



CANCER
LIBRARIANS
SECTION

NEWS



FROM THE CHAIRPERSON

MLA '98 in Philadelphia was personally and professionally so rewarding for me. Our program, co-sponsored by the Veterinary Medical Libraries and Consumer and Patient Health Information Sections, was well received and attended. The business meeting, held at a most reasonable hour (as opposed to the unseemly 7 a.m. time slots we were never going to get used to) included refreshments, as well as a lively discussion of our plans for the coming year. Such enthusiasm and energy!

Well, once I returned to Ohio, my "real" job sort of got in the way, so that now I've only have six months left to accomplish our objectives for this year. Of course, I won't be doing it alone - I'll be working with the dedicated members of our section's leadership.

Every new chair must develop a set of objectives. Fortunately, MLA provides a planning grid which helps link our Section's objectives to the strategic plan and priorities of the association. MLA's goals are divided into six broad categories: professional development, advocacy, organization, research, national information policy and information policy. It is not necessary for MLA sections to have objectives for every category. Therefore I have created three major objectives for my term:

GOAL: Information Technology
OBJECTIVE: Create Cancer Librarians Web Site

GOAL: Organization
OBJECTIVE: Improve and expand contents of our semi-annual newsletter

GOAL: Professional Development
OBJECTIVE: Co-sponsor a MLA '99 invited speaker program session

As you can determine from a scan of this newsletter issue, we are well on our way to meeting our objectives: the newsletter content is great and the MLA '99 program is already planned (see p. 10 for details). In addition, Anne Marie Clark has graciously agreed to head up our web page efforts.

Our section has another important responsibility coming up: election of the next Chair-elect and secretary. Election to section office is a great way to gain leadership experience and to develop the program for the annual meeting. I would encourage anyone with an interest in participating to contact our Nominating Chairperson, Sherrill Cohn at scohn@amgen.com.

Thanks also to all of you who participated in the CANCERLIT Online Focus Group in August. I was very proud of the contributions made by our members. We were specifically invited to join the group because of our special knowledge and experience. Sure was nice to be recognized for it!

Mary Sprague
Chair, Cancer Librarians Section

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Deadline for Copy
for the next issue is
March 15, 1999
with anticipated publication date of
April 15, 1999.

ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES - CANCER LIBRARIANS SECTION -- MLA

Philadelphia, PA

Tuesday, May 26, 1998

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Sherrill Cohn called the meeting to order at 3:40 p.m.

INTRODUCTIONS

All members present introduced themselves and stated the name of their institution and their position.

- Sherrill Cohn, Amgen, Inc., Thousand Oaks, CA
- Karen Albert, Fox Chase Cancer Center, Philadelphia, PA
- Cindy Suter, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, Memphis, TN
- Nancy Peterson, Whedon Cancer Foundation, Sheridan, WY
- Annelie Sober, Miller-Dwan Medical Center, Duluth, MN
- Halyna Liszczyński, Faxton Hospital, Utica, NY
- Mary Sprague, OSU Health Sciences Center, Columbus, OH
- Cheryl Warren, ValleyCare Health Library, Pleasanton, CA
- Gayle Ablove, Roswell Park Cancer Institute, NY
- Heidi Heilemann, Stanford University Medical Center, Stanford, CA
- Becky Trienka
- Debby Oshri, Israel Cancer Association, Givatayim, Israel

MINUTES

1998 Recording Secretary Nancy Peterson read the minutes from the last meeting, May 26, 1997, in Seattle. One correction was noted in #11: Nancy Peterson is Recording Secretary, not Vice President for 1998. Mary Sprague moved that the minutes be approved as corrected. Nancy Peterson seconded it. The motion passed unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Annelie Sober reported that the MLA Cancer Librarians Section had 155 paid members as of January 1, 1998.

The Annual Financial Statement for 1997 was published in the May, 1998 issue of the Section News.

Beginning balance	1/1/97	\$2041.56
Total disbursements		92.74
Total cash received		747.72
<hr style="width: 20%; margin-left: 0;"/>		
Ending balance	12/31/97	\$2696.54
Beginning balance	1/1/98	\$2696.54
Booklist Receipts		1460.58
Dues Receipts		237.60
Savings-Interest		39.36
<hr style="width: 20%; margin-left: 0;"/>		
Total Receipts	5/20/98	\$1737.54
Booklist Expenses		62.20
Ending balance	5/20/98	\$4371.88

Discussion over the large amount MLA takes out of each \$5.00 in dues ensued. Money is used for administrative services. Treasurer Annelie Sober said she doesn't have to deal with cancelled checks. Gayle Ablove said MLA does the check processing. MLA also generates a membership list

ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES cont'd.

for our Section. Annelie discussed upcoming bills. Margaret Vugrin expended \$193.54 for the Newsletter. Bills will be coming in for program costs and a Centennial contribution. She estimated \$700-800 by year's end would be expended. She closed the account in Duluth and will turn over the books to the new Treasurer, Christine Fleuriel. Karen Albert moved to approve the Treasurer's Report and Nancy Peterson seconded the motion. The Report was approved as read.

1998 PROGRAM CHAIR REPORT

Mary Sprague reported on this year's program, "Facing an Uncertain Future: Responses to Diagnoses." It was a great success. She worked with two other sections, Veterinary and Hospital. All three sections helped with the program, but Mary did much of the preliminary work. She found excellent contacts on the Web. Papers were invited and all papers received were accepted. She used local people as presenters to keep costs down. Each participating section was responsible for a third of the cost.

1999 PROGRAM DISCUSSION

Cheryl Warren reported on plans for next year's program. She has made preliminary contacts to work with the Hospital section and Consumer Health section, perhaps along the lines of patient/consumer health education in an electronic environment. She has begun contacting potential speakers. A potential source of funding might be drug companies. A call for papers might be a good way to get started. Members were encouraged to contact Cheryl with speaker suggestions.

SECTION COUNCIL REPORT

Cindy Suter and Annelie Sober attended the Section Council meeting. They'll meet again tomorrow to vote on candidates.

Annelie reported on the meeting:

- MLA will streamline goals and objectives for section officers by focusing on only 2-3 main areas.
- MLA will produce a financial manual for section treasurers this summer.
- MLA wants direction for setting up a 5-year plan for the organization.

Call Margaret Vugrin with suggestions. She will contact us for an e-mail vote on ideas.

- The MLA website will be reviewed to improve consistency.
- A new Corporate Special Interest Group will be starting.
- Discussion Groups Report - Carla Funk, MLA Headquarters, thanked the sections for their Centennial item contributions and the 100% support. MLA will hire a public relations firm to create a pamphlet and/or video to help the public recognize their value. This Centennial Conference had the largest attendance in MLA history.

--Coming MLA Annual Conferences

1999 - Chicago, IL (May 14-20)

2000 - Vancouver, BC

2001 - Orlando, FL

2002 - Dallas, TX

2003 - San Diego, CA

2004 - Atlanta, GA

--Greetings were extended to all by Rachel Anderson, incoming MLA President. She hopes to create a SWAT Team, a rapid action task force. They will be concerned with issues in library downsizing and institutional mergers. They hope to develop a database for librarians with problems in these areas. MLA benefits from working more closely with corporate members. The "Virtual Organization" is on the MLA Web.

ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES cont'd.

--Virginia Lingle, Section Column Editor for the MLA Newsletter, asked each section to send her a copy of membership bylaws. She tries to include information from each section in the Newsletter.

-- MLA Centennial Committee reported that all sections donated money for the Centennial celebration with \$78,000 received (\$75,000 had been expected.) Section histories including oral) were requested ASAP; guidelines for them will be put on the Web. Margaret Vugrin will submit the history for our Section. A centennial poster will be mailed to every MLA member. The time capsule will be on display and will be sealed next year. Each section is asked to include an item. Centennial Moments, a video, is available for loan. It was suggested each section appoint an archivist.

--Action Item : Restructuring of Section Council will be voted upon - instead of electing a Representative and Alternate annually, a Representative will serve for two years and a Representative-Elect will serve for one year to become Representative the next two years. Only one vote per Section is allowed at Council meetings. If a Representative is unavailable, any Section Officer can act as proxy. Our Section voted unanimously in favor of this change, and Becky will vote on this issue for us.

--The role of Section Awards and MLA was discussed. (Our Section has never given an award.) No good procedure is available for a section award to become a MLA endowment. Do we want to extend the luncheon to include national level awards? \$25,000 minimum endowment is required to be a MLA award. It was suggested that awards stay within the sections if under \$25,000, that they be put in the MLA Bulletin and newsletter, and that no others be presented at the luncheon.

-- Pat would like to move the length of term of Section Council Liaison from three years to two years. This would make an easier overlap and rotation. The suggestion was unanimously approved.

-- Section Compliance - Sections were asked to supply data that showed they were in compliance with MLA rules. Each section must have a minimum of 50 members. MLA headquarters can now collect and review data from the database. They will contact sections not in compliance.

OLD BUSINESS

BYLAWS REVISION

Sherrill Cohn reported on the progress of changing the bylaws to have two-year terms for Chair and Chair-Elect. She sent the changes to MLA four months ago. MLA had no copy of our section bylaws.

CANCER RESOURCES PROJECT

Cheryl Warren reported we have more *Cancer Booklists* to sell. After we sold all we could, we could put it on our future Website as our core list. It will have to be updated occasionally. She thanked all those who helped review books for the Booklist. It was our main money-making project supplying us with over \$1400. Karen Albert worked on this project, too.

NEWSLETTER

Margaret Vugrin and an assistant will be restructuring our Section Newsletter. Cheryl Warren, content editor, will set up guidelines. The newsletter will be published two times a year. We will keep up-to-date with cancer websites, book reviews, literature searches and other items important for us to read. Mary Sprague will do literature searches. Margaret said it would be difficult to get the Newsletter to all our members electronically; not all members use e-mail. It would be useful to ask our members in the next newsletter who is connected to the Internet and who is not. Also, our current section membership list from MLA is not complete. Margaret suggested we gradually phase it in by encouraging members to join our List. She will mail the next issue to everyone and also

ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES cont'd.

post it to the List. Karen Albert and Mary Sprague will discuss this further with Margaret and Cheryl.

WEBSITE

Our section needs a website. We can pay MLA to maintain the site, or we can maintain it ourselves. MLA charges \$180/yr to configure and maintain the website and \$120/yr more for e-mail. After discussion our section was in agreement on using MLA for the basic services, but we needed more information on the e-mail service. Heidi Heilermann will ask Ann Marie Clark if she is interested in helping with the website. Heidi also has experience with website operations.

NEW BUSINESS

CENTENNIAL CONTRIBUTION

Sherrill suggested sending \$100 to MLA as our Centennial contribution, since money is needed to cover centennial costs. We could target the General Fund for our contribution. Gayle Ablove moved and Heidi Heilermann seconded a motion that the Treasurer writes a check to this end. It passed by consensus.

DUES INCREASE

A dues increase for our section membership is justified because of new program costs, event site costs, and no more money generated from the Booklist. Karen Albert moved and Gayle Ablove seconded a motion to increase section dues from \$5.00 to \$10.00. We must send a letter to the membership. Cindy Suter, Section Council Representative, will ask about this.

OTHER BUSINESS

CancerONLINE PRESENTATION - Arlene Harder handed out packets describing a comprehensive cancer website called CancerONLINE (<http://www.cancerONLINE.org>). She explained that it is more patient-oriented than OncoLink, plus it contains guided imagery and complimentary therapy information. She asked us to try it and send comments to cancer.ONLINE@stonecottage.com.

JOB OPPORTUNITY

Cindy Suter announced she was leaving St. Jude Children Research Hospital in Memphis, TN. She handed out the job description and encouraged anyone who wished to apply.

MLA COURSE

Heidi was approached by MLA to teach a MLA course, Oncology Concepts and Resources. She asked if anyone would be her backup as she has many commitments. The pre-reading for this course is substantial. She feels the course would be better taught using a two-day time period and breaking it up into Cancer I and Cancer II sections. It would also be a good course for library schools.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Sherrill Cohn thanked everyone and adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy E. Peterson

MLA Cancer Librarians Section Recording Secretary --1998

Pet Therapy... Animal Assisted Therapy

By Mary Sprague
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At MLA '98, the Cancer Librarians, Consumer and Patient Health Information, and Veterinary Medical Libraries sections sponsored a session titled, "Facing and Uncertain Future: Responses to Diagnoses." The program included five excellent speakers, including two who addressed the topic of animal assisted therapy (AAT). Since many of our members have expressed interest in learning more about AAT, I thought that a bibliography of recent publications and a listing of key Web sites would be useful.

First, what is animal-assisted therapy? While the positive benefits of human-animal companionship are well known, AAT is more narrowly defined: trained animals helping patients achieve or make documentable progress toward therapeutic goals. Therapy animals, and their human companions, are now working in a wide variety of settings, but can most commonly be found in rehabilitation and in psychiatric settings. Many different animals can provide these services. While dogs are the most common, birds, llamas, and even potbellied pigs have been used.

There are an estimated 2,000 animal assisted therapy programs in the U.S. Several organizations have written standards, provide program development assistance, and offer various levels of animal evaluation, and human and animal training. These organizations are listed below in the Web site section.

The publications listed below are a small selection of the health sciences and popular literature on this topic identified through a CANCERLIT, MEDLINE, CINAHL and Periodical Abstracts search. Mesh terms used included bonding, human-pet and animals, domestic. Pet therapy is an established CINAHL subject heading. However, text word searching with phrases such as animal assisted, pet therapy, pet facilitated is necessary to retrieve many relevant citations.. Although these databases contain citations to literature about human-animal bonding, the references below focus on animal assisted therapy, with some exceptions as I am sure you will notice!

BOOKS/BOOK CHAPTER

Arkow P. "Pet therapy": a study and resource guide for the use of companion animals in selected therapies. 8th ed. [Stratford (NJ)]: P. Arkow; 1998.

Bernard S. Animal assisted therapy; a guide for health care professionals and volunteers. Whitehouse (TX): Therapet; 1995.

Burch MR. Volunteering with your pet: how to get involved in animal-assisted therapy with any kind of pet. New York: Howell book House; 1996.

James, K. Pet therapy. In: Snyder M, Lindquist R, editors. Complementary/alternative therapies in nursing. 3rd ed. New York: Springer; 1998. p. 285-94.

PERIODICAL ARTICLES

Allen M. Purr therapy. Cats Magazine 1998; 54(9):32-5.

Anderson JK. Pet therapy at work in VA. VFW, Veterans of Foreign Wars Magazine 1998; 85(7):38-9.

Anonymous. ICPs develop policies for pet and sibling visitation. Hospital Infection Control 1994; 21(8):108-12.

Barr B. Therapets: Dogs good for what ails patients. Airman 1997;41(5):42-43.

Beck AM, Meyers NM. Health enhancement and companion animal ownership. Annual Review of Public Health 1996; 17:247-57.

Pet Therapy... Animal Assisted Therapy cont'd.

Cassey HM. A survey of occupational therapists using pet-facilitated therapy. *Home Health Care Management & Practice* 1996; 8(4):10-7.

Collins LF. Pets in therapy? *Ot Practice* 1996;1(5):38-9,41,43.

Dembicki D, Anderson J. Pet ownership may be a factor in improved health of the elderly. *Journal of Nutrition for the Elderly* 1996; 15(3):15-31.

Edney AT. Companion animals and human health: an overview. *Journal of the Royal Society of Medicine* 1995; 88(12):704p-8p.

Dossey L. Notes on the journey. The healing power of pets: a look at animal-assisted therapy. *Alternative Therapies in Health & Medicine* 1997;3(4):8-16.

Jorgenson J. Clinical scholarship. Therapeutic use of companion animals in health care. *Image - the Journal of Nursing Scholarship* 1997;29(3):249-54.

Patronek GJ, Glickman LT. Pet ownership protects against the risks and consequences of coronary heart disease. *Medical Hypotheses* 1993; 40(4):245-9.

Price CL. Patients improve with pet therapy. *Texas Medicine* 1996; 92(8):12-3.

Rosenthal S. Volunteering with your pet: How to get involved in animal-assisted therapy with any kind of pet. *Cats Magazine* 1997; 53(4): 31.

Smith CS. Therapy dogs nurse the heart. *Dog World* 1998; 83(7):52-7.

Vickery K. Focus on caregiving. The truth about cats and dogs: weighing the pros and cons of pet therapy. *Provider* 1998; 24(5):93,95-6.

Voelker R. Puppy love can be therapeutic, too. *JAMA* 1995; 274(24):1897-1899.

CANCER, AIDS, HOSPICE CARE

Angulo FJ, Siegel JM, Detels R. Pet ownership and the reliability of the Companion Animal Bonding Scale among participants of the Multicenter AIDS Cohort Study *Anthrozoos* 1996; 9(1):5-9.

Carmack BJ. The role of companion animals for persons with AIDS/HIV. *Holistic Nursing Practice* 1991; 5(2):24-31.

Chinner TL, Dalziel FR. An exploratory study on the viability and efficacy of a pet-facilitated therapy project within a hospice. *Journal of Palliative Care* 1991; 7(4):13-20.

Ince S. 'Complementary' care eases chemotherapy experience. *Medical Tribune for the Family Physician*. 1998; 39(5):18.

Hawlwy K, Cates M. Paws for comfort. *Nursing* 1998; 28(2):57.

WEB SITES

The Latham Foundation (www.latham.org) is a clearinghouse for information about animal-assisted therapy, as well as a producer and distributor of video and publications on this topic. This site includes an excellent bibliography of articles on the human companion animal bond. Phil Arkow, one of our MLA speakers, is an active member of the Latham Foundation.

The Delta Society (petsforum.com/deltasociety/dsf000.htm) states that its mission is to promote animals helping people improve their health, independence and quality of life. The society offers several programs to support AAT through training, evaluation, consultation, continuing education and site assessment.

Dog-Play (www.dog-play.com/join.html) provides a list of national and local animal-assisted therapy organizations. Although Dog-Play is not affiliated with any organization, this list provides a good start to identifying animal-assisted therapy groups.

Yahoo (www.yahoo.com) has a category for AAT. From the Yahoo home page follow this path: Health: Mental Health: Therapeutic Methods: Animal Assisted Therapy. Yahoo currently lists ten organizations, and twelve other sites.

Does your facility offer animal-assisted therapy? Share your program descriptions with the Cancer Librarians by posting a message to cancerlib@pony.fhcr.org.

CANCERLIB Listserv

Cancer Librarians Section Website

Development is beginning soon on the official section website. Please contact Mary Sprague (sprague.3@osu.edu) or Ann Marie Clark (aclark@fhcrc.org) to volunteer to help design the site, or to send suggestions for content. Ideas (thanks to Cheryl Warren, Gail Ablove, Karen Albert) currently under consideration include: the section brochure, the section newsletter, the Cancer Resource Booklist, section-member reviewed and recommended links to cancer websites for patients and healthcare professionals, and bibliographic lists on topics that we are frequently asked about - such as how to set up cancer resource centers for the public. It will be hosted at the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center, with Ann Marie Clark acting as webmaster.

Per Our Minutes:

"It would be useful to ask our members in the next newsletter who is connected to the Internet and who is not." Please send an e-mail message to Margaret Vugrin at: librmv@ttuhsc.edu

If you do not have e-mail access and are not planning on getting it in the near future, please notify Margaret at:

Preston Smith Library of the Health Sciences,
Texas Tech University HSC
Lubbock, TX 79430

Any MLA Cancer Librarians Section members are welcome and encouraged to join the section's official listserv, CANCERLIB. List traffic isn't too heavy, for those of us that are swamped with mail, but it is always very relevant to the interests and concerns of our group. Actually, more conversation would be welcome. Possible topics could include reference questions, collection development issues, section business, projects of note and many others. The listserv is hosted by the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center. Contact Ann Marie Clark (aclark@fhcrc.org) or the server administrator (Owner Majordomo@pony.fhcrc.org), if you have any questions or problems.

Please send all e-mail for the listserv (to be posted for the membership to read) to:
cancerlib@pony.fhcrc.org

Subscribe/Unsubscribe requests should go to:
majordomo@pony.fhcrc.org

In the body of the message include only
subscribe cancerlib <your email address>
unsubscribe cancerlib <your email address>
(don't use the angle brackets, and leave the subject line blank).

Other commands should be sent in the body of an email message to Majordomo@pony.fhcrc.org. Multiple commands can be processed provided each occurs on a separate line.

get <list> <filename>

Get a file related to <list>.

index <list>

Return an index of files you can "get" for <list>.

which [<address>]

Find out which lists you (or <address> if specified) are on.

who <list>

Find out who is on the named <list>.

info <list>

Retrieve the general introductory information for the name <list>.

intro <list>

Retrieve the introductory message sent to new users.

Nonsubscribers

may not be able to retrieve this.

help

Retrieve help and command list message.

end

Stop processing commands

MLA Program 1999

The Cancer Librarians Section is cosponsoring the speaker, Belleruth Naparstek with Hospital Librarians Section and Consumer and Patient Health Information Section. Belleruth Naparstek, AM, LISW, BCD, is a clinical social worker and psychotherapist, who has been a practicing clinician for 33 years. She is the author of *Staying Well with Guided Imagery* and *Your Sixth Sense : Unlocking the Power of Your Intuition*. A nationally recognized pioneer in the field of guided imagery and intuition, she is also the creator of the popular Time Warner Health Journeys, a 20+ title guided imagery audiocassette series. A warm, dynamic and compelling speaker, Belleruth has trained thousands of health professionals, counselors and consumers to use her groundbreaking, powerful imagery techniques to access their own levels of healing, relaxation, creativity and intuition. Naparstek will share her insights and discoveries on the use of guided imagery for healing and wellness in both the traditional and nontraditional health setting.

Trained at the University of Chicago, her career has spanned the public and private sector. She has taught psychiatry residents at Cambridge Hospital, Harvard Medical School and graduate students at Case Western Reserve University. Early in her private practice, she realized the potential of images on the senses and the body's ability to react to positive imagery. She began to develop imagery and visualization exercises and techniques to help her patients. From preparing individualized tapes for her clients, she went on to produce some 20 plus titles in her audiotape series called Health Journeys. Now a well known speaker on visualization and guided imagery, Naparstek is praised for being able to synthesize and apply ideas from the humanities, psychology and biophysiology in order to present complex material in a simple, direct, user-friendly way, clarifying how the imagination activates healing, perception and intuition. Dedicated to mind+body techniques, Naparstek supports research into the ability of the human imagination to activate healing and personal perception to enable one to live a healthier life with potential for growth and change.

Belleruth Naparstek has an email newsletter and a web site at <http://www.healthjourneys.com> which

includes a very good section called New Research. This section provides a list of journal citations with annotations of current relevant research or studies being conducted in mind-body therapies. The web site also offers for purchase the Oncology AudioKit which includes audiotapes on chemotherapy, surgery, depression, stress, grief and general wellness. Cancer Librarians Section believes Belleruth Naparstek will offer an insightful and lively presentation that librarians will find useful personally and professionally.

Submitted by
Cheryl Warren
Program Chair
cwarren@valleycare.com

Notes From the Editor

Finally, we are resurfacing. Some of you may know that the Texas Tech Health Sciences Center Library was moved into a new building in July. With workmen finishing up and library staff shorthanded we somehow managed to get through orientations in the new building in September and catch up with work in October. In November a new librarian started at the library and we have gotten this newsletter together and finally out to each of our members. We apologize for our tardiness, especially to those of you who contributed items for the newsletter so many months ago.

I asked a colleague, JoAnn Van Schaik, to assist me last summer as coeditor. Together with Cheryl's assistance we will put together another issue this year before the MLA meeting. JoAnn has additional interest in the Cancer Librarians Section, since her nine year old son was diagnosed with a brain stem glioma this October. So far he has had the first round of chemo and radiation therapy and only missed one week of school!

If someone else is interested in editing the *News* or if you would like us to continue, please let us know. Again, our apologies for the lateness of this issue!

HutchWorld/HutchTalk

Research shows that social support contributes positively toward healing. Upon that premise, Microsoft Research and the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center's library and clinical departments worked together to design and develop a virtual world to support Hutch patients, their families and friends. HutchWorld/HutchTalk provides a place where the Hutch community can gather to share experiences, help one another, ask questions, and find information.

In the real world, it is difficult for our patients, their families and friends to meet easily with others due to physical separation, and during treatment, immune system problems. Using their computer, from anywhere in the world, people can visit the virtual Hutch outpatient lobby, "see" and talk to Hutch staff or volunteers, and meet others facing similar challenges.

HutchWorld/HutchTalk is built on top of technology developed by the Virtual Worlds Group in Microsoft Research. This software is designed to further enhance social interaction and information exchange on the Internet. Today people use the Internet to find information and to communicate via electronic mail. HutchWorld/HutchTalk demonstrates how this experience can be enhanced using these new technologies.

Some HutchWorld features:

- Ability to see and meet other people, represented by photographic avatars, connected to HutchWorld from all over the world during any time of the day
- The text chat windows which let users communicate live with others in the environment
- Customizable graphical avatars with graphical gestures and profile information
- A tabbed list control that shows who is in the room, which objects are in the room, and displays the user's personal inventory
- The Virtual Outpatient Lobby, based on the real Hutch outpatient lobby. This room includes: mailboxes, gift shop, a map of the room, links to Hutch information and an email provider.
- Other HutchWorld rooms include: private discussion rooms, the Hutch school, a teen space and

auditorium for presentations and group meetings
--The Hutch will sponsor regular discussions and guest moderators.

To prepare for the deployment of HutchWorld, HutchTalk will be released in the Fall of '98. HutchTalk contains a subset of the HutchWorld features including text chat, the outpatient lobby graphics, private chat rooms, and custom avatars to represent participants when "in-world". A Spring of '99 deployment of HutchWorld is planned, pending the release of relevant Virtual Worlds software and the analysis of the HutchTalk experience.

by Lili Cheng, Linda Stone (Microsoft) and Ann Marie Clark (Fred Hutchinson)

The Breast Cancer Research Stamp

Official Press Release:
July 29, 1998

Another story floating around the Net right now says that the U.S. Postal Service has issued a "Breast Cancer Research Stamp" and that instead of the normal \$.32 for a stamp, this one costs \$.40. The additional \$.08 will go to breast cancer research. If all stamps are sold, it will raise an additional \$16,000,000 for this vital research.

It is my distinct pleasure to inform you that this story is absolutely TRUE! The Breast Cancer Research Stamp was the result of legislation sponsored by Senators Dianne Feinstein (CA), Alfonse D'Amato (NY) and Lauch Faircloth (NC) while the House legislation was sponsored by Representative Vic Fazio (CA) and former Representative Susan Molinari (NY). The Breast Cancer Research Stamp legislation was signed into law by President Clinton on August 13, 1997, and the stamps have been available for sale at U.S. Post Offices.

200 million Breast Cancer Research Stamps have been printed. In effect, these are regular, First Class, 32 cent stamps. The only difference is that you pay 40 cents for them. The eight cent difference goes to breast cancer research programs at the National Institutes of Health and the Department of Defense (yes, the DOD does do cancer research).



To order the Breast Cancer Research Stamps,

1. Visit your local U.S. Post Office
2. In the U.S.,
call (800) STAMP24 or
fax to (816) 545-1212
3. Order online: <http://www.stampsonline.com/collect/stamp98/bcancindx.htm>

First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton and Postmaster General William Henderson issued a new postage stamp to help raise funds for breast cancer research. The issuance ceremony was held in the East Room of the White House, officially launching the first U.S. stamp in history to have its net proceeds above the cost of postage earmarked for research organizations.

"About 2 million American women suffer from breast cancer today," said the First Lady. "This deadly disease, which claims a woman's life every 12 minutes, has touched the lives of so many American families, including the President's own. I am proud to build on the President's long-standing commitment to breast cancer prevention and research. This historic stamp will be invaluable in our efforts to increase research funding and save lives."

"People purchase stamps every day, and now they can turn that simple act into a meaningful and effective way to participate in the fight against breast cancer," said Postmaster General William Henderson. "So often when we read or hear about breast cancer, we say, 'What can I do?' Now there's an answer: Buy this stamp."

Joining the First Lady and the Postmaster General at the White House ceremony were some of the stamp's leading proponents: Rep. Vic Fazio (D-CA); Sen. Dianne Feinstein (D-CA); and Elizabeth Mullen, breast cancer survivor and founder of the Women's Information Network Against Breast Cancer.

As a "semipostal" stamp, it will cost 40 cents and will be valid for postage in the amount of the prevailing 32-cent First-Class letter rate. Seventy percent of net proceeds above the cost of postage will be given to the National Institutes of Health (NIH), and 30 percent of net proceeds above the cost of postage will be given to the Medical Research Program of the Department of Defense (DOD). The NIH and DOD, which both conduct breast cancer research, were identified as recipients of the funds by legislation enacted in 1997.

The stamp was designed by Ethel Kessler of Bethesda, Md., and illustrated by Whitney Sherman of Baltimore.

Cancer Librarians Book List Reviews

By Karen Albert --13--
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Cancer in women. / edited by John J. Kavanagh, S. Eva Singletary, Nina Einhorn, and A. Denny DePetrillo. Oxford; New York: Blackwell Science, Inc., 1998, xv, 666 p., ill. ISBN: 0865424659 : 195.00

Capitalizing on the surge in interest in women's health, this multi-authored work provides detailed information on prevention, diagnosis, and management of breast and gynecological cancers. Useful for furthering knowledge of the basic science and molecular biology of these diseases, the text is directed at medical students, residents, and clinicians. Notable also is the fine coverage of psychosocial support and genetic risk issues. Contains halftone line drawings and illustrations, as well as extensive references.

Reviews:

3-star Doody's rating
Login Brothers "Best Bet" (predicted best-seller)

Principles and practice of radiation oncology, 3rd ed. / edited by Carlos A. Perez, and Luther W. Brady. Philadelphia: Lippincott-Raven, 1998, xxi, 2341 p., ill. ISBN: 0-397-58416-4 : 250.00 [also available on CD-ROM : \$250.00; CD + book package : 325.00]

This highly-regarded, clinical reference text presents a detailed overview of current radiation oncology treatment techniques. Aimed at radiation oncology practitioners, the third edition is designed to promote a better understanding of the natural history of cancer along with elucidation of the most judicious employment of radiation therapy methods, either as part of single or multimodality treatment approach. This new edition emphasizes relevant new technologies and also highlights supportive and palliative care topics, including pain management. This is the major text book in the area.

Reviews: 4-star Doody rating

Former Brandon-Hill title
Brothers "Best Bet" (predicted best-seller) and "Sizzler" (proven best-seller)
J Natl Cancer Inst 1998 90(19):1485

Breast Imaging, 2nd ed. / by Daniel B. Kopans. Philadelphia: Lippincott-Raven, 1998, xiii, 875 p., ill. ISBN: 0-397-51302-x : 125.00

Called "an extraordinary book" by the NEJM reviewer, this text examines the controversial issues which have arisen in the 90's regarding mammographic screening, and it aims to accurately analyze the relevant scientific evidence. As such, it includes a detailed discussion of mammographic screening issues as well as a summation of radiation risk as part of a risk/benefit equation. The author presents an excellent overview of breast disease, and uses extensive diagrams to clarify complex topics. Physicians other than radiologists would benefit from the clearly presented discussions of anatomy, histology, physiology, pathology, and biology that relate to accuracy in screening and diagnosis.

Reviews: New Engl J Med 1998 339(11):779

Login Brothers "Best Bet" (predicted best-seller) and "Sizzler" (proven best-seller)

Clinical Trials and Informatics

National Institutes of Health
Office of the Director

--14--

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
Tuesday, October 6, 1998

Contact: NCI Press Office
(301) 496-6641

The National Cancer Institute (NCI) is reforming its clinical trials program to make both cancer information and the trials themselves more accessible to all Americans.

This new effort, called the Cancer Informatics Infrastructure (CII), will transform the current system over the next two years beginning in fiscal year 1999. As the system evolves, data management techniques in clinical trials will be upgraded and information exchanges among researchers, physicians and the public will be facilitated. CII is expected to greatly speed the application of research discoveries to the daily practice of medicine.

The management and conduct of prevention, diagnosis and treatment studies will be simplified and accelerated. For the first time, all NCI-sponsored cancer clinical trials will have common terminology and reporting requirements, thus increasing the efficiency of conducting a trial and the efficient analyzing and disseminating of results. Common data sets also are intended to reduce the complexity and variety of forms that doctors and patients must complete. The CII will use the best technology available to protect the privacy of personal cancer information.

Cumbersome paper-based systems of collecting data for multi-center studies will give way to electronic communication, linking sites of care (hospitals, doctors' offices and clinics) with the secure, research databases of investigators. For example, the physician will complete simplified, computerized forms, submit them, and — if the physician and patient meet certain standards and criteria -- the patient will be entered into the clinical trial, receive the therapy and remain in the care of his or her physician.

Industry and the academic sector will play a principal role in building the CII. NCI will promote communications among participating organizations, help develop appropriate standards, and fund initial projects. But the infrastructure will expand significantly as cancer centers, physicians in private practice,

managed care organizations, pharmaceutical companies, patient advocates, and consumers work together to put in place the actual standards and technology. NCI has requested \$20 million in fiscal year 1999 for this effort.

At the same time, NCI and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration are modernizing information links and establishing standards that will allow collaboration and sharing of results with researchers in North America, Europe, and Japan. An agreement has been established between the U.S. Office of Protection from Research Risks and the European Organization for Research and Treatment of Cancer to accelerate trans-Atlantic cancer clinical research. It will make accrual of patients to trials faster, help harmonize international collaborative cancer treatment research, and speed transfer of knowledge from research to clinical practice.

CII will help patients, families, at-risk individuals, and health professionals learn about clinical trials and where they are being conducted. By using a computer, patients and their oncologists can determine treatment options and clinical trials for a patient's specific cancer.

The CII will provide easy access to information on current cancer research opportunities, new research results, and availability of clinical trials in the areas of diagnosis, treatment and prevention. As a key part of this initiative, NCI has begun expanding and modernizing the Physicians Data Query (PDQ), its widely used cancer database, and has developed a comprehensive clinical trials Web site (<http://cancertrials.nci.nih.gov>), which is designed to help the public find clinical trials information quickly and easily.

The CII will use the World Wide Web to disseminate information and facilitate enrollment of patients on clinical research studies. It also will reach more Americans with vital cancer information through a variety of mechanisms, including telephone, fax, and printed media to provide the greatest access possible.

For more information about cancer visit NCI's Web site for patients, public and the mass media at <http://rex.nci.nih.gov> or NCI's main web site at <http://www.nci.nih.gov>.

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