New HSLS Molecular Biology and Genetics Workshops Offered

Have you ever wondered how to find answers to common molecular biology and genetics related problems like the ones listed below:

- What is the reference mRNA sequence for human serine-threonine protein kinase AKT-1?
- What homologous sequences from different organisms are available in Genbank for human presenilin 1?
- What are the symbol, aliases and cytogenic location of mouse cystic fibrosis gene?
- Where is the synapsin III gene in the human genome? What are the flanking markers? Are there any SNPs within the gene?
- The structure of human Apolipoprotein IV is not known. Find a related sequence that has a known structure and view the sequence alignment in Cn3D.

If so, plan to attend one or more of a series of new workshops on the use of molecular biology and genetics software and databases being offered by Ansuman Chattopadhyay, PhD, HSLS information specialist in molecular biology and genetics. Workshops will be held in the Falk Library CMC Classrooms. Dates are listed in the HSLS schedule of classes <http://www.hsls.pitt.edu/services/classes>, or workshops can be scheduled for your group by appointment.

Cited Reference Searching

A simple way to locate this type of information is by cited reference searching. Cited reference searching allows the searcher to locate which authors have used a particular article as a reference source in their work. This is called “citing” an author or work. While many types of resources can be cited, including books, patents, Web pages, and personal correspondence, journals articles are most frequently cited and searched.
Each of the workshops is three hours in length and divided into two parts. Part I (2 hours) includes a lecture and Power Point presentation, while Part II (1 hour) provides participants with an opportunity for hands-on learning. The Power Point presentations will be available via the HSLS Web site for future reference. For additional information, please contact Ansuman Chattopadhyay at ansuman@pitt.edu or 412-648-1297. Descriptions of each workshop are provided below:

**Workshop 1: Information Hubs for Molecular Biology and Genetics**

This workshop provides a general overview of the molecular biology and genetics resources available on the World Wide Web. Special emphasis is given to National Center for Biotechnology Information (NCBI) resources, including:

- Entrez
  - Nucleotide (Genbank)
  - Structure
  - Genome
- Genome Biology Hubs
  - RefSeq
  - LocusLink
  - Unigene
  - OMIM
- Other Genetic Information Resources
  - GeneCards
  - GeneLynx

**Workshop 2: Similarity Searching**

*November 13, 9:00 a.m.-noon in CMC Classroom 1*

This workshop covers the use of sequence similarity searching tools to find statistically significant matches from sequence databases to a protein or nucleic acid including:

- BLAST (Basic Local Alignment Search Tool)
- PSI BLAST (Position specific iterative Blast)
- BLINK (Blast Link)
- VAST (Vector Alignment Search Tool)

**Workshop 3: DNA and Protein Analysis Tools**

*December 11, 1:00-4:00 p.m. in CMC Classroom 1*

This workshop covers major analytic tools available on the World Wide Web for nucleotide and protein analysis including:

- Restriction mapping
- Sequence alignment using CustalW
- PCR primer analysis using Primer3 software
- SwissProt database searching
- European Bioinformatics Institute’s (EBI) Expert Protein Analysis System (EXPASY) Proteomics tools
  - Protein identification and characterization
  - Pattern and profile search
  - Protein-protein interaction search

-- Ansuman Chattopadhyay

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**PDA Corner**

**Introduction to Personal Digital Assistants (PDA)**

*Tuesday, November 5, 1:00-3:00 PM*

Falk Library CMC Classroom 1

An introductory class using Hand Era 330 Palm OS PDAs. Topics include: basic navigation, the Palm desktop, installing and deleting software, memory management, document creators and HSLS PDA resources. Questions? See the HSLS PDA Information page at <http://www.hsls.pitt.edu/guides/pda>.

Instructors: Fran Yarger and Jody Wozar

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**HSLS Update** is produced by the Health Sciences Library System

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http://www.hsls.pitt.edu

Contact HSLS with questions, comments or ideas at 412-648-8796, or send email to medlibq@pitt.edu.
HSLS Complementary and Alternative Medicine Class & Guide

Did you ever want to learn more about tongue diagnosis? Or what phytotherapies work for mountain sickness? Or if there is evidence of the effectiveness of herbal remedies for benign prostatic hyperplasia?

HSLS now offers a Complementary and Alternative (CAM) Resources course that highlights HSL Online resources in complementary and alternative medicine. This hands-on workshop gives an overview of resources including two CAM bibliographic databases—AMED (Allied and Complementary Medicine Database) and MANTIS (Manual, Alternative, and Natural Therapy Index System)—as well as more traditional biomedical databases, such as PubMed’s complementary medicine database subset. The course also covers the best methods for using MEDLINE to locate CAM modalities and phytotherapies. Tools for locating information on natural medicines are discussed, including MICROMEDEX’s AltMedDex system and the Natural Medicines Comprehensive Database. The instructional portion of the class is 1.5 hours, followed by an optional half-hour for practice and questions. In addition, the course has an accompanying Web guide <http://www.hsls.pitt.edu/services/classes/cam> that provides links and a brief overview of HSLS complementary and alternative resources.

The CAM Resources course is offered through the HSLS schedule of classes <http://www.hsls.pitt.edu/services/classes>, or can be scheduled for your group by appointment. For additional information contact the instructor, Charles B. Wessel at 412-648-8730 or cbw@pitt.edu.

--Charlie Wessel

Cited Reference Searching continued from page 1

Cited reference searching can be performed in Web of Science, the Institute for Scientific Information (ISI) database, available through the HSLS Web site at <http://www.hsls.pitt.edu/resources/databases>. Web of Science searches over 8,000 journals dating back through 1992.

To conduct a successful cited reference search, it is helpful to have the following elements: first author’s surname and initial, journal title, publication year, volume number and beginning page number. The first author’s surname and journal title are particularly helpful.

The first step in cited reference searching is to enter your search terms in the Cited Reference Lookup box. Then select possible variations of your reference from the Cited Reference Selection list. These variations are often due to errors such as typos or misprints. The resulting references are then displayed on a Summary page. Every article on the Summary page contains a cited reference matching one of the references selected from the Cited Reference Selection list. In other words, this is the list of articles that have cited the author or work searched. From here it is possible to link to a reference’s full record and view its citation, abstract (if available), cited reference list (or bibliography), full-text (if available), journal impact factor from the Journal Citation Reports database, and other accessible options. You can also print, save, or directly export your results to ProCite, EndNote, or Reference Manager.

Web of Science is a natural language database, and an excellent resource for conducting cited reference searches and general subject searches. For further information about Web of Science, contact the Falk Library reference desk (412- 648-8796, medlibq@pitt.edu), WPIC Library (412- 624-1919, wpicref@pitt.edu) or UPMC Shadyside Libraries (412-623-2441).

--Jill E. Foust
HSLS Role in Redesigned Web Sites

In conjunction with the School of Medicine Web template project described on page 6, HSLS has worked closely with the Center for Biomedical Informatics and the School of Medicine (SOM) to integrate HSLS resources into the templates. The new SOM departmental Web templates offer standardized links to a variety of helpful Web sites, as shown on the Division of Endocrinology and Metabolism Web page, <http://endo.medicine.pitt.edu>, by clicking ‘Links’ in the left column under Academic Resources.

The HSLS links offer useful information customized to each department’s interests. Standard on every page are links to:

- HSLS home page
- PITTCat
- New additions to HSLS collections
- General medical electronic journals
- Subject specific electronic journals and Internet guides

As part of this project, HSLS has also enhanced subject access and the browsability of our Electronic Journals and Internet Guides. These improvements allow you to compile, by subject, a list of available HSLS electronic journals and books, and also browse the electronic journal titles by subject. A full list of the electronic journals and Internet Guides subjects, as well as the other resources, can be found on the library’s Web site under the Resources section at <http://www.hsls.pitt.edu/resources>.

--- Barbara Epstein

HSLS Staff News

Renae Barger began as the Health Sciences Library and Informatics Trainee for 2002-03 on August 15, 2002. Renae earned an undergraduate degree in medical technology from the University of Pittsburgh School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences, and an MLIS at Pitt’s School of Information Sciences (SIS). She has worked as a medical technologist at Magee Women’s Hospital and Clarion Hospital. While at SIS, Renae interned in the Benedum Oncology Informatics Center and volunteered at the Tissue Banking Information System Project.

Zachary Biden is the new Falk Library Stack Manager/HSLS Courier. He recently received a BA in studio arts from Pitt, and previously worked as a student assistant in the WPIC Library.

Carrie Croll has transferred to a position at the Falk Library Circulation Desk. She previously worked as the Falk Library Stack Manager/HSLS Courier.

Rebecca D’Acunto recently joined the WPIC Library staff. Her duties include staffing the circulation desk, processing journals, and bindery functions. Becca is working toward her BA degree in art history at the University of Pittsburgh.

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 4. The event was sponsored by the HSLS Staff Development Committee.

PUBLICATIONS


“Medical informatics: the Pittsburgh experience” was published in Medical Reference Services Quarterly 21(3): 97-105 Fall 2002, by Nancy Tannery, HSLS assistant director for Information Services, Catherine Arnott Smith, and Ellen Gay Detlefsen.

PRESENTATIONS

Charles B. Wessel, HSLS coordinator of Affiliated Hospital Services, and Jody A. Wozar, reference librarian, offered a course “Navigate Your Way to Health Information on the Internet” in October through the University of Pittsburgh’s Center for Lifetime Learning. The course provides a framework for identifying and evaluating health information on the Internet as well as learning how to locate quality Internet sites for answering drug, disease, and wellness concerns.
New Look for the Health Sciences Web Portal

Take a look at the Health Sciences Web Portal: <www.health.pitt.edu>. The portal has taken on a new appearance, preserving all the functions of the previous version, but also incorporating some new features and allowing for expansion in the future. The new appearance of the portal speaks for itself. Highlights of the changes include:

Name Search: Many users have found the portal useful for “one stop shopping” to find people at Pitt and UPMC. The name search function is now at the very top of the portal home page, and a convenient radio button allows you to toggle between Pitt and UPMC directories. Directly below the name search are links to all six Health Sciences Schools, and the main sites for the University and the UPMC Health System.

Beginning with the left column of the portal, the Health Sciences Web Calendar shows the current day’s events and, when there is room, some of the next day’s events. We have established a network of “calendar agents” across the six Schools, and their constituent departments and divisions. Through these contacts, an increasing number of the daily events of interest are being posted.

The middle column of the portal lists available resources for faculty and staff in various sections. “Tools” is the gateway to resources that are part of the health sciences “family” of information technology applications. As more and more of these applications become available in the coming year, they will always be accessible through this position on the portal.

“Downloads” enables you to acquire the most current version of various useful forms such as faculty performance evaluations, the publication notification form, and the conflict of interest forms.

Finally, the “Gallery of Links” is greatly enhanced and contains key links, plus a wide array of additional links organized under topical categories. We invite you to suggest a link. While not all suggested links will be added to the portal, we expect that most will.

continued on page 6
School of Medicine Departmental Web Site Design Templates

As you may have already noticed, some School of Medicine department and division Web sites have a new look. Recognizing the need for departments and divisions to represent their academic, clinical, research and administrative components on the Web, Dr. Charles Friedman, associate vice chancellor, Biomedical Informatics and Ann Metzger, UPMCHS Public Relations, formed a working group to design a Web template solution. The devised template consists of two major parts, academic and clinical, which are further divided into sections pertaining to either the academic or clinical mission of the department.

Once the framework of the template had been devised, it was field tested by several departments and divisions in the School of Medicine (see <http://endo.medicine.pitt.edu>). In a subsequent meeting with School of Medicine department chairs, Dr. Arthur Levine, senior vice chancellor Health Sciences and dean, School of Medicine, requested that those departments or divisions with no Web site, or a Web site in need of an overhaul, incorporate this template into their Web site by the end of summer 2002.

Over the summer, the development team has worked to meet this goal. Working towards a “self service” model, the team has developed an administrative module for the sites. This allows each department or division to build and maintain its own content, and ensures that the information available will be up-to-date. During the course of the development period, the team also updated the general look of the template several times.

This project interacts with other IAIMS initiatives. The new site allows the departments and divisions to list news and events from the Health Sciences Web Calendar (<www.health.pitt.edu>) on their homepage. It also provides links from the faculty profiles within the site to each faculty member’s FRIP (Faculty Research Interest Project) personal Web page. In addition, links to information resources customized to each department’s interests are provided through the Health Sciences Library System (see article on page 4).

To date, ten departments and divisions have elected to use the template, and most sites will be completed and deployed by November.

Stephanie Lunsford
Administrator, Center for Biomedical Informatics

Health Sciences Web Portal  continued from page 5

The right column of the portal lists both internal and external newsworthy items in “Things You Need to Know” and “Scientific News of Interest”. These sections, that are updated frequently, will keep you abreast of developments in the health sciences, the University, the UPMC Health System, and, to some extent, the world of biomedical science.

“Upcoming Events” links you to events Web sites of regional or campus-wide interest.

“Newsstand and Experiences” link you to online versions of campus publications such as PITTMED, Facets, University Times, and HSLS Update. You will also be able to access Web sites, often including video and audio clips, from past events such as the Mini Medical School.

Finally, the Health Sciences Portal is Bobby Approved, using software that identifies and repairs barriers to allow greater Web page access to individuals with disabilities.

Over the next year there will be a further refinement of the portal, called “MyHealthSciences” which will enable you to customize the health sciences portal to your own interests and preferences.

If you have any questions or suggestions about the portal, please contact Charles P. Friedman (cpf@cbmi.upmc.edu), or Webmaster, Nick Soulakis (nds@cbmi.upmc.edu).

Charles P. Friedman
Associate Vice Chancellor for Biomedical Informatics

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, yori@pitt.edu) or visit www.cbmi.upmc.edu/iaims/main.htm.
New Students Receive Warm Welcome from HSLS

During the month of August, the Health Sciences Library System hosted four Open House events for new students in the Schools of Dental Medicine, Medicine, Pharmacy and the Graduate School of Public Health. Approximately 350 students participated in these events.

The purpose of the Open House is to welcome the students to the library while introducing them to our resources and services in an informal setting. A key feature of the Open House is a self-tour with stops at designated areas in the library. The students are guided to each tour stop by a color-coded floor plan and festive color-coordinated balloons. Library staff are present at each stopping point to convey information about the resources and services of that department. Refreshments are available at the last stop on the self-tour, where students can socialize with peers and library staff. Throughout the tour students have the opportunity to

- register for HSL Online passwords,
- receive a brief overview of the PittCat library catalog,
- pick up library information packets,
- receive free gifts including a $1.00 VendaCard,
- learn about the rare book collection,
- tour the Computer and Media Center,
- ask questions

This approach to the orientation process was first implemented six years ago with the School of Medicine, and has expanded over the years to include four other schools. This format provides a unique opportunity for the students to meet and talk with the librarians in an informal setting, while becoming familiar with the library and the services offered. Returning students have reported that it was an informative and memorable experience that made them feel welcome in the library.

Staff from all library departments are actively involved in the Open House effort. We are proud of the cooperation, enthusiasm, and dedication shown by our staff to give new students a warm welcome to Pitt and to the Health Sciences Library System.

--Alice Kuller and Ammon Ripple
HSLS Schedule of Classes  
November - December 2002

Introduction and Tour of Falk Library  
(Falk Library, meet inside entrance to Library)  
Friday, November 15 11:00am-12:00pm

Searching PITTcat Online Library Catalog  
(Falk Library, CMC Classroom #2)  
Monday, November 11 2:30pm-3:30pm

Searching MEDLINE on Ovid*  
(Falk Library, CMC Classroom #2)  
Monday, November 11 1:00pm-2:30pm  
Tuesday, December 10 2:30pm-4:00pm

Advanced MEDLINE Searching on Ovid*  
(Falk Library, CMC Classroom #2)  
Tuesday, November 12 9:30am-11:00am

Searching PubMed  
(Falk Library, CMC Classroom #1)  
Thursday, November 21 10:00pm-11:30am  
(Falk Library, CMC Classroom #2)  
Monday, December 9 1:00pm-2:30pm

Molecular Biology and Genetics Workshop 2:  
Similarity Searching  
(Falk Library, CMC Classroom #1)  
Wednesday, November 13 9:00am-noon

Molecular Biology and Genetics Workshop 3:  
DNA and Protein Analysis Tools  
(Falk Library, CMC Classroom #1)  
Wednesday, December 11 1:00pm-4:00pm

EndNote Basics  
(Falk Library, CMC Classroom #2)  
Wednesday, November 6 1:00pm-3:00pm  
Tuesday, December 3 2:00pm-4:00pm

Introduction to ProCite Version 5  
(Falk Library, CMC Classroom #2)  
Thursday, December 5 1:00pm-3:00pm

Getting Started with Netscape on the World Wide Web  
(Falk Library, CMC Classroom #2)  
Friday, November 8 8:30am-10:00am

Introduction to Personal Digital Assistants (PDA)  
(Falk Library, CMC Classroom #1)  
Tuesday, November 5 1:00pm-3:00pm

Adobe Photoshop for Beginners  
(Falk Library, CMC Classroom #1)  
Thursday, November 21 9:00am-11:00pm  
Friday, December 13 9:00am-11:00am

PowerPoint for Presentations  
(Falk Library, CMC Classroom #1)  
Thursday, November 7 10:00am-noon  
Tuesday, December 10 9:00am-11:00am

Searching for Evidence-Based Literature*  
By Appointment, Contact: Pat Friedman (412) 648-2040

Medical Humanities on the World Wide Web*  
By Appointment, Contact: Jonathon Erlen (412) 648-8927

Health Resources on the World Wide Web*  
By Appointment, Contact: Linda Hartman (412) 648-1479

Mental Health Resources on the World Wide Web*  
By Appointment, Contact: Barb Folb (412) 644-0911

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. Classes which qualify for AMA Category 2 CME credit are marked with an asterisk. Detailed course descriptions are available at <http://www.hsls.pitt.edu/classes>.
A review of HSLS accomplishments during the past fiscal year shows that we offer a wide range of services and resources to our user community. Some of the year’s highlights are listed below:

- **HSLS continued to build its electronic collection.**

As of June 30, 2002, HSL Online included 2,111 unique electronic journal titles, and 299 unique book titles. Notable databases and vendor packages added include AMED (Allied and Complementary Medicine Database), Mantis (Manual, Alternative, and Natural Therapy Index System), TOMES Plus (Medical, hazard, and environmental information for safe management and handling of chemicals), Natural Medicines Comprehensive Database, and Books @ Ovid.

- **HSLS developed innovative tools to facilitate user access to general and specialized collections.**

“PITTCat for the Consumer” <http://kittycat.hsls.pitt.edu> enables simultaneous searching of the consumer health materials held in HSLS libraries and the Patient and Family Education Center of the University of Pittsburgh Cancer Institute (UPCI).

The “Cancer Topics” page, <http://www.hsls.pitt.edu/chi/topics/cancer>, is designed to make it easier for UPCI and other UPMC patients to find and use library materials that contribute to healing and health.

Selected bibliographic records for new additions to HSLS Collections are now enhanced to include table of contents and summary information.


In response to the events of September 11, 2001, librarians developed a Web resource, titled Medical Responses to Terrorism <http://www.hsls.pitt.edu/guides/internet/terror>, that provides links to updated information, full text articles, government documents, and evidence-based information.

Recent Dissertations in History of Medicine <http://www.hsls.pitt.edu/services/histmed/dissertations.html> is a monthly current awareness tool that provides a selective list of recent dissertations and theses in history of medicine and health care.

- **A variety of ongoing programs and new initiatives expanded user awareness of HSLS resources.**

Last year HSLS librarians and staff provided 101 class sessions to 560 attendees as part of the library’s Calendar of Classes. Topics ranged from database searching to multimedia development, with new classes on PittCat and Complementary and Alternative Medicine added this year. HSLS teamed with Drs. Stephen Handler and David McAdams and medical student Andrew Doben to offer a well-attended series of three classes, each offered two times, related to PDA use.

A Reference Consultation Program was started in September 2001. Librarians assist users in identifying appropriate HSL Online resources to support research for grants or publications. Nearly 50 consults were provided between 9/2001-6/2002.

Librarian liaisons to the schools of the health sciences and the Department of Psychiatry gave presentations at faculty meetings, marketed library information to new faculty, and provided orientations and instruction within the curriculum.

The Institute for Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) has partnered with the library for assistance with USDA required literature searching. The liaison to IACUC performed searches for more than 85 researchers at the University. The number of searches more than tripled since last year.

continued on page 10
• HSLS opened the Media Computer Lab in the Computer and Media Center (CMC), in cooperation with the School of Medicine’s Lab for Educational Technology. This lab assists faculty in creating and using instructional technology.

• HSLS offered a variety of services and user education to UPMC hospitals.

The following UPMC hospitals contract for access to HSL Online: Magee Women’s Hospital, UPMC St. Margaret, UPMC Passavant, UPMC South Side, UPMC Braddock, UPMC McKeesport, UPMC Rehabilitation, UPMC Lee Regional, UPMC Horizon and UPMC Italy. The HSLS coordinator of Affiliated Hospital Services offered an active program of orientations, consultations and training sessions at various hospitals, with 435 participants attending 33 classes offered onsite in hospital settings.

• HSLS provided library services at UPMC Shadyside through management of the James Frazer Hillman Health Sciences Library and the Hopwood Library: A Health Resource Center for Patients and Families

Use of library services and resources at UPMC Shadyside has continued to grow since the opening of the remodeled library facility in October 2000. Mediated searching grew by 20% and the number of reference questions nearly doubled. Close to 400 people attended training and orientations.

--Barbara Epstein

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