LIBRARY’S FUTURE PLANS

After serving on the Houston Academy of Medicine Texas Medical Center (HAM–TMC) Library Board for seven years, I am very pleased to be given the opportunity to serve as the Interim Executive Director of this institution. Initially, I have begun to work with the Library Board, staff and representatives from other Texas Medical Center institutions on strategic planning for the next three years. This process will include a random survey of library users, as well as a survey of all the library staff to evaluate collections, services and benefits. The results of the surveys, along with input from the various strategic planning committees, will help bring the HAM–TMC Library into the next millennium.

INFORMATION ACCESS FOR PUBLIC HEALTH PROFESSIONALS

As part of the Information Access for Public Health Professionals project the HAM–TMC Library and the Houston Department of Health and Human Services (HDHHS) cosponsored a forum on September 24, 1999, to assess the informational needs of public health professionals in Houston and Harris County. Representatives from many agencies attended, including the City of Houston Mayor’s Office, Houston Parks and Recreation Department, Houston Public Library, Harris County Office of Emergency Management, Harris County Hospital District, Texas Department of Public Safety, Chicano Family Center, Houston Area Women’s Center, and the DeBakey High School for Health Professions.

J. Robert Beck, MD, Interim Executive Director of the HAM–TMC Library and Interim Director of the National Network of Libraries of Medicine South Central Region (NNLM SCR), welcomed the attendees and Rick Gamble, Senior Community Liaison for the HDHHS, served as moderator. Ruchi Mishra, Network Coordinator of the NNLM SCR, described funding opportunities available, which may help some of our local agencies purchase equipment to connect them to the Internet.

At the end of the meeting, a recommendation was made that the attendees form a steering committee to work on this project. If you are interested in participating, please contact Deborah Halsted at deborahl@library.tmc.edu or (713) 799-7163. This project is sponsored in part by the National Library of Medicine and NNLM SCR.
WEB OF SCIENCE

Web of Science, the Web version of the Institute for Scientific Information (ISI) citation databases, Science Citation Index (SCI), Social Science Citation Index (SSCI), and Arts & Humanities Citation Index (AHCI), has been added to the databases at the library. To access Web of Science go to http://wos.isiglobalnet.com/

SCI is a multidisciplinary database, with searchable author abstracts, covering 5,300 major journals across 164 scientific disciplines, allowing retrieval of cited references. SCI provides access to current citation information and retrospective data back to 1974. The database averages 17,000 new citations and approximately 300,000 newly cited references per week. It contains over 14 million total citations with searchable full-length, English-language, author abstracts for approximately 70%, and covers approximately 2,000 more journals than its SCI print and CD-ROM counterparts.

SSCI is a multidisciplinary database, with searchable author abstracts, indexing 1,700 of the most important social science journals spanning 50 disciplines, as well as covering individually selected, relevant items from over 3,300 of the world's leading scientific and technical journals. The AHCI is a multidisciplinary database indexing 1,144 of the world's leading arts and humanities journals, as well as covering individually selected, relevant items from over 6,800 major science and social science journals.

Web of Science is a great addition to the collection of databases to which HAM–TMC Library already subscribes and may be accessed from computers with selected Texas Medical Center IP addresses as follows: Baylor College of Medicine, HAM–TMC Library, Texas Woman's University (Houston), UT Houston Health Science Center, Prairie View A&M School of Nursing, and qualified users who have registered for remote access to HAM–TMC Library resources (http://library.tmc.edu/access.html).

Note: Neither Current Contents nor Journal Citation Reports are included in Web of Science. Please click the Logoff button when you have finished using a citation index—the number of simultaneous users is limited.

MD CONSULT NEWS

In response to overwhelmingly positive user feedback, the HAM–TMC Library has significantly expanded access to MD Consult, an online product that was first made available to clients in the fall of 1998. MD Consult provides full-text access, with boolean searching capabilities, to a wide range of important medical resources, including:

- 45 clinical journals
- 35 medical textbooks
- 4 bibliographic databases
- Over 600 clinical practice guidelines
- 2,500 patient education handouts
- Comprehensive drug information
- 300 CME modules

Effective September, 1999, the Library's subscription allows 9 more simultaneous users, bringing the total number to 15.

NEW CLASSES OFFERED AT THE LIBRARY

Starting this fall, the library will be offering three new classes to library users:

Creating Tables and Graphs demonstrates how to use Microsoft Word and Excel to create and format tables and graphs. Focus will be placed on how to create the desired look by manipulating cells, borders, colors, etc. Guidelines for creation of tables and graphs for publication will also be reviewed. This class will be offered on Wednesday, November 10 from 3:00-5:00 P.M.

Introduction to Microsoft Access provides an introduction to basic uses of this relational database software including table design, fields and formats, form design, searching and sorting, data relations, and reports. This class will be offered on Thursday, November 18 from 2:00-5:00 P.M.

Navigating Full-Text Journals provides an overview of full-text electronic journals available through the HAM–TMC Library. Participants will learn how to access the full-text journals, search the contents of journal issues, and print or save to disk the full text of articles. Examples of full-text journal services provided by different vendors such as ScienceDirect, Ideal, and Ovid will be demonstrated. This class is free and will be offered Tuesday, November 16 from 9:00-11:00 a.m.

Classes will be held in the computer classroom on the lower level of the Library. Go to: http://library.tmc.edu/classfortn.html to register or contact Thomas Gegeny at (713) 799-7803 or thomasg@library.tmc.edu for more information.

* Class registration is $25.00 for faculty, staff, residents, or post-docs. Students with valid ID may attend free.
On August 31, 1999, the HAM-TMC Library held its Annual Employee Awards ceremony. This event is held to recognize Library employees for their years of service and other distinctions. J. Robert Beck, MD, the Library’s Interim Director, presented the awards. The following employees were recognized:

Elizabeth Hickman, Jesse Gonzalez, Terrie Smalls-Hall and Beatriz Varman received 15-year Library service awards.

Yaneth Calderon and Jasmin Gomez received a 5-year Library service award.

Donald Sewell was Morale Booster for 1999.

Zina Hayes and Willetta Smith received the Library Associate award.

Willetta Smith was Employee of the Year.

Yaneth Calderon, Jasmin Gomez, 5 years of Library service, and Dr. Beck.

Elizabeth Hickman, Beatriz Varman, Jesse Gonzalez, and Terri Smalls-Hall, 15 years of Library service

Donald Sewell, Morale Booster for 1999

Zina Hayes and Willetta Smith, Library Associates

Willetta Smith, Employee of the Year
NOTEWORTHY

J. Robert Beck, MD, Interim Executive Director of the HAM-TMC Library and Vice President for Information Technology, Baylor College of Medicine, presented “The Internet, the Electronic Medical Record, and Clinical Decision Making” at the Plenary Session of the International Congress for Medical Informatics Europe, MIE ’99 on Thursday, August 26, 1999 in Ljubljana, Slovenia.


NEW STAFF

Scott Aikens joined the Library as an accountant on August 23, 1999. Scott graduated from the University of Houston Downtown and is a recipient of the Texas Society of Certified Public Accountants Outstanding Achievement Award. He was previously employed at the Cenikor Foundation.

PROFESSIONAL LEAVE

In September, 1999 Margaret Irwin, Special Collections Librarian and Coordinator for the Atomic Bomb Casualty Commission (ABCC) Collection, began a two-year appointment with the Radiation Effects Research Foundation (RERF) in Hiroshima, Japan. The National Academy of Sciences Board on Radiation Effects Research recruited Margaret to work with the RERF Archives and Library, citing her technical expertise, archival training and interpersonal skills as requirements to organize their fifty years of archival records. This wonderful opportunity is a result of Margaret’s years collecting and processing the ABCC collection here in the Library, her skills in working with donors, and the ability to work with records in many languages.

WELCOME

Marsha Sullivan joined the library on July 21 as the Consumer Health Coordinator in the NN/1MSCR office. Marsha comes to us from New Orleans. She received her Master’s Degree in Library and Information Science from LSU, Baton Rouge and has an undergraduate degree in Library Science from East Carolina University, NC. Marsha has 18 years of experience working in libraries.

LIBRARY LINES

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

Editors: Beatriz Varnan, MLIS Deborah Halsted, MLS

Graphic Design: Thomas Gegeny

Interim Executive Director: J. Robert Beck, MD

Houston Academy of Medicine – Texas Medical Center Library
1133 M.D. Anderson Boulevard
Houston, TX 77030

Nonprofit Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Houston, Texas
Permit No. 5142