

CONTRACT HHSN276200553501C

Support of the National Reference Center for Bioethics Literature (NRCBL) as a Complementary Resource to the National Library of Medicine (NLM) for Materials in Bioethics and the Identification, Creation, and Maintenance of Bioethics Records for the NLM

ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT 2006

Part 1: Narrative

Objectives

The NRCBL has provided collection development and library and outreach services in essential areas of bioethics, complementing the National Library of Medicine by collecting, organizing and making available works in categories of literature which are collected highly selectively by NLM or which fall outside of the Library's established collecting boundaries.

Some of these works meet the second objective of this contract, i.e., to identify, organize, and disseminate bibliographic data related to the field of bioethics for NLM databases, emphasizing unique items not already identified by other NLM indexing sources. Specifically, these activities include data entry, cataloging, indexing, and participating in the development and expansion of the support structures for the complete information system.

The third objective continues to be to undertake outreach activities, including online search training to facilitate the dissemination of bioethics information.

Library Services and Outreach

NRCBL continued to provide both on-site and off-site services to a wide variety of researchers. The library was open 49 hours per week during the academic year and 40 hours per work during semester breaks and the summer. Staff provided database instruction, ready reference, and custom searches in response to requests from online as well as on-site users. A statistical overview of library services is in Part 2: Statistical Data (reflecting 75% of all library operations, as previously reported).

NLM supported more than 95,000 end-user searches of the ETHX on the Web database during the year, and more than 1,150,000 accesses to the "bioethics.georgetown.edu" website. ETHX on the Web is currently comprised of 231,041 citations, 28,933 of which have links to full-text providers. The website continues to be modified and enhanced. Databases are updated biweekly, and hundreds of web pages have been created and modified in 2006.

In the past year the data in the organizations database (ORGS) and the Syllabus Exchange

Project (SYLB) have been redesigned for web delivery as searchable databases.

Examples of outreach efforts through the year include:

presentations to 16 groups;

activities at six professional meetings, including: Medical Library Association (exhibit, Phoenix, May); the Kennedy Institute's Intensive Bioethics Course (library proseminar and other events, June); Special Libraries Association (tabletop exhibit, Baltimore, June); the American Society for Bioethics and the Humanities (exhibit, Denver, October); and PRIM&R (Public Responsibility in Medicine & Research) (exhibit, Washington, November); and

mailings to authors in the field and conveners of professional conferences.

In 2006 NRCBL staff completed the digitization of all 46 items in the *Scope Note* series along with *New Titles in Bioethics*, which are now accessible online at no cost from 2000 on. New issues are published electronically at the NRCBL website. (*Scope Notes* are also published in the *Kennedy Institute of Ethics Journal*, which makes them accessible also online via Johns Hopkins University's Project Muse collection of periodicals.) The migration of the syllabus collection to electronic delivery continues, and DOCLINE participation has been successfully implemented.

Collection Development

All collections were significantly augmented during the year; these cover multiple formats: monographs, periodical literature, legal literature, audiovisual material, syllabi, and archival collections.

A major upgrade (Version 9.0) of Livelink Discovery Server (the software supporting in-house database development and maintenance) was implemented, and databases were streamlined in accordance with new capabilities. Acquisitions databases are being phased out, and all bibliographic data for library items are being added directly into the ETHX, BOOK, or BAVS databases (covering articles, books, and audiovisual materials, respectively).

Scope Review

The guidance for scope review is the Collection Development Manual for NRCBL and the scope review documents, which provide the basis for the identification and selection of materials for the NLM databases. These were reviewed, revised, and submitted to the Project Officer in February 2006, adding an extensive section on formats and an index.

Using the newly revised February 2006 list of sources monitored, the staff directly monitored, on an ongoing basis more than 200 journals and other primary sources, and multiple secondary

sources (printed indexes and online databases) for citations from which they selected relevant citations for inclusion in NLM's journal and monographic databases.

NRCBL databases were augmented with thousands of new citations, and, following the acquisitions and classification process, the Bibliographers selected a significant subset of materials for MEDLINE and LOCATOR*plus*.

English and German articles and monographic materials were monitored and considered for indexing. The focus overall was strongly on identifying materials unique to the NLM databases.

The "BIOSDI" search strategy was updated; this search was run monthly to monitor MEDLINE for citations that should be added to MEDLINE's Bioethics Subset, augmented with KIE data, and acquired for the NRCBL collection.

Classification, Indexing, and Abstracting

All items acquired by NRCBL were classified with the NRCBL Classification Scheme. In addition, other conventions were used to enhance the bibliographic records when appropriate, such as the addition of subject captions, comments, geographic identifiers, and other access points useful to searchers. The ETHX, BOOK, and BAVS databases were concatenated for Web delivery as "ETHX on the Web."

The indexing of journal articles and related document types for MEDLINE was done on an ongoing basis using the DCMS software system. As in the case of journal articles, some non-English-language materials (primarily German materials) were indexed during the past year.

Articles in KIE-"owned" journals were fully indexed with MeSH Headings or with specific "subconcept" entry terms to MeSH Headings as appropriate, to reflect author terminology; MeSH Publication Types were also included. The records were also tagged for inclusion in the Bioethics Subset and augmented with other special KIE features.

Articles in non-KIE-"owned" journals were quickly tagged for the Bioethics Subset, indexed with KIE Keywords, as appropriate, and augmented with the other special KIE features described in the preceding paragraph.

Monographic citations were indexed on an ongoing basis for LOCATOR*plus* using the VOYAGER software system. The types of citations indexed included monographs/books, analytics/book chapters, audiovisual materials, Web documents (electronic resources), and legal documents such as legal decisions, bills and laws.

Created citations were indexed in full with MeSH and MeSH Publication Types, as well as with KIE features. Full descriptive indexing/cataloging was provided for all unique citations in accordance with NLM standards. For modified citations, the Bibliographers added the special KIE features noted in the preceding paragraph.

Keying, Editing, and Database Development for NLM Databases

The complex search strategy that underlies MEDLINE's Bioethics Subset was reviewed and revised.

New article records were created for MEDLINE/PubMed, and other PubMed records were tagged for the bioethics subset and modified with bioethics features. (See the Statistical Data in Part 2.) For Web documents/electronic resources, accurate and properly formatted links to the text were provided. VOYAGER monographic records were modified to add bioethics information.

Another important area of database development effort involved activities related to the addition, proper documentation, and/or maintenance of journal titles in LOCATORplus and on the KIE's journals picklist. The Bibliographers responded to NLM requests for information or action affecting KIE journals and kept watch for new bioethics journals and for other non-NLM journals that yield substantive articles on bioethical issues.

Vocabulary Creation and Maintenance

On an ongoing basis, the staff monitored the literature of bioethics for emerging terminology that could lead to changes to the NRCBL Classification Scheme or the development of new usage patterns, as well as recommendations for future MeSH terms or changes in MeSH entry terms or term relationships.

The Bibliographers continued to submit requests for MeSH terms; they also monitored the need for updating of the KIE's supplementary Keywords vocabulary of proper-noun subjects, such as the names of court decisions, laws, and organizations. They submitted requests for additions to the KIE's Keywords Picklist to the Project Officer as needed.

NATIONAL REFERENCE CENTER FOR BIOETHICS LITERATURE REPORT FOR 2006

PART I: STATISTICAL DATA	2006
LIBRARY SERVICES	TOTAL
<i>ON-SITE</i>	
CUSTOM DATABASE SEARCHES	809
INSTRUCTION (INDIVIDUALS IN LIBRARY)	117
REFERENCE QUESTIONS HANDLED	785
<i>VISITORS</i>	
GENERAL	2224
ARCHIVES	3
<i>OFF-SITE</i>	
DATABASE SEARCHES (END-USER SEARCHES OF NRCBL DATABASES)	95624
WEB ACCESSES (KIE PAGES)	1150637
TRAINING MATERIAL DEVELOPMENT	0
<i>PUBLIC RELATIONS</i>	

MAILINGS TO AUTHORS	31
MAILINGS TO CONFERENCES	3
MEETINGS ATTENDED	6
PRESENTATIONS	15
<i>PUBLICATIONS</i>	
NEW TITLES IN BIOETHICS (DIGITAL)	5
SCOPE NOTES (DIGITAL)	18
OTHER	0
<i>WEBSITE DEVELOPMENT</i>	
PAGES CREATED	123
PAGES MODIFIED	173
SYLLABI POSTED	88
TOLL-FREE TELEPHONE UTILIZATION	403
INTERLIBRARY LOAN SERVICE	164
ACQUISITIONS	
MONOGRAPHS	812
SUBSCRIPTIONS (ONGOING)	296
SUBSCRIPTIONS (NEW)	18
SPECIAL ISSUES	50
JOURNAL ARTICLES	7935*
NEWSPAPER ARTICLES	447
LEGAL CASES	36
LAWS	5
BILLS	37
WEB DOCUMENTS	179
AUDIOVISUAL MATERIALS	10
ARCHIVAL MATERIALS (LINEAR FEET)	23
SYLLABI	6
COLLECTION MAINTENANCE/WEEDING	
<i>CATALOGING</i>	
OCLC ORIGINAL RECORDS	38
OCLC MODIFIED RECORDS	570
REVISION OF COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT MANUAL	1
REVISION OF SCOPE OF COLLECTION	1
REVISION OF SUBSET STRATEGY	1
SCOPING	
DATABASES	21
PERIODICAL TITLES, PRIMARY	178
PERIODICAL TITLES, SECONDARY	122
WEBSITES (EST.)	225
CITATIONS CREATED FOR NRCBL	
BAVS	11
BOOK	794
CLST	0
ETHX	12260
ORGS	49
SUBS	16
SYLB	6

NLM RECORDS CREATED/MODIFIED:**DCMS INDEXING**

JOURNAL ARTICLES (KIE CREATED)	1199
JOURNAL ARTICLES (KIE MODIFIED)	3866
LEGAL CASES (KIE CREATED)	34
LEGAL CASES (KIE MODIFIED)	0
LEGISLATION (KIE CREATED)	2
LEGISLATION (KIE MODIFIED)	0
NEWSPAPER ARTICLES (KIE CREATED)	170
NEWSPAPER ARTICLES (KIE MODIFIED)	0

VOYAGER INDEXING

BOOKS (KIE CREATED)	105
BOOKS (KIE MODIFIED)	150
BOOK CHAPTERS (KIE CREATED)	543
BOOK CHAPTERS (KIE MODIFIED)	0
ELECTRONIC RESOURCES (KIE CREATED)	77
ELECTRONIC RESOURCES (KIE MODIFIED)	0
LEGAL CASES (KIE CREATED)	0
LEGAL CASES (KIE MODIFIED)	0
LEGISLATION (KIE CREATED)	10
LEGISLATION (KIE MODIFIED)	0
VIDEO RECORDINGS (KIE CREATED)	5
VIDEO RECORDINGS (KIE MODIFIED)	0

*This line item has been corrected in this report: quarterly totals are: 3116, 2468, 536, and 1816.

PART II: ESTIMATED HOURS

ADMINISTRATION	1344
LIBRARY SERVICES	3904
TOLL-FREE TELEPHONE UTILIZATION	176
INTERLIBRARY LOAN SERVICE	686
ACQUISITIONS/COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT	5780
COLLECTION MAINTENANCE/WEEDING	340
SCOPING (PUBLICATIONS, DATABASES, WEB)	5818
VOCABULARY CREATION AND MAINTENANCE**	160
INDEXING AND ABSTRACTING	8852
REQUESTED DETAIL	
CITATIONS CREATED	
NRCBL:	6677
NLM (DCMS):	875
NLM (VOYAGER):	485
CITATIONS MODIFIED:	
NLM (DCMS):	775
NLM (VOYAGER):	40
SUBTOTAL	8852
TOTAL HOURS	27060

** The reporting of effort for VOCABULARY CREATION AND MAINTENANCE has been modified to report this time as a separate line item throughout the year.