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12-31-1988

Information Interface - Volume 13, Issue 1 -
January/February 1989

George Washington University, Himmelfarb Health Sciences Library

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Recommended Citation

George Washington University, Himmelfarb Health Sciences Library, "Information Interface - Volume 13, Issue 1 - January/February 1989" (1988). *Information Interface (1976 - 2009)*. Paper 77.
<https://hsrc.himmelfarb.gwu.edu/ii/77>

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Information Interface

Himmelfarb Library
George Washington University
Medical Center

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1989

STATISTICS SEMINARS

Himmelfarb Library in conjunction with the Office of Sponsored Research will host a four part seminar series called **Statistics & Design for Clinical Research.** These seminars will be led by staff members from the Biostatistics Research Department of Children's Hospital.

In an earlier **Information Interface**, it was announced that these seminars would take place in January 1989. The dates have been postponed until April 1989.

The noonhour seminars will take place each Wednesday beginning April 5, 1989, in Himmelfarb Library, Room B103. Everyone is welcome to attend and to bring a sack lunch. **No preregistration is necessary.** For more information, call the Reference Desk at 994-2850.

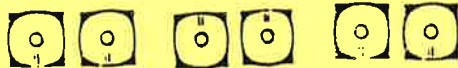
HOSPITAL READING ROOM STAFFING

Beginning in January, 1989, the Hospital Reading Room (HRR) will be staffed from 1-4 pm, Monday through Friday.

Himmelfarb Library staff will provide literature searching, collection information, take search or interlibrary loan requests, and serve as contact for any of the services offered by Himmelfarb Library.

If you are a Hospital staff member who finds it difficult to visit Himmelfarb during the time when there are Reference Staff available to help you with your research, take advantage of the HRR to touch base with Barbara Collins, Hospital Liaison/Reference Librarian.

Call Mrs. Collins during the afternoon hours at ext. 43525, or call the Reference Desk at Himmelfarb at ext. 42850 to arrange for assistance of any kind.



THE BRAIN VIRUS: DIAGNOSTIC AND SURGICAL PROCEDURES FOR CURING IT

What is the BRAIN virus? Let's first say what it is not. "BRAIN" as computer types call it, is NOT biological in nature. Humans can't catch it! BRAIN is strictly an electronic virus. It can only "infect" and harm floppy disk software, and, in a later version of this virus, hard disks, that run in IBM computers or IBM clones/compatibles. BRAIN--if it has infected your software or hard disk--can damage files and programs.

How do you know if you have BRAIN? It's not hard to detect. To find out if you have BRAIN on a floppy disk, put the suspect disk in the "a" drive of your computer, which must be already booted up (started). At the "A>" prompt, type in the letters "vol" and hit return. If you have BRAIN, the following words will appear on your computer screen: "Volume in A drive is BRAIN". If not, you'll simply see the correct name of the volume or a message saying the volume has no label. If you want to check for BRAIN lurking in a hard disk, type in the letters "vol" and hit return at the "C>" prompt from the root directory. The same message notifying you that you have the virus appears in floppies and in hard disks.

What do you do if BRAIN is found? You must copy each file from the diseased disk onto a formatted new disk. This must be done by using the DOS "copy" command. You can copy each file one at a time or by using a wild card procedure. DO NOT USE THE "DISKCOPY" COMMAND when copying files from the infected disk! If you do, you will also copy the virus onto the new disk! When done copying the files, you can either toss the bad disk into the trash or reformat it.

Reformatting will kill the virus. BEWARE: Merely deleting files from an infected disk will NOT remove the virus. Those using infected hard disks have to especially keep this in mind. Diseased hard disks will have to be entirely reformatted. This is another reason why you should have consistently backed-up your hard disk onto floppies. You can easily copy your backup floppies onto the hard disk after reformatting it.

The BEST precaution to take in order to avoid BRAIN is nothing more than a good dose of preventive medicine! This means avoiding the use of pirated copies of software. Why? Because many cases of BRAIN come from pirated or illegal copies of legitimate software programs. For example, you may have obtained a copy of a program from a colleague who had obtained it from another colleague, and so on. Thus, you may actually have the 500th copy of the program. The virus is passed on each time the software is copied. By the time you received your copy, that copy may have been infected quite a while back and passed on to many people. Hence, only use legal copies of software made from programs that you purchased. This is especially true about DOS programs, which are the most common carriers of BRAIN.

Another safeguard to prevent virus transmission is to avoid using someone else's DOS on multi-user machines. Always turn off the computer and reboot with your own clean copy of DOS.

Cliff Urr
Microcomputer Lab Librarian,
Himmelfarb Library

MEDLINE FEES TO INCREASE IN JULY 1989

Since 1984, the Library has been able to provide Medical Center faculty, staff and students with MEDLINE searches at a minimal cost: \$6 (faculty, staff); \$3 (students). The Medical Center Administration subsidized the search service to a large extent and has absorbed all subsequent price increases from the National Library of Medicine and telecommunications networks.

The Library began providing free searches for Medical Center faculty, staff and students through the miniMEDLINE database (a subset of MEDLINE consisting of citations from over 400 Himmelfarb journals) in August, 1987. In addition, the Library has recently made the MEDLINE database available through a CDROM system station. The Medical Center Administration will continue to partially subsidize the MEDLINE search service. However, a modest increase in fees is necessary.

Beginning July 1, 1989, the MEDLINE fee structure will be: All MEDLARS databases (including MEDLINE, HEALTH, and CANCERLIT, excluding TOXLINE):

Minimum cost includes up to 50 citations without abstracts:
\$6.00/topic/database GWUMC students
\$8.00/topic/database GWUMC faculty, staff, residents, interns, fellows

GWUMC patrons will continue to be charged the actual cost of additional online services. These include:
-over 50 citations at \$.20/page offline or actual cost online (depending on how long patron can wait for results)
-abstracts at \$.20/page offline or actual cost online
-databases other than MEDLARS

The above rates apply to GWU Medical Center faculty, staff and students. Rates for non-Medical Center patrons will remain the same (\$10 minimum for other GWU patrons and \$35 per half hour plus the cost of the search for non-GWU). Medical Center patrons will still be charged the full cost of searches on databases such as BIOSIS, PsycINFO, TOXLINE, Chemical Abstracts, ScISEARCH, etc.

SDI (Selective Dissemination of Information or, simply, monthly updates):

GWUMC patrons will be charged the cost for the initial request at a rate of \$6.00 or \$8.00 plus the actual monthly costs (which on MEDLINE run about \$1.00/month plus \$.25/page).

Cash or I.P. will continue to be required for payment unless special authorization has been given to charge to departmental accounts. Once a search is requested, the patron is responsible for payment regardless of the results of the research.

For further information, ask at the Reference Desk or call Anne Linton at 48478 or Elaine Martin at 41826.

miniMEDLINE in HOSPITAL READING ROOM

The miniMEDLINE terminal in the Hospital Reading Room (HRR) is now equipped with a printer. We hope that this will increase the usefulness of the miniMEDLINE System for Hospital staff. During times when the HRR is not staffed, please report difficulties with the system or the printer to the Himmelfarb Reference Desk, ext. 42850.

Wanted:

GWUMC faculty to demonstrate their Computer-Assisted-Instructional (CAI) software projects at a GWUMC Faculty CAI Fest in the Himmelfarb Library's B103 on Thursday, January 26, 1989.

For further information, contact Elaine Martin, Himmelfarb Library, ext. 41826.

NEW STAFF

Margaret Bunnell is the new Interlibrary Loan Assistant, replacing Heather Combs-Potter, who is now Reference Specialist at Himmelfarb.

Margaret has a graduate degree in Education with a major in Fine Arts, and invites you to ask for her definition of a "Hoosier".

Reva Greenstein has been promoted from Cataloging Assistant to Cataloging Specialist. Congratulations Margaret, Heather and Reva.

The Information Interface is Published 6 times a year by the Himmelfarb Health Sciences Library, George Washington University Medical Center, 2300 Eye Street N.W., Washington, D.C. 20037. Editor: Barbara Collins; Assistant Editor: Dana Powell-Givens; Faculty Publications Editor: Anne Linton; Contributions to this issue: Library Staff.



GWUMC Faculty Publications

Compiled by The Himmelfarb Library

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LIBRARY HOURS

	<u>LIBRARY</u>	<u>AVSC</u>
Mon. - Thurs.	7:30 am - Midnight	7:30 am - Midnight
Friday	7:30 am - 10:00 pm	7:30 am - 8:00 pm
Saturday	10:00 am - 10:00 pm	10:00 am - 6:00 pm
Sunday	10:00 am - Midnight	10:00 am - 10:00 pm

The Library is open to the public Monday through Friday from 7:30am to 6:00pm

HOLIDAY HOURS

Monday Jan. 16th	10:00 am - Midnight	10:00 am - Midnight
Friday Jan. 20th	10:00 am - 10:00 pm	10:00 am - 8:00 pm

The Library will be closed to the public on Friday January 20th.

INFORMATION INTERFACE

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2300 Eye St., N.W. Washington, D.C. 20037