

HSLs *Update*

UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH

Health Sciences Library System

www.hsls.pitt.edu

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Barbara Epstein is named HSLs Director



In June 2004, Barbara A. Epstein was appointed director of the Health Sciences Library System (HSLs). Epstein had served as interim director of HSLs since September 2003, and from 1995 to 2003 she was associate director of the HSLs.

In announcing her appointment, Arthur S. Levine, MD, senior vice chancellor for the health sciences and dean, School of Medicine, stated "I am confident that Barbara will continue her very innovative and often novel approach to health science librarianship, and that our library system will continue to be one of the nation's top-tier resources."

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FIRSTConsult Provides point-of-care information

Point-of-care information products are a relatively new type of clinical information resource. These products are aimed at closing the "question gap"—the well-documented tendency for physicians' information needs to go unmet as they see one patient after another in the course of a hectic clinical day. Oriented either to the primary care physician or to the specialist seeking information outside his or her own specialty, these point-of-care tools provide immediate access to high-quality, succinct diagnosis and treatment information. They give priority to evidence-based findings and clinical recommendations, and display information in a consistent, standardized format to make it more readily accessible to the busy clinician.

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University of Pittsburgh Log off

- Differential Diagnoses
- Medical Conditions
- Procedure Files
- Reference Centers
- Patient Education

FULL TEXT SEARCH
diabetes mellitus
:: Help :: Advanced Go

- FIRSTConsult Handheld
- Go to MD Consult
- FAQs
- Contact FIRSTConsult
- Home

FIRSTConsult *continued from page 1*

HSLs recently subscribed to FIRSTConsult, an evidence-based point-of-care information resource that can be accessed from the Databases page of the HSLs Web site at <http://www.hsls.pitt.edu/resources/databases/titles>. Its main components include:

- Over 450 Medical Condition files citing evidence from the Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews, *Clinical Evidence*, and the National Guideline Clearinghouse. Evidence is rated according to criteria developed by the American Academy of Family Physicians.
- Differential Diagnoses for 350 chief complaints using a matrix that ranks potential conditions by age and prevalence in a primary care setting. Clinical features for all diagnoses are then displayed in a single table, which can be customized to include or exclude specific diagnostic characteristics.
- Files on more than 30 surgical and diagnostic procedures commonly performed in a primary care setting. Some files include video clips.

Subscription to FIRSTConsult follows systematic testing of it and three other point-of-care products by 14 HSLs librarians. Testers looked at specific interface characteristics and explicitness of evidence-based methods and ratings. They also looked for answers to clinical questions randomly selected from a subset of the National Library of Medicine's *Clinical Questions* collection, a growing repository of questions originally asked by family physicians across the country about specific patients. Following testing, librarians for each product met as a group to develop a consensus summary of their findings, which were then used to rank the products on desired characteristics.

FIRSTConsult is integrated with a sister product, MDConsult, which includes full-text journal articles, textbooks, and drug information. PDA users will want to try FIRSTConsult Handheld.

--Patricia Weiss Friedman

AGRICOLA Database **Available at HSLs**

The AGRICOLA (AGRICultural OnLine Access) database was recently added to the collection of HSL online resources, and is available from the Ovid platform, or directly at www.hsls.pitt.edu/resources/databases/titles. Produced by the National Agricultural Library (NAL), a division of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), AGRICOLA is primarily a journal citation database. However, it also includes books, chapters, pamphlets, conference proceedings, research reports, government documents, and other materials from the NAL collection. Subject coverage of the database includes: agriculture and allied disciplines, animal and veterinary sciences, entomology, plant sciences, forestry, aquaculture and fisheries, farming and farming systems, agricultural economics, extension and education, food and human nutrition, and earth and environmental sciences. AGRICOLA contains citations to approximately 2 million records, both in English and non-English, from 1979 to present.

Both the USDA and the University of Pittsburgh Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) — which oversees animal programs, facilities, and procedures at the University of Pittsburgh and UPMC — require at least one database search when submitting the IACUC protocol application. AGRICOLA is one of the databases that may be searched to meet this requirement. The ability to search AGRICOLA through Ovid allows investigators to search more than one database simultaneously, e.g., both MEDLINE and AGRICOLA, and to develop and save complex search strategies.

For a consultation on searching AGRICOLA for animal alternatives, contact Alice Kuller, at abk1@pitt.edu or 412-648-1971.

--Alice Kuller

HSLs Update is produced by the University of Pittsburgh Health Sciences Library System, Falk Library of the Health Sciences, 200 Scaife Hall, Pittsburgh, PA 15261 <www.hsls.pitt.edu>. Contact HSLs with questions, comments or ideas at 412-648-8796, or send email to medlibq@pitt.edu.

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New! ClusterMed

Organizes PubMed Results into Categories



Vivísimo's *ClusterMed*, recently licensed by HSLS, is designed to organize PubMed search results into categories for easier review of results. *ClusterMed* sends the user's query unchanged to PubMed and then clusters the returned articles into hierarchical folders based on subject categories. The folders allow users to view categories, view related articles, and drill down through the topic hierarchy.

Clustering is derived from the text in the article titles, abstracts, and MeSH terms (when available) within PubMed's output. In addition to clustering by subject, *ClusterMed* allows articles to be sorted by date, MeSH (medical subject heading), author, or affiliation.

To perform a search, a user enters the words or phrases of interest into the ClusterMed search box. The search produces a split screen, with the hierarchical folders on the left-hand side of the screen and the list of citations on the right-hand side of the screen. The citation display shows basic information about each article much like the results seen in PubMed.

A search for "heart diseases", for example, retrieved hundreds of articles, clustered into more than 50 topical folders with headings such as congestive heart failure, atrial fibrillation, and valve insufficiency. For some categories, a second-tier clustering is produced. For example, the acute coronary syndrome folder sorted articles into seven sub-topic areas, including heparin and heart failure.

ClusterMed is available at <www.hsls.pitt.edu/clustermed>
--Nancy Tannery

Barbara Epstein

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Epstein received her BA from the University of Pittsburgh and her master's degree in library science from Case Western Reserve University. Barbara was with the WPIC library from 1974 until 1995, rising to the position of director of that library prior to moving to the HSLS. As associate director of the HSLS, Epstein served as a member of the senior management team in the overall planning and management of all library operations and programs. Barbara also worked with UPMC to initiate access to HSL Online at all UPMC hospitals. She managed the integration of professional and patient/family libraries at UPMC Shadyside and Children's Hospital into HSLS. Currently, she is a core faculty

member of the Center for Biomedical Informatics in the School of Medicine.

Epstein has served as principal investigator or project manager on a number of grants and contracts, including outreach contracts from the National Library of Medicine to provide training for public health professionals and public librarians in Western Pennsylvania. Barbara has a long-standing interest in the education and training of health science librarians, and she was instrumental in the development of the Pittsburgh Health Sciences Library and Bioinformatics Traineeship program funded by the National Library of Medicine.

Epstein is a "distinguished member" of the Academy of Health Information Professionals of the Medical Library Association. In addition to many national presentations, Barbara has authored more than 20 publications, focusing on the role of the academic medical center library in training public librarians, designing curricula, Internet

health resources, management challenges in health science librarianship, and mental health information resources.

"I am excited by this opportunity to lead one of the nation's foremost academic health sciences library systems", says Epstein. "We have been fortunate to have strong support from the administration of the health center. Our staff is surely one of the most talented in the country, and we are in the forefront in developing new information services and cutting-edge technological applications. As HSLS integrated hospital/clinical and patient library services into our structure, we have experimented with new management structures to offer the same high level of service at all of our library locations. I look forward to continued growth in resources and programs to support the faculty, researchers, clinicians, and students at the University and hospitals of the UPMC."

Searching for Single Nucleotide Polymorphisms

Scientists expect that comparison of genomic sequences taken from two unrelated individuals of the same sex will reveal that they are 99.9 percent identical. The 0.1 percent difference is due to genetic variations, mainly from one form of variation called single nucleotide polymorphisms (SNPs).

These polymorphisms are considered one of the key factors that makes each of us different, and can have a major impact on how we respond to diseases, environmental insults such as bacteria, viruses and chemicals, drugs and other therapies. The study of genetic variations is of great value for development of pharmaceutical products and medical diagnostics.

The National Center for Biotechnology Information (NCBI) Single Nucleotide Polymorphism database (dbSNP)

is a public-domain archive for a broad collection of simple genetic polymorphisms. This collection of polymorphisms includes:

- Single-base nucleotide substitutions (also known as single nucleotide polymorphisms or **SNPs**)
- Small-scale multi-base deletions or insertions (also called deletion insertion polymorphisms or **DIPs**), and
- Microsatellite repeat variations (also called short tandem repeats or **STRs**).

dbSNP is a part of the Entrez integrated information retrieval system and can be searched using a combination of 28 different search fields. A complete list of search fields can be found on the Entrez SNP site <www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/entrez/query.fcgi?db=snp>

--Ansuman Chattopadhyay

New Molecular Biology and Genetics Workshops

HSLs is offering new hands-on molecular biology and genetics workshops.

Introduction to VectorNTI is designed to get you started using the Vector NTI software package. This integrated sequence analysis and data management software allows molecular biologists to analyze, manipulate, construct, store, and manage complex biological molecules. The package consists of three independent, yet interconnected components:

- Vector NTI core, a molecular biology sequence manipulation program;
- Align X, a multiple sequence alignment program;
- BioAnnotator, a comprehensive set of protein and nucleic acid sequence analysis tools.

The workshop will also provide an overview of the Vector NTI graphical user interface including Vector NTI Explorer, the Molecule Viewer, and instructions for using the most common features and functions of the software. Plan to attend on either September 1, or October 6, 2004, from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. in Falk Library CMC Classroom 2.

Genetic Variations Resources will be offered on September 29, 2004 from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. in Falk Library CMC Classroom 2. Included in this workshop are genetic variations resources available via the Internet, with a focus on Single Nucleotide Polymorphisms (SNPs). Basic concepts behind different forms of genetic variations, introduction to variation databases (NCBI dbSNP and OMIM), database searching strategies, and the use of bioinformatics tools for predictive functional analysis of mutations will be discussed.

Advance registration is not required. Workshops are offered on a first-come, first-served basis until the class is full.

NHGRI Policy and Legislation Database

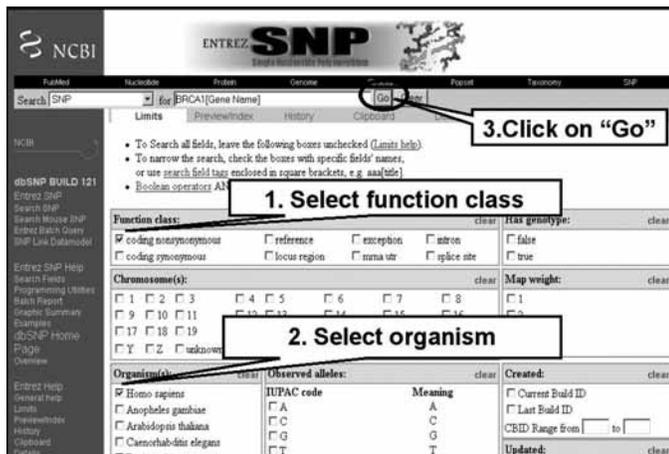
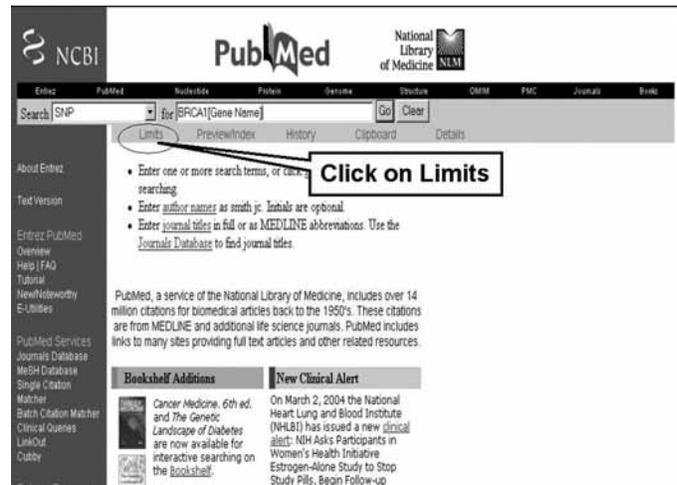
The National Human Genome Research Institute (NHGRI) has unveiled a new Web-based resource that will enable researchers, health professionals and the general public to more easily locate information on laws and policies related to a wide array of genetic issues, including privacy of genetic information/confidentiality; informed consent; insurance and employment discrimination; genetic testing and counseling; and commercialization and patenting.

The NHGRI Policy and Legislation Database is located on the NHGRI's Web site at <www.genome.gov/LegislativeDatabase>.

.....the following example illustrates the step-by-step retrieval of SNPs:

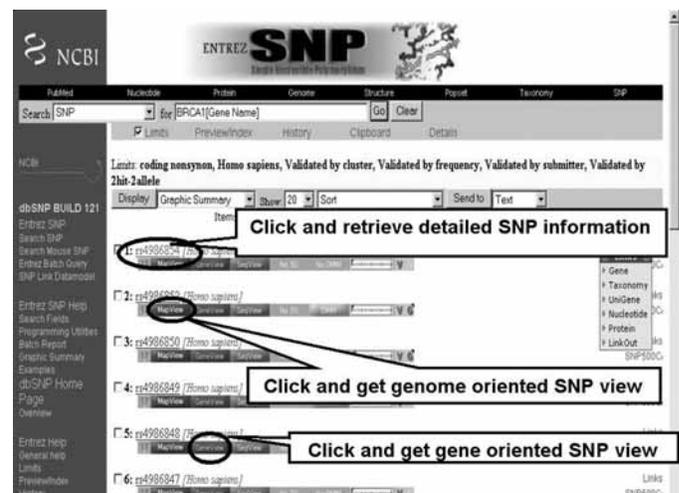
Mutations on BRCA1 gene have been reported to be associated with the early onset of breast cancer. Retrieve all non-synonymous coding SNPs for human BRCA1. (Non-synonymous coding SNPs create a new codon which codes for a new amino acid.)

- 1) Go to Entrez SNP
<www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/entrez/query.fcgi?db=snp>
Type "BRCA1 [Gene Name]" in the search box
Click on "Limits"



- 2) Go to "Function Class" and select "coding nonsynonymous"
Go to "Organism(s)" and select "Homo Sapiens"
Click on "Go" to retrieve results

- 3) From this results page, you can retrieve detailed SNP information, and you can visualize SNPs in a genome or gene oriented fashion.



To learn more, visit the HSLs molecular biology and genetics Web portal at <www.hsls.pitt.edu/guides/genetics>.

HSLs Schedule of Classes September-October 2004

HSLs ORIENTATION

Introduction to HSLs Resources and Services

(Falk Library, meet inside entrance to Library)

Thursday, September 9	10 a.m.-11:15 a.m.
Wednesday, September 15	1:30 p.m.-2:45 p.m.
Friday, September 24	10 a.m.-11:15 a.m.
Tuesday, September 28	2 p.m.-3:15 p.m.
Wednesday, October 6	2 p.m.-3:15 p.m.
Thursday, October 14	10 a.m.-11:15 a.m.

Tour and orientation is also offered upon request. Contact Mary Lou Librech at 412-648-8796 to make an appointment.

Introduction to HSLs Resources and Services at WPIC

(WPIC Library, meet inside entrance to Library)

Friday, September 10	10 a.m.-11:15 a.m.
Thursday, September 23	9 a.m.-10:15 a.m.
Thursday, October 7	3:30 p.m.-4:45 p.m.

SEARCHING DATABASES

Searching MEDLINE on PubMed* (Falk, CMC Classroom #2)

Wednesday, September 8	1 p.m.-2:30 p.m.
Thursday, September 30	9:30 a.m.-11 a.m.
Wednesday, October 13	2 p.m.-3:30 p.m.
Monday, October 25	10 a.m.-11:30 a.m.

Searching MEDLINE on Ovid* (Falk, CMC Classroom #2)

Thursday, September 2	10 a.m.-11:30 a.m.
Tuesday, September 14	1 p.m.-2:30 p.m.
Monday, October 11	10 a.m.-11:30 a.m.
Thursday, October 28	9 a.m.-10:30 a.m.

Advanced MEDLINE Searching on Ovid*

(Falk, CMC Classroom #2)

Tuesday, October 12	9:30 a.m.-11 a.m.
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Searching MEDLINE and EMBASE on EMBASE.com*

(Falk Library, CMC Classroom #1)

Friday, September 17	9:30 a.m.-11 a.m.
Monday, September 27	9 a.m.-10:30 a.m.
Tuesday, October 19	2 p.m.-3:30 p.m.

Searching PsycInfo* (Falk, CMC Classroom #1)

Wednesday, September 15	3 p.m.-4:30 p.m.
Tuesday, October 19	10 a.m.-11:30 a.m.

Searching IndexCat* (Falk Library, CMC Classroom #2)

Tuesday, September 21	10 a.m.-11 a.m.
Tuesday, October 5	2 p.m.-3 p.m.

SOFTWARE TRAINING

EndNote Basics (Falk Library, CMC Classroom #2)

Tuesday, September 21	2 p.m.-4 p.m.
Thursday, October 21	10 a.m.-noon

Adobe Photoshop for Beginners (Falk, CMC Classroom # 1)

Tuesday, September 14	10 a.m.-noon
Wednesday, October 20	9 a.m.-11 a.m.

PowerPoint for Presentations (Falk, CMC Classroom #1)

Tuesday, September 21	8 a.m.-10 a.m.
Tuesday, October 26	9 a.m.-11 a.m.

MOLECULAR BIOLOGY AND GENETICS

Introduction to VectorNTI* (Falk, CMC Classroom #2)

Tuesday, September 7	1 p.m.-2:30 p.m.
Wednesday, October 6	1 p.m.-2:30 p.m.

Information Hubs Part 1* (Falk, CMC Classroom #2)

Wednesday, September 22	1 p.m.-2:30 p.m.
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Genetic Variation Resources* (Falk, CMC Classroom #2)

Wednesday, September 29	1 p.m.-3 p.m.
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SPECIAL TOPICS (These classes are offered upon request.)

Clinical Information Resources*

Contact Alice Kuller at 412-648-1971 or abk1@pitt.edu

Basic Science Information Resources*

Contact Ammon Ripple at 412-648-1251 or ammon2@pitt.edu

Mental Health Information Resources*

Contact Rebecca Abromitis at 412-246-5507 or baa@pitt.edu

Finding Information on Psychiatric and Psychological Testing Instruments*

Contact Ester Saghafi at 412-246-5502 or esa2@pitt.edu

Complementary & Alternative Medicine Information Resources*

Contact Charles Wessel at 412-648-8730 or cbw@pitt.edu

Medical Humanities Information Resources*

Contact Jonathon Erlen at 412-648-8927 or erlen@pitt.edu

Searching for Evidence-Based Literature*

Contact Patricia Weiss Friedman at 412-648-2040 or pwf@pitt.edu

Health Resources on the World Wide Web*

Contact Linda Hartman at 412-648-11479 or lhartman@pitt.edu

Public Health on the Web: Finding What You Need When You Need It*

Contact Ammon Ripple at 412-648-1251 or ammon2@pitt.edu

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 required. Seating is first-come, first-served until the class is full. Classes marked with an asterisk (*) qualify for AMA Category 2 CME credit. Detailed course descriptions are available at <www.hsls.pitt.edu/services/instruction>.

HSLs Staff News

STAFF CHANGES

HSLs welcomes Jaime Blanck and Yibu Chen as a Health Sciences Library and Biomedical Informatics Trainees for 2004-05. **Ms. Blanck** earned a BA degree in art history from the University of Cincinnati in 1998, an MLIS degree from the University of Pittsburgh in 2004, and recently completed a library student internship at WPIC Library. **Dr. Chen** earned a PhD in biology from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. Since 1998, he has been a postdoctoral research associate and research associate at the Institute of Marine and Coastal Science at Rutgers University.

Mary Lou Klem has been appointed HSLs reference librarian. Dr. Klem recently completed the Health Sciences Library and Biomedical Informatics Traineeship. Prior to this experience, she was an assistant professor of psychiatry at the Western Psychiatric Institute and Clinic, and codirector of the Behavior Assessment and Treatment Core Obesity/Nutrition Research Center. She holds a PhD in clinical psychology from the University of Memphis, and received her MLIS degree from the University of Pittsburgh in 2003.

NEWS

Barbara Folb, HSLs public health librarian, has been appointed liaison librarian to the Graduate School of Public Health, replacing **Ammon Ripple**.

Linda Hartman, reference librarian, has been elected chair of the University of Pittsburgh Senate's Community Relations Committee.

Deb Silverman, Nancy Tannery, and Paul Worona have been appointed associate directors for HSLs. **Silverman**, associate director for Resource Management, has been HSLs assistant director for Resource Management since 1998. Her responsibilities include oversight of acquisition and management of books and periodicals for all HSLs libraries, licensing of electronic resources for HSL Online, circulation and access to HSLs resources, space planning for all libraries, and management of Voyager. **Nancy Tannery**, associate director for Information Services, has served as assistant director for Information Services since 1998. Nancy's responsibilities include oversight of all HSLs instructional programs and reference services provided to the schools of the health sciences and the hospitals of the UPMC, as well as the Document Delivery Department, and specialized information service areas including History of Medicine and Molecular Biology and Genetics. **Paul Worona**, associate director for Information Technology, has been HSLs assistant director for Systems since 1998. Paul is responsible for

management of HSLs' increasingly complex and sophisticated information technology operations. He will have oversight of all public and staff computing, and the Computer and Media Center in Falk Library. Paul will also be responsible for strategic direction of the continuing application of new initiatives and developments in information technology.

A paper presented by HSLs librarians at the 2004 Medical Library Association (MLA) annual meeting has garnered an Honorable Mention Award from the MLA Research Section. Receiving the award are **Nancy H. Tannery**, associate director for Information Services, and coauthors **Charles B. Wessel**, coordinator of Affiliated Hospital Services, **Barbara A. Epstein**, HSLs director, and **Cynthia S. Gadd**, assistant professor of medicine, Center for Biomedical Informatics, for their paper: *Using outcome measures to assess the information-seeking behavior of clinicians after access to online resources: a longitudinal cohort study*. The award recognizes quality in original research in the field of medical library science.

Patricia Weiss Friedman, reference librarian, has been elected the section council representative for the Medical Informatics Section of the Medical Library Association.

Charlie Wessel, coordinator of Affiliated Hospital Services, has been elected as the 2004-2005 program chair and will be incoming chair 2004-2005 for the Pittsburgh Regional Chapter, Medical Library Association.

Paul Worona, associate director for Information Technology, has earned an MBA degree from the University of Pittsburgh Joseph M. Katz Graduate School of Business, with a concentration in management of information systems.

PUBLICATIONS

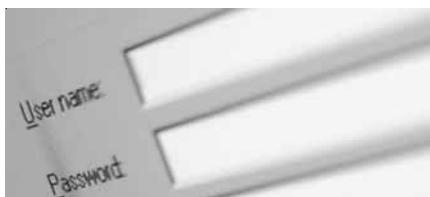
Jonathon Erlen, history of medicine librarian, published "A tour of dissertations" in *ASBH Exchange*, 2004, 7(2): 5 (with Kelly Fryer-Edwards); "Recent dissertations in the history of medicine" in the *Journal of the History of Medicine and Allied Sciences*, 2004, 59(2): 293-296, and 59(3): 471-474; "Dissertation list" in *History of Science Society Newsletter*, 2004, 33(3): 12; review of *Bullets and Bacilli: The Spanish-American War and Military Medicine* by Vincent J. Cirillo, in *The Quarterly Review of Biology*, 2004, 79(2): 229-230; and "Research on the history of psychiatry: Dissertation Abstracts, 2003" in *History of Psychiatry*, 2004, 15(2): 237-254. **Dr. Erlen** also served as editor with Joseph Spillane to publish *Federal Drug Control: Origins and Evolution 1875-2001*, Binghamton, NY: The Haworth Press, 2004.

Use Pitt Account to Access Library Resources

University faculty, staff, and students can now use their **Pitt username and password** to access HSLs online resources from computers within HSLs libraries, including those in the Falk Library Computer and Media Center (CMC). Previously, a distinct HSLs account was required for this purpose. While your HSLs account is still valid for accessing online library resources, you now have the option to use your University account. That's one less password to remember! (Please note that an HSLs account is still needed to use several HSLs services, including Vector NTI and Ovid Personalized Access).

Your Pitt username and password will also permit access to HSLs Remote Access. The Remote Access service

provides HSLs electronic resources from computers that are not connected to the Pitt or UPMC networks (for example, through an Internet Service Provider such as Earthlink or AOL). For more information about HSLs Remote Access, see <www.hsls.pitt.edu/services/remote/>.



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In addition to these changes to HSLs services, University of Pittsburgh Computing Services and Systems Development (CSSD) has recently

introduced an Instant Virtual Extranet service called SSL VPN. This new service allows members of the Pitt community to remotely access online library resources provided through both the University Library System (ULS) and the Health Sciences Library System. The SSL VPN Service is available at <<https://sslvpn.pitt.edu>>. Documentation for using the service is available by calling the CSSD Technology Help Desk at 412-624-HELP [4357], or at <<http://technology.pitt.edu/documentation.html>>.

For additional information about Pitt accounts, see <http://technology.pitt.edu/computer_accounts.html>, and for more information about HSLs accounts, see <www.hsls.pitt.edu/services/accounts>. --Paul Worona

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