

# HSLs *Update*

UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH

*Health Sciences Library System*

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

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## Introducing PittCat for the Consumer

PITTCat for the Consumer, a new 'subset' of PITTCat, is now available to provide easy access to the consumer health collections in HSLs. Most of the consumer-related material is located in the UPMC Shadyside Hopwood Library, and the Patient and Family Education Center of the University of Pittsburgh Cancer Institute (UPCI). The Falk and WPIC Libraries also hold a smaller but expanding collection of consumer health information. PITTCat for the Consumer is a new tool to search all of these collections simultaneously. Patrons can access it directly at <http://www3.hsls.pitt.edu>, or through links from the Health Information for the Consumer Web page <http://www.hsls.pitt.edu/chi>, and the Cancer Resources page

<http://www.hsls.pitt.edu/chi/topics/cancer>. (See article on page 3 detailing the Cancer Resources Web page).

PITTCat for the Consumer offers a simple way of searching via Basic or Advanced Search modes. Basic Search is a pre-configured keyword search, which will explore all HSLs consumer health collections. This default can be changed at any time by following the instructions in

the Help screens. The Advanced Search mode is aimed at users already proficient in keyword searching.

There are several handy buttons and links at the top and bottom of each screen to help with navigating PITTCat for the Consumer. Some work like those in the standard PITTCat (New Search, Return to Titles, Help) and some are new, including:

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## HSLs Year in Review, 2000-2001

Though January is usually the month for reflection and resolutions, the University begins its new fiscal year on July 1. Each summer HSLs staff members take time to review past accomplishments and set new goals. As we look back at HSLs activities, it is evident that we had a busy and productive year. Some of the highlights include:

- Expansion of the digital library, and integration of electronic resources to enhance access to information. The number of health sciences related e-journals increased by 80% over the previous year, and now total more than 1,800 titles, while electronic textbooks now number more than 250. Other new resources include UpToDate, PREMEDLINE, and the Database of Abstracts of Reviews of Effectiveness (DARE).

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# PDA Corner

## PDA Corner



### New HSLs PDA Information Web Page

PDAs or Personal Digital Assistants are now being used in medical schools and hospitals across the country for information management and decision support. Do you want to find out what all of the fuss is about? Are you thinking about buying a PDA? Do you need software to download to your PDA? Answers to these and many other PDA related questions can be found on a new **PDA Information Web page**, provided by HSLs at <<http://www.hsls.pitt.edu/intres/guides/pda.html>>. The page is designed to provide useful links to Web sites that focus on the use of PDAs in health care, as well as sites where medical software is available for downloading. The page is intended to help PDA users from novice to expert. For example, if you are thinking about purchasing a PDA or upgrading your current model, the site can provide you with links to information for comparing the most popular brands. If software is what you are looking for, the site also provides links to Web sites featuring both free and fee-based medical software available for downloading. Check out our new PDA Information Page to learn more.

Please note that the Health Sciences Library System does not endorse or profit from any of the products, services or content provided on the PDA Information Web page.

--Jody Wozar

# PittCat for the Consumer

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-Search UPCI opens a new PITT*Cat* for the Consumer session that limits the search to only the UPCI Patient and Family Education Center collection.

-Search Cancer Topics opens a page with a list of browsable cancer topics – the first of many such pages that HSLs is planning to provide for our users.

-Search All PITT*Cat* opens an introductory PITT*Cat* screen to allow the user to explore all University of Pittsburgh collections.

-Exit takes the user back to the Health Information for the Consumer page.

-Ask Us provides a way to communicate with HSLs or UPCI staff electronically.

PITT*Cat* for the Consumer does not replace PITT*Cat*. It provides a simple and graphically pleasing way of searching the consumer health collections. Our aim is to enable non-academic users to take advantage of an online catalog that is not obscured with multiple options. It can also be an easy way for any newcomer to become more familiar with our online catalog, and learn its basic features before moving on to the more sophisticated services offered by PITT*Cat*.

--Gosia Fort

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**HSLs Update** is produced by the Health Sciences Library System  
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Contact HSLs with questions, comments or ideas at 648-8796, or send email to [medlibq@pitt.edu](mailto:medlibq@pitt.edu).

# AMED and MANTIS Databases Added to HSL Online

## *New Databases Focus on Alternative Medicine, Palliative Care and Allied Health*

Locating information in alternative medicine, palliative care and allied health has become easier with the recent addition of two new HSL Online databases. The University of Pittsburgh and UPMC Health System now have electronic access to the AMED (Allied & Complementary Medicine) and MANTIS (Manual, Alternative, and Natural Therapy Index System) databases.

The AMED database, produced by the Health Care Information Service of the British Library, covers the period from 1985 to the present, and is updated monthly. It includes the subjects of complementary (“alternative”) medicine, palliative care, physiotherapy, occupational therapy, rehabilitation, podiatry and several other professions allied to medicine. More than 510 journals are indexed, many of which are not indexed by any other biomedical database.

MANTIS, a primary health care database, emphasizes health promotion, prevention, and conservative and alternative therapies. It indexes over 1,000 journals, from 1880 to the present, including virtually all peer-reviewed journals from manual, chiropractic, and osteopathic medicine. Covered topics include acupuncture, allopathic medicine, alternative medicine, traditional Chinese medicine, herbal



medicine, homeopathy, naturopathy, and physical therapy. There is particular emphasis placed on research relating to the etiology, physiopathology, diagnosis, and treatment of neuromusculoskeletal conditions, such as low back pain, headache, scoliosis, nerve compression syndromes, and sports injuries. MANTIS is produced by Action Potential Co., and is updated monthly.

Access to AMED and MANTIS is available through OVID via the HSL Online page at <<http://www.hsls.pitt.edu/hslonline>>.

## *Cancer Resources Web Project*

*“We are very excited about the Cancer Topics page, and use it often to find information to answer patient requests as well as to check references.” Kathryn Conrad, MSN, RN, Director of Cancer Education, UPCI*

Since the fall of 2000, the Health Sciences Library System has been collaborating with the University of Pittsburgh Cancer Institute (UPCI) to provide library services for the UPCI Patient and Family Education Center. The UPCI Patient and Family Education Center, located in UPMC Montefiore, owns nearly a thousand

books, tapes and CDs that are available to patients in the UPMC Health System and their families. The HSLs/UPCI partnership was foundational to the creation of the **Cancer Resources Web page**, designed to make information about Cancer Institute patient education resources accessible in a user-friendly fashion.

The Cancer Resources Web project is a modest example of consumer health informatics—a field that analyzes consumer needs and preferences for information, and integrates those needs into medical information systems. Despite the proliferation of Web sites that provide consumer health and patient

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## *HSLs Year in Review, 2000-2001* continued from page 1

- Enhancements to the HSLs Web site. An Electronic Books page, comparable to the Electronic Journals page, was introduced. The Internet Resources pages were redesigned and updated for easier access and maintenance. The Recent Journal issues page was developed to provide a list of the print journals most recently received in Falk and WPIC Libraries.
- Launch of the HSLs Health Information for the Consumer Web site <<http://www.hsls.pitt.edu/chi/>>. The site is structured to promote learning about individual health or disease issues and builds progressively from dictionary definitions, through health topics, drug information, medical tests and procedures, local resources, evidence-based medicine and physician referral sections.
- Expanded activities by librarian liaisons to the Schools of the Health Sciences. Liaisons gave presentations at faculty meetings, marketed library information to new faculty and provided orientations and instruction within the curriculum. In total, references librarians taught about 1,200 health sciences students.
- Assistance to the Institute for Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) for USDA required literature searching. HSLs librarian Alice Kuller, IACUC liaison, performed comprehensive searches for researchers in search of alternatives to painful and distressful animal procedures.
- Continued progress toward “paperless operations” for document delivery. The implementation of Prospero made it possible for users to receive copies of print articles electronically through a Web interface. By June 2001, more than 250 people had received documents through this new service. Online ordering from Ovid was introduced, allowing users to order articles directly from Ovid databases during the search session. In December 2000, color copies became available through HSL Document Express. In the spring, users celebrated the replacement of outdated public photocopiers with state-of-the-art digital machines.
- Ongoing extension of HSLs services into UPMC hospital libraries. The two health sciences libraries at UPMC Shadyside were integrated under HSLs management. These libraries are the James Frazer Hillman Health Sciences Library, and the Hopwood Library: A Health Resource Center for Patients and Families. In addition, ten UPMC hospitals, as well as the UPMC-managed transplant hospital in Italy, contracted with HSLs for access to HSL Online. Charles Wessel, coordinator of Affiliated Hospital Services, taught 38 classes to 581 participants in UPMC hospitals. HSLs also collaborated with the University of Pittsburgh Cancer Institute to provide library technical services for their Patient and Family Education Center collection.
- Continued work on the contract from the National Network of Libraries of Medicine to provide Access to Electronic Consumer Health Information for the Public. HSLs partnered with a variety of target populations, including consumers, public librarians, special needs populations and health educators to enhance public access to health information.

HSLs continues its high-ranking status within the academic health sciences library community. As reported in the *1999-2000 Annual Statistics of Medical School Libraries in the United States and Canada*, HSLs held the following rank as compared with 122 other U.S. allopathic medical school libraries contributing statistics:

Annual Expenditures for Electronic Resources	# 3
Annual Total Collection Expenditures	# 3
Number of Interlibrary Loan Requests Filled for Other Libraries	#11
Total FTE Personnel	#10
Annual Number of Reference Questions	# 2
Users Attendance at Library Orientations and Education Programs	# 7
Number of Publicly Accessible Computers in the Library	# 9

*--Barbara Epstein*

# Integrated Information Matters

UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH

October 2001

## PittHealthSciencesCV Available Soon

Have you ever wondered whom to consult about the implications of new research results that are leading you into areas beyond your expertise? Or who might be able to give that one specialized lecture in a course you are teaching? Or why your department chair, your dean, and the senior vice chancellor all keep asking for the same information about your academic activities? Have you wished for one resource where everyone who needed that information could find it? Well, help is on the way!

The PittHealthSciencesCV (PHSCV), formerly known as the PittMedNetwork (PMN), is a database that contains information about the professional training, activities, and responsibilities of all faculty within the six Schools of the Health Sciences at the University of Pittsburgh. The PHSCV is in the final stages of development and, when completed, will have two components:

- A confidential database that includes the full curriculum vitae (CV) of each faculty member in the six schools. It will be accessible for administrative purposes to a limited number of people by secure intranet;
- A public, Internet version that will contain selected, non-confidential information about each faculty member.

Among the administrative uses of the confidential database are the analysis and review of teaching loads and mentoring activities, committee assign-

ments, service to national organizations, and research activities. Thus, it will facilitate the generation of annual reports about academic activities at departmental or school levels. Alternatively, the public Web site will provide information to colleagues and to the public about research and clinical expertise and interests of Health Sciences faculty. Data from the Faculty Research Interests Project (FRIP) <<http://www.cbmi.upmc.edu/~frip/index.html>> will be incorporated into the PHSCV data. Recognizing that faculty members may not want their full CVs available in the pub-

lic forum, each faculty member will be asked to identify the information on their CV that should not be made public. This new, easy to use, and valuable resource will soon be ready for you to click, type, and read! Watch for information on the Health Sciences Web Portal <<http://www.health.pitt.edu>> announcing the availability of PittHealthSciencesCV early in 2002. Happy browsing!

--Michelle S. Broido  
Assistant Vice Chancellor  
for Research, Health Sciences

http://www.oorhs.pitt.edu/Studio/rf\_PittMed.htm - Microsoft Internet Explorer

PittHealthSciences CV (PHSCV)

Search Clear Update Delete New Basic Info Bio Data CV Search Reports First Previous Next Last

Last Name	First Name	I	E-Mail	Status
Herberman	Ronald	B	herbermanrb@msx.upmc.edu	

Record 1 of 6

Basic Information

Campus Address

Address 1: 3550 Terrace St City: Pittsburgh Phone: 412-648-2255

Address 2: Suite 401 State: PA Zip: 15261 Fax: 412-648-2741

Mailing Address

Address 1: City: State: Zip:

Address 2: State: Zip:

Primary Appointment

School: School of Medicine (SOM)

Department: Pathology

Division:

Institution/Center/Program

University of Pittsburgh Cancer Institute (UPCI)

General Clinical Research Center (GCRC)



# New Look for the Health Sciences Portal

Web developers at the Center for Biomedical Informatics (CBMI) are in the process of redesigning the Web portal for Schools of the Health Sciences, available at <http://www.health.pitt.edu>.

## Background

The Health Sciences portal was initially launched in October 2000. The logic behind creating such a portal is readily apparent, given the progress of Web Development within the Health Sciences at the University at that time. In various schools and offices, independent Web developers were creating resources and Web-based applications to address needs in their own areas. These efforts, while technically successful, were often not well publicized, and unknown to the very users who had need of them. Developers in other areas, unaware of the existence of these resources, would begin projects that failed not only to take advantage of opportunities to build on work already done, but in some cases, duplicated existing projects.

There was a clear need to coordinate these efforts. Our solution was the creation of a single Web site to serve as a logical starting point for users in the Health Sciences. This would also be a convenient site to access existing information and Web applications, and to introduce new resources.

To that end, the Health Sciences portal was conceived as a single interface intended to support clinical, educational, and research activities at the University. It would provide users with pertinent news items, online forms, important links, etc.—in short, “everything they need to do their job.”

## A Work in Progress

The portal is in a constant state of development. The current redesign effort began in April 2001, taking into account user responses. Several review committees were also consulted. This portal will, in time, serve as the cornerstone of an “Intelligent Academic Health Sciences Campus.”

The redesign provides additional functionality in an easy-to-use layout. In the latest version of the portal, emphasis has been placed on a more user-friendly presentation that

makes better use of browser “real estate.” Existing resources will be grouped more logically. As new online resources are developed, these will be incorporated into the portal’s design.

New features in this iteration will include:

- Improved search capabilities,
- An expanded list of useful Internet resources and the means for users to suggest additional links, and
- An online support page.

It is our goal to make the Health Sciences portal the page of choice for users in the Health Sciences. Watch for the new version of the portal (4.0) in fall 2001.

—Louis Nosce  
Web Developer, CBMI

**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, [rwyc@cbmi.upmc.edu](mailto:rwyc@cbmi.upmc.edu)) or visit [www.cbmi.upmc.edu/iaims/main.htm](http://www.cbmi.upmc.edu/iaims/main.htm).

# Announcing New Reference Consultation Service

A new Reference Consultation Service is now being offered by the HSLS Reference Department. This service allows HSLS patrons to arrange a one-on-one consultation with a reference librarian. The purpose of this service is to instruct and advise on specific learning issues and techniques related to the utilization of library resources. A consult could include any of the following: assistance in developing and/or refining a complicated search strategy; guidance in locating an appropriate electronic resource; advice on how to approach a difficult topic; and techniques for using the Web to locate specific information. Reference consultations will serve to supplement, rather than substitute for the library instruction classes offered by HSLS. A schedule of those classes is available at <http://www.hsls.pitt.edu/classes>. Appointments for the Reference Consultation Service can be made by contacting Alice Kuller at 412-648-1971 or [medlibq@pitt.edu](mailto:medlibq@pitt.edu).

--Alice Kuller



Ammon Ripple, HSLS reference librarian, provides a one-on-one consultation for a patron.

## Recent Dissertations in the History of Medicine

A new, monthly current awareness service from HSLS provides a selective list of recent dissertations and theses for the subjects of history of medicine and health care. Jonathon Erlen, curator, History of Medicine, peruses the print copies of *Dissertation Abstracts* to select dissertations and theses in the history of medicine, public health/international health, and biomedical ethics. This compilation of scholarly works is available to HSLS users through the **Recent Dissertations in History of Medicine** Web page <http://www.hsls.pitt.edu/services/histmed/dissertations.html>. Arranged according to broad subject areas (AIDS, alternative medicine, art and medi-

cine, nursing, literature and medicine, pharmacy/pharmacology, philosophy and medicine, woman's health, and religion and medicine), and by the year/month the item was listed in *Dissertation Abstracts*, virtually all of these studies have been completed within the past two years. Authorized Pitt users may follow publication number links from citations to corresponding records in the ProQuest *Digital Dissertations* database, [http://www.library.pitt.edu/resources/database\\_info/digital\\_diss.html](http://www.library.pitt.edu/resources/database_info/digital_diss.html). Through *Digital Dissertations*, complete citations and abstracts may be viewed, and when available, the entire dissertation/thesis may be downloaded for free.

Doctoral dissertations and Masters theses may be considered the lost treasures of current scholarship. Annually over five thousand of these scholarly works are produced at universities and colleges worldwide. Fewer than twenty percent will be published as monographs and less than half will appear in journal articles that summarize a portion of their content. Yet almost all dissertations and theses can be easily acquired, either through *Digital Dissertations*, by borrowing from the degree granting institution via *HSL Document Express* <http://www.hsls.pitt.edu/hsldocumentexpress>, or by purchase through UMI Dissertation Services <http://www.umi.com>. Contact Dr. Erlen at 412-648-8927 or [erlen@pitt.edu](mailto:erlen@pitt.edu) for more information about the Recent Dissertations in History of Medicine Web page.

-- Jonathon Erlen

Services & Collections	
HSLS Home   HSL Online   Forms   EJournal   PITTCAT	
HSL Online	Recent Dissertations in the History of Medicine
Libraries	This page is provided as a monthly current awareness service. Selected, recent dissertations and theses in the history of medicine and health care are listed according to topic and the month of their discovery in "Dissertation Abstracts." Authorized Pitt users may follow publication number links from citations to corresponding records in the "Digital Dissertations" database, where complete citations and abstracts may be viewed, and when available, the entire item may be downloaded for free.
UPMC Library Services	
Classes	<a href="#">History of Medicine Home</a>
Internet Resources	
Services & Collections	<b>AIDS (Social and Historical Contexts)</b> 2001.02 2001.06 2001.07 2001.08
Computer Lab	<b>Alternative Medicine (Social and Historical Contexts)</b> 2001.02 2001.06 2001.07 2001.08
HSL Document Express	<b>Art and Medicine</b> 2001.02 2001.07
	<b>Biomedical Ethics</b> 2001.02 2001.06 2001.07 2001.08
	<b>History of Medicine - prior to 1800</b> 2001.02 2001.06 2001.07 2001.08
	<b>History of Medicine and Health Care</b> 2001.02 2001.06 2001.07 2001.08
	<b>Literature and Medicine</b> 2001.02 2001.06 2001.07 2001.08
	<b>Nursing History</b> 2001.02 2001.06 2001.07 2001.08
	<b>Pharmacy/Pharmacology and History</b> 2001.02 2001.07 2001.08
	<b>Philosophy and Medicine</b> 2001.02 2001.06 2001.07
	<b>Psychiatry/Psychology and History</b> 2001.02 2001.06 2001.07 2001.08
	<b>Public Health/International Health</b> 2001.02 2001.06 2001.07 2001.08
	<b>Religion and Medicine</b> 2001.02 2001.06 2001.07 2001.08
	<b>Women's Health and History</b> 2001.02 2001.06 2001.07 2001.08
Webmaster: <a href="mailto:galweh@pitt.edu">galweh@pitt.edu</a> Copyright © 1994 - 2001 Health Sciences Library System, University of Pittsburgh. All rights reserved.	

# Schedule of Classes: November – December 2001

## Introduction and Tour of Falk Library\*

(Falk Library, meet inside entrance to Library)  
Friday, November 16.....11:00am-12:00pm

## Searching MEDLINE on Ovid

(Location: Falk Library, CMC Classroom #2)  
Friday, November 16.....11:00am-12:30pm  
Tuesday, December 11.....5:30pm-7:00pm

## Searching PubMed

(Location: Falk Library, CMC Classroom #1)  
Tuesday, November 27.....2:00pm-3:30pm

## Searching the PITTcat Online Library Catalog

(Location: Falk Library, CMC Classroom #1)  
Tuesday, November 13.....10:00am-11:00am

## Searching for Evidence-Based Literature

(Location: Falk Library, CMC Classroom #2)  
Tuesday, November 13.....9:30am-11:00am

## EndNote Basics\*

(Location: Falk Library, CMC Classroom #2)  
Monday, November 19.....11:00am-1:00pm  
Tuesday, December 4.....12:30pm-2:30pm

## Finding Information on Psychiatric & Psychological Testing Instruments

(Location: Falk Library, CMC Classroom #1)  
Monday, December 3.....10:30am-12:00pm

## Mental Health Resources on the WWW

(Location: Falk Library, CMC Classroom #1)  
Monday, November 5.....10:00am-11:30am

## Adobe Photoshop for Beginners\*

(Location: Falk Library, CMC Classroom #1)  
Monday, November 26.....9:00am-11:00am  
Friday, December 14.....10:00am-12:00pm

## PowerPoint for Presentations

(Location: Falk Library, CMC Classroom #1)  
Thursday, November 15.....9:00am-11:00am  
Monday, December 17.....11:00am-1:00pm

All classes are open to faculty, staff and students of the University of Pittsburgh schools of the health sciences and the UPMC Health System. 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>>.

## HSLs Staff News

**Matt Berta** has accepted the position of processing assistant in the HSLs Technical Services department. He has worked in the Falk Library Circulation Department since 1998 as a shelver. Matt recently received his Bachelors of Arts degree in Social Sciences, and is planning to attend graduate school here at Pitt.

On September 28, **Charles B. Wessel**, HSLs coordinator of Affiliated Hospital Services, presented his workshop "Complementary and Alternative Medicine (CAM): Information Resources for Choices in Healing" in Buffalo, New York. The Hospital Library Services Program of the Western New York Library Resources

Council and the Upstate New York/Ontario Chapter of the Medical Library Association sponsored the presentation.

HSLs reference librarian **Linda Hartman** has been named to an international nominating committee for the Special Libraries Association. She is one of 5 committee members responsible for selecting a slate of nominees for Association officers and members of the board of directors.

**HSLs staff** raised money for the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation by participating in National Denim Day. In exchange for donations, staff members were permitted to wear blue jeans to work on October 5.

## HSLs: Science 2001

HSLs participated as an exhibitor in *Science2001: A Research Odyssey*. This event, held on the University of Pittsburgh campus on September 12-14, showcased the depth and breadth of significant scientific research taking place at the University. HSLs displayed two large posters. One was a description of HSLs services offered to the University of Pittsburgh and to the Pittsburgh region. The second poster highlighted the Faculty Research Interest Project (FRIP) developed by HSLs and the Center for Biomedical Informatics. FRIP <<http://www.cbmi.upmc.edu/~frip/index.html>> is a searchable index of terms describing current research interests of health sciences faculty. The posters were accompanied by handouts, bookmarks, and information sheets.



## A Special Vision for Special People

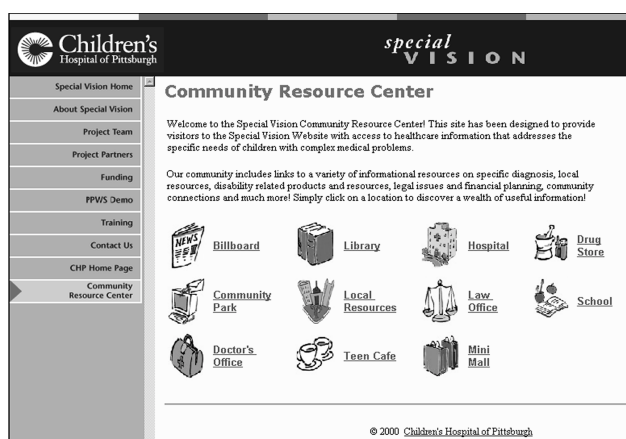
Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh has contracted with HSLs to participate in their federally funded "Special Vision" project. This multi-year project links Children's Hospital providers, patients and their families to condensed personal health records to facilitate the delivery of coordinated care for children with special needs. Special Vision is funded through the Technology Opportunities Program, National Telecommunications and Information Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce. Project Director is Bruce Rosenthal, M.D., Associate Professor of Pediatrics and Director of Clinical Outreach at Children's Hospital.

links are included to explain each child's pertinent medical problems and treatments.

A link to the Special Vision Web site is available from the Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh Home page <<http://www.chp.edu>>. Among the sections within the Special Vision site is an online Community Resource Center (link located on the horizontal navigation bar). The Community Resource Center aggregates Web links relating to disabilities in children in a format patterned after a neighborhood. It gives parents, families, providers and patients access to Web sites that provide helpful infor-

A Harris Interactive study found that 72% of Americans say it's difficult for people living with chronic conditions to obtain necessary care from their health providers. By placing secured personal health records on the Web and allowing access for patients and providers, Special Vision creates an infrastructure for the productive sharing of information. It eliminates barriers while empowering families and providers to work as partners to improve health communication and care for these special children.

--Michele Klein Fedyshin



Special needs children are those suffering from chronic and often complex health concerns such as cerebral palsy or spina bifida. Typically, these children receive care from a wide variety of specialists. Impediments within the communication process can develop among these providers and between providers and families. Special Vision will use a secure Internet connection to improve communication and information exchange for a select group of trial patients by giving the provider team and families rapid access to current Patient Private Web Sites (PPWS). The PPWS contain essential medical and treatment information in a synopsis format. To add to the informative power of the PPWS, educational modules and Web

mation for dealing with the physical, emotional and legal aspects of care. This online "community" forms a network of support for caring and for sharing information.

HSLs staff members Michele Klein Fedyshin, together with contract librarian Patricia Lorenzo, and Amber Knopic work in varying roles on the Special Vision project. Michele oversees the HSLs aspects of the project, and serves on the project's Steering Committee. Pat researches Web links to create disease templates and the "community" resources forming the educational modules. Amber codes the HTML and helps structure the links for the educational components.

## Cancer Resources Web Project

*continued from page 3*

education information, research indicates that it is difficult for consumers to find accurate and comprehensive health information. In addition, health consumers tend to vary widely in both their ability to use technology and to manipulate a sophisticated online library catalog such as PITT*Cat*, which is available at the University of Pittsburgh. To address this need, pre-formulated or 'canned' searches of the library catalog were created. These allow consumers to automatically perform a search of books and other resources about cancer by clicking on a category, such as 'breast cancer' or 'treatment options.' Alternatively, keyword search capability is available, which allows users to type in their own chosen search terms.

The Cancer Resources Web page is located at <<http://www.hsls.pitt.edu/chi/topics/cancer>>. The page is linked to another HSLs initiative – PITT*Cat* for the Consumer – an easy-to-use online catalog for searching all consumer health-related resources in HSLs libraries. (See article on page 1 detailing PITT*Cat* for the Consumer).

--Tamar Smith

## *New Databases Link*

*A new feature of HSL Online is a link titled 'Databases.' A single mouse click on this link provides access to both an alphabetical title listing and links to all individual databases in health and biomedicine available via HSL Online <<http://www.hsls.pitt.edu/hslonline>>.*

## *Bipolar Disorder Conference Presentations Available on Web*

The Fourth International Conference on Bipolar Disorder was hosted by Western Psychiatric Institute and Clinic and convened at Station Square on June 14-16, 2001. Presenters included experts on research and clinical care of bipolar disorder from around the world. All conference presentations were recorded and are now available to anyone with Internet access and RealPlayer software. UPMC Health System Medical Media Services coordinated the recording, formatting, and Web hosting of the presentations. Barbara Folb, WPIC Outreach/Reference Librarian, designed the access page available at <<http://www.hsls.pitt.edu/intres/media/bipolar4.html>>. Most presentations include audio, video, and PowerPoint slides coordinated in such a way that the slides advance automatically as the presentations progress. RealPlayer software, which can be downloaded at no charge from the RealMedia Web site, is required to play the files. Download instructions are included on the conference access Web page cited above. HSLs is pleased to add this valuable resource to the audio files from the 1999 Third International Conference on Bipolar Disorder, which are also available through our Web site.

*-- Barbara Folb*

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