

HSLs *Update*

UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH

Health Sciences Library System

<http://www.hsls.pitt.edu>

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Nature Arrives Online

HSLS is pleased to announce that the University of Pittsburgh and the UPMC Health System now have access to journals from the Nature Publishing Group. Nature magazine, the Nature monthlies and the Nature reviews are among the premier science journals worldwide, specializing in high-quality, peer-reviewed articles with potentially high impact on their disciplines. All journal content is available to online users immediately upon publication; no content is withheld from current or archived issues.

Nature magazine, the Nature monthlies (Nature Biotechnology, Nature Cell Biology, Nature Genetics, Nature Immunology*, Nature Medicine, Nature Neuroscience, and Nature Structural Biology) and the Nature reviews (Nature Reviews Genetics*, Nature Reviews Neuroscience* and Nature Reviews Molecular Cell Biology*) are now available through the HSL Online <<http://www.online.hsls.pitt.edu>> and the Nature Web site at <<http://www.nature.com>>.

If you have questions about the Nature journals online, please contact Deborah Silverman, HSLS assistant director for Resource Management (648-2868, debs@pitt.edu) or Phil Bergen (648-2309, bergen@pitt.edu).

*These titles are new to the University of Pittsburgh and were not available previously in any format at any Pitt library.

--Deb Silverman

For an interesting look at scientific publishing from more than a century ago, the very first issue of Nature, dated November 4, 1869, is available in digital format at:
<http://www.nature.com/nature/first>

PDA Corner



Does it seem like everyone is comparing notes on uses for their PDAs (Personal Digital Assistants)? Do you feel left behind?

Beginning with this issue, *HSLs Update* presents a series of articles to help our readers understand this new "handheld" computer technology and how it can impact your work. This first article serves as a brief introduction to PDA operating systems, manufacturers, docking and software. Watch for **PDA Corner** in future issues to learn more.

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PDA Corner

PDA Corner

continued from page 1

The appeal of the PDA is simple: it offers an adaptable and flexible way to organize your personal and professional life by using a computing device small enough to fit in your hand. Basic functions of the handheld include keeping track of addresses, phone numbers, calendars, and “to do” lists. The basic PDA functions can be further expanded, by adding software to provide timely, portable access to relevant medical information on demand.

Confusion can arise when discussing PDAs because there are different platforms, or operating systems, and manufacturers. Palm, Inc., produces a line of products known as the Palm Pilots, as well as licensing its operating system (Palm OS) to other manufacturers, such as Handspring and TRG. According to IDC, a Massachusetts-based research firm, 75 percent of the PDAs shipped last year were from Palm, Inc or were Palm OS based. Microsoft has introduced its Pocket PC, which uses the Windows CE operating system and applications. Other companies, such as Casio and Compaq, have licensed Windows CE for their PDA products.

The handheld is not an island unto itself. A docking device (or cradle), software for the desktop computer, and a stylus are some additional components in the PDA package. The docking device attaches to a computer via a USB or serial port and permits use of specialized desktop software. It allows you to “hot synch” (download) the data from your personal PC to the handheld device, and vice versa. The desktop software is an interface between your personal PC and the PDA that allows you to enter text via the computer’s keyboard, and also initiates the process of adding other software applications for use on the PDA. Handhelds also accept written text. The stylus, a pen-like pointing and writing device, is used to write directly on the handheld screen. Since having to write large amounts on a 1 or 2-inch area may become cumbersome, the usefulness of the desktop software and hot synch capability is apparent.

Medical software available for PDAs can range from dosage calculators, diagnosis, anatomy, and drug information tools, to applications that manage patient data, among others. Some software is available free of charge. For example, ePocrates, a resource on drug doses and interaction for the Palm OS, is available for download on the Internet at <<http://www.epocrates.com/>>.



While adding software to the PDA enhances functionality, the amount of memory and storage space is limited. Although it can vary by models and brands, the standard memory amounts are 4 or 8 megabytes. Most models have a memory expansion available for extra purchase. The average user will not need this add-on, however, as most PDA applications take a small amount of memory.

Internet sites addressing PDAs in medicine include <<http://www.handheldmed.com>>, a comprehensive site which includes support for Palm OS, Windows CE, and yet another operating system, EPOC/Psion®. Rnpalm <<http://www.rnpalm.com>> is geared towards the use of PDAs in nursing. The Handango Web site <<http://www.handango.com/>> addresses general PDA and software issues, and also includes some medical information.

—Fran Yarger

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Contact HSLs with questions, comments
or ideas at 648-8796, or send email to medlibq@pitt.edu.

Purchasing vs Licensing

Electronic Library Resources

Why can't I access Micromedex from home?

Why aren't the current issues of Science available on Ovid?

Why do you need my ID for an HSL Online password when I come in here every day and you've known me for years?

Sometimes the answer to questions like these sounds like a broken record: *Because the license says we have to do it this way.*

The growth of the electronic collection in HSLS and other libraries has meant a significant shift in how we—and you—do business. We have moved away from *purchasing* materials to house in our libraries to *licensing* materials for our patrons to use. When we buy a book for the print collection, we own that book (though not the intellectual content inside), and there are certain rights we obtain that are inherent in any purchase: we can have it forever until we decide to discard it; we can share it with others, within the bounds of copyright law; and if we don't want it anymore, we can sell it or give it to someone else. When we license materials, however, we are not purchasing anything. We are only arranging for permission to access materials that belong to someone else, usually for a fixed period of time. The only rights we have are those negotiated into the license.

A license is a legal contract that both parties are bound to honor. All licenses that HSLS signs are reviewed by the University's legal counsel, to be sure that the University's rights and your rights as users of the materials are adequately protected. As users of HSL Online, you assume certain obligations to uphold those licenses as well. It is our job to make sure you use the resources properly and honor the agreements we have signed. Following are restrictions on the use of electronic resources:

While you may print or download portions of a resource for your own needs, you may not print or download "substantial" portions of any product. What is substantial may be open to interpretation; generally if you download enough of any resource to allow you to circumvent pur-

chasing that resource, that is a substantial portion. You may print a chapter from a book in Stat!Ref, but not the entire book. You may download a patient education pamphlet from MDConsult, but not all of them. And you absolutely cannot sell any information you have obtained, even for cost recovery, or use this information for another institution or business.

The resources we license are for the exclusive use of the University of Pittsburgh and the UPMC Health System.

We ask for proof of your affiliation when we give you an HSL Online login and password so that we can be sure we are restricting access to the authorized user community. Sharing resources with others outside of the user community or sharing your login and password with someone outside the user community is prohibited.

Some licenses restrict the user group even further, usually by geographical location or by organizational structure. Many resources are available on the Oakland campus only, and others are limited to only University users. All resources are available to all HSL Online users from within the HSLS Libraries, but remote access or access across the organization may be limited.

You cannot incorporate parts of electronic resources into other products, or change those resources before or after downloading them. While you can download citations into ProCite or another citation manager, you cannot compile a series of PDF articles downloaded from an electronic source or sources and repackage them into your own product. In some cases, providers will allow users to include materials in course packs, but not always.

There are many implications of licensing HSL Online electronic resources. By keeping you informed about licensing, we hope to help you use the resources properly, and honor the agreements we have signed. Questions or comments? Please contact Deb Silverman, HSLS assistant director for Resource Management at 648-2868 or debs@pitt.edu.

—Deb Silverman



HSLS Librarian Assists University's Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC)



Reference librarian Alice Kuller (L) assists Nathalie Picard with her database search strategy

The Animal Welfare Act (AWA), first passed by Congress in 1966, and its subsequent amendments, ensures the humane treatment of animals used in biomedical and behavioral research. This act also regulates the transport, sale, housing, care, handling and treatment of animals in commerce, exhibition, and all stages of experimentation. The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is charged with developing and implementing regulations to support the AWA. These regulations require principal investigators to consider alternatives to procedures that may cause more than momentary or slight pain to animals used in research, and to determine the availability of alternatives, including refinements, reductions and replacements.

To ensure that these standards are met, each research facility is required to establish an Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC). Since the USDA considers the performance of a database search to be the most effective method for demonstrating compliance with the requirement to consider alternatives to painful and distressful procedures, the University of Pittsburgh's IACUC turned to HSLS reference librarians for assistance.

In response to the request by Pitt's IACUC, Alice Kuller, reference librarian, recently attended a workshop sponsored by the Animal Welfare Information Center (AWIC) at the National Agricultural Library in Beltsville, MD. The mandate of AWIC is to provide information to researchers on improved methods of animal experimentation, and information that could prevent unintended duplication of animal experimentation.

The goal of the workshop was to educate participants about the history of animal welfare legislation in the U.S. and the current regulations. It was attended by a cross-section of individuals including veterinarians, scientists, IACUC members, and librarians from government agencies, associations, academic institutions and the private sector. The workshop included sessions on structuring search strategies and on database selection criteria that comply with the AWA regulations. Hands-on training in developing and executing searches across a range of databases was an important component of the workshop.

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

—Alice Kuller

Happy Anniversary, FRIP !

Question: *What do apoptosis, gene therapy, dendritic cells, nitric oxide, breast neoplasms, and Alzheimer disease have in common?*

Answer: *All are among the top ten terms selected by faculty in three Pitt health sciences schools to describe their current research interests.*

The Faculty Research Interests Project (FRIP) is one year old this month. Since June 2000, more than 1200 faculty in the School of Medicine, the School of Pharmacy, and the Graduate School of Public Health have submitted terms describing their interests to the FRIP index, searchable at:

<http://www.cbmi.upmc.edu/frip/search.cgi>.

Now including over 4200 different terms, the index reflects the breadth and diversity of local research pursuits. The 169 terms in the index selected by 10 or more faculty clearly show areas of shared endeavor. On the other hand,

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Integrated Information Matters

UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH

June 2001

Research Practice Fundamentals

Education and Certification Program provides training

The Education and Certification Program in Research Practice Fundamentals (RPF) is designed to provide training for researchers at the University of Pittsburgh, and its affiliated institutions, in the areas of Research Integrity, Human Subjects Research,

Laboratory Animal Research, and Radiation Safety. Recent policies require training for all researchers who are supported by federal and non-federal grant funding agencies. The University of Pittsburgh decided to take a proactive stance and implement RPF to exceed

any current government policies, both in the depth and breadth of the content, as well as in the timing of its implementation. RPF allows University researchers to comply with existing policies by providing easy access to the related materials via the Internet. Senior

Vice Chancellor Levine has set a target date of October 31, 2001 for all members of the health sciences community to be certified on all topics relevant to their research and scholarly interests. His memorandum to University faculty, staff, postdoctoral fellows and students in the Schools of the Health Sciences can be read at <http://www.health.pitt.edu/content/rpf-training.htm>. A link to the RPF training program is available from the "Resources" section of the Health Sciences web portal at <http://www.health.pitt.edu>.

The concept of RPF began in the spring of 2000 with the recruitment of individuals possessing the expertise needed to develop an Internet-based and scalable series of educational "modules". Each module is comprised of learning and testing components,

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Health Sciences at the University of Pittsburgh 1 May 2001

Education and Certification Program in Research Practice Fundamentals

Welcome to the Education and Certification Program in Research Practice Fundamentals!

Continuing Medical Education credits now available! Click on the Education Modules button below for information.

About RPF	Information about the Education and Certification Program in Research Practice Fundamentals (RPF)
Education Modules	Information about and links to the Education Modules
Certification	Information about the certification process with links to quizzes, tests and the create account form
RPF Help	Helpful information for users of the RPF Website, including a form for users to submit questions/problems



The Cathedral of Learning

Already created an account on RPF? Click [here](#) to access the available quizzes and tests! A Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) list is now available from [RPF Help](#).

LEGAL DISCLAIMER: USE OF THIS WEB BASED TRAINING PROGRAM IS LIMITED TO UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH AND UPMC HEALTH SYSTEM PERSONNEL. USE BY ANY OTHER PARTY IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED.

Note: it is suggested that you read the overview document associated with each area above prior to beginning the education process. The document appears automatically when you click on the associated button.

Copyright © The University of Pittsburgh 2000-2001, for support contact: [An Riedle](mailto:An.Riedle@cbm.upmc.edu) (anr@cbm.upmc.edu)

New IAIMS Coordinator joins the Center for Biomedical Informatics (CBMI)

Ron Yori, formerly administrative director of the Center for Pathology Informatics, joined CBMI on March 19 as the new Integrated Advanced Information Management Systems (IAIMS) coordinator. Ron's background in administration, conference management, desktop publishing and Web page maintenance fit well with his new IAIMS duties. Before joining the University in 1994, Ron was a Vice President in commercial and real estate lending for Bank of America in Los Angeles.

Ron's IAIMS duties include coordination of both the operations committee, and the network and telecommunications committee, while serving as a member on the health sciences information resources group, and other IAIMS working groups. He is also involved with Health Sciences projects under the direction of Andre Francois, Information Technology manager at CBMI; the Faculty Research Interests Project (FRIP) at the Health Sciences Library System; and coordinates the 2001 IAIMS Retreat, which will be held on September 23 and 24. With the appointment of Dr. Charles Friedman as chair of the National IAIMS Consortium, Ron will also coordinate those meetings for 2001 and 2002.

In addition, Ron maintains the IAIMS and FRIP Web sites at <<http://www.cbmi.upmc.edu/iaims/main.htm>> and <<http://www.cbmi.upmc.edu/~frip/index.html>> respectively. The IAIMS Web site is used as the central repository for IAIMS job opportunities, information about the programs, special events and lectures, and committees under the IAIMS umbrella. The FRIP Web site, through an automated system, generates a searchable index of faculty research interests <<http://www.cbmi.upmc.edu/frip/search.cgi>>, using MEDLINE's standardized MeSH (Medical Subject Heading) terms. This project is a key component of Senior Vice Chancellor Levine's initiative to make information for research collaboration, institutional planning, development, and management more widely available through the use of technology <<http://www.health.pitt.edu/welcome.htm>>. (See related article on page 4).

Ron can be reached at Suite 8084, Forbes Tower at 412-647-7123 or rwy@cbmi.upmc.edu.

--Ron Yori

Research Practice Fundamentals

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with the learning content including general information and, where appropriate, institutional-specific information on each topic. The modules on Research Integrity and Human Subjects Research are currently available. The Laboratory Animal Research module will be available in early summer, and the module on Radiation Safety will be introduced in early Fall, 2001.

The program's testing results are used to track the progress of researchers, and ultimately to "certify" their efforts after they successfully complete each module. Users of the program are issued a certificate, via email, upon

completion of a module. The certificate highlights an individual's achievements and can be used as a permanent record of their work. Individual users can track their progress and retrieve instantaneous feedback.

The Education and Certification Program in Research Practice Fundamentals was initiated to reinforce the fundamentals of research in a manner that is convenient for its users. Due to the superb work of the content authors and the open platform of the Internet, this functionality has been achieved.

--Ari Beedle

Integrated Information Matters, sponsored by the University of Pittsburgh IAIMS program, appears in the *HSLs Update* three times per year. Look to this insert for news and features about the University of Pittsburgh Schools of the Health Sciences and UPMC Health System integrated information systems activities and plans. For questions, comments or suggestions about this newsletter or the IAIMS program, please contact Ron Yori, IAIMS Coordinator, (412-647-7123, rwy@cbmi.upmc.edu) or visit www.cbmi.upmc.edu/iaims/main.htm.

New Technology in the Computer and Media Center

Reaffirming its commitment to provide the Schools of the Health Sciences with innovative technologies, the Computer and Media Center (CMC) in Falk Library has recently added new equipment and media.

The main computing area has added 15 new Dell Dimension 4100 PCs, each containing 1-gigahertz processor chip speed and 128 megabytes of memory, which can meet almost all health science computing needs. For file transfer and storage, Iomega Zip drives are available on all main area and classroom Windows-based computers. The CMC also offers 15 CD-ROM rewritable drives for "burning" large files, and for information archiving purposes. (Remember that you must observe all copyright rules and regulations when using the CD-ROM rewritable drives.)

The CMC also offers six Epson 1240 flat bed scanners. These image scanners provide 1200x2400 dpi (dots per inch) hardware resolution for superior image quality and sharp detail for scanning photos, text or graphics. Epson Transparency Adapters allow scans of positive and negative transparent materials such as 35mm slides, filmstrips, and film up to 4 x 5 inches. Even better suited for slides, the Minolta Dimage Scan Multi is a professional quality film scanner with capability to produce high-resolution scans of film sizes ranging from 16mm to 6x9 cm. Software adds extra functionality to the scanning process. Adobe Photoshop, for graphic manipulation, and Omnipage, for text manipulation, makes the CMC a one-stop-shop for your digital imaging needs. Keep in mind that scanned images may be large in size and may not fit on a floppy disk. A zip disk or CD-ROM Writable disk is suggested for saving large or multiple images.



Support for PDAs (Personal Digital Assistants), or handheld computers, is also available at the CMC. We support Palm OS, which includes brand names such as Handspring, TRG, and Palm Pilot. The first wave of PDA implementation includes providing Hot Synch cradles and cables for Palm 500, Palm V, Palm III and Palm VII compatible equipment. Palm OS desktop software is available, as well as the ability to use other, non-Palm based, linking devices at <http://my.palm.net>. *Documents to Go* Professional Edition software, by Dataviz, allows you to edit and view Microsoft Word documents and Excel spreadsheets on your handheld, as well as 'beam' Word and Excel files between handheld computers. (For an introduction to PDAs, see page 1).

Video capture devices are available in two flavors, digital (DV) or analog (VHS) format. A dedicated Dell Pentium III with 256 megabytes of memory hosts a Pinnacle DC-10 analog video card. Video capture, video stills, and printing to videotape are all possible with the DC-10. Adobe Premiere and Real Producer Pro round out the software options allowing you to create mpegs, AVI's and streaming Real Media files. The digital video format is utilized with the CMC's

new Macintosh computers. Three IMACs, including the special edition DV Imac, a G3 and a new G4, all have the capability of connecting via fire wire to your DV camcorder. Imovie 2, from Apple Computers, is an easy and quick way to produce DV video content.

Many new educational software selections have been added to the CMC's collection. *Iliad*, from ADAM Interactive, is available on all Windows based machines in the open and classroom area. *Iliad* provides expert diagnostic consultations and patient simulations by covering more than 930 diseases and 1500 syndromes. There are 13,900 disease manifestations. *Iliad* acts as an expert consultant that provides a differential diagnosis, or as a second opinion, to critique a presumptive diagnosis. Other recent CD-ROM acquisitions include *A&Lert's USLME Preparation*, *Interactive Dental Office*, *Autopsy Room*, *Core Curriculum in Primary Care*, *Transcultural Assessment for Nurses*, and *Clinical Communication Skills*.

Contact Fran Yarger, Head of Computing Services, at 648-8955 or yarger@pitt.edu for more information about CMC technology.

—Fran Yarger

Schedule of Classes July - August 2001

Introduction and Tour of Falk Library

(Falk Library, meet inside entrance to Library)
 Tuesday, July 17.....11:00am-12:00pm
 Friday, August 3.....11:00am-12:00pm

Searching for Evidence-Based Literature

(Location: Falk Library, CMC Classroom #2)
 Thursday, July 12.....10:30am-12:00pm

Searching MEDLINE on PubMed

(Location: Falk Library, CMC Classroom #2)
 Wednesday, July 18.....1:00pm-2:30pm

MEDLINE Searching using the HSL Online Web Gateway

(Location: Falk Library, CMC Classroom #2)
 Wednesday, July 11.....2:00pm-3:30pm
 Thursday, August 2.....11:30am-1:00pm

EndNote Basics

(Location: Falk Library, CMC Classroom #2)
 Monday, July 9.....1:30pm-3:30pm

Adobe Photoshop for Beginners

(Location: Falk Library, CMC Classroom #1)
 Tuesday, August 7.....11:00am-1:00pm

PowerPoint for Presentations

(Location: Falk Library, CMC Classroom #1)
 Monday, July 9.....1:00pm-3:00pm

Introduction to ProCite Version 5

(Location: Falk Library, CMC Classroom #2)
 Wednesday, July 25.....1:00pm-3:00pm

Health Resources on the WWW

(Location: Falk Library, CMC Classroom #2)
 Tuesday, July 10.....9:30am-11:00am

Getting Started with Netscape

(Location: Falk Library, CMC Classroom #2)
 Friday, July 6.....1:30pm-3:00pm

No registration required. Seating for classes is first-come, first-served until the class is full.

Detailed course descriptions are available at <http://www.hsls.pitt.edu/classes>.

Happy Anniversary, FRIP!

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nearly 2400 terms appear in the index because just one person selected each one. Thus, the index also spotlights unique interests and expertise.

Regular annual updates are crucial to the currency and usefulness of the index. More important than the anniversary of the project itself are the anniversary dates associated with participation by individual faculty. Beginning this month, faculty will receive anniversary notices when one year has elapsed since their last term submission to the FRIP index. The e-mailed notices will remind them how to confirm or update their current term lists over the Web, a process that takes most people five to ten minutes.



University of Pittsburgh
 Health Sciences Information Technology

Faculty Research Interests Project

Faculty Search

Over 1,200 health sciences faculty to date have submitted information to the Faculty Research Interests index. Current participants include faculty from the School of Medicine, the School of Pharmacy, and the Graduate School of Public Health.

The index can be searched by research interest, by faculty name, or by department.

March 19, 2001

Search by Research Interest Term
 Enter the term you want to search for:
 Optional: Restrict your search to:
 -all departments (no restriction)-

Search by Name
 Enter the name you want to search for:
 Optional: Restrict your search to:
 -all departments (no restriction)-

Search by Department
 Select the department you want to search for:

In the past year, index searchers report putting the index to a variety of uses, including:

- Matching faculty with grant opportunities
- Placing students with specific interests in faculty labs
- For new chairs and other faculty, getting oriented to the strengths of one's department and school

Plans to add the remaining three health sciences schools to the project ensure that the index will continue to grow. FRIP is also supporting development of applications that will use index terms to help faculty manage the information environment. In the future, faculty might receive selected, narrowly-targeted information about local lectures and symposia, NIH funding announcements, or HSLs electronic journal subscriptions based on the terms they have submitted to the index.

--Patricia Friedman

HSLs Staff News

HSLs Participation at the Medical Library Association (MLA) Annual Conference, Orlando, FL, May 26-30, 2001

Courses/Invited Paper Presentations

On May 26 **Charles B. Wessel**, HSLs coordinator of Affiliated Hospital Services, presented his six-hour course *Complementary and alternative medicine (CAM) information resources for choices in healing*. On May 27, he was an invited speaker at a joint meeting of the Chiropractic Libraries, Hospital Libraries, Consumer and Patient Health Information Sections, and the Mental Health and the Complementary Medicine Special Interest Groups. His presentation was *Why is complementary and alternative medicine an information oddity, and where are the reliable resources?*

Contributed Paper Presentations

Amy L. Gregg, reference librarian; **Barbara A. Epstein**, HSLs associate director; **Charles Wessel**, HSLs coordinator of Affiliated Hospital Services; **Jody A. Wozar**, reference librarian; and **Linda Burik**, learning center director, Western Pennsylvania School for the Deaf: *Designing a curriculum on Internet health resources for deaf high school students*.

Deborah L. Silverman, assistant director, Resource Management, served as a discussion leader for the Collections & Technical Services Roundtable topic: *If books are down: what is the impact on processes and staffing?*

Catherine Arnott Smith, predoctoral research fellow, Center for Biomedical Informatics, and **Patricia W. Friedman**, reference librarian; *FRIP, the Faculty Research Interests Project: collaborative work for improved collaboration*.

Nancy Tannery, assistant director for Information Services; **Jill Foust**, **Amy Gregg**, **Linda Hartman**, **Alice Kuller**, reference librarians; **Paul Worona**, assistant director for Systems; and **Asher A. Tulskey**, MD, Department of Medicine, University of Pittsburgh: *Use of Web based library resources by medical students in community and ambulatory settings*.

Poster Presentations

Rebecca A. Abromitis, **Linda M. Hartman**, **Alice B. Kuller**, reference librarians: *A model for staff development planning in an academic health sciences library*.

Michele Klein-Fedyshin, UPMC-Shadyside manager of Library Services, **Charles B. Wessel**, HSLs coordinator of Affiliated Hospital Services; **Reed Williams**, former Health Sciences Library and Informatics trainee; **Amy Gregg**, reference librarian; **Paul Worona**, assistant director for Systems; and **Jody Wozar**, reference librarian: *Reconceptualizing the Web: designing and implementing a user-oriented CHI [consumer health information] Web site*.

Staff News

Associate director **Barbara A. Epstein** was invited to attend the Public Health Outreach Forum at the National Library of Medicine in Bethesda, MD on April 4-5, 2001. Attendees explored how health sciences libraries can partner with public health agencies and professionals.

Reference librarian **Patricia W. Friedman** participated in National Library of Medicine 2001 Fellowship Program in Medical Informatics at the Marine Biological Laboratory, Woods Hole, MA, May 27-June 2, 2001.

On Saturday, May 19, **HSLs staff members** joined with other civic volunteers to plant flowers at the entrance to Point State Park, as part of the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy efforts to beautify our city.

Presentations

Michele Burda, consumer health librarian at UPMC Shadyside, presented *Finding and evaluating reliable health information* on May 17 at UPMC Shadyside, as part of UPMC's *Alive and Well Series*.

Jonathon Erlen, curator, History of Medicine, gave a luncheon workshop at the annual meeting of the American Association for the History of Medicine in Charleston, SC on April 21, along with two University of Pittsburgh colleagues, Charles Bender, MD and Thomas Benedek, MD. The workshop title was: *If it quacks like a duck... an alternative way to teach the history of American alternative medicine*.

Michele Klein-Fedyshin, manager of Library Services at UPMC Shadyside, presented *Where can I find more information using the World Wide Web*, at the *New Directions in Arthritis Care* conference, held on May 4 at UPMC Montefiore.

HSLs Librarians **Charles Wessel**, HSLs coordinator of Affiliated Hospital Services, **Jody Wozar**, reference librarian, and **Barbara A. Epstein**, HSLs associate director presented a workshop on *Finding medical information on the Internet* to health & science reporters at the Pittsburgh Post Gazette on May 9.

Book Reviews

Jonathan Erlen, curator, History of Medicine, reviewed eight books in *American Reference Book Annual (ARBA) 2001*.

E-journals Update

HSLs continues to expand its e-journal collection, which currently comprises over 1600 titles. Users can locate e-journals of interest using the Electronic Journals Web page <<http://www.hsls.pitt.edu/php/ejournals.php3>> or *PittCat* <<http://pittcat.pitt.edu/>>.

Newly added titles of interest to the health sciences community include:

American Journal of Epidemiology
Annals of Human Genetics
Anti-Cancer Drug Design
Cambridge Quarterly of Healthcare Ethics
Developmental Medicine and Child Neurology
Human Gene Therapy
Journal of Anatomy
Journal of Clinical Oncology
Journal of Physiology
Molecular Human Reproduction
Neurocase
Occupational Medicine

—Phil Bergen

County Health Data Available Online

Looking for comparative health measures? The Community Health Status Indicators (CHSI) Project <<http://www.communityhealth.hrsa.gov>> was launched in response to requests from local health officials for health data at the local level. This site provides information about health measures by county and compares those health measures to peer counties (counties similar in population composition and selected demographics). CHSI data includes: population characteristics, four summary measures of health; leading causes of death; measures of birth and death; vulnerable populations; environmental health; preventive services use; risk factors for premature death; and access to care.

Health status indicators were derived primarily from statistics of the Center for Disease Control, National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS), U.S. Bureau of the Census, EPA, Health Resources and Services Administration's (HRSA) Area Resource File, HRSA's Bureau of Primary Health Care, and the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA).

University of Pittsburgh
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