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Information Interface - Volume 28, Issue 1 - January/February 2000

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Information Interface

Volume 28 Issue 1

January/February 2000

- Office of Educational Resources
- School of Medicine and Health Sciences
- School of Public Health and Health Services

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Himmelfarb Library

From the Director's Desk

Dear faculty:

I'd like to bring you up-to-date on the journal situation. Sixty-five titles were considered for cancellation. Because of the response from faculty, the following 12 titles were retained: American Journal of Distance Education, Annals of Oncology, Atherosclerosis, Canadian Journal of Applied Physiology, EMBO Journal, Journal of Health Administration Education, Journal of Medical Ethics, Medicolegal Journal, Mental Health U.S., Nature, Oncology, and Sexually Transmitted Infections.

After careful consideration, Himmelfarb Library is dropping 53 titles as of January 2000. The decision process was difficult. Along with faculty input, the following criteria were used in the deletion process: titles with low current use (January to June 1999), low total use over the last 3 years, and high cost per use. Some of the titles selected for cancellation are still held at Gelman Library. Journals added only last year to support new educational programs could not be cut.

Earlier this year, medical journal price increases were estimated at between 8 and 10 %; however, a recent study actually shows a 13.8% average increase. At Himmelfarb, we saw increases of \$500 on some titles and one title doubled in price. Along with price increases, the library had to factor in its mandated budget reduction. After faculty input was solicited through the listserv, the Director, Deputy Director, and Head of Collec-

tion Development and Acquisitions reviewed the list and made the final decisions.

The high inflation rate of journals has created a crisis in scholarly publishing, especially in medical and scientific titles. We are being pro-active by working with library groups to respond to this issue. For instance, GW is a member of the Scholarly Publishing and Academic Resources Coalition (SPARC). We will keep you informed of progress in these issues. The GW libraries will sponsor a SPARC session for faculty this spring. A Web-based repository for barrier-free access to primary reports in the life sciences called PubMed Central has been proposed by Dr. Varmis at the National Institutes of Health. We will invite a representative to speak about this initiative in the spring of 2000.

Again, thank you for your concern and thoughtful input; it was invaluable. The library's goal is to have a collection that meets the needs of the faculty, staff and students. I encourage your continued input as we work towards that goal.

Sincerely,

Anne Linton, Director
202-994-1826
mlbaml@gwumc.edu

Himmelfarb Library Responds to Your Comments

In our second installment of results from the Electronic Resources Survey we will highlight the questions relating to electronic access. The full report is available at the following url: <http://www.gwumc.edu/library/99report.htm>

Can the Library provide off-campus access to all resources?

Access to the Himmelfarb Library Home Page is open to the world, although many of the resources we have are restricted to "on campus use only" via IP authentication. Through collaboration with the Gelman Library and the WRLC we are able to provide remote access to the OVID family of databases and electronic journals. To access these resources from anywhere off-campus you must be a registered student, faculty, or staff at GWU. You will have to login to the system with your valid social security number. It may also be necessary to reconfigure your Web browser to work with the WRLC proxy server. Instructions for setting up your browser are provided at <http://proxy.wrlc.org:8000/pac>. This will give you access to the OVID databases which Himmelfarb subscribes to as well as access to many of the databases available through the Gelman Library. To access these databases, go to the Library Homepage at <http://www.gwumc.edu/library>. Click on Databases/MEDLINE. The first paragraph contains instructions for accessing the WRLC Aladin system, please click on the highlighted text "WRLC Aladin" to login. You will be prompted to enter a username, which is your social security number.

Other databases that are available from our Library Home Page may be restricted to "on campus use only". We understand that users would like to have access to all Library resources from home, office, and other remote sites, but there are significant technical and financial reasons why this is not yet possible. We are working with University technical staff to over-

come these obstacles.

Will the Himmelfarb Library add more electronic journals and other full text resources?

The Himmelfarb Library Electronic Resources Committee (ERC) evaluates and selects new electronic resources. One of the top priorities for the 1999/2000 year is to find ways to make more electronic journals and full text resources available. We are faced, as is every other department in the Medical Center, with financial constraints. Electronic products are generally more costly than their print counterparts. Many textbooks are also not available online or are only available within a package which could be prohibitively expensive. Over the last year we have subscribed to *Harrison's Online* and *Scientific American Medicine Online*. Both are valuable resources for Internal Medicine. The Library also added the *American Journal of Public Health* to its electronic journal collection.

Other electronic products that we have reviewed are either extremely expensive or are incompatible with our systems. MD Consult and Science Citation Index, two valuable and useful products, were reviewed by the ERC. The cost of both is beyond our reach at this time. MD Consult costs \$25,000 and Science Citation Index, which is part of Institute of Scientific Information's Web of Science package, is nearly \$100,000. Another requested product was board exam tutorials. There are currently over 140 review items available for checkout from the AV Study Center or loaded on the CAI network on the 3rd floor. One other product we reviewed, MKSAP-11 Electronic, was incompatible with our computer configuration.

As more print journals become available online, we will strive to provide access to as many as feasible.

We take your comments, suggestions and questions very seriously and hope that the survey will be a first step in an ongoing dialog.

Himmelfarb Library Responds *(continued)*

Why did the Library change database systems?

Last year the Library switched database vendors, going from the CD-based SilverPlatter system (Novell access) to the Web-based OVID system. Library staff carefully analyzed and compared available systems before making this decision. The switch from the CD system to the OVID Web product allowed for access to the biomedical databases from home. Also, the OVID system provided a number of desirable features, including direct linking from the MEDLINE database to full-text electronic journals and access to Evidence Based Medicine databases. It was not cost effective to maintain two

separate database systems. Further, having the OVID Web-based system is in line with the Library's long-range plan to make all library services and products available from the Library Home Page, the "One Stop Shopping" concept.

We realize that the OVID MEDLINE system does slow down at times. We report these problems to the OVID system administrators as they occur and they are usually resolved within a few hours. PubMed and Internet GrateFul Med, the NIH/National Library of Medicine search systems, are also available from our home page for searching MEDLINE and other biomedical databases.

Spotlight On New Staff

The Outreach Services staff is pleased to welcome 3 new members, two arrived at the end of 1999 and the third started at the beginning of January, 2000. Vicente Watson, Alexandra Gomes and Mary DeJong are all settling into their responsibilities as part of the Himmelfarb Health Sciences Library staff. Stop by and greet these new faces.

Beginning in November, Vicente Watson joined the staff as a Reference Specialist. He comes to George Washington University after working for the City of New York and in the library of Southern Connecticut University. Vicente is available to answer reference questions and assist with software and computer problems on the first floor. He will be teaching Groupwise classes. Vicente can be reached at the Reference Desk (202-994-2850) or directly (202-994-2963).

December brought our new Instructional Technology Librarian, Alexandra Go-

mes. Alex has an extensive background in computer applications, computer assisted instruction (CAI) and teaching. She holds Master degrees in both Education (University of Virginia) and Library Science (Catholic University). Alex will manage the Microcomputer Lab while continuing to teach classes and offer reference services. Contact Alex (202-994-1825) with suggestions for the microcomputer lab and ideas for developing computer assisted instruction.

Mary DeJong, started in January. She is skilled in research and basic sciences. Prior to moving to Washington, Mary was a Research Coordinator at the American Museum of Natural History. She trained as a Medical Librarian at Rutgers University. Mary will be focusing on Evidenced-Based Medicine and acting as clinical liaison to School of Medicine departments. Mary is available through the Reference Desk (202-994-2850) or directly (202-994-8478).

NEW TITLES IN THE BASIC SCIENCES

PHYSIOLOGY

- Brody, Tom. Nutritional Biochemistry. (QP141 .B853 1999)
- Cantor, Charles R. Genomics: the Science and Technology Behind the Human Genome Project. (QP624 .C36 1999)
- Gasteland, Thomas R. The RNA World: the Nature of Modern RNA Suggests a Prebiotic RNA. (QP623 .R6 1999)
- Greeley, George H. Jr. Gastrointestinal Endocrinology. (QP572 .G35 G332 1999)
- Kreis, Thomas. Guidebook to the Cytoskeletal and Motor Proteins. (QP552 .C96 G85 1999)
- Rolls, Edmund T. The Brain and Emotion. (QP401 .R64 1999)
- Watkins, James. Structure and Function of the Musculoskeletal System. (QP301 .W34 1999)

MICROBIOLOGY/VIROLOGY

- Domingo, Esteban. Origin and Evolution of Viruses. (QR370 .O75 1999)
- Flint, S. J. Principles of Virology: Molecular Biology, Pathogenesis, and Control. (QR360 .P697 2000)
- Granoff, Allan. Encyclopedia of Virology. (REF02 QR358 .E56 1999)
- Henderson, Brian. Cellular Microbiology: Bacteria-Host Interactions in Health and Disease (QR175 .C44 1999)
- Lotze, Michael T. Dendritic Cells: Biology and Clinical Applications. (QR185.8 .D45 D391 1999)
- Plotnikoff, Nicholas P. Cytokines: Stress and Immunity. (QR185 .8 .C95 .C996 1999)
- Wagner, Edward K. Basic Virology. (QR360 .W26 1999)

DXplain

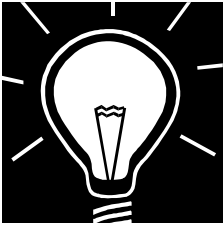
"DXplain [produced by the Massachusetts General Hospital / Harvard Medical School] is a computer program designed to provide quick, easy access to a large database of signs, symptoms, diagnoses, and to remind the user of disorders which might be associated with a set of clinical features.

"DXplain can function as an electronic medical textbook. Choose the "Disease / Finding Information" option. Try entering "lyme disease" and learn about findings which would support that disease, a description of the disease and pertinent references. Enter a clinical finding such as

"hemoptysis" and learn what diseases might be suggested by that finding. DXplain has a spell checker and synonym mapping so you do not have to spell your entries correctly or use the exact terminology of the knowledge base.

DXplain is also a diagnostic decision support tool allowing you to enter different clinical findings and then providing a ranked list of diagnoses which might be associated with these clinical findings."*

* The above information is taken from <http://dxplain.mgh.harvard.edu/dxp/dxp.direct.pl?login=webfh>



Frequently Asked Questions

Question: Is it OK to leave my stuff in this carrel/in this room/by my computer while I run out for a minute?

Answer: NO! NO! NO! Please do not assume that your belongings will be safe *even for a minute!* Numerous incidents have proved that assumption false.

Question: Can I access the AV and Microcomputer Lab network from home?

Answer: The programs and Computer Assisted Instruction (CAI) available on the computers in the AV Study Center and Microcomputer Lab are not available for remote access. In addition to technical issues that currently make this unworkable, copyright laws prohibit outside access to most of our programs.

RECYCLING IS NOW IN FULL EFFECT!!!!

PAPER ONLY! TRASH ONLY! CANS & BOTTLES ONLY! These signs are now in all areas of Himmelfarb Library, marking the beginning of our recycling program. "Paper Only" and "Trash Only" bins are located near every printer and copier, and a "Cans & Bottles Only" bin is located in the lobby just before the circulation desk. We can all do more to contribute personally to the reduction of the burden on Earth's ecosystem. Not only does recycling reduce the pollution and trash accumulation in landfills, it also decreases the amount of natural resources we use. It provides an avenue

to re-use the materials at a lower cost for all.

The library is committed to making recycling a reality - but we need your commitment and help in order to succeed. The opportunity to make a difference is in front of us. Please actively participate in our recycling program. If you have any ideas and suggestions, don't hesitate to pass them on to us! Please contact Zaheer Arastu (mlbzja@gwumc.edu) or Polly Khater (mlbhpk@gwumc.edu) with your input!





The Savvy Searcher

Complex Searches: Combining Concepts

In recent columns, we've reviewed ways to focus or expand your searches to retrieve exactly the type of articles that you need. In many MEDLINE searches, you're not looking for articles on a single topic, but rather articles that contain several topics. For instance, you may want to learn the incidence of a specific disease in a particular population or the structure and success of disease prevention programs in a different country.

You can enter your entire search question at one time and modify it in subsequent searches as you try different terms. However, you may spend a lot of time retyping the same terms as you make small changes to the search strategy. Breaking the search down into concepts and combining the individual concepts can save you time in typing, and also provide more flexibility to zero in on the articles that interest you most.

STEP ONE - Separate your search question into its component concepts. For instance, if you were interested in the use of Pegaspargase in the treatment of childhood acute lymphocytic leukemia, you would identify four concepts:

1. Acute lymphocytic leukemia
2. Therapy
2. Pegaspargase
4. Childhood

Try not to worry about the relationship of the concepts to one another at this point, but concentrate on identifying the basic ideas or elements of an ideal article.

STEP TWO - Enter each concept of the search separately. Ovid MEDLINE makes this process easy by assigning a number to each set of search results. To start, enter the broadest concept in your search. In the example, the broadest concept is acute lymphocytic leukemia



The Savvy Searcher Continued

#	Search History	Results	Display
1	*Leukemia, lymphocytic, acute/dt, th [Drug Therapy, Therapy]	360	Display
2	Asparaginase/	187	Display
3	"child"/	96119	Display

In this case, we end up with three search sets even though we started with four concepts. This is because we entered the therapy concept as subheadings of acute lymphocytic leukemia. Also, note that the MESH term for Pegaspargase is Asparaginase.

STEP THREE – Combine the sets. Now that the search sets are ready, you can combine them to retrieve articles that contain all of the concepts. Ovid provides two ways for you to combine search sets.

The first way is to click once on the Combine icon (above the Search History) showing the intersection of two circles. On the Combine Searches screen, place a check mark next to the sets you want to combine. Select whether you'd like to combine the sets using AND or OR.

In this case, we selected all three sets and used the Boolean operator AND because we want to find articles that contain all of these concepts, not articles that contain only some of these concepts.



The Savvy Searcher Continued

Select	#	Search History	Results
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1	*Leukemia, lymphocytic, acute/dt, th [Drug Therapy, Therapy]	360
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	2	Asparaginase/	187
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	3	"child"/	96119

Hints:

The second way to combine search sets is to type the search set numbers and Boolean operator (AND, OR) in the box where you entered your search terms.

#	Search History	Results	Display
1	*Leukemia, lymphocytic, acute/dt, th [Drug Therapy, Therapy]	360	Display
2	Asparaginase/	187	Display
3	"child"/	96119	Display

Run Saved Search Save Search History Delete All Searches

Enter **Keyword** or phrase: Map Term to Subject Heading

1 and 2 and 3 [Perform Search](#)

You achieve the same results using both methods of combining sets and produce a set of articles that are tightly focused on your area of interest.



The Savvy Searcher Continued

Medline
1996 to December 1999 Week 4

Author Title Journal Search Fields Tools Combine Limit Basic Change Database Logoff

#	Search History	Results	Display
1	*Leukemia, lymphocytic, acute/dt, th [Drug Therapy, Therapy]	360	Display
2	Asparaginase/	187	Display
3	"child"/	96119	Display
4	1 and 2 and 3	18	Display

Run Saved Search Save Search History Delete All Searches

By separating your search into concepts, you have added flexibility to work with your search. For example, if you decided that you wanted to find clinical trial results on asparaginase or review articles on the treatment of childhood acute lymphocytic leukemia, the basic search sets are ready to be revised to fit your research needs.

Himmelfarb Library Class Schedule Spring 2000 Semester

Himmelfarb Health Sciences Library is offering the following classes for January and February in Himmelfarb Library Room B103. **All classes are free and require no registration.**

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January 2000

Intro Windows	01-19-2000	1:00-2:30pm
Intro Word	01-19-2000	2:30-4:00pm
Access Level I	01-25-2000	10:00-12:00n
PowerPoint Pres. Skills	01-25-2000	5:00-6:00pm
Excel Level I	01-26-2000	2:00-4:00pm
GroupWise E-mail/Calendar	01-28-2000	12:00n-1:00pm

February 2000

PowerPoint	02-07-2000	2:00-4:00pm
Pine E-mail	02-08-2000	12:00n-1:00pm
PowerPoint Pres. Skills	02-16-2000	3:00-4:00pm
HTML Level I	02-22-2000	10:00-12:00n
Access Level II	02-23-2000	10:00-12:00n
Intro Windows	02-25-2000	1:00-2:30pm
Intro Word	02-25-2000	2:30-4:00pm
GroupWise E-mail/Calendar	02-28-2000	3:00-4:00pm
HTML Level II	02-29-2000	10:00-12:00n
Excel Level II	02-29-2000	12:00n-2:00pm

Himmelfarb Library Class Schedule Spring 2000 Semester

Himmelfarb Health Sciences Library is offering the following classes for January and February in Himmelfarb Library Room B103. **All classes are free and require no registration.**

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January 2000		
Medline (OVID)	01-20-2000	12:00n-1:00pm
EBM Health Databases	01-24-2000	5:00-6:00pm
Electronic Textbooks	01-27-2000	12:00n-1:00pm
Desktop Resources	01-27-2000	2:00-3:00pm
DXPLAIN	01-31-2000	5:00-6:00pm
February 2000		
Medline (OVID)	02-02-2000	5:00-6:00pm
Netscape	02-03-2000	10:00-11:00pm
Medline (OVID)	02-11-2000	12:00n-1:00pm
Desktop Resources	02-17-2000	11:00-12:00n
EOH Web	02-17-2000	5:00-6:00pm
Electronic Journals	02-18-2000	12:00n-1:00pm
Adobe Acrobat	02-24-2000	12:00n-1:00pm

Faculty Publications

The George Washington University Medical Center

Compiled by the Himmelfarb Health Sciences Library from MEDLINE
through October 1999 and other sources

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- Bielamowicz S.; Berke G. S.; Kreiman J.; Gerratt B. R. Exit jet particle velocity in the in vivo canine laryngeal model with variable nerve stimulation. J Voice. 1999; **13**(2): 153-60.
- Borum M. L. Impact of two ambulatory care training programs on smoking-cessation activities. South Med J. 1999; **92**(10): 977-80.
- Borum M. L. Colorectal cancer surveillance in African-American and white patients at an urban university medical center. J Natl Med Assoc. 1999; **91**(9): 505-8.
- Bussell D. A.; Neiderhiser J. M.; Pike A.; Plomin R.; Simmens S.; Howe G. W.; Hetherington E. M.; Carroll E.; Reiss D. Adolescents' relationships to siblings and mothers: a multivariate genetic analysis [see comments]. Dev Psychol. 1999; **35**(5): 1248-59.
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- Foote S. M.; Jones S. B. Consumer-choice markets: lessons from FEHBP mental health coverage. Health Aff. 1999; **18**(5): 125-30.

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- Fugh-Berman A.; Cott J. M. Dietary supplements and natural products as psychotherapeutic agents. Psychosom Med. 1999; **61**(5): 712-28.
- Ghaemi S. N.; Goodwin F. K. Use of atypical antipsychotic agents in bipolar and schizoaffective disorders: review of the empirical literature. J Clin Psychopharmacol. 1999; **19**(4): 354-61.
- Giordano J. M. Embryology of the vascular system. IN: Rutherford B. R. Eds. Vascular surgery. Denver: W.B. Saunders Company; 2000 : 39-48. (RD598.5 .V37 2000.)
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- Haile-Mariam T.; Smith J. Domestic violence against women in the international community. Emerg Med Clin North Am. 1999; **17**(3): 617-30, vi.
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