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University of Utah
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NTC Quarterly Report
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Executive Summary

STAFF CHANGES

None.

CLASSES TAUGHT

The NTC and NLM taught 4 sessions of the hybrid class PubMed® for Trainers. The in-person sessions were taught in: Bethesda, MD; Cincinnati, OH; Kansas City, KS; and New York, NY.

The NTC and NLM taught 3 sessions of the in-person TOXNET® and Beyond class. The in-person sessions were taught in: Cincinnati, OH; Bethesda, MD; and New York, NY.

Sharon Dennis and Kay Deeney, from the Pacific Southwest Region, taught two sessions of the five-week asynchronous online class "Teaching with Technology: Tips, Techniques, and Tools." One session ran from July 23 - August 20, 2012; a second session began on October 8, 2012 and will be completed on November 9, 2012.

CLASSES UNDER DEVELOPMENT

PubMed for Librarians

The online class "PubMed for Librarians" will be offered in five 1-hour segments via Adobe Connect. Participants can choose to attend any of the segments that interest them. The first series of classes is scheduled for January 2013.

TOXNET and Beyond Online Class

The NTC trainers are meeting regularly with Stephanie Publicker from SIS to plan an online TOXNET class. The group discussed various ideas for "chunking" the content into manageable sections (2-3 hours of coursework per class). The group also discussed a variety of formats for the class using Moodle and Adobe Connect.

NCBI Training

Janet Zipser and Sharon Dennis met with Eric Sayers and Peter Cooper from NCBI as well as Dr. Diane Rein to finalize plans for the librarian NCBI database training to be offered in March and April of 2013. An announcement and applications for attending the class will be released in November 2012.

Training Events

TABLE 1. Training Sessions

| Session Content | Start Date | End Date | City/State | Trainers | Activity Conducted In-person | Activity Conducted Remotely | # Participants |
|--------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------|--|------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------|
| TOXNET and Beyond | 10/24/2012 12:00:00 AM | 12/31/2999 12:00:00 AM | New York, NY | Sharon Dennis, Sharon Brown | Y | N | 10 |
| Teaching with Technology | 7/23/2012 12:00:00 AM | 8/27/2012 12:00:00 AM | Online | Sharon Dennis, Kay Deeney | N | Y | 30 |
| TOXNET and Beyond | 8/7/2012 12:00:00 AM | 12/31/2999 12:00:00 AM | Cincinnati, OH | Sharon Brown, Rebecca Brown | Y | N | 13 |
| TOXNET and Beyond | 9/12/2012 12:00:00 AM | 12/31/2999 12:00:00 AM | Bethesda, MD | NLM Trainers | Y | N | 6 |
| PubMed for Trainers | 7/19/2012 12:00:00 AM | 8/6/2012 12:00:00 AM | Cincinnati, OH | Sharon Dennis, Sharon Brown, Rebecca Brown | Y | Y | 21 |
| PubMed for Trainers | 9/13/2012 12:00:00 AM | 10/2/2012 12:00:00 AM | Kansas City, KS | Sharon Dennis, Sharon Brown, Rebecca Brown, Amy Honisett | Y | Y | 24 |
| PubMed for Trainers | 10/4/2012 12:00:00 AM | 10/25/2012 12:00:00 AM | Bethesda, MD | Janet Zipser, Katherine Majewski, Liz Frost, Margaret McGhee | Y | Y | 18 |
| PubMed for Trainers | 10/11/2012 12:00:00 AM | 10/24/2012 12:00:00 AM | New York, NY | Sharon Dennis, Sharon Brown, Rebecca Brown | Y | Y | 17 |

Cancellations

No classes were cancelled this quarter.

Self-paced e-learning Products

Matthew Steadman installed an open source tool, "Guide on the Side," on the NN/LM development server. The University of Arizona created the tool. It allows tutorial creators to quickly create a set of step-by-step instructions next to a live web site, so that users can follow the instructions as they navigate the web site. Mr. Steadman reported that the tool passes 508 compliance requirements. Sharon Dennis and Rebecca Brown began testing the tool for possible use with the online TOXNET class.

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: 64%

*Post-test: 77%

NLM PUBMED FOR TRAINERS CLASS

*Pre-test: 64%

*Post-test: 82 %

PUBMED FOR TRAINERS SUGGESTIONS FOR IMPROVEMENT

Based on the feedback from participants in the PubMed for Trainers classes in the last six months, the NLM and NTC trainers are discussing improvements to the class:

*Adding a class design assignment: students will design a sample 10- and 30-minute PubMed class for particular audiences (including objectives and activities) through a combination of individual and group work.

*Removing repetitive sections of the class, particularly overlap between the tutorials assigned for homework and the class presentations.

Student Satisfaction Analysis

NTC PUBMED FOR TRAINERS

In the second quarter, NTC taught a total of three PubMed for Trainers classes. A total of 62 participants registered; 50 of them took both the pre- and post-tests; and 51 filled out the evaluation.

The evaluation results for the second quarter are as follows:

Instructor knowledge, preparation, presentation skills and responsiveness to questions: High (90%); Good (10%)

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

Use of technology:

Problems with technology: No problems (81%); Trouble getting connected (14%); Trouble hearing (6%); Trouble seeing the screen (3%); Did not have adequate equipment (0%)

Length of Adobe Connect sessions: Much too short (3%); Somewhat too short (2%); About the right length (74%); Somewhat too long (17%); Much too long (4%)

Felt encouraged to participate in remote sessions: True(95%);False(5%)

Most helpful parts of the course:

- *Hands-on exercises and small group work
- *Learning to use MeSH more effectively
- *Tests, homework, presentations, and exercises were helpful

Least helpful parts of the course:

- *More time spent on hands-on activities and less lectures
- *Group interactions
- *NLM tutorials were long and tedious; made it hard to go back and review specific areas

Additional comments:

- *Out of class requirements took more time than expected
- *Classes should be broken down into level of knowledge and field of expertise
- *Class should have more information about training PubMed

Overall Rating: "A" (75%); "B" (20%); "C" (5%)

NLM PUBMED FOR TRAINERS

In the second quarter, NLM taught one PubMed for Trainers class. A total of 18 participants registered; 16 of them took both the pre- and post-tests; and 13 filled out the evaluation.

The evaluation results for the second quarter are as follows:

Instructor knowledge, preparation, presentation skills and responsiveness to questions: High (79%); Good (17%); Fair (4%)

Participants rating of whether they acquired knowledge and skills they can use: Agree (85%); Somewhat Agree (15%)

Use of technology:

Problems with technology: No problems (69%); Trouble getting connected (23%); Trouble hearing (0%); Trouble seeing the screen (8%); Did not have adequate equipment (0%)

Length of Adobe Connect sessions: Somewhat too short (0%); About the right length (46%); Somewhat too long (54%); Much too long (0%)

Felt encouraged to participate in remote sessions: True (85%); False (15%)

Most helpful parts of the course:

- *Boosted confidence and understanding of how MEDLINE is organized
- *Deeper knowledge of MEDLINE as well as tools for searching
- *MeSH search techniques

Least helpful parts of the course:

- *Lack of emphasis on teaching PubMed to others
- *Small group discussions
- *Search question workshops

Additional comments:

- *Discussing things that were already done in the homework
- *Course seemed disjointed; course focused more on how to search PubMed and then occasionally talked about how to teach PubMed

Overall Rating: "A" (62%); "B" (23%); "C" (15%)

NTC TOXNET

NTC taught two TOXNET and Beyond classes. A total of 24 participants attended; and 22 filled out the evaluation.

The evaluation results for the second quarter are as follows:

Instructor knowledge, preparation, presentation skills and responsiveness to questions:
High (82%); Good (16%)

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

Most helpful parts of the course:

- *Live demos of databases with hands-on exercises
- *Learning how the different databases and information meld together
- *Introduction to a variety of TOXNET databases

Least helpful parts of the course:

- *Too many databases, abbreviations and acronyms
- *Historical aspects of TOXNET were too brief to be educational
- *Enough material to be taught over two days

Additional comments:

- *Would like one instructor to walk around and check on participants while the other instructor was teaching

Overall Rating: "A" (83%); "B" (17%)

NLM TOXNET

NLM taught one TOXNET and Beyond class. A total of 9 participants attended; and 5 filled out the evaluation.

The evaluation results for the second quarter are as follows:

Instructor knowledge, preparation, presentation skills and responsiveness to questions:
High (100%)

Participants rating of whether they acquired knowledge and skills they can use: Agree (80%); Somewhat agree (20%)

Most helpful parts of the course:

- *History and information about the different resources were helpful
- *Course materials (i.e., TOXNET manual)
- *Exercises, overview of information and hands-on

Least helpful parts of the course:

- *Second part of course was not scholarly and the web sites were designed more for the public; not helpful for my research
- *Length and repetitiveness of the database instructions
- *Instructor was not on time

Additional comments:

- *Class pace could have been a bit better
- *Give participants time to do class assignments and verify that everyone understands the material
- *Individual instructors were very responsive to questions; excellent command of the subject

Overall Rating: "A" (60%); "B" (40%)

NTC TEACHING WITH TECHNOLOGY

NTC taught one online asynchronous Teaching with Technology class during the second quarter. A total of 59 participants registered; 30 participants completed the class; and 30 filled out the evaluation.

The evaluation results for the second quarter are as follows:

Instructor knowledge, preparation, and responsiveness to questions: High (88%); Good (12%)

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

Most helpful parts of the course:

- *Exercises and hands-on learning
- *Presentation of material and discussions
- *Instructor responsiveness – responded quickly to discussion postings

Least helpful parts of the course:

- *Adult learning theories and Bloom's Taxonomy
- *Discussion forums hard to keep up with
- *Some software did not work behind hospital firewalls

Additional comments:

- *The class worked much better in Moodle than previous classes
- *Gained valuable skills from the class

Overall Rating: "A" (83%); "B" (17%)

NTC Web site

Matthew Steadman created a WordPress "slide show" plug-in that is now live on the NTC home page. The slide show rotates between graphics depicting NTC's classes. Users can click on the slide for more information about the class. Mr. Steadman designed the plug-in so that non-technical users can add new information to the slide show. The plug-in was made available to all NN/LM regions and centers for their use.

MLA Educational Clearinghouse Activities

Based on feedback from the regions, Janet Zipser requested additional choices for the "Contact Region" drop-down menu in the Clearinghouse. Discussions were still underway with MLA about this change at the time of this writing.

Collaboration with NN/LM staff

The Disaster Information Management Research Center (DIMRC) is now set up to use the National Training Registration Page (NTRP) system.

Matthew Steadman fixed several bugs in the NTRP system. He changed the registration form so that it does not delete the user information already entered when there is a missing required field. He also improved the NTC confirmation page so that it can be individually customized for each class.

Marketing and Promotional Activities

Promotional materials for both "PubMed for Trainers" and "TOXNET and Beyond" are now available on the NTC web site. A new tab at the top of the web site links to the materials. The NTC trainers are using the materials as they work with host sites to promote the classes.

Other

August 8-10, 2012: Sharon Brown attended the Annual Conference on Distance Teaching and Learning in Madison, WI.

September 11-13, 2012: Sharon Dennis attended the Bob Pike Annual Training Conference in Minneapolis, MN.

October 3-5, 2012: Sharon Dennis and Rebecca Brown attended the annual meeting of the Midcontinental Chapter of the Medical Library Association (MCMLA), in Kansas City, MO.

October 8-9, 2012: Rebecca Brown attended the Presentation Summit in Scottsdale, AZ.

October 31, 2012: The NTC team gathered in Salt Lake City, UT for the annual NTC Planning Meeting.