Since 1997, the HAM-TMC Library electronic journals collection has grown from about 400 titles to nearly 9,000. In 2006, we learned that our budget for serials would be cut by 10%, a substantial amount, for 2007. This was an opportunity to convert as many titles as possible to electronic-only format and trim the collection of little-used print subscriptions that can be obtained via Interlibrary Loan.

Accordingly, during the summer and fall of 2006, we undertook the extensive project of analyzing and streamlining the journal collection. Fortunately, we were assisted by the fact that many publishers began offering electronic-only institutional subscriptions for 2007, and a few more have entered the Digital Age for the first time. The number of high-quality open access journals is increasing, too, a fact borne out by high impact factors in ISI's Web of Science. We have cut about 1,500 print journal subscriptions in favor of electronic-only. We have kept about 250 print journal subscriptions and we welcome your comments and suggestions. This condition for receiving electronic access. We identified and cut about 305 titles that were judged expendable due to a combination of factors like low local interest (very small usage, TMC authors not publishing in them), high cost per use, low or no impact factor, and inadequate or non-existent electronic access.

We trust that our new collection meets your needs, and we welcome your comments and suggestions. This year, we will work hard to present greater ease of access through improved access through improved and increased linking from our indexes. Although at present we are unable to add any titles, we do compile your requests for new journals for consideration as soon as funding permits.
From the Executive Director

his issue of Library Lines, focused on our collections, could be entitled The Age of the Virtual Library.

Our dedicated staff is constantly working to upgrade and redesign our website, to provide seamless access to our electronic resources from office and home, and to add new resources.

These efforts seem transparent. For example, how many times have we all searched a database like OVID, SCOPUS, or PubMed, found the perfect citation, and clicked on the little blue FIND IT or other button linking to HAM-TMC Library, and magically had the full text article appear on our computer screens? Wonderful, useful, indispensable – and perhaps taken for granted. Making this happen requires intensive behind-the-scenes efforts on the part of collection development, acquisitions, cataloging, web, Information Technology and library staff. It also costs a tremendous amount, from technological infrastructure to subscriptions. The Library serves over twenty-two TMC institutions, and publishers charge accordingly. A few sample 2007 subscription prices for journals provided by the HAM-TMC Library: from Elsevier, Brain Research – $8,187; Gene – $10,192 and BBA – $16,418, from Company of Biologists, three titles for $12,960; from SpringerLink, Experimental Brain Research – $8,187; five current AACR titles: $17,925.

Recently I wrote a guest article for the UTMB GSSIS newsletter regarding scholarly communication and publication issues addressing these issues: http://www.gebs.utmb.edu/al umni/newsletters/pdf/Winter 2006.pdf. Libraries and librarians are actively interested in where the future is leading and in how to manage our limited funds in the virtual world; hence our interest in scholarly communication and institutional repositories, which you will also read about in this newsletter. We welcome all to our virtual and our physical library! Come take a class or visit the Rare Book Room. You can find more information on our Library’s Home Page: http://resource.library.tmc.edu/

Elizabeth K. Eaton, PhD
Executive Director, HAM-TMC Library

Scholarly Communications in the TMC

Author Rights. The Scholarly Publishing and Academic Resources Coalition (SPARC)’s Author Addendum is a legal instrument that authors may use to modify their publisher agreements, enabling them to keep selected key rights to their articles, such as distributing copies in the course of teaching and research, posting the article on a personal or institutional Web site, including an institutional repository, and creating derivative works. More information is available at http://www.sparc.org/sparc/author/index.html

Scholarly Communication and Open Access. In the summer of 2006, HAM-TMC Library and Rice University’s Fondren Library initiated a collaborative project to explore and heighten awareness of the many ways in which the digital age is affecting scholarly communication and publication. The project has sponsored three ‘brown-bag’ lunchtime programs so far. The first, focusing on open access and copyright issues, was held on September 21, 2006, at Rice. The second, “Open Access Journals in the Promotion and Tenure Process,” took place on November 13, 2006, at Rice. The featured speakers were Dr. Moshe Vardi, Professor in Computational Engineering, and Dr. Robert Curl, Professor of Natural Sciences Emeritus, Professor of Chemistry Emeritus, and Nobel Laureate in Chemistry (1990). A third brown-bag session was held in the HAM-TMC Library on February 2, 2007. Dr. Jack W. Smith, Professor and Dean, The University of Texas School of Health Information Sciences at Houston, addressed the topic: “Issues Related to Open Access and Clinical Data Repositories.” An upcoming session will address copyright issues. Visit the Rice/HAM-TMC joint website at http://ham-tmc-fondren.rice.edu/
The HAM-TMC Library successfully launched its newly redesigned website in October, 2006. The successful launch was due to the hard work provided by the HAM-TMC Library’s Web Team. Inspired and guided by many different individuals throughout the greater Houston area, the site was redesigned from the ground up and has many new, exciting features. These include: a federated-type search tool providing access to the library’s e-journal, e-book, and database lists; the ability to search PubMed, the Library’s Catalog, Scopus, and WorldCat directly from the Home Page; a searchable database of commercial databases licensed by the Library; a searchable staff directory; and better access to news, classes information and e-resource descriptions. Additionally, the site was designed adhering to standards, so that it works with all major browsers currently in use, including Internet Explorer, Firefox, Opera, and Netscape.

The technology used to power the new site was upgraded as well. The Web Team chose Adobe’s ColdFusion MX.7 software as the application server and Microsoft’s SQL Server 2005 as the back-end database system, allowing for a more dynamic/real-time data experience for our users. We hope you find these new features helpful. Web design is by nature a “work-in-progress,” and we look forward to your comments about our newly-designed website and your suggestions for future enhancements.

New Resources: SCOPUS

Elsevier’s SCOPUS database contains 28 million records from 14,000 publications. Medline, in comparison, contains 14 million records from 4800 publications. The publications covered by Scopus come primarily from the following subject areas: 6000 titles from the Life and Health Sciences including 100% of the journals contained in Medline and EMBASE (a database known for its coverage of European journals and drug information) 4500 titles from the areas of Chemistry, Physics, Mathematics, and Engineering 2500 Biology, Agriculture, and Environmental Sciences titles

Scopus also covers the proceedings from 750 conferences, indexes websites, and provides links to patents. Linking to the full text of articles from journals owned by the HAM-TMC Library is easy: just click on the HAM-TMC Library Find It! button that appears in Scopus search results.

Beginning with 1996 literature, Scopus records also contain cited references. References generally link to their corresponding Scopus database records and display the HAM-TMC Library Find It! button for linking to the full text articles, when available. Exporting to EndNote, ProCite, Reference Manager and RefWorks is also easy: just check off boxes by the desired items and click the Export button.

This new resource has been reviewed and critically analyzed in several articles over the past year. A report comparing Scopus with other citation databases is available at http://eprints.rclis.org/archive/00008121. One of the conclusions authors Yang and Meho present is that both Scopus and Google Scholar (another scholarly citation database) “can help identify a considerable number of valuable citations not found in Web of Science,” the traditional citation database. Scopus, Google Scholar, and the Web of Science database Science Citation Index are all available on the Library’s homepage.

LIBRARY HOURS
Monday – Thursday
7:00 a.m. – Midnight
Friday
7:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.
Saturday
9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Sunday
1:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.

CIRCULATION POLICIES
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In-house use only
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Call 713.701.7147

OVERDUES
Overdue charges are $1.25 per item per day. Unpaid fines result in the suspension of borrowing privileges.

TELEPHONE NUMBERS
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Circulation Desk (renewals, fines):
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Computer Lab:
713.790.7116
Information Services:
713.790.7161
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Dr. Elizabeth K. Eaton, PhD

WORLD WIDE WEB ACCESS
http://www.library.tmc.edu
HAM-TMC Library Class Schedule
April – May 2007

CINAHL
April 19 11:00 am – 12:00 pm

EndNote
April 18 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Navigating Full-Text Journals
May 16 11:00 am – 12:30 pm

PubMed
Apr 17 6:30 pm – 7:30 pm
May 22 6:30 pm – 7:30 pm

PubMed Advanced
Apr 19 1:00 pm – 2:00 pm

All classes are free. For a brief description of the classes and to register go to http://resource.library.tmc.edu/class/schedule.php

Menninger Collection

About three years ago, the Menninger Foundation donated its extensive research collection to the HAM-TMC Library. The collection contained roughly 40,000 books and over 120 journal titles (amounting to several thousand volumes), including many rare titles in the Foundation’s special collections, most notably a collection of materials on Sigmund Freud.

In order to integrate the Menninger Collection with the Library’s other collections, Collections Management department members participated in various tasks, including unpacking and shelving the items to make collection evaluation easier. In the first phase of evaluation, staff identified and weeded titles that were duplicates of titles in the Library’s existing collections. In the second phase, currently underway, staff are cataloging the remaining books. Cataloged items are searchable in the online catalog. Circulating items have the location “HAM-TMC Library – Historical Research Center.” These items may be requested at the Circulation Desk. Non-circulating items have the location “HAM-TMC Library – Menninger.” These may be used at the Historical Research Center, and in some cases, requested for use in the Rare Book Room in the Library. To date over three hundred titles have been cataloged and added to the Library’s online catalog.