

Medical collections and the DNC

Helen Hayes give a progress report on behalf of CAUL

On 27 August 1993 a number of medical librarians met in Broadbeach to explore the opportunity of coordinating a Distributed National Collection (DNC) approach to medical collections in university libraries. It was agreed at this meeting that university libraries would represent a starting point for a broader approach, involving other libraries with relevant medical collections at a later time.

A small steering committee considered guidelines developed by ACLIS and modified these guidelines to enable individual libraries to participate according to their own level of ability to meet the guidelines. These guidelines will be registered at the DNC office which will coordinate the inclusion of non-University libraries in the program. It is recognised by the Council of Australian University Librarians (CAUL) that there are important medical collections in hospital and research centre libraries which are not held in the universities. These collections form an integral part of the Medical DNC.

The subject areas being used in the agreement are based on *Index Medicus* as *Conspectus* had not been undertaken in the majority of participating libraries for medical collections. The initial aim of the program is to identify research strengths which exist nationally and then to identify those areas of collecting which may only be accessible elsewhere. Once strengths have been identified and participating libraries have agreed to support particular subject areas, it will be possible for decisions to acquire or to relegate material to be made in a more informed environment.

In the next few weeks agreements will be drawn up between the libraries who have nominated to participate in the medical libraries DNC program. These agreements will be forwarded to the DNC Office to be made available to other libraries who may wish to participate in the program also. ■

Profits from copies

Langley Park Manufacturing have announced a new colour copier

In mid-1993 Langley Park Manufacturing developed and released the PACC-3 Mono/Full Colour Library Copier, which provides black and white copies on the same machine, so making full colour copying available to almost every library. Larger libraries are using the PACC-3 to produce profits for services; smaller public and school libraries now have access to colour options, thanks to the moderate costs of maintenance. Colour copying conveys information that is lost in black and white—and librarians are increasingly being expected to offer this service.

LPM have now announced a special version for tertiary education libraries. The standard PACC-3 provides full colour transparencies, but for library staff only. On the new TE version, black and full colour transparencies are available at the push of a button via the normal user-pays system.

More information from LPM on tel: (02) 415 3624 or fax: (02) 415 3951. ■

Publishing: present and future

Betsy Marks has details of a fresh look at scholarly communication

The UNSW libraries are presenting a one-day Forum at Parliament House, Sydney on Thursday 18 August on Publishing: Present and Future. The Forum, sponsored by the Speaker, the Hon. Kevin Rozzoli, will address changes in scholarly communications and other issues of vital concern to members of the library, publishing and academic professions.

The keynote speaker will be Ms Ann Okerson, Director of the Office of Scientific and Academic Publishing (OSAP) at the Association of Research Libraries (ARL) in Washington, DC. Ms Okerson received the ALA Serials Librarian of the Year Award 1993: she is a leading authority on serials and their prices. She will speak in two sessions, the first on changes in scholarly communications and the second on e-publishing.

Professor James O'Donnell from the University of Pennsylvania (who both publishes and teaches regularly on the Internet), will speak on electronic publishing. Michael Webster, Managing Director of DW Thorpe in Melbourne, will give the Australian publisher's viewpoint.

Registration for the Forum is \$85 including morning and afternoon tea. For information and registration details contact Betsy Marks at the UNSW Libraries on phone: (02) 385 2602, fax: (02) 313 7196, email: e.marks@unsw.edu.au. ■

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