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George Washington University, Himmelfarb Health Sciences Library

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miniMEDLINE DIAL ACCESS
AVAILABLE SOON

Beginning in April, Medical Center faculty, staff, and students will be able to search miniMEDLINE from their homes or offices by dialing into the Library's computer. After becoming available last July, miniMEDLINE has only been accessible through terminals located in the Library. Soon, you will be able to search the system day or night without having to come to the Library. The database now contains references from over 400 clinical and basic science journals from 1986 to the present. You may search by author, title keywords, subject, or any combination of these. The equipment that you will need to dial in includes a terminal or personal computer, a modem, telecommunications software, and a phone line. You also must register with the Library as a dial-access user. Once you have registered, we will mail you the instructions necessary for dialing in.

If you have any questions about miniMEDLINE, equipment, or software, or to pick up a dial-access registration packet, please stop by the Reference Desk or call Laurie Thompson at ext. 42853.

PHONEFICHE

For those of you who occasionally have need to consult an out-of-town telephone book, Himmelfarb now houses a collection of telephone books on microfiche. Called PhoneFiche, this collection is located at the microfiche table on the first floor of the Library. It is not yet complete, but does contain a great many of the major cities of the U.S.

FREE MESH FOR ONLINE SEARCHING

The Library has available a limited number of copies of the 1985 MeSH books for searching. Please call the Reference Desk at ext. 42850 if you are interested.
NO JOURNAL CUTS PLANNED

We have heard that Gelman Library is cancelling a large number of journals because of various budget considerations. We would like to reassure Himmelfarb Library users that we have no plans at this time to cancel any journal titles. The Library selects and deselects journals once a year, in August, for implementation in January. While we cancelled 14 seldom-used titles this past January, careful planning and our ongoing journal review allowed us to add 38 new titles to the collection.

UPCOMING CLASSES

The following classes still have openings. To register, call the Reference Desk at ext. 42850. The starred (*) classes are $15 for GWUMC faculty and staff and free to GWUMC students. All other classes are free.

March 17
10:00 - 11:30
Workshop for Secretaries and Research Assistants

March 17
3:00 - 5:00
BRS/Colleague Introduction

March 22 & 24
6:00 - 9:00 pm
*Medline for the Health Professional

April 20
2:00 - 4:00
*Using the Graphics Plotter

MARCH IS ONLINE SEARCHING MONTH

On each Wednesday during March, Library staff will demonstrate a system that health professionals may use to do their own online searching of the MEDLINE and other databases. This will be a good opportunity for you to compare the different systems before selecting the best one for you. Come to the Library's Room B103 anytime between 3:00 and 5:00. You do not need to register in advance.

March 2 Paperchase 3-5 pm
March 9 Grateful Med 3-5 pm
March 16 BR/Colleague 3-5 pm
March 23 Dialog Medical Connection 3-5 pm
March 30 AMA/NET 3-5 pm

RESEARCH: THE BUCK STARTS HERE

Research: The Buck Starts Here, a joint venture between the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs and Himmelfarb Library, is a five-part seminar on research grant funding. Dr. Michael Jackson, Associate Dean for Research and Sponsored Programs, will present an overview of the research funding environment at the first noon-hour session on April 7, 1988. Subsequent noon-hour sessions will focus on the identification of funding agencies (April 14 and April 21) and the writing of a successful proposal (April 26 and April 28). For more information, call the Reference Desk at 994-2850.
The Library owns a number of computer-assisted-instruction (CAI) programs that medical and allied health students have been using to supplement their studies.

MICAL and PSYCAL are two programs available through the Upjohn Company. They were developed by faculty and medical students at the University of California at San Francisco. MICAL simulates eight infectious disease cases, including hepatitis B, pneumococcal pneumonia and infectious mononucleosis. The student is given the chief complaint and must choose which organ systems to examine and which lab test to conduct. The goal is to determine the specific organism causing the disease and to choose an appropriate treatment.

PSYCAL is a similar program, but, as the name implies, for five psychiatric cases. The student must first take a history and examine the patient. The program requires a differential diagnosis before lab tests can be ordered. Parts of the DMS III are available in the program for clarification of the diagnostic criteria for a specific disorder. PSYCAL is presently used by third-year medical students during their psychiatry rotation.

Each of the PSYCAL and MICAL cases takes approximately thirty minutes to complete. Both programs are copy-righted, however, Upjohn allows students to make copies for their personal use.

For more information on the CAI programs owned by the Library, contact Lynne Apostle, Microcomputer Librarian, at ext. 40284.

SOFTWARE FOR FILE MANAGEMENT

Drop in at the Library on Tuesdays during the month of April between 3:00 and 5:00 for a demonstration of four commercially available software packages used for reprint file management. Ask the experts for assistance in organizing your collection of articles!

April 5   Reference Mgr  3-5 pm
April 12  Sci-Mate     3-5 pm
April 19  Notebook     3-5 pm
April 26  Bookends    3-5 pm
            (Apple)

All systems are IBM-compatible except where noted. All demonstrations will be held in B103 and no registration is necessary.
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