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Expanded Academic Index (ASAP) via HELIN

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the library link

Firstsearch Database Trial on Online Catalog -- HELIN

From February 19 through May 12 the **HELIN** Consortium is setting up a free trial to access the **FirstSearch** Catalog of data-bases. This means that selecting *R* from the online catalog menu, then *F* for FirstSearch will provide a choice of over 50 multi-disciplinary databases, including WorldCat, a database with millions of books, journals and videotapes; EconLit, a database for 400 economic journals; GEOREF, references to more than 4,000 geology journals; MDX Health; the Concise Columbia Electronic Encyclopedia; and PsycFirst.

FirstSearch is user friendly, just follow the on-screen instructions. Printing to an attached printer is possible, but is limited to 5 records at one time. Printing in the URI Main Library is not yet available, however, records can be sent to one's e-mail address-- again five records at a time.

This free trial will provide the HELIN Consortium with statistics on the use of the various databases in order to select the ones for subscription. Please try it, and give us your feedback.

For more information and training, sign up at the Reference Desk for workshops which will be held on February 20 and 21, and March 13 and 14.

Until I feared I would lose it, I never loved to read. One does not love breathing.
  Harper Lee. Scout, in *To Kill A Mockingbird.*

Intra-HELIN Loan

Books can be borrowed from any of the HELIN libraries: URI, RIC, CCRI, Roger Williams, Providence College, through the Intra-HELIN loan service. Books arrive in about a week. URI faculty, students and staff can use the service, as long as they are in good standing with no overdue books or fines. At the present time only books may be borrowed. The loan period depends on the lending library, but in general it is 28 days or a semester. If you need to renew the book, you must arrange that with the lending library, not URI.

To make use of the service, sit down at a HELIN terminal in the library, or a PC that has access to the Internet and Telnet to: **library.uri.edu**. After you login and find the book(s) you wish to borrow (providing URI does not own the book), and if it is "AVAILABLE" you can request that item. Note the options at the bottom of the screen. Type shift + and then choose "G (request item)." Type in your name and when asked type in the barcode from you library ID with no spaces between numbers. The book can be picked up at the Circulation Desk when it arrives.

HELIN Consortium Awarded $196,000 Grant

The HELIN Consortium was awarded a grant of $196,000 in December 1995 from the *Davis Educational Foundation* of East Bridgewater, Mass. The grant will allow the Consortium to upgrade its ten year old

computer system that runs the integrated online catalog and add new features for patrons, such as the E-Mail function (already implemented) that allows searches to be directly sent to a patrons own mailbox. Other changes should start to occur during the spring and summer of this year.

Expanded Academic Index (ASAP) via HELIN

Last September, the University Libraries began offering Expanded Academic Index ASAP (EAI) through HELIN, the library's on-line catalog. EAI is an electronic index of 1500 academic journals, popular magazines, and newspapers from a broad spectrum of subject areas. Both the current file and the backfile of the index are available to library users. The current file indexes all 1500 journals from 1993 to the present, and the backfile extends that coverage back to 1980. A full third of the articles indexed in EAI are available in full text.

To use EAI, access HELIN either in the library or by making a Telnet connection to library.uri.edu. At the "login:" prompt, type uriiac. (IAC stands for the Information Access Company, which provides the database.) You will then be given a number of choices. Choose "R> Reference Databases." Once you enter EAI, you can search by subject or key word for relevant articles. Instructions at the bottom of the screen give you the details on how to execute your search. The Power Trac option allows you to search by other criteria, such as journal title, date, and author.

With EAI you can print lists of citations as well as the full text of articles when full text is available. Full text articles print as a facsimile of the article, including pictures, charts and graphs. To print, mark the articles and citations you want to print and then choose the Print command. When EAI asks you where you want your articles printed, choose "Article Station". EAI will prompt you for a name for your print order. Most people use their first and last names (without a space), or a word or combination of words they can be fairly sure no one else will use. Once you exit the database, your print order is saved and you have 48 hours to go to one of the two print stations in the lobby of the Library, enter the name of your print order, and have your articles and citations laser printed. Currently, there is no charge for printing.

If you want to print at home, you can choose "Attached printer" instead of "Article Station" in the print menu. This will send your printout to the printer attached to your computer. (Check the documentation of your communications software for printing). The alternative is to capture the text of each by scrolling through it. In either case, your home printout will be text format only, no pictures or charts will be included. Of course from home you can always select "Print to Article Station" and come to the Library to pick up your printouts. If you have questions about EAI's compatibility with your communications software **check your documentation/manuals** before contacting User Services at the ACC, x2301. EAI is available to faculty, staff, and students of URI and other HELIN libraries.