



FHSL ALERT

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PRESIDENT'S PAGE

Florida is a very complex state in terms of health care and health science librarianship. Our status as one of the fastest growing states in the nation has created an atmosphere of constant influx and transition which presents many challenges to the health care system.

- Our reputation as a retirement haven has created a steadily growing population of elderly, with their accompanying health problems.
- The recent influx of illegal aliens from Cuba and Haiti has also brought new medical challenges to our state.
- Tuberculosis has grown to epidemic proportions in Florida.
- Florida follows closely behind New York and San Francisco in the number of reported AIDS cases.

These unique health care problems coupled with Governor Chiles' strides toward health care reform have created an atmosphere of economic crisis for many health care institutions. Mergers and downsizing have adversely impacted many health care libraries. Hospitals are closing or reducing libraries at an alarming rate. Support staff and book budgets are only memories to many of us.

From my perspective as President of FHSLA, I have the unique opportunity to speak with many different librarians throughout our state. I am pleased to report to you that Florida health care librarians are meeting the challenges of the '90s in many creative and innovative ways.

CD-ROM technology and its resultant user-friendly research formats have paved the way for librarians to serve as guides on the information super highway and have earned a new respect for our profession from the physicians and health care professionals we serve. Many small libraries are now offering outreach services through modems and telecommunications systems, thus serving an ever broadening range of clientele.

By far the most important tool librarians can use to meet the challenges to our profession is networking. Consortia are strong and vital in Florida and serve to disseminate a much larger quantity of information than any one small library could possibly provide. The innovative SEND project which serve to link libraries of similar size for reciprocal borrowing arrangements becomes stronger every day.

I urge all of you to maintain or create relationships with your neighboring libraries and consortia and to reach out to smaller, remote libraries to bring them in to existing networks. We must not give in to the temptation to withdraw from our colleagues because we are overburdened with work, but to reach out and offer assistance and friendship to our neighbors. We must continue our tradition of cooperation and reciprocation and together we will face the challenges of the '90s and thrive.

Linda Kressal, President, FSHLA

JAHIL

Two new members have joined the JAHIL (Jacksonville Area Health Information Libraries) Consortium. They are the CPC ST. Johns River Hospital and the Northeast Florida AHEC, both of which are located in Jacksonville.

At a special meeting of the JAHIL/Borland Library Advisory Committee on October 18th, Donna Watkins Training/Consultation Coordinator with the NN/LM SE/A REGION, spoke to the members and guests on the new accreditation standards of JCAHO. She emphasized the information management portion of the standards and the importance of an in-house library in the hospital.

Carolyn Hall, University of Florida, Borland Library

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

As we close out 1994, we have 154 members including eleven honorary members and thirteen new members. Several members have renewed since the 1994 Membership Director was published. These additions and address changes are published as an addendum to the Directory, which you will find in this mailing.

Welcome to Kathleen McCook, Dean, University of South Florida School of Library and Information Science who has just joined!

It is now time to renew your membership for 1995. Included in this mailing is a 1995 membership form. Please take a minute now to renew.

The 1994/95 Membership Committee includes Diana Akins, Pat Jennings and Addajane Wallace.

Pam Neumann, Membership Chair

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT: UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA HEALTH SCIENCE CENTER LIBRARY

Librarians attending the 44th Annual Meeting of the Southern Chapter of the Medical Library Association in Orlando, Oct. 22-25, included: Janet Coggan, Trudi Di Trollo, Clarissa Fisher, Barbara Francis, Peggy Hsu, Faith Meakin, Polly Porter, Ted Srygley, Prudence Tucker, and Susan Woods from the University of Florida Health Science Center Library. Carolyn Hall, Deborah Lawless, and Pam Neumann from the Borland Library in Jacksonville also attended.

Ted Srygley, retired Director of the Health Science Center Library at the University of Florida, participated in a panel discussion on "Retirement Planning: Your Ticket to Tomorrowland" on Oct. 23 at the Southern Chapter meeting in Orlando. Mr. Srygley was given an Honorary Membership to the Chapter

at the annual banquet held on Oct. 23. His membership marks only the 11th time an Honorary Membership to the Chapter has been awarded.

University of Florida Health Science Center Library faculty members were active participants in the program of the Southern Chapter meeting held in Orlando on October 23 and 24.

Clarissa Fisher, Head of Access Services, delivered a paper, "Cross Training in Access Service: An Asset in the Downsized Library," in the session on Librarians' Image and Roles.

P. Peggy Hsu, Acting Head of Information Services, gave a paper, "A Curriculum Committee in a Health Science Center Library," in the session on Instruction and Teaching. Also listed as co-authors were Barbara W. Francis, Susan E. Woods, and Janet M. Coggan.

Janet M. Coggan gave a paper, "Distance Education: Developing a Medical Informatics Education Program to Support a Statewide Health Information Network," in the session on Instruction and Teaching. Susan E. Woods was the primary author of the paper.

A poster session on the "History of the Southern Chapter: The Way We Were Then...The Way We Are Now," was given by **Susan E. Woods** and **Janet M. Coggan**.

Two librarians from the University of Florida Health Science Center Library are chairs of committees of the Southern Chapter and met at the Executive Committee sessions during the Chapter meeting held in Orlando. They are **Janet M. Coggan**, Chair of the Honors and Awards Committee, and **Susan E. Woods**, Chair of the Committee on the History of the Southern Chapter. The Executive Committee members voted to change the status of the History Committee from an AD HOC to a Standing Committee.

Janet M. Coggan, University of Florida, Health Science Center Library

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT: UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI LOUIS CALDER MEMORIAL LIBRARY

PERSONALS

IN MEMORIAM: JAMES P. CLARK

The Louis Calder Memorial Library bids loving farewell to Jim Clark, Head of the Document Delivery and Interlibrary Loan Department. Jim died on June 26, 1994 after a long illness that he fought with courage and dignity. His many friends and colleagues throughout the Library, the School, the University and the health sciences community attended a memorial at the Calder Library on September 20, 1994.

AUGUST La ROCCO

August La Rocco, Coordinator of the Library's Ellen Gartenfeld Health Information Network, retired on May 31, 1994 after 20 years of service to the Calder Library.

A gifted bibliographer, Gus' contributions to the Library's programs during the past two decades were numerous. It was during Gus' tenure as head of the Library's reference department that MEDLINE searching was introduced in 1976. At that time, he began what would become a continued investigation of the comparative features of the many online health sciences databases available to assist librarians and users identify the best sources to answer their information needs.

Gus' previous experience at the New York Public Library from 1951-1961 and his public health experience at the Haven Emerson Public Health Library and the Harvard School of Public Health from 1961-1974 resulted in his appointment as Coordinator of the Ellen Gartenfeld Health Information Network when it was established in 1985. Gus was singularly responsible for selecting books and journals for

the consumer health collection and filling the ever growing number of requests for health information from the diverse South Florida community until his retirement in May.

Gus contributed widely and generously to the professional literature, beginning with a book review column in 1960, numerous grant-supported bibliographies and articles on poverty and public health from 1966 to 1977, and, more recently, articles and presentations on consumer health, including an article on the Ellen Gartenfeld Health Information Network in the January, 1994 symposium on consumer health in the *Bulletin of the Medical Library Association*.

Joaquin (Joe) Arriaga, assumed the duties of the reference/consumer health librarian at the Louis Calder Memorial Library on August 1, 1994. Mr. Arriaga came to Miami from the Mid-Manhattan Branch of the New York Public Library where he was head of the Science Unit since 1986.

Suzetta Burrows, Perry, M.J., Tylman, V.T. and Lemkau, H.L.L., Jr. published "The Southeast Florida AIDS Information Network: a community outreach, specialized information system" in *Medical Reference Services Quarterly*, 13(1):1-18, Spring, 1994. Together with Ms. Tylman and Mr. Williams, Ms. Burrows presented a poster session on SEFAIN at the Annual Meeting of the Medical Library Association, May, 1994 in San Antonio, TX. She was a panelist on the "Fiscal Constraints of the 90's: Problems and Solutions" session at the MLA meeting.

Yanira Garcia was promoted to Coordinator for Reference Services effective June 1, 1994. In her new position, Jenny will assume more responsibility for the day-to-day activities of the reference desk, including consumer health activities.

David B. Goolabsingh was appointed Director for Interlibrary Loan and Learning Resources Center at the Louis Calder Memorial Library effective October 1, 1994. Mr. Goolabsingh

returns to the Library from the Miami Dade Public Library System/West Kendall Regional Library.

August La Rocco published "The role of the medical school-based consumer health information service" in *Bulletin of the Medical Library Association*, 82(1):46-51, January, 1994.

Henry L. Lemkau, Jr. was hooded at the May, 1994 ceremony of the University of Miami School of Law. Mr. Lemkau received his J.D. degree in August.

Vislava Tylman published "Information services of university and medical libraries in the United States" in Polish in *National Library Yearbook*, 26:165-176, 1993.

Thomas Williams published a book review on J. Martin's *Client/Server Computing* (McGraw-Hill, 1993) in *CD-ROM Librarian* 7(3):155, May, 1994.

NEW UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI BIOMEDICAL GOPHER AND INTERNET COURSES

The Louis Calder Memorial Library is very pleased to announce that its University of Miami Biomedical Gopher is now available for searching by all individuals throughout the University and the world with access to the Internet. For rapid and easy access, hundreds of timely and valuable electronic sources of biomedical information have been identified and categorized by specific disciplines and diseases, such as molecular biology and AIDS. General health sciences resources, such as health care reform, grants and bibliographic databases, appear under the General Health Sciences Resources main menu option. Other main menu option include information about the gopher and the Library and ready access to other gophers at the School, University, and throughout the world. The Library is offering a free introductory course on the basics of the Internet and its Gopher. During the fall, the Library will provide point and click access to the ever increasing number of health sciences resources available on the WWW (World Wide

Web) and many School of Medicine resources, such as the School's catalog, calendar, newsletter, faculty, CME programs, etc. via the Mosaic software program.

NEW UNIX VERSION OF CALDER MEDLINE

The Louis Calder Memorial Library upgraded its MEDLINE system from a DOS-based system with 20 simultaneous users to a UNIX-based system with 30 simultaneous users during the summer, 1994. With the exception of printing citations, the new OVID UNIX search software is identical to the OVID DOS software you have been using. The new UNIX system benefits all existing and new users. In addition to supporting future system capabilities, immediate benefits of the new system include faster response time, which will result in more economical searches, and ready network access with no RAM requirements for all PC, Mac, and even dumb terminals.

FREE CLASSES ON SEARCHING CURRENT CONTENTS ONLINE

On July 18 and 19, 1994, at the Institute for Scientific Information conducted classes on searching the Library's Current Contents databases: *Life Sciences*, *Clinical Medicine*, and *Social & Behavioral Sciences*. The classes were held in the Library's electronic classroom and taught users to search for articles published within the last few weeks in 2,500 journals. Attendees also learned how to create a profile that reflects the topic(s) or author(s) they need to keep pace with, and how to save, then execute the profile(s) weekly in all three Current Contents files.

Suzetta Burrows, University of Miami, Louis Calder Memorial Library

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT: UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER LIBRARY

PERSONALS

Rose Bland, Information Services Librarian, has been promoted to the position of MEDNET Administrator/Information Services Librarian. MEDNET is the name given to our CD PLUS PlusNet2 network. Rose had been unofficially performing the duties of administrator since the system was installed in December, 1992. We're very pleased to be able to reward her efforts with this promotion.

Susan Quinn, Development Librarian, left the USF HSC Library staff in September, 1994, to take a position as Director of Information Services at The American College of Physician Executives.

The USF HSC Library and the Tampa Bay Medical Library Network (Tabamlin) hosted the MLA Southern Chapter Meeting in Orlando on October 22-25. All of the Library's faculty, some of the staff, along with several members of Tabamlin served on the Local Arrangements Committee. It was an exciting, exhausting, time-consuming, frustrating, and ultimately extremely rewarding experience. **Donna Doelling**, Reference Manager at the USF HSC Library, served as Conference Coordinator and did a wonderful job pulling together every minute aspect of the meeting!

We all want to express our deep appreciation for the work done by the USF HSC Library's Team of Paraprofessional Support (TOPS) group. TOPS is the outgrowth of a workshop for paraprofessionals given at the University of Florida in 1992. The 4 staff members who attended this workshop returned full of enthusiasm and ready to expand their role in the Library's structure. The formation of TOPS has been extremely rewarding for both the members and the Library. The TOPS had full

responsibility for all the registration activities for the conference along with a number of added miscellaneous duties.

COMPUTER LAB SERVICES EXPANDED

Both the PC and MAC work stations in the HSC Library's Computer Lab were networked in the Summer, 1994. This has allowed us to offer MEDNET access on all but 3 of the Lab's work stations. Previously, MEDNET had been available on only 4 machines in the Lab. With our use of MEDNET at Lab workstations increasing from 400 hours to 1600 hours between February, 1993, and February, 1994, more work stations were desperately needed.

Also during the Summer, 1994, the College of Medicine installed a UNIX name server which has allowed each College of Medicine student to receive an Internet address. With the Lab networked, we are able to offer the students a number of work stations to use to access their email.

MOSAIC HOME PAGE

Another benefit of the College of Medicine UNIX name server has been that the Library has been able to set up a MOSAIC home page. The home page includes all of the Library's brochures and handouts, expanded information about the services offered by the different departments of the Library, and a News Flashes section which lists new items of information. Patrons can also access NLM and Florida's LUIS database. Most exciting to the Library is that patrons are provided forms through which they can order photocopying and ILLs, recommend materials for purchase, and send suggestion box recommendations about the Library. The information is then sent to Library email addresses for processing.

LATE BREAKING NEWS

The Health Science Center Library of the University of Florida is pleased to sponsor the 1995 Annual Meeting of the Florida Health Sciences Library Association, April 5-7. This

year's theme is "News You Can Use: The Changing Library Environment." Registration packets will be mailed in February. The contact person is Trudi Di Trolio, Program Chair. We hope to see all FHSLA members in Gainesville for this annual event.

Janet M. Coggan, University of Florida, Health Science Center Library

EDITOR'S NOTE

Susan Quinn resigned as Co-editor when she left the USF HSC Library faculty. I have not decided yet whether to look for another co-editor from our staff or to continue as the sole editor. Certainly, the wonderful support that the ALERT receives from FSHLA officers and reporters makes the Editor's job very simple.

*Judy F. Johnston,
University of South Florida, Health Science Center Library*