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University of Utah
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NTC Quarterly Report
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Executive Summary

STAFF CHANGES

Matthew Steadman, NTC Web Developer, reduced his time from .75 FTE to .50 FTE. He is also working .50 FTE for the MidContinental Region.

CLASSES TAUGHT

The NTC and NLM taught 3 sessions of the hybrid class PubMed® for Trainers. The in-person locations for the sessions were Bethesda, MD; Portland, OR; and Worcester MA.

The NTC taught one session of the in-person TOXNET® and Beyond class in Portland, OR.

Sharon Dennis and Kay Deeney from the Pacific Southwest Region taught a session of the five-week asynchronous online class "Teaching with Technology: Tips, Techniques, and Tools." The class began on July 23, 2012 and will be completed on August 20, 2012.

CLASSES UNDER DEVELOPMENT

PubMed for Librarians

PubMed for Librarians is a new online class under development. The class will be offered in 1-hour segments via Adobe Connect. Participants can choose to attend any of the segments that interest them.

NTC trainers taught two beta classes for segments 1 and 2 of PubMed for Librarians. The class participants were solicited from the Outreach and Education Coordinators group. Ten people participated. Following the beta class, the NTC trainers made changes to the class script based on feedback from the beta participants and NLM trainers. We also determined that segment 1 had too much content for one hour, and decided to offer five segments rather than four as originally planned. A new class outline was developed for NLM approval.

NCBI Training

Janet Zipser and Sharon Dennis met with Eric Sayers and Peter Cooper from NCBI to discuss plans for NCBI database training tailored to librarians. The group also met with Dr. Diane Rein, who has developed biomedical informatics searching classes for librarians, to decide how best to collaborate.

Plans call for an in-person, 5-day workshop at NLM in Bethesda, MD, during March 2013. The workshop will be taught by NCBI staff in collaboration with Dr. Rein. As a prerequisite to the 5-day workshop, participants will be required to take an online, asynchronous class called "Fundamentals of Bioinformatics and Searching" in February 2013 taught by Dr. Rein.

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	5/30/2012 12:00:00 AM	6/21/2012 12:00:00 AM	Portland, OR	Sharon Dennis, Sharon Brown, Rebecca Brown	Y	Y	22
PubMed for Trainers	6/28/2012 12:00:00 AM	7/17/2012 12:00:00 AM	Worcester, MA	Sharon Dennis, Sharon Brown, Rebecca Brown	Y	Y	20
PubMed for Trainers	7/10/2012 12:00:00 AM	7/19/2012 12:00:00 AM	Bethesda, MD	Janet Zipser, Katherine Majewski, Liz Frost, Margaret McGhee	Y	Y	16
TOXNET and Beyond	6/22/2012 12:00:00 AM	6/22/2012 12:00:00 AM	Portland, OR	Sharon Dennis, Sharon Brown, Rebecca Brown	Y	N	14

Cancellations

One NLM "TOXNET and Beyond" class was canceled due to the lack of registered participants:

TOXNET and Beyond: Bethesda, MD, 06/06/2012

Self-paced e-learning Products

No activities this quarter.

Student Skills Assessment

A 22-question pre- and post-test was administered for the "PubMed for Trainers" class. The averaged scores for all classes are listed below.

NTC PUBMED FOR TRAINERS CLASS

*Pre-test: 70%

*Post-test: 81%

NLM PUBMED FOR TRAINERS CLASS

*Pre-test: 59%

*Post-test: 82%

Student Satisfaction Analysis

NTC PUBMED FOR TRAINERS CLASS

In the first quarter, NTC taught a total of two PubMed for Trainers classes. A total of 43 participants registered; 30 of them took both the pre- and post-tests; and 28 filled out the evaluation.

The evaluation results for the first quarter are as follows:

Instructor knowledge, preparation, presentation skills and responsiveness to questions: High (87%); Good (10%); Fair (3%)

Participants rating of whether they acquired knowledge and skills they can use: Agree (94%); Somewhat agree (3%); Disagree (3%)

Use of technology:

Problems with technology: No problems (86%); Trouble getting connected (10%); Trouble hearing (4%); Trouble seeing the screen (0%); Did not have adequate equipment (0%)

Length of Adobe Connect sessions: Somewhat too short (7%); About the right length (76%); Somewhat too long (14%); Much too long (3%)

Felt encouraged to participate in remote sessions: True (93%); False (7%)

Most helpful parts of the course:

*Concrete examples, clarity of presentations, technical accuracy and background information

*Active learning, pre-session tutorials, open and accessible instructors

*Having remote sessions as well as the in-person class

Least helpful parts of the course:

*Want to learn more about how to teach PubMed, not what to teach

*Would like more train-the-trainer materials including an outline or PowerPoint slides

*Not enough feedback on problem questions

Additional comments:

*Would like to have access to updated course materials and have access to individual instructors

*Liked the class layout: 3 online sessions and one in-person session

Overall Rating: "A" (71%); "B" (23%); "C" (3%); "F" (3%)

NLM PUBMED FOR TRAINERS CLASS

In the first quarter, NLM taught one PubMed for Trainers class. A total of 16 participants registered; 11 of them took both the pre- and post-tests; and 10 filled out the evaluation.

The evaluation results for the first quarter are as follows:

Instructor knowledge, preparation, presentation skills and responsiveness to questions: High (93%); Good (7%)

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

Use of technology:

Problems with technology: No problems (90%); Trouble getting connected (0%); Trouble hearing (0%); Trouble seeing the screen (5%); Did not have adequate equipment (5%)

Length of Adobe Connect sessions: Somewhat too short (0%); About the right length (40%); Somewhat too long (60%); Much too long (0%)

Felt encouraged to participate in remote sessions: True (100%); False (0%)

Most helpful parts of the course:

*Active learning techniques successfully applied, both online and in-person using very complex content

*PubMed search strategies and topics about MeSH were helpful

*Evidence based medicine resources

Least helpful parts of the course:

*Online and in-person could have been shorter or dropped unless directly applicable

*2-hour web sessions too long - maybe shorten web sessions and add another web session

*Session 1 too long and too basic – consider pre-session 1 optional for those not familiar or need refresher

Additional comments:

*Overall, I felt the program met my expectations

*Need more time to complete web exercises and homework

Overall Rating: "A" (80%); "B" (20%)

NTC TOXNET AND BEYOND CLASS

NTC taught one TOXNET and Beyond class. A total of 15 participants registered; and 11 filled out the evaluation.

The evaluation results for the first quarter are as follows:

Instructor knowledge, preparation, presentation skills and responsiveness to questions:
High (66%); Good (34%)

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

Most helpful parts of the course:

- *Live demos of databases with hands-on exercises
- *Having someone to help during hands-on exercises
- *Introduction to a variety of TOXNET databases

Least helpful parts of the course:

- *History of TOXNET information was too much
- *Too much talking and not enough hands-on exercises
- *Less slides

Additional comments:

- *Was often lost from screen to screen. Would like the instructor to leave the cursor up a few more seconds
- *Course strayed from the agenda; not sure if I captured all pertinent data

Overall Rating: "A" (46%); "B" (54%)

NTC Web site

The NTC website is text heavy and could use some visual interest. Matthew Steadman worked on a WordPress plug-in that will allow a "slide show" to be shown on the NTC home page. The slide show will switch between graphics depicting NTC's classes. Users can click on the slide for more information about the class.

MLA Educational Clearinghouse Activities

No activities this quarter.

Collaboration with NN/LM staff

Matthew Steadman presented changes and improvements to the NTRP system at the Web-STOC Web Developer's meeting, held on May 17, 2012 in Seattle, WA. The most notable change is the ability to customize email messages for each session of each class.

The NTRP back-end database and PHP programming functions have been streamlined, making it easier to maintain and update.

Several bugs were identified and fixed, including a bug that did not store telephone numbers in the registration system, a bug with the system to check for duplicate registrations, and a bug specific to Internet Explorer.

Sharon Dennis and Janet Zipser met with Angela Ruffin from the National Network Office and Cindy Love from the Disaster Information Management Research Center (DIMRC) to discuss the possibility of using the NTRP for DIMRC classes.

Marketing and Promotional Activities

Matthew Steadman worked on editing the promotional videos originally created by a marketing consultant Cyndy Salzman. He tightened some of the transitions and other small changes. The videos will be stored on YouTube and linked from the NTC website.

Other

May 17, 2012: Matthew Steadman attended the Web-STOC Web Developers meeting in Seattle, WA. During the meeting he presented changes and improvements to the National Training Registration Page (NTRP), as well as asking for feedback about the system.

May 17-18, 2012: Sharon Dennis attended the Web-STOC Web Developers meeting and NN/LM Director's meeting in Seattle, WA.