

LIBRARY LINES

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LIBRARY HOURS

Monday–Thursday 7:00 am–Midnight
Friday 7:00 am–9:00 pm
Saturday 9:00 am–5:00 pm
Sunday 1:00 pm–10:00 pm

The Library will be open Monday May 29
from 8:00-5:00, Memorial Day

CIRCULATION POLICIES

Audiovisual materials: 7 days, 2 renewals
Books: 2 weeks, 2 renewals
Bound journals: Same day, non-renewable
Nursing journals: In-house use only
Unbound journals: 2 hours
RENEWALS: Call 799-7147

OVERDUES

Overdue charges are \$1.00 per item per
day. Unpaid fines result in the suspension
of borrowing privileges.

TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Location and Hours 713/795-4200
Administrative Offices 799-7116
Circulation Desk (renewals, fines) 799-7147
Knowledge Network Services 799-7161
Health Informatics Education Ctr. 799-7128
Education and Training 799-7154
McGovern Historical Center 799-7139
Photocopy/Interlibrary Loan 799-7179
Publications Services 799-7120

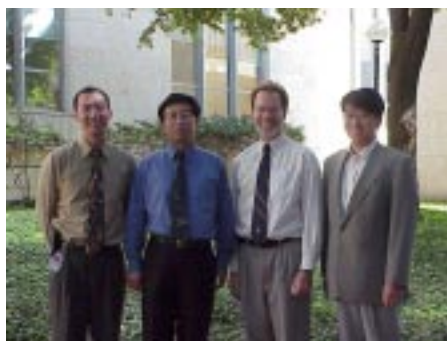
FAX NUMBERS

Administration 790-7052
Knowledge Network Services 797-0163
Photocopy/Interlibrary Loan 790-7056
Regional Medical Library 790-7030

WORLD WIDE WEB ACCESS

<http://www.library.tmc.edu>

NEW LIBRARY DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY RESEARCH



Mr. Gary Lu, Drs. Jiajie Zhang, Richard
Cone and Noriaki Aoki

The Department of Information Technology (IT) Research was officially inaugurated at the HAM–TMC Library on February 1, 2000. The Department of IT Research is part of the Library’s strategic plan to increase involvement in cutting edge development at both the research and application levels.

Information technology provides the engine for improved knowledge management, which is a crucial tool for accomplishing the Library’s mission to provide medical knowledge.

The Department of IT Research began with two faculty members from the Baylor College of Medicine, Richard Cone, MD, PhD, (Associate Professor) and Noriaki Aoki, MD, (Assistant Professor). Dr. Cone, Associate Director of the Library, brings expertise in clinical data analysis and molecular biology. He also has substantial experience in the conduct, reporting and funding of clinically-oriented research. Dr. Aoki, initially trained in Japan as an Emergency Medicine physician, has since become an expert in data mining and statistical analysis. He will soon complete two more advanced degrees, a PhD in Epidemiology and a Master’s degree in Health Informatics. The Department also hosts Fanny Hawkins, PhD, an Information Technology Fellow funded by the National Library of Medicine. Upon completion of her fellowship, Dr. Hawkins will return to her post as Assistant Professor at Texas Southern University. In March, 2000, the Department hired Gary Lu, a database programmer who will receive his Master’s degree in Health Informatics this spring. Mr. Lu, a certified Oracle database administrator, is familiar with a wide variety of database systems and programming languages.

The Department also benefits from the activities of two part-time faculty members: Dr. Jiajie Zhang, Associate Professor of Health Informatics at the University of Texas, and Dr. Blaz Zupan, Faculty of Computer and Information Sciences, at the University of Ljubljana, Slovenia.

New Library Department of Information Technology Research

continued from page 1

Dr. Zhang offers expertise on the human-computer interface as well as many other areas of Medical Informatics. Dr. Zupan develops new concepts for data exploration with an emphasis on data mining. The entire IT Research team works closely with J. Robert Beck, MD, the Library's Interim Executive Director, who is an internationally recognized expert on Medical Information Technology.

Currently, the Department of IT Research participates in several clinically oriented, cross-institutional research projects. These include active collaborations with the Ben Taub Trauma Center, the University of Texas, and Baylor College of Medicine. Dr. Cone is directing a new project to develop an enterprise-wide database of computerized patient records. Dr. Aoki is directing or participates in several research projects involving telemedicine, emergency medicine decision support, and disaster medicine. Drs. Aoki, Cone and Beck recently received funding from the US Army to develop a telemedicine clinical decision support system in collaboration with the Tripler Army Medical Center in Hawaii. Also, new research programs involving NASA are in the planning stages.

The Department of IT Research is committed to keeping the Library at the forefront of the current information revolution. The Department is actively working with other library departments to develop sustainable research programs that address the Library's goals. Department members are exploring opportunities to: (a) contribute to the Regional Medical Library, (b) offer advanced IT training for library fellows, (c) initiate collaborative projects with the Library's supporting Texas Medical Center Institutions, (d) provide database support for new library projects, and (e) assist with the Library's patient information services.

The HAM-TMC Library staff is very supportive of the new department. According to Deborah Halsted, MLS, MA, Director of Library Operations, "*The Department of Information Technology really brings the Library into the 21st century based on the National Library of Medicine model.*"

Richard Cone, MD, PhD

LIBRARY OPEN HOUSE EVENT "AN EXTRA DAY IN YOUR SCHEDULE"



J. Robert Beck, MD and Earl J. Brewer, Jr., MD



Mrs. Kenneth E. Bentsen, Mrs. Daniel C. Arnold, Dr. Don W. Chapman, Mrs. Diana Untermeyer, and Mr. S. Conrad Weil, Jr., observe as librarian Elizabeth Williams, MLS, demonstrates the TEXAS HealthInfo homepage

On February 29, 2000, the Friends of the TMC Library hosted an all-day open house, beginning with a ceremony in which Earl J. Brewer, Jr., MD, President of the Friends presented an \$180,000 check to J. Robert Beck, MD, Interim Executive Director of the HAM-TMC Library. This generous grant will be used to fund the Houston Medical History Project. The purpose of the open house was to encourage Houstonians to visit and explore the Library and take advantage of the services the Library has to offer. Tours, computer demonstrations of the Jesse H. Jones Community Health Information Service, classes and informal presentations were offered throughout the day.



Elizabeth White, MLS, shows an exhibit from the McGovern Historical Collection to members of the Friends of the Texas Medical Center Library

Interlibrary Loan Electronic Delivery: ARIEL

In April 1999, the HAM-TMC Library began using Ariel, an imaging software package, as an alternative method of delivering and receiving interlibrary loan articles through the Internet.

The Ariel system is comprised of two workstations, one dedicated to sending scanned documents to libraries and the other to receiving scanned documents. When a library requests an article, the OCLC or DOCLINE request will indicate what method of delivery is preferred. If Ariel delivery is requested, the article is pulled from the shelves, scanned using a Minolta PS3000 scanner, and delivered almost immediately. When the HAM-TMC Library requests an article, we indicate Ariel as our preferred method of delivery. If the lending library has the Ariel software, they scan the article and send it immediately to our receiving station to be printed.

The advantages of using the Ariel system are lower cost, greater efficiency, and quality. In the past, requests from other libraries would be filled by our staff and usually faxed to the requesting library. The process involved pulling the volume from the shelves, photocopying the requested article, and faxing it to the requester. Faxing articles to a library not in the local calling area can be costly. An article thirty pages long with text and graphics can take twenty to thirty minutes to send and costs the delivering library unnecessary long distance charges. The print and graphic quality of a faxed article is diminished considerably from that of the original.

Last year, when the HAM-TMC Library began using the Ariel system, a total of 1,672 pages were sent to requesting libraries and 2,363 pages were received. By October 1999, the monthly figure had increased to 5,749 pages sent, and 3,363 pages received.

Facts: 1999

Month	Art. Sent	Pages	Art. Rcvd	Pages
April	154	1672	202	2363
May	227	2394	229	2047
June	229	3246	353	3074
July	392	3918	351	3306
August	355	3502	408	3930
September	395	3687	546	5123
October	597	5749	407	3363

JESSE H. JONES COMMUNITY HEALTH INFORMATION SERVICE LIBRARY CARDS

The HAM-TMC Library has implemented a new service to provide public access to the Jesse H. Jones Community Health Information Service collection. The Library is happy to announce that we now offer free library cards to members of the public so that they may check out books and videos from the consumer collection. (Items are marked "Consumer" on the spine). The cards do not provide library services such as interlibrary loan, remote access, etc., nor do they allow materials to be borrowed from other consortium libraries. These cards will be a different color from our regular library cards and will say Jesse H. Jones Community Health Information Service in order to distinguish them from our full service cards. Holders of these cards will be subject to the same fines and circulation rules as our regular library card holders.

To obtain your free library card go to the Circulation desk. For more information contact Elizabeth Williams, MLS, at (713) 799-7183 or elizaw@library.tmc.edu

NOTEWORTHY



Congratulations to Donald Barclay, Assistant Director, Health Informatics Education Center, on his recently published book *Managing Public-Access Computers*. Unlike a lot of computer books, this one does not fly off into the technosphere. Although the book contains information about computer hardware and software, it also covers real-life issues such as purchasing computer furniture, protecting computer workstations from hackers and vandals, and training

staff to assist users of public access computers. Even though this book is aimed at all types of librarians, Donald managed to put a medical spin on a few sections. For example he uses Dr. John Snow and the London cholera epidemic of 1854 to illustrate a point about the art of collecting, and acting on, data.

NEW STAFF



Felicia Little, Web Specialist, came to the Library on April 17. Felicia worked in the Learning Assistance Lab of the Ficke-Laird Library at the University of Dubuque, she also served in the United States Army for five years. Prior to coming to the Library, Felicia worked as an Administrative Assistant Researcher in the

“Offers and Compromise Group” at the Internal Revenue Service. Felicia is currently enrolled in the second year of the Masters of Library Science Program at the University of North Texas.

CONGRATULATIONS

Deborah Halsted, Associate Director of Knowledge Network Services was appointed Director of Library Operations.

Alice Richardson, Senior Accountant was recently named Controller.

Zina Hayes, Executive Assistant has been appointed Human Resources Associate.

FAREWELL

To Karen Ryaby, Chief Financial Officer, who left the library in February.



LIBRARY LINES

Library Lines is published six times per year. Please call (713) 799-7169 to be placed on our mailing list.

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