Open Access Publishing

Open Access publishing is a subject of considerable debate in scientific and academic library circles. Simply put, it refers to journals that make their articles freely available so anyone with an Internet connection can read, download, print, copy, redistribute, or use the information in derivative works such as databases, textbooks or other educational materials. Generally, open access publications are also deposited to an archival public repository to facilitate retrieval.

The Open Access movement evolved as an alternative to the sharply rising costs of journals published by commercial publishers. Instead of charging libraries and individual subscribers for access to electronic publications, open access journals offset their costs by charging authors a set fee, generally around $1,500, to publish an article. Authors may elect to retain copyright, or assign it to the journal or to their institution. This protects the integrity of their work, and ensures that the work is referenced accurately whenever all or part of it is reproduced. Authors also agree to allow free and unrestricted non-commercial use of their work by others.

Some publishers have a hybrid model, wherein content is available by subscription only for a limited time period of, say, six to 24 months, after which it becomes freely available to all.

The Public Library of Science (PloS) <www.plos.org>, funded by a $9 million grant from the Moore Foundation, is one of the better-known experiments in open access publishing. Its goal is to develop high-quality open access peer-reviewed journals, and to work cooperatively with other groups and scientific societies interested in this model. PloS Biology was launched in October 2003, with PloS Medicine to follow later this year. They seek to publish papers that provide significant advances in their respective fields, and are run as a collaborative effort between academic editors who are experts in their field, and full-time professional editors. All PloS journal articles will be

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available on their own journal sites, as well as deposited in PubMed Central <www.pubmedcentral.org>, the National Library of Medicine’s digital archive of life sciences journal literature.

Few, except commercial publishers, would disagree with the concept of making scientific information freely available to all, but whether this alternate economic model can succeed is still in question. The financial impact of such a model on large research centers, such as the University of Pittsburgh, whose faculty publish thousands of articles each year, is also unknown. What is clear is that the benefits and drawbacks of the open access model will be debated well into the future.

To learn more about this topic, check the following sources:


Nature Web Focus: Access to the Literature: the debate continues. <www.nature.com/nature/focus/accessdebate/>


SPARC (Scholarly Publishing and Academic Resources Coalition) <www.arl.org/sparc>.

--Barbara Epstein

Changing the Face of Medicine

The National Library of Medicine has created an interactive exhibition and Web site to celebrate and honor women in medicine. Featured in the exhibition are women who have changed the face of medicine by shaping public health policy, developing innovative medical procedures, providing care to patients in marginalized communities, or reminding us of the roles of culture and spirituality in patient care.

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The Web site contains profiles of the first generation of America’s female physicians, as well as contemporary female physicians who stand out for their persistence, dedication, and commitment to excellence in the science and practice of medicine. Among the physicians profiled are Katherine Detre and Jeannette South-Paul, both currently on faculty at the University of Pittsburgh.

Visitors to the Web site can browse

• Physician profiles (or create a customized search of the profile database).

• Online lesson plans for grades K-12.

• An extensive bibliography that provides additional resources on the history of women in medicine, and autobiographies by female physicians.

• A career section, designed primarily for teens, which provides links to practical information on undergraduate education, how to apply to medical schools, obtaining financial assistance, and contact information for student medical associations.

• An interactive Web page that allows visitors to share stories about women physicians who have made a difference in their lives.

The exhibition “Changing the Face of Medicine: Celebrating America’s Women Physicians” is on display at the National Institutes of Medicine (Bethesda, Md.) through April 2, 2005. The Web site is accessible at <www.nlm.nih.gov/changingthefaceofmedicine>.

--Mary Lou Klem
Looking for Graphics?

Looking for graphics to enhance educational material for health sciences classes and presentations? The Computer and Media Center (CMC) has numerous options to assist you. Quick links to these image resources are available on the CMC computers through Internet Explorer Favorites/Media or Netscape Bookmarks/Media. (Note: The use of these graphics may be protected by copyright rules, and regulations for ascribing credit. Please check the individual software or Web site for details.)

CD-ROMs:

A.D.A.M. Media Pro offers illustrations in four categories — normal anatomy, surgery, pathology, and trauma — as well as ideas for use in presentations. An image button is located on the opening screen, which allows access to all individual images within the categories.

D.I.G-IT! features 3D illustrated images, along with animated files. The images have been categorized within directories for all areas of the body. Images are found by accessing the appropriate folder in the opening slide.

MedArt-A&P provides 2D and 3D anatomical drawings and diagrams for use in presentations. Individual images can be located by using the picture menu in the top toolbar, and selecting the find option.

The Medical Images Library is a DVD-ROM featuring over 12,000 photo clip art images illustrating a wide array of diseases, medical treatments, and healthcare practices. Locate specific images through the toolbar option near the top of the screen.

Internet:

HEAL <www.healcentral.org/index.jsp> was established to create a digital library for health sciences educators by providing free and easy access to high-quality educational materials. The database is simple to navigate with searching by term and media type. A free registration is required to access the media.

Bristol Biomedical Image Archive <www.brisbio.ac.uk/terms1.html> is an online collection of 8500 medical, dental, and veterinary images. Navigate the database with basic search functions, advanced search functions, browsing by keywords, and browsing by terms from image descriptions.

Images from the History of Medicine <wwwihm.nlm.nih.gov/> is produced by the National Library of Medicine, and contains nearly 60,000 images from the library’s History of Medicine Division. The works digitized here include prints, lithographs, engravings, etchings, woodcarvings, and paintings.

Health on the Net Media Gallery <http://wolfgang.hcuge.ch/Media/media.html> is compiled by the Health on the Net Foundation. It is indexed by body part and includes images of medical conditions and procedures.

TumorBoard.com <www.tumorboard.com> contains a very large collection of copyright-free pathology images.

Whole Brain Atlas <www.med.harvard.edu/AANLIB/home.html> includes still pictures and movie files of the brain.

Dermatlas <http://dermatlas.med.jhmi.edu/derm>, from Johns Hopkins University, offers over 4,900 images submitted by more than 180 contributors to the database. Users can search by categories, diagnoses, or body site.

For further information about images, visit the CMC or call 412-648-9109.

--Fran Yarger
Public health organizations across the United States lag behind hospitals and academic medical institutions in access to and use of information resources. HSLS is addressing this challenge in Allegheny County through the Public Health Information Alliance (PHIA) program. PHIA provides access to information resources, library services, and training for Allegheny County Health Department (ACHD) employees. This pilot project is funded through an 18-month contract from the National Library of Medicine. (For details see “Improving Access to Information for Public Health Workers” in the April 2003 HSLS Update <www.hsls.pitt.edu/about/news/hslsupdate/2003/april/publichealth/>.)

Raising Awareness of Information Resources

The design of the PHIA program is based on previous HSLS experience with the provision of library services to geographically dispersed patrons. But there are special challenges in promoting such a program to those unaccustomed to having library services. To meet this challenge, promotion efforts are ongoing, and include an introductory program, brochures, site visits, and stickers for computer monitors. A key component in the success of PHIA has been the use of e-mail and the Internet for communicating with ACHD employees at worksites throughout the county.

Training and Tips

Onsite training at the ACHD computer lab in Lawrenceville has been well attended. Classes offered to date include Searching PubMed and Internet Public Health Resources. Sessions that focus on information resources for specific topics, such as smoking, are provided upon request.

The Tuesday Info Tip is sent each week by e-mail to ACHD employees, covering a topic related to searching for information. The reaction has been favorable, and this weekly message also helps to increase program visibility.

Promotional sticker reminds ACHD employees where to call for information assistance

Delivering Information

The PHIA Web site <www.hsls.pitt.edu/phia> includes information on all program services, and a guide to public health resources on the Internet. Internet access plays a key role in information delivery by diminishing barriers to access, which often include limited time for research and distance from the library. In the first year of the program, ACHD employees requested copies of 123 journal articles to be delivered via the Internet. In addition, most requests for reference assistance are initiated and answered via e-mail.

What’s Next?

During the remainder of the grant, the PHIA steering committee will investigate the continuation and expansion of the program, and dissemination of the lessons learned to other libraries and health departments.

-- Barb Folb
HSLS Offers Special Topics Classes

HSLS librarians provide instruction on major information resources for specialized groups such as clinicians, basic science researchers, mental health professionals and others. Topics include Clinical Information Resources, Complementary and Alternative Medicine Resources, and Searching for Evidence-Based Literature, to name only a few.

While classes typically are offered at various days and times throughout the year, we will be adding another option for your convenience beginning in May. Rather than your fitting into the HSLS schedule, we’ll fit into your schedule!

You can arrange an appointment for yourself or for a group to learn about these special topics at a time that is convenient for you. In addition to these special topics, we can also provide you with information on setting up Auto Alerts, how to do citation searching, use of Medical Subject Headings (MeSH), or any other specific information need you might have.

For a complete listing of the classes offered at HSLS and to find a description of the Special Topics classes refer to <www.hsls.pitt.edu/services/instruction/desc/>.

--Nancy Tannery

To arrange a Special Topics session, contact the faculty librarian listed below each class, call the Falk Library reference desk at 412-648-8796, or send e-mail to medlibq@pitt.edu.

Clinical Information Resources
Includes UpToDate, MD Consult, MICROMEDEX, E-Books and more...
Contact Alice Kuller at 412-648-1971

Basic Science Information Resources
Includes Biological Abstracts, ISI Web of Science, searching genes, proteins and molecules in PubMed and more...
Contact Ammon Ripple at 412-648-1251

Mental Health Information Resources
Includes PsycINFO, CogNet, social science databases and more...
Contact Rebecca Abromitis at 412-246-5507

Finding Information on Psychiatric and Psychological Testing Instruments
Includes Health and Psychosocial Instruments, Mental Measurements Yearbook and more...
Contact Ester Saghafi 412-246-5502

Complementary and Alternative Medicine (CAM) Information Resources
Includes AMED, Mantis, AltMedDex, Natural Medicines Comprehensive Database and more...
Contact Charles Wessel at 412-648-8730

Medical Humanities Information Resources
Includes the History of Medicine subset in MEDLINE, Internet resources and more...
Contact Jonathon Erlen at 412-648-8927

Searching for Evidence-Based Literature
Includes EBM concepts, Ovid EBM databases, PubMed tools and more...
Contact Patricia Weiss Friedman at 412-648-2040

Health Resources on the World Wide Web
Includes major health-related resources and tips for searching the Internet.
Contact Linda Hartman at 412-648-1479

Public Health on the Web: Finding What You Need When You Need It
Includes major public health-related resources and tips for searching the Internet.
Contact Ammon Ripple at 412-648-1251
**HSLS ORIENTATION**

**Introduction to HSLS Resources and Services**
This tour and orientation is offered upon request so you can come at a time convenient to you. Contact Mary Lou Libreicht at 412-648-8796 to make an appointment.

**SEARCHING MEDLINE**

**Searching MEDLINE on Ovid**
(Falk Library, CMC Classroom #2)
Monday, May 3  
10 a.m.-11:30 a.m.
Thursday, May 27  
1 p.m.-2:30 p.m.
Wednesday, June 23  
9 a.m.-10:30 a.m.

**Searching MEDLINE on PubMed**
(Falk Library, CMC Classroom #2)
Wednesday, May 12  
9:30 a.m.-11 a.m.
Tuesday, June 1  
2 p.m.-3:30 p.m.
Wednesday, June 30  
1 p.m.-2:30 p.m.

**Searching MEDLINE and EMBASE on EMBASE.com**
(Falk Library, CMC Classroom #2)
Friday, May 21  
8 a.m.-9:30 a.m.
Tuesday, June 22  
noon-1:30 p.m

**Advanced MEDLINE Searching on Ovid**
(Falk Library, CMC Classroom #2)
Thursday, June 17  
9:30 a.m.-11 a.m.

**SPECIAL TOPICS**

Special topics classes are offered upon request so you can come at a time convenient to you. Contact the faculty librarian listed with each class to make an appointment.

**Clinical Information Resources**
Includes UpToDate, MD Consult, MICROMEDEX, E-Books and more...
Contact Alice Kuller at 412-648-1971

**MOLECULAR BIOLOGY AND GENETICS**

**Information Hubs for Molecular Biology and Genetics (Session I): Nucleotide and Protein Information Hubs**
(Falk Library, CMC Classroom #2)
Wednesday, May 19  
1:30 p.m.-3 p.m.

**Information Hubs for Molecular Biology and Genetics (Session II): Genome and Proteome Information Hubs**
(Falk Library, CMC Classroom #2)
Wednesday, May 26  
1:30 p.m.-3 p.m.

**Sequence Similarity Searching**
(Falk Library, CMC Classroom #2)
Wednesday, June 16  
1:30 p.m.-3 p.m.

**SOFTWARE TRAINING**

**Adobe Photoshop for Beginners**
(Falk Library, CMC Classroom #1)
Tuesday, May 25  
9 a.m.-11 a.m.
Friday, June 25  
10 a.m.-noon

**EndNote Basics**
(Falk Library, CMC Classroom #2)
Thursday, May 20  
2 p.m.-4 p.m.
Tuesday, June 15  
10 a.m.-noon

**PowerPoint for Presentations**
(Falk Library, CMC Classroom #1)
Wednesday, May 26  
9 a.m.-11 a.m.
Wednesday, June 9  
8 a.m.-10 a.m.

All classes are open to faculty, staff, and students of the schools of the health sciences at the University of Pittsburgh and UPMC. No registration is required. Seating for classes is first-come, first-served until the class is full.

See detailed course descriptions at <www.hsls.pitt.edu/services/instruction>.

*Classes marked with an asterisk qualify for AMA Category 2 CME credit.*
UpToDate News

UpToDate, a clinical resource providing topic reviews designed to assist with diagnosis and treatment, was recently updated. The new release includes:

- **“What’s New,”** a summary of the most important clinical updates in all of the sub-specialties of internal medicine, obstetrics/gynecology and family medicine. To access these summaries type “What’s New” in the UpToDate search box.
- **Lexi-Interact Drug Interactions,** which enables you to review potential interactions for a selected medication, or for combinations of drugs.
- A new 2-1/2 minute animated tutorial, available under the Help menu.

You can access UpToDate through the HSLS Resources page at <www.hsls.pitt.edu/resources>.

New Electronic Books

Recent additions to the HSLS Ebook collection include:

*Encyclopedia of Cancer*

*Encyclopedia of Genetics*

*Encyclopedia of Hormones*

*Encyclopedia of the Human Brain*

*Encyclopedia of the Neurological Sciences*

*Encyclopedia of Psychotherapy*

Full text of more than 300 HSLS reference books, textbooks and general books is available through PITTCat for the Health Sciences or <www.hsls.pitt.edu/resources/ebooks/titles>.

HSLS Staff News

HSLS librarians attended Roles and Essential Skills for the Expert Searcher, a Medical Library Association teleconference on March 10, 2004, to explore issues involved in developing and retaining expert searching skills.

Publications

HSLS recently expanded to include provision of print and electronic library services to Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh of UPMC (CHP). An Open House was held February 17-19, 2004 in the Blaxter Medical Library, to help acquaint CHP employees and medical staff with new HSLS resources and library staff.

Ready to assist with your library needs are, from left to right: Andrea Ketchum, Renae Barger, and Amy Gregg, reference librarians with the University of Pittsburgh’s Health Sciences Library System; Linda Polinski, library technical assistant; and Suzanne Ward, administrative assistant.

Library Open House at Children’s Hospital’s Hospital

photo by Kathryn Komperda