

HEALTH SCIENCES LIBRARY NEWSLETTER

MAY 1990

ADMINISTRATION

As the fiscal year draws to a close, much has happened this year. Just this past month some very real sacrifices were made as the RMLS staff pulled together the Regional Medical Library proposal for the National Library of Medicine. This was a remarkable feat to accomplish given the time frame and everything that was happening here at UMAB. Everyone on the staff contributed in some way; thank you so much. The IAIMS proposal was another important feat. Implementation of the Micromedex drug database was another, but the list could go on.

Just to reiterate, the Resinol project appears to be totally "dead"; the legislators specifically targeted that project for the "burial ground". I have been asked lately where we stand with it, and the answer is we don't. However, the Resinol project was a temporary expansion until such time as our planned addition was completed. We will be working with the Institutional Planning and other individuals responsible for capital projects. In the meantime, Facilities Management is working to improve the air ventilation throughout the building, so I am hopeful that staff will get some relief very soon.

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SYSTEMS & AUTOMATION

LS/2000

On May 7, some officers of the LS/2000 Users Group met with representatives from Ameritech to discuss the status and future of LS/2000. They were told that the Ameritech

was looking for a viable platform to build the next generation library system and there was a strong commitment to maintain and enhance the system.

School of Social Work

An agreement has been reached between the HSL and the Learning Resources Center of the School of Social Work for the LRC to use LS/2000. They will be set up like a branch in the system. Initial planning has just been started. Many details need to be worked out before the LRC can begin using the system.

Printers

The system printer which is located in an office in Resources Management will be moving temporarily. On May 30, it will move to the Circulation Department where the HP letter quality printer used to be. This is a temporary move. The printer should return to the original place around August 15.

Printshop

We have just received a new disk of Printshop for the Mac. It has been loaded to the Mac at the VMML.

Interviews

We are in the process of setting up the interviewing procedures and questions for selecting the best qualified candidate for a new Systems & Automation Librarian. The interviews will take place in the first week of June.

Visitors

On April 23, Carol Lelonek from the State University of New York at Buffalo paid us a visit. She was particularly interested in finding out how we made the EARS work. A bag of "buffalo chips" was left by her as a token of her appreciation.

Ellen Liu, a medical librarian from Taiwan, spent two days visiting each department to learn about our operation. She was here on April 30 and May 1.

Steve Survived!

Steve completed his first semester of courses toward an MLS at College Park. He has four more semesters to go! He is really going to enjoy a long summer break.

Classes, Meetings

On May 2 & 3, Jessie went to New York to attend the annual conference of the Integrated Online Library Systems.

On May 7 & 9, all staff in Systems attended classes on Local Area Networks in the microlab.

CD-Local Area Network

Bids have been received for the HSL CD-LAN. We are working our way through the slow process of evaluating the responses from vendors and awarding the contract. We hope that an award will be made in early June and that equipment will be received in early July.

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NOTES FROM HISTORICAL/SPECIAL COLLECTIONS:

May was an extremely eventful month for Historical Collections. On May 9, Rich hosted an open house at HSL for members of the Association of Librarians in the History of the Health Sciences, who were meeting in

Baltimore at both Med-Chi and Hopkins the next day. After participating in their meeting, Rich was then involved in the annual conference of the American Association for the History of Medicine, May 11-13, by helping to coordinate, set up, and staff what proved to be the largest book exhibit ever on display at the conference. Rich received personal recognition from the Director of the Institute of the History of Medicine, and we are proud in the name of HSL to have made substantial contributions to this significant national event.

On May 30, Rich received a visit from a Dr. Juan del Regato of Tampa, Florida. Although a retired radiation oncologist, Dr. del Regato has done much research and publication on the subject of yellow fever. Rich had recently provided him with some information on James Carroll, an 1891 graduate of our School of Medicine, who had played a central role with Walter Reed in the discovery of the mosquito which caused the disease. While visiting our School's Dept. of Radiation Oncology, Dr. del Regato provided time in his schedule to thank Rich in person for his assistance, and to share insights on his continuing research in the life of our distinguished alumnus, James Carroll.

In response to a short-staff situation down in Cataloging, Rich has also been spending a lot of time helping with the cataloging duties. It has really provided a lot of "changing hats" (not to mention changing offices!) But things are progressing, and our minor backlog is gradually diminishing.

ACQUISITIONS/SERIALS

As of Friday, April 13, the Kardex was closed. All cards were removed, and all active titles are now being checked in online. If anyone would like a refresher course in understanding what you see on the screen in LS2K when you are looking at a journal

record, please let us know. The Kardex was moved to the basement in late April. Neither UMBC or UMCP wanted to take it off our hands. We are still waiting to hear from some of the other UMS libraries. A celebration was held the day the Kardex was moved to the basement. Acq/Serials staff provided many goodies, once again displaying the cooking talents of HSL staff.

We are now slowly adding complete holdings statements to the LS2K records. The statements look like this:

HSL owns:

Vol. 8: No. 1 (1966)-Vol. 21: No. 12(1979),
Vol. 22: No. 1, Vol. 22: No. 8(1980)-Vol.
26: No. 6(1984).

This is written to the ANSI Standard for Serials Holdings Level 4, which is the most detailed level. The holdings statements will show every missing issue that we can find out about, and they will be kept up to date online. If you have questions about how to read it or what something means in the statement, please ask. There will be more & more appearing as time goes on.

The budget for library materials (books, journals & bindery) will stay at the same level in FY90/91 as it was in FY89-90, so we will be able to continue ordering new books at the same rate as we have been lately. Act/Serials will continue to be very busy.

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CATALOGING

To: *HSL Staff*

From: *Jane Murray*

I am delighted to have joined the HSL staff. My first two weeks were a blur of orientation meetings with members of various functional areas: reference and information services, the RML folks, systems, circulation, ILL, acquisitions/serials, and, of course, cataloging. Jessie has introduced me to the HSL databases, and I also benefited from a one-day course in basic

Medline searching, which was taught by Phyl and Patty. (Any peculiarities in my Medline searches are uniquely my own, for both were excellent teachers.) By the end of the second week, I'd gained a thorough overview of the library, and even found time to do some cataloging.

I'd like to thank especially the members of Tech. Services, who have been very helpful, and exceedingly patient, as they guide me through the shoals of the local systems and operations. Margaret Ward far surpassed the call of duty by donating a Saturday afternoon to orienting me to Baltimore's geography and neighborhoods to help in house-hunting decisions.

What has impressed me most is the enthusiasm and professionalism that characterizes the HSL staff - not to mention the kindness and cheerfulness offered as I bumble my way around, forgetting names, procedures, and getting lost. Thanks! It's great to be here.

Other News from Cataloging

The Catalog Dept. has been very busy lately. The good news about our acquisition budget this year has reportedly caused a "rain of books on the processing unit." Cataloging welcomed back Phyllis on May 7 from what she describes as "the Land of Oz". She came back to get quickly buried in the new books ready to label. Another big welcome goes to Jane Murray who joined the cataloging staff on May 14. Her initial thoughts on joining the staff are included below. On a sad note, Margaret Jones has been out on extended leave, and we hope to see her back as soon as possible. In the interval, Rich is helping out temporarily with the cataloging unit, so that everything will be under control. One final note, the cataloging staff really enjoyed the party ILL gave to the resource management area on May 22.

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INFORMATION SERVICES

Roll out those lazy, hazy, crazy days of summer!

As you have probably noticed, the Information Services staff is taking it easy these days sitting behind the desk, shoes off,

drinking pina coladas!

Actually, although it is a slower time of the year, the Information Services crew is using this time to do all the behind the scenes planning that makes the hectic time of the year run more smoothly!

Phyl, et. al. have been strenuously working on next year's teaching schedule - it looks jam-packed.

Patty reports that Pam and Sandy have completed their MEDLARS training, are doing folder searches, and are ready to begin BRS training.

We said goodbye to Paula Raimondo on April 28 and Don, being the trooper that he is, picked up many of Paula's evening hours. We have also instituted a rotation system for Friday nights where all of the Information Services staff has been "doing time!" Many thanks! As you all know, whenever a department is short-staffed it has an impact on everyone.

Speaking of openings, we have begun to interview for our 1 and 1/2 openings and hope have at least the full-time position filled by August 1.

Congratulations to Sandy on her election as the Treasurer of the Maryland Association of Health Sciences Librarians.

MJ has been elected Secretary/Treasurer of the Public Services Section of the Medical Library Association.

Congratulations to Janet on becoming a full-fledged, card carrying searcher!

MJ has been selected as a delegate to the Maryland Governor's Conference on Libraries and Information Services. This is a pre-conference to the White House Conference which will be held in Spring 1991.

- On the road-----

M.J., Phyl and Janet attended the recent Medical Library Association

Annual Meeting in Detroit.

Don and Pam attended EPIC training at PALINET in Philadelphia.

Don also attended the BRS Update in McClean.

Diane and Janet attended the Maryland Library Association meeting in Hunt Valley.

Scenic Ypsilanti, Michigan was graced with the presence of Phyl at the annual LOEX conference.

Sandy will be travelling to Pittsburgh for the Special Library Association Annual Meeting later this month.

Pam and Sandy completed MEDLARS training at NLM.

AND FINALLY! Micromedex, the clinical drug and trauma database, is now fully operational! Kudos to Diane, Don and the recently departed Paula for sticking with the project.

Next newsletter - vacation reports.

See you at the pool!

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ILL

Welcome back Phyllis Colleton. Our hats are off to a very "spunky" lady. We wish you good health and much happiness in the future.

In May, Shirley attended a workshop on The Basics of Searching Medline. She returned after her all day class, over-whelmed and deeply impressed. The workshop was conducted by Phyl Lansing and Patty Hinegardner.

The Interlibrary Loan Borrowing staff has worked very hard to improve the level of service to our patrons. The results of our collective effort - a 95% "fill rate". Many thanks to Priscilla and Emily for their thoroughness; to Phyllis for her attention to detail when processing requests and to Rudy for patiently answering our many questions. A special thank you to Don Frese, who finds time in his busy schedule to solve our most difficult problems. We could not have done it without you, Don.

On May 22nd., the Interlibrary Loan staff said "thank you" to their neighbors for allowing them to share in their memorable occasions for the last 1 1/2 years. The Acquisitions, Cataloging and Serials staff was invited to a Continental Breakfast hosted by ILL. Thank you all for sharing your "goodies", your expertise and your space with us. You guys are great neighbors!!!

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CIRCULATION

The big news from Circulation is the implementation of the credit card, which everyone is expecting with great enthusiasm! We have had a demonstration in the use of the machine which appears simple enough, and Circulation will begin accepting the cards on June 11. Credit cards will be accepted for all transactions, including fines, online searches, copycards, etc.

Circulation also has an "Adopt a Journal" project which was Barbara's brainstorm. Everyone has a troublesome journal to take care of, to keep in check through the year, to make sure it behaves, to nurture, etc. We are inviting the library staff to do the same.

Congratulations are in order for Virginia, who will complete her computer course and will graduate June 14.

Also, the contagious disease has taken hold

of Noreen - she follows Pam, Leslie, and Roz in the paths of motherhood (for the second time in her case).

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STAFF ASSOCIATION

It is again time to tell you of all the good things that have been and are happening with the Staff Association and its members! First, the old news - we welcome one of our members back to work - Phyl Colleton, who made it back to be on time for the Brown Bag/StaffAsso luncheon in the beginning of May, which by the way, was again a great success! Everyone enjoyed the tremendous selection of entrees and desserts, not to mention salads, breads and drinks.

Patty and Angie Sawdy were elected to the positions of Vice-President and Nominating Committee Chairperson, respectively. Congratulations to both!

Our Membership Drive has been under way, and so far the following have joined for the 1990-91 year: Rich, Phyl, Emily, Diane, Gary, Loie, Patty, Phyl Lansing, Sandy Levy, Theresa, Faith, Lynette, Pam, Gloria, Jean, M.J., Shirley, MaryAnn, Sandy Williams, Jessie, Dan, Michele, Priscilla and Steve Ciuchta. We would like to thank everyone for his/her continued support of the association, and are awaiting everyone else to join us and take advantage of the events to come.

We regret the upcoming departure of Lisa and Angie, who have been very generous of their time and talents as members of the association. We wish them both good luck in their new ventures.

Congratulations to Emily, whose husband received his doctorate (in education) from the Johns Hopkins University.

Our annual meeting will be held Thursday June 7, at which time all members are encouraged to attend, and new members

invited to come. Present members will have the opportunity to submit their nominations and vote for the position of Nominating Committee Chairperson, which will have to be re-elected.

The HSL Staff Association members are looking forward to the next big event, that of the Family Picnic to take place Sunday, July 15 at Fort Smallwood Park. Good times should be had by all! There will be swimming, fishing, crabbing, camping, sports and games, etc, etc. etc. Come join us (for \$12.00 membership fee plus \$3.00 entrance fee to the park)!!!

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RMLS

On Friday, June 1 RMLS staff delivered the contract proposal to serve as the Regional Medical Library from 1991-1996 to the National Library of Medicine. The HSL staff probably was able to hear our collective sigh of relief! The completion of the proposal marked the culmination of several months of hard work by many HSL staff members as well as the RMLS staff. The RMLS will continue to report progress of the negotiations as they occur until the contract award is granted.

Lisa Boyd has announced that effective July 27 she will leave the RMLS to return to school. Lisa will be working on her Ph.D. in African American history at the University of Maryland, College Park.

Angie Sawdy will also be leaving the RMLS, effective June 22. On May 29, Angie's husband got word that a transfer request would be honored and that he will have to start work in Miami on July 2! Angie and Rex hope to make their home on Key Largo.

Lisa, Jean Shipman and Faith Meakin attended the MLA annual meeting in Detroit, Michigan from May 18-24. Though they carried a laptop computer with them to continue work

on the RML contract proposal they report having had a good time. Lisa presented a poster session to describe RMLS exhibiting efforts. All assisted at the NLM exhibit booth, RML section. Lisa took a course in desktop publishing. Jean attended a course titled "Research Techniques" and Faith a course titled "Resume Power." The RMLS has purchased the entire package of MLA meeting cassette tapes if anyone is interested in borrowing them.