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SoutteReview, Issue 16

Lamar Soutter Library, University of Massachusetts Medical School

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SoutteReview

Newsletter of The Lamar Soutter Library • University of Massachusetts Medical School • Issue 16



The staff of the Lamar Soutter Library recently threw a retirement lunch for colleagues Pauline McCormick (right) and Linda Hayes (left), who each devoted more than twenty years of employment service to the University of Massachusetts.

PDA Teleconference

The personal digital assistant (PDA) is rapidly catching on in the field of medicine. The PDA can be described as a hand held computer that can be used as a personal organizer and as a mini information storage unit. A user can store data on the PDA by using a stylus on the screen and then saving the data for later recall. Information may also be downloaded to the PDA as well. This new technology is now abundantly evident in the Lamar Soutter Library. Medical students, residents, attending physicians, and professors are utilizing this new technology as a tool for better organization and instant recall. The days of the cumbersome paper organizer are dwindling!

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Library Remodel Update

The Library remodel project is in full swing. Six photocopiers have been removed from the Copy Room and dispersed throughout the Library's three floors. Work has begun to transform the former Copy Room into a new, state-of-the art Computer Lab/Classroom. Construction is slated for completion on this project by the end of April. The room will be finished off with carpet, paint, the IS network, the audiovisual/IS groupware, and furniture. Sixteen of the new computers will also be installed.

Also during this time frame, the computers in the Library's present LCA area will be relocated in order to make room for the construction of the new Access Services area. Staff will be setting up a temporary Circulation/Reserves Desk near the present Reference Desk. The old LCA panels will be removed.

Construction of a chipboard wall, surrounded in plastic, will begin. The wall will block off the area designated as the new Access Services space. This wall will separate users from the construction that will take place behind the wall for new Circulation, ILB, ILL and Document Delivery staff workspaces. The new Circulation Desk will be constructed offsite and then moved into the Library when completed. This phase of the project is expected to take two months.

Carpeting and painting of the Library's third-floor will begin the week of March 25th and continue for three weeks. Then the work crew will move to the second floor and repeat the process. Although some aisles may be inaccessible at times, every effort will be made to keep

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LIBRARY HOURS

Monday - Thursday 7:00 am - 11:30 pm

Friday 7:00 am - 9:00 pm

Saturday 9:00 am - 10:00 pm

Sunday 10:00 am - 11:30 pm

Hours are subject to change due to exams, holidays, and weather conditions. Please call 508-856-2511 for current library hours.

TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Circulation
508-856-6099

Reference Desk
508-856-6857

Document Delivery
508-856-2029

Interlibrary Borrowing
508-856-3302 or 856-2080

Library Administration
508-856-2205

Government Documents
508-856-3290 or 856-2473

Journal Information
508-856-2388

Acquisitions
508-856-1041

Two Staff Members Appointed to Human Subjects Committee

Our campus' Institutional Review Board, officially known as the Committee for the Protection of Human Subjects in Research, has recently welcomed the addition of two LSL Reference Librarians, James Comes and Nancy Harger. They join some twenty other empanelled professionals; the panel's mission is the evaluation of ethics and methodologies pertaining to UMMS research projects' medical impact upon prospective human subjects.

Jim and Nancy are responsible for searching the literature at the request of committee members when questions arise during the course of reviewing research protocols. They both review the informed consents, to be sure the forms are in language understandable to the subjects.

Interestingly, the roots of such medical watchdog agencies may be traced back to the end of World War II, when the Nuremberg Code established baseline standards for the appropriate treatment of

human subjects in medical experiments. This document mandated that subjects participate voluntarily, that they be fully informed on possible risks, and that they be free to withdraw from such clinical investigations at any time. It also stressed the importance of experiments being designed for maximum viability and appropriateness.

The next benchmark in the evolution of such boards occurred in 1978, with the issuance of The Belmont Report, which was an outgrowth of discussions held at the Smithsonian Institution. Building upon the codification of concerns that came out of Nuremberg, this report distinguishes between practice (as an interventional activity) and research (as a hypothesis-testing activity). It also reinforces the necessity that researchers continuously and consciously maintain a high respect for their human subjects, and that researchers calculate risk/benefit ratios for their experiments, regarding the subjects' potential vulnerabilities.

Another highlight of this report was its declaration that subjects be chosen by researchers in an impartial manner.

In 1991, the Federal Policy for the Protection of Human Subjects was adopted. Sixteen federal agencies that conduct, support, or otherwise regulate human subjects research developed this policy (also known as Common Rule). This pronouncement embodies the ethical principles of the Belmont Report.

In historical retrospect, the work of the Institutional Review Boards that evolved from these documents has been little noticed by the American public. During the 1990s, however, IRBs' responsibilities and judgments have come under heightened scrutiny, as a result of the unanticipated deaths of a number of human subjects involved in experiments at various medical centers. (In particular, the death of a 24-year-old subject during clinical trials at Johns Hopkins University last summer drew the attention of federal regulators.) *NH, JL*

PDA cont. from front page

In recognition of this latest technological advance in personal organization, the Lamar Soutter Library and the New England Regional Medical Library hosted a recent Medical Library Association teleconference entitled "Sync or Swim: Managing the Flood of PDAs in Health Care" at Worcester State College. Health sciences librarians from central Massachusetts attended this event. The teleconference originated from the DuPage Library System in Geneva, Illinois. The presenters at the teleconference included representatives from the fields of medicine, library science, and information science.

Dr. Lloyd Hey, an orthopedic surgeon from Duke University, gave an overview of the value of the PDA in his care of patients. Dr. Hey noted the personal digital assistant to be a timesaver and an efficiency device to

enable him to better care for his patients. From his PDA he can access stored phone numbers of patients, medical record information, and downloaded documents that he obtains from library databases at Duke. "The PDA is like modern health care delivery—very portable!" noted Dr. Hey, and he encourages his colleagues to make use of this new technology. During his presentation, Dr. Hey explained that there are two main PDA operating systems: the Palm platform and the PocketPC system. Users overwhelmingly use the Palm system.

Four medical librarians also were presenters at the Sync or Swim teleconference. Peggy Baldwin, Medical Library Director of the Providence Portland Medical Center; Connie Schardt, a librarian at the Medical Center Library of Duke University; Jean Shipman, Director of the Tomkins-McCaw Library for

the Health Sciences at the Virginia Commonwealth University; and Mari Stoddard, Head of Educational Services of the Arizona Health Sciences Library of the University of Arizona at Tucson offered insight on the impact of the personal digital assistant to health sciences libraries. These librarians have seen the expanded use of the PDA in their libraries by their patrons in the health care field. Even they are using the PDA to ease their flow of work. Ms. Shipman said, "I can't live without this thing."

All of the presenters answered questions from attendees of this teleconference via a toll-free phone number or a fax number. The consensus of the attendees at the teleconference was that librarians must be aware of this new technological advancement in order to better serve their clientele. Personal organization in your pocket—what will they think of next? *PJ*

We wish to thank the following individuals for their donations of books and journal issues to The Lamar Soutter Library during 2001:

Gordon Chapman
Donna D'Agostino
David Dunn
Stephen Fish
Jeffrey Geller
H. Maurice Goodman
Thomas Grisso
Peter Hurlbut
Isabelle Joris
Paul Julian
Matthew Koff
Aaron Lazare
Sharyn Ann Lenhart
David Ludlum
Guido Majno
Sandy Marks
Jana Miller
Evelyn Morrissey
Charles Paquette
Jennifer Payne
William Porcaro
Sue Rood
Vivek Samnotra
Albert Sherman
Merrill Wolf

The Library accepts offers of materials in good condition, published primarily during the past five years, for possible addition to the main collection. Older items, with special historical significance and value, may be offered for possible addition to the Rare Books Room. Financial donations are also welcomed.

We particularly encourage faculty, researchers and staff to donate a copy of any books they have authored or edited.

For more information, please contact Barbara Ingrassia, Associate Director for Technical Services, at 508-856-1041. Again, thank you to those who have made items available to our collection. *BI*

Computer Station Upgrades

The Lamar Soutter Library is proud to announce new upgrades and additions to our computer stations. According to our Systems Technician, Matt Clark, we now have Omnipage Pro 11, along with Adobe 6.0, and a CD writer at the PC scanning station. At this station, there is also a zip drive, CDR drive, and Windows 2000.

We have added two new printers to the computer stations, as well. Printers 01 and 04 are now Laser Jet 9000n. We are also in the process of updating all of our computers to Windows 2000. To date, all of the DELL computers have the program installed. Three new programs have been added to the Macintosh computers: Neuro Database, Neurons in Action, and Clinically Challenged.

We will keep you posted on forthcoming upgrades and programs. If you would like to know more about any of these programs, please ask a Reference Librarian (508-856-6857). *AN*

Chem Abstracts Online Comes to LSL

CAS SciFinder Scholar is now available at the Lamar Soutter Library. SciFinder, a product of the Chemical Abstracts Service of the American Chemical Society, provides access to over 20 million patent and journal references. These are indexed and abstracted from 35 patent-granting organizations and over 8,000 scientific journals (3,000 of them in the life sciences) with coverage from 1907 to the present. The Library has also licensed access to the substructure module, thus allowing users to explore chemical substances by chemical names, structures, formulas, or CAS Registry Numbers.®

The Library is able to offer this valuable resource to the UMMS community thanks to support from the Office of Research. *Please Note:* Access is limited to the faculty and students of both UMMS campuses in Worcester. *continued on page 4*

NEASC Site Visit Includes LSL

During March 17-20, as part of their accreditation visit to UMMS, the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC) surveyed the services and collections of the Lamar Soutter Library. (This organization is currently chaired by John Castetteen, President of the University of Virginia at Charlottesville). For the Library, this visit was the culmination of an 18-20 month process that included self-study of its objectives and the degree to which it has realized them. The intent of this site visit was to gauge to what extent the academic potential of our institution has been realized.

Six of the Association's Standards for Accreditation apply to academic libraries. They address such service areas and concerns as access, maintenance, and security of its collections materials; support of the greater institution's faculty and researchers; availability of appropriately trained and credentialed staff; reciprocal sharing of collections with other libraries; and the degree to which the library self-monitors and self-assesses its effectiveness as a purveyor of medical information. *JL*

Reference Librarian Appointed to Committee

On behalf of Chancellor Aaron Lazare, on February 19 Associate Vice Chancellor for Human Resources Kathryn M. Fisk appointed Reference Librarian Gael Evans to the Professional (Exempt) Employees Committee of UMMS. Her term of office runs from February, 2002 through September, 2005. Gael is the first LSL staff member to be so honored. Congratulations, Gael! *JL*

Remodel Project Update cont. from front page

the journals available during the recarpeting.

We thank you for your patience during this sometimes noisy and disruptive time. Our goal is to

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SoutteReview

SoutteReview is a quarterly publication of The Lamar Soutter Library at the University of Massachusetts Medical School.

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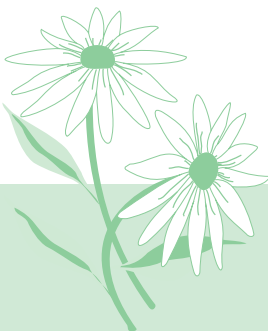
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Dose of Reading: Alzheimer's Disease

Note: The following titles are available either at The Lamar Soutter Library or through its Interlibrary Borrowing Services division. These are memoirs or other non-clinical works that focus on Alzheimer's Disease, from a layperson's perspective.

Bayley, John. *Elegy for Iris* (1998). After more than 40 years of married life to the renowned philosopher/novelist Iris Murdoch, Bayley became his wife's caregiver, as she became debilitated with Alzheimer's. Here he lovingly details her last years. See also this volume's 1999 sequel, *Iris and Her Friends: A Memoir of Memory and Desire*.

Dodge, Tom. *Oedipus Road: Searching for a Father in a Mother's Fading Memory* (1996). Dodge blends memories of his own Texas childhood with those of his mother—who is afflicted with Alzheimer's—in his quest for information about his father, whom he never knew.

Hilden, Julie. *The Bad Daughter* (1998). In this unusual memoir of confession, the author recounts her years of turning her back on her mother, who was ill with Alzheimer's. The author admits that she betrayed her mother due to

the emotional abuse from her that she had suffered as a girl.

Knowles, Carrie. *The Last Childhood: A Family Story of Alzheimer's* (2000). Knowles relates how she and her siblings dealt with their mother's illness, and provides substantial guidance to the reader on such matters as legal guardianship and letting go of feelings of guilt and regret.

Pierce, Charles P. *Hard to Forget: An Alzheimer's Story* (2000). His father, as well as his father's three brothers, all died of Alzheimer's. Pierce combines recollection with discourse, as he reviews early and recent scientific research on Alzheimer's.

Rose, Larry. *Show Me the Way to Go Home* (1995). This memoir provides rare insight into the mind of a person himself afflicted with this degenerative disease. Larry was in his 40s when diagnosed with Alzheimer's in 1992.

Rozelle, Ron. *Into That Good Night* (1998). The author, a high school English teacher, in this moving recollection writes of the vigorous life led by his father, who himself was a school superintendent, as well as his father's subsequent memory loss and onset of dementia.

Shenk, David. *The Forgetting: Alzheimer's, Portrait of an Epidemic* (2001). The diagnosed and conjectured cases of such notable persons as Ronald Reagan, Willem de Kooning, and Ralph Waldo Emerson are profiled, along with the continuing medical research of certain scientists.

Snyder, Lisa. *Speaking Our Minds: Personal Reflections from Individuals with Alzheimer's* (1999). This is an engaging collection of seven case histories based upon Snyder's interactions with Alzheimer's patients for more than a decade. *JL*

Chem Abstracts cont. from page 3

To request access to this service, please contact James Comes, Associate Director for Research, Education and Information Services at 508-856-6810 or James.comes@umassmed.edu.

Remodel Project Update cont. from page 3

maintain services at as high a level as possible throughout the construction. Please don't hesitate to ask for earplugs at the Circulation/Reference Desks. However, once we've worked through these temporary inconveniences, we're confident that you will be happy with the final results. *ERM*