

September 16, 1997



To: OhioLINK Governing Board

From Tom Sanville

Subject: Teaching Hospital Central Catalog Participation Policy

2455 North Star Road
Suite 300
Columbus, OH 43221
Phone: 614-728-3600
Fax: 614-728-3610

Under the general Membership and Participation Policy, Ancillary Group 2, this memorandum requests specific approval for participation in the OhioLINK central catalog by teaching hospitals as outlined specifically in this proposal.

Background:

OhioLINK medical school libraries and their parent institutions and hospitals have complex relationships with hospitals in their communities through which they train their students or through which their staff and associated doctors conduct their professional activities. Additionally, as the medical community undergoes significant restructuring, hospitals are aligning, acquiring, and otherwise affiliating in new ways. These relationships are often motivated by forces beyond the scope or specific interests of the library. Nonetheless OhioLINK medical school and hospital administrators look to the library and its services to participate and add value to these new affiliations.

The Ohio Health Science Library Directors wish to (1) Have the ability to deliver a selected, cafeteria style suite of OhioLINK products and services to their affiliated teaching hospitals in a flexible, timely manner that will match the changing needs of the hospitals: (2) fairly reimburse OhioLINK for those products and services that are consumed by "non-academic" hospital staff; (3) develop a consensual contractual process to implement 1 and 2 above.

The impact of these forces is already evident in OhioLINK policies towards hospital libraries.

* The WSU and NEOUCOM hospital libraries whose records were already amalgamated into our medical library catalogs prior to OhioLINK's creation were included in the OhioLINK union catalog and resource sharing community. We include them in all our database licenses at no pass-through charge to the hospitals.

* A supplemental program was created to provide a means to provide full institutional access to our Ovid medical databases by teaching and non-teaching hospitals on a fee based, cost recovery basis. Without this program only the staff and students of our schools with bona-fide ID's could have access. Now all staff of these hospitals can have access regardless of each person's affiliation with our local medical school.

Based only on the accident of timing, we do not have a level playing field across all our medical schools. Two have an integrated relationship with their teaching hospitals while the others do not have the ability to enhance their relationships for mutual library and institutional benefit.

Proposal:

OhioLINK will allow the inclusion of qualifying Ohio hospitals, into the OhioLINK central catalog and resource sharing services. The key fundamentals underlying the policy are as follows:

1. OhioLINK participation will be available to hospitals that are a legitimate extension of the higher education programs of member medical centers/schools or medicine, regardless of profit status.

A. This teaching relationship entails the provision of full third or fourth year medical student clinical programs, and/or the provision of full medical residency programs.

B. The teaching relationship also includes regular student rotations in nursing, pharmacy, dentistry, and allied health programs.

C. Teaching hospitals will participate in OhioLINK as branches of the appropriate OhioLINK member health sciences, university, or college library.

2. Teaching hospitals must have a library, staffed by at least one full-time librarian, and be of a size and quality that it can be considered beneficial to Ohio higher education.

3. Teaching hospitals must adhere to all participation policies established by OhioLINK.

4. Incremental local systems costs for addition to one of the member library systems, are a local responsibility to be determined by the hospital and the member library.

5. Authorized individuals located at these teaching hospitals (i.e., medical center/school faculty and students) already have access rights to the databases on the OhioLINK system. The program to extend access to the medical databases for non-authorized staff of hospitals is already in place on a cost-recovery basis. This program will continue to be applied regardless of the hospital's decision about full participation in OhioLINK.