CCL-EAR Review of CINAHL Plus Text

The California Community Colleges
CCL-EAR Committee Review
Of CINAHL Plus Text
May, 2000

The California Community College Libraries, Electronic Access to Information Resources Committee (CCL-EAR) undertook a "hands-on" study of CINAHL Plus Text.

CINAHL Plus Text brings together the well-known Cumulative Index to Nursing & Allied Health Literature (CINAHL), long the standard index to literature in nursing and allied health fields, and full-text and image journals from the ProQuest online information system. Designed for nursing programs in academic institutions as well as hospital libraries, CINAHL Plus Text covers a wide range of topics including nursing, allied health, alternative therapies, biomedicine, consumer health and health administration. The product offers indexing and abstracts for approximately 1241 titles, including full text for 287 of those titles and full text with image for 277 titles. CINAHL Plus Text is produced by Bell and Howell Information and Learning.

Each CCL-EAR committee member independently, or in concert with other qualified professionals on their campus library staff, reviewed and evaluated the three Softline databases. Assessments were submitted on a Review Reply Form specifically designed by the Committee for this purpose. Though other staff may have helped in the review process, completion of the form was by the CCL-EAR committee member only and not transferred to another. Ratings were based upon the potential value of the proposal to the California Community Colleges as a whole and not solely on the needs of any specific campus.

Attributes of the information resource were assessed on a scale of 1 to 4 with 1 representing the "least value" and 4 representing the "most value". The following attributes were examined:

INFORMATION DATABASE
Consider its functionality, the appropriateness of format (bibliographic/full-text), the content of the information, the adequacy of coverage (retrospective, current), and its value to the California Community Colleges as a whole.

SEARCH INTERFACE
Consider the functionality and ease of use of the interface. Is it intuitive or is an excessive amount of training required? Are any crucial features missing from the search interface?

USER SUPPORT SERVICES
If documentation is required for successful use of product, is it available, comprehensive, and well written? Is online help adequate and user friendly? Does vendor supply training if it is needed? Is a telephone helpline available?

COST
If cost is available, does it seem reasonable in terms of comparable products?

ACCESSIBILITY OF SERVICE
Is access/connection to product reliable and stable? Is response time adequate?

OVERALL ASSESSMENT

#1 --- No Support

#2 --- No Support at this time. Future support conditional upon enhancements noted below in Comments Section.

#3 --- Support and Recommend proposal be forwarded to Community College campuses for their acceptance or rejection. Would like to see enhancements in product noted below in Comments Section.

#4 --- Outstanding offer and opportunity. Recommend proposal be forwarded to Community College campuses for their acceptance or rejection.

Following are the results of the CCL-EAR Committee's review as well as comments taken from the individual Review Reply Forms:

INFORMATION DATABASE: 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 4
CINAHL is the standard source for nursing information. Bell and Howell has added full text to the standard index. The full text journals, over 250, provides access to many titles the community colleges can't afford to subscribe to in print format. Coverage doesn't seem to go back past 1986. Every search I tried in the deep backfile (prior to 1986) produced no articles. My searches in the backfile (1986 - 1997) produced between 30 and 50 percent full text articles and in the current file (1998-present) were all full text articles. Many of the full text articles retrieved had graphics included. For colleges with nursing programs, CINAHL would be a useful tool. I do have reservations about the ProQuest search interface. CINAHL presents a familiar interface to users of ProQuest. With approximately one-fourth of the titles in the database in full-text format, even basic searches can yield full-text articles at the professional or layman's level. Titles most requested by nursing students and their instructors are abundant. Additionally, CINAHL encompasses journals from related fields, e.g., nutrition, learning disabilities, information technologies, etc. The database includes titles from several English-speaking countries beyond the expected Lancet. Many of the titles provide quality information for the non-professional, as
found in publications such as Diabetes Forecast and Scientific American. Image titles primarily from the late 1990s. Full-text titles go back as far as 1992, but generally appear complete from 1998 onward. CINAHL has gathered an impressive, but not unique collection of titles. The resource could well serve nursing and other health related programs at the CC/C

Bell & Howell's ProQuest Plus Text product is actually two databases. The "text" part of CINAHL Plus Text consists of a separate database called "ProQuest Nursing Journals," described on the ProQuest "Select Database" page as "More than 250 leading full-text journals in nursing and allied health." This is slightly misleading since a significant number of the journals in this count are non-nursing and in some cases non-health-related. Periodicals such as "Time," "Newsweek," "U.S. News & World Report," "Good Housekeeping," "Library Journal" and five or six other library journals are included in that count. Journals such as these are available full text in other standard electronic databases. I'm not keen on the idea of paying for them again in a specialized database, even for selected health articles; I'd prefer to spend nursing and allied health money on nursing and allied health journals. The product also includes a large number of titles such as "Journal for a Just and Caring Education," "Social Work in Education," "Journal of Cultural Diversity," and numerous non-health journals which I assume are indexed selectively, i.e. only health articles are included. Some nursing journals included appear to be so esoteric that their value to California community college students seems questionable. Journals from the allied health fields should be much better represented and should be full text. None the less, a wealth of nursing and health-related journals is included in the CINAHL index.

In CINAHL Plus Text, searches on many topics end up exercises in frustration since most of the journals listed in the search results are not included full text and since most community college libraries are unlikely to subscribe to the paper copies of the journals. In days when interlibrary loan was the only option for obtaining articles not held in one's own library, students and faculty were content to wait for paper copies of articles to be sent from other libraries, but those days are *gone.* Our students today are used to the instant gratification of the Web and online databases, and the small ratio of full-text articles to articles without text in CINAHL Plus Text will be problematic.

Titles included in both CINAHL PlusText and Proquest Nursing Journals are clearly oriented towards the field of nursing. However within the CINAHL PlusText there isn't a complete viewable list of titles that are indexed. The Proquest Nursing Journals is advertised as 284 full text journals but the American Journal of Clinical Nutrition is not available in full text yet the Library Journal is included full text. A large amount of the full text coverage is within the five year backfile required for program accreditation in Nursing Both the CINAHL and Proquest Nursing Journal databases include excellent information for nursing students and faculty

CINAHL as a ProQuest product is actually two databases, CINAHL Plus Text and ProQuest Nursing Journals. CINAHL is the more basic index with relatively few full text articles, but containing the virtually complete CINAHL index. For nursing and allied health programs, it is the preferred source by accrediting agencies. ProQuest Nursing Journals is a subset of the complete CINAHL index containing indexing and full text for approximately 250 of the journals. Searches on each product reveal the differences; however, since they are sold as a package the two are complementary and would appear to
give a variety of students easy access to the information that may be required in professional and vocational programs.

PROQUEST NURSING JOURNALS: This resource cumulates the full text nursing journals (also available through CINAHL Plus text). These titles are fully integrated into the Proquest basic search engine with access to these as well as other articles in non-nursing journals and other resources. The appropriateness is founded in the "one stop shopping" approach of searching "all databases." Users that are familiar with the Proquest search engine will find this a seamless addition of titles. This is a strong nursing collection that will please the Nursing program faculty who were unhappy with the focus on health and medicine (generally) in Proquest and the limited nursing titles. Many faculty voiced their opinions that they preferred "nursing" aspects of subjects as opposed to "medical" or "health-related" discussions. To check coverage, I chose the 9 titles beginning with the word "Nursing." Full text coverage ranged from fairly extensive backfiles (Nursing Homes 1/91+, Nursing Management 2/93+, Nursing 1995+) to files with just current full text (Nursing Forum, 10/97+, Nursing Economics 1998+, Nursing Science Quarterly, 1/99, Nurse Practitioner, 1/98, Nursing Administration Quarterly, 1/98, Nursing Diagnosis, 1/98). This "database" addition is also usable with Proquest's Sitebuilder which allows a library to link dynamically from web pages to the full text (an online reserves.)

CINAHL PLUS TEXT: The content of this database speaks to the great need for allied health resources that are specific to these fields. Unfortunately, it appears that this database is the electronic version of the paper counterpart with some selected full text enhancements. I took a sampling of the nursing titles listed above and checked for coverage in CINAHL:

-- Nursing Homes 1/91+ Only selected articles in full text; Of the Nursing homes 1991 articles retrieved (18), most were in full text. When I changed the date to 1991-1998 (564), only half of the most recent 120 entries were in full text.

-- Nursing Management 2/93+ (Only selected articles in full text. 2253 articles received with title Nursing Management and dates 1995-2000. Of the first 100 retrieved, only 38 were in full text. Disappointing when their CINAHL title list claimed otherwise!

-- Nursing Economics 1998+ (Only selected articles in full text. 203 articles received with title Nursing Economics and dates 1998-2000. Of the first 100 retrieved, only 66 were in full text. Disappointing when their CINAHL title list claimed otherwise!

Interesting fact is that the full text IS available in the Nursing Journals database that is integrated with Proquest. Nevertheless, the access to journals specific to dental hygiene, dental lab tech, dental assisting, rad-tech, emergency medical technicians, speech language therapy, and other health professions, makes this an essential resource for colleges with the need for this information.

SEARCH INTERFACE: 2, 2, 2, 3, 3, 3
The ProQuest search interface has some major problems. The default keyword search works well enough. I think most users can figure out the interface independently. Where the search interface
dramatically falls down is the subject search feature. The subject indexing is poor. When I did a subject search for liver function(s), it retrieved five headings- Anatomy & Physiology, bile, gallbladder, hepatitis, and liver cirrhosis, none of which are particularly useful. I found the search wizard option confusing. A more appropriate term would be "guided advanced search". I think most users would consider a search wizard would help them do a basic search. The advanced search form is a bit cluttered, but manageable.

CINAHL is divided into two options in the ProQuest presentation. One includes the complete database (CINAHL PlusText); the other is a selection of titles deemed most useful to nursing students in a format familiar to users of ProQuest (ProQuest Nursing Journals) with search by publication or by word, basic and advanced. The need for this subset of titles is not clear; basic search results will include titles of popular interest, e.g., Time, Newsweek, etc., along with professional titles. Searching in the full collection may appear any more difficult for the general public or student not acquainted with the CINAHL Subject Headings. For example, a basic search by word in the ProQuest Nursing Journals for breast cancer yielded several screens of results. The same search in CINAHL Basic Index found nearly 3,000 articles. Repeating the search, selecting Subject Heading, brings back the message: "Your search did not find any articles." This could be very disconcerting.

Users who are used to doing complex Boolean searches, will find much that makes them happy here: Full Boolean capabilities, including proximity indicators, nesting, etc. Other than that, this interface made me want to weep with frustration. I found it cumbersome and confusing, even after four days of reading Help screens, searching and comparing. Here are just a *few* of the problems:

* Apparently, you cannot search both CINAHL Plus Text and ProQuest Nursing Journals simultaneously. (So why market them as one product?) Full text results are different in the two databases.

* For libraries who have other ProQuest databases, the two database choices do not even appear near each other on the ProQuest Select Database page. The CINAHL menu choice appears at the very top of the ProQuest page and cannot be searched simultaneously with other ProQuest databases whereas the ProQuest Nursing Journals choice appears clear at the end of the databases list, at the bottom of the page (alphabetical order), and *can* be searched simultaneously with the library's other ProQuest databases.

The two databases use interfaces that are similar, but not the same. Screen layouts are different, features and search capabilities are different:

* ProQuest Nursing Journals allows users to search within the text of articles; CINAHL Plus Text does not.

* In ProQuest Nursing Journals, ProQuest's usual [jump to] "Keyword" button is available and the searched term(s) are highlighted in red in the articles. In CINAHL, this valuable feature is missing. So you could be looking at the text of the same article in the two different databases and in one you'd be able to see your searched words immediately, and in the other you'd have to use your browser's Find
CCL-EAR Review of CINAHL Plus Text

* For ease of database switching, ProQuest Nursing Journals offers the "Select Database" link on all search and search results screens. CINAHL requires users to click in a separate browser window to change back to other databases.

* While there is some overlap in the two databases, each database seems to have titles not included in the other. For example, in ProQuest Nursing Journals, a search for "congestive heart failure" AND infants pulls 30 articles, all but two of them full text. Yet the same search done in the basic index of CINAHL Plus Text, supposedly the bigger of the two databases, pulls only six articles, one full text. Where are the others? Same for numerous other searches I tried.

* Only ProQuest Nursing Journals allows you to limit searches to full text articles (but this is the database that's *entirely* full-text, so what's the point?). In CINAHL Plus Text, there is so little full text in the search results (often 0 or 1 full text item per screen of ten items) that users must click forward through screen after screen of hits to find full text titles, an extremely frustrating proposition. If you're searching in CINAHL Plus Text, the only way to limit a search to full text is to click back in the "Select Database" window behind the search window, select ProQuest Nursing Journals and perform the search all over again in the ProQuest Nursing Journals database.

* Whereas ProQuest Nursing Journals offers a very minimalist Subject List for guidance in selecting search terms, CINAHL Plus Text *appears* not to offer anything. A Basic search on "breast cancer" as a subject heading in CINAHL Plus Text results in no hits, with no explanation of why. Users are not told that if they do an Advanced search, a "thesaurus" (i.e. subject authority file) will be available to help them select an appropriate subject heading. The thesaurus refers them from "breast cancer" to "breast neoplasms." Why isn't the thesaurus available from the Basic Search screen where it would be just as useful?

* One nice feature of CINAHL Plus Text is that users can save entire searches and redo them later without rekeying the search query, but the mechanism for doing so is quite clunky. Users must create a user profile with ID and password. After performing a search, they click on "Recent Searches," then on "Save." To recall a saved search later, they must log in to Preferences with their ID and password, then click on the Saved Searches and Recall buttons. It would be much less cumbersome if users could save a search directly from their search results page rather than from "Recent Searches."

* I experienced numerous problems with the Recent Searches and Save features, and extra characters were usually thrown in at the end of my search statements here when I repeated them, possibly caused by Javascript/Macintosh/browser version incompatibilities. Whatever the reason, these problems made the Save feature pretty much useless to me on my computer.

* The Subject List in ProQuest Nursing Journals is apparently the same list used in all the other ProQuest databases (excluding the "research databases" such as CINAHL). It is completely inadequate for the topics covered in this database. Here are a just a few of the terms which do not appear in the
Subject List: Herceptin, staging, bilirubin, laser ablation, endometriosis, hantavirus (or hanta virus or hanta), bone marrow transplant (or transplantation), E coli, gingivitis or periodontal disease or gum disease, radiobiology. This means that users searching for information on these topics in ProQuest Nursing Journals are left with only keyword searching, with all its false and irrelevant hits, and a search results list of thousands of undifferentiated articles, as their only search option. (The other option would be to search the words in CINAHL, with access to fewer full text articles than are available in ProQuest Nursing Journals.) Full text is great, but if you can't find what you're looking for, what good does it do you?

A couple of additional suggestions: ---To facilitate navigation, add "Next" arrow buttons to screens in the Training Resource Center step-by-step lessons. ---A link in the Training Resource Center "lessons" menu for "Demonstration" takes users to a page that says "Click here to see demonstration." Why doesn't it go directly to the demonstration and save users one mouse click? (Actually, there are a number of places in the product where this happens.) ---The "Any information you submit is insecure" message pops up *every* time I select a database or enter a search. *Very* annoying. Why do these activities need to be secure? ( I know I can turn this feature off in my browser, but I want it there when security is really an issue.) ---Add buttons at bottom of search results pages for *all* groups of ten (similar to web search engine pages), not just for the next ten and the previous ten. Sometimes it's helpful to be able to jump directly to the last article or the pages in the middle of the range, etc. The opening selection page is confusing. The user is presented with a list of Professional and General Research databases. The ability to search all general databases except CINAHL needs additional work. CINAHL is advertised as CINAHL PlusText but it is difficult to find a list of titles that are included with full text access.. Not being able to limit your search to full text only is a feature that most users would appreciate. The CINAHL database lists printing as a delivery option. I wasn't able to print within the CINAHL PlusText database and received a Proquest Error Notice each time I attempted to print. CINAHL PlusText doesn't provide an e-mail delivery option either. The advanced search in the CINAHL database would require training to narrow or limit terms in the Thesaurus for most students. It would also be helpful in the CINAHL Plus Text if keywords were bolded or adding a feature within the database that would allow users the ability to locate their search term quickly within each article.

Proquest Nursing Periodicals: Since this database is integrated into the basic Proquest interface, the limitations of subject searching and the lack of a controlled vocabulary remain. However, the advanced search allows for Boolean searching and possibilities for limiting searches. A "closest match" list would result in greater user success. For example, emergency medical technician yielded no results; the plural form did. Medical assistants yielded no results; medical assisting did. While the interface is customizable, we have accepted it as is. Cinahl Plus-text is an add-on database that opens another window to allow access to a different, more powerful search engine that utilizes the CINAHL thesaurus. This *new window* presents a problem for our library since we do not allow additional windows to be opened in our OPAC. We are working with Proquest to request a referring URL that alleviates this issue.

The search engine is a different one from the Proquest database and allows a greater specificity of searches. I like the CINAHL interface better than the regular Proquest one. The categories are clear and it gives you more choices in a basic search. This database has always been problematic for us:
Accreditation teams dinged us for canceling it but when we had so few journals, it did not make sense. Now with the addition of more full text, it is a valuable resource for allied health. The database seems to have been "imported" in such a way that the key words are not highlighted within the entry. None of the subject terms are "hotlinked" so that you can easily browse to related entries. Even with these limitations, the value of having these titles is tremendous to students in these allied health programs. Another limitation: CINAHL Plus text is not linked to Sitebuilder for the direct connection to citations, abstracts and full text.

**USER SUPPORT SERVICES: 2, 2, 3, 3, 3, 4**
The help services are average. The online help is specific to the stage of searching. There is easy access to examples of searching and the entire help contents. Support materials (search methods) are available in PDF format. There is no advertised telephone helpline for users.

Toll free numbers with wide hours of service suggest good support, but most users will want immediate help. The help button will not supply their needs. Screens contain confusing and unclear definitions. The links lead to more complex information. Most advanced users will find it difficult to locate the exact help they need, and first-time users will give up without extensive staff support. To utilize this product effectively could require formal training of staff to demonstrate techniques to students. After discussing the worth of the information, our librarians decided we might need to offer several weeks of instruction to students until they are comfortable with the system. The strengths are apparent to professional librarians with experience in online research; the novice user or less than expert researcher will give up long before the power of this system can be mastered.

The "About ProQuest" page in online Help gives telephone and FAX numbers, e-mail addresses and hours of service for both technical support and customer support as well as a phone number for search assistance. Technical support ends at midnight Eastern time, so if we have technical problems after 9:00 P.M. here, too bad for us. Tech support is available seven days per week.

Bell & Howell has made a very diligent effort to provide help and instructions for its ProQuest users. Online Help is *extensive* (and sometimes overwhelming.) Online Help is context sensitive, but one can also select from a table of contents of Help topics. Some instructions are also offered in Spanish. One problem is that help screens are repetitive and say the same thing in similar ways in numerous different places; after a while Help begins to feel labyrinthine and it's easy to lose track of where you are. There are times when the table of contents doesn't offer clear help on where to find a specific topic. The Help pages could also use some graphics illustrating the topics under discussion (similar to those in the downloadable guides) so that users don't forget the instructions by the time they get back to their searches.

In addition to detailed instructions, there is an entire page of examples, attractive downloadable "Quickstart Guides," and also a Training Resource Center which offers training aids like step-by-step lessons. Each lesson contains an introduction, a demonstration, practice activity, FAQ, tips, glossary, test and lesson summary. (Of course the training resources apply to the ProQuest Nursing Journals database and don't necessarily explain all the idiosyncrasies of the CINAHL Plus Text database.)
I couldn't help thinking that a well-designed search interface should not need such a huge arsenal of instructions and training tools, but for those who can use it, it's there.

The Proquest Nursing Journals HELP instructions were very good. The instructions are simple, clear and well organized. Good examples were used to illustrate each concept, and screen shots were included. A title list is included in the training reference center. The help instructions for the CINAHL PlusText portion used good examples for the basic search functions but the advanced search lacks clear explanations for these functions; fields, limits, thesaurus, classification and recent searches. The advanced section could use subject related examples for each advanced level function.

The interface for ProQuest Nursing Journals is the regular ProQuest interface. It includes both the basic and advanced searches, as well as current and backfile holdings. The benefit for regular ProQuest subscribers is the identical interface with full-text of 250 allied health and nursing journals. The CINAHL database interface (CINAHL plus text) is rather different from the general ProQuest model. It allows specific basic searches for: Article Abstract, Publication Title, Article Title, Author and Subject Heading. Searching is straight forward based on the rather structured interface. In addition, this product allows for a variety of advanced searches including searches by fields, limiting, recent and saved searchers, as well as the option to look up and/or add terms. This interface requires a more knowledgeable and adept searcher, but allows that searcher greater options and potential. Considering the probable community college nursing or allied health student's abilities, both interfaces are relatively easy to use, intuitive and one or the other will serve most student's needs.

The help screens are adequate and clearly describe the options and functions of the interfaces. Our experience with technical support for ProQuest has been exceptionally good. Support is available over a good period of the pacific time zone day and is responsive not only to institutional requests but also to individual requests by our users. We have had no unsolved problems.

Online help adequate; increased help has been developed over the last year Vendor has offered site visits for "train the trainer" sessions

**COST: 3, 3, 4, 3, 4**

CINAHL is comparably priced with similar content databases. The less-than-user-friendly interfaces diminishes its value from 4 to 3.

The consortium's price is considerably discounted, but is still rather hefty for many CCC library budgets. For that kind of price, I'd want to see much more full text, an integrated database and an interface that actually works.

The cost is reasonable with the ability to have full text access to over 280 nursing journals.

While the cost is relatively high compared to general online database resources, it is certainly "doable" and is relatively inexpensive compared to many medical and other professional resources.
As I remember the cost of the CINAHL paper product was $1200. With the pricing of 250 academic nursing journals, the $6,000 price tag seems reasonable ($24.00 per title for the full text alone).

**ACCESSIBILITY OF SERVICE: 3, 4, 3, 3, 3, 3**
The access to this product is reliable. I never had a problem connecting to this service and the response time was always very good.

CINAHL connects easily via ProQuest. The product is reliable and stable. Response time is above average.

Much of the testing I did was done from home via modem which might have accounted for some part of the access problems I had (though I was not having problems with other sites). I tested over a period of two weeks, with the most intense testing during four days, and access was VERY slow. I got timed out repeatedly after entering searches and finally lost access completely for about a day and a half. (Tech Support's response: "A router must be out somewhere." Why don't you send us your traceroute results.) There also seemed to be some kind of server problems going on. I got error messages such as "Missing required parameters to login. Please retry again." and "Internal error: Results Fetch Failed" over and over again, even after clearing my Netscape cache. In hopes that this was an unusual period, I give ProQuest the benefit of the doubt on this one, and give the product a "3" based on our better experience with other ProQuest products.

The only time that I lost connectivity was when I timed out. Otherwise seems very reliable I accessed both CINAHL and Proquest Nursing several times over a period of two weeks. The email delivery feature worked very well in Proquest. Within CINAHL I wasn't able to print an article or citation. The print instructions directed me to a Proquest Notice "the results for old search query. Please execute the search again and then retrieve the document. This page did include a toll free number to call.

While the response time over the Internet seems sluggish at times, it is "reasonable." This sluggishness is not limited to Proquest so it may be our internal infrastructure.

These databases were available at every attempt to access and were quick to load even at modem speeds.

**OVERALL ASSESSMENT: 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3**
The major problem with this product is the search interface. The subject guide is dismal.

There are other health-related databases available with user friendly features lacking in CINAHL at this time. The content is good, but not worth the effort for most patrons to utilize effectively. I would reconsider the addition of CINAHL when the interface becomes more user friendly.

I'm not convinced that this is the best health-related database, but nursing and allied health faculty (and some nursing accreditation teams) will want this database simply because it's CINAHL (though the interface could persuade them to look for it from a different vendor). CINAHL has been late in getting
into the full text market, presumably because of the difficulties of negotiating copyright agreements with over 1,000 journal publishers. ProQuest is to be commended for bringing full text and image to CINAHL, but at least another 25% more full text and a *HUGE* improvement in the search interface and search engine are needed before CINAHL Plus Text via ProQuest will be *really* useful to community college nursing and allied health programs. I give it a "3" not because I think it deserves it, but only because I think faculty will want to take a look at it in a trial. Otherwise I would give it a "2."

This product would be of great value to campuses with Nursing departments. It does fill a unique niche. I would like to see both products merged together. Include the CINAHL indexing, with the ability to search full text and combined with the Proquest delivery options this would improve both products.

Because these are the preferred databases for many allied health and nursing programs, they should be made available for local purchase decisions.

revert to browse list for "closest match"

**Rating for home campus only: 2, 3, 2, 3, 4, 4**

We have a nursing program, but budget issues would most likely prevent us from acquiring the service.

This product would benefit our nursing students. However, I would not recommend the replacement of our current health-related product with CINAHL at this time. I would consider the addition of CINAHL if we have adequate staff for training students-its addition would be a burden more than a benefit until the interface becomes more user friendly.

I would NOT RECOMMEND this product to our faculty. Our current health databases seem to satisfy nursing students, and they offer a much more helpful interface and better subject access to the journals which are included than either CINAHL Plus Text or ProQuest Nursing Journals do. Also, our students want full text, full text, full text. Indexing and abstracts alone do them little good since we don't have most of the journals cited, and they usually don't have time to wait for interlibrary loans. I would consider looking at this product again if 1) more full text articles were available, 2) more allied health titles were included (full text, of course) and 3) the two databases were truly integrated with a usable search interface.

We need the additional full text nursing coverage this product offers. Our nursing department feels that an electronic version of CINAHL and full text nursing journals is needed for their future nursing program accreditations.

The allied health division has requested that this be added to our electronic resource collection at our campus.

Last Updated: February 26, 2002