

HSLI NEWSLETTER

SPRING 1995

Nancy Stump ♦ Jan Perone ♦ Editors

VOL.15,NO.1

FROM THE PRESIDENT

I decided to eliminate the President's letter in favor of writing a column. Here is my first effort. I hope you enjoy it.

Why Do Librarian's Salaries Start at \$19,000?

Recently, my library clerk took a position at another library for \$22,000. I was sorry to lose her but was pleased that she was able to make more money. I am starting with this story to be able to impact what I am learning from this experience.

Since I now had to hire a library assistant, my first step was to examine the Job Section of the Chicago Tribune. To my utter amazement, I discovered that jobs for professional librarians still had salaries of \$25,000. This is the same starting salary of librarian jobs of 5 and 6 years ago. It is no wonder that the librarian has dropped from being the second on the list of hot careers to the bottom of the list. What is also interesting is that my clerk could make just \$3000 less than a librarian with a master's degree. Is this telling us that a typist/xeroxer is of more value than a librarian? Or maybe the librarian is seen as a typist/xeroxer?

I hired on a part-time basis a librarian who was unemployed to fill my clerk position while she looked for professional employment. She applied for a year-long position at the Art Institute as a cataloger. The salary quoted was \$19,000. She asked me what I thought of the salary. Anyone who knows me, know when asked, I will give my opinion. Unbelievable was my first reaction. Considering only combat pay would make me take a job as a cataloger. Further, I told her I would not accept an insulting offer of \$19,000. I also thought she should tell them the salary was not realistic and an inducement to collect unemployment, welfare and food stamps. All kidding aside the position must be filled as it is no longer advertised.

This brings me back to why do librarian's salaries start at \$19,000. The answer is because after 5 years of college, librarian's are willing to work for \$19,000. If the demand is met, the opening filled, at an El Cheepo salary, there will never be a need to increase salary ranges.

CHANGE!!! This is the hottest topic in healthcare today. How can we as the lowly \$19,000 librarian affect change? I suggest we take a look at other primarily female

professions such as nursing and physical therapy. Why do nurses and physical therapists make more than they did ten years ago? Why do they routinely receive a market salary adjustment when no one else does? In my opinion, they are no more valuable to the institution now than they were ten years ago. What has changed? Supply and demand! Nurses and physical therapists went out into the market place and instead of working for an institution went to work for an agency. Why did they do this? A larger salary could be made. Suddenly, hospitals found themselves in a position of having to go to a middle man for the most basic of their staffing needs. The end result was an increase in respect and salary for these two groups.

I can hear the comments now. This will never work for us! Further, I am not suggesting we all quit and go to work for Carol Berger. What I think would be worth a try would be for us to all band together. Share salary information and job descriptions with each other. Encourage other librarians not to take low paying jobs. Stress that a librarian should be looking for a position, a career path and not just a job. Have fun the next time you see a \$19,000 job. Apply for it. Go on the interview. Be prepared to laugh in their face. Get them to hire you. Think of the power this will give you. Turn down the job. Explain the salary is unrealistic.

One thing you can count on, I will always come up with some wild ideas!! Share YOUR thoughts on this topic with us. Sit down at your word processor..yes there is no way of getting around this..and TYPE us a reply. Let's see how we can work together to affect change.

Laura Wimmer

The HSLI Newsletter is published quarterly as a service to HSLI members. All contributions are welcome. Please submit typed articles (on disk in WP format is good, too!) to Nancy Stump at Sangamon State University, Brookens Library, Springfield, IL, 62794-9243, FAX (217) 786-6208, E-Mail, stump@eagle.sangamon.edu. NEXT DEADLINE: JUNE 24, 1995. We rely on our members for contributions; please help make this newsletter an effective communication tool!

CONSORTIA NEWS

Capital Area Consortium

Capital Area Consortium and Southern Illinois University School of Medicine are busy planning the next HSLI meeting. It will be held in Springfield at the Springfield Hilton on September 28-29, 1995. Be sure to catch the next issue of this newsletter to see what kind of program we will be hosting.

Sangamon State University will soon be merging with the University of Illinois. Sangamon will be known as University of Illinois-Springfield. It is anticipated this merger will be taking place in July 1995 or by January 1996.

Heart of Illinois Library Consortium

Heart of Illinois Library Consortium will host the Fall 1996 HSLI meeting on October 17-18 at Jumer's Chateau in Bloomington, IL.

West Central Consortium

St. Mary's Hospital Library in Quincy or Blessing at 14th Library are no longer in existence. All requests should be sent to Blessing-Rieman College of Nursing Library. Decline users, please take note of this announcement and adjust your decline chain.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

■ Thank you to the Fox Valley Consortium and all the committee members who helped to make the Spring Meeting a success. Thank you to our vendors for their support of our organization. Various members have asked that notes from Dr. Kim Reed's talk on Health Science Librarians and Process Improvement be made available. Should you wish a copy, contact Mary Howry at Mercy Hospital in Aurora (Fax: 708-801-2687) (Submitted by Laura Wimmer)

■ The Health Science Library version of the SILO List will be published by HSLI. The cost of the list will be \$75.00. There will be no other mechanism for receiving the list other than HSLI's publication of the list. The Illinois State Library will not be providing copies as in the past due to a lack of funding. In order to reserve a copy of the list, it will be necessary to mail the order with prepayment. Your copy will be mailed to you in the summer of 1995. Deadline for orders will be June 1, 1995. Any questions regarding the duplication of the list may be referred to Laura Wimmer at Resurrection Medical Center (312-792-9938). To order, send your institution name, address, and phone number with a check for

\$75.00 payable to Health Science Librarians of Illinois to Health Science Librarians of Illinois c/o Laura Wimmer, 320 Checker Drive, Buffalo Grove, Illinois 60089.

■ The Illinois State Library 800 number is 1-800-665-5576. Selection 1 is for Library Development and selection 2 is for the ILLINET/OCLC Services.

■ A Blind and Physically Handicapped catalog of material will be going onto OPAC (Online Public Access) statewide, under a LSCA grant. The Illinois State Library is anticipating this service will eventually be able to reach people in their homes, who have a computer and a modem. The person could then order products from the catalog without leaving their home. This program is currently being tested in Chicago. For more information, contact Neil Kelley, Illinois State Library Consultant at 217-782-1891.

■ EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY ■

Manager, Library Services, Deconess Hospital in Evansville, In., 590 Beds/Acute Care. Experience: 4-5 years library experience. Preferably 1 year in a health science setting. Management and supervisory experience is a plus. Contact: Paul Miera, Partner and Director of Operations, Miera Consultants International Suite P-8, Albuquerque, NM 87110.

LIBRARY SYSTEMS

Rolling Prairie Library System

At the recent Capital Area Consortium, the membership heard about CLUE (Connecting Libraries Using E-Mail). This is a software package developed and distributed by the Illinois State Library. RPLS has a computer dedicated to the CLUE system. The members of CAC were very interested in using CLUE as a way to communicate to each other. RPLS has installed an 800 number for the use of CLUE (800-475-1709)

RPLS is presently looking at alternative vendors for its mainframe database. Presently, RPLS uses the GEAC libs software on a Sequent. The GEAC User Group of RPLS is in the process of seeing demonstrations of alternative vendors. The group has seen demonstrations by DYNIX and DRA.

Information about YOUR library system goes HERE! Please send it for the next issue!

CHUCKLE BOARD by Nina Pals

Charting Bloopers:

Patient has chest pain if she lies on her left side for over a year.

On the second day the knee was better and on the third day it completely disappeared.

Father died in his 90's of female trouble in his prostate and kidneys.

Skin: Somewhat pale but present.

The pelvic exam will be done later on the floor.

Vomiting of unknown origin.

New onset chronic coma.

Admitted in error.

Evaluate for progressive ambulation.

Diagnosis: Gunshot wound to the head, coma.

Patient was seen in consultation by Dr. Blank, who felt we should sit on the abdomen and I agree.

Large brown stool ambulating in the hall.

Patient has two teenage children but no other abnormalities.

B-9 Position vertigo.

Discharge status: Alive but without permission.

Vaginal packing out. Doctor in.

Dr. Blank is watching his prostate.

Patient had bilateral varicosities below the legs.

If he squeezes the back of his neck for 4 or 5 years it comes and goes.

At the time of onset of pregnancy, the mother was undergoing bronchoscopy.

She was treated with Mycostatin oral suppositories.

Health appearing decrepid 69 year old white female, mentally alert but forgetful.

1 Benign chest removed for the pelvis.

Large amount of brown flatus expelled.

(Reprinted by permission of **Journal of Nursing Jocularly**, 5615 W. Cermak Rd, Cicero, IL 60650-2290. \$18.95/yr)

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COMMITTEE NEWS

Nominating Committee:

WE NEED YOU!!! Yes it is time for election of HSLI Board Officers and Illinois State Council members. The following offices need to be filled:

HSLI:
President-Elect
Secretary

ILLINOIS STATE COUNCIL:
2- Consortia Representatives
1- Non-Aligned Representative
1- Resource Library Representative

To nominate a fellow member or yourself or to get a copy of the job duties, please contact Mary Van Dyke, St. Francis Hospital, Medical Library, 355 Ridge Ave., Evanston, IL 60202 (Fax: 708-866-5816)

NN/LM GMR

SEE NEXT ISSUE!

BOARD MEMBER NEWS

HSLI Spring Business Meeting

The treasury has \$12,000 thanks to our profit from the Fall meeting in Rockford.

Certificates have been designed to commemorate individuals who serve as officers or on committees. These may be used for MLA certification.

The Spring 1996 meeting will be a joint meeting with our counterparts in Wisconsin on April 29-30, 1996 at the Grand Geneva Hotel in Geneva, Wisconsin.

and electronic mail for physicians and families. Journal of Family Practice, 39 (4), 365-371.

Notess, Greg R., "Comparing Web Browsers: Mosaic, Cello, Netscape, WinWeb And Internet Works Lite. Online, March/April 1995, 36-40.

ILLINOIS STATE COUNCIL

Illinois State Council meeting was held on Wednesday, March 15, 1995 at 6:30 pm - 9:30 pm at Pheasant Run in St. Charles.

New members on the council are Virginia Gale and Carol Scherrer.

Consortia Representative assignments are as follows:

Linda Feinberg: Areawide, Illinois Health Library and West Central Consortia

Jan Perone: Capital Area, East Central Illinois Library Consortia.

Virginia Gale: Chicago and South, Shabbona Library Consortia.

Donna Roginski: Fox Valley, Quad City Area Biomed Consortia.

Roy Jones: Heart of Illinois Library, Upstate Consortia.

Carol Scherrer: Northeastern Il Library, Metropolitan Consortia.

Donna Roginski was elected Assistant Chair and Royden Jones was elected Recording/Corresponding Secretary during 1995.

Lynn Bierma provided a packet of information. Items of interest included: Grants: Title III grants are available. They are geared toward cooperation between libraries to provide services to common users. New ALLY Grants will be available for application sometime in the Fall of 1995. For more information, contact you Library System or Pat Norris, Illinois State Library. OCLC Update: ILL Fee Management will be introduced in April 1995, credits/debits on user's OCLC bills. LVIS (Libraries Very Interested In Sharing) has gone national. States included so far are Illinois, Missouri, Iowa and Colorado. CLUE (Connecting Libraries Using E-mail): Libraries without internet access are networked using e-mail system through their Library System. Five systems are up; Lewis and Clark, Shawnee, RPLS and Northern Illinois.

Linda Walton, NN/LM GMR presented a report concerning GMR Listserv and NN/LM WWW site. Some other items reported were:

Welcome Packets: Call her to receive a welcome packet for new members. Internet Information Packets: These are available upon request. New Service Librarians: Lisa Jacob is the Illinois Service Librarian. Contact her if you have questions. Grants: Planning Grants for Education and Training

of Health Science Librarians RFA's available on the NLM gopher (gopher.nlm.nih.gov extramural programs); Internet connection grants letters of intent are due April 10, 1995, applications by May 18. RFA's available also on the NLM gopher.

Trudy Landwirth started a 3 year term on the Illinois State Library Advisory Council this year. Some of the items discussed at their January meeting included: grant money available through the library systems, two minute radio spots interviewing librarians (including at least one health science librarian), using consultant Alexius Sarkisian. Bridget Lamont thinks the LSCA money will dry up this year. Live and Learn program is multi-type. Illinois will have a gopher with Illinois State documents (possibly WWW). ISLAC recommended the ALLY Grants continue for libraries without computers.

Topics discussed at the Council meeting included: 1. Effect of hospital consortiums on library consortiums and interlibrary loan. 2. Dealing with interlibrary loan charging, when libraries charge their patrons for loans they get free. 3. assisting librarians in downsized libraries to justify their library to their administration. These topics will continue to be discussed at meetings as we have time. If you have other questions you feel we need to look at, let me know.

Linda Feinberg

ILLINET

Submitted by Lynn Beirma

GRANTS, LIBRARY SYSTEMS, THE INTERNET AND YOU

In an atmosphere of cutbacks in the Health Sciences, librarians need to do the utmost to make their library a viable part of their organizations. There are grants waiting to be snapped up, and the Internet has become a valuable tool in searching for and finding resources. All can be obtained by membership in the library systems serving your area.

ALLY GRANTS

An ALLY Grant is a grant given to libraries with a proven need for computer technology in their library. The basic requirements are that you don't already have a computer and that you are a member of a library system. It's as simple as that. Previous grant recipients became the happy owners of IBM compatible 486 computers (sorry, no Macintoshes). The next round of ALLY grants will be awarded next fall. The Illinois State Library is currently working with the Library Systems to determine how many libraries still don't have computers. Contact: Amy Kellerstrass at 217-782-9549, by e-mail at kellerst@eagle.sangamon.edu

Title III Interlibrary Cooperation Grants

Title III Interlibrary Cooperation Grants are available to libraries wishing to cooperate with each other to provide a cooperative service to their users. Requirement: you must belong to a library system. All applications must include more than one type of library. Grant activities must include elements of interlibrary cooperation, and no library materials may be purchased with Title III funds. Grants are available to a library working with a library of another type. Libraries may also work with community agencies to build on electronic network technology that is already in place. Libraries interested in Title III Grants should include the following information when applying:

- ▶ A demonstrated need within the community for the project
- ▶ emphasis should be on activities and not personnel
- ▶ local support for the project
- ▶ a list of other agencies that are potential participants in the grant activities
- ▶ a justification for any equipment costs
- ▶ an explanation for currently conceived grant activities
- ▶ a description of how the results of the grant will be shared with the library community

An announcement will be made in October or November of 1995 regarding funding for the Title III Grants for fiscal year 1997.

Contact Amy Kellerstrass (see above address/phone#)

If you're not hooked into the Internet and wish you were, you can obtain access through the Libray System operating in your area. The only requirement is being a system member. What can you find on the Internet? Take a look below:

<http://golgi.harvard.edu/biopages/medicine.html> This is the site's address, or URL (Universal Resource Locator), which is how sites are identified. I found this site by clicking on the word medicine in the WWW (World Wide Web) Virtual Library, using Mosaic as a browser. This site allows you to access a page full of information and different sites to explore, such as anesthesiology; pharmacy; the Medical Matrix Guide to Internet Medical Resources and the HospitalWeb, to name a few.

Confused? Look at THE WHOLE INTERNET USER'S GUIDE AND CATALOG, by Ed Krol. This book is well written, easy to understand and includes a well-rounded Internet directory. Look under the subject of medicine, and find pointers to various sources, such as the National Institute of Health and the World Health Organization.

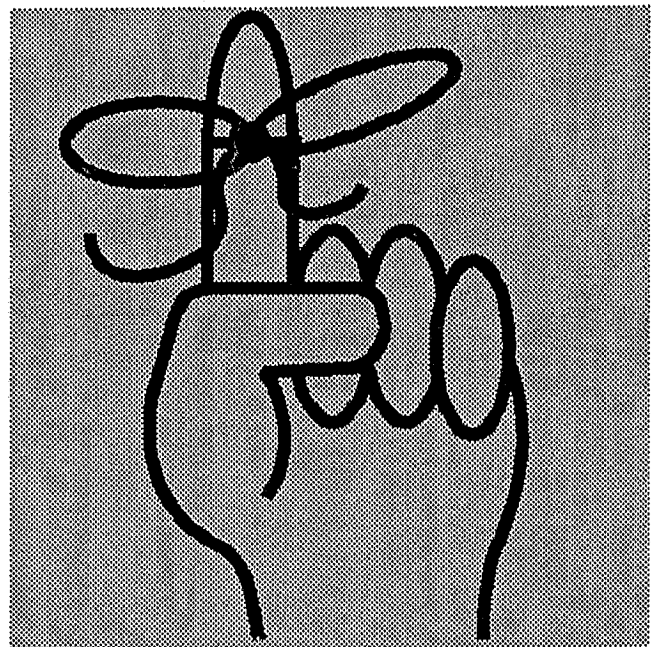
So, if you haven't joined a library system, take another look!

JUST FOR FUN: Illinois State Museum Home Page
(<http://www.museum.state.il.us>)

CONSORTIA FEATURE

This is where we hope to tell all of our readers about YOUR CONSORTIUM. If you're interested, please send us two or three typed paragraphs including consortium name, coordinator, any interesting bits of history, and some of the activities or programs your group has been involved in. We think that this will be a great opportunity not only for consortia members to learn about each other, but for Consortia coordinators to get new ideas for programs and educational activities. If we do not hear from one of you, YOU will be hearing from US, and that's a promise!

The Editors

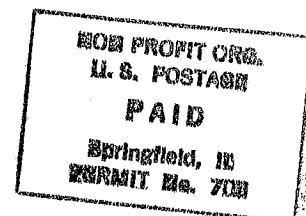


***Don't Forget - Next Deadline-
JUNE 24!!***

MEETINGS

- APRIL 20** ISLAC/Subcommittee for Public Library Service Meeting: Springfield
- APRIL 27** ISLAC/Subcommittee on Interlibrary Cooperation Meeting: Springfield
- MAY 2-6** Illinois Library Association Annual Conference and Exposition: Peoria
- MAY 5-10** Medical Library Association Annual Conference: Washington, D.C.
- May 11** ISLAC/Subcommittee on Systems Meeting: Springfield
- May 12** ILA Board Meeting: Chicago
- May 16** SLA/Ill. Chapter Annual Business Meeting: Chicago
- May 17-18** Ill. State Library Advisory Committee Meeting: Springfield
- JUNE 10-15** SLA Annual Conference: Montreal, Canada
- JUNE 22-29** ALA Annual Conference: Chicago
-

Interlibrary Loans
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