edu/cthsl
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I recently participated in a groundbreaking continuing education distance telecourse at Johns Hopkins University. As part of a project funded by NLM grant number 1 T15 LM07094-01, Welch Medical Library staff developed and hosted programming of interest to practicing health sciences librarians. Program tracks included market forces and management, information technology and the Internet, publishing and copyright, education and the Human Genome Project.

The price of participation was submitting an application via the World Wide Web, and creating an original electronic poster. Entitled, *Ubiquitous Web Instruction,* my poster described the successful efforts of UCHC Information Services staff to teach the Internet. Part of the electronic poster included an Internet Basics tutorial, designed to incorporate many of the same principles that guide our training program: succinct introductory material followed by interesting, illustrative examples and opportunities for hands-on practice.

To test drive this new tutorial, connect to <**http://www3.uchc.edu/~uchclib/eduoff/intrw.html**>.

--Elizabeth Connor

Listserv: Let it serve you
by Hongjie Wang

If you have an e-mail account, you can access and join discussion listservs. Think of listservs as on-line forums where people with similar interests ask questions, report, discuss, debate and argue about issues they care about by sending e-mail messages to one group address. The list management software broadcasts the single message to all members of the group.

What can a discussion listserv do for you? On medlib-l, for example, a medical librarian from Cincinnati, Ohio asked about finding national rates for dilatation and curettage. A colleague from Washington DC replied that "you should be able to get D & C data from NCHS (the National Center for Health Statistics)—most recent statistics published will be in AdvancedData."

Currently, there are about 5,000 available discussion groups, with more than 400 focusing on health science issues. It's very likely that you will find that some birds of your feather have already flocked together on a list that you can join. To hear from them, all you have to do is subscribe.

*For help finding or joining a interesting discussion list, connect to <http://www.tile.net.tile/listserv/index.html> or please contact **Hongjie Wang** at 860/679-4053 or wang@nso.uchc.edu.*

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...................Note Of Appreciation.......................

The Update editors would like to acknowledge the hard work, efficiency and expertise of **Melissa Wisner** and **Martha Trask** with the editing, printing and distribution of the Update newsletter. Beginning with this issue, all production and distribution aspects of this important function will be handled by Information Services staff. We appreciate their efforts, ideas and good example.

RUSH Charges
Interlibrary Loan Requests

As of June 1, 1996, students will be charged for RUSH (needed within 3 working days) interlibrary loans. The $5.00 RUSH charge must be prepaid by cash, check or credit card (MasterCard or Visa). If you specify **Rush**, **ASAP**, or a **Need by date** within 3 working days, you **must** attach pre-payment, otherwise your interlibrary loan request will not be processed. Please note that there is no charge for regular interlibrary loan service for students and it is impossible to borrow books on a rush basis.

The interlibrary loan department has handled an increasing load of rush requests this year that contains a surcharge, to the library, on top of the basic $10.00 charge. We are unable to continue subsidizing the complete cost of this surcharge.

Because regular processing of interlibrary loans requires 5-8 working days for receipt of photocopies, please plan accordingly.

Please use the new UCHC Student Interlibrary Loan form. These forms are available at the Circulation desk, Information desk or the Interlibrary Loan office in the library.

--Jackie Lewis

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Selected New Audiovisuals in the UCHC Library
Nancy Carter-Menendez
Coordinator of Audiovisuals

Clinical practice guidelines for viral hepatitis <videorecording>
Cleveland, OH : The Cleveland Clinic Foundation ; <Chicago, IL?> : American Medical Association, c1995.
WC 536 C641 1995 VHS

Molecular cloning of DNA <videorecording>
Shrewsbury, MA : Biotech Visions, c1994.
QH 442.2 M278d 1994 VHS

Selected cases in general and systemic pathology <videodisc> :
a preview from the American Registry of Pathology
Minneapolis, MN : Image Premastering Services, c1991.
QZ 4 S464 1991 Videodisc

Ultrasound of fetal anomalies <videodisc>
Minneapolis, MN : Image Premastering Services, c1994.
WG 209 U47f 1994 Videodisc

Audiovisuals in our library are available in a variety of media formats, including audiocassettes, laser disks, slide sets and videocassettes. Audiovisual materials may be borrowed from the library for up to two weeks, or you may view them in one of the carrels or group viewing rooms. We welcome your requests and suggestions for future acquisitions; please call **Nancy Carter-Menendez** at extension **4052** or via e-mail at **menendez@nso.uchc.edu**.

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Regular Academic Library Hours
starting 8/19/96

Monday - Thursday	7 am - 11 pm
Friday	7 am - 7 pm
Saturday	9 am - 5 pm
Sunday	2 pm - 10 pm

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Interested in learning more about the World Wide Web, Search Engines, Listservs and Discussion Groups, and/or specialty-specific Internet resources? Register for one of the hour-long classes sponsored by the Information Services department. Held in the End User Support Center (EUSC), the Computer Education Center (CEC), and other locations, our experienced, knowledgeable and enthusiastic instructors introduce basic concepts, demonstrate interesting and useful sites and resources, and offer hands-on practice time. Call extension **4051** for details.

MSDS Internet Providers: which one to trust?

by **Hongjie Wang,** MLS, MA

MSDS (Material Safety Data Sheets) go hand in hand with the Hazard Communication Standard promulgated by OSHA (Occupational Safety and Health Administration). Since this regulation became law in August 1987, also known as the "Right to Know" law, employers are required to provide information to employees about hazardous chemicals used in the work place through the MSDS, proper labels, and training programs. Thousands upon thousands of MSDS are prepared and collected by manufacturers and employers alike, and are available in several kinds of formats. Our library alone has two full shelves of notebooks bulging with such sheets.

Today MSDS abound on the Internet. A cursory Internet search, for example, generates a list of MSDS home pages in the hundreds. Of all these providers, some being generic, many no more than a link, whom do you trust? Which one should you choose when you set out to find MSDS on the Internet? This is a loaded question. You should trust no one, as none of them wants you to. "Use these MSDS at your own risk," one provider in Utah claims. "This is nowhere near a complete collection of MSDS information," confesses another. To protect themselves from any legal responsibilities or accountability for the information they provide, most of the Internet MSDS providers put a disclaimer at their service point, with good reason. For one thing, no rigid standard MSDS format exits. Even the government cannot decide. The best OSHA can do is to make nonregulatory recommendations related to MSDS standards. The recommended standards can be confusing, and although they are performance-oriented, with outlined goals, the methods for achieving these goals are not stated.

As a result, there are no hard and fast rules to follow for comparing the content of MSDS. The real question, then, boils down to this one: which Internet provider should you choose in terms of MSDS coverage and the ease of use for the database? The answer is important because the number of MSDS will determine the usefulness of a particular database, and the ease of use will help you decide if it's worth your time and efforts to use it at all. To answer this question, I decided to test several MSDS databases on the Internet and to compare the results.

First, I randomly selected ten sheets from the MSDS binders in the library. I selected two chemicals from each year from 1988 to 1992. These ten chemicals are acetic acid solution, benzyl alcohol, calcium ionophore, carmine, cedarwood oil, chloroform, ethyl alcohol, sodium azide, transferrin and urea. These sheets are produced by various manufacturers. Then, I checked each one of the selected ten sheets against the five most comprehensive Internet MSDS providers. The MSDS Internet providers include the following:

Oregon State University
> **gopher://gaia.ucs.orst.edu:70/11/ous-d+o/ehs/msds**

Stanford University
> **gopher://portfolio.standord.edu:2270/GOPHER%20SHOWINDEX%20TCHEM**

Utah University
> **gopher://atlas.chem.utah.edu/11/MSDS**

National Toxicology Program
> **http://ntp-server.niehs.nih.gov**

Vermont SIRI: Safety Information Resources on the InterNet
> **http://hazard.com**

Several MSDS providers cover thousands of MSDS, with Oregon featuring every one of the ten sheets I tested, and NTP including the fewest. The quality of MSDS on the Internet is comparable to that of the printed copies. One thing to remember is that while the randomly selected MSDS are found on the Internet, it doesn't necessarily mean that all published MSDS are online. For hundreds of thousands of published MSDS, only a relatively small number are available on the Internet. Most Internet-based MSDS providers average fewer than 500 MSDS, although some of the database managers say that they add new sheets regularly.

Interesting Internet Sites
compiled by Elizabeth Connor

Interested in learning more about Web publishing and developing hypertext documents?

Web Server Standards and Guidelines
http://inet.ed.gov/~kstubbs/wwwstds.html

Intranet/Internet Publishing Course
http://www.nim.com.au/inet_pub/

Free DoctorNet WWW Home Page for Physicians
http://www.doctornet.com

If you don't have time to attend our popular Search Engine class, look at some of these comparisons of various engines and/or powerful metasearch options:

Internet Search Engine "Cheat Sheet"
http://www.intersurf.com/~powerdan/duz/search/boolean.html

How to Search the Web - a Guide to Search Tools
http://issfw.palomar.edu/Library/TGSEARCH.HTM

Understanding and Comparing Web Search Tools
http://www.hamline.edu/library/links/comparisons.html

Webtaxi-Metasearch engine
http://www.webtaxi.com/

Mother Load Insane Search
http://www.cosmix.com/motherload/

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Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS)
(continued from page 6)

UCHC does have its own MSDS home page <**http://www3.uchc.edu/~safety/ehs/msds-1.html**> which explains how to get to its MSDS resources. This web resource offers directions to more than 70,000 sheets from three big chemical companies: Sigma, Aldrich and Fluka. These resources are accessible only to those associated with UCHC.

Apart from the Internet, MSDS information is also available from various commercial vendors, including NLM and Dialog. Let us know if you wish to have more information.

--Hongjie Wang

-------http://www3.uchc.edu/~uchclib------

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