

# NEWS LETTER

TO EUROPEAN  
HEALTH LIBRARIANS

DES BIBLIOTHECAIRES EUROPEENS  
DE LA SANTE



**European Association for Health Information and Libraries**  
**Association Européenne pour l'information et les Bibliothèques de santé**

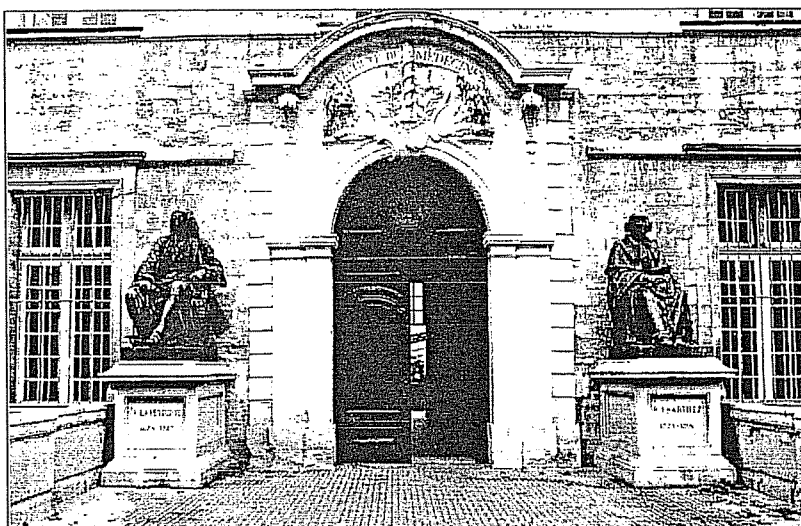
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*Entrée de la Faculté de Médecine à Montpellier, France*

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## EDITORIAL

### Human Networks

Two recent events have prompted the subject of this editorial at this time. One was the request for help and support that we had from Zagreb and the other was an article in the journal "Nature" (Lond). They both in their different ways make it painfully obvious that some libraries are labouring under difficulties, which most of us in western Europe, can hardly imagine. We all have our difficulties. The invited article from our Spanish colleagues describes some of their particular problems and it is interesting that the "human network" seems to be one of the most effective ways of changing things for the better. When we first received the fax from Zagreb asking for information on the treatment of war casualties, my mind went back to January of this year. The Gulf War was imminent. With sinking hearts we faced the appalling possibilities of war casualties - conventional, chemical and biological. Our hospital was to be one of the receiving hospitals, but we had no books on the treatment of modern war casualties. The human networks of health and medical librarians communicated using e mail and personal contacts. I remember this being a great comfort. If I missed something - someone else would probably pick it up and let me know about it. We were of course immensely lucky in having contacts with the Medical Information Section of the British Library. They produced bibliographies and made special arrangements to make requests rapidly available to the receiving hospitals. Thus by the time the war started we were in a position to support medical, nursing and other staff with the information they needed.

Not everyone is in this happy position. Disaster can strike quickly. Human networks may not be in place and local resources may be inadequate to meet the specific need.

Problems of resources are not confined to "disaster areas". There are large parts of this world where resources are pitifully and chronically inadequate. Nevertheless the human network remains effective - see Monique Cleland's article (last issue) on the African Health Information Association. So what part should EAHIL or its members play? Most importantly, I suppose, we are a human network. That then poses the question of how members help one another. Meetings, workshops and so on encourage personal contacts; the EAHIL directory gives fax and telephone numbers; the newsletter is a means of exchanging information and ideas. That is OK as far as it goes. The human network can effect many things but it cannot replace adequate resources.

The article in Nature (\*) addresses the problem of scarce resources in the poor countries of the south - physicists rather than physicians seem to have come up with some very practical ideas. An appeal was published by Physics Today urging libraries to donate their surplus (not old and unwanted) books; a professor of theoretical physics is co-ordinating the project and assessing the needs of developing countries; UNESCO is involved; some publishers are participating in the donation programme etc. Abdus Salam makes other suggestions, not all of which would I personally want to advocate, but the ideas might be built on and refined.

EAHIL itself can point to inequalities between countries and libraries. It is surely a part of our aims to support each other so that we can

## EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION FOR HEALTH INFORMATION AND LIBRARIES

## ASSOCIATION EUROPEENNE POUR L'INFORMATION ET LES BIBLIOTHEQUES DE SANTE

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Opening hours: 9:00 to 13:00



*Le logo de l'AEIBS se compose du caducée, le symbole des professions de la santé depuis deux millénaires; du livre, le symbole des différentes formes de media de l'information depuis cinq siècles; les 12 étoiles du drapeau de l'Europe adopté depuis 1949 par le Conseil de l'Europe et d'autres institutions européennes.*

*The EAHIL logo consists of the caduceum, the symbol of the health professions for two millenia; the book, the symbol for all forms of media for information for five centuries; the 12 stars of the flag of Europe adopted since 1949 by the Council of Europe and other European institutions.*

respond to our readers needs, whatever the circumstances. EAHIL's first priority must be to its membership, but we do not want to become exclusive, inward looking and oblivious to the needs of others. The Newsletter has always tried to bring you news from outside Europe, but until now we have not actively sought it. Unlike some of the other sections, it has not had its own compiler. But now that Liisa Salmi has agreed to take on this task, I hope that we will be able to bring you a greater selection of interesting items from different parts of the world.

(\*) Salam A. 1991. *Spreading the Word. Nature* ( ) 353:457-8

Jean Shaw  
Editor



## EDITORIAL

### Les Réseaux Humains

Ce sont deux événements récents qui ont orienté le sujet de cet éditorial cette fois-ci. L'un d'entre eux a été la demande d'aide et de soutien reçue de Zagreb et l'autre, un article dans le journal "Nature" (Londres). De manière différente, ces deux événements montrent qu'il est malheureusement évident que certaines bibliothèques fonctionnent sous certaines contraintes que la plupart d'entre nous, en Europe occidentale, sommes loin d'imaginer. Nous avons tous nos difficultés. L'article de la tribune libre émanant de nos collègues espagnols décrit quelques-uns de leurs problèmes particuliers, et il est intéressant de noter que le "réseau humain" semble être l'un des moyens les plus efficaces de changement vers du mieux.

Lorsque nous avons d'abord reçu la télécopie de Zagreb nous demandant de l'information sur le traitement des blessés de guerre, mon esprit revint sur les événements du début de l'année. La guerre du Golfe était imminente. D'un coeur abattu, nous avons dû faire face à l'épouvantable éventualité des pertes de guerre, dues aux armements conventionnels, chimiques et biologiques. Notre hôpital devait être l'un des hôpitaux recevant les blessés mais nous n'avions pas de livres sur le traitement des blessés dus à la guerre moderne. Les réseaux humains de santé et les bibliothécaires médicaux communiquèrent par courrier électronique et contacts personnels. Je me souviens que tout ceci était un grand réconfort. Si quelque chose m'échappait, quelqu'un d'autre s'en rendait probablement compte et me le faisait savoir. Nous avons eu, bien sûr, énormément de chance grâce aux contacts établis avec la section information médicale de la British Library. Ils ont produit des bibliographies et ont fait des arrangements particuliers permettant une disponibilité rapide des demandes de prêt-inter pour les hôpitaux destinataires. Ainsi, lorsque la guerre a commencé, nous étions en

mesure d'apporter un soutien médical, infirmier et autre avec l'information nécessaire.

Tout le monde ne bénéficie pas de cette situation favorable. Le désastre peut frapper rapidement. Les réseaux humains peuvent ne pas être en place et les ressources locales peuvent être insuffisantes pour faire face à des besoins spécifiques. Les problèmes de ressources ne sont pas limités aux "zones de désastre". Il y a des parties importantes de ce monde où les ressources manquent pitoyablement et chroniquement. Le réseau humain y reste néanmoins efficace - voir l'article de Monique Cleland dans le dernier numéro concernant l'Association Africaine pour l'Information Médicale -. Quel rôle doit alors jouer l'Association Européenne pour l'Information et les Bibliothèques de Santé (AEIBS) ou ses membres ?

Je crois que, ce qui est le plus important, c'est que nous soyons un réseau humain. Ceci pose donc le problème de savoir comment les membres de notre Association s'entraident. Rencontres, ateliers, etc.. favorisent les contacts personnels; le répertoire de l'EAHIL/AEIBS indique les numéros de télécopie et de téléphone; ce bulletin permet échanges d'informations et d'idées. Tant mieux si cela peut continuer. Le réseau humain peut affecter beaucoup de choses mais il ne peut pas remplacer des ressources insuffisantes.

Quant à l'article de "Nature"(\*), il soulève le problème de la pénurie des ressources dans les pays pauvres du Sud - des physiciens plutôt que des médecins semblent avoir eu quelques idées très pratiques sur ce sujet -. Un appel a été lancé par "Physics Today" qui invite vivement les bibliothèques à faire don de leur surplus de livres (ni les vieux livres ni les livres dont on ne veut pas); un professeur de physique théorique coordonne le projet et évalue les besoins des pays en voie de développement; l'UNESCO est impliquée dans ce projet; quelques éditeurs participent au programme de dons, etc. Abdus Salam fait d'autres suggestions que, personnellement, je ne recommanderais pas nécessairement dans leur ensemble, mais qui pourraient être reprises et réexaminées. C'est justement l'EAHIL/AEIBS qui peut être en mesure de souligner les inégalités entre pays et bibliothèques. C'est assurément l'un de nos objectifs que d'apporter un soutien mutuel à nos membres afin de répondre aux besoins de nos lecteurs, quelles que soient les circonstances. La première priorité de l'EAHIL/AEIBS est d'être pour ses adhérents mais nous ne voulons pas devenir exclusifs en nous tournant vers l'intérieur, ni oublier des besoins des autres.

Ce Bulletin a toujours essayé de vous apporter des nouvelles de l'extérieur de l'Europe mais jusqu'à présent ne les a pas recherchées activement. Contrairement aux autres rubriques de ce Bulletin, il n'y avait pas, dans ce secteur, de responsable de rubrique, mais maintenant que Liisa Salmi a accepté cette tâche, j'espère que nous serons en mesure de vous apporter une plus grande sélection d'articles intéressants, de différentes parties du monde.

Jean Shaw

Rédactrice en Chef

(\*) Salam A. 1991. *Spreading the Word. Nature* ( ) 353:457-8

## NEWS FROM OUR ASSOCIATION

### Peace on Earth !

With our good wishes to everyone as 1992 starts unfolding, it is perhaps a durable peace on all parts of the earth that we wish all of us to enjoy in the coming year.

1992 will celebrate the fifth anniversary of the foundation of EAHIL. Such an anniversary should be marked, we hope, by the welcoming of the fifth hundredth member of EAHIL. By the time you read this new edition of our Newsletter, you will have received already the request for the renewal of your EAHIL membership. We hope very much that not only your 1991 fees have been paid but that you have already taken action to renew your membership for 1992. Remember that a substantial discount will be offered on the registration fee for the Montpellier Conference, next September, for all members who have been registered for two years. Do take advantage of this bonus and renew your membership immediately if not already done.

By now, you should also have received the invitation and Call for Papers for the Montpellier Conference. If not so, do notify immediately the EAHIL secretariat to receive this announcement. The Conference planned promises to be a highly interesting event, in a delightful part of France. It will bring you up-to-date on the latest developments and will give you a chance to have a glimpse into the future of medical information.

Do not miss such an important event in your profession... and until we shall see you in Montpellier, HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Monique Cleland  
EAHIL President



### Preparations for Montpellier, 1992 Meeting held on September 26-28, 1991.

Several members of the organization committees for planning the THIRD EUROPEAN CONFERENCE OF MEDICAL LIBRARIES gathered in Montpellier to forward the preparations for the Conference. 17 members were present:

#### *Local Organizing Committee:*

J.P. Bernat, J. Ginestet, M. Loubière, M. Pezeril

#### *Programme Committee:*

V. Alberani, B. Aronson, S. Bakker, P. Dostatni, A. Jakobson, F. Noel-Lambot, N. Whitsed (replacing S. Cannell).

#### *European Organising Committee:*

M. Cleland, E. Kihlberg, U. Hausen

#### *Continuing education committee:*

L. Curtis, M.D. Meunier

#### *Executive Board:*

E. Husem

Thursday was essentially occupied with the preparation of the "Call for Papers". This will be mailed in December 1991. The question of "Call for Papers" is of course closely related to the programme itself. Among the important decisions made were: the choice of French and English as the official languages of the conference; the inclusion of a live poster session; the emphasis which should be given to general discussion in the afternoon sessions of the Conference on Thursday and Friday.

A lively discussion occupied most of the Friday morning regarding the "Comité d'honneur", speakers to be invited, sponsorship, the exhibition, continuing education courses, publication of the summary and the full text of the communications presented. The programme committee continued this discussion on Saturday morning.

Friday afternoon, after a lunch at SANOFI, the group was invited to visit the venue of the conference, the CORUM, an ultra-modern facility in the centre of Montpellier, close to the historical part of the city, the shopping district, restaurants with windows full of gastronomic promise and streets designed for leisurely strolling.

The hotels which have already been selected for the conference will be in the range of every purse from the modest to the luxury ones. Though the official programme occupied most of the time, the planning of the social programme was not forgotten. It should provide relaxing moments for all the participants as well as for accompanying persons, who would not want to miss the opportunity to visit a region as full of charm as the one around Montpellier.

Monique Cleland  
EAHIL President

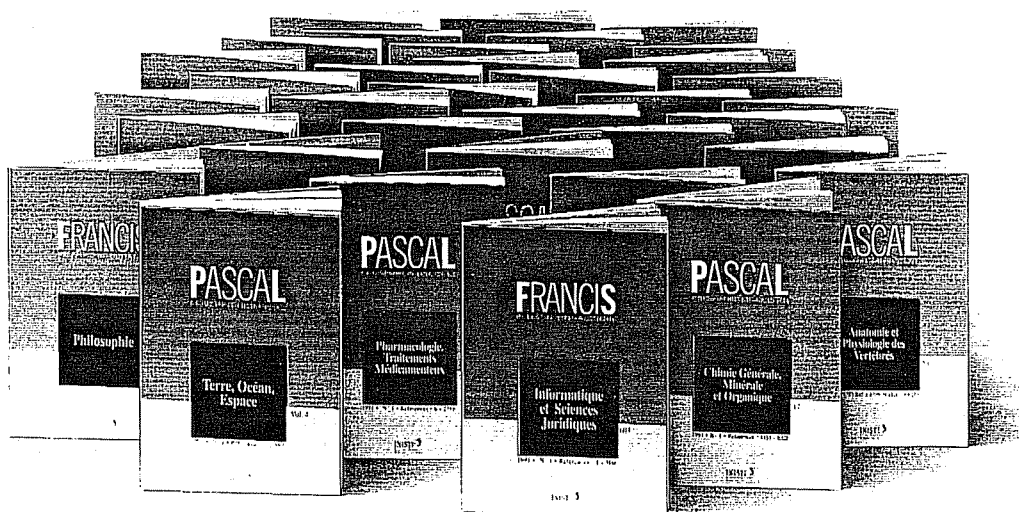


### Informal Meeting with Council of Europe's Representatives

*During the summer, Ursula Hausen, our Past President, had the opportunity of discussing EAHIL and its activities with representatives from the Council of Europe. This is a brief abstract of her report.*

One of the objectives of the visit was to explore ways in which EAHIL, through its national delegates could best initiate action in the Council of Europe. They confirmed that the first approach should be through the Council's national representatives. Ursula Hausen has a list of these

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names. Meanwhile a first contact with parliamentarians of the Council of Europe has been made addressing the issue of the provision of health and medical information to health professionals at the sub-university level through hospital libraries.

The other main issue was what we in EAHIL, through our members, can do for the Council of Europe in matters concerning health and health information. There is concern on their part that their Recommendations are virtually unknown among all levels of health workers in the Member States. It was agreed that medical libraries would be a good outlet for such information. Beatrice Wilhelm who compiles the Publications Section will be informed about new Council of Europe documents and publications. It was also felt that reviews of important Recommendations might be published in the Newsletter and elsewhere. For instance a review of Recommendation nr.R (89) 13 "On the Organisation of Multidisciplinary Care for Cancer Patients" will appear in the next Newsletter.

Our application for being granted a Non-Governmental Organisation (NGO) status is proceeding. If there is no objection EAHIL should achieve this in the Spring of 1992.



### **New EAHIL Membership and Sponsorship**

We warmly welcome a new Affiliated Member and appreciate very much its support and cooperation:

- EUROPERIODIQUES SA, Mr Philippe Schneider, B.P. 104, Parc Activités Pissaloup, F-78191 Trappes Cedex, France - Tel. 331 30 62 93 86, Fax: 331 30 62 21 43

We also extend a warm welcome to new full members :

- Ellen BJORNSTAD, Statens senter for barne, Oslo, Norway

- Simone BOUZIDI, Bibliothèque Médicale, Hôpital de Gériatrie de Genève, Genève
- Martha BUSH, University College Wales-Aberyst., UK
- CENTRALLASARETTET, Medical Library, Karlskrona, Sweden
- Mrs CHARLIER, Bibliothèque de la Faculté de Médecine, UCL, Brussels
- Miebet DE GOUW, Central Cancer Library, Netherlands Cancer Institute, Amsterdam
- Manuela COLOMBI, Medical Direction, Schering-Plough SpA, Milano
- CROIX ROUGE SUISSE, Centre de Formation, Mr. Claude Henry Schaller, Nottwil
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## **NOUVELLES DE NOTRE ASSOCIATION**

### **Paix sur la Terre !**

Avec nos vœux les meilleurs pour chacun, en ce début de nouvelle année, c'est peut-être pour une paix durable aux quatre coins de la Terre que nous formons en plus nos vœux les plus sincères !

1992 célébrera le cinquième anniversaire de la fondation de EAHIL. Une telle célébration sera marquée, nous l'espérons du moins, par des souhaits de bienvenue pour le 500ème membre de l'AEIBS/EAHIL.

Lorsque vous lirez ces lignes, vous aurez déjà reçu une demande de renouvellement de votre statut de membre de EAHIL. Nous espérons beaucoup que non seulement vous vous serez déjà acquittés de votre cotisation de membre pour 1991 mais en fait, que vous aurez déjà renouvelé votre cotisation pour 1992 également. En effet, une

réduction importante sera offerte à tous les participants ayant été membres de l'AEIBS/EAHIL pour 2 ans au moins. Prenez donc avantage de ce bonus et renouvelez vos cotisations si vous ne l'avez déjà fait.

L'invitation et l'Appel aux Communications pour Montpellier ont été distribués. Si vous ne les avez reçus, n'hésitez pas à en avertir immédiatement le secrétariat de l'AEIBS/EAHIL. Montpellier promet d'être une conférence des plus intéressantes dans un coin de France plein de charme. La Conférence de Montpellier vous donnera la possibilité de mettre à jour vos connaissances et d'entrevoir les futures développements dans le domaine de l'information médicale... alors, en attendant de tous nous retrouver à Montpellier, HEUREUSE ANNEE 1992 !

**Monique Cleland**  
Présidente de l'AEIBS/EAHIL

## Réunions préparatoires à la Conférence de Montpellier, tenues les 26-28 septembre 1991.

Plusieurs membres des Comités d'Organisation de la 3ème Conférence Européenne des Bibliothèques Médicales se sont réunis à Montpellier afin de préparer cette Conférence. Le 17 membres suivants étaient présents:

### *Comité Local d'Organisation:*

J.P. Bernat, J. Ginestet, M. Loubière, M. Pezeril

### *Comité de Programme:*

V. Alberani, B. Aronson, S. Bakker, P. Dostatni, A. Jakobson, F. Noël-Lambot, N. Whitsed (en remplacement de S. Cannell)

### *Comité Européen d'Organisation:*

M. Cleland, E. Kihlberg, U. Hausen

### *Comité de cours de formation continue:*

L. Curtis, M.D. Meunier

### *Bureau Exécutif:*

E. Husem

La préparation de l'"Appel aux Communications" qui était à distribuer en décembre 1991 a occupé pour l'essentiel toute la journée du jeudi. Cet "Appel aux Communications" est évidemment étroitement lié au programme lui-même. D'importantes décisions ont été prises, telles que : le choix du français et de l'anglais comme langues officielles de la Conférence, l'inclusion d'une session d'affiches murales ainsi que l'importance à accorder aux discussions générales lors de sessions des jeudi et vendredi après-midi de la Conférence.

Une discussion animée a occupé la plus grande partie du

vendredi matin, concernant les orateurs du Comité d'honneur, les parrainages, l'exposition, les cours d'éducation continue ainsi que la publication des actes et des textes intégraux des communications. Le Comité de Programme devait reprendre cette discussion le samedi matin.

Vendredi après-midi, après un déjeuner chez Sanofi, le groupe a été invité à visiter les lieux de la Conférence, le CORUM, une installation ultra-moderne située au centre de Montpellier, à deux pas du Centre historique, du centre commercial, des restaurants aux devantures pleines de promesses gastronomiques et des petites rues faites pour flâner.

Les hôtels qui ont déjà été sélectionnés pour la Conférence, des plus modestes aux plus prestigieux, sont à la portée de toutes les bourses. Bien que le programme de la Conférence ait occupé la plus grande partie du temps, le programme social n'en a pas été oublié pour autant. Il procurera des moments de détente à tous les participants et à toutes les personnes qui les accompagnent et qui souhaitent profiter de l'opportunité qui leur sera offerte de visiter cette région pleine de charmes que constituent Montpellier et ses environs.



## Nouvelles adhésions de l'AEIBS/EAHIL et parrainages

Nous accueillons chaleureusement un nouveau membre affilié, filiale de Swet & Zeitlinger: EUROPERIODIQUES SA, Mr Philippe Schneider, B.P. 104, Parc Activités Pissaloup, F-78191 Trappes Cedex, France -

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You should have received notices regarding your membership subscription which is now due for 1992. Reduced conference fees for our Third European Conference of Medical Libraries in Montpellier are available only to members who have been in continuous membership for more than one year. Prompt payment would be much appreciated. Thank you.

La notification de la cotisation 1992 a été envoyée à tous les membres pour renouvellement. Nous espérons que nous pourrions à nouveau compter sur votre participation en 1992. Nous souhaitons vous rappeler qu'il a été décidé d'accorder une réduction des frais d'inscription à notre Conférence Européenne de Montpellier aux participants qui sont membres depuis deux années consécutives et plus. Nous vous remercions d'avance d'effectuer votre paiement dans un bref délai.

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- Ellen BJORNSTAD, Statens senter for bame, Oslo, Norway
- Simone BOUZIDI, Bibliothèque Médicale, Hôpital de Gériatrie de Genève, Genève
- Martha BUSH, University College Wales-Aberyst., UK
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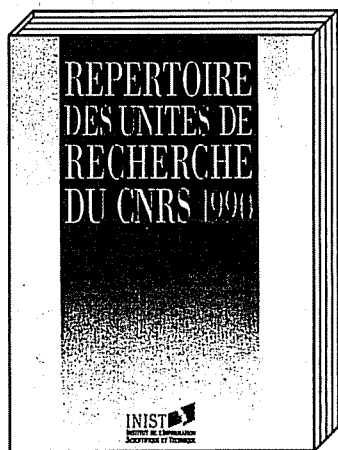
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- Per OLSSON, National Institute of Occupational Health Library, Solna, Sweden

En ce début d'année 1992, nous voudrions remercier tous nos membres qui sont restés fidèles à notre Association et ont tenu à participer d'une manière ou d'une autre à ses activités.

Nous remercions DAWSON FRANCE (B.P. 40, F-91121 Palaiseau Cedex, France, Tel. (1)69 00 01 22, Fax: (1)64 54 83 26) qui a offert de parrainer en 1992 notre Bulletin d'Information.

Nous souhaitons souligner ici que grâce aux généreux parrainages, celui d'EBSCO SUBSCRIPTION SERVICES EUROPE, qui a renouvelé son parrainage pour 1992, de SWETS & ZEITLINGER qui continue également à soutenir notre Bulletin depuis plusieurs années, de FAXON EUROPE et à ce jour de DAWSON FRANCE, la parution de notre Bulletin, principal outil d'information et de communication, reste possible. Nous les en remercions à nouveau chaleureusement.

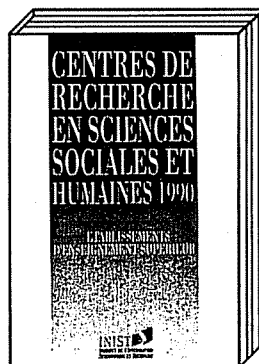
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## INVITED ARTICLE • TRIBUNE LIBRE

## Health Science Libraries in Spain

*Situation des bibliothèques médicales espagnoles*

*Les bibliothèques médicales espagnoles souffrent d'un grand éparpillement et d'un manque de coordination (ou de politique commune) entre elles. Toutefois, pour satisfaire le lecteur, il existe des réseaux humains de responsables de ces bibliothèques. Les personnels sont souvent peu ou pas qualifiés, les collections et les équipements inadéquats, ce qui implique, à quelques exceptions près, une qualité de service peu satisfaisante pour l'usager. Pas de catalogue collectif pour les ressources, pas de répertoire commun; donc, un recours constant aux services étrangers (BLDS, CNRS) malgré une collection bibliographique importante dans le pays. Sur 100 bibliothèques médicales seulement un tiers peut fournir des recherches bibliographiques sur CD-ROM. On a donc recours au réseau humain. Il n'y a pas d'associations professionnelles sur le plan national, seulement dans quelques régions (Andalousie). Toutefois, depuis 1986, trois réunions professionnelles ont pu se tenir, traitant du prêt-interbibliothèques, entre autres, et en 1992 une réunion est prévue dont le thème sera "Réseau humain". Les signataires font circuler un questionnaire dans toutes les bibliothèques d'hôpitaux pour obtenir des informations chiffrées sur leurs situations.*

In Spain there are several types of Health Science Libraries (HSL), dependent on different organisations: universities, hospitals, associations, laboratories, etc. As regards the National Health Service Medical Libraries there is no institutionalised organisational structure: only a few timid approaches in some of the autonomous regions (Andalusia, Basque Country, Catalonia) where attempts have been made to establish standards for the running of these libraries.

This lack of a "planned" health information system, including bibliographic documentation and information services, has given rise to multiple problems :

- 1) preventing those in charge of libraries from developing their work adequately,
- 2) a lack of adequate information to the user,
- 3) dispersion of bibliographic collections leading to the increased cost of information services.

HSL are islands of information in which it is only the effort of those responsible for running them that provides the user with the information required. There are no information networks, but there are human networks.

**Staffing**

The majority of those working in HSL are not qualified. As library services are not specifically included in hospital staffing structures, most staff running these libraries do not have the necessary qualifications. This means that HSL are not able to offer the user that quality of service required for the user's three functions: medical care, teaching and research. With few exceptions, neither

the collections of these libraries nor the equipment are adequate.

**Catalogues**

There is no catalogue of resources covering all the libraries. Although there is a National Collective Catalogue, this does not reflect the reality of existing resources. The lack of a reliable directory means that there are no programmes of coordination and cooperation.

But in spite of all this, there is a "Human Network" which transfers medical and scientific information through the means available.

The lack of a directory and reliable collective catalogue, means that we continually need to use foreign information retrieval services (BLDS, CNRS, etc.), an unnecessary expense which could be avoided if the tools mentioned above were available. There is in fact a large bibliographic collection in this country.

**Automation**

As regards automation, only a few HSL are beginning to contemplate this possibility. Of almost 100 HSL, only one third provide an information retrieval service (CD-ROM). The most widely used database is Medline. It is interesting to note the tremendous success of CD-ROM compared to the minor use of on-line databases. The incorporation of CD-ROM into HSL has brought about significant changes, enabling the user to be given, in a few minutes, the information required. However, as we have mentioned, this technology has been introduced in only the larger and better equipped HSL.

### The Human Network

There is no professional association at national level, although in some autonomous regions (Andalusia) groups have been formed recently.

The profession of Medical Librarian is not officially recognised. In 1986, the first Meeting for Biomedical Information and Documentation was organized; this allowed professionals to meet and make the contacts needed in order to set up unofficial coordination and organize non-institutional programmes of interlibrary cooperation, continuing education courses, etc. Since 1986, two further meetings have been held, and the 4th Meeting is planned for 1992. It is this "Human Network" that is struggling to make HSL work, in spite of everything, in Spain.

These problems are the basis of a study we are carrying out using a questionnaire sent to all hospitals libraries, aimed at obtaining reliable data on the state of these libraries in Spain.

**Lluisa Amat, Esther Bacaicoa, Martha Casado,  
Maria Asuncion Garcia, Isabel Montes,  
Maria Francisca Ribes,**  
Members of a Medical Librarian Group  
from several regions of Spain

*Correspondence should be addressed to:*

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## Montpellier 1992

### La Bibliothèque de la Faculté de Médecine de Montpellier

#### *The Library of the Faculty of Medicine in Montpellier*

*The Montpellier School of Medicine was founded in 1180. Virtually nothing remains of the earliest libraries though some medieval archives attest to their existence. The present library dates from 1767 when Dean Haguenot donated his own library (some 1200 works) to satisfy the needs of the students, who had been vigorously petitioning for such a facility. During the French Revolution (1794) this library was transferred to the new Ecole de Santé in what had been the Bishop's Palace.*

*In the early part of the 19th century, owing to the support of Professor Dumas and the diligence of the librarian, Prunelle, the collections were enriched by the acquisition of manuscripts from the 8th - 14th century (many illustrated), and printed books.*

*In 1885 a printed catalogue was completed by Gordon, the librarian. There were about 5000 volumes at this time covering not only medicine, but theology, philosophy, science, history and literature, but the library's autonomy was under threat. In 1879 it had become the "Medical Section" of the University library. After Gordon's death in 1895, the collections were dispersed to the different sections of the University Library. However in 1991 the original collection was brought together again in refurbished medieval surroundings, made available to them by Dean Solassol.*

*In 1986 the catalogue was automated using SIBIL and it is hoped that a mixed media library will be opened at the end of 1992.*

Si l'Ecole de Médecine de Montpellier s'enorgueillit de remonter à 1180, sa bibliothèque ne peut se targuer d'une telle ancienneté. Il y eut bien - les archives médiévales que nous conservons en témoignent - quelques bibliothèques mais leurs fonds ne résistèrent pas aux diverses dégradations et aux guerres de religion notamment.

C'est en 1757 qu'une pétition d'étudiants réclame énergiquement "la fondation d'une bibliothèque publique à l'usage seul de la Faculté" et c'est en 1767 que le Doyen Haguenot (dont le buste de marbre blanc orne la salle de lecture) offrit sa propre bibliothèque (1200 ouvrages encyclopédiques) assortie d'un legs devant pourvoir au traitement d'un bibliothécaire. Lorsque la Révolution Française attribuera en 1794 les superbes locaux de

l'évêché à la nouvelle Ecole de Santé, on y transférera la bibliothèque du doyen Haguenot (déjà enrichie d'autres legs). Mais les professeurs de la nouvelle Ecole insatisfaits réclamèrent vite des fonds pour développer les collections.

Les ambitions de l'Ecole étaient vastes. Le Professeur Dumas en avril 1798 ne proclamait-il pas (Discours sur les progrès futurs de la science de l'homme) qu'il fallait "enrichir les bibliothèques de tous les livres qui attestent les progrès de la médecine" et ne pas "séparer la philosophie de la médecine" qui toutes deux rassemblent "les rapports qui lient l'homme à la nature". Chaptal, ministre de l'Intérieur, confiera à J. Vigarous puis à G. Prunelle la mission d'inspecter les dépôts littéraires créés après la Révolution. Chacun sait que le bibliothécaire Prunelle eut à coeur, de 1802 à 1807, d'enrichir Montpellier d'une prestigieuse collection de manuscrits mais aussi de milliers d'ouvrages imprimés. Parmi les 839 volumes manuscrits de la bibliothèque, on retrouve une majorité de manuscrits "littéraires" et religieux. On ne trouve que 170 manuscrits "médicaux".

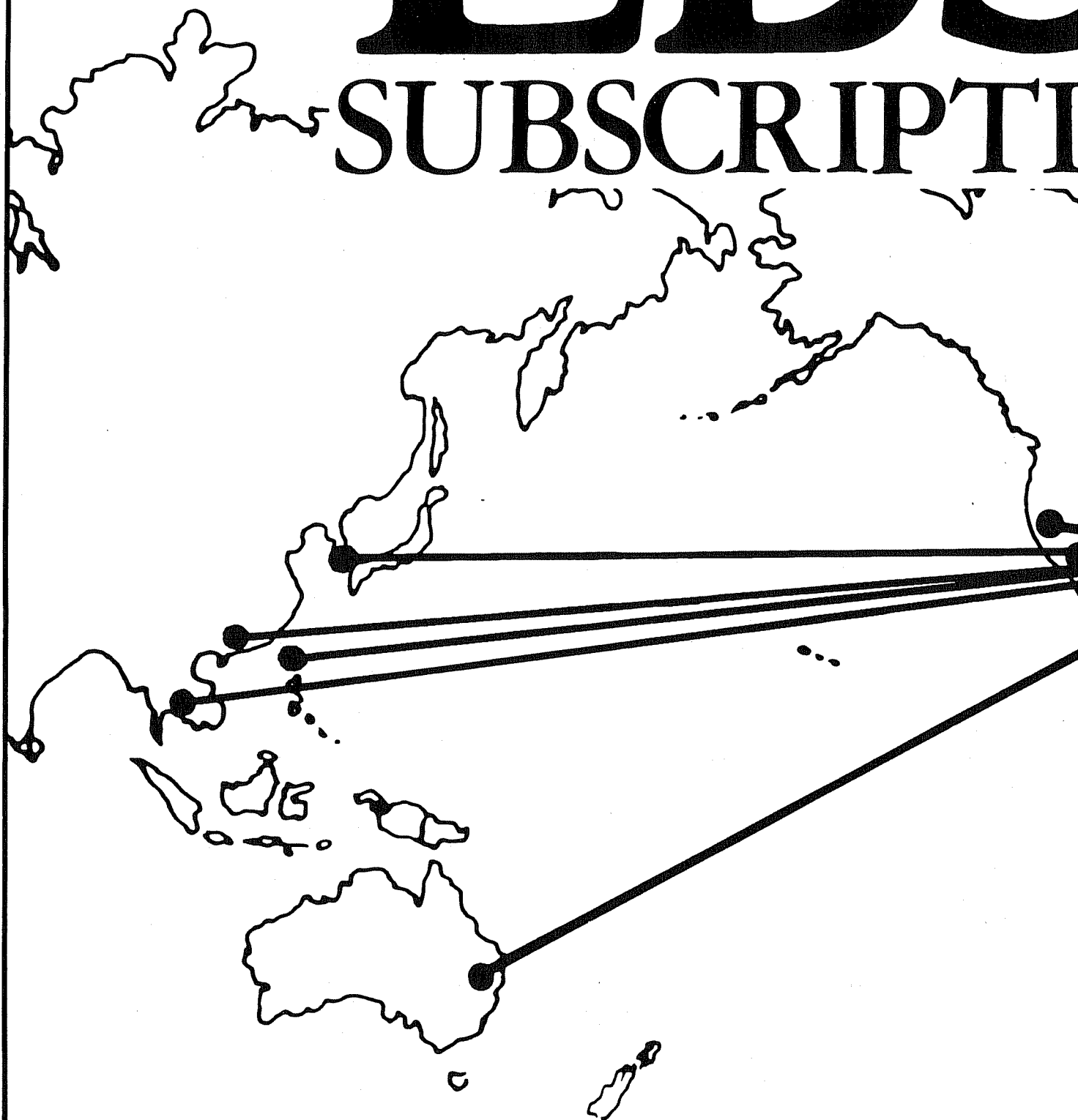
La richesse de la collection provient de la variété des collections, de leur ancienneté (un quart des manuscrits sont datés du VIII<sup>e</sup> au XII<sup>e</sup> siècles, un autre quart des XIII<sup>e</sup> et XIV<sup>e</sup> siècles) et de la beauté des illustrations. Saisies, échanges et acquisitions lui permirent d'offrir à ses étudiants "une collection de tous les ouvrages de prix que la fortune ordinaire d'un particulier ne lui permet pas d'acquérir et tous les livres manuels qui peuvent être à l'usage des étudiants". Tout au long du XIX<sup>e</sup> siècle, les dons des enseignants de l'Ecole iront enrichir les collections.

Les locaux attribués à la bibliothèque furent l'objet des soins constants de la Faculté : réfection de la grande salle de lecture sous le décanat de Lordat, ouverture régulière de nouvelles salles pour l'entrepôt des collections.

Et pourtant, tout au long du XIX<sup>e</sup> siècle, les bibliothécaires doivent déplorer l'exiguïté et le peu de commodités des magasins, l'insuffisance de l'éclairage et le manque de personnel (un bibliothécaire, son adjoint, et un garçon de bibliothèque; un deuxième garçon de bibliothèque sera recruté à partir de 1848). De leur côté, les professeurs se plaignent du peu d'heures d'ouverture de la bibliothèque et des modalités de prêt! Les registres témoignent de l'attention que portaient les enseignants à leur bibliothèque (commission spéciale, professeur élu chargé de la surveillance de la bibliothèque, etc.). Un inventaire sera à nouveau décidé et imprimé en 1885. Ce fut l'oeuvre du bibliothécaire Gordon : il recensait environ cinquante mille volumes. La bibliothèque restait encyclopédique et les ouvrages

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## Une autonomie menacée

Mais à partir de 1855 (création des bibliothèques des Académies regroupant celles des diverses facultés), l'autonomie de la bibliothèque se trouve menacée. L'énergique protestation de ses enseignants lui permit de conserver un temps ses collections et son indépendance. Si, en 1879, elle devint officiellement "section médecine" de la Bibliothèque universitaire, elle conserva ses locaux, ses fonds, et, en 1886 le règlement de la Bibliothèque universitaire rappelle que "le bibliothécaire de la section médecine jouira des droits et des prérogatives conférés au bibliothécaire de la Bibliothèque universitaire... et aura la même responsabilité". A la mort du bibliothécaire Gordon, en 1895, de profonds changements intervinrent. On nomma dès lors un bibliothécaire en chef à la Bibliothèque centrale, assisté de deux adjoints, l'un pour la section centrale, l'autre pour la médecine.

Jusqu'alors, les bibliothécaires et les adjoints, tous médecins mais aussi bibliophiles et érudits, avaient été recrutés par la Faculté; après 1895, ils le seront par l'administration centrale parmi les spécialistes en bibliothéconomie, quelle que soit par ailleurs leur formation universitaire. Les fonds de la bibliothèque de l'Ecole furent même un moment dispersés entre diverses sections de la bibliothèque universitaire. Mais l'incessante protestation des médecins, l'énergique activité du Doyen Solassol qui offrit en 1991 à la bibliothèque de nouvelles salles médiévales restaurées avec soin pour y regrouper les collections anciennes amenèrent l'actuelle directrice de la bibliothèque Maguy Pezeril à organiser le rapatriement des anciens fonds de l'Ecole de médecine, tous ornés du fameux cachet "H TEXNH MAKPH" (début du premier aphorisme d'Hippocrate).

## Des kilomètres de livres et ... (quelques ordinateurs)

Toutefois les locaux de la bibliothèque malgré des prodiges continus d'extension et de réfection s'avèrent incapables de contenir l'essentiel de la production documentaire. En 1991, malgré l'ingéniosité du personnel et la politique d'élimination en cours, les huit kilomètres de rayonnages de magasins sont saturés. Les étudiants continuent à s'asseoir dans la belle salle style empire de l'ancienne école de santé. Seule une petite salle annexe a pu être ouverte et l'on peut y consulter les derniers numéros de périodiques et travailler sur les divers CD-ROM et vidéodisques déjà installés.

Des milliers de fiches décrivent les collections jusqu'en 1986. Depuis cette date, le catalogage est automatisé : la

bibliothèque fait partie du réseau SIBIL (Système informatisé pour bibliothèques). Dans la salle de lecture toujours décorée par les deux grands tableaux édifiants commandés par Lordat, sous les regards de Prunelle (huile sur toile) et du doyen Haguenot (buste en marbre érigé en 1768), les employés de la bibliothèque enregistrent les opérations de prêt sur des terminaux d'ordinateur. Si les bibliothécaires, tout comme les professeurs, ont cessé d'enseigner la bibliographie depuis 1880, les étudiants et les chercheurs peuvent, près du bureau sous les toits où Joseph Bonaventure Laurens recevait Liszt, interroger les grandes bases de données internationales; grandeur et misère de la bibliothèque de ce que Chaptal appelait en 1819 : "le plus beau et le plus ancien monument d'instruction que possède la France".

Mais de même que les collections anciennes retrouvent leur unité et un cadre digne d'elles, de même un chantier est ouvert depuis l'été 1991 et si tout se déroule heureusement une médiathèque moderne accueillera étudiants et chercheurs à la fin de 1992.

Christiane Nicq

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## Meetings

### United Kingdom

**Purchasing Intelligence - Information for the Management of Healthcare** The information needs of the District Health Authorities - the new "purchasers" of healthcare. A study day.

### Royaume Uni

**Achat de systèmes experts - Information pour la gestion des systèmes de santé. Les autorités régionales liées à la santé ont besoin d'une information adaptée : ce sont les nouveaux "acheteurs" de services de santé. Journée d'étude.**

The separation of the responsibility for managing services and for identifying the need for different types of health care is a key principle of the recent NHS review. District Health Authorities are to become the identifiers and "purchasers" of health care. They are freed from the operational management of health facilities, (the "providers") such as hospitals, community services and so on. This should enable the District Health Authorities to concentrate on achieving optimum improvement in the health of the population they serve. It involves an assessment of the health needs of that population including a more positive emphasis on the views of the people within it. The infor-

mation/intelligence needs of these District Authorities was the subject of the IFM Healthcare study day.

Health needs assessment programmes will be concerned not only with local incidence of disease but also with the effectiveness of available services in the treatment of disease. This is to ensure that appropriate service specifications and contracts are developed for provider units. Purchasers will have to obtain a wide range of both textual and numeric data for their needs assessment, research, and contract development activities. It has been suggested that "intelligence" units be established in purchasing authorities to acquire, organise and disseminate this information. The term "intelligence" has recently been introduced into the NHS to cover all types of information as the term "information" has previously been used in the NHS to signify only numeric and statistical data.

In September, IFM Healthcare, (a subgroup of the Medical Health and Welfare Libraries Group of the Library Association), sponsored a study day at the Department of Health to inform librarians and other information professionals on the development of intelligence units in the NHS. The programme opened with a review by a senior member of the Department on the DHA Project (also known as Project 26) which was designed to assist DHA's with the development of the purchasing intelligence function. Other speakers presented their experiences as test sites for developing these intelligence units, or as DHA's involved in developing innovative health needs assessment programmes. The impact of the "intelligence" function on the organisation of DHA's and on training for NHS managers and information professionals was also reviewed by workshop presenters.

The workshop was well attended by 65 librarians, information officers and managers and the comments expressed supported the view that it was a very valuable experience for both learning about future information needs and for networking with future colleagues. All went away with an understanding that a new blend of traditional information retrieval skills, communication skills, and statistical/numeric skills will be required for those working in this area; and that certain subjects will assume a much greater importance for them e.g. clinical outcomes and effectiveness, contract and service specification development, needs assessment research, etc.

IFM Healthcare was very pleased to have provided this, the third study day in its educational programme since its inception in 1990. IFM Healthcare was formed to support librarians and other information workers in the provision of quality and cost-effective information services to health care managers. It does this through the provision of study days, a newsletter and publications. The first two study days, "Information for Effective Management" (within the NHS) and "Statistically Speaking" were also well attended. A series of bibliographies on topics such as

business planning, medical audit, resource management, the NHS Review and contracts, proved so popular that our supplies have now been exhausted. The quarterly newsletter provides articles on key national health care management resource centres, selected reference lists on current issues in the NHS, and a bulletin board for news items.

IFM Healthcare has 126 members in the United Kingdom representing librarians, information officers and managers in the NHS, universities and independent health care institutions such as the King's Fund Centre and the Nuffield Institute for Health Service Studies. New subscribers are always welcome, particularly European colleagues working in health care settings. The cost of subscribing is only £10.00 and usually includes discounted rates at our study days!

Further information can be obtained from:

**Andrew Booth,**  
Information Services Manager, King's Fund Centre,  
126 Albert Street, London NW1 7NF.



## Portugal

**APDIS, The Portuguese Association in Health Documentation and Information.**

*APDIS, Association Portugaise pour la Documentation et l'Information Médicale.*

*L'Association Portugaise pour la Documentation et l'Information Médicale organise une réunion à Lisbonne les 21 et 22 janvier 1992. Elle aura pour thème : "Information et documentation dans le monde de la santé: réalité et perspectives".*

The "Associação Portuguesa de Documentação e Informação de Saúde-APDIS" is organizing its first national Meeting which will be held in Lisbon next January 21st and 22nd with the general title: "Information and Documentation in the Health Area: Reality and Perspectives".

This Meeting aims to analyse and discuss the several functions carried out by Documentation and Information in the health area and the links among its professionals and users.

The present situation of the Portuguese Information and Documentation will be evaluated. A strategic reflexion on the perspectives for the development of this field will be made to define the best, coherent and integrated systems that can answer the challenges of the nineties.

Professionals and users will participate and representatives of other professional and documentation associations will also be present.

**Antonia Pereira da Silva**  
Librarian Hospitais da Universidade de Coimbra  
Servico de Documentação  
P-3049 Coimbra Codex, Portugal

## France

**Journée des bibliothèques médicales organisée par la société des amis de la Bibliothèque Interuniversitaire de Médecine à Paris**

*Professional Day of Medical Libraries organised by the Friends of the B.I.U.M.*

A la Bibliothèque Interuniversitaire de Médecine (12, rue de l'Ecole de Médecine, Paris 6e), une société des amis a été créée; elle comprend des médecins en activité et à la retraite, des chercheurs, des professeurs, des bibliothécaires, des sympathisants. Première manifestation qui a obtenu beaucoup de succès, le 1er juillet 1991, à l'intention des bibliothèques médicales : une journée d'information. Elle a réuni 43 personnes directement concernées par l'information médicale dans les bibliothèques. Les thèmes abordés ont été la politique documentaire de la future Bibliothèque de France, et son niveau "recherche", l'informatisation et la coopération en réseau sur le plan national et international, le point sur TELETHESES (disque CD-ROM offrant la possibilité de voir toutes les thèses françaises - dont celles de médecine), le point sur le C.C.N. (Catalogue Collectif National des publications en série). D'autres domaines ont été évoqués : coopération avec les bibliothèques non médicales mais ayant un secteur médical, coopération avec les facultés de médecine francophones, ...

A l'avenir, d'autres journées seront prévues, elles permettront des réflexions et des échanges entre responsables de bibliothèques médicales de la France entière et leurs usagers.

L'adhésion à la Société des Amis de la Bibliothèque Interuniversitaire de Médecine est possible en envoyant son nom et son adresse professionnelle à l'adresse ci-après: Société des Amis de la B.I.U.M., 12 rue de l'Ecole de Médecine, F-75270 Paris Cedex 06 - Contact: Melle Molitor. La cotisation a été fixée à 100 FF pour les membres actifs, et 500 FF minimum pour les membres bienfaiteurs.

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## Libraries & Copyrighting

**Libraries and Copyright in the European Communities: Report of the Chairman of the Working Group on Copyright.**

*Bibliothèques et droits d'auteur dans la C.E.E. : rapport du Président du Groupe de Travail sur les droits d'auteur.*

*Une réunion est prévue pendant la première semaine de mars 1992 à La Haye. Les spécialistes des droits d'auteur*

*de la C.E.E. et des Etats Membres du Conseil de l'Europe y participeront. Tout bibliothécaire spécialisé dans ce domaine voudra bien le faire savoir au signataire de l'article.*

In 1988 the EC Commission published the "Green Paper on copyright and the challenge of technology. Copyright issues requiring immediate action" - COM(88) 172 final. In this document the Commission stated its position regarding the proposed European copyright legislation for the first time. The Green Paper outlines the regulations pertaining to audio-visual home copying, distribution rights, and the legal protection of computer programs and databases.

In January 1989 the Commission issued a "Proposal for a Council directive concerning the legal protection of computer programs" (Official Journal C91, 12th April 1989, pp.4-16). The proposal included a lending right for computer programs, but it permitted public libraries to make standard programs available to in-house users (article 5).

As a supplement to the Green Paper the Commission issued "Books and reading: a cultural challenge for Europe" - COM(89) 258 final - which contains a statement indicating the Commission's intention to issue a proposal for action with regard to reprography.

In the course of the LIBER Annual Conference at Edinburgh the Executive Committee as well as the General Assembly took up the topic and installed a working group on copyright with me as its chairman. The working group soon had to deal with renewed activity from the EC Commission; the most important points are:

1. "Initiatives to the Green Paper" - COM(90) 584 final, Jan 1991. The document contains proposals which the Commission plans to issue. Of special importance are regulations concerned with the copying of audio-visual materials for private use, regulations concerning the legal status of databases and regulations with regard to reprography;
2. "Proposals for a Council directive on rental, lending and neighbouring rights" - COM(90) 586 final - SYN 319, Jan. 1991. In article 1 an exclusive and inexhaustible lending right for all legally protected works is proposed. This lending right comprises the right to make protected works available for in-house use. According to article 4 the member states may grant exemptions from this lending right in one or several categories on condition that the author receives adequate monetary compensation if protected works are lent by libraries (public lending right);
3. In May, 1991 the EC Council passed the first directive concerning copyright, the "Directive for the legal protection of computer programs" (Off. Journal L 122, pp.42 ff). This version no longer contains the special provision for libraries to make standard computer

programs available for in-house use, which was proposed earlier by the Commission. According to the EC Council the public lending clause for computer programs lies outside the scope of the directive (ibid. p.43).

The LIBER working group consisting of a British and a Danish member as well as the chairman discussed the legal framework in which libraries within the various members states operate. Due to the fact that there are important legal differences among EC member states the participants of the working group came to rather divergent conclusions regarding future activities. As a consequence the chairman proposed to the LIBER Executive Committee the convening of a conference on copyright in Spring 1992, to which legal experts from all member states should be invited. The conference aims at finding a librarians' position concerning copyright matters.

The success of the proposed conference, which will probably be scheduled for the first week in March 1992 in The Hague, depends on the participation of copyright experts from all EC and Council of Europe member states. The bases for the discussion have to be reports on the copyright regulations of the respective member states.

I would therefore urge librarians in all member states of the EC and the Council of Europe, who are experts on copyright regulations to participate in that conference and to prepare a report on the copyright regulations in their respective country, written in English or French. It is hoped that most reports will be received by mid December 1991, but I would be grateful to hear from anyone with an interest in the subject as soon as possible.

**Klaus Peters, Chairman,**  
LIBER Working Group on Copyright  
Universitäts- und Städtbibliothek  
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Fax +49 221 470 51 66



## Germany - Allemagne

### Lower Saxony Libraries join PICA

*Les bibliothèques de Basse-Saxe adoptent le système PICA (hollandais).*

In Niedersachsen (Lower Saxony) - one of the 16 federal states of Germany - the decision has now been taken for further development of the state-wide integrated library system.

Libraries will adopt the Netherlands PICA-System. With the new Bundesland Sachsen-Anhalt, bordering Lower Saxony in the East also planning to join the network, one of the largest automated library systems (networks) in Europe is developing here. It is envisaged that more than ten million machine-readable records for holdings of a

total of more than 40 million volumes will be made available.

The time schedule foresees first the replacement of the central library computer unit for the Niedersachsen Region in Goettingen, and the change-over from the present cataloguing system in Lower Saxony to that of the PICA-System. This will be followed by the set-up of OPACs, the automation of loan services and ultimately that of acquisitions. Individual libraries (presently 30 in Lower Saxony) will be grouped in ten local systems in the process. It is planned to have the measure completed in 1994. This will no doubt lead to an increase in efficiency and productivity of the research libraries in the region.

Based on this far-reaching cooperative system the services of European medical libraries are also expected to profit from this development.

**G Kuske**

Director Bibliothek Medizinische Hochschule  
Hannover Postfach 61 01 80 D-West 3000  
HANNOVER 61, Germany Tel +49 511 532 3335



## New WHO Documentation Centres in Europe

### *Nouveaux organismes documentaires de l'OMS en Europe*

- |             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|-------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Bulgaria    | Medical and Public Health Scientific Information Centre Medical Academy<br>Georgi Sofijski Street 1431 Sofia<br>Fax: 359 2 52 23 93 Tel: 359 2 52 23 42<br>For documents dated 1992 or later                                 |
| Finland     | Central Medical Library Haartmanink<br>4 SF-00290 Helsinki 29 Fax: 41 03 85<br>Tel: 43 461 Telex: 121498 Lkk sf For documents dated 1992 or later                                                                            |
| Netherlands | WHO Documentation Centre Dienst Bibliothek, Documentatie en Informatie<br>Nationale Ziekenhuisraad Oudlaan 4<br>Postbus 9696 NL-3506 GR Utrecht<br>Fax: 31 30 73 94 38 Tel: 31 30 73 99 11 For documents dated 1992 or later |

*The other centres are listed in our Newsletter n° 16. A complete updated list of centres will be produced in a later Newsletter.*



## Conservation

### Paris - Archives en danger

#### *Paris - Archives in danger*

*(Le Monde : 9/10/1991)*

Organisées par l'Association pour la recherche scientifique sur les arts graphiques (ARSAG), les "Premières Journées



## Rapid Communications of Oxford Ltd

P U B L I S H E R S

International, fully refereed research journals from Rapid Communications of Oxford Ltd include:

### Anti-Cancer Drugs

An International Journal on Anti-Cancer Agents

Dr Mels Sluysen, Editor-in-Chief

The Netherlands Cancer Institute

1992 Volume 3 (6 issues) ISSN: 0959-4973 US\$ 399/£ 222

### Blood Coagulation and Fibrinolysis

An International Journal in Haemostasis and Thrombosis

Dr John Francis, Southampton, UK; Dr Stuart Gordon,

Denver, USA, Editors

1992 Volume 3 (6 issues) ISSN: 0957-5235 US\$ 395/£ 220

### Cancer Causes and Control

An International Journal of Studies of Cancer in Human Populations

Dr Brian MacMahon, Editor, Harvard University School of Public Health, USA

1992 Volume 3 (6 issues) ISSN: 0957-5243 US\$ 399/£ 222

### Clinical and Experimental Metastasis

The Official Journal of the Metastasis Research Society

K Hellmann, UK; G Nicolson, USA; L Milas, USA;

S A Eccles, UK, Editors

1992 Volume 10 (6 issues) ISSN: 0262-0898 US\$ 357/£ 198

### Clinical Autonomic Research

An International Journal for Fast Communications of Research and Treatment Related to Autonomic Function and Dysfunction

Professor Christopher J Mathias, Editor-in-Chief

St Mary's Hospital, London UK

1992 Volume 2 (6 issues) ISSN: 0959-9851 US\$ 275/£ 155

### Economic and Financial Computing

A Journal of the European Economics and Financial Centre

Dr Homa Motamen-Scobie, Editor, European Economics

and Financial Centre, London, UK

1992 Volume 2 (4 issues) ISSN: 0962-2780 US\$ 275/£ 155

### European Journal of Cancer Prevention

Official Journal of the European Cancer Prevention

Organisation (ECP)

Dr M J Hill, Andover, UK; Dr A Giacosa, Genova, Italy,

Editors

1991/2 Volume 1 (6 issues) ISSN: 0959-8278 US\$ 299/£ 167

### Immunology and Infectious Diseases

Professor Ranjit Chandra, Editor-in-Chief, Janeway Child Health Centre, Canada

1992 Volume 2 (4 issues) ISSN: 0959-4957 US\$ 340/£ 190

### Mediators of Inflammation

Professor I L Bonta, Erasmus University Rotterdam, The

Netherlands; Professor B B Vargaftig, Institut Pasteur,

Paris, France, Editors

1992 Volume 1 (6 issues) ISSN: 0962-9351 US\$ 355/£ 198

### Melanoma Research

An International Journal for Rapid Communication of Basic and Clinical Research in Melanoma

U R Kleeberg, Germany; F J Lejeune, Belgium;

G Prota, Italy; P A Riley, UK, Editors

1992 Volume 2 (6 issues) ISSN: 0960-8931 US\$ 295/£ 165

### NeuroReport

An International Journal for the Rapid Communication of Research in Neuroscience

Professor David Ottoson, Editor-in-Chief, Karolinska

Institute, Sweden

1992 Volume 3 (12 issues) ISSN: 0959-4965 US\$ 685/£ 380

### Obesity Surgery

An International Surgical Journal for Research and

Treatment of Massive Obesity

Dr Mervyn Deitel, Editor-in-Chief, St Joseph's Health

Centre, Toronto, Canada

1992 Volume 2 (4 issues) ISSN: 0960-8923 US\$ 125/£ 70

### Quality of Life Research

An International Journal of Quality of Life Aspects of Treatment, Care and Rehabilitation

Dr Maurice Staquet, Editor-in-Chief, Institut Jules Bordet,

Brussels, Belgium

1992 Volume 1 (6 issues) ISSN: 0962-9343 US\$ 350/£ 195

### World Journal of Microbiology and Biotechnology

The Official Journal of the International Union of

Microbiological Societies and of the MIRCEN Network

Professor Colin Ratledge, Editor-in-Chief

University of Hull, UK

1992 Volume 8 (6 issues) ISSN: 0959-3993 US\$ 225/£ 125

For further details and sample copies please contact the Marketing Department,  
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# for advanced publishing of science



Internationales d'Etudes sur la sauvegarde et la conservation des photographies, dessins, imprimés et manuscrits" ont eu lieu à l'Institut du Monde Arabe (IMA), Paris, du 30 septembre au 4 octobre 1991.

Elles avaient pour thème "Pour ou contre le contrôle de l'environnement" (des bibliothèques, archives, musées, etc...). Huit éléments détériorent cet environnement : la poussière, la pollution, les insectes, les micro-organismes, la lumière visible, les infrarouges, les ultraviolets et l'humidité relative. Cette dernière est redoutable.

De plus, des idées courantes mais fausses sont ancrées chez certains : document et objets à conserver devraient "respirer"; ceci est faux; ils sont par contre sensibles à la vapeur d'eau de l'air ambiant et se dilatent, ou bien ils la rejettent et se contractent. D'où des détériorations. Il faudrait, en outre, une humidité identique constante.

Par ailleurs, sauver ou sauvegarder les collections en voulant les conserver dans des conditions optimales implique des budgets faramineux. L'aspect économique a donc également été abordé au cours de ces journées et J.M. Dureau (Archives Municipales de Lyon) a fait un brillant exposé sur ce sujet.

Les différentes interventions de ce Congrès se trouvent à la B.I.U.M. (Histoire de la Médecine), 12 rue de l'Ecole de Médecine, F-75270 Paris Cedex 06, France. *Contact: Mrs Françoise Alptuna.*

## Czechoslovakia

### National Medical Bibliography

#### *Bibliographie médicale nationale*

Since 1947 the annual *Bibliographia Medica Cechoslovaca* (BMC), published by the Institute for Medical Information in Prague, has provided comprehensive information on Czechoslovak medical literature. It records all the monographs, transactions, and journal reports in medical sciences and related fields. In 1978 the BMC computerized database was introduced allowing both online and offline retrieval. At the present time it is available as a monthly index (subject - author), on 5,25 diskettes (updated monthly), and as an online database with files back to 1983 and comprising some 90,000 records.

Between 11,000 - 12,000 new items are added each year. Records contain full descriptive information including English titles, descriptors, and in some cases also abstracts. Indexing is carried out using the MeSH classification system. Recently the computerized Czech - English version of MeSH has been completed which should in future be employed as the authoritative source for cataloging in our medical libraries. We hope that by 1993 the entire BMC database will have been made available on CD-ROM.

**Jiri Drbàlek**

Institute for Medical Information 121  
32 Prague 2, Sokolská 31 Czechoslovakia

## NEWS FROM OUTSIDE EUROPE

### **Dedication of the Washington University Medical School Library and Biomedical Communications Center**

*Inauguration de la Bibliothèque de l'Ecole de Médecine de l'Université de Washington et du Centre de Communications en Biomédecine à St-Louis (Missouri).*

This new library is one of the super-libraries in our field and is situated in St. Louis, MO, U.S.A. The director, Dr. Susan Crawford, is the contact person for European matters at the Medical Library Association in the United States.

At the dedication, I read a greeting from Monique Cleland on behalf of EAHIL and one from our own association, *Bibliothecarii Medicinæ Fennicæ*.

To mark the occasion our association presented a facsimile edition of our first medical dissertation from 1696, called "De audiendi sensu".

**Liisa Salmi**

Medical Library Kuopio University  
Central Hospital  
SF-70210 Kuopio, Finland  
Fax: +358 71 16 34 29

## PUBLICATIONS

### New Products

**MAXX**, maximum access to diagnosis and therapy, a database prepared by Little Brown & Co as a full-text database covering medicine, therapeutics and clinical areas such as cardiology, neurology and gastroenterology. Quarterly updates. *Contact: Microinfo (+44 420 86848). (From the UK Online User Group Newsletter 3(2) May-June 1991.)*

**Cox John 1991 Online and CD-ROM database Searching.** Mansell: Rutherford, N.J. 272 p. ISBN 0-7201-2093-4. \$90. Guide to the online field literature, reference aids, and key organizational sources of information about online and CD-ROM searching worldwide. *Available from: Mansell Publishing, Publishers Distribution Center, P.O. Box C831, Rutherford N.J. Tel: 201-939-6064, FAX: 201-404-5204.*

**Medical Library Association 1984 Minimum standards for health science libraries in hospitals.** *Available from: Medical Library Association, Attn: Minimum Standards, Six, N. Michigan Ave., Ste 300, Chicago, IL 60602. Prepaid member price \$6.00, prepaid nonmember price \$9.00 (check, VISA, MasterCard).*

**Did you know?** MLA (Medical Library Association) has announced the following new services: Information Network - MLA, Job Line... Information Line... Bulletin Board. Library Promotion - Demonstrate the value of your library to administrators... educators... nurses ... physicians ... students with "The Library's Contribution to Quality: The Bottom Line." Slide/script program. Also: Reduced dues for new members - *Contact MLA, 6 Michigan Ave., Ste 300, Chicago, IL. 60602.*

**Two years of the full MEDLINE database on a single CD** has been offered by CD Plus. *Contact: +44-71-433-3834, FAX: +44-71-433-3984.*

**Clamp Cynthia G L ed 1991 Resources for nursing research: an annotated bibliography.** LA: London. 388 p. ISBN 1-85604-028-3 £37.50. Resource book designed to assist in identifying literature concerned with nursing research. Three parts with over 1300 non-evaluative annotations covering sources from the US, Europe, UK and Australia from 1980 onward. *Available from: Bookpoint Ltd. 39 Milton Park Abingdon, Oxon OX14 4TD. FAX: +44-235-8329068/861038.*

**Kenny Geraldine ed 1991 A reading guide to the preservation of library collections.** LA: London. 112p. ISBN 0-85365-929-X £22.50. *Available from: Bookpoint Ltd. Same as above.*

The National Library of Medicine long interested in innovative uses of 3-D electronic imaging recently awarded a contract for the first phase of a project to create, in complete anatomical detail, three-dimensional representations of the male and female human body. The Visible Human Project will include digital representations derived from cross sectional photographic images from cryosectioning, CT and MRI. The project is viewed as a basis for a future set of related image libraries and as a test platform for developing methods and standards in the field. *Contact NLM Public Information Office for a copy of the report NLM Long Range Plan: Electronic Imaging (April 1990).*

**Pool Robert 1991** Opening up communications. *Nature* 353 (Sept 26) 293. Brief report on a recently launched communications project in Africa by SatelLife, a non-profit organization based in Cambridge MA. Via satellite the communications system provided by SatelLife will transmit medical literature including the New England Journal of Medicine to libraries in developing countries and will allow researchers and doctors to communicate with their peers around the globe.

**1991 First electronic journal announced.** *Information World Review* 63 (Nov): 2. Current Clinical Trials, a joint venture between the American Association for the Advancement of Science and OCLC Online Computer Library Center, will be launched in April 1992. New studies will become available within 24 hours of acceptance, with subscribers provided with the latest findings as often as several times a week. Hardware: IBM PC/compatible, Windows 3.0, a modem, 2 Mb RAM. Annual subscription for \$110. *Contact: +1-202-329-6440, FAX: +1-202-789-0455.*

**Profils Standard** is the name of a current awareness service provided by INIST Diffusion. *For more information and a list of topics available, contact INIST, 2 allée du Parc de Brabois, F -54514 Vandoeuvre-les-Nancy Cedex. +33-83-504664, FAX +33-83-504666.*

**XIII Magazine and XIII News Review** integrate IES News and I'M News previously published by the Directorate-General. The Magazine, published quarterly will cover the activities and programmes supported by DGXIII. The Review supplement will cover current events, key decisions, new services, conferences etc. *Contact: Timothy Howell C.E.C. DGXIII-D, Rue de la Loi, 200 B - 1049 Brussels. (Tel: +32-2-235-0394).*

**Savill A and McLachlan I 1991 Europe: the virtual hospital.** *British Journal of Healthcare Computing* 8:

10-12. The next phase of the AIM programme will spend about £70 m on European health informatic research. Several collaborative projects are described. The Community Health Information Classification and Coding (CHIC) programme; the TELEMED project, which is designed to investigate the transmission of radiological images across Europe, McAce - concerned with the measurement, characterization and control of ambulatory care in Europe and distance learning.

### New Publications from the WHO

**WHO. Regional Office for Europe. 1991** WHO in Europa 1991. Regionale Veröffentlichungen der WHO. Europäische Schriftenreihe: Nr. 41. ISBN 92-890-7304-7. SFr 12.00. Available from: WHO-Regionalbüro für Europa, Schervigsvej 8, DK-2100 Kopenhagen O. Denmark.

**Kaprio Leo A. WHO. Regional Office for Europe. 1991** Forty years of WHO in Europe : the development of a

common health policy. *WHO Regional Publications, European Series, No 40. ISBN 92-890-1303-6 SFr 24.00.* The story of growing tolerance and intellectual courage in building international health cooperation told by the WHO Regional Director Emeritus.

### Professional Literature

**Williams Bernard 1991** CD-ROM networks: good - but not for the timid. *Information World Review* 63 (Nov): 34-35. Summary about advantages and disadvantages of networking CD's. From a seminar held by UKOLUG at the Library Technology Fair organised by Hatfield Polytechnic Library.

**1991 Elsevier buys Lancet.** *Information World Review* 63 (Nov): 2.

**Dracos A and Castriotta M 1991** Use of Medline on CD-ROM among Italian Medline centres. *Health Information and Libraries.* (in print)

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

### January 30-February 1st, 1992, Paris

AGORA Santé - 1ères Rencontres Professionnelles sur l'Evolution des Métiers de la Santé. *Lieu et contact: Cité des Sciences et de l'Industrie, 30 av. Corentin Cariou, F-75019 Paris, Tel: 331 32 38 25 25, Fax: 331 42 38 23 00*

**February 10-14, 1992, Messe Hamburg, W. Germany.** ONLINE '92, 15th European Congress Fair for Technical Communications. *Information : Online GmbH, Postfach 10 08 66, D-5620 Velbert 1, F.R. Germany - Fax : +49 20 51 2 19 93.*

### February 18-19, 1991, Bielefeld, W. Germany-Invitation

Conference on CD-ROM Networking in Libraries. Registration free of charge for librarians. *Contact: Universitätsbibliothek Bielefeld, Postfach 8620, 4800 Bielefeld 1 - Fax : (0521) 106 4052*

### March 26-31, 1992, London

UK Library and Information Studies in Europe. Spring seminar for key academic staff in Library and information professional studies in all countries of the European community. LA/British-Council/BLRDD. *Contact: Gileon Holroyd, Director of Studies, c/o Education and International Div., The Library Association, 7 Ridgmount Street, London WC1E 7AE, UK*

### April 9-10, 1992, Linköping, Sweden

International Workshop "What can Hospitals do for

Health Promotion and what can Health Promotion do for Hospitals ? Converting Policy into Practice" to be held in the Linköping Center for Public Health, in collaboration with WHO, Reg. Office for Europe, and the Hospital Committee of the European Community. *Contact: Fia Svanland, Faculty of Health Sciences, S-581 83 Linköping, Sweden, Fax: +46 13 223 979 (registration before March 16).*

### June 8-12, 1992, Tallinn, Estonia

1992 IATUL Seminar (International Association of Technological University Libraries) organised in cooperation with IFLA section of Science and Technology Libraries and cosponsored by the FID. Theme: "Universal Availability of Publications in Science and Technology including those on the History and Philosophy of Science and Grey Literature (in these Fields)". *Contact: IATUL Seminar, Technology Library, Helsinki University Otaniementie 9, SF-02150 Espoo, Finland*

### July 16-19, 1992, Reading, England

First International Conference of Animal Health Information Specialists, to be held at the University of Reading, UK. Theme: "Animal Health Information: Planning for the 21st Century". *Contact: Vicki F. Croft, Veterinary Medical Pharmacy Library, 170 Wegner Hall, Washington State University, Pullman, Wa. 99164-6512, USA, Tel.: 509/335 5544 and Fax: 509/335 5158*

**August 30-September 5, 1992 - New Delhi,**  
India IFLA General Conference. Theme: "Library & Information Policy Perspectives". Contact: Prof. Krishan Kumar, President, Indian Library Association, IFLA 1992, A/40-41, Ansal Building, Mukherjee Nagar, Delhi, India

**September 1-3, 1992 - Dundee, Scotland**

The Fifth International Ottawa Conference on Assessing Clinical Competence, Dundee. Contact: Professor Ronald M. Harden, Conference Organiser, Director, Ninewells Hospital and Medical School, University of Dundee, Dundee DD1 9SY, Scotland, Tel: 0382 60111, Fax: 0382 645 748

**September 24-26, 1992 Montpellier, France**

Third European Conference of Medical Libraries - 3<sup>ème</sup> Conférence Européenne des Bibliothèques Médicales, preceded by continuing education courses - AEIBS/EAHIL - Theme: "Information Transfer: New Age, New Ways - Le transfert de l'information: temps nouveaux, méthodes nouvelles". For information, contact: Mrs Jeanet Ginestet, SANOFI Recherche, rue du Prof. J. Blayac, 34082 Montpellier, France - Tel. 33/67400133 - Fax: 33/67756321

**October 22-30, 1992, Madrid, Spain**

FID 46th Conference and Congress. International Federation for Information and Documentation. "New Worlds in Information and Documentation". Contact: FID'92 Organizing Committee, ICYT, Joaquin Costa 22, 28002 Madrid, Spain. Tel. 34/1/563 54 82.

**August 1993, Edinburgh, Scotland**  
World Conference on Medical Education, Edinburgh. Contact: Mr H.J. Walton, President, International Medical Education, University of Edinburgh, Teviot Place, Edinburgh EH8 9AG, Scotland, UK. Tel. 031 226 3125, Fax: 031 667 7938

## GENERAL INFORMATION • INFORMATIONS GÉNÉRALES

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The Newsletter is distributed free of charge to our members and is made up of contributions received from members and colleagues in various countries.

Contributions to Newsletter should be sent to :

Notre Bulletin d'Information est distribué gratuitement à nos membres et est le résultat de contributions spontanées de nos membres et collègues de différents pays.

Les articles pour le Bulletin doivent parvenir à :

Jean SHAW, Editor,

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## INSTRUCTIONS TO AUTHORS:

Invited articles : These will be commissioned by the Editorial Board, though suggestions regarding suitable subjects would be welcome. Important : *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.* News from Europe : these should be short - not more than about 400 words long. Regular sections : contributions to the Publications and Forthcoming Events sections are invited. They should be sent to the Editor of the section concerned (Publications : Beatrice Wilhem; Forthcoming Events : R. Hoet).

The Editor would be pleased to hear of any ideas for invited articles - editorials and for general comment on the Newsletter of the Association's activities. These will be followed up where possible and may be published if, as with other items, the constraints of space and balance permit.

At the moment the final copy has to reach the Editor at least two months before the publication date, though we hope to reduce production time.

The official languages of the Association are English and French. News from the Association and the editorials will generally be translated; summaries in the second language will normally be published with invited articles, but otherwise items will be given only in one language. Contributions, other than those for the Publications and Forthcoming Events sections should be sent to the Editor.

**EAHIL MEMBERS, THIS ANNOUNCEMENT IS FOR YOU !**

**NATIONAL LIBRARY OF MEDICINE  
ASSOCIATE PROGRAM INTERNATIONAL  
TRAINEESHIP - 1992/93**

*No one should underestimate the importance this NLM offer represents. This program should offer an excellent training opportunity for an individual who has been identified as a future leader in medical librarianship. This is a competitive program; one individual can be selected each year. We hope EAHIL Members will take advantage of this great opportunity.*

The National Library of Medicine Associate Program is a one-year postgraduate training experience to prepare librarians for future leadership roles in health sciences libraries. The Associates are introduced to a wide range of technologies and skills utilized in managing information at a national library and providing information services to a country or region. The Program uses a variety of teaching methods to enhance the individual's learning in the work environment.

The NLM is offering one position in the Associate Program to a librarian from outside the United States. The position is open to librarians of non-US citizenship who have an advanced degree, preferably a Master in Library Science or its equivalent, and are currently engaged to work in a medical or health sciences related library information center outside the United States. This opportunity is most beneficial for librarians working in management positions in larger libraries that are using automation and have national or regional responsibilities.

**PROGRAM FEATURES**

**Phase I (September 1992-February 1993).** As a group the Associates receive an in-depth orientation to the national Library of Medicine including its major programs and services, related technical training, selected hands-on experience, and relevant management issues. There are seminars on the developments and trends in the information field. Visits to noted libraries in the area and attendance at selected professional meetings are part of the program. The purposes of the first phase of the program is to provide broad knowledge about the programs and services at large-scale, diverse and highly technical medical library and to promote an awareness of future directions of disseminating medical information.

**Phase II (March-August 1993).** Under the guidance of staff members, each Associate will undertake 1-2 individualized projects related to the study, research or evaluation of library programs and services. The results of the projects are documented in written reports and oral presentations. The purpose of the projects phase are to create a self-directed course of study and investigation, to

meet the challenge of interpreting results for decision making in a library environment, and to develop professional skills and work experiences which can be transferred to the Associate's own library.

**REQUIREMENTS**

- Applicants must have a Master's in Library Science or equivalent in addition to an undergraduate degree;
- Applicants whose native language is not English must present evidence of having passed the TOEFL examination with a score of 600 or above;
- Applicants must enclose a written recommendation by a government agency or institution from the country to which the applicant will return, or by an association supporting information service or library development in that country, indicating how this applicant will be able to apply the information services in the country;
- Applicants are responsible for making and paying for their travel arrangements to and from Washington, DC to participate in the program. NLM will assist the applicant in locating housing but will not be responsible for housing the applicant. NLM is seeking approval for a stipend of of \$26,800 to cover living and other incidental expenses for the one year program. Applicants may submit applications contingent upon NLM's success in obtaining this approval. Applicants are responsible for making their own arrangements for accompanying members of their immediate family.

**APPLICATIONS**

Applications can be obtained by contacting :

**Alvin Barnes, Coordinator NLM Associate Program**  
National Library of Medicine 8600 Rockville Pike  
Bethesda, MD 20894 (USA) Tel. (301) 496 5780 -  
Fax: (301) 480 1957

Complete applications must be received at the National Library of Medicine by **APRIL 1, 1992**. This is a competitive program. The successful applicant will be notified by May 1, 1992.

# THIRD EUROPEAN CONFERENCE OF MEDICAL LIBRARIES

*preceded by continuing education courses*

*European Association for Health Information and Libraries*

*Montpellier, September 23-26, 1992*

## THEME OF THE CONFERENCE

**INFORMATION TRANSFER: NEW AGE - NEW WAYS**

### SUBTHEMES

- I. New Information Media**
  - a. Optical technology and medical information
  - b. The future of scientific communication
- II. Information Systems**
  - a. Telecommunications, network and the medical library
  - b. Databases & databanks: quality control, evaluation and usage
  - c. Multi-media systems
- III. Information Transfer: Implications**
  - a. Health professionals and the changing world of information
  - b. Services and information; cost and quality
  - c. Legal and ethical aspects
  - d. Education, training and marketing
- IV. Discussion Meetings**
  - Information in the Pharmaceutical Industry
  - History of Medicine
  - Oncology libraries
  - Nursing, dental and allied health sciences libraries
  - Academic & Research libraries

### CONCOMITANT EVENTS

#### Poster session

Attended poster sessions will be timetables in relation to the above themes

#### Exhibition

The Conference will include a large exhibition of new products and systems

#### Continuing Education Courses

Pre-Conference Continuing Education Courses will be held on Tuesday 22nd and Wednesday 23rd September and will cover the following topics: Medical information sources, Drug information sources, Management of CD-ROM, Software applications in the library, Downloading and formatting, Library management problems, MeSH vocabulary: applications for indexing and retrieval

#### Medlars Technical Workshop

A Medlars Technical Workshop will be organized on September 23 by.nlm and INSERM (Information Medicale Automatisée).

### GENERAL INFORMATION

**Place and date:** Montpellier, France, 22-26 September 1992 - Corum, Conference Centre (Conferences, exhibition, Medlars Workshop) - Faculty of Medicine (History of Medicine, Continuing Education Courses) - Sanofi Recherche (Workshop on Pharmaceutical Industry)

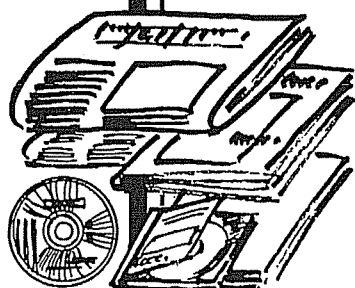
**For registration form and further information:** Secretariat 3d ECML Local Organizing Committee: Jeanet GINESTET, SANOFI RECHERCHE, 371 rue du Professeur Blayac, F-34184 Montpellier Cedex 04, France  
Tel: +33 67 40 01 33 - Fax: +33 67 75 63 21

**Call for papers and posters (31 Jan.1992):** Suzanne BAKKER, Central Medical Library, Faculty of Medicine, University of Amsterdam, AMC, Meibergdreef, 15, NL-1105 AZ Amsterdam-Zuidoost, The Netherlands - Fax: +31 20 5664990

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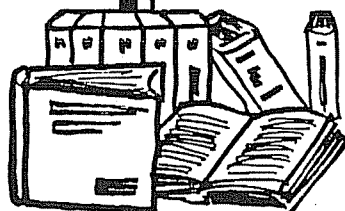
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- Gestion des ouvrages à parution irrégulière
- Obtention de numéros à l'unité
- Fourniture de numéros anciens
- Le groupage par le Service Air Express
- Minitel, 3617 code Dawson, l'accès bibliographique on-line

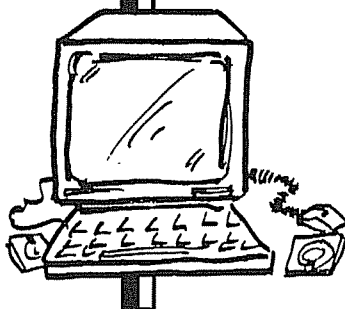
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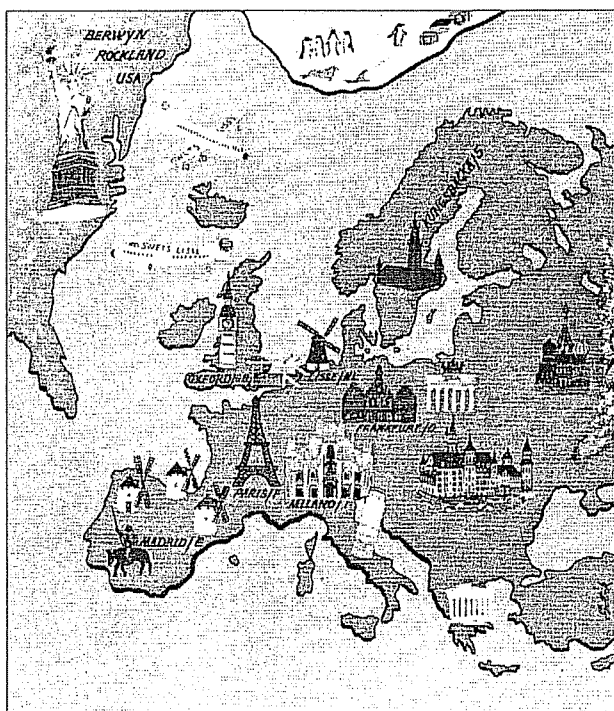
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