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University of Utah
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NTC Quarterly Report
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Executive Summary

STAFF CHANGES

Sarah Dickey joined the NTC staff as Program Manager on June 19, 2013.

CLASSES TAUGHT

NTC and NLM taught three sessions of the hybrid class PubMed® for Trainers. The in-person locations were: Bethesda, MD; Farmingdale, NY; and Burlington, VT.

NTC and NLM delivered two sessions of the online class "PubMed for Librarians" in June and July 2013. PubMed for Librarians consists of five 90-minute segments taught via Adobe Connect; participants can choose to attend any of the segments that interest them. The five segments are: "Introduction to PubMed"; "Medical Subject Headings (MeSH)"; "Automatic Term Mapping (ATM)"; "Building and Refining Your Search"; and "Customization - My NCBI."

NTC delivered the online asynchronous class "Teaching with Technology" in July 2013.

CLASSES UNDER DEVELOPMENT

NTC trainers delivered a beta class called "Discovering TOXNET: From Paracelsus to Nanotechnology (Module 1)" from July 22 – August 7, 2013. The beta class covered the following databases: ChemIDPlus; TOXLINE; LactMed; CHEMM; REMM; and Wiser.

The class was taught as a hybrid asynchronous / synchronous class. During the first two weeks of the class, participants worked independently at a time of their choosing. All class activities were posted in Moodle. Class activities included: viewing short instructional videos about TOXNET basics as well as each database covered in this module; completing an interactive tutorial using an online program called "Guide on the Side"; and completing a "discovery exercise" assignment that was handed into the instructors.

On August 7, 2013, the class met as a group via Adobe Connect for a one-hour synchronous session. The instructors reviewed the discovery exercises and answered questions about each database. The class was given three reference questions; working in small groups of two or three, the participants determined the best strategy to answer the reference questions and reported back to the large group. Three staff members from SIS attended the session and participated in answering questions from the group.

Beta class participants included RML staff, several librarians from the NCNLMG Chapter, and two participants from Oak Ridge, TN suggested by SIS staff. Eleven participants registered for the Moodle portion of the class; 8 participants attended the Adobe Connect session. Five participants completed all of the course work.

The feedback collected from the beta class will be used to polish the class content and delivery. The class will be offered nation wide in the fall of 2013.

TECHNICAL CHALLENGES

NTC and NLM trainers experienced minor technical difficulties with Adobe Connect during the "PubMed for Librarians" sessions.

The trainers have noticed that Adobe Connect participants are increasingly asking if they can listen to the session using a computer headset rather than the telephone. The new version of Adobe Connect will allow this for the "PubMed for Librarians" sessions; it can

be set up so that the participants can choose to use either the telephone or computer audio. However, "PubMed for Trainers" requires that participants use the telephone for small group sessions, so we are unable to accommodate the computer audio in that case.

CLASS ATTENDANCE CHALLENGES

The online class attendance rates are an on-going challenge. The attendance rate for the June and July "PubMed for Librarians" sessions were 45% and 67%, respectively. We believe the higher attendance rate in July was due to asking participants to confirm two weeks before, and to sending out several reminders. For future sessions we will follow this procedure.

The course completion rate for "Teaching with Technology" was 49%, which is in line with the expected course completion rates for asynchronous classes.

NTC and NLM trainers are also taking steps to ensure that participants registered for "PubMed for Trainers" are librarians who are training others; we are guiding those who say they only want to learn more about PubMed into "PubMed for Librarians." In smaller markets, it can be more difficult to have enough appropriate participants in the "PubMed for Trainers" class. This is a consideration for the future when planning class locations.

Training Events

TABLE 1. Training Sessions

Session Content	Start Date	End Date	City/State	Trainers	Activity Conducted In-person	Activity Conducted Remotely	# Participants
PubMed for Trainers	7/9/2013 12:00:00 AM	7/30/2013 12:00:00 AM	Burlington, VT	Sharon Dennis, Rebecca Brown Jessica Van Der Volgen	Y	Y	9
PubMed for Librarians - ATM	7/9/2013 12:00:00 AM	7/9/2013 12:00:00 AM	Online	NLM Trainers	N	Y	39
PubMed for Trainers	6/6/2013 12:00:00 AM	6/27/2013 12:00:00 AM	Farmingdale, NY	Sharon Dennis, Rebecca Brown Jessica Van Der Volgen	Y	Y	16
PubMed for Librarians - ATM	6/10/2013 12:00:00 AM	6/10/2013 12:00:00 AM	Online	Rebecca Brown	N	Y	24
PubMed for Trainers	6/11/2013 12:00:00 AM	6/20/2013 12:00:00 AM	Bethesda, MD	NLM Trainers	Y	Y	11
PubMed for Librarians - Building	6/12/2013 12:00:00 AM	6/12/2013 12:00:00 AM	Online	Rebecca Brown	N	Y	31
PubMed for Librarians - Customization	6/14/2013 12:00:00 AM	6/14/2013 12:00:00 AM	Online	Sharon Dennis	N	Y	26
PubMed for Librarians - Introduction	6/25/2013 12:00:00 AM	6/25/2013 12:00:00 AM	Online	NLM Trainers	N	Y	34
PubMed for Librarians - MeSH	7/2/2013 12:00:00 AM	7/2/2013 12:00:00 AM	Online	NLM Trainers	N	Y	41
Teaching with Technology	7/8/2013 12:00:00 AM	8/2/2013 12:00:00 AM	Online	Sharon Dennis, Kay Deeney	N	Y	38
PubMed for Librarians - Building	7/16/2013 12:00:00 AM	7/16/2013 12:00:00 AM	Online	NLM Trainers	N	Y	30
PubMed for Librarians - Customization	7/23/2013 12:00:00 AM	7/23/2013 12:00:00 AM	Online	NLM Trainers	N	Y	30
PubMed for Librarians - Introduction	6/3/2013 12:00:00 AM	6/3/2013 12:00:00 AM	Online	Rebecca Brown	N	Y	32
PubMed for Librarians - MeSH	6/5/2013 12:00:00 AM	6/5/2013 12:00:00 AM	Online	Rebecca Brown	N	Y	31

Cancellations

The NLM class "Toxnet and Beyond" scheduled for May 23, 2013 in Bethesda, MD was canceled due to lack of enrollment.

Self-paced e-learning Products

The NTC trainers created 8 short videos for the "Discovering TOXNET" class. The videos were captioned for 508 compatibility and posted on the NTC YouTube channel. The videos covered the following topics: introduction to TOXNET, LactMed, TOXLINE, ChemIDPlus, CHEMM, REMM, and Wisser. The trainers also created "Guide on the Side" tutorials that covered ChemIDPlus, TOXLINE, and LactMed. "Guide on the Side" is a freely available tutorial shell from the University of Arizona that allows users to read the tutorial instructions in one frame and then perform the actions on the live web site in the other frame. It also allows quiz questions to be added within the tutorial.

Sharon Dennis created 5 videos for the online learning tools section of "Teaching with Technology." The videos were captioned for 508 compatibility and posted on the NTC YouTube channel.

Student Skills Assessment

PUBMED FOR TRAINERS CLASS

A 21 question pre and post-test was administered for the "PubMed for Trainers" class. The average scores for all classes are listed below.

NTC PubMed for Trainers class:

*Pre-test: 66%

*Post-test: 80%

NLM PubMed for Trainers class:

*Pre-test: 63%

*Post-test: 79%

PUBMED FOR LIBRARIANS CLASS

Short four question pre and post-tests were administered for the "PubMed for Librarians" class. The average scores are listed below.

NTC PubMed for Librarians class:

*Pre-test: 74%

*Post-test: 90%

NLM PubMed for Librarians class:

*Pre-test: 72%

*Post-test: 87%

(Note: Data is not available for the first session (Introduction) of the NLM PubMed for Librarians class. The scores listed above are an average of the four sessions where data was available.)

Student Satisfaction Analysis

NTC PUBMED FOR TRAINERS EVALUATION RESULTS

In the first quarter, NTC taught two PubMed for Trainers classes. A total of 28 participants registered; 19 of them took both the pre and post-tests; and 21 filled out the evaluation.

The evaluation results for the fourth quarter are as follows:

Instructor knowledge, preparation, presentation skills and responsiveness to questions:
High (95%); Good (5%)

Participants rating of whether they acquired knowledge and skills they can use: Agree (93%); Somewhat Agree (7%)

Problems with technology: No problems (82%); Trouble getting connected (11%); Trouble hearing (0%); Trouble seeing the screen (7%)

Length of Adobe Connect Sessions: Somewhat too short (7%); About the right length (82%); Somewhat too long (11%)

Felt encouraged to participate in remote sessions: True (86%); False (14%)

Most helpful parts of the course:

*Material related to designing a class (core competencies and rapid design)

*Hands-on exercises and variety of teaching methods used

*Instructors

*Networking with other students

*Detailed PubMed information such as building a search

Least helpful parts of the course:

*More exercises for more practice

*Moodle interface was confusing

Additional Comments:

*"I think the hybrid mode is a great way to learn. It enables people to take the course even if they have other responsibilities because you only had to leave your home or place of business for 1 full day."

*"This was one of the best training sessions that I've ever attended! [The class was a] terrific balance between presentations, group work and assignments to complete on our own. Outstanding job!"

Overall Rating: "A" (75%); "B" (25%)

NLM PUBMED FOR TRAINERS EVALUATION RESULTS

In the first quarter, NLM taught one PubMed for Trainers class. A total of 11 participants registered; nine of them took both the pre and post-test; and 8 participants completed the evaluation.

Instructor knowledge, preparation, presentation skills and responsiveness to questions: High (91%); Good (9%)

Participants rating of whether they acquired knowledge and skills they can use: Agree (100%)

Problems with technology: No problems (88%); Trouble getting connected (13%); Trouble hearing (0%); Trouble seeing the screen (0%)

Length of Adobe Connect Sessions: Somewhat too short (0%); About the right length

(75%); Somewhat too long (25%)

Felt encouraged to participate in remote sessions: True (88%); False (13%)

Most helpful parts of the course:

*Good pacing

*The PowerPoint presentations about the inner workings of PubMed

*The rapid design portion of the class

Comments regarding the least helpful parts of the course:

* Group work

*The core competency discussions

Additional Comments:

"I was somewhat confused by the fact that this course is titled, "PubMed for Trainers", yet it seemed to be (at least at first) for the novice user. This worked out well for me, as I *am* a novice user. However, it would have been helpful to have learned more tips and tricks for teachers, as well as perhaps been given access to some teacher-specific materials."

"Instructors were all excellent, clear and engaging. Participants varied in backgrounds and make the presentations very interesting and varied. Live class could almost be a day and a half. We covered a large amount of material. It also would give us time for longer breaks to network with other participants."

Overall Rating: "A" (75%); "B" (25%)

NTC PUBMED FOR LIBRARIANS EVALUATION RESULTS

NTC taught one series of the "PubMed for Librarians" online synchronous class during the first quarter. The class was taught in five independent segments. The classes had an average attendance rate of 45%. A total of 317 participants registered for at least one segment. 144 participants attended the segment they registered for, and 126 filled out the evaluation questionnaire for the segment.

Instructor knowledge, preparation, and responsiveness to questions: High (85%); Good (14%); Fair (1%)

Participants rating of whether they acquired Knowledge and skills they can use: Agree (92%); Somewhat Agree (8%)

Comments regarding the most helpful parts of this course:

*Hands on exercises.

*Creating custom filters.

*ATM section.

Comments regarding the least helpful parts of this course:

*Pacing was too fast at times.

*Need more exercises.

Additional Comments:

*"Great instructor - well prepared - kept the pace going - answered questions as they arose - very informative and well worth my time!"

*"Please make it clear in the course description that much of this class is at an entry level. Although I did learn some useful techniques, overall I feel the class was not intended for people in my position."

Overall Rating: "A" (84%); "B" (16%)

NLM PUBMED FOR LIBRARIANS EVALUATION RESULTS

NLM taught one series of the "PubMed for Librarians" online synchronous class during the first quarter. The class was taught in five independent segments. The classes had an average attendance rate of 67%. A total of 261 participants registered for at least one segment. 174 participants attended the segment they registered for, and 163 filled out the evaluation questionnaire for the segment.

Instructor knowledge, preparation, and responsiveness to questions: High (85%); Good (14%); Fair (1%)

Participants rating of whether they acquired knowledge and skills they can use: Agree (91%); Somewhat Agree (9%)

Most helpful parts of this course:

*Creating custom filters

*The hands on exercises

*Examples for each concept

Comments regarding the least helpful parts of this course:

*Trying to do hands-on exercises and listen at the same time

*Technical problems with Adobe Connect

*Having to call in with the telephone instead of using computer audio

Additional Comments:

*"Well paced. I'm a busy hospital librarian--these 1 hour sessions are very helpful. With long sessions I have too many interruptions."

*"As a long time PubMed searcher, I am very grateful I attended these sessions. I have picked up new skills at every session, which was expected. PubMed as a database had grown a lot, adding more and more helpful features. Just wanted to take this opportunity to thank all of those who work behind the scene!!"

Overall Rating: "A" (82%); "B" (17%)

NTC TEACHING WITH TECHNOLOGY EVALUATION RESULTS

NTC taught one "Teaching with Technology" class in the first quarter. Thirty-seven participants joined Moodle and completed some portion of the class; 18 completed the course work; and 17 filled out the evaluation.

The evaluation results for the first quarter are as follows:

Instructor knowledge, preparation, and responsiveness to questions: High (86%); Good (14%)

Participants rating of whether they acquired knowledge and skills they can use: Agree (82%); Somewhat Agree (18%)

Most helpful parts of the course:

- *Instructor presentations

- *Hands on exercises and playing with the online learning tools

- *Networking with other students

Least helpful parts of the course:

- *Threaded discussions can be difficult to follow

- *More time to complete assignments needed

Additional Comments:

- *"Thanks for the creative ideas and thoughtful readings. Best part of the class was playing around with new tools."

- *"I recommend encouraging participants in the class to do the WebEx assignment with one another."

- *"I really learned about a lot of new tools that I think would be great to incorporate into my instruction! I also learned more about adult learning, and about online education in general, which is great."

Overall Rating: "A" (94%); "B" (6%)

NTC Web site

No activity this quarter other than routine maintenance.

Google Analytics statistics show that the most popular NTC web page is the "Tutorials and Recordings" page, which received 1,382 views in this quarter.

MLA Educational Clearinghouse Activities

No activity this quarter.

Collaboration with NN/LM staff

Enhancements to the National Training Registration Page (NTRP) system in this quarter included:

*Final development of a "heat map" report; the report displays a color-coded map of the United States and shows how many class participants are located in each state. The map is interactive so that the number of participants appear when users "mouse over" the state. HTML code is available so that the map can be displayed on a web site or blog. The RMLs can also filter the report to show members in their region who attended classes in other regions.

*The Disaster Information Management Research Center (DIMRC) is now using the NTRP as their class registration system.

Matthew Steadman presented new features of the NTRP and answered questions during the Web-DEV in-person meeting in Boston, MA, on May 2, 2013.

Marketing and Promotional Activities

NTC continued to publish blog entries, Twitter posts, and Facebook posts. As of July 30, 2013, NTC had 123 followers on Twitter and 104 likes. During the fourth quarter NTC staff published thirteen blog posts.

The NTC promotional materials created in Base Year 1 were used to assist host sites with promoting "PubMed for Trainers" and "TOXNET and Beyond."

Other

May 2, 2013: Sharon Dennis and Matthew Steadman attended the Web-DEV meeting in Boston, MA.

May 3, 2013: Sharon Dennis, Rebecca Brown and Matthew Steadman attended the NN/LM Director's Meeting in Boston, MA.

May 4, 2013: Sharon Dennis attended the MLA CE class, "Bioinformatics for Librarians" (6 MLA CE credits) in Boston, MA.

May 5-8, 2013: Sharon Dennis and Rebecca Brown attended the annual Medical Librarian Association (MLA) conference in Boston, MA.

May 6, 2013: Rebecca Brown and Sharon Dennis presented the poster entitled, "Blended vs. Asynchronous Classes: Comparing Completion Rates" at the Medical Library Association annual conference in Boston, MA.