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Office of Educational Resources
School of Medicine and Health Care Sciences
School of Public Health and Health Services

May/June 2006

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Director's Desk

As the academic year draws to a close, it is a good time to reflect on the Library's activities over the past year. Himmelfarb has seen physical change as the first and third floors have been renovated and rearranged to provide additional collaborative workspace, improved onsite access to electronic resources, and new student lounge space. The Library's collections themselves have become increasingly electronic with the decision to transition to a primarily electronic serials collection. January 2006 saw the introduction of full-text access back to 1995 for Elsevier journal titles held by Himmelfarb. Bound journals older than 1981 have been moved offsite to the WRLC storage center, and current journals shelved with bound titles. Access to Refworks, a web-based bibliography and database manager, is now available to all Medical Center faculty, staff and students. Reflecting the widespread interest in copyright and open access, Himmelfarb launched a scholarly publishing web page (</resources/scholarlypublishing.cfm>) to provide faculty with a means of staying current on these important issues. What does the future hold? While the usual activities of reference, reserves, and collection development will continue, a major goal for the upcoming academic year is improved access to electronic resources. Library liaisons will be calling departments to request the opportunity to review what electronic resources are available to faculty and how to access these resources from on- and off-campus. Student orientations and workshops will focus increasingly on electronic resources within targeted subject areas. The library's web page is being redesigned both to make it easier to identify what resources are available and to facilitate access to electronic resources. Himmelfarb librarians and staff have worked hard to create a strong electronic collection. We look forward to working with you in the year ahead to ensure that this collection is user-friendly and accessible. Please call (202-994-1826) or e-mail (mlbaml@gwumc.edu) me with any questions or feedback on our collection.

Anne Linton, Director, Library Services



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Scholarly Publishing

The scholarly journal publication world has been undergoing some changes during the last few years, and those changes may have an impact on the article submissions for journal publication by faculty members for the future. Due to a number of forces in the publishing world—subscription costs, publisher mergers and retention of copyright to name a few, a number of new models for scholarly publication have arisen to deal more constructively with these factors. A movement called open access is growing larger and larger, and is an attempt to bypass traditional publishers, to address the copyright situation and allow wider maximum access for little or no cost for journal article access. Most open access publications are readily available on the Internet shortly after publication and can be printed or used by anyone without copyright concerns with proper acknowledgement of sources.

To better educate faculty and students about what this means to their upcoming publishing efforts and to allow readers to learn more about the whole open access movement, Himmelfarb Health Sciences Library has added a new link to our Homepage, entitled “Scholarly Publishing”. The new link provides basic definitions of a variety of terms related to open access, shows the efforts of other institutions, and provides a number of articles and links for more detailed information. Clicking on </resources/scholarlypublishing.cfm> will take you directly to the new Scholarly Publishing page. It is also available by clicking on “Resources” on the upper left side of the Homepage, and then under “Additional Resources” halfway down the page. Since Scholarly Publishing is an initiative all who publish will be hearing a lot more about in the upcoming months, we hope the link will provide a place for you to obtain some initial education on open access and serve as a starting place for discovery of additional facts.



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Health Observance Corner

July

UV Safety Month

American Academy of Ophthalmology

<http://www.aaopt.org/aaopt/>

International Group B Strep Awareness Month

The Jesse Cause - Saving Babies from Group B Strep

Group B Strep International

<http://www.thejessecause.org>

Source: National Health Information Center,

<http://www.healthfinder.gov/library/nho/nho.asp?year=2006#m7>



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Database Digest

SCOPUS

Scopus is an interdisciplinary database containing citations and abstracts for articles published in more than 14,200 peer-reviewed journals from more than 4,000 international publishers. It is the largest citation and abstract database in the world. Scopus covers all of the journals in MEDLINE, plus thousands of additional titles.

Scopus has very broad subject coverage and will retrieve articles from the fields of medicine as well as chemistry, physics, mathematics, engineering, social sciences, psychology, economics, and general biological, agricultural and environmental sciences.

This user-friendly, comprehensive database can be easily and successfully searched using keyword/natural-language search methods. Results are accurate and comprehensive, and the interface allows users to scan and evaluate results quickly.

Special features include:

Citation Tracking — For articles published from 1996 on, Scopus provides a list of the articles cited in the bibliographies of each article. For all articles, Scopus provides information on other articles in Scopus that have cited that article. Both citation lists allows users to link immediately to related research published prior to and after a particular article.

Web Search – While searching the database of peer-reviewed journals, Scopus also performs an integrated search of the scientific web.

Full Text — Scopus links to full-text articles in journals held by GWU.

Related Documents – This feature allows the user to conduct a search for all articles in Scopus that share one or more references with the original article.

Scopus can be searched using the Basic Search, Advanced Search, and Author Search features. New users can easily search the database using the Basic Search, which will automatically search the article title, abstract, and keywords for the terms that you provide. You can also use the pull-down menu to select a specific field in which to search for terms (ex. Authors, Source Title, etc.). Basic Search also permits users to limit a search by date (ex. 1990 – Present), by document type (ex. Article, Review, Letter, etc.), and by broad subject area (ex. Health, Life Sciences, etc.).

Advanced Search allows experienced users to use command line language, field codes, and Boolean operators. Codes for common field names are provided as well as a link to a complete list of field names and codes.

Author Search provides fields to enter an author's last name and first name or initials.

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Tuesday, July 4 , 2006 (Independence Day)	Closed
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Saturday-Sunday	9:00 am-Midnight
The Library is open to University Personnel:	
Monday-Friday	7:30 am-6:00 pm
The Library is open to the public:	
Monday-Friday	7:30 am-2:00 pm

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