Introducing the HSL Online Ovid Java Client

Speed and sophisticated searching capabilities are hallmarks of the latest search interface available through HSL Online. This interface, the Ovid Java Client, provides the familiar appearance of the Ovid Windows application in a Web-based environment. Ovid Java can be accessed at http://www.online.hsls.pitt.edu/ for searching MEDLINE, PsycINFO, Current Contents and all databases available through HSL Online.

Several features make the Ovid Java Client significantly faster than the traditional Web environment. For example, its multi-threaded capabilities allow the text of a document to be retrieved first, while graphics are downloaded through a separate connection. The Java Client also uses “push” technology, in which portions of the Client reside on users’ local drives. The Client downloads only those additional components that are required in order to function. The multi-threaded capabilities and push technology dramatically increase the speed of access to information.

The benefits of Ovid Java’s sophisticated searching and graphic capabilities are realized when using the HSL Online Full-Text databases. You may link from one full text article to related articles, topics and authors by highlighting any term in a document, and pressing the search button to link to other documents that contain the highlighted term. Text and accompanying graphics appear in separate areas of the screen, allowing thumbnail images to be viewed in conjunction with text. Clicking on any image opens the graphic in a separate window that can be manipulated in size, saved to disk, or printed.

Library users are encouraged to begin to use the HSL Online Ovid Java Client or the HSL Online Web Gateway. Ovid Technologies, Inc. has determined that the Web is the best way to provide access to their biomedical databases. In the near future, only the Web-based versions of HSL Online will be supported with new enhancements. The Windows and Telnet versions of HSL Online will no longer be supported with software updates. Library users are urged to take advantage of the additional features which will be provided exclusively in the Web-based environment.

A few caveats: to search using Ovid Java requires Windows 95 or NT versions of Netscape Navigator 3.0 or above, or Microsoft Internet Explorer 3.0 and above; glitches may occur on Macintosh versions of these browsers; for best functionality 32 ram of memory is preferred; an HSL Online account and password are needed to access this interface; and the first use of Ovid Java requires extra loading time, so please be patient.

continued on page 2
UPMC Health System Hospitals Contract with HSLS

Four hospitals within the UPMC Health System are entering into agreements with the Health Sciences Library System to provide access to selected databases and full-text journals in HSL Online to their staff, physicians, and residents. These hospitals are UPMC Beaver Valley, UPMC St. Margaret, UPMC Shadyside, and UPMC South Side. Training sessions on Getting Started with Netscape and the WWW, and MEDLINE Searching with Ovid Java will be offered on a regular basis at each of these hospitals. In addition, since the libraries at UPMC Beaver Valley and UPMC South Side are not staffed, Falk Library will offer librarian-mediated searches and journal photocopy services to staff and physicians at those sites. For additional information, contact the Health Sciences Libraries at UPMC St. Margaret (784-4121) or UPMC Shadyside (623-2441), the Medical Staff Office at UPMC South Side (488-5680), or the Office of the Medical Director at UPMC Beaver Valley (724-857-1556).

IAIMS Implementation Grant Awarded

by Pam Kantrowitz

The National Library of Medicine, an agency of the National Institutes of Health, recently selected the joint enterprise of the University of Pittsburgh Schools of the Health Sciences and UPMC Health System to receive an IAIMS (Integrated Advanced Information Management Systems) implementation grant. This grant will support the integration of information systems throughout the two organizations and across the clinical, educational and research components of their conjoint mission. IAIMS activities will be coordinated through the Center for Biomedical Informatics. Dr. Charles Friedman is director of the IAIMS effort; Dr. Barbara Barnes, Mr. Daniel Drawbaugh, and Ms. Patricia Mickelson, HSLS Director, are co-directors. HSLS Librarians are participating on IAIMS committees, including the education and research focal projects.

To keep the health sciences community informed about this initiative, the IAIMS program is publishing a bi-monthly electronic newsletter called IAIMS Update. The first issue of IAIMS Update is available at: <http://www.cbmi.upmc.edu/iaims/feb-mar98/main.htm>. If you are unable to access the electronic version of the newsletter, you may request a paper copy of IAIMS Update. To request either the paper version or further information about the IAIMS program, please contact Pam Kantrowitz at 412-647-7113 or <pjk@cbmi.upmc.edu>.

HSL Online Ovid Java...continued from page 1

HSLS will be offering workshops in Ovid Java. To register for class or for more information, ask at the Falk Library (648-8796) or WPIC Library Reference desk (624-1919), send email to medlibq+@pitt.edu, or consult the HSLS Web Page at <http://www.hsls.pitt.edu>.
The Health Sciences Library System (HSLS) and the Center for Biomedical Informatics (CBMI) will offer a joint training program in health sciences librarianship and medical informatics beginning in August 1998. This initiative, a component of the Medical Informatics Training Program of the CBMI, is a year-long educational opportunity for two individuals who have earned a Master of Library Science degree, and who have special interests or experience in health sciences librarianship and medical informatics.

Phillip Bergen and Tina Otter have been selected as the first trainees, and will begin the program in August 1998. Phillip Bergen received a BA in Philosophy and an MA in Library and Information Studies, both from the University of Wisconsin in Madison. He has been working since August 1997 as an Information Services Librarian at the Health Sciences Libraries at the University of Wisconsin. Tina Otter will receive her MLIS degree from Wayne State University in Detroit in August 1998. She earned an AS degree in Dental Hygiene from Kalamazoo Valley Community College and a BS degree in Health Studies from Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo. She has extensive experience as a dental hygienist and educator in the United States and Switzerland.

The goal of this training program is to prepare librarians for leadership roles in managing libraries and information systems in complex health care settings. Health sciences librarians require a wide range of expertise and skills, including a strong knowledge of biomedical informatics. Rapidly changing information technology in health care, the expanding knowledge base in medicine, and the unique needs of users from the clinical community mandate that librarians be prepared in new ways to take on new roles. The experiences and skills gained in this training program will permit participants to collaborate fully with medical informatics colleagues in developing and delivering improved information resources.

The training experience will concentrate on supplementing academic experience with practical experience in the operational units of the Health Sciences Library System and the projects at the Center for Biomedical Informatics. Trainees will devote 50 percent effort in

continued on page 6

continued on page 4
William (Bill) C. Divens, Jr., Assistant Director for Access Services at the Health Sciences Library System, was killed when the light plane he was piloting crashed at the Beaver County Airport on Sunday, April 12, 1998. He was 46 years old.

Also killed in the accident was his 8-year-old son, Daniel Divens, a second grader at the SS. Peter & Paul Catholic School in Beaver. Bill’s wife, Christine, and their 11-year-old daughter, Megan, were injured in the accident.

Bill joined the staff of the Falk Library of the Health Sciences in 1989. As a member of the senior management group, he had responsibility for circulation and interlibrary loans. He also supervised serials, acquisitions and technical processing. He was a leader in the development of new technology for interlibrary loan and circulation of library materials, and generously shared his expertise with colleagues throughout the library community.

Before coming to Falk Library, Bill worked for 14 years at Hillman Library in various positions, including Head of Delivery Services and Head of Circulation. He spent three months in 1985 as a consultant to Shanghai Jiao Tong University, People’s Republic of China, on the use of microcomputers, circulation software and workflow systems design. Bill was a graduate of Central Catholic High School. He earned a B.A. in geography and geology, and an M.L.S., both from Pitt. Bill’s professional competence, caring personality and delightful sense of humor will be sorely missed, not only by his friends and colleagues on the Pittsburgh campus, but by participants on the many professional “listserv” in which he participated as “Rusty” Divens. His contributions to these e-mail correspondence groups combined wit and a gift for the deft phrase with serious and astute observations on professional issues. In addition to his wife and daughter, Bill is survived by his parents, William Calvin Divens, Sr. and Janet M. Brown Divens. His mother worked at the University for many years, retiring in the early 1980s.

A trust fund for Bill’s daughter, Megan Divens, has been established. Contributions should be sent to the attention of Kim Crytzer, Financial Sales Officer, First Western Bank, 1007 Beaver Grade Road, Moon Township, PA 15108.

HSLS
Professional Development

Publishing


Contributed Papers

Dave Powell, HSLS Systems Analyst, Nancy H. Tannery, Head of HSLS Reference, and Charles Wessel, Reference Librarian: Virtual Library Orientation in a 3D Environment: A Web-Based Model. The Falk Virtual Library was developed to orient students to the library and its resources. Jill Foust, Reference Librarian, Nancy H. Tannery, Head of HSLS Reference, and Ellen Detlefsen, School of Information Sciences: Implementation of a Web-Based Tutorial. This paper described the use of a web-based tutorial to teach students how to use the University’s online catalog, PITTCAT.

Staff Changes... continued from page 3

Paul Worona, MLS, who served as Head of the Microcomputer and Media Center (MMC) since August 1996, resigned from the HSLS effective June 30. Under Paul’s management, the MMC lab was completely redesigned and refitted with new hardware and software.
Create an Automatic Update (SDI) through HSL Online

The Health Sciences Library System is introducing a new SDI (selective dissemination of information) service through HSL Online. This new SDI service, AutoAlerts, allows users to keep up with the latest developments on topics of interest. AutoAlerts will deliver the most recent citations and abstracts directly to your desktop, via email, automatically and at no cost to you.

The AutoAlerts feature is available at http://www.online.hsls.pitt.edu/ through the HSL Online Web Gateway or HSL Online Ovid Java. The latter requires Windows 95 or Windows NT versions of Netscape Navigator 3.0 and above. You must have an HSL Online User Account to use this new service (see box: How to Create AutoAlerts).

To establish an AutoAlert, select any database in HSL Online and create a search strategy. Your search strategy may be a single subject term, the name of an author whom you wish to track, or a more complex search that includes limits and combines subject terms. Each AutoAlert can be customized in a variety of ways. The system allows you to name your search and include comments. You may also choose from a variety of output formats, such as fields to include, sort order, and citation format. In addition, you may specify any number of email addresses to which retrieved documents should be automatically sent as they become available. A separate search must be performed in each database in which you wish to establish an AutoAlerts profile.

Once an AutoAlert is established, the server checks for updates each day. Anytime the database is updated and your saved AutoAlert yields new results, you receive the documents by email. The Current Contents database is updated weekly, and the MEDLINE databases will be updated weekly beginning in July. PsycINFO is updated every 4-8 weeks by the publishers.

Information Survival Guide

A new guide designed for the physician finishing a residency or fellowship program is available on the HSLS Web Site at <http://www.hsls.pitt.edu/intres/guides/ismg.html>. The Guide provides information and Internet links to the tools necessary to access medical and professional materials without the benefit of a large health sciences library, including: MEDLINE access; links to health information mega-sites; meetings; CME courses; Internet service providers; online medical journals; document delivery services; Regional Medical Libraries and the National Network of Libraries of Medicine. The Information Survival Guide can be viewed as a Web document or printed as a single document requiring an Adobe Acrobat Reader.

How to Create AutoAlerts......

....in HSL Online Ovid Java

1. Create a search strategy
2. Select “Save History”
3. Provide a Save Name and comments
4. Select Save Type ‘AutoAlert (SDI)’
5. Choose either “save complete search history” or “save selected search sets”
6. Click on “save search”
7. Specify Email address(es)
8. Make selections for document style, format and sort preferences
9. Click on “continue”
10. Click on “OK” when “your search has been saved” message appears

...in the HSL Online Web Gateway

1. Create a search strategy
2. Select “Save Search History”
3. Select Save Search “as an SDI Service”
4. Under General Parameters, provide a name for your SDI and comments
5. Specify Email address(es)
6. Select SDI Output Format (fields, citation format, sort order...)
7. Select “Save Search”
Traineeships...continued from page 3

each of the two areas. In the HSLS, participants will gain experience primarily in the Reference Department and the Microcomputer and Media Center. In the CBMI, trainees will participate in the weekly journal club and monthly seminars in addition to taking two courses each term offered by the Center. Trainees will undertake a research or special project that addresses a problem closely related to both informatics and health sciences librarianship.

Nancy H.Tannery, Head of Reference for HSLS, will serve as training coordinator. Funding for the program is provided by the National Library of Medicine, Ovid Technologies, Inc., and the Health Sciences Library System.

HAPI Available Through HSL Online

The HAPI (Health and Psychosocial Instruments) database is now available through HSL Online at <http://www.online.hsls.pitt.edu>. HAPI provides access to information on measurement instruments such as questionnaires, interview schedules, checklists, index measures, coding schemes/manuals, rating scales, projective techniques, vignettes/scenarios, and tests. Measurement instruments in the fields of health, psychosocial sciences, organizational behavior, and library and information sciences are included in HAPI. The Health and Psychosocial Instruments database is especially useful for researchers, practitioners, administrators and educators who wish to identify measures needed for client/patient assessments, research studies, grant proposals, theses/dissertations, and program evaluations.

The database does not include the actual instruments, and an HSL Online account and password are needed for remote access to HAPI.

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