Falk Library of the Health Sciences serves as the home of the Health Sciences Library System (HSLS), with a wide-ranging collection of biomedical and health-related journals and monographs along with a specialized collection of rare and historical materials. The library offers computing and Internet access, as well as educational, productivity, and research software packages. There are more than 70 publicly-available computers including circulating laptops, as well as two classrooms equipped for group computer instruction and eight group study rooms. The University’s wireless network is available throughout the library. Falk Library is open 108.5 hours per week. The HSLS staff includes 25.5 FTE faculty librarians, and 21.6 FTE paraprofessional and technical staff.

The accomplishments and activities described in this Annual Report are organized in accordance with goals identified in the HSLS Long Range Plan, 2011/12-2016/17.

GOAL 1: Acquire knowledge-based information resources in appropriate formats to meet the needs of the health sciences community at the University of Pittsburgh and the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center (UPMC).

HSLS resources total more than 7,800 electronic journals in the health sciences, as well as 3,780 e-books and 122 databases or publisher collections of full-text information. Nearly 1,200 new e-resources, including more than 325 e-books, were added to HSLS collections in FY15. Selected new resources include:

- Cochrane Clinical Answers (online)
- Miller’s Anesthesia, 8th edition (online)
- Handbook on Injectable Drugs (online)
- 39 new e-journals, including four Lancet specialty journals: Lancet Diabetes & Endocrinology, Lancet Psychiatry, Lancet HIV, Lancet Haematology,
- ICD-10-CM: Clinical Modification and ICD-10-PCS: Procedure Coding System

The economic climate of recent years demands that HSLS build and manage its collection in the most cost-effective way. Subscription costs continue to rise at rates far above general inflation. In response to the changing needs of the diverse user population, HSLS carefully analyzes usage statistics, publication patterns and other metrics to identify materials to be discontinued and new items to be added.
DMPTool

Data management plans (DMPs) are now a standard part of grant proposals for most funding agencies. To help researchers easily create and share DMPs, the University of Pittsburgh has become a partner institution of the DMPTool. The DMPTool offers ready-to-use templates to guide researchers through the process of generating a comprehensive plan tailored to the specific requirements of funding agencies, such as the National Institutes of Health and the National Science Foundation. Links to general and institutional resources are available throughout the templates, offering researchers additional support.

By logging into the DMPTool with a University of Pittsburgh Computing Account username and password, researchers are able to create customized DMPs, add co-owners and editors to their plans, and share completed DMPs either publicly or only with colleagues from the University of Pittsburgh. There are a number of publicly-shared DMPs available within the tool which can be reviewed, copied, and/or edited. Upon completion, DMPs can be exported for inclusion in a funding proposal.

Molecular Biology Software

One area where HSLS is clearly “head and shoulders” above other academic health sciences libraries is our licensing of molecular biology software. HSLS licenses 18 molecular biology software packages for Pitt’s research community. We now have a total of 2,753 registered users, an increase of 883 (32%) over the previous year.

Since authors customarily include a reference to the software used in the “Materials and Methods” section of their articles, one measure of the impact of these software resources on scientific research is to calculate the number of published articles in peer-reviewed journals that refer to given software applications. We searched the full-text of open access journal articles to identify recent published articles by Pitt researchers that cite the use of HSLS licensed software tools. These papers give a good picture of software usage, albeit a partial picture only as non-open access journals (Cell Science, Nature, etc.) are not included. Below is the list of HSLS licensed software cited in open access articles written by Pitt scientists:

- Ingenuity IPA: 194 articles since 2007
- Sequencher: 85 articles since 2006
- KEGG: 67 articles since 2013
- Biobase Transfac: 55 articles since 2005
- GeneSpring: 51 articles since 2005
- Partek: 35 articles since 2012
- Lasergene: 33 articles since 2005
- Metacore: 18 articles since 2010
- CLC Genomics: 8 articles since 2014
- NextBio: 5 articles since 2011
- Biobase HGMD: 4 articles since 2012
E-Book Purchasing Plan

As part of our initiative to expand the availability of electronic books and to ensure that these meet the needs of our user population, the library instituted a PDA (Patron Driven Acquisition) Plan in FY14. We contracted with a vendor to load a collection of highly-rated health sciences e-books into our catalog at no cost. We then receive notification when a particular title was accessed three times; at that point, the library has the option to purchase or remove the title from the catalog. This program continues to be very successful, with 152 e-book purchases triggered by user requests this year.

GOAL 2: Provide effective access to local and remote information to meet the needs of a diverse user community

The HSLS Web site (www.hsls.pitt.edu) is the entry point to the wide range of HSLS resources and services. This site, on average, hosts over 58,000 patron sessions per month, totaling over 1,400,000 page views per year. Popular HSLS web content includes the front page featuring HSLS news and easy access to popular library materials, our comprehensive Journals A-Z list and the calendar of HSLS classes. HSLS’s federated search tools continue to enhance education, research and clinical information needs as shown by the nearly 1,000 searches per day. The HSLS website and its discovery technology is also a strong resource for patrons utilizing tablet or smart phone technology, hosting over 30,000 sessions from various mobile devices.

The updated and innovative HSLS Rare Book and Special Collections (http://www.hsls.pitt.edu/about/rarebook/) was introduced in the spring of 2015 to showcase Falk Library’s exceptional historical collections. Special features include:

- Finding aids and other artifacts, including those from the recently acquired “Scope and Scalpel” collection.
- Virtual exhibits utilizing a variety of technology and information resources

HSLS supports health sciences students by providing high-powered and well-equipped desktop computers, powerful software packages, circulating laptops and tablet computers, group study rooms, well-maintained classrooms and a fully staffed Technology Help Desk. On average, students, faculty and staff in the health sciences used Falk Library’s 70 public desktop computers over 300 times per day in FY14-15, adding up to over 100,000 uses during the year.

The public computers on the main floor of Falk Library were updated in the past year. The new all-in-one computers with 23-inch screens integrate the computer’s internal components into the monitor so the entire computer is enclosed in one unit. The computers are powered by Intel Core i5™ processors that deliver high-speed performance.

In spring 2015, a state-of-the-art Scannx Book ScanCenter for public use was added. This equipment features a touch-screen interface and rapid scanning technology. Designed for large books, the flatbed surface reduces curving to eliminate distortions. An auto document feeder can be used with single or double-sided loose-leaf documents. The ScanCenter offers multiple options for file formatting. Scanned documents can also be sent to multiple destinations, including a USB flash drive, an email account, a library printing station, Google drive,
smartphone or table. For quick editing, the Book ScanCenter is equipped with de-skewing technology, which automatically straightens scans, as well as cropping, zooming, and page-splitting tools built into the software. Thus, users can scan, edit, and send documents in one streamlined process. This new equipment is very popular, as shown by over 3,000 scans in the first three months after it was installed.

In FY14-15, HSLS circulating laptops were borrowed more than 1,000 times. Circulating tablets were borrowed 300 times. In addition, the Falk Technology Help Desk lends other equipment such as headphones, flash drives and charging stations, with over 1,600 transactions, a 35% increase from last year.

Falk Library’s group study rooms continue to be a popular location for health sciences students, staff and faculty. In FY14-15, over 5,000 health sciences groups used the eight study rooms, logging in over 15,000 hours of use.

HSLS Document Delivery Services supports 597 active Document Delivery accounts. During the past year, HSLS users requested 4,070 journal articles or books. About 62% of these requests were filled from HSLS collections. Only 1,054 items were borrowed from outside institutions, a 33% decrease from the previous year. This metric confirms that HSLS collections continue to satisfy user needs.

**GOAL 3: Develop effective strategies to enhance information literacy and use of information resources.**

**Librarian Liaisons to Schools of the Health Sciences**

HSLS [liaison librarians](#) provide curriculum and information support to the six schools of the health sciences by teaching students to recognize when information is needed, and providing them with the skills to locate, evaluate and use information effectively. Liaisons to the schools of Medicine, Dental Medicine, Pharmacy, Health and Rehabilitation Sciences, Nursing and the Graduate School of Public Health gave presentations this year at faculty meetings and provided orientations and instruction within the curriculum. They also provided support for faculty conducting research. Some of the liaisons attend curriculum committee meetings, hold office hours in the school and have secondary appointments within their school. In FY14-15, librarians provided instructional sessions to over 2,500 students in 84 sessions.

A new model of MEDLINE instruction was designed this year for first-year medical students. In place of a lecture, step-by-step exercises were developed and students were given time to work through them in small groups. Each exercise focused on an important aspect of PubMed. Once the exercises were complete, students took turns teaching what they had learned to the entire class. This collaborative activity led to increased engagement between instructors and students.

Librarians also provided instruction in a variety of other health sciences programs, including:

- Institute for Clinical Research Education Clinical Research (CLRES)
- Scholars Academy
- Prologue to Medicine group
- Office of Academic Career Development
Student Instruction by Molecular Biology Information Service

- Molecular biology instruction was provided in 9 courses offered by the School of Medicine and the Graduate School of Public Health to 139 students.
- 26 Tsinghua University & Xiangya University students attended 9 tailored sessions

Consultation/Reference

- One-on-one consultations were offered to 185 faculty and students
- Systematic Reviews: HSLS librarians participate in systematic review (SR) research teams, providing comprehensive database searches, and ensuring that current standards for reporting and methodology are maintained. Librarians are generally included as co-authors on resulting publications. Listed below are examples of collaboration SR projects with Pitt faculty completed this year (full citations are in the Publications section of this report):
  - The role of apheresis in hypertriglyceridemia-induced acute pancreatitis
  - Self-weighing in weight management
  - Efficacy of auricular therapy for pain management
  - Using web-based interventions to support caregivers of patients with cancer
  - Review of hookah tobacco smoking among college students: policy implications and research recommendations.
  - Inflammatory markers and the pathogenesis of pediatric depression and suicide
  - Non-pharmacological interventions for adults with mild cognitive impairment and early stage dementia

Molecular Biology Information Service

One-on-one consultations on bioinformatics questions were offered to 156 researchers.

Library-Based Instruction:

In 2013, we introduced FlashClasses. Based on just-in-time scheduling, the FlashClass system proposes one or two topics each week and invites HSLS patrons to register for a one-hour class the following week. If enough people sign up, they are notified and the class is held. If not, the class is canceled. Last year, we offered 52 sessions to 229 attendees, and added 7 new topics:
  - Journal Matchmakers: Help for Deciding Where to Publish
  - ORCID Author IDs: Boost Your Discoverability
PostDoc Talks are a “how to” workshop series taught by postdoctoral associates/fellows, resulting from a collaboration between the HSLS Molecular Biology Information Service (MBIS) and the Center for Postdoctoral Affairs in the Health Sciences. All postdoc instructors received feedback, a letter of acknowledgment from the HSLS library director, and a digital recording of their session with the option to have it posted on the HSLS YouTube channel. In FY14-15, 103 researchers attended 8 talks.

The Wednesdays Molecular Biology Workshop series covering 12 rotating bioinformatics topics was offered 26 times to 125 attendees. A special workshop on the popular UCSC Genome Browser, taught by an invited speaker from the UCSC Genome development team, attracted 130 attendees.

HSLS MolBio Videos offer 91 step-by-step online video guides to solve common bioinformatics queries. These are available through the HSLS YouTube channel.

Clinical Instruction

Librarians provided the following clinical instruction:

- Instructional consultations with Transitional Year Residents researching their topics for case presentations and conducting PubMed searches. (offered monthly, September 2014- May 2015)
- Instruction as part of Leadership and Discovery (LEAD) Program for internal medicine house staff
- Two instructional sessions for 148 participants for Institute for Clinical Research Education Clinical Research CLRES 2010: Clinical research Methods
- Instruction for Institute for Clinical Research Education Clinical Research CLRES 2300: Introduction to Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analysis
- Instruction for Pitt's PACCM (Division of Pulmonary, Allergy, and Critical Care Medicine) as part of the Vascular Medicine Institute.
- Instruction for Infectious Disease medical staff

InfoBoosters

InfoBoosters, developed as a collaboration between HSLS Digital Library Services and the HSLS Molecular Biology Information Service, are JavaScript-driven, easy-to-install browser add-
ons that connect digital text to databases. Relevant information can be quickly retrieved on demand, at the point of reading. For example, by highlighting a term while browsing a website and then clicking on the “Wikipedia” InfoBooster button, a pop-up window will appear displaying information for that term retrieved directly from Wikipedia. A list of Topic specific InfoBoosters are listed at http://hsls.pitt.edu/molbio/infobooster-single-categories.

*Infobooster Bundles* are a collection of topic-specific InfoBoosters grouped together for easy installation. Examples are *Literature Search, Molecular DBs, Clinical DBs, Grants Info,* and *Social Media.* [http://hsls.pitt.edu/molbio/infobooster-bundles](http://hsls.pitt.edu/molbio/infobooster-bundles)

**GOAL 4: Promote awareness of library services, resources and expertise to a large, diverse, and geographically dispersed user population.**

In the past year, HSLS employed a variety of methods to publicize and promote information services. Representative activities are listed below:

- Our home page, [www.hsls.pitt.edu](http://www.hsls.pitt.edu), functions as our “main branch” with access to the full range of library services, resources, and information. The website is configured for easy access by mobile devices, such as smartphones and tablets.

- **HSLS Update** newsletter: This online newsletter is published monthly, with information about library news, e-resources, classes and workshops, and future events.

- A weekly blog, *What’s New @ HSLS MolBio,* was launched to promote the Molecular Biology Information Service by highlighting workshops, licensed tools, and information of interest.

- In December 2014, HSLS debuted our own YouTube channel, *Pitt Health Sciences Library System,* featuring recordings of special lectures and classes. HSLS YouTube is a featured channel of the University of Pittsburgh’s official YouTube presence.

- The *University Times* publishes occasional articles about HSLS activities. In Fall 2014, Librarian Julia Dahm was interviewed about her class on 3D printing, and Librarian Charles Wessel was interviewed about how to avoid plagiarism. Our Falk Library exhibit, arranged by Rebecca Abromitis and titled *Tooth-full Art and Artifacts,* was also featured.

- Liaison librarians send information about library activities and resources to school mailing lists.

- We provide articles about e-resources for publication in the *UPMC Extra* newsletter.

- Digital signs in the library’s lobby and in Scaife Hall contains news items and features about the library.

- Librarians regularly attend curriculum committee meetings, faculty meetings, and other formal and informal gatherings to describe and promote library services and resources.
GOAL 5: Nurture and extend partnerships and collaboration with internal and external departments, schools, programs, and organizations.

**Internal Partnerships and Collaboration**

- **The HSLS Data Management (DM) Group**

  This group continues to develop collaborations with other Pitt departments that have a vested interest in data management. Over the past year, the group met with representatives from Pitt Computing Services and Systems Development (CSSD) and discussed researchers’ use of the Network Operations Center (NOC), the Center for Simulation and Modeling and the Pittsburgh Super Computing Center. They met with representatives of the Office of Research (OOR) and the Institutional Review Board to clarify policies regarding data sharing. They are also communicating on a regular basis with the University Library System (ULS) about library DM initiatives, with the goals of avoiding duplication of effort and partnering where feasible. Other data management activities include:

  - Customized DMPTool template for the University (described under Collections above)
  - HSLS LibGuide on Data Management: [http://hsls.libguides.com/datamanagement](http://hsls.libguides.com/datamanagement)
  - Participation by HSLS librarians on the Data Commons group led by iSchool visiting professor Dr. Liz Lyons. Other representatives are from ULS, CSSD, and OOR. The goals of this initiative is are to:
    - work toward a shared vision of institutional data infrastructure which potentially operates across scale, disciplines and sites
    - leverage multi-institutional partnerships and explore shared data service solutions
    - contribute to the operational development, implementation, extension and integration of institutional Data Infrastructure platforms, technologies, tools, advocacy and training.
  - Librarian was a co-planner (with CSSD and ULS representatives) for the Fall University of Pittsburgh’s Senate Plenary entitled: Managing Research Data: Challenges and Opportunities at the University (October 23, 2014). The HSLS Director participated as a panelist in this event.
  - A survey conducted by HSLS last year identified knowledge gaps in the current data management practices of health science researchers at Pitt. To close these gaps and to facilitate reciprocal education of data management practices between librarians and researchers, HSLS librarians immersed themselves in ten diverse labs and provided targeted education through one-on-one discussions.
Librarians offer data management workshops via the library’s “FlashClass” sessions through the Responsible Conduct of Research (RCR) Training Center, and to individual departments. Four classes have been developed:

- Crafting a Data Management Plan
- Data Management Regulations
- You Do WHAT with Your Data?
- Data Sharing and Discovery

- Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC):

Animal researchers must satisfy stringent requirements in documenting compliance, including extensive literature reviews. HSLS librarians are active participants in this process, completing 75 literature searches, attending monthly meetings as non-voting member(s), reviewing three IACUC protocols, and creating a new class, titled 3R Literature Searching for IACUC Protocols.

- Responsible Conduct of Research (RCR) Center of the Clinical and Translational Science Institute (CTSI)

Four librarians were awarded secondary faculty appointments with the CTSI. Librarians provided RCR workshops on research data management, plagiarism, and IACUC protocols.

- Stern Center for Evidence Based Policy:

An HSLS librarian is a member of the Center and provided systematic review searching support across multiple databases on topics such as risk factors for caregivers of the elderly, discharging patients from hospital to home, and the skill mix of various types of medical care providers.

- Center for Research in Media, Technology, and Health (CRMTH):

Two librarians are affiliated faculty in the Center and provide systematic review searching support.

- HSLS librarians funded as consultants or co-PIs on NIH-funded grants:

  - Mary Lou Klem, PhD, MLIS: The Healing Context of CAM Instrument Development (Greco, PI)
  - Ansuman Chattopadhyay, PhD: Multi-Pronged Genetic Studies of Schizophrenia (Nimgaonkar, PI)
  - Ansuman Chattopadhyay, PhD: Tri-National Training Program in Psychiatric Genetics, (Nimgaonkar, PI)

- Presbyterian Hospital Patients’ Record Ledgers, 1895-1924

Nine ledgers, containing hand-written information about each patient admitted, are on permanent loan to the Falk Library. These include twenty or more pieces of data.
for each patient, such as name, address, age, gender, religion, occupation, marital status, diagnosis, treatment, outcome, etc. The years covered by these records are significant in the history of American hospitals and the city of Pittsburgh, a major industrial center that saw a huge influx of immigrants during this period. The data in these ledgers will be of great interest to historians, epidemiologists, and many others.

We have entered into an agreement with Digital Divide Data to have these ledgers digitized for preservation purposes. The digital copies will then be sent abroad where a searchable database will be created from the data elements. The web site and search software will be developed in-house by HSLS Digital Library Services. We anticipate that this will be an important historical archive for this region.

- School of Medicine

HSLS Digital Library Services continued to host the server environment of School of Medicine’s Laboratory for Educational Technology. With a complex infrastructure, we provide reliable service and stability for the Zone, Navigator and VP Sim. In FY14-15, the library hosted over 4,000 student logins to Navigator, the school's locally developed learning management system.

- School of Information Science

HSLS hosted Francesca Yates, as a yearlong “Partners Program” student intern from the School of Information Sciences. Francesca worked 10 hours/week for three semesters, and will earn her MLIS degree in August 2015.

External partnerships and collaborations

- Middle Atlantic Region, National Network of Libraries of Medicine (MAR)

HSLS is home to the regional office of the National Network of Libraries of Medicine Middle Atlantic Region (NN/LM MAR). The NN/LM program is the core component of the National Library of Medicine’s (NLM) outreach program and its efforts to reduce health disparities and improve health information literacy. As one of eight regional medical libraries in the country, we work under a five-year, federal contract with NLM. On April 30, 2015, we completed the fourth year of our five-year contract.

NN/LM is a network of over 6,000 member organizations including libraries, information centers, public and community health centers, community organizations, schools, and other entities throughout the United States with an interest in promoting access to health information. More than 1,000 members are located in the Middle Atlantic Region. We have added more than 300 new members since HSLS assumed its role as NN/LM MAR.

NN/LM MAR staff offer training opportunities to member organizations and others on more than 130 health information databases supported by NLM covering biomedical literature, chemicals and drugs, environmental health, consumer health, and other topics. In year four, NN/LM MAR staff promoted and provided training to support the
effective use of NLM information products and services; awareness of Affordable Care Act regulations and resources; and access to the latest health related news, technology, and information to over 7,500 health professionals, educators, librarians, and consumers, including:

- exhibits at 5 national and 34 regional, state or local meetings or conferences
- 102 scheduled classes and invited presentation
- 30 regularly scheduled webinars
- 56 site visits

NN/LM MAR staff also offer funding opportunities to member organizations for projects that increase access to health information. In year four, NN/LM MAR funding to network members supported 54 awards totaling over $400,000 for professional development, exhibits, medical library projects, technology improvement, outreach to health professionals and consumers, emergency preparedness. This funding allowed Network members to:

- Offer 224 trainings and 44 exhibits to educate and promote awareness of NLM resources to approximately 1,200 health professionals, educators, students, and consumer groups.
- Plan a one-day symposium in Philadelphia on 63 registrants. The event was titled *The Affordable Care Act and Access to Care: Libraries Making a Difference.*
- Purchase technology to promote evidence-based health information
- Involve health sciences libraries in institution-wide health information initiatives
- Attend or host professional development events and CEs to increase ability to provide improved health information access

HSLS was awarded an NN/LM MAR subcontract to test and evaluate a clinical information tool for community health centers.

- Traveling Exhibits from the National Library of Medicine

This year HSLS hosted two NLM exhibits:

- “And there’s the humor of it”: *Shakespeare and the four humors.* (September 28-November 8, 2014)

This traveling exhibit was produced by NLM and coordinated by the American Library Association. The exhibit used materials from the historical collections of NLM to explore the prevailing belief during the Shakespearean era that human emotional states were physically determined by the four bodily humors: blood, bile, melancholy and phlegm. The connection between Shakespeare’s time and our own is the common understanding of neuroscientists that human emotions are based in biochemistry and that drugs can be used to alleviate mental suffering.
During the exhibit’s stay in Pittsburgh, HSLS hosted 2 presentations:

October 2, 2014
“William Shakespeare and the Four Humors: Elizabethan Medical Beliefs”
Gail Kern Paster, PhD, director emerita, Folger Shakespeare Library

October 21, 2014
“A Clinician Looks at Shakespeare and Medicine”
Robin Maier, MD, MA, director of medical student education/clerkship director,
Family Medicine, University of Pittsburgh


This exhibit explores how wellness and illness are interconnected with cultural life. It featured over a hundred interview with Native Americans, Alaska Natives and native Hawaiians explaining their traditional ideas about health and illness.

In May, Falk Library hosted students from Propel Andrew Street High School in Munhall, PA, to visit the Native voices exhibit. The visit capped off the students’ six week exploration of topics such as public health, health disparities, and social determinants of health.

- **Library of Congress CONSER Project**

As a nationally recognized creator of high quality Health Sciences metadata, HSLS created original metadata for open access health sciences journals via CONSER (Cooperative Online Serials Program)’s Open Access Journal Project. In recognition of this contribution, Liping Song, HSLS MetaData Librarian, was named CONSER co-chair for 2015/2016.

- **Interlibrary Loan**

HSLS lends books, book chapters, and articles to libraries through established interlibrary loan networks. Though there is a decreasing amount of interlibrary loan activity in the U.S., requests to HSLS have increased. In FY15, 19,518 lending requests were filled for over 300 different libraries across the U.S. and around the world, a 10% increase from FY14. In addition to our successful program of frequent borrower discounts, HSLS also offers discounted interlibrary loan fees to Pennsylvania and Delaware hospital with fewer than 500 beds.

- **Systematic Review Workshops**

The HSLS Systematic Review (SR) Instructional Team has taken a leadership role, locally and nationally, in their research of the SR process and provision of instruction and mentoring for librarians who will be part of SR research teams. The major accomplishment of the SR Team is development of the HSLS *Systematic Review Workshop: The Nuts and Bolts for Librarians*. This 2.5 day workshop, offered onsite in
Pittsburgh, provides a comprehensive framework for the librarian’s role in the systematic review process, with special emphasis on successful completion of the literature search. The intended outcome is to prepare librarians to serve as a systematic review team collaborator and a facilitator in the systematic review process. Tuition to attend the workshop is $500/attendee. The workshop was offered three times in FY 15. To date, the workshop has been offered 17 times to almost 400 health sciences librarians and informaticians from approximately 140 institutions across the United States and Canada.

- University of New Delhi

  The head of the Molecular Biology Information Service, was invited to teach hands-on workshops at the University of Delhi, New Delhi, India. Approximately 95 students participated in the workshops.

- Infectious Disease Society of America

  In fall 2012, the Infectious Disease Society of America (IDSA) requested a proposal from HSLS for reference librarians to perform searching for systematic literature reviews to support development/revision of clinical practice guidelines. Two reference librarians took the lead in consulting with IDSA practitioners to carry out this project.

- Nazerbayev University School of Medicine (NUSOM), Astana, Kazakhstan

  HSLS is now included in the Pitt School of Medicine’s contract with NUSOM to provide consultation to NU librarians about establishing library services to the new medical school. This includes advice on collection development, space, reference services, and teaching. The project began with a project plan and collection suggestions in December 2014, followed by an introductory webinar in January 2015.

  As part of the contract, HSLS agreed to provide journal articles not yet available in the NU library collection. We will carefully monitor usage, but we do not expect a very large number of requests, as the NU library has licensed a significant number of medical e-journals, databases and clinical point-of-care resources.

  HSLS Director and Senior Associate Director traveled to Astana, Kazakhstan in the spring of 2015. They met with the NU library director, librarians and staff, as well as the NUSOM dean and faculty, and the NU library committee. The visit happened to coincide with a previously-planned seminar for 37 medical librarians from other areas of Kazakhstan. Included in this 1.5 day seminar was an overview of HSLS, and a hands-on class titled “Resources Available from the U.S. National Library of Medicine”.

  In May 2015, HSLS hosted two NU librarians for one week. They spent time with HSLS management and liaison librarians to learn more about services and instruction in academic health sciences libraries in the United States. They also visited other Pitt and CMU libraries.
GOAL 6: Cultivate an environment of learning for librarians and staff that encourages ongoing assessment and evaluation, creativity, innovation, and growth. Capitalize on new opportunities and challenges as they arise.

The HSLS Management Council meets bi-weekly with the following members:

- Barbara Epstein, Director (Chair)
- Nancy Tannery, Senior Associate Director
- Fran Yarger, Associate Director for Digital Library Services
- Renae Barger, Executive Director, NN/LM-MAR
- Ansuman Chattopadhyay, Head, Molecular Biology Information Service
- Jeffrey Husted, Head, Collections
- Charles Wessel, Head, Research & Reference Initiatives

HSLS has a successful record of convening internal working groups to enable librarians to explore various topics and present in-house workshops. Examples this year include:

- The Mobile Apps Group developed a web site that provides information and links to the mobile resources available through HSLS licensed databases.
- The Collection Development and Licensing Group manages the HSLS digital and print collection via licensing, contract and purchasing work.
- The Knowledge Integration Group supports and maintains the HSLS web site and digital library including discovery tool creation and digital adaptations with 3rd party platforms.
- The Digital Resource Development Group supports the use of Voyager, Pitt’s enterprise Library Management Solution (LMS). The group also created new digital artifacts from HSLS’ “hidden” historical collections.

Four librarians are enrolled in advanced degree programs at Pitt. Two are in PhD programs and two in Master degree programs.

HSLS librarians participated extensively in professional development activities, paper and poster presentations at professional meetings, and published in peer-reviewed journals. These activities are listed in Appendix 1.

GOAL 7: Redefine space to best accommodate the delivery and storage of information resources and services.

While use of the library’s digital collection continues to rise, the gate count, or the number of people who enter Falk Library, remains steady.

Maintaining and upgrading the physical spaces in Falk Library is a continuing challenge. One improvement during the past year was the placement of a spectacular glass mosaic, featuring the Cathedral of Learning, in Falk Library’s entrance lobby. This one-of-a-kind piece was created by notable local artist Daviea Davis as part of her Pillars of Light Project. Davis donated this artwork to the University.

Another improvement was re-upholstering of all public seating. Library users reported that the padding on library chairs was worn-out, with stuffing sometimes falling out. Chairs were sent out in batches of 30-50 to a local upholstery firm.
APPENDIX 1

HSLS Honors, Publications & Selected Presentations & Other Accomplishments

Honors:

Barbara Epstein, HSLS Director, was selected by the Medical Library Association as the 2015 Janet Doe Lecturer. “This annual award supports a lecture by a distinguished member of the profession who will offer a unique perspective on either the history or philosophy of medical librarianship.” The lecture titled, *In Their Own Words: Oral Histories of Past MLA Presidents*, was presented at the annual meeting of the Medical Library Association in Austin TX on May 18, 2015.

Nancy Tannery, HSLS Senior Associate Director, is one of two librarians serving on the National Library of Medicine Literature Selection Technical Review Committee (LISTRC). She will begin a one-year term as LSTRC chair in July 2015; she is the first librarian to be appointed chair in at least twenty years.

Publications (Faculty librarians in bold)

- Publications with Pitt health sciences faculty:


Holbrook EH, Iwema CL, Peluso CE, Schwob JE. The regeneration of P2 olfactory sensory neurons is selectively impaired following methyl bromide lesion. Chemical Senses 2014 Sep;39(7):601-16


- **Other publications:**


**Erlen J.** authors bi-monthly bibliographic material on recent doctoral dissertations for the following publications/websites: Aegis database and AIDS Book Review Journal
Ageless Arts
AVISTA Forum Journal
Configurations
Canadian Bulletin for the History of Medicine
History of Psychiatry
History of Science Society Newsletter
Indigenous Policy Journal
International Network for the History of Public Health Newsletter
Journal of the History of Human Sexuality
Nursing History Review
Pharmacy in History
The Review of Disability Studies An International Journal
Social History of Alcohol and Drugs: An interdisciplinary journal-now a blog
BIUM database-University of Paris
Dissertation Reviews
H-Disability An H-Net Discussion Network
ITER database-University of Toronto
Literature and Medicine list serve-Department of Psychology, NYU

Selected Papers, Presentations & Posters

- **Conference presentations with health sciences faculty:**


  Rohrer WM, **Folb BL**, Lobo CP, Dulin A, At-Suimi, K. Road Traffic Accidents in Eastern Mediterranean Region: Pilot Systematic Review, 7th Annual Conference on Health Issues in Arab Communities, Muscat, Oman, March 5, 2015.

- **Library conference presentations:**


Selected Other Accomplishments & Professional Activities

Molecular Biology Information Specialist Carrie Iwema, Reference Librarians Andrea Ketchum and Melissa Ratajeski, and Head of Reference and Research Initiatives Charlie Wessel were granted secondary faculty appointments in the Clinical and Translational Science Institute.

Barb Folb taught “Systematic Reviews: Skills to Develop Literature Searches, Manage results, and Evaluate Findings,” at the American Public Health Association 142d Annual Meeting & Expo, New Orleans, LA, November 2014.

Carrie Iwema was elected chair designate of the Medical Library Association’s Continuing Education Committee and was appointed to the Join Planning Committee for the 2016 Medical Library association/Canadian Health Library Association/International Clinical Librarian Conference.

Melissa Ratajeski, reference librarian, has been elected Chapter Council chair-elect of the Medical Library Association’s Chapter Council, starting office in May 2015.
**Nancy Tannery** holds the following leadership positions:

- Chair of the Leadership and Management Section of MLA.
- Member of the AAHSL Statistics and Assessment Committee.
- Advisory board member and secretary for the University at Buffalo Department of Library and Information Studies

**Fran Yarger**, Associate Director for Digital Library Services, is Chair of Pitt’s Senate Computer Usage Committee. She was also appointed to the Provost’s Task Force on Technology Accessibility

Reference librarians **Andrea Ketchum** and **Michele Klein-Fedyshin** are co-chairs of the Medical Library Association’s Ad Hoc Committee to Review Core Clinical Journals.

Reference librarian **Mary Lou Klem** is the team leader of a group of librarians who are conducting a scoping review of the literature on librarian involvement in promotion of health literacy, a project of the Medical Library Association Research Agenda Group.

**Pat Weiss**, Reference and Information Technology Librarian, served as co-chair of Faculty Senate Plant Utilization and Planning Committee, and was reappointed faculty representative to the Pitt Board of Trustees’ Property and Facilities Committee for 2013-14. She was also reappointed as one of two faculty representatives to the campus Sustainability Working Group.