

NATIONAL LIBRARY OF MEDICINE NEWS

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President Appoints Four New Regents

The Senate has confirmed President Nixon's nomination of two women medical librarians, the head of a state university, and a practicing physician for membership on the Board of Regents of the National Library of Medicine.

Mrs. Bernice M. Hetzner, Librarian of the University of Nebraska Medical Center in Omaha, and Susan N. Crawford, Ph.D., of Chicago, Director of the Archive-Library Department of the American Medical Association, were named to four-year terms expiring in August 1975. Mrs. Hetzner, currently the President of the Medical Library Association, is also professor of library science at Nebraska.

The President of the Florida State University in Tallahassee, J. Stanley Marshall, Ph.D., was selected to fill the unexpired term (until August 1974) of James C. Fletcher, Ph.D., who resigned to become administrator of NASA. Dr. Marshall joined the Florida State faculty in 1958 and became President in 1969.

Angelo M. May, M.D., of San Francisco, a 1937 graduate of George Washington University School of Medicine, was named to a full four-year membership on the Board. A general and thoracic surgeon, he is a former President of the American College of Angiology and of the California Chapter of the American College of Chest Physicians.

The new regents will attend the next meeting of the Board in Bethesda, November 22-23.

NLM to Introduce MEDLINE Service



Late in 1971, the National Library of Medicine will initiate a new service, MEDLINE (MEDLARS On-Line), to provide an on-line bibliographic searching capability for medical schools, medical libraries, hospitals, and research institutions throughout the country. MEDLINE will allow almost instantaneous searching of the medical literature.

The initial data base is to consist of all the articles in the top 239 medical journals indexed for MEDLARS since January 1, 1969, with over 130,000 citations. This data base will be expanded to cover over 1,000 journals and contain over 300,000 citations. MEDLINE will operate on the IBM 360/50 computer of the National Library of Medicine, with the capability of supporting up to 25 simultaneous users.

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE
Public Health Service
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The Library will use a data communication network to facilitate access to the service. The initial phase of the network will provide local numbers in Albany, New York; Cincinnati, Ohio; Atlanta, Georgia; Sacramento, California; Houston, Texas; and Denver, Colorado; special connecting lines will be extended from these network nodes to the Regional Medical Libraries and MEDLARS Search Centers. By January 1972, it is planned that the network will be extended so that the computer can be reached by a local call in at least twenty major cities.

Each user of the service will pay for his own terminal and telephone costs. The system will be accessible by teletype,

TWX, IBM 2741, and other terminals operating at 100, 148, or 300 words per minute. In addition to paying terminal costs, user institutions will be required to send at least one person for training in the use of the system and, further, to provide bibliographic services to health professionals beyond their normal service responsibilities. A three-week pilot training program began at the Library on October 4 for 13 MEDLINE trainees. Subjects included indexing and vocabulary, general principles of computer searching, and on-line searching.

Development of MEDLINE has been spurred by the success of AIM-TWX (Abridged Index Medicus via the Teletypewriter Exchange Network), an experimental service developed in June 1970 by the System Development Corporation for the Library's Lister Hill National Center for Biomedical Communications and the Library Operations staff of NLM. The AIM-TWX data base comprises citations to articles published in the last five years in 100 English-language journals in clinical medicine, plus a small number concerned with toxicology and other subjects. Now used by over 50 institutions, AIM-TWX continues to be of special value to many hospital libraries and other medical institutions.

For further information about MEDLINE or AIM-TWX service, write:

The Lister Hill National Center for Biomedical Communications
 National Library of Medicine
 8600 Rockville Pike
 Bethesda, Maryland 20014

MLA Calls for Contributed Papers

The 71st Annual Meeting of the Medical Library Association will be held in San Diego, California, June 11-15, 1972. Two general sessions for contributed papers are scheduled. No special themes have been assigned for either session except that papers should relate in some way to the focus of the conference as a whole

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