A MESSAGE FROM THE HSLI PRESIDENT

After attending a very successful Fall 1989 meeting at Rosary College, I can only think of the progress that has been made in a very short time in health information accessibility. I compliment Logan Ludwig, John Kline, and all the members of the planning committee for this fine meeting.

Progress—how to define? How to judge? I started in the health environment about ten years ago in a small hospital library in Iowa. I had never heard of Index Medicus CINAHL, or Hospital Literature Index. I will never forget my first request about a "neonate." I first thought it had something to do about neon—wrong! I finally asked a nurse, who told me, "Oh, Michael, that has to do with a newborn baby." I thought, "this will certainly be an interesting job, and me not knowing anything." Of course, I soon learned how to use the basic tools and how to use a medical dictionary. Hundreds of manual searches were performed.

I also needed to find other libraries and librarians in the health field. Where are they? I was able to contact the Quad Cities Area Biomedical Consortium. I was able to join this great and active group. I learned about the famous "yellow book."

I heard much talk about Medline. What is it? I struggled to get a computer; it only took 3 years! Soon I was off for basic training. Will I remember all those things to do? TW, MH, A(SB), and, or, not, etc. Help. Soon I was able to do this without much difficulty and still learning.

I moved to Galesburg Cottage Hospital and St. Mary Medical Center in 1986. I became instantly active as a member of the Heart of Illinois Consortium. I now had a FAX machine. Soon access to SILO and Decline.

Now, I have seen the development of CD-ROM. I remember saying I will never be able to do interlibrary loans via a computer. Yes, progress—perhaps slow compared to larger places—but progress. From each HSLI meeting I have gained new ideas and information, new awareness, and new and renewed members of the field. I know we will see more progress at the HSLI Spring Meeting, March 29-30, 1990 at UICOMP in Peoria.

Sincerely,
Michael Wold
President
The HSLI NEWSLETTER is published by the Health Science Librarians of Illinois. It is published four times a year and is distributed free of charge to members.

MICHAEL WOLD, President
KAREN KALUZSA, Editor
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Learning Resources Center
345 E. Superior Street
Chicago, IL 60611

(312) 908-2859

Advertising rates are available from the Editor on request. Information for the NEWSLETTER should be submitted to the Editor.

DEADLINES FOR FUTURE ISSUES:

March 2, 1990
June 1, 1990
August 31, 1990
November 30, 1990

UPDATE: MLA's Response to the Lindberg Letter

On page 12 of this NEWSLETTER, Dalia Kleimanmuntz discusses NLM Director Lindberg's letter, and the letter itself appears on page 13.

On 11/30/89, Dr. Lindberg telephoned Jacque Doyle, Chair of MLA's Hospital Libraries Section, to extend his apologies to her as a representative of the nation's hospital librarians. He is sending her a formal letter of apology.

Further, this issue is on the agenda of the December MLA Board meeting.

Finally, the MLA Ad Hoc Committee on the Position of Hospital Libraries is planning the best response to this issue. A grassroots letter-writing campaign has already started. If you write (or if you have already written) to Dr. Lindberg, please send a copy of your letter to:

Phyllis Gillikin
Chair, MLA Ad Hoc Committee on the Position of Hospital Libraries
NW AHEC Library, Hickory
Catawba Memorial Hospital
Hickory, NC 28602-9643

If you would like to see copies of letters other have already written, contact Karen Kaluzsa at 312-908-2859.

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1990

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FALL MEETING WRAP-UP

The HSLI Fall 1989 meeting at Rosary College was a great success. Kudos go to Logan Ludwig, John Kline, and the rest of the program planning committee (Pat Grundke, Maxine Kinnear, Gerald Perry, and Mary Van Dyke.) Thursday's concurrent sessions on Decline, searching Medline, BRS Update, and CD-ROM were well-received and CE credits were given.

Friday morning included presentations on Information Management Systems, followed by a question-and-answer period. Following lunch was the HSLI Business meeting. The newly-elected officers are: Phyllis Nathan, President-Elect; Rhona Kelly, Secretary; Sandra Worley, Patricia Pinkowski, Gerald Dujsik, and Royden Jones, State Council representatives. The revision of the bylaws (i.e. Article IV, Section 6: Vacancies) was approved.

The membership applauded Dalia Kleinmuntz for her excellent leadership as President of HSLI. All committees and chairpersons were recognized for doing a great job.

Again, many thanks to Rosary College and to everyone who participated in the HSLI Fall Meeting. Remember to keep your membership current.

Submitted by:
Michael Wold

CALL FOR BACKISSUES OF NEWSLETTER!!!

The 1983 arrangement to deposit the HSLI Archives with the University of Illinois at Urbana/Champaign is still very much in effect. A contents list was recently received, and attempt will be made to fill in gaps and establish a more reliable mechanism for future deposits. This is the first attempt to fill in gaps in the NEWSLETTER holdings.

the following back issues are needed, both for the Archives and the "President's working files":

V.2 #2, 1982
V.3 #1,4, 1983
V.4 #1, 1984

V.4 #4 1984 might not exist. However, if it was published, then two copies are needed!

Original copies are preferred, so if you want to retain issues in your private files, please make a copy and forward the original to:

Dalia S. Kleinmuntz
Webster Library
Evanston Hospital
2650 Ridge Ave.
Evanston, IL 60201
(708) 570-2665
HSLI's Spring 1990 meeting will be held March 29-30 at the University of Illinois at Peoria. The theme is "Can Your Library Handle Success?" and keynote speaker Frieda Weise will address the question of could we efficiently function should more than a small percentage of our patrons demand services?

Other tentatively scheduled speakers are Dr. Barbara Bush discussing the successful library from the clinical and medical education viewpoint, and Cheryl Riddell on handling stress when adequate resources are not forthcoming.

Tentatively planned CE courses are Statistics for Libraries taught by Ruth Fenske, User Surveys taught by Prudence Dalrymple, and a Biosis Training workshop.

Reserve March 29-30 on your calendar and watch for the registration packet!
HEALTH SCIENCE LIBRARIANS OF ILLINOIS

ELECTED OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

1990

PRESIDENT: Michael Wold
Health Science Library
Galesburg Cottage Hospital
695 N. Kellogg Street
Galesburg, IL 61401
309-345-4237 FAX: 309-343-8360

PRESIDENT-ELECT: Phyllis Nathan
Health Science Library
Rockford Memorial Hospital
2400 N. Rockton Ave.
Rockford, IL 61103
815-968-6861 FAX: 815-968-7007

SECRETARY: Rhona Kelly
School of Medicine Library
Southern Illinois University
P.O. Box 19231
Springfield, IL 62794-9231
217-782-2658 FAX: 217-782-0988

TREASURER: Gail Waldoch Lahti
Medical Library
Palos Community Hospital
80th Ave. at McCarthy Road
Palos Hts., IL 60403
708-361-4500 ext. 5096

PAST PRESIDENT: Dalia Kleinmuntz
Webster Library
Evanston Hospital
2650 Ridge Ave.
Evanston, IL 60201
708-570-2665 FAX: 708-570-2926

ILLINOIS STATE COUNCIL CHAIR: Gerald Dujsik
Carl F. Shepard Memorial Library
Illinois College of Optometry
3241 S. Michigan Ave.
Chicago, IL 60616
312-225-1700 ext. 691 FAX: 312-225-1724

ARCHIVIST/HISTORIAN: Open
BYLAWS

A complete, revised, current copy of the HSLI Bylaws will be included as an insert in the next (i.e., March 1990) issue of the NEWSLETTER. The 10/27/89 version had some typos which have been corrected.

Watch for your copy -- or, if you can't wait (and who could blame you?) -- call either Priscilla Swatos (309-792-9363) or Karen Kaluzsa (312-908-2859), for a preview copy.
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TREASURER'S REPORT
October 1, 1988 - September 30, 1989

INCOME

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Current balance in savings         | $771.82  |
Current balance in checking        | 4,782.49 |
TOTAL                               | $5,554.31|
ILLINOIS STATE COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

The Council would like to congratulate and welcome two new members who take office in January, 1990. Methodist Medical Center, Royden Jones representative, and American Hospital Association, Patricia Pinkowski representative were elected to represent consortia and non-aligned institutions respectively. Two institutions, Illinois College of Optometry, Gerald Dujsik representative and Chicago College of Osteopathic Medicine, Sandra Worley representative were re-elected to the Council to represent consortia and resource libraries respectively. The Council thanks Lutheran General Hospital, Marie Burns representative and Saint John's Hospital, Kitty Wrigley representative for serving on the Council in 1989.

There are 159 institutional members in HSLI. The Council is reviewing the GMRMLN database to determine if there are other institutions that should be made aware of the benefits of membership in HSLI.

Suzanne Schriar noted several interesting items from the State Library. The ILLINET directory is at the publisher and should be distributed to every ILLINET library in the state. Contact Carolyn Smith at the State Library for further information. There will be a White House Conference on Libraries in 1991 and a State Conference in April, 1990. The theme of the state conference is Literacy, Productivity, and Democracy.

SILO is the second largest serial list on OCLC thanks to Suzanne and the State Library. There are 700 Illinois libraries in SILO and 250 were added in the last year. There are three ways to update your SILO holdings. OCLC libraries are expected to maintain their records on a continuous basis. Libraries in the following Systems should contact their system headquarters on update procedures. The eight systems are Chicago, Cumberland Trail, DuPage, Illinois Valley, Lincoln Trail, River Bend, Starved Rock, and Western Illinois. The contact person for the Chicago Library System is Robbie McCosh. Her phone number is 312-738-7694. If a library does not fall into one of the above categories, then that library can send its SILO updates to Suzanne at the State Library by February 15, 1990.

The GMRMLN Regional Council met 11-17-89. The Management Office will be updating the Fax Directory and the RML Registry soon. You are asked to respond to both requests even if there are no changes in the records. NLM will provide funding for a baseline date survey to determine the unserved and underserved health professionals in the Region. Data gathering will be part of the RML Registry.

Another topic of discussion at the Regional Council was the GMRMLN Serial Database at the University of Louisville. The Council voted to use OCLC instead of the University of Louisville in 1990 to send a serial update tape to SERHOLD. Because the GMRMLN database has to be loaded into OCLC, those libraries updating through GMRMLN will be charged $200 to $250. In 1991, the costs will be $50 to $65. This decision will not affect the majority of libraries in Illinois because of the SILO database. The State Library will create a tape in May, 1990, to update SERHOLD for those libraries wishing to participate. Last year the cost was under $12.00. Watch for an order form from the State Library. The deadline will be

The Regional Council will be reviewing its own governance in 1990. NLM has limited all Regional Councils to twenty-two members. Region 3 has 30 resource libraries and 10 state councils. One proposal is to have 8 resource library representatives, 8 state council representatives, and 6 health professionals. An alternative would be two representatives from each state and 2 health professionals. The state councils would need to revise their bylaws to provide equal representation to all categories. Other proposals are expected.

Becky Lyon-Hartman from NLM highlighted the following items. By 1976, there were 1000 codes for MEMLARS. By 1984, there were 4000 codes. This doubled to 8000 codes by 1986. By September, 1989, there are 30,000 code holders for MEMLARS. Sixteen percent of the connect hours are used by health professionals. Medtutor and MacMedline are now available for purchase from NTIS. In the future Grateful Med will have a DOCLINE component for health professionals. The health professional will have to identify a primary library which has agreed to furnish documents to them. There are 1,819 libraries in DOCLINE and 1.6 million DOCLINE requests were sent in Fiscal 1989.

Gerald Dujisik, Illinois Council Chair

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NM DIRECTOR LINDBERG'S LETTER AND RELATED ISSUES

In early November, 1989, NLM undertook a major mailing to all Senior Hospital Administrators, advertising the Grateful Med search package. Hospital libraries were not included in this major mailing, nor is the Library or the Librarian even mentioned in this letter (attached). Some of us were alerted to this letter by more than one hospital departments (and not necessarily the senior officer) and responded in person (attached). MLA and the Hospital Library Section of MLA were also contacted. The only way we can hope to "reach" anyone is by voicing our disappointment at NLM’s policies. If you concur, then more letters ought to be sent to Dr. Lindberg!

An overview of our national libraries’ policies in general and their possible impact on our individual libraries can be glimpsed from an the editorial "A question of information policy", Science, Nov. 10, 1989; v.245(#4931):733. The author, President of American Association for the Advancement of Science, reminds NLM that their "purpose is to assist the advancement of medical and related science and to aid in the dissemination and exchange of scientific and other information important to the progress of medicine. These are noble aims. Let’s hope they are not forgotten".

"The elimination of the requirement for medical libraries in hospitals" appeared in The New York State Journal of Medicine, November 1989; v.89:601-2. This Commentary discusses the Health Care Financial Administration (HCFP) decision to follow the N.Y. Department of Health example and to eliminate the need for hospitals to maintain a medical library in order to be eligible for federal funding. The author, a physician, discusses the essential contribution of the medical libraries and concludes that "This very regressive change in hospital regulation (minimal standards) should arouse a vigorous response from hospital medical staffs throughout the state. The loss of hospital libraries will adversely impact on the quality of care, and in the eyes of those without understanding, the physician will be held responsible".

Let’s hear that vigorous response on ALL of the above issues, before it is too late -

Dalia Kleinmuntz
Past-President
November 2, 1989

Dear Hospital Executive:

As Director of the National Library of Medicine (NLM), I am taking the unusual step of writing directly to the nation’s hospital executives. I would like to bring to your attention that the NLM now has the ability to deliver MEDLINE® and other online databases (more than 10 million references) to users of almost all personal computers that have a telephone connection. The cost of an average search of the Library's databases is $2-$3; there is no additional charge or communication cost. The inexpensive and easy-to-use software that does this, Grateful Med®, is available for both IBM-compatible PC’s and (as of September 1989) Apple Macintosh computers.

Although you may have heard of MEDLINE, you may not be aware that the same system that contains the latest biomedical research information for scientists and clinicians also provides information directly applicable to hospital operations. Through the database known as Health Planning and Administration ("HEALTH"), you and your staff have immediate access to references to more than half a million articles identified by the Library and the American Hospital Association (through its Resource Center) as especially useful to you. Using specialized vocabulary terms like Hospital-Patient Relations, Managed Care Programs, Product Line Management, and Relative Value Scales (a new heading as of January 1990), for example, from the NLM's Medical Subject Headings (MeSH®), it is possible to search such topics as:

- Establishing guest relations programs
- Case management for patients with AIDS
- Establishing special care units
- Setting appropriate medical fees for radiologists

I hope you will take a minute to glance over the enclosed brochure. If the physicians, nurses, administrators, and other health professionals at your hospital have access to personal computers and the telephone, I believe you should seriously consider the benefits of putting the latest professional literature at their fingertips through easy and inexpensive searching of the National Library of Medicine's databases.

Yours truly,

[Signature]

Donald A. B. Lindberg, M.D.
Director, National Library of Medicine
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AFFILIATION: _______________________________________

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  ____ Spring 1991, Rockfort
  ____ Fall 1991, Chicago area
  ____ Spring 1992, ________

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BYLAWS COMMITTEE ________

HISTORIAN/ARCHIVIST ________

LEGISLATION COMMITTEE ________

NOMINATING COMMITTEE ________

SPECIAL PROJECTS ________

If you have no particular preference, but would like to lend a hand nevertheless, please indicate so here ________, and you will be contacted with some offers. THANKS!

* * * * * * * * * * * * * * *

Please forward above to:

Michael Wold
Health Science Library
Galesburg Cottage Hospital
695 N. Kellogg Street
Galesburg IL 61401
FAX: (309) 343-8360