HSLS Update

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Preview the New HSLS Web Site

The Health Sciences Library System (HSLS) Web site will soon have a new look and expanded functionality! Beginning in early September, a preview of the enhanced Web site will be available via a link on the current HSLS homepage <www.hsls.pitt.edu>, or at <http://test.hsls.pitt.edu>. The Web site will continue to evolve over the next few months and will soon be the primary HSLS Web presence.

The redesigned Web site is the result of an intensive, yearlong project based on an interactive design process and centered on optimal Web site usability.

Much of the new design is based on interviews with faculty, staff, and students in the health sciences, as well as responses from more than 1,200 Web-based survey participants throughout the Pitt and UPMC campuses. In addition, several paper prototypes of the site were constructed and tested with members of the health sciences community. The result of this entire process is the fully functional prototype now available on our test site.

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New! Group Study Space in Falk Library

HSLS is pleased to announce four new group study rooms located on the upper level of the Falk Library. The new rooms, for use by groups of two to eight people, will be available by late August. In addition to providing group study space, each room is equipped with a Dell laptop and a plasma room display.

You can reserve a group study room online or in person. The online reservation system is available at <www.hsls.pitt.edu/groupstudy>. From the reservation page, log in with your HSLS account, and follow the calendar directions. Reservations also can be made in person at the Falk Library Computer and Media Center (CMC) Help Desk.

The group study rooms will be available
Monday - Thursday 7:30 a.m.-11:30 p.m.
Friday 7:30 a.m.-9:30 p.m.
Saturday 10 a.m. - 9:30 p.m.
Sunday 10 a.m. - 11:30 p.m.

The complete list of group study room policies and guidelines is available at <www.hsls.pitt.edu/groupstudy>.

--Fran Yarger
Room to Grow: New Off-site Storage Facility

The removal of temporary construction walls in Falk Library reveals new group study rooms on the upper floor, and a state-of-the-art classroom and office suites near the library entrance. In coming months, you will see a comfortable new seating area on the main floor in space formerly occupied by shelving for unbound journal issues. Since the number of print journals received has decreased by about 80 percent in the past five years, the space needed to display recently received issues has shrunk as well.

But one of the most important improvements in HSLS space management isn’t visible to users: after more than a year of planning, we occupied a new storage facility at the Lexington Technology Park (LTP) in the Point Breeze area of the city in June 2006. The LTP facility has the capacity to house more than 200,000 volumes (about 40 percent of our total current collection) on high-density compact shelving, though it currently holds about half that number. Items are stored by size in acid-free boxes, and bar-coded for easy location. The 12-foot-high movable ranges run on tracks to maximize the storage capacity.

Currently, LTP houses materials published prior to 1966, and journals prior to 1975. Over the next year, we will transfer additional older books and journals that are seldom used, and print journal volumes that are already accessible to HSLS users in electronic format. While these older materials are not used as frequently as current resources, it is essential for a major research library such as ours to maintain a legacy collection, so clinicians and academics will have access to information about past practices and research. Daily courier service and state-of-the-art scanning equipment will allow for on-demand delivery of books and electronic copies of articles from LTP to users, making access to the stored materials as convenient as for those on-site.

The availability of stable and accessible permanent storage space for our collection solves a long-standing problem of overcrowded shelves, and offers expanded possibilities for space planning in all HSLS libraries. Removal of collection items to off-site storage frees up space that is needed for library study areas, technology support, instructional activities, offices and meeting rooms, and current collections.
EXAM MASTER Provides

Web-based Exam Preparation

EXAM MASTER OnLine (EM OnLine) is a new Web-based product brought to you by HSLS. EXAM MASTER is a self-study and self-assessment tool which provides exam preparation and review to medical students (USMLE exams), residents (USMLE and Board Certification) and physicians (Board Certification and SPEX). This resource is accessible remotely, and available to UPMC and Pitt users with a one time individual registration.

EM consists of:

- A large bank of multiple choice questions with detailed explanations. The difficulty level of an exam is adjusted based on prior performance of the user.
- Study and exam blocks organized in broad topics listed in the graphic to the left, as well as more specific topical areas, when available.
- A sophisticated test engine that creates and scores all exams.
- A multimedia approach through a combination of text, images, graphics, audio files, etc., that creates a multi-sensory learning experience.
- Detailed explanations for each question and extensive online HELP menus
- An easy-to-navigate and intuitive interface.

EM enables users to:

- Access thousands of basic science and clinical questions.
- Customize the selection of their study material and practice exams.
- Attach personal notes to each question.
- Generate and take practice exams that simulate the actual board exam experience.
- Get detailed score reporting to help assess their knowledge base and identify areas of strength and weakness.
- Obtain individualized feedback based on their performance.
- Get targeted remedial instruction to help improve areas of knowledge deficiency.

Access EXAM MASTER through the Resources tab on the HSLS Web site <www.hsls.pitt.edu> by either 1) a title search under Databases, or 2) browsing the alphabetical list of available databases. A Pitt or HSLS account is required for access.

--Ester Saghafi

New HSLS Web Site

The most obvious change in the new Web site is the simplified design focusing on the most important features as identified by you — our library users. New to the site is a “How do I?” knowledge base that provides answers to the most common questions that we receive. The site also features a new search interface based on the Vivisimo search environment. This new interface allows you to quickly search PittCat for library resources, the full text of hundreds of e-books, or PubMed for journal articles. Other features that we are investigating include a tool to help you quickly locate the full text of journal articles.

Please take a minute to explore the new HSLS site and send us your comments via the “Comments” link on the test page.

--Paul Worona
New! WPIC Library Classroom

Western Psychiatric Institute and Clinic (WPIC) Library has a new computer classroom for delivering library instruction to WPIC faculty, staff, and students. The classroom is located on the library’s second floor, and contains six computers for hands-on learning.

The new computer classroom will be used by HSLS librarians to teach classes and topics about library resources and databases of special interest to the Pitt and UPMC mental health community. See the HSLS Class Schedule on pages six and seven for a list of upcoming classes at both WPIC and Falk Library, or see <www.hsls.pitt.edu/services/instruction/calendar>.

--Rebecca Abromitis

What’s New in the Falk Library Media Collection

Recent additions to the Falk Library Computer and Media Center (CMC) media collection include:

Thomson Delmar Learning’s Career Success for Health Care Professionals
This series is designed to assist instructors, human resource departments, workforce development managers, and career counselors to prepare staff for the world beyond clinical skills. The scenarios contained on six DVDs help viewers to understand and master “soft skills” such as empathy, communication, and professionalism.

Call number: R690 .C37 2005

LifeART Super Anatomy 1
This CD-ROM contains 500 full-color clip art anatomy images. Images include external body views, the skeleton, joints and muscles, head and neck (including the senses), circulatory, respiratory, nervous, urinary, reproductive, digestive and endocrine systems.

Call number: QM25 .S87 2001

Designing and Executing Mass Casualty Exercise
Healthcare professionals must balance their daily duties with the potential challenge of preparing for a mass casualty event. This guide provides assistance for completing an emergency management plan.

Call number: RA645.5 .D47 2004

--Fran Yarger
**HSLS Staff News**

**PUBLICATIONS**


**PRESENTATIONS**


**STAFF CHANGES**

Leslie Czechowski is the new HSLS collections librarian. Her duties include overseeing and coordinating collection development activities for HSLS, and overseeing care of the rare books and manuscripts collections. Since 2005, Czechowski served as curator of manuscripts for HSLS. She previously held positions in the libraries at Grinnell College, Northwestern Health Sciences Library in Bloomington, Minn., and the University of Minnesota, and taught conservation and preservation and archival administration at the College of St. Catherine. A graduate of the University of Arizona, Czechowski received her MA in library science from the University of Iowa in 1995, and an MA in liberal studies from the University of Minnesota in 2004.

Melissa Ratajeski, recently joined HSLS as a reference librarian. She is a Pittsburgh native who earned a BS degree from Pitt in biological sciences and psychology with a related concentration in chemistry, and recently completed a MLIS degree from Pitt’s School of Information Sciences. For the past five years, Ratajeski worked in progressively responsible positions in a biomedical animal research lab at Pitt. While at SIS, she also completed a field placement experience at HSLS in fall 2005.

**FAREWELL**

Farewell to Ammon Ripple, head of Reference Services, who is leaving to attend Pittsburgh Theological Seminary to pursue a Master of Divinity degree and ordination in the United Methodist Church. Ripple joined HSLS in 1999 as document delivery and reference librarian and coordinated the automation of HSLS document delivery services.

Farewell to Helen Sobolik, circulation specialist at Falk Library, who is leaving to attend a Ph.D. program in Linguistics at the CUNY Graduate Center in New York City.

**HSLS Food Policy Reminder**

A reminder: food is not permitted in any HSLS library.

This policy is in place to protect library materials and equipment. Food residue attracts insects and mice that can harm books and journals.

Beverages in covered containers are permitted.
HSLS Update

**HSLS Schedule of Classes September-October 2006**

Class schedules are subject to change. Please consult the online class calendar at <www.hsls.pitt.edu/services/instruction/calendar> for the most current information. Classes are held in the Computer and Media Center Classroom 2 in Falk Library (200 Scaife Hall) unless otherwise noted.

### HSLS ORIENTATION

**Introduction to HSLS Resources and Services at Falk Library**
(Meet inside entrance to Library)

- **Wednesday, September 6**
  - 10 a.m.-11:15 a.m.
- **Monday, September 11**
  - 1:30 p.m.-2:15 p.m.
- **Thursday, September 14**
  - 9:30 a.m.-10:45 a.m.
- **Wednesday, September 20**
  - Noon-1:15 p.m.
- **Friday, September 29**
  - 9 a.m.-10:15 a.m.
- **Wednesday, October 4**
  - Noon-1:15 p.m.

Also offered upon request to groups or individuals. Call 412-648-8796.

**Introduction to HSLS Resources and Services at WPIC Library**
(Meet inside entrance to Library)

- **Wednesday, September 6**
  - 1 p.m.-2:15 p.m.
- **Friday, September 8**
  - 9 a.m.-10:15 a.m.

Also offered upon request to groups or individuals. Call 412-246-5507.

### SEARCHING DATABASES

**Ovid MEDLINE-Getting Started**

- **Friday, September 8**
  - 10 a.m.-11:30 a.m.
- **Tuesday, September 26**
  - 1 p.m.-2:30 p.m.
- **Wednesday, October 18**
  - 9:30 a.m.-11 a.m.

**Ovid MEDLINE-Advanced Searching**

- **Wednesday, September 27**
  - 10:30 a.m.-noon
- **Monday, October 30**
  - 9:30 a.m.-11 a.m.

**PubMed-Getting Started**

- **Tuesday, September 5**
  - 1 p.m.-2:30 p.m.
- **Tuesday, September 19**
  - 5 p.m.-6:30 p.m.
- **Thursday, October 5**
  - 1 p.m.-2:30 p.m.
- **Monday, October 16**
  - 10 a.m.-11:30 a.m.

**PubMed-Advanced Searching**

- **Monday, September 25**
  - 9:30 a.m.-11 a.m.
- **Tuesday, October 24**
  - 1 p.m.-2:30 p.m.

**Searching PsycINFO**
(Albert Einstein Library Classroom)

- **Tuesday, September 12**
  - 1:30 p.m.-3 p.m.
- **Monday, October 16**
  - 3 p.m.-4:30 p.m.

**Measuring Health: Finding Mental Measurement Tools**
(Albert Einstein Library Classroom)

- **Tuesday, October 3**
  - 1:30-3:00 p.m.

### MOLECULAR BIOLOGY RESOURCES

**Introduction to Vector NTI**

- **Wednesday, September 6**
  - 1 p.m.-3 p.m.
- **Wednesday, October 4**
  - 1 p.m.-3 p.m.

**Genetic Information Hubs**

- **Thursday, September 7**
  - 1 p.m.-3 p.m.

**Protein Analysis Tools**

- **Wednesday, October 25**
  - 1 p.m.-3 p.m.

**Introduction to Pathway Architect**

- **Wednesday, September 20**
  - 1 p.m.-3 p.m.
- **Wednesday, October 18**
  - 1 p.m.-3 p.m.

**DNA Analysis Tools**

- **Thursday, October 12**
  - 1 p.m.-3 p.m.

**Sequence Similarity Searching**

- **Wednesday, September 27**
  - 1 p.m.-3 p.m.

**Protein Information Hubs**

- **Wednesday, September 13**
  - 1 p.m.-3 p.m.

### SOFTWARE TRAINING

**EndNote Basics**
(Albert Einstein Library Classroom)

- **Monday, September 11**
  - 10 a.m.-noon
- **Thursday, September 21**
  - 1 p.m.-3 p.m.
- **Thursday, October 19**
  - Noon-2 p.m.
- **Monday, October 23**
  - 5 p.m.-7 p.m.
- **Wednesday, October 25**
  - **Location:** WPIC Library Classroom

This class is limited to 6 seats.

- **Adobe Photoshop for Beginners**
  - **Tuesday, September 5**
    - 9 a.m.-11 a.m.
  - **Tuesday, October 3**
    - 9 a.m.-11 a.m.
  - **Tuesday, October 10**
    - **Location:** WPIC Library Classroom
    - 9 a.m.-11 a.m.

**PowerPoint for Presentations**

- **Wednesday, October 25**
  - 9 a.m.-11 a.m.

**Advanced PowerPoint for Presentations**

- **Thursday, September 21**
  - 9 a.m.-11 a.m.
- **Wednesday, October 11**
  - **Location:** WPIC Library Classroom
  - 9 a.m.-11 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 required. Seating for classes is first-come, first-served until the class is full. Classes marked with an asterisk (*) qualify for American Medical Association Category 2 continuing education credit. Detailed course descriptions are available at <www.hsls.pitt.edu/services/instruction>.
Herbal and Dietary Supplement Information Resources

Looking for herbal and dietary supplement information? Two online resources are provided through MedlinePlus and the Natural Medicines Comprehensive Database.

MedlinePlus, a free consumer health information resource from the National Library of Medicine, now provides access to a selection of herb and dietary supplement monographs from Natural Standard.

The monographs are structured to include background information, synonyms, dosing information, safety (including allergies, side effects and warnings, use in pregnancy and breastfeeding), interactions, indications, methodology for the evidence-based review, and references to the primary literature. Each monograph includes a table of uses based on scientific evidence. Within the table, the herbal or supplement receives a grade range from A (strong evidence for this use) to F (strong evidence against this use) for diseases or conditions associated with it. Many monographs contain illustrations.

To use the Natural Standard monographs, go to MedlinePlus <http://medlineplus.gov>, choose the Drugs & Supplement link, and scroll down to the Herbs and Supplements section to browse from A to Z.

A second and more wide-ranging resource for herbs and dietary supplement information is the Natural Medicines Comprehensive Database, licensed by HSLS. This resource contains evidence-based clinical data on natural medicines, including all herbas and dietary supplements used in the United States and Canada. It is compiled by pharmacists and physicians who are part of the respected Pharmacist’s Letter and Prescriber’s Letter research and editorial staffs.

Each monograph or product description is divided into categories based on questions typically raised by clinicians and consumers, including:

• Common, scientific, brand, and alternate names
• Use
• Safety and safety ratings
• Effectiveness
• Possible mechanism of action and active ingredients
• Adverse reactions including known allergies
• Possible interactions with drugs, laboratory tests, foods, etc.
• Drug influences on nutrient levels and depletion
• Typical dosages and common routes of administration
• Comments
• References with abstracts
• Patient education information

The Natural Medicines Comprehensive Database allows searching by product; common, scientific, or brand names; or names of drugs, conditions, or diseases. It is available through the HSLS Databases by Title page at <www.hsls.pitt.edu/resources/databases/titles/N>.

--Charlie Wessel
Electronic Access to Methods in Enzymology

In the field of biochemistry, *Methods in Enzymology* has been the laboratory standard for more than 50 years. With 400+ volumes, it provides the definitive source for articles ranging from basic theory to sources of equipment and reagents, as well as information about specific laboratory techniques, and preparation of enzymes or metabolic intermediates.

The full text of *Methods in Enzymology* is available from 2000 to the present via HSLS electronic access through ScienceDirect. (Prior to 2000, volumes are available in the Falk Library under call number QP601.C719). ScienceDirect also enables quick and easy searching of the table of contents from volume one, 1955, to the present. Email alerts can be created easily to monitor this series for new articles of personal interest. Beginning with volume 410, 2006, HSLS will receive *Methods in Enzymology* in electronic format only.

HSLS also provides electronic access to *Methods: a Companion to Methods in Enzymology* on ScienceDirect. *Methods* focuses on rapidly developing techniques in experimental biological and medical sciences. Some recent topics include:

- preparation and use of brain slices;
- apoptosis: isolation and characterization of proteins;
- analysis of viral gene expression in differentiated tissue.

Access to both *Methods in Enzymology* and *Methods* is available on the HSLS Web site through Electronic Resource Title Search at <www.hsls.pitt.edu/resources>. Enter the title word ‘methods’ in the search box, and select from the matching drop down menu ‘phrase at start of title’. Then select the desired title and link.

--Charlie Wessel