

Falk Library of the Health Sciences

Staff Newsletter

April 1990

Retrospective Conversion Records Loaded

Retrospective conversion records for all Falk, Nursing and GSPH Library shelflist records have been loaded into the NOTIS/PITTCAT system. These records were created by Amigos Conversion Services, in Dallas Texas, in a project funded by the Health Sciences Library Consortium. These records nearly complete the conversion of our Library's holdings to machine readable form. Over thirty thousand records have been added to our catalog through this load. We are aware of a number of minor errors which may occur in these records and ask the cooperation of all staff in reporting any "unusual" looking records to Cataloging Department. A program is being run to create barcode labels for all of these records in early April. We expect to receive the actual barcodes some time in July and will begin a project of barcoding and inventory of all books when they are received.

Monograph Collections Being Integrated

The monograph collections of the GSPH Library and Falk Library are being integrated into a single run on the mezzanine level of the Library. The pre-1966 monographs from the GSPH collection have been relocated to remote storage and integration of the oversize section has begun. While the merge is in progress, please refer any access problems to Circulation staff. The project is on schedule and expected to be completed in early May.

Preservation of Fragile Volumes

The Library has begun a preservation project to protect our brittle journals from further damage. Over 200 brittle volumes have been identified and measured for the construction of archival boxes. These boxes will allow the brittle volumes to be shelved without further damage and will halt further deterioration of the acid paper in them.

New Notis Software to be Installed

NOTIS version 4.6.1 is scheduled to be installed in the second week in May. This new version of NOTIS includes an entirely new index, called the Merged Headings Index, which will be available in technical services mode only. This new index will make cross-references available in the catalog and will allow the Library of Congress Subject Headings to be loaded and automatically updated in the NOTIS catalog. A PITTCAT interface to this new index is

scheduled to be available in NOTIS Version 5.0 software, which will be available in approximately one year.

MMC Expansion

As you are probably aware, the MMC is acquiring new space. The additional room (about 600 square feet) will function both as a classroom and as an extension to the public cluster. Machines will be in a horseshoe shape around three walls, with the fourth wall clear for projection. This year's budget will allow us to buy five or six new Macintoshes for the new room. We will also be moving some of the existing machines into the new room to reduce crowding.

Omnipage

The MMC now has Omnipage, text-scanning software for the Macintosh. Scanned text can be transferred to a DOS diskette using MacLink. Both Omnipage and MacLink are available on Macintosh #12. We can help you convert printed copies of handouts or reports to machine-readable form. If you would like to try it out or have a demo, please come in the morning when the MMC is least busy.

Clinical Library Program for Surgery

In March the Reference Department began a Clinical Library Program for the Presbyterian-University Hospital Department of Surgery. The service provides information for direct patient care, selected conferences, and Journal Club, through searches of the medical literature and photocopies of relevant articles. As part of the program the library will be developing a reprint collection of landmark or state-of-the-art articles for the Department of Surgery Library, and providing basic and advanced MEDLINE training for those interested in doing their own searching.

As with the existing program for the Department of Medicine, services for the Surgery Program are being provided free of charge under the subsidized services portion of the Management Agreement between Presbyterian-University Hospital and Falk Library. In the initial six month pilot phase of the program, services are being provided to: Complications, Vascular, and Trauma Conference presenters and attendees; the General Surgery Journal Club presenters and attendees; and Presbyterian-University Hospital Department of Surgery direct patient care providers. Jill Foust and Charles Wessel are attending the conferences and Journal Club, and are responsible for program development and implementation.

User Education Liaisons

As part of the library's plan to further develop its user education programs, Reference Librarians will be serving as liaisons to the Health Sciences Schools. Through these assignments, the library hopes to expand its orientation programs, and further integrate library and information-seeking skills into the health sciences curriculum. The user education liaisons are as follows:

Dental Sciences - Katherine Schilling

Graduate School
of Public Health - June Bandemer

Health Related
Professions - Jill Foust, Susan St. Clair

Medicine - Jill Foust, Alice Kuller, Charles Wessel

Nursing - Katherine Schilling

Pharmacy - Susan St. Clair

Requests by faculty, staff or students for user education (tours, training programs, course-related instructional programs, etc.) should be referred to the appropriate liaison(s).

CALM Survey

Several Falk staff have been working with the School of Medicine's Computer Assisted Learning of Medicine Committee to draft a computer survey and distribute it to all School of Medicine Faculty. The purpose of the survey is to assess the level of faculty awareness, understanding, and application of computers in teaching and research. Analysis of the survey's results will help to determine how computers will be used in the revised curriculum. The survey will also provide faculty input which will assist in the development of future programs to encourage faculty computer usage. The survey was distributed in March with the assistance of the Administrators in all School of Medicine Departments. Beth Dion is now tabulating the results of the survey.

Facilities

Over the next several months, all of the library study tables will be stained to a darker color (same color as study carrels upstairs) and refinished with new laminate tops. All of our doors and stack ends will also be stained to a darker color.

New upholstered study chairs have been ordered for the second floor. We will examine all of the straightback wooden study

chairs and retain those in the best condition on the mezzanine floor. If funds are available in the coming years we will eventually replace all of the chairs on the mezzanine.

You have probably noticed that our plants are not thriving. The company that was maintaining our plants has gone out of business. We will be hiring a new company and replacing many of the plants.

Staff Activities

Nancy Green, GSPH Project Cataloger, has accepted a position as Cataloger at the Health Sciences Center Library of the University of Wisconsin at Madison. Nancy will be working at Falk through the end of May.

Alice Kuller and Charles Wessel gave a poster presentation at the Pennsylvania State Health Sciences Librarians Meeting in Lancaster, PA on March 20-21. The poster session was titled "Integration of a Hospital Library Services Program with the Reference Department of an Academic Medical Library". Information was presented on the services and collections provided through the Falk and Presby Libraries, and the Medicine and Surgery Clinical Library Programs.

Pat Mickelson attended the monthly Health Sciences Libraries Consortium Meeting on March 28th at the new Consortium offices at 3600 Market St. in Philadelphia.

Pat Mickelson attended the Greater Northeastern Regional Medical Library Regional Advisory Committee Meeting on March 29th and the Resource and Area Library Director's meeting on March 30th at the New York Academy of Medicine in New York City. A major topic of discussion was the new regional reconfiguration. Region 1 is being divided into two regions: New York, PA, N.J. and Delaware and will comprise Region 1 and New England states will become the new Region 8. Also discussed was the Request for Proposal for RML contracts which was recently released by the National Library of Medicine. The new focus of RML activities will be service to unaffiliated users and promotion of NLM products such as Grateful Med and Loansome Doc (See the attached description of Loansome Doc.)

LOANSOME DOC

In its continuing effort to reach out to individual health professionals and to integrate them into the Regional Medical Library (RML) Network, the National Library of Medicine (NLM) is developing a new program called LOANSOME DOC. LOANSOME DOC will provide a Grateful Med (GM)/DOCLINE link which will enable the health professional to order documents electronically through a local DOCLINE library. Enhancements to the GM software will allow the health professional to perform a GM search and, after reviewing it, identify specific citations to order from his/her library.

All GM users will be offered the opportunity to activate the Document Ordering Capability of their GM program. In order to do so, each must identify a DOCLINE library as its primary ordering library. NLM and the RMLs are already in the preliminary stages of identifying libraries which are both willing and able to participate in this linking process. GM users with library affiliations will be able to sign on with their own libraries. Unaffiliated users will be instructed to contact the RML for information about which libraries can provide service.

Enhancements to the DOCLINE software will enable the participating library to retrieve the document orders from the GM Order File. The library will then either fill the request from its own collection or electronically transfer the document order to DOCLINE to be filled within the network. Within the DOCLINE network these requests will be no different than any other request entered or referred by participating DOCLINE libraries. No individual will have his or her own routing table; all DOCLINE requests will be entered only by libraries.

There will be no additional costs to DOCLINE libraries for the document delivery capability in GM. Any charges for the LOANSOME DOC link between health professional and library will be negotiated by the parties involved. LOANSOME DOC will provide monthly statistics for billing but will not include a formal billing program.

LOANSOME DOC will be a major undertaking which will undergo substantial testing before its implementation. A pilot testing program is scheduled for this summer. When it becomes available, LOANSOME DOC promises to be an exciting addition to the range of products and services available to the health professional through the RML Network.