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FROM THE LIBRARY DIRECTOR

Many of you are aware that the UAMS Library’s budget has not increased enough each year to cover the cost of inflation in the journal subscriptions, which averages 10% annually. Since the Library spends over $1 million on journals and databases annually, we need a budget increase of about $100,000 each year to cover the increased costs. For the past three years, we have used some one-time money to help cover the cost increases, but we do not anticipate receiving any one-time money or a budget increase for the coming year. Therefore, we must cancel a significant amount of journal and/or database subscriptions.

We have distributed a list of possible journal and database subscription cancellations to all of the colleges and several other units on campus, and have been working with the Library Advisory Committee to get input about which journals are most important and need to be kept. Please see the article by Mary Hawks elsewhere in this newsletter to access the list of potential cancellations and give us your input as soon as possible. The cancellations on the list will not be enough to cover all of the increased costs, so after input is reviewed and the first list of cancellations is finalized, a second list of potential cancellations will be developed and circulated for input. We appreciate your help in determining how the limited resources of the Library can best be spent.

The rapidly rising cost of journals and databases is causing major problems for academic health sciences libraries throughout the world. One initiative which is attempting to address the problems with the current publishing system is called open access publishing. See my article on scholarly communication issues elsewhere in this newsletter for more information about this important initiative.

Mary L. Ryan,
Library Director
SCHOLARLY COMMUNICATION ISSUES

Scholarly communication has been defined by the Association of Research Libraries as “the formal and informal processes by which the research and scholarship of faculty... are created, evaluated, edited, formatted, distributed, organized, made accessible, archived, used, and transformed.” The formal system of scholarly communication is publishing. There are many people involved in the publishing process, including the following:

- Faculty, who build upon previous knowledge and create new knowledge which they give to publishers in the form of journal articles and other publications
- Publishers, who manage peer review and editorial processes, and print and distribute publications
- Libraries, which acquire, organize and provide access to information resources and preserve them for the future

The publishing industry has changed in many ways over the centuries. Just a few of the milestones are the invention of papyrus around 2800 BC, the invention of movable type by Johan Gutenberg in 1455 which enabled books to be mass produced in a cost-effective way, the publication of the first medical journals in 1665 (the Journal des Scavans and the Philosophical Transactions), the widespread integration of personal computers into the workplace in the 1980s, and the invention of the Internet and WWW in the late 1980’s.

Many people are now saying that the currently system of scholarly publishing has major problems and needs to be fixed. Three of the major problems are that the system is not taking full advantage of the Internet to make the process of scholarly publishing move at a much faster pace, the system is too costly, and it is too complex and confusing for users. I discussed some of these problems in my article in the previous issue of this newsletter. In this article, I will discuss an initiative to improve the scholarly publishing process called open access publishing, which seems to be gaining popularity around the world.

Open access publishing is commonly defined as including the following characteristics:

- it involves works for which authors expect no pay (such as journal articles)
- articles are made available for free on the Internet and are permanently archived in a standard electronic format
- users are permitted to use the works freely without having to pay copyright fees
- authors retain their copyright and use of their works must include proper citations

Some of the advantages of open access publishing include the following:

- expanded access to information
- more equitable access for scientists and the public
- expanded impact of research
- more efficient and cost-effective publishing

The current open access publishing models depend on publication fees for their support. In other words, the cost of publication is being shifted from the end of the publishing process, where libraries and individuals pay subscriptions for the journals, to near the beginning of the publication process, where authors or institutions or funding agencies pay publication fees per article. This shift to payment for publication rather than access allows access to be made available freely to anyone with an Internet connection.

A fairly comprehensive list of the nearly 800 journals currently being published by open access publishers can be found at www.doaj.org. Two of the most well-know open access publishers are BioMed Central (www.biomedcentral.com), which publishes over 100 journals, and Public Library of Science (www.plos.org), which just published its first journal last October.

There is growing support for the principles of open access publishing. Examples of support from groups of scientists
and organizations include the Budapest Open Access Initiative (www.soros.org/openaccess/), the Bethesda Statement on Open Access Publishing (www.earlham.edu/~peters/fos/bethesda.htm), and the Berlin Declaration (www.zim.mpg.de/openaccess-berlin/berlin_declaration.pdf). Library associations, such as the Medical Library Association (US and Canada) and the International Federation of Library Associations, and the largest private funders of biomedical research in the US and the United Kingdom (the Howard Hughes Medical Institute and the Wellcome Trust) have expressed their support for the open access publishing movement as well. Many libraries, and some institutions and agencies, now pay for institutional memberships in BioMed Central and Public Library of Science to allow scientists from their institutions to get publication fee waivers or discounts.

Political support for open access publishing has been cautious. The Public Access to Science Act, which would require that researchers receiving a significant amount of federal funding to support their research publish the results under an open access model, failed to win approval from Congress last year. However, Congress requested that the National Library of Medicine investigate the publishing situation and prepare a report with recommendations for improvements. The UK House of Commons also is currently investigating the existing publishing system.

Responses to the Open Access publishing initiative from existing publishers and vendors of online products have been varied. Some for-profit publishers have said that the system is working well and does not need to be changed. A group of 48 non-profit professional associations and societies in the US who publish journals recently issued a document commonly know as the DC Principles which outlines their stand on the issue (www.dcprinciples.org). The Principles say that the societies and associations provide a valuable service by publishing journals and that it is ok for them to make a profit on their journals as long as they continue to use the profits to support other activities of their associations, such as grants and mentoring programs. They also say that they are already providing several forms of free access, such as free access for people in developing countries and free online access in the US after a certain period of time (usually 3 or 6 months or a year). However, we have found the embargo periods are too long for some important journals, so we have to subscribe to the journals to provide immediate access. The debate over whether professional associations and societies should make a profit from journal subscriptions paid for by libraries in order to support mentoring programs, grants, and other association activities will probably continue for quite some time.

There are some questions and concerns about open access publishing, at least some of which remain to be answered.

- Are open access publishing models financially viable? The cost of publishing a journal article, even by an open access publisher, is estimated to be more than the publication fees currently being charged by open access publishers. Different financial models are being experimented with in an effort to find reasonable and financially sound models.
- Who should pay the publication fees? Should it be the authors, their libraries, their institutions, their research funding sources…? Some libraries, including the UAMS Library, are currently paying institutional memberships in BioMed Central and PLoS, but library budgets will probably not be able to cover all publication fees if open access publishing becomes widespread.
- What about those authors whose articles are accepted but cannot afford to pay the publication fees? Current open access publishers say the articles will be published regardless of an author’s ability to pay.
- What about promotion and tenure evaluations and grant reviews? Will articles published in open access journals receive credit in evaluations? Supporters of open access say that journal articles should be judged by the content, not the title of the journal in which they are published. Many researchers say they are reluctant to take a chance on open access publishing when their careers are at stake.
- Do open access journals have adequate peer review processes or are they just vanity press journals in which anyone who can afford to pay will be published? BioMed Central and PLoS have stringent peer review processes, and decisions about acceptance of articles are not related to the amount of money someone can pay to be published.
- How will association and society activities be financed if their journals become open access journals which do not make a profit?

Even if you think these issues do not affect you because you do not submit articles for publication, remember that the progress of biomedical research and your ability to access information you might need is dependent on an efficient and effective publishing system. It is important for researchers and consumers of biomedical information to be aware of the issues involved and to participate in discussions about solutions to problems with the current publishing system. "Although the battle is being fought over subscription prices, what is really at stake…is the scientific process itself.”

(New York Times, 12/8/98)
POTENTIAL CANCELLATIONS FOR 2004/2005

The UAMS Library’s current base budget will be approximately $265,000 short of covering the projected 2005 cost for current databases, journals and book purchases. There are two major reasons for the shortfall:

- the rising cost of journals and
- the lack of one-time money, which was used the past three years in lieu of base budget increases sufficient to pay the increased journal costs.

Journal costs rise at an average of 10% per year, which means that the Library’s budget needed to increase about $100,000 per year to cover the increased cost.

The Library did not receive the budget increase requested for 2004/2005. As a result the Library has submitted a first list of potential journal and database subscription cancellations to the Library Advisory Committee. Members of this Committee, who represent each of the colleges, have been asked to distribute these lists to their faculty for reactions to the cancellations. Decisions on these and further cancellations will be made in the next three months.

Included in the cancellation list are several Ovid journal collections.

- The Library plans to decrease the online journals that we currently buy through Ovid because many of them are duplicated in other subscriptions.
- When these core journals are not available elsewhere we will buy them individually. For example, we will purchase online access to the 10 American Medical Association journals directly from AMA and have now purchased Science directly from AAAS.

Besides saving the Library some money, this change will also provide UAMS site-wide and remote unlimited access to all the AMA journals and immediate access to the issues of Science. Currently our online access to Science through Ovid is delayed by 3 months. The other journals in the cancelled Ovid journal collections will still be available to UAMS through the Library’s publisher subscriptions.

Many faculty members have already responded concerning items on the cancellation list. Additional items have been added to the list. These are marked by **. If you see items included on the cancellation list that are vital to your field, please send your rationale for continuing a subscription to: Mary Hawks, hawksmarys@uams.edu.

Download Potential Cancellation List 2004/2005 (MS Excel File)

Mary Hawks,
Collection Management Librarian
INDEX MEDICUS TO CEASE AS PRINT PUBLICATION


The printed Index Medicus, started by John Shaw Billings in 1879 and published for 125 consecutive years, will cease at the end of 2004. Once an indispensable tool for health professionals and librarians, it is now a seldom used alternative to PubMed and other Internet-based products that contain the database from which Index Medicus has been generated for nearly 40 years.

For years, Index Medicus has been invaluable in medical care, education, and research, but use of the printed index declined slowly once MEDLINE became available in 1971. Subscriptions to Index Medicus declined more noticeably in the 1980s with the introduction of end-user searching and dropped precipitously once MEDLINE was available free on the Internet in 1997. In 2000, NLM ceased publication of the annual Cumulated Index Medicus. In that same year, the Government Printing Office recognized PubMed as the definitive permanent source of MEDLINE data and no longer required Depository Libraries to retain the printed Index Medicus.

By 2003, the number of subscribers to the monthly Index Medicus fell to 155 and even for countries in the developing world demand for the publication is almost non-existent. The lack of use of Index Medicus is a natural result of free world wide availability of more complete, current, and easily searched electronic versions of the NLM's authoritative indexing data.

Although the printed Index Medicus will cease, journals recommended for inclusion in MEDLINE by NLM's journal selection advisory committee will still be distinguishable from other journals in PubMed. NLM will continue to produce the annual Black and White printed MeSH tool and also expects to continue the printed List of Journals Indexed in Index Medicus, perhaps expanding its coverage to all indexed MEDLINE journal titles. NLM also will continue its indexing practice of starring MeSH terms as the main point of an article. Even though the printed Index Medicus (which lists citations under their starred headings only) will cease, there is still a need to designate the main points of an article for online retrieval.

For those users who do not wish to rely solely on PubMed access to NLM indexing data, there are numerous other Internet versions of MEDLINE as well as several commercial CDROM products. The MEDLINE data are available free under a license agreement should any company wish to publish a printed product.

For many years, NLM has considered the MEDLINE database to be the definitive version of its indexing data, and the Library is firmly committed to ensuring the integrity and availability of the data via its online systems. MEDLINE data are backed up each night and after one month the data is stored off site. In addition, NLM is currently establishing a remote site for critical NLM systems, including the indexing data creation and maintenance system and the complete version of PubMed. If necessary, users will be switched over to full searching of PubMed at the remote site without any interruption in access.

If you have questions or comments about Index Medicus please send them to: publicinfo@nlm.nih.gov.
OUTREACH NEWS

SPOTLIGHT:
AHEC Library – Pine Bluff

This column continues the spotlight on Arkansas’ AHEC Libraries that have a long tradition of providing library services to AHEC faculty, staff and students. They also provide a tremendous benefit to the surrounding medical community by providing library services to health professionals in their region.

In the third part of this series we place the spotlight on Julie Dobbins and the Melville Library at the Area Health Education Center in Pine Bluff, Arkansas.

History:
The AHEC and its library opened their doors in 1973. The original location was on the first floor of Jefferson Hospital at 1515 West 42nd. The library currently resides in the AHEC Building at 4010 Mulberry St. on the grounds of Jefferson Regional Medical Center (JRMC). Since 1973, there have been four librarians who have manned the post: Sherry Townsend [1973-1976], Julie Schroeder Bridgforth [1976-1988], Susan Sheehan [1989-1993] and Julie Dobbins [1993– present].

The librarian at AHEC in Pine Bluff must deal with a variety of responsibilities which include conducting mediated literature searches for health care professionals, providing document delivery, interlibrary loan and Loansome Doc services, and conducting OVID MEDLINE training for health professionals and students. The library also serves the Jefferson School of Nursing and Clinical Pastoral Education (Chaplain Residency) Program at JRMC.

Grants Received:
An Ariel Project for DOCLINE Libraries award was received in 2003 from the National Library of Medicine. The equipment was in full operation in December 2003. This award included a computer workstation (computer, printer & scanner) and Ariel software.

Librarian:
Julie Dobbins became the librarian at the Melville Library in 1993.

Personal Info: Pine Bluff native
Hobbies: Work, British comedies, trying to read owner’s manuals for cell phone and digital camera, procrastinator.
Favorite part of the job: Realizing that I indirectly assist in patient care is paramount to me.
Professional Memberships: Medical Library Association
South Central Chapter/Medical Library Association
Hospital Library Interest Section (SCC/MLA)

What has been your strangest request? “Too numerous to mention or remember; however, a phone call from an educated consumer wanting to know the medical term for a ‘nose booger’ stands out as one of the strangest.”

Quotes from a Patron:
“I could not imagine how my life would be as a physician, mentor and lecturer without the Melville Library of UAMS-AHEC in Pine Bluff. When I came for an interview ten years ago, I felt so reassured that the library was just around the corner from the clinic. It is not only accessible to the AHEC and JRMC folks, but a very popular...”
resource facility for the Pine Bluff community in its search for medical and health issues. The Melville Library is the legacy of the late Dr. Donald Miller, our AHEC’s first Program Director. It has become a state of the art facility under the supervision of Ms. Julie Dobbins”.

Estelita Quimosing, M.D.
Associate Professor of Medicine
Infectious Diseases
UAMS-AHEC Pine Bluff

Groups Served:
Health Professionals (Physicians & Residents)
Nursing Students (LPNs to Masters candidates)
JRMC Employees
Allied Health Students
Consumers

Services Provided:
Mediated searches done by the librarian for health professionals
Loansome Doc – for health professionals
Document Delivery
Interlibrary Loans
Reference Services
Database Training – for health professionals and students in the health professions.

Technology:
AHEC librarians are provided with training and support for technology by the UAMS Library. They are included in the UAMS Library’s licensing agreements for databases and other selected electronic resources. With this assistance, the AHEC librarians have been able to increase their technology quotient and move many services and resources online. Using DOCLINE, OCLC and Ariel they can initiate and receive requests for articles quickly thus enabling a faster turn around.

The Melville Library brought up its Ariel (interlibrary loan management) system in 2003 after receiving a grant.
Innovative Innopac Online Catalog System including the Millennium Circulation Module

Medical Collection:
This library’s collection includes 2650 books, 300 Audio Visual materials, 150 journal subscriptions and 12 computers.

Special Collections:
The AHEC in Pine Bluff maintains a small consumer health collection of books and online resources such as MedlinePlus via the web. These items are available for use by the general public.

They also have a special antique medical collection which includes medical books dating back to the 1880’s and antique medical instruments such as an EKG machine from the 1940’s and more.

Hours:
Monday – Thursday 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
Friday 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Weekends Closed

Photo:
Contact Information:

**AHEC – PINE BLUFF**
Julie Dobbins
Director of Library Services
Melville Library
Area Health Education Center, Pine Bluff
4010 Mulberry St.
Pine Bluff, AR 71603
ph: 870-541-7629 / fax: 870-541-7628
e-mail: jdobbins@ahecpb.uams.edu
Counties Covered:
Arkansas, Cleveland, Drew, Grant, Jefferson, Lincoln, Lonoke, Prairie

If you would like additional information regarding services available at the AHEC Pine Bluff - Melville Library, please contact Julie Dobbins.

Susan Steelman, MLIS
Coordinator of Outreach Services
PUBMED AND CLASSES

PubMed users at UAMS now have an easy way to link to online full-text articles available via the UAMS Library.

Look for the special UAMS Library icon when viewing citations in PubMed's citation or abstract display formats. See sample below:

Also, did you know you can limit your PubMed search results to only those items owned by the UAMS Library? To do this, run your search as you normally would but add the following at the end of your search strategy:

```
Loprovuamslib[filter]
```

Then click the GO button. See sample below for how this should look.

If you have questions or comments about these features, please contact Susan Steelman at 686-6737 or SteelmanSusanC@uams.edu.

Please note that free PubMed classes are offered each month. These classes are open to any practicing health care professional in Arkansas. If you would like to arrange for a class, please contact Susan Steelman, M.L.I.S. at 501-686-6737 or SteelmanSusanC@uams.edu. Early morning or early evening classes are available.

Note: On-site classes are available for any Arkansas hospital or clinic where 4 or more health professionals are registered to attend.

Susan Steelman, MLIS
Coordinator of Outreach Services
A new journal edited by faculty at UAMS is now being published via BioMed Central. Drs. Sue T. Griffin and Robert E. Mrak, the co-editors of the *Journal of Neuroinflammation*, originally pitched their idea for this new journal to a traditional publisher. However, at the suggestion of Mary Ryan, UAMS Library Director, they got in touch with BioMed Central. The first three articles became available April 20, 2004, and there are eight more in peer review.

To access this new journal, go to [www.jneuroinflammation.com/home](http://www.jneuroinflammation.com/home).

Congratulations to Drs. Griffin and Mrak on the publication of their new journal, and for publishing it through an "open access" publisher.

**LAPTOP INTERNET ACCESS AVAILABLE**

Personal laptop access to the Internet is now available in the Quiet Room of the Library. There are four connections available for individuals wishing to use their personal laptops. **Please note due to security concerns these connections will only provide access to the Internet.**

For more information, please contact Dena Plaisted, Chair, Document Access Services, at 501-686-6743 or PlaistedDenaK@uams.edu

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**HISTORY OF MEDICINE ASSOCIATES ANNUAL RESEARCH AWARD**

The History of Medicine Associates offers an award each year to an individual who is preparing a paper on an aspect of the health sciences in Arkansas. The award is for $1000 that may be used for expenses related to the project.

The goal of the award is to encourage original research that contributes to the history of the health sciences in Arkansas.

The applicant must submit a brief abstract (about 100 words) of the proposal, statement of the significance of the proposal, summary of the proposal (1-2 pages), detailed budget, anticipated completion date, and brief resume or curriculum vitae.

Proposals should be submitted to the Treasurer of the Associates by **May 31, 2004**. Guidelines are available from the Treasurer, Margaret Johnson, (501) 686-6733, JohnsonMargaretA@uams.edu, or the UAMS Library webpage [www.library.uams.edu/services/HRC/award.htm](http://www.library.uams.edu/services/HRC/award.htm).

Margaret Johnson,
Head, Historical Research Center
The UAMS Library Book Sale, held on March 2, 2004, earned $1,097. This amount was the most ever earned by the Book Sale, and will be used to buy books, journals, databases and other Library necessities. Thanks to everyone who donated items, or purchased items. You made this annual event worthwhile!

Mary Hawks, hawksmarys@uams.edu
Collection Management Librarian