HSLS *Update*

WebLinks

Ovid Web Now Includes Links to PittCat   *by Phil Bergen*

The HSLS has implemented Ovid's new WebLinks feature, which enables Ovid Web Gateway users to see library holdings for cited journals and books simply by following links in the database records. This feature is currently available for all Ovid MEDLINE databases and will be implemented in other Ovid databases on a database-by-database basis.

In WebLinks-enabled databases, Ovid users will see the following link near the top of records displayed in abstract or complete record format: *Find library holdings for this journal/book in...PittCat*
When the link is clicked, a new browser window opens, and library holdings information for the journal or book cited in the record is displayed. The user can then locate print materials or follow links to available electronic resources while still in the Ovid database search session.

As a complement to the full-text articles links already available in Ovid databases, WebLinks provides users with an added measure of speed and convenience in locating library materials of interest. It represents another advance in the HSLS's ongoing work to provide users with improved access to library materials by linking and integrating citation databases, the catalog, and networked electronic resources.

# HSLS Awarded Consumer Health Information Grant

by Barbara Epstein

The demand for consumer health information is burgeoning, as quick and easy access to the World Wide Web places huge amounts of information literally at consumers' fingertips. But the growing trend of using the Internet as a source of consumer health information has also come to be recognized as a two-edged sword. While there is a great deal of high quality informa-
tion available, health care providers have expressed concern about the equally large amount of information that is inaccurate, misleading or incomplete. Health sciences librarians possess valuable tools to help solve this problem by training users not only how to search the web for health information, but how

HSL Document Express

Offers Enhanced Document Delivery Services *by Ammon Ripple*
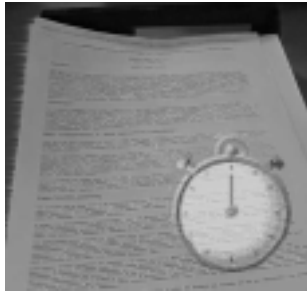
When you need information, you need it fast. HSLS is dedicated to providing quick and easy access to important health sciences information. Much of this information is available either in our extensive print collections or online through HSL Online. But in this information age, the number of information resources is expanding rapidly, and it is impossible to provide direct access to all the health sciences information out there. That is why it is more important than ever to have access to quality document delivery services.

Beginning April 1, the Health Sciences Library System will implement an enhanced service for interlibrary loan and photocopy services called *HSL Document Express*. This document delivery service will utilize the latest technologies to get the articles, books, book chapters, conference papers or other documents that you need quickly and efficiently. Features of the *HSL Document Express* service will include:

• A simplified form and fee structure. If you need a document, we will get a copy of it for you as fast as we can, whether it is in our collections or somewhere else. There will be one basic charge of $3.50 per document for all regular requests, both in-house photocopy requests and interlibrary loan requests. HSLS continues to subsidize document delivery services substantially. Our fees for our primary users represent a small percentage of the costs incurred in obtaining documents.

• A promise that we will deliver articles from within the HSLS collections within 2 working days whenever possible. On the rare occasion that we are not able to meet this goal, we will notify you personally.

• Use of state of the art scanning technologies to improve delivery time for interlibrary loan requests. We will obtain documents via the Internet whenever possible, instead of waiting 2-5 days to receive them through the mail. It is still necessary to allow 7-10 working days because we cannot control how fast we get documents from the other libraries, but you will receive many documents much faster because of direct Internet delivery.

• Rush and priority services are available for urgent requests. Rush requests will be delivered within 1 working day and priority requests will be delivered within 2 hours. Additional charges will apply to these requests.

• A special document delivery agreement with Elsevier ScienceDirect which allows us to provide quick access to thousands of articles that are not available online or in our collections. If it's in the ScienceDirect database and the full text is not available online, we can get it for you within 2 days. The charge for this service is also $3.50.

• A commitment that we will work continuously to improve our services. New staff have been added to the Document Delivery Department and new technologies are being evaluated. For example, we plan to offer electronic ordering and delivery options within the year which will allow you to submit your requests more easily, and pick up your documents at your desktop via the World Wide Web, substantially improving turnaround time.

HSLS recognizes that it is important for the health sciences community to have fast and convenient access to information. Our comprehensive print collections, full text information through HSL Online and improved document delivery services through *HSL Document Express* all support the mission and reputation of the University of Pittsburgh and UPMC Health System as world-class learning and research institutions.

Watch the HSLS homepage at http://www.hsls.pitt.edu/ for more information on the *HSL Document Express* service. Questions? Contact Ammon Ripple, Document Delivery Librarian at 648-1251 or falkdoc+@pitt.edu.

Coffee, Tea, or MEDLINE?

Falk Library relaxes its beverage policy *by Deb Silverman & Mike Yaklich*

You win, folks.

For as long as anyone can remember, Falk Library of the Health Sciences has forbidden all food and drink within the library. We weren't just being mean. Food attracts insects that are damaging to library materials, and spills and stains and excess garbage take their toll on furniture, carpet, and staff as well. Nor were we really out of line with other libraries, as most of our sister institutions did not allow food or beverages either.

But still the drinks came.

The fight to keep beverages out of libraries has been an uphill battle, and an increasingly difficult one to justify. Our users have been successful at getting beverages by us and into the library, and, we have to admit, fairly careful about cleaning up after themselves. We have the coffee shops to thank for the great spill-proof containers they sell, and mostly we have to thank all of you for respecting the library enough to try to keep it a nice place.

Falk Library now allows beverages, in spill-proof containers. That means a cup with a lid that won't pop off if it is knocked over or dropped. Polices at the WPIC Library and the Nursing LRC may be revisited later on, but for now will remain as they are. We will continue to hold the line on food throughout the library, and we must still forbid all food and drinks in the CMC and the History of Medicine area. Beyond that, we hope that this little change makes the library a more comfortable place for you to study, and that the coffee helps you stay awake.
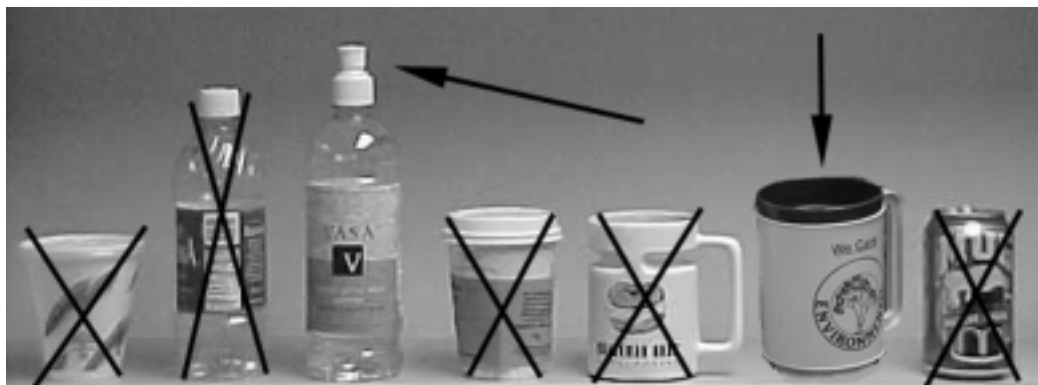
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Consumer Health Information Grant...*continued from page 1*

to evaluate the reliability and accuracy of identified sites. Similarly, librarians can take the lead in compiling directories of high quality Internet sites.

As part of its initiative to encourage public use of online health information, the National Library of Medicine has awarded funding to HSLS for an 18-month project designed to improve access to electronic consumer health information for the public. We will partner with a variety of health information seekers, including consumers, public librarians, special needs populations, and health educators to enhance public access to health information. Each partnership will focus on access, selection and evaluation of appropriate health information that will enable and empower consumers and patients.

The HSLS will work with librarians at the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh and the Allegheny County Library Association, students and faculty of the Western Pennsylvania School for the Deaf and the Center on Deafness, members of the southwest region of the Pennsylvania Association of School Nurses and Practitioners (PASNAP), and students attending the Pennsylvania Governor's School for Health Care. For each group, we will offer specialized training on how to use the Internet to find reliable health information.

For additional information about this project, phone Barbara Epstein, HSLS Associate Director and Project Manager, at 648-7850 or send email to bepstein+@pitt.edu.

New HSLS Proxy Server

by Paul Worona

Allows modem access to HSL Online from home or office through commercial Internet Service Providers

The HSLS offers access to a wide array of databases and electronic resources through HSL Online. Many databases and full-text journals offered through HSL Online are only accessible by IP access. This requires a user's computer to be directly connected to the University of Pittsburgh or UPMC Health System (UPMCHS) network, or users must dial into these networks through a modem. Users who are outside the University of Pittsburgh or UPMCHS network or who connect through a modem via an Internet Provider such as America Online (AOL), are not recognized as valid users, and are denied access.

The newly-configured HSLS Proxy Server allows eligible users at computers outside of the University of Pittsburgh or UPMCHS IP ranges to access *most* HSL Online resources with an Internet browser such as Netscape or Explorer. Some resources are not accessible through the proxy server, while other resources will be limited to users registered with HSLS as University of Pittsburgh faculty, staff or students.

Use of the proxy server requires an HSL Online password. If you do not already have one, you may register for an HSL Online account at any HSLS Circulation Desk. Please bring your University of Pittsburgh or UPMC ID card. Or check the HSLS Home Page at http://www.hsls.pitt.edu for online registration information.

Using the proxy server requires some re-configuration of your Web browser. Instructions for configuring specific Web browsers to access the proxy server can be found at http://www.hsls.pitt.edu/hslinfo/proxyintro.html. For questions or problems contact the Reference Desk at Falk Library (648-8796) or WPIC Library (624-1919).

Update: Partners In Information Access

by Amy Gregg

HSLS Librarians contribute to public health professionals' use of information technology

The Partners in Information Access contract, awarded to HSLS by the Middle Atlantic Region of the National Network of Libraries of Medicine, is steadily contributing to public health professionals' use of information technology, by providing hands-on computer training and exhibiting at conferences. Librarians Charles Wessel, MLS and Amy Gregg, MLIS provided instruction to over 158 public health professionals between July and November 1999. Public health professionals attended hands-on computer training workshops that included: Introduction to Netscape Navigator, Searching MEDLINE on PubMed, and Public Health Resources on the Web. The workshops were taught to employees of the Pennsylvania Department of Health in Harrisburg, PA, July 26-30, 1999; Pennsylvania Department of Health Northwest District in Titusville and Bradford, PA, October 20-21, 1999; Erie County Department of Health in Erie, PA, October 22, 1999; Pennsylvania Public Health Association members in Pittsburgh, PA, October 27, 1999 and Pennsylvania Department of Health Southwest District in Pittsburgh, PA, November 8, 1999.

In addition, the librarians exhibited at the Pennsylvania Public Health Association conference at Station Square in Pittsburgh, PA on October 25-26,1999. Wessel traveled to Washington DC to present a poster session on January 28, 2000 at the conference "Partnerships for Health in the New Millennium: Launching Healthy People 2010."

In the months ahead, HSLS librarians are planning to conduct additional workshops for the Pennsylvania Department of Health in Harrisburg, PA and Montgomery County Health Department near Philadelphia, PA. For more information on the Partners in Information Access contract, visit the web site at http://www.hsls.pitt.edu/outreach/partners/partners.html.

PubMed Central.... *An NIH-Operated Web Site for*

Electronic Distribution of Life Sciences Research Reports *by Barbara Epstein*

After months of speculation and debate in the scientific community, the Director of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) announced the launch of PubMed Central in January 2000. PubMed Central will be a Web-based repository offering free access to primary reports in the life sciences. This service will archive, organize and distribute peer-reviewed reports from journals, as well as reports that have been screened but not formally peer-reviewed. It will be integrated into the existing PubMed database of biomedical literature.

Responsibility for input of peer-reviewed reports to PubMed Central will rest with scientific publishers, professional societies, and other groups independent of the NIH. PubMed Central submissions of peer-reviewed content from participating publishers and societies can occur any time after acceptance for publication. Non-peer-reviewed reports will also be submitted to PubMed Central by independent organizations, which will be responsible for screening the materials. These reports will be clearly labeled as "preprints" in PubMed Central to distinguish them from peer-reviewed material.

The role of NIH in PubMed Central will be limited to maintaining the central repository, facilitating the input of content from submitters, coordinating efforts of international partners, archiving the content with the goal of guaranteeing future accessibility, and developing advanced technology for retrieval, presentation and navigation.

Eventually, an international advisory committee will establish criteria to certify groups that may submit peer-reviewed or screened material to PubMed Central. Until that happens, reports may be submitted by any journal currently indexed by the major abstracting and indexing services, or by any organization with at least three members who are principal investigators on research grants from major funding agencies or foundations.

Submissions to PubMed Central must be complete research reports, and access to the entire report will be free to individuals. Insofar as possible, PubMed Central staff will work with the publishers to satisfy their desire to preserve the distinctive appearance of their journals' contents, and to establish appropriate links to the publishers' home pages.

NIH plans for PubMed Central have prompted some major scientific publishers to announce plans for a different product consisting of a web of journal titles whose references are linked to other articles in the archive. If this materializes, it will create an alternate product to PubMed Central.

Editor's Note: Much of the content for this article was excerpted from: http://www. nih.gov/welcome/ director/ebiomed/53ebio.htm. Visit this page for additional information and the background of PubMed Central, which was originally proposed as E-Biomed. See also news analysis by Declan Butler titled "Publishers map out a way forward in response to free online archives." (Nature, 11 Nov 1999, 402:115)

E-Journals Page has New Look, Features

The HSLS started the new year with a redesigned electronic journals page. The new page features a cleaner, more intuitive design and alphabetic segmentation for faster loading. A simple search interface has also been added for finding journals by title.

Link to the e-journals page from HSL Online at <http://online. hsls.pitt.edu>.

Direct questions and comments about the new page to Phil Bergen at 648-2309 or bergen+@pitt.edu.

HSLS Staff News

New Videos

Staff News

Kathy Enrietto joined the staff of the Falk Library Interlibrary Loan/Document Delivery Department in November. She is responsible for copying articles and processing interlibrary loan requests. Kathy has prior experience working at the University of Pittsburgh in the Student Loans and Special Accounts office.

Tracey Handlovic, a familiar face at the Falk Library Circulation Desk in the evenings, has transferred to a new position as part-time Evening Circulation Specialist at the WPIC and Nursing Libraries.

Congratulations to **Linda Hartman**, HSLS Librarian, and her husband Andy who are the proud parents of a baby girl, Corinne Victoria, born on December 2.

Jessica Poland, a former student assistant in the WPIC Library, rejoins the HSLS in an Administrative Support III position. She will staff the circulation desks at the WPIC and Nursing Libraries, and assist with serials processing and photocopying. Jessica recently received a BA in Interdisciplinary Studies with a certificate in Women's Studies from the University of Pittsburgh.

Presentations

Barb May, Interlibrary Loan & Photocopy Supervisor, served as a panel member discussing the Ariel Document Delivery System at the Medical Library Association Pittsburgh Chapter Meeting in October.

Charles Wessel, HSLS Coordinator of Affiliated Hospital Services, taught a Medical Library Association CE class on alternative medicine information resources to the Capital District Library Council, in Albany, New York in December.

Charles Wessel, Amy Gregg, HSLS Librarian, and **Barbara Epstein**, HSLS Associate Director, produced a poster titled "HSLS Partners in Information Access" which was presented by Wessel at the Partnerships for Health in the New Millennium: Launching Healthy People 2010, Washington D.C. in January. The poster explored how academic medical center libraries and librarians participate in educating consumers and health professionals, and how they can increase awareness of authoritative consumer and public health information resources.

Publications

Jonathon Erlen, Curator and History of Medicine Librarian, recently reviewed the following books:
Flannery, Michael. John Uri Lloyd: The Great American Eclectic. Carbondale: Southern Illinois University Press, 1998. Reviewed in *The Filson Club History Quarterly,* 73(4): 402-404, October 1999.

Porter, Dorothy. History, Civilization, and the State: A History of Public Health from Ancient to Modern Times. London: Routledge, 1999. Reviewed in *The New England Journal of Medicine,* 341 (23): 1778, December 2, 1999.

Farewell and Best Wishes....

HSLS Librarian **Allison Howard** has accepted the position of Catalog Librarian at the Shimberg Health Sciences Center Library at the University of South Florida. Allison worked at the Health Sciences Library System since 1995, and earned her MLIS degree at SIS while employed here.

Janet Mathers, HSLS Librarian retired in December. Janet served as a member of the HSLS reference staff for over 13 years and was liaison to the Schools of Dentistry, HRS and Nursing.

The Computer and Media Center (CMC) located in the Falk Library houses health sciences videos. For information about the CMC video collection call 648-9109. Recent additions to the video collection include:

Alzheimer's Disease: Primary Care Strategies for Early Intervention, 60 mins., 1999

Avoiding the Pitfalls of Polypharmacy, 60 mins., 1999

Chest Pain of Noncardiac Origin: Evaluation and Management, 60 mins., 1999

Complementary Medicine: What Patients are Doing, What You Should be Asking, 60 mins., 1999.

Doing Right: Clinical Ethics in Primary Care, 60 mins., 1999

Good Travel, Good Health, 60 mins., 1999

Information Systems in the Physician's Office: Opportunities and Risks, 60 mins., 1999

Menopause 2000: Cool Perspectives on a Hot Issue, 60 mins., 1999

As part of the C.F. Reynolds Medical History Society lecture series, Samuel Greenblatt, M.D., will present "Harvey Cushing's Paradynamic Contributions to Neurosurgery and to Specialization." on Thursday March 9, 2000. Dr. Greenblatt is Professor and Assistant Chair of Neurosurgery at Brown University School of Medicine. The lecture will be held in Scaife Hall Lecture Room 5, University of Pittsburgh, at 6:00 PM. For information about the Society and programming, contact Dr. John Erlen at 648-8927 or erlen+@pitt.edu.

Falk Library's Oldest Book

by Jonathon Erlen

The Falk Library History of Medicine Collection is privileged to include one medical-related *incunabula*, dating from 1496. The term *incunabula* refers to the earliest stages in the development of printing, and covers all printed books produced prior to the year 1500. The volume, Exposition in Avicennae Canonis Quarti Fen Primam, is one of the few extant copies of this particular title, and provides a physical link to the medieval views of medical theory and practice.

In this volume, author Johannes Arculanus, a noted late 15th century medical scholar, has translated into Latin some of the writings of the famous Persian physician/scholar Avicenna (980-1037) who practiced at one of the great Bagdad hospitals. Avicenna, writing at the height of Islamic medical authority, wrote a massive encyclopedic text, Canon of Medicine, which would serve as one of the standard medical texts in Europe through the 16th century. Arculanus' Latin translation would have been a late 15th century equivalent to the current Harrison's Principles of Internal Medicine.

Exposition in Avicennae Canonis Quarti Fen Primam was printed by B. Locatellus for O. Scotus in Venice on 100% cotton paper. Falk Library's copy contains many examples of marginalia hand-written in Latin, including small hands pointing to important passages. The text was rebound with *illuminated* parchment in the 16th or 17th century. The term *illuminated* refers to pages decorated with brilliant colors, elaborate designs, or miniature pictures. In this case, the volume was rebound in parchment that is illuminated with the lyrics from a Gregorian chant.

Please direct any questions about the History of Medicine Collections to Jonathon Erlen, Ph.D., Curator and History of Medicine Librarian, at 648-8927 or erlen+@pitt.edu.

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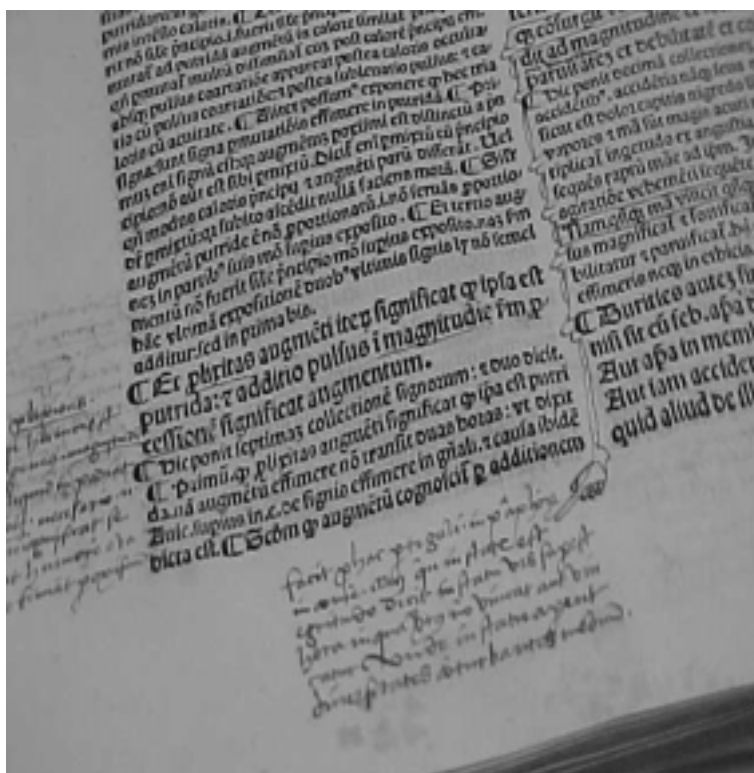
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HSLS Vital Statistics

HSLS completes a statistical survey every year for submission to the Association of Academic Health Sciences Libraries (AAHSL). Approximately 140 other libraries serving medical schools in the United States and Canada also submit data to AAHSL. Listed below is a statistical snapshot of HSLS libraries as of June 30, 1999.

Print volumes in the collections:	423,419
Print monograph titles:	184,169
Electronic Monographs:	74
Print journal titles:	2,173
Electronic full-text journals:	708
Staff (including student assistants):	67
Hours library is open for service each week:	110
Annual visitors to HSLS libraries:	553,156
Items borrowed from outside sources (interlibrary loan):	3,811
Items/photocopied articles supplied to other libraries:	26,032
Publicly accessible computers available inside the libraries:	111
Attendees at classes or orientation sessions:	1,985

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