

01-MAY-14 – 31-JUL-14
University of Utah
HHS-N-276-2011-00011-C
NTC Quarterly Report
Date Submitted: 21-AUG-2014

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Executive Summary

STAFF CHANGES

None.

CLASSES TAUGHT

PUBMED® CLASSES

NTC taught three sessions of the hybrid class PubMed for Trainers; the in-person locations were: Philadelphia, PA; Lincoln, RI; and Minneapolis, MN. NLM taught one session of PubMed for Trainers in Bethesda, MD.

NTC delivered one complete series of the online class "PubMed for Librarians" in May 2014. 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."

CLASS DEVELOPMENT

PUBMED FOR TRAINERS

The NTC produced a report showing the evaluation results related to the instructional design content of the PubMed for Trainers classes taught from June 2013 to June 2014. Based on an analysis of the feedback from the evaluations, NTC and NLM trainers discussed changes to the instructional design portion of the class. The trainers decided to offer the instructional design portion of the class as an optional module. Changes will be implemented beginning in October 2014.

DISCOVERING TOXNET®

The TOXNET interface underwent a major redesign in May 2014. NTC worked on updating the online "Discovering TOXNET" class tutorials and videos to reflect the changes. In addition, NTC trainers worked on a redesign of the "Discovering TOXNET" asynchronous class. The class will be taught in a modular format. Participants will choose the databases that interest them and receive MLA CE credit based on the modules they complete. The class, previously taught in two separate modules, will be taught in one 4-week asynchronous session. The next session will be October 20 – November 14, 2014.

NCBI DATABASE CLASS

Planning began for the 2015 offering of the "Librarian's Guide to NCBI" in-person 5-day workshop and the online pre-course "Fundamentals of Bioinformatics and Searching." Completion of the pre-course is required for participants to attend the in-person workshop. The 5-day workshop will be taught in Bethesda, MD from March 9-13, 2015; the online pre-course will be taught from January 12 – February 13, 2015.

Potential participants are required to fill out an online application form and to submit a supervisor's statement of approval. Applicants must specify what they hope to gain from the class and commit to the time needed to complete the coursework.

A "Save the Date" announcement was released on May 15, 2014; the announcement was published in the NLM Technical Bulletin and sent to the MLA MEDLIB-L listserv. Applications will be open on September 29, 2014.

TECHNICAL CHALLENGES

We experienced minimal technical difficulties during online sessions in this quarter.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

PUBMED FOR TRAINERS USERS' GROUP

During the first quarter of the contract year for Option Year 3, the PubMed for Trainers Users' Group met twice. There were 22 attendees on June 20, 2014 and 36 attendees on July 8th. There was no May session scheduled due to the MLA annual conference held in mid-May. We try to hold the Users' Group on the third Friday of each month, schedules permitting. After sending email reminders, the NTC often receives emails from group members thanking us for holding the online sessions. We also hear from people when they are unable to attend, but want to express their gratitude for the opportunity.

In addition to NTC trainers attending the sessions, several NLM staff members attend. We believe their presence is a great selling point for the Users' Group because NLM can provide additional background information and support for attendees.

On July 9, 2014 we moved the Users' Group announcement list from Moodle to a listserv hosted by the University of Utah List Service. The current Moodle member list was exported into an Excel spreadsheet, and then imported into the listserv. The process occurred in the background so as not to concern list members. As of the writing of this report, there are 540 members in the group.

The next PubMed Users' Group is scheduled for August 22, 2014.

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	7/15/2014 12:00:00 AM	7/30/2014 12:00:00 AM	Minneapolis, MN	Sharon Dennis, Rebecca Brown, Jessi Van Der Volgen	Y	Y	20
PubMed for Librarians - Introduction	5/1/2014 12:00:00 AM	5/1/2014 12:00:00 AM	Online	Rebecca Brown	N	Y	33
PubMed for Librarians - MeSH	5/5/2014 12:00:00 AM	5/5/2014 12:00:00 AM	Online	Jessi Van Der Volgen	N	Y	49
PubMed for Librarians - Automatic Term Mapping	5/7/2014 12:00:00 AM	5/7/2014 12:00:00 AM	Online	Rebecca Brown	N	Y	33
PubMed for Librarians - Building and Refining Your Search	5/12/2014 12:00:00 AM	5/12/2014 12:00:00 AM	Online	Jessi Van Der Volgen	N	Y	40
PubMed for Librarians - Customization	5/14/2014 12:00:00 AM	5/14/2014 12:00:00 AM	Online	Rebecca Brown	N	Y	43
PubMed for Trainers	6/4/2014 12:00:00 AM	6/24/2014 12:00:00 AM	Philadelphia, PA	Sharon Dennis, Rebecca Brown, Jessi Van Der Volgen	Y	Y	18
PubMed for Trainers	6/5/2014 12:00:00 AM	6/27/2014 12:00:00 AM	Lincoln, RI	Sharon Dennis, Rebecca Brown, Jessica Van Der Volgen	Y	Y	8
PubMed for Trainers	6/17/2014 12:00:00 AM	6/26/2014 12:00:00 AM	Bethesda, MD	NLM Trainers	Y	Y	9

Cancellations

No classes were canceled this quarter.

Self-paced e-learning Products

Due to the TOXNET interface redesign in May 2014, we removed outdated TOXNET tutorials and videos from the "Tutorials and Recordings" page of the NTC web site and from the NTC YouTube channel. The tutorials and videos will be added to the web page after being updated by the NTC trainers. All tutorials will be updated by October 2014.

Jessica Van Der Volgen created a short video for the NTC blog entitled, "Displaying Author Information in PubMed." The video showcased a quick tip on how to have author affiliation information in PubMed open or closed by default when signed in to a My NCBI account.

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: 70%

*Post-test: 83%

NLM PubMed for Trainers class:

*Pre-test: 60%

*Post-test: 88%

PUBMED FOR LIBRARIANS CLASS

A short three or four question pre and post-test was administered for the "PubMed for Librarians" class. The average scores are listed below.

NTC PubMed for Librarians class:

*Pre-test: 67%

*Post-test: 88%

NTC PUBMED FOR TRAINERS EVALUATION RESULTS

In the first quarter, NTC taught three PubMed for Trainers classes. A total of 56 participants registered; 41 of them took both the pre and post-tests; and 41 filled out the evaluation.

The evaluation results for the first quarter are as follows:

Instructor knowledge, preparation, presentation skills and responsiveness to questions:
High (94%); Good (6%)

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

Problems with technology:

No problems (93%); Trouble getting connected (5%); Lack of adequate equipment (2%)

Length of Adobe Connect Sessions:

About the right length (88%); Somewhat too long(10%); Somewhat too short (2%)

Felt encouraged to participate in remote sessions:

True (87%); False (13%)

Most Helpful Parts of the Course

*Knowledgeable instructors

*Search exercises

*Planning a teaching session

Least Helpful Parts of the Course

*Some content too basic

*Rapid design exercises

*Pacing too fast

Additional Comments

"I'm really glad I took this course, although I found it a bit difficult to get used to Moodle (first time user). Nonetheless I got better over time. Loved finding out about the free Poll software. In the end everything tied together, but having us post two real life search questions and then not use them until the face-to-face class seemed out of synch. Also, as much as the Rapid Design process is effective I think most of the groups were unable to put an outline together during class time in the time allotted. I think everyone 'got' what had to be done, though. Both Sharon and Jessi have a firm grasp of the finer points of PubMed and other NLM services and products, and are highly effective presenters comfortable with the technologies used."

"The instructors style complemented and responded well to each other and made it a very enjoyable and informative course. Technology worked well. I was able to do it and I had never used this system of Moodle nor Adobe Connect."

"Updated old skills and gained new ones with planning a training a teaching session."

"Just having very knowledgeable instructors and ideas about how to design objectives/goals and think critically about the curriculum. I also liked watching Jessie give feedback to each group and see how she found something unique and encouraging to say about each one."

Overall Rating: "A" (88%); "B" (12%)

NLM PUBMED FOR TRAINERS EVALUATION RESULTS

In the first quarter, NLM taught one PubMed for Trainers classes. A total of 13 participants registered; 6 of them took both the pre and post-tests; and 8 filled out the evaluation.

The evaluation results for the first quarter are as follows:

Instructor knowledge, preparation, presentation skills and responsiveness to questions: High (72%); Good (25%); Fair (3%)

Participants rating of whether they acquired knowledge and skills they can use: Agree (88%); Somewhat Agree (12%)

Problems with technology:

No problems (50%); Trouble hearing (50%)

Length of Adobe Connect Sessions:

About the right length (50%); Somewhat too long (50%)

Felt encouraged to participate in remote sessions:

True (88%); False (12%)

Most Helpful Parts of the Course

*Learning how PubMed operates

*Hands-on search exercises

Least Helpful Parts of the Course

*Rapid design section

*Group work

Additional Comments

"I really appreciated the opportunity to participate in this course and I plan to sign up for additional appropriate courses in the future. Please continue to offer these as they are an effective professional development training option for me."

Overall Rating: "A" (63%); "B" (25%); "C" (12%)

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 76%. A total of 262 participants registered for at least one segment; 198 participants attended the segment they registered for; and 171 filled out the evaluation questionnaire for the segment.

The evaluation results for the first quarter are as follows:

Instructor knowledge, preparation, and responsiveness to questions:

High (87%); Good (12%); Fair (1%)

Participants rating of whether they acquired Knowledge and skills they can use:

Agree (94%); Somewhat Agree (5%); Somewhat Disagree (1%)

Most Helpful Parts of the Course:

*Instructor pacing and explanations

*Hands on exercises

*Learning about sub-headings

*Learning what quotations do

*Learning about Subject subsets

*NLM catalog

*Being able to ask questions

Least Helpful Parts of the Course:

*Clinical Queries could have used more in depth explanation

*Wanted a little more detail on how ATM on Pubmed differs from similar feature that are available when MEDLINE is offered via other platforms

* Not enough time to complete exercises

Additional Comments:

*"Pace might have been quicker overall. The instructor did a good job of telling us where to look for banners, icons, menus, etc., that are on the PubMed site. It would be helpful to do the same when the instructor refers to the action of her own cursor. It was a good thing to have a team of assistants (co-instructors?) to field questions with minimal interruption. Thank you all!"

*"Maybe have an agenda for everyone to view and follow along as you present."

*"Is there any way to create tutorials/screencasts online of the material covered in PubMed for Librarians for Librarians who have taken the PubMed for Trainers class? Some of the duplicate material could be excluded and more in-depth case study examples could be provided."

*"Instructor was EXCELLENT! I was a secondary math teacher and I don't make that claim often or lightly."

Overall Rating: "A" (82%); "B" (17%); "C" (1%)

NTC Web site

Web-STOC began testing a new server (Oscar) in July 2014. Matthew Steadman worked on testing the security certification on Oscar for the registration system and for the NTC WordPress pages.

Matthew Steadman discovered that the "Guide on the Side" software used for the "Discovering TOXNET" tutorials had a vulnerability that allowed spam to be sent through the system; he was able to fix the vulnerability.

MLA Educational Clearinghouse Activities

No activity this quarter.

Collaboration with NN/LM staff

Matthew Steadman progressed with the Moodle / NTRP integration project, which links the registration system to the Moodle registration so that participants will automatically be registered for Moodle after signing up for a class using the NTRP. The integration project is working on the development server; following testing and bug fixes on the development server, the system will go live in the second quarter of OY3.

Web-STOC is moving forward with the conversion to the Drupal content management system. Although NTC will continue to use WordPress for its web site for the foreseeable future, the NTRP is impacted by the move to Drupal since the class registration form for the NTC and for the regions will need to work with Drupal. Matthew Steadman created a Drupal test server in order to begin working on converting the regional registration forms to a Drupal format.

Matthew Steadman gave presentations to the NN/LM staff at the Web-STOC Developers Meeting and the Joint Coordinators' breakout session of the Director's Meeting on May 15 and 16, 2014, respectively. He demonstrated the Moodle integration features and also asked for feedback regarding the NTRP.

Additional activities related to the National Training Registration Page (NTRP) system in this quarter included:

- * DIMRC classes continue to close randomly. The cause has been investigated again and still has not been discovered. Matthew Steadman monitors the classes so that whenever the classes are closed they are immediately re-opened, but the bug still exists.
- * Fixed a bug that was causing classes with a registration deadline after the first day of a class, but before the last day of a class, to close prematurely.
- * An additional sorting option added to class schedule page, so that classes can be sorted with the Open classes at the top of the page and the "Registration Closed" classes at the bottom. This feature was added at the request of the RMLs.
- * The Greater Midwest Region (GMR) was receiving spam registrations; this issue was resolved.

Marketing and Promotional Activities

During the first quarter, NTC published 29 blog posts, on target for the goal of two posts per week. Blog posts covered updates TOXNET and PubMed, class announcements, teaching tools and tips, polls, and presentation tips. In the blog posts, the NTC shared 7 videos, including one created by the NTC. During the quarter, there were 8,020 views of the blog, and an average of 87.3 views per day. This is an increase of 26 views per day, or 42.6% over the same quarter in 2013. A feed of the NTC blog was also added to the Association of Rhode Island Health Science Libraries Blogs We Love page (<http://nahsl.libguides.com/content.php?pid=407323&sid=4393870>).

At the end of the quarter, NTC had 150 likes on Facebook (up from 137 in April), and 248 followers on Twitter (up from 218 in April). On Twitter, our tweets were retweeted at least 30 times. Links shared on Twitter are often clicked on, especially those that mention @NCBI. In addition to retweets and clicked links, NTC tweets were favorited 29 times.

One PubMed for Trainers participant even used Twitter to let others know about a good experience with the class.

Other

Matthew Steadman attended the Web-STOC Development Meeting on May 15, 2014 in Chicago, IL. He gave a presentation about the Moodle / NTRP integration project and asked for NTRP feedback at the meeting.

Sharon Dennis, Jessica Van Der Volgen, Rebecca Brown, and Matthew Steadman attended the NN/LM Director's Meeting on May 16, 2014 in Chicago, IL. Matthew Steadman gave a presentation about the Moodle / NTRP integration project and asked for NTRP feedback at Joint Coordinator's breakout session.

Jessica Van Der Volgen attended the Annual Meeting of the Medical Library Association from May 17-21, 2014 in Chicago, IL.

Jessica Van Der Volgen is a member of the Medical Library Association Continuing Education committee. She attended the committee meeting on May 21, 2014 in Chicago, IL.

Rebecca Brown is a standing member of the Continuing Professional Development and Workplace Learning section (CPDWL) for the International Federation of Library Associations (IFLA). Committee membership is a 4-year term. Ms. Brown wrote a short piece for the committee's June 2014 newsletter titled: "Building a High-Quality Professional Development Opportunity." The inspiration for the article came from a checklist originally developed by the University of Kansas Center for Research on Learning. The article can be found on page 12 at:
http://www.ifla.org/files/assets/cpdwl/newsletters/cpdwl_newsletter_june14.pdf