



## Where the Funds Are

by Jean Sayre, Associate Director

s the new associate director, I am excited to work more closely with the network membership to promote and support health sciences libraries and fulfill the goals of the National Network of Libraries of Medicine. With the realities of downsizing, mergers, and budget cuts, sometimes it seems difficult to stay afloat, much less work on our wish lists — developing those special projects or services that would allow us to better meet the information needs of the healthcare community.

The GMR strives to support network members in meeting

some of these challenges, and this issue of 3 Sources focuses on grant seeking, a process that can be both time consuming and overwhelming. This issue includes tips on locating grants, a list of Web sites for grant funding information, and an overview of NLM grants. An article by Roger Dahlen, scientific review administrator at NLM, demystifies the NLM grant scoring system. Cathy Perley tells how a cut finger led to an NLM Internet Connections grant, and a list of other NLM grant recipients in the region is included.

Finally, remember there is always a place to turn. The

GMR office offers a variety of resources and services to help you in the grant seeking process. The GMR grants packet includes more detailed information on NLM grants and the application process. Your GMR state contact librarian can supply you with samples of past successful NLM grant proposals. GMR staff can present a grants workshop for your consortium. For example, Elaine Martin recently presented a workshop to the Northwest Indiana Health Sciences Library Consortium. GMR staff can also review your NLM grant proposal, offer suggestions, and help you through the process. •

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## HII '97

he Friends of the National Library of Medicine in conjunction with the Public Health Service will host the Second Annual Emerging Health Information Infrastructure: Enabling the Vision Conference on April 13-15, 1997, followed by the Partnerships for Networked Consumer Health Information 1997 Conference, April 14-16 in Washington, D.C. at

the Georgetown University Conference Center. On Tuesday, April 15, a joint session will be held to discuss the future of consumer health information in the context of changing health and technology sectors. These national conferences will broadly explore how the merging national information infrastructure can be used to improve health.

Programs focus on telemedicine/telehealth; networked consumer health information; privacy and security; and health data integration. To join about 600-700 medical, technology, and computing leaders, obtain a registration brochure from your GMR contact librarian or call the HII '97 Information Line 202/462-0992 x56 or visit http://www.fnlm.org.

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## Grateful Med® for Windows™ is here!

n January, the National Library of Medicine announced the release of Grateful Med for Windows. This much-requested, latest member of the Grateful Med family provides users with a new, easy-to-use, customizable interface for searching MEDLINE®.

Users can search for articles by subject, author or title. The Windows interface also allows for easy limiting in several categories, including age groups, gender, publication types, and journal titles. The software provides access to NLM's Medical Subject Headings (MeSH®), allows the user to create personal journal lists, and gives the user flexibility in determining the way search results are retrieved. Users may also order the full text from a participating health sciences library through Loansome Doc™. If your library is interested in becoming a Loansome Doc provider, ask your GMR state contact librarian for details.

Currently, users of DOS Grateful Med can request the Windows software and user's guide by returning the postcard they received with the last Grateful Med update. In addition, the user's guide and software can be downloaded for free from the National Library of Medicine at http://www.nlm.nih.gov/ databases/gmwin.html

GM for Windows currently searches MEDLINE.
Additional NLM databases will be added in the future.
Please notify your state contact librarian if you have any questions about obtaining, installing, or using Grateful Med for Windows.

## Farewell and Good Luck to Seana

s of February 1, 1997, Seana Hasson accepted a position as a computer consultant with Better Systems, Inc., Chicago. Seana began in the GMR office in October 1993 and coordinated the region's outreach programs writing articles, exhibiting and training many on Grateful Med, and graciously assisting many network members, health professionals, consumers, co-workers, and the staff at the Nation Network Office. Please join the GMR office in wishing her well in her new position. •

## State Contact Librarians Revisited

ith the departure of Seana Hasson, the GMR has once again restructured its list of state contact librarians. Please check the list below to identify the contact librarian for your state. •

#### **Chris Shaffer**

Illinois

Indiana

Iowa

Minnesota

North Dakota

South Dakota

#### Cara Wilhelm

Kentucky

Michigan

Ohio

Wisconsin

**Editors Note:** Lisa Jacob has also announced her resignation from the GMR office. For more information, see the April issue of *3 Sources*.

## Learning to Tango: Internet Connection Grants in Iowa

by Cathy Perley

licing your finger open on a present and spending an hour in the emergency room on Christmas Eve does not sound like a serendipitous event, but in the case of our National Library of Medicine (NLM) Internet Connection grant, it triggered a series of events that culminated in St. Luke's Regional Medical Center receiving a \$30,000 Internet Connection grant from NLM.

St. Luke's Regional Medical Center (SLRMC) is a 300 bed acute care, regional referral medical center located in Sioux City, Iowa. The aim of our Internet project was to improve healthcare in the Siouxland region by accessing, synthesizing, and disseminating healthcare information in an efficient, effective, and timely manner. Components of the plan included direct access to the Internet for qualifying professional staff within St. Luke's via the medical center's existing local area network; courtesy dialup (SLIP) accounts for medical staff physicians; a series of optional half-hour Internet training sessions available at no charge to physicians, staff, and students; mandatory half-hour

orientation sessions for account recipients; and a community health home page on the Web.

Physician support was essential during the planning process and generous during the implementation. According to Dr. Gene Herbek, president of the Medical Staff Executive Committee during the project, "The SLRMC Medical Staff gave \$5000 to fund the project in order to benefit physicians on our medical staff by expanding their understanding and use of the Internet in their practice." Recently the Executive Committee renewed its commitment with an additional \$5000. Fifty-four physicians currently use St. Luke's Internet accounts, and others use the Internet workstation, which is available 24 hours a day. Many of them coach colleagues through software installation complications and first-time searches.

Within the medical center itself, 55 healthcare professionals use local area network Internet accounts and all of our employees and students have Web access available in the computer lab and in the library. A multidisciplinary team maintains

SLRMC community health information Web site. The manager of health education edits "An Apple a Day," the community health magazine; the Vice President for Human Resources acts as webmaster; and the assistant director of nutrition and food services chair the Web team and also writes for "An Apple a Day." A number of other people from diverse units of the Health System also serve on the Web team and an even greater number contribute articles.

What have we learned? Well, we learned that the time for this project had arrived when the emergency room nurse prepping my fingers for stitches quizzed me about getting an Internet account to support the work of the Poison Center. We learned that our ability to work together as a multidisciplinary team could benefit us all, and our patients most of all. We learned how much we all still needed to learn, and this was sometimes more painful than getting stitches. When I expressed my frustration about keeping pace with technology to a colleague, I used the cliché that we in the medical library were dancing as fast as we could. I complained that first we

just needed to know how to fox-trot, then to waltz, then to Texas two-step....what next? His unsympathetic but pithy response? "Learn to tango." At least at SLRMC, we have a plentiful supply of willing and talented partners. In fact, the medical library's willingness and ability to partner with others in the medical center will be what keeps us on the dance floor.

The data we have been gathering raises some intriguing questions. The medical library experienced a ten percent increase in literature search requests during the year of the grant. We are frequently consulted on effective search techniques and asked to provide advanced training opportunities. Where do we go from here? Will this demand continue? If so, how will it affect the other library services we provide? How can we ensure that the healthcare team and the patients obtain reliable information through the use of these new resources, and that the value of the medical library remains constant or increases? Perhaps the answer lies in learning how to tango. •

Internet Connection for Medical Institutions Grant applications now share the standard deadline dates of other NLM Resource Grants — February 1, June 1, and October 1. Turn to page 4 for more information on NLM grants for libraries.

## NLM Grants for Libraries: An Overview

by Cara Wilhelm, Communications Coordinator

Have you considered applying for an NLM grant, but did not know where to start, or which grant would be appropriate for your needs? Trying to find funding for a project or idea to improve your library's services can be time-consuming and frustrating. To simplify the process, this article offers a brief description of the NLM grants offered to libraries to improve their basic resources and services.

### The Grants

#### **Resource Grants\***

NLM offers resource grants to encourage the use of telecommunications technologies to further the dissemination of health sciences information. There are two types of grants available, depending on your institution's size and needs.

#### **Information Access Grants**

Who: Typically, libraries at small-to-medium sized community hospitals.

**What:** These projects should link health professionals and relevant information resources, including access to NLM online databases and/or a mechanism for providing documents. If the application promotes end-user searching of the databases, then the appropriate training should be included.

**How Much:** Single institutions — up to \$12,000 for one year of support. Consortia/contractual arrangements — up to \$12,000 for one year for each participating institution. The responsible organization can request an additional \$12,000 for initial year planning/organizing support.

#### **Information System Grants**

**Who:** Typically, academic health science institutions and larger hospitals with teaching and research components.

What: Like the access grant, this grant is intended to facilitate the use of health science information; it differs in the scope and the nature of the technology used. It may encompass whole systems, establish connectivity between system components, or improve infrastructure. The grant must be used for an operational activity, rather than for research purposes. Provisions for online access to NLM databases and document delivery are encouraged.

**How Much:** From \$50,000 to \$150,000 per year, for a one- to three-year period.

#### IAIMS Grants\*\*

**Who:** U.S. public or private, non-profit hospitals and medical centers, academic health science centers, and other health science organizations and institutions.

**What:** Integrated Advanced Information Management Systems (IAIMS) are institution-wide computer networks that link and relate library systems with individual and institutional databases and information files, within and external to the institution, for patient care, research, education, and administration. The goal is to create an organizational mechanism within health institutions to manage more effectively the knowledge of medicine, and to provide for a system of comprehensive and convenient information

access. Particular emphasis is placed on providing easy "one-stop information shopping" for the user.

**How Much:** IAIMS project typically involves two phases: 1) a planning phase of one to two years (up to \$150,000 per year) and 2) an operational phase (up to \$500,000 per year).

## **Internet Connection for Medical Institutions Grant\*\*\***

**Who:** Domestic, public and private, nonprofit institutions engaged in health sciences administration, education, research, and/or clinical care are eligible to apply.

**What:** To encourage the development of a communications infrastructure to foster the rapid communication of medical information throughout the healthcare community, the National Library of Medicine offers these grants to support institution-wide Internet connections. See Cathy Perley's article on page 3 to see how one library used these funds to improve services.

**How Much:** For a single institution, support is available up to \$30,000; a group of institutions may receive up to \$50,000 to support development of a multi-institution network including extending existent connectivity to outlying sites, or otherwise furthering NLM's goal of expanding information outreach.

\*Adapted in part from Resource Grant Programs, NLM Fact Sheet

\*\*Excerpted in part from IAIMS Grants, Integrated Advanced Information Management System, NLM Fact Sheet

\*\*\*Excerpted in part from Internet Connection for Medical Institutions. NIH Guide, Volume 26, Number 1, January 10, 1997. PA NUMBER: PAR-97-023.

## The Application

Each of the above grants should be submitted to NLM on the grant application form PHS 398 before the standard deadline dates of February 1, June 1, and October 1. You can obtain forms from your GMR state contact librarian, or directly from:

Division of Extramural Outreach and Information Resources National Institutes of Health

6701 Rockledge Drive, MSC 7910 • Bethesda, MD 20892-7910 301/435-0714

asknih@odrockml.od.nih.gov

Application and Instructions available on the Web at: http://www.nih.gov/grants/phs398/phs398.html

Special instructions for Resource Grants available on the Web at: http://www.nlm.nih.gov/about\_nlm/organization/extramural/ special\_inst.html

## Where to Look for Funding

by Cara Wilhelm, Communications Coordinator and Chris Shaffer, Internet Coordinator

#### NN/LM GMR on the Web

Annual subcontracts and awards include:

Outreach, Technology Awareness, Internet Training for Hospital Librarians, Exhibit Outreach, and the GMR Fellowship.

http://www.nnlm.nlm.nih.gov/gmr/sub

## NLM and Other Federal Resources on the Web

NLM's Extramural Programs (Grants and Other Assistance Mechanisms)

Includes links to current program announcements; grant recipients; application and review information; and an FAQ.

### http://www.nlm.nih.gov/about\_nlm/organization/extramural/extramural.html

National Institutes of Health (NIH)

Offers information about NIH grant and fellowship programs; the application process for grants and fellowships; a link to the NIH Guide to Grants and Contracts (the official NIH document for announcing fund availability); and a link to pages of the institutes, centers, and divisions that comprise NIH.

#### http://www.nih.gov/grants/

National Science Foundation (NSF)

Includes an overview of NSF; a guide to NSF programs; grant proposal and administration guidelines; and NSF regional grant conferences and other outreach opportunities.

#### http://stis.nsf/grants.htm

National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA)

Includes information on the Telecommunications and Information Infrastructure Assistance Program (TIIAP), which promotes the use of advanced telecommunications and information technologies in the public and nonprofit sectors. TIIAP provides matching demonstration and planning grants to various entities, including health care providers and libraries, to develop information infrastructures and services which support the development of the National Information Infrastructure.

#### http://www.ntia.doc.gov/otiahome/otiahome.html

#### HRSA Rural Health Grants

This site features information on the Rural Outreach Grant Program; the Rural Network Development Grant Program; the Rural Utilities Service (Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grant Program); and other links.

#### http://www.nal.usda.gov/ric/richs/funding.htm

#### GrantsNet

This online grants information service, sponsored by HHS, covers HHS and other Federal grant programs, and includes a search engine for funding sources, resources on grant administration, and other helpful links.

http://www.os.dhhs.gov/progorg/grantsnet/

#### FEDIX (Federal Information Exchange)

Though not sponsored by the feds, this site covers information on federal funding. Search by federal agency, subject, or audience. Register to receive announcements via the FEDIX opportunity alert email service.

#### http://web.fie.com/

#### Other Web Sources and Directories

#### Foundation Center

This site was created by the Foundation Center, an independent nonprofit clearinghouse, and includes information on grantmakers; funding trends; the fundraising process; training and seminars; Foundation Center libraries and locations; and an online reference desk.

#### http://www.fdncenter.org/

#### **URLs for Grant Seekers**

This collection of Web sites sorts them by the following categories: resource guides, subject catalogs, magazines and other sources; private organizations and associations; government (federal and state) agencies; commercial organizations/ventures; and web reference materials.

#### http://www.csupomona.edu/seis/grants.html

A Grant Getter's Guide to the Internet: A Brief Summary of Available Grant Information and Where to Find It

Written by James M. Kearney of the University of Idaho, this guide is presented in a table of contents format with the following major topic areas: federal grant information; foundation/private resources; other education resources; and a guide to guides (and directories).

#### http://web.calstatela.edu/academic/orsp/grantguide.html

#### **Print Resources**

Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance, ISSN 0097-7799 Describes virtually every form of financial assistance available from the various agencies and departments of the United States government.

The Foundation Directory, ISSN 0071-8092

The Foundation Directory. Part 2, A Guide to Grant Programs, \$25,000-\$100,000, ISSN 1058-6210

National Guide to Funding in Health, ISBN 0-87954-710-3

Each publication was created by the Foundation Center, an independent nonprofit clearinghouse for information on grant-makers.

#### **Grants Information Packet**

Produced by the GMR for network members. Ask your state contact librarian for details.

The NLM Scoring System by Roger W. Dahlen, Ph.D., Scientific Review Administrator, Extramural Programs, National Library of Medicine

he National Institutes of Health (NIH) uses a unique and not intuitively obvious method to score and/or rank the grant applications it receives. This system has been in place for a number of years. Though this article specifically describes the Resource Grant Program, the review of all NIH grant applications follows essentially the same path.

All grant applications are received at a central NIH receipt office where they are logged, assigned a serial number, and duplicated. Those assigned to NLM are sent to NLM's Extramural Programs. (In the case of Resource Grant applications that means Frances Johnson, program officer, and myself.) The applications are screened to verify that they meet the Resource Grant criteria. and then sent to the Biomedical Library Review Committee (BLRC). This committee is responsible for making recommendations to NLM regarding the merit of the applications.

The BLRC meets three times a year, usually in March, June, and November. When an application is sent to the committee, it is assigned to three members. These three members critique the application based on the review criteria published in the Request for Proposal (RFP) and lead the committee discussion of the application. Following the discussion, each committee member assigns what is known as a priority score.

If you will recall your student days when you took an exam, it would come back with either a letter or number grade. The priority score is similar in concept. NIH uses a numeric score. The score assigned by each member must fall within the range of 1.0 to 5.0 with 1.0 being the best score. After the meeting, the individual scores are summed, and an arithmetic average is multiplied by 100. Therefore, the priority score (grade) on an application ranges between 100 and 500 and, like in golf, a low number is a better score. The priority score is probably the

single most important factor NLM uses to determine which applications will be funded.

The competition for grant support is extremely intense. An application with a priority score higher than 200 probably will not be awarded. The BLRC spends most of its time and discussion on those applications considered to be in the upper half of the group. Therefore, some applications with a priority score higher than about 250 will receive little or no additional committee discussion. Some applications with a priority score lower than 250 which are not awarded are held over to later award cycles, and may be awarded at that time.

After the BLRC meeting, a summary statement is prepared and sent to the applicant. This document contains the written comments and critiques of the assigned reviewers, a summary of the committee discussion, and the priority score. After reading the score and critique of your proposal, you are encouraged to contact the program officer, Frances Johnson, to discuss whether an award is likely and whether a revised application is advisable. When preparing a revision, take into account all the critiques and the summary statement.

Approximately two months after the BLRC meeting, the Board of Regents of the National Library of Medicine meets and makes recommendations regarding NLM's grant programs. The Board does not discuss the merit of individual applications, but instead provides overall program guidance, such as the amount of funds devoted to each grant program (Access, Systems, Internet Connections, IAIMS, etc.) and how the applications fit into each program.

Finally, senior NLM staff determine which applications receive an award, taking into account the recommendations of the BLRC and the Board of Regents. •

## Sources of Further Information

or more information on the application process, check out the NLM Web site: http://www.nlm.nih.gov or ask your GMR state contact librarian.

The NLM Web site features RFPs, application materials, and fact sheets that describe the various NLM grant programs (including the review criteria). You can find lists of previous grant awards and rosters of the BLRC and the Board of

Regents. In addition, the following articles have been reprinted and formatted for the Web:

Bowden, VM. National Library of Medicine Resource Grants: Application and Review. Bulletin of the Medical Library Association 1992:80(2):157-168.

Zink S, Illes J, Vannier M. NLM Extramural Program: Frequently Asked Questions 1996:84(2):165-81.

# NLM Grants Awarded to GMR Members 1996

## Congratulations to GMR members who received NLM funding for the 1996 grant period!

#### **Resource Grants**

#### **Information Systems — Consortium**

"Health Sciences Information Data Link"

William J. DeBord

Morehead State University

Eastern Kentucky Health Sciences Information Network (EKHSIN)

Morehead, KY

The project proposes to improve the network infrastructure for information transfer and its effective use by establishing direct access to the Internet for each member hospital of the seven member Eastern Kentucky Health Sciences Information Network (EKHSIN) consortium in rural Eastern Kentucky.

#### **Information Access** — Consortium

"Internet Library Services for Indiana Medical Education" Margaret Richwine

Indiana University

Indianapolis, IN

This grant provides the equipment and training necessary to establish an electronic information link between the Ruth Lilly Medical Library (RLML) of the Indiana University School of Medicine (IUSM) and IUSM's eight Centers for Medical Education located throughout Indiana.

"TACHIA Electronic Information Access for Rural Hospitals"

Nancy T. Bulgarelli

William Beaumont Hospital

Royal Oak, MI

The Thumb Area Consortium for Health Information Access (TACHIA) was formed to link seven small, rural, acute-care, community hospitals in a collaborative effort to increase the access of health care professionals to current health sciences information.

#### Other NLM Grants

Integrated Advanced Information Management Systems (IAIMS) — Planning Phase "University of Iowa Health Sciences Center IAIMS Planning"

David S. Curry

University of Iowa

Iowa City, IA

IAIMS planning will result in an institutional design making maximum use of Web technology and integrating the Virtual Hospital, National Laboratory for the Study of Rural Telemedicine, Computer Based Patient Record, and electronic information at Hardin Library for Health Sciences into an information-rich system accessible from any connected workstation. The IAIMS vision calls for the enhancement of education for students, educators, researchers, health care providers, and patients. The staff welcomes comments and questions at their web site,

http://forum.uihc.uiowa.edu.

"Enhancing Healthcare Effectiveness: IAIMS in Detroit" Ellen Marks Wayne State University

wayne State University

Detroit, MI

#### **Internet Connection Grants**

Rosalie V. Zajac Good Samaritan Hospital

Cincinnati, OH

The project funds will be used for providing Internet access throughout the TriHealth system; providing education and training for TriHealth personnel for using Internet resources to enhance and improve patient care, education, and research; and providing a Web site where the community can access resources supplied by TriHealth.

Gerald Dujsik

Illinois College of Optometry

Chicago, IL

The project funds will be used to connect faculty and students to IGM and library catalogs via the Web; to provide Web access to a unique database of over 110,000 vision science articles; and to train users in effficient use of the Internet.

Sandra Worley Midwestern University Downers Grove, IL

## Important Dates...

## http://www.nnlm.nlm.nih.gov/gmr/calendar

#### March 19-22, 1997

Annual conference of the Health Sciences OCLC Users Group

http://www.unc.edu/ ~btysingr/hsoclcug/ hsoclcug.htm New Orleans, LA

#### March 20, 1997

"The Future for Librarians: Positioning Yourself for Success" satellite video teleconference, sponsored by the American Association of Law Librarians, Medical Library Association (MLA), Special Libraries Association, and Lexis-Nexis 1:30 p.m.-4:30 p.m. EST

#### **April 2-4, 1997**

The Indiana Health Science Librarians Association meeting Contact: Ellen Shellhause, 219/425-3094, ESchellhause@

Ancilla.org.
Chesterton, IN

#### **April 9-11, 1997**

Health Sciences Libraries of Minnesota/Wisconsin Health Sciences
Libraries Association (HSLM/WHSLA)
Joint Conference,
"Navigating Change-Waves of the Future"
Contact: Kay Cimpl Wagner, 608/791-5406,
kay@lhl.gundluth.org.
La Crosse, WI

#### **April 15, 1997**

Ohio Health Sciences Library Association spring meeting Columbus, OH

#### April 25th, 1997

Iowa Health Sciences
Librarians Spring
meeting
Contact: Roxanna
Tovrea, 515/288-1955
Des Moines, IA

#### May 9, 1997

GMR Subcontract and Awards RFQ deadline

#### May 11-15, 1997

Aerospace Medical
Association meeting
http://www.ozemail.
com.au/~dxw/
asma.html
Chicago, IL

#### May 23-28, 1997

Medical Library
Assocation meeting
http://www.kumc.edu/
MLA/
Seattle, WA

#### June 1, 1997

NLM Resource Grant RFP deadline

#### June 7-12, 1997

Special Library
Association meeting
http://www.sla.org/
Seattle, WA

#### September 27-30, 1997

Midwest Chapter,
Medical Library
Association
(MC/MLA) meeting
http://www.lib.uiowa.edu/
mcmla97
Des Moines, IA

\* To inquire about the Online Training Center classes, call 800/338-7657 and choose 2 from the menu.

## **Attention Writers... the GMR Needs You!**

The GMR has created a new web-based publication, *hii-wire*, that will hit the GMR Web site soon. It will focus on the activities of network members, items of note from around the region, and recent announcements from the GMR office and NLM. The GMR is soliciting ideas and articles for *hii-wire*, so get those creative juices flowing!

If you are interesting in writing for *hii-wire*, notify your state contact librarian.

## 3 Sources

UIC

The University of Illinois at Chicago

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