UNIVERSITY of PITTSBURGH

Health Sciences Library System (HSLS)
www.hsls.pitt.edu

Falk Library of the Health Sciences serves as the home of the Health Sciences Library System, (HSLS), which offers 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 25.75 FTE faculty librarians, and 23.6 FTE paraprofessional and technical staff.

Library users have access to more than 8,200 electronic journals in the health sciences, as well as 3,940 e-books and 117 databases or publisher collections of full-text information. In FY16, we added over 930 new e-resources, including more than 450 new ebooks.

The electronic resources include, among others, AccessMedicine, AccessSurgery, AccessPharmacy, CINAHL, ClinicalKey, The Cochrane Library and other evidence-based medical resources, DSM-5, Faculty of 1000, Embase, Exam Master, MICROMEDEX, Scopus, Stat!Ref textbooks, UpToDate, Web of Science and Journal Citation Reports. A complete list can be found at http://www.hsls.pitt.edu/resources/databases.

A variety of resources in molecular biology are also available, including Epath3D, CLC Genomics Workbench (in partnership with the University's Institute for Precision Medicine), NextBio Enterprise, Partek Genomics Suite, Current Protocols and other protocol collections, MetaCore, CLC Main Workbench, and Ingenuity Pathways Analysis. New Qiagen products added in 2016 include Ingenuity Variant Analysis, Biomedical Genomics Workbench, CLC Microbial Genomics Module, and CLC Genome Finishing Module. A complete list can be found at http://www.hsls.pitt.edu/molbio/licensed_tools.

Users can access HSLS electronic resources from computers directly connected to the campus network, or remotely through their Pitt computer accounts.

HSLS maintains an active Web site http://www.hsls.pitt.edu with over 1,400,000 pages of information accessed per month. The Web site contains information about library services, resources, and activities. University of Pittsburgh faculty, students and staff can find workshop schedules, links to electronic resources, news items, online course reserves, and lists of new books. They can request copies of books or journal articles not available in HSLS collections and suggest new purchases for library collections. Questions submitted through the Ask-A-Librarian feature typically receive a response in less than 24 hours. The Electronic Book Search feature allows users to search the combined full-text content of the HSLS electronic book collection and receive results clustered by topic. HSLS also publishes an online monthly newsletter, *HSLS Update*, to inform users about new developments in its services and resources.

A unique discovery tool, search.bioPreprint, was developed in 2016, through a collaboration between HSLS Digital Library Services and the HSLS Molecular Biology Information Service. search.bioPreprint allows researchers to search four preprint databases to discover cutting edge, yet-to-be published or reviewed biomedical research articles. It conducts a federated search of the following preprint servers: arXiv (Quantitative Biology), bioRxiv, F1000Research, PeerJ Preprints. A bioPreprint bookmarklet**,** a one-click web browser add-on that connects every text appearing on a web page with the bioPreprint search engine, was also developed. This unique discovery tool is openly available on the HSLS website.

PITTCat for the Health Sciences http://pittcat.hsls.pitt.edu/, an entry point to Pitt's online catalog, contains bibliographic information on materials available at all University of Pittsburgh libraries, including HSLS. Tables of contents or abstracts are included when available. HSLS librarians have developed a customized interface to this catalog to enhance services to the health sciences community.

"Reference Services" underwent a name change in FY16 to become "Research, Instruction, and Clinical Information Services" (RICIS). The new name more accurately reflects the changing roles and expertise of the department. Services include assistance with user questions, in-depth searching of electronic and print resources to answer complex research and clinical queries, individual consultations, and bibliographic instruction. Liaison librarians, with expertise in specific subject areas, provide a communication link between HSLS and the departments and programs of the schools of the health sciences. Liaison librarians are available to:
- make presentations to departments or courses about library resources and services
- incorporate library and information management skills into the curriculum
- collaborate on research projects or grants
- perform professional-level literature searches, or validate users' search strategies.

Research support services by RICIS librarians include IACUC literature searching and consultations, systematic reviews search expertise and methodology documentation, and data management consultations and instruction.

HSLS librarians provide instruction on an open-registration basis for the University community as well as through the curricula of the schools of the health sciences. The demand for these services continues to increase. The HSLS roster of classes includes orientation sessions, and workshops on HSLS electronic resources, bibliographic management, and software training. Based on just-in-time scheduling, the FlashClass workshop system proposes one or two topics each week and invites HSLS patrons to sign up 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. For a complete list of workshops refer to http://www.hsls.pitt.edu/class/desc

Information specialists in the Molecular Biology Service consult with University of Pittsburgh departments and research groups to investigate information and resource needs and provide assistance to researchers and students for questions related to bioinformatics resources. In addition, they offer workshops and classes, and they have developed a Molecular Biology Web portal to promote access to resources and services in molecular biology, bioinformatics, and systems biology http://www.hsls.pitt.edu/molbio/. The core of the Molecular Biology Web portal is the "search.HSLS.MolBio" search box that allows users to quickly access the major bioinformatics databases, software tools, and related literature on the Web, in addition to resources licensed by HSLS. Users have a selection of four resource tabs that may be searched by keyword, phrase, gene name, disease, biological process, etc. Each tab provides a federated search of various resources, together with search examples.

Falk Library's Technology Help Desk is the primary health sciences service point providing audiovisual and computer services. The library provides hardware, software, and support for academic computer-based needs, including the use of HSLS resources for creating instructional presentations and student projects. Staff assist faculty to identify and evaluate instructional software and audiovisual materials for incorporation into the curricula of the schools of the health sciences. The Help Desk also offers laptops and tablets, including iPads and Android tablets, as well as flash drives, headphones, mobile power stations, and adaptors/USB cords for University users to borrow.

The software collection offers computer-assisted instruction in medicine and related fields; general-purpose applications such as word-processing, graphics, spreadsheet, database management, desk-top publishing, and statistics software; and communications tools for accessing resources on the Internet. The collection of audiovisuals includes slides, videotapes, CD-ROMs, and DVDs covering a range of health topics.

HSLS Digital Library Services manages the computing resources of the library, including desktop computers and servers. Operating systems used on staff and public computers include both Windows and Macintosh. Servers supported by the systems staff include Windows, Linux, and Sun OS. The Library's Web development environment is based on open source software including Drupal, Apache Web servers, MySQL databases, and PHP, Java, and Ajax programming languages. Digital Services staff members also manage the server environment for the School of Medicine's Lab for Educational Technology. This environment is based on the Microsoft .NET framework and includes Windows servers, Internet Information Server (IIS), and SharePoint Portal Server, and a MS SQL Server.

Falk Library offers eight group study rooms for students and other University of Pittsburgh users. The rooms may be reserved for up to four hours and accommodate two to eight people. Each group study room contains a conference table and chairs, a laptop (upon request), and a wall-mounted display monitor. New booking software was introduced in 2016, and the four oldest group study rooms were upgraded with new display technology.

The Digital Library Services Department also oversees the HSLS electronic and physical collections, including print, audiovisual, and software materials. Staff members identify, acquire, and organize materials necessary to support the activities of the health sciences community. Specialized staff members organize metadata about the collections to facilitate user access, and they maintain the data underlying PITTCat for the Health Sciences.

In May 2011, HSLS was awarded a five-year contract from the National Library of Medicine to serve as the Regional Medical Library (RML) for the Middle Atlantic Region of the National Network of Libraries of Medicine (NN/LM-MAR). MAR's mission is to support the efforts of the National Library of Medicine to provide all U.S. health professionals with equal access to biomedical information and to improve the public's access to information so they can make informed decisions about their health. The MAR is one of eight regions in the National Network of Libraries of Medicine (NN/LM), and includes the states of Delaware, New Jersey, New York and Pennsylvania.

To accomplish its mission, the MAR forms partnerships with libraries and other organizations, and offers a variety of in-person and online training for health professionals, community organizations, health information centers, and public, hospital and academic medical libraries throughout the four-state region. The MAR also offers funding opportunities and professional development awards to assist regional libraries and information centers in educating and

supporting unaffiliated health professionals and consumers in their local areas. During the 2011-2016 contract period, MAR funded a variety of outreach awards that support programs to:

- Promote the changing role of librarians within their institutions and communities
- Provide access to biomedical information to unaffiliated health professionals, including behavioral and mental health professionals, the public health workforce, minority health workers and rural, underserved hospitals
- Improve health through access to reliable information for consumer groups, including soldiers, veterans and their families, senior citizens, caregivers, K-12 schools, community-based and faith-based organizations

In early 2016, HSLS was renewed for another five-year period (2016-2021) as the Regional Medical Library for NN/LM MAR. The award also includes funding to support a new NN/LM Networked Services Office (NWSO), which is charged with developing and maintaining reliable web services for the nation-wide network in compliance with US Department of Health & Human Services information policies.

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