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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

PUBMED® CLASSES

NTC taught two sessions of the hybrid class PubMed for Trainers; the in-person locations were: Memphis, TN and Phoenix, AZ. The PubMed for Trainers class includes an optional 3-hour instructional design component.

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

TOXNET® CLASS

NTC delivered one session of the online TOXNET class, "Discovering TOXNET." The class is taught asynchronously over 4 weeks. The class consists of 13 independent modules. The "Introduction to TOXNET" module is required, but the remaining 12 modules are optional. Participants can choose the databases or resources that interest them and receive MLA CE credit based on the modules they complete.

The first session using the modular format began on October 20, 2014, and concluded on November 14, 2014. Each module earns 0.5 – 2.0 MLA CE credits. To receive credit for a module, participants must complete pre- and post-tests, view a tutorial or video, and submit a discovery exercise. The instructors review the submitted discovery exercises and provide feedback to the participants.

The participants responded well to the modular, asynchronous format, though some asked for more than 4 weeks to complete the class. Fifty-nine students registered for the class. Of those, 41 (69%) completed at least one module, and 8 completed all the modules. Given this completion rate, we will allow more registrants for the next session. We will also consider allowing an extra week to complete the coursework.

NCBI DATABASE CLASS

A committee consisting of Janet Zipser and Kate Majewski from NLM, Peter Cooper and Eric Sayer from NCBI, Diane Rein (consultant to the NTC), and Sharon Dennis from the NTC reviewed 39 applications 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." A total of 31 applicants were selected and offered a position in the class. One applicant elected not to attend. 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 began on January 12, 2015 and will conclude on February 13, 2015.

TECHNICAL CHALLENGES

The NTC trainers experienced minimal technical difficulties during the online sessions of

"PubMed for Trainers" and "PubMed for Librarians" in this quarter. A problem with the Utah trainers losing telephone audio during the Adobe Connect sessions persists, but the trainers are able to quickly call back in and resume the session.

NIH no longer offers the option to use Voice over IP (VoIP) in addition to the telephone, requiring us to revert to telephone only mode. A number of our participants have expressed a preference for VoIP only, but some cannot use VoIP. A new web conferencing system will become available to NN/LM in the near future and will again allow for the participants to choose their preferred method of audio.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

PUBMED FOR TRAINERS USERS' GROUP

During the third quarter of the contract year for Option Year 3, the PubMed for Trainers Users' Group met one time due to holiday and travel schedules. There were 33 attendees for the January 2015 session.

In addition to the NTC trainers attending the session, several NLM staff members attended. We find their presence a great selling point for the Users' group because they provide additional background information and support for attendees.

Before the session, Rebecca Brown solicited potential poll questions from the participants. The first poll question was created by the NTC trainers and the second poll question was submitted by a participant. The poll questions presented at the beginning of the class were as follows:

1. How frequently do questions that involve a grant (number) come across your desk during a given year?
 - A. 1-3 times = 5
 - B. 4-6 times = 1
 - C. More than 6 times per year = 1
 - D. Never = 16
2. Does your institution have an in-house educational course to teach clinical medical staff on PubMed? (This was an open-ended question submitted by a group member.)

Most people said no, there are no in-house educational courses (such as an annual HIPPA course) offered at their institutions. Some participants answered that classes were taught by librarians on a case-by-case basis.

After the session, Rebecca Brown sent out the chat transcript to the group. She received eight e-mail replies from those who were unable to attend the session thanking her for sharing the information.

"SEARCHING FOR DRUGS AND CHEMICALS" WEBINAR

At the invitation of the Middle Atlantic Region (MAR), Sharon Dennis and Rebecca Brown delivered a one-hour webinar about searching for chemicals and drugs in PubMed on November 4, 2014. The webinar was part of MAR's bi-monthly "Focus on NLM Resources" series. Kate Majewski from NLM attended the webinar to help with participant questions. The trainers covered the following topics: how chemicals, drugs and other substances are described in MeSH; how to search for drugs or chemicals in PubMed; and how to search using pharmacological action terms. Twenty-one participants attended the session.

"RETURN ON INVESTMENT" STUDY

During January 2014, the NTC and NLM had discussions with Caroline Hubble, consultant

for the ROI Institute, about conducting a Return On Investment (ROI) study for the "PubMed for Trainers" class. Ms. Hubble created a Statement of Work that was accepted by NTC and NLM. The study will take place from February – April 2015 using cohorts from four PubMed for Trainers classes taught in the winter and spring of 2015. The information gleaned from the study will be used to gauge the long-term success of NTC's classes, as well as to inform future training offerings. We will also re-purpose the methods and tools provided by the ROI Institute to conduct further long-term studies in Option Year 4.

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 Librarians - MeSH	12/10/2014 12:00:00 AM	12/10/2014 12:00:00 AM	Online	Rebecca Brown	N	Y	36
Discovering TOXNET - TRI Module	10/20/2014 12:00:00 AM	11/14/2014 12:00:00 AM	Online	Sharon Dennis, Rebecca Brown, Jessi Van Der Volgen	N	Y	28
Discovering Toxnet - TOXMAP Module	10/20/2014 12:00:00 AM	11/14/2014 12:00:00 AM	Online	Sharon Dennis, Rebecca Brown, Jessi Van Der Volgen	N	Y	23
PubMed for Librarians - Automatic Term Mapping	12/11/2014 12:00:00 AM	12/11/2014 12:00:00 AM	Online	Rebecca Brown	N	Y	32
Discovering Toxnet - LactMed Module	10/20/2014 12:00:00 AM	11/14/2014 12:00:00 AM	Online	Sharon Dennis, Rebecca Brown, Jessi Van Der Volgen	N	Y	20
Discovering Toxnet - LiverTox Module	10/20/2014 12:00:00 AM	11/14/2014 12:00:00 AM	Online	Sharon Dennis, Rebecca Brown, Jessi Van Der Volgen	N	Y	21
Discovering Toxnet - Iris Module	10/20/2014 12:00:00 AM	11/14/2014 12:00:00 AM	Online	Sharon Dennis, Rebecca Brown, Jessi Van Der Volgen	N	Y	16
Discovering Toxnet - HSDB Module	10/20/2014 12:00:00 AM	11/14/2014 12:00:00 AM	Online	Sharon Dennis, Rebecca Brown, Jessi Van Der Volgen	N	Y	19
Discovering Toxnet - ChemIDPlus Module	10/20/2014 12:00:00 AM	11/14/2014 12:00:00 AM	Online	Sharon Dennis, Rebecca Brown, Jessi Van Der Volgen	N	Y	13

Discovering Toxnet - Household Products Database Module	10/20/2014 12:00:00 AM	11/14/2014 12:00:00 AM	Online	Sharon Dennis, Rebecca Brown, Jessi Van Der Volgen	N	Y	18
Discovering Toxnet - Haz-Map Module	10/20/2014 12:00:00 AM	11/14/2014 12:00:00 AM	Online	Sharon Dennis, Rebecca Brown, Jessi Van Der Volgen	N	Y	17
Discovering Toxnet - WISER & CHEMM Module	10/20/2014 12:00:00 AM	11/14/2014 12:00:00 AM	Online	Sharon Dennis, Rebecca Brown, Jessi Van Der Volgen	N	Y	11
Discovering Toxnet - REMM Module	10/20/2014 12:00:00 AM	11/14/2014 12:00:00 AM	Online	Sharon Dennis, Rebecca Brown, Jessi Van Der Volgen	N	Y	10
PubMed for Trainers	10/20/2014 12:00:00 AM	11/13/2014 12:00:00 AM	Memphis, TN	Sharon Dennis, Rebecca Brown, Jessi Van Der Volgen	Y	Y	12
PubMed for Librarians - Building and Refining Your Search	12/16/2014 12:00:00 AM	12/16/2014 12:00:00 AM	Online	Rebecca Brown	N	Y	35
PubMed for Librarians - Customization	12/17/2014 12:00:00 AM	12/17/2014 12:00:00 AM	Online	Rebecca Brown	N	Y	28
PubMed for Trainers	1/12/2015 12:00:00 AM	1/29/2015 12:00:00 AM	Phoenix, AZ	Sharon Dennis, Jessi Van Der Volgen, Rebecca Brown	Y	Y	25
Discovering TOXNET - TOXNET Module	10/20/2014 12:00:00 AM	11/14/2014 12:00:00 AM	Online	Sharon Dennis, Rebecca Brown, Jessi Van Der Volgen	N	Y	41
PubMed for Librarians - Introduction	12/9/2014 12:00:00 AM	12/9/2014 12:00:00 AM	Online	Rebecca Brown	N	Y	27

Discovering TOXNET - TOXLINE Module	10/20/2014 12:00:00 AM	11/14/2014 12:00:00 AM	Online	Sharon Dennis, Rebecca Brown, Jessi Van Der Volgen	N	Y	31
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Cancellations

No classes were canceled this quarter.

Self-paced e-learning Products

A recording of the "Searching for Drugs and Chemicals in PubMed" webinar was also added to the NTC "Tutorials and Recordings" page.

The NTC created and posted 3 new videos to YouTube this quarter:

*What do the dates in MeSH mean? <http://youtu.be/bLKrks2qps>

*Search for Citations Linked to Patient Summaries: <http://youtu.be/ReNYMMCapFo>

*TOXNET Permalink: <http://youtu.be/5BJk2NsFrNw>

PUBMED FOR TRAINERS CLASS

A 20 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: 58%

*Post-test: 78%

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: 58%

*Post-test: 88%

DISCOVERING TOXNET CLASS

A 2 – 4 question pre and post-test was administered for each module of the "Discovering TOXNET" class. The average scores are listed below.

NTC Discovering TOXNET class:

Pre-test: 65%

Post-test: 89%

NTC PUBMED FOR TRAINERS EVALUATION RESULTS

PubMed Content

In the third quarter, NTC taught two PubMed for Trainers classes. A total of 37 participants registered; 30 of them took both the pre and post-tests; and 34 filled out the evaluation.

Instructional Design Content

Twenty-nine people attended at least one session of the Instructional Design content. Eighteen of those participants completed all the material and earned the additional CE credit.

The evaluation results for the third quarter are as follows:

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 (93%); Somewhat Agree (7%)

Percentage of instructional design information they will use on the job:
73%

Most Helpful Parts of the Course

*Content of the course

*Knowledge and helpfulness of the instructors

Least Helpful Parts of the Course

*Too basic in the first webinar

*Would like in-person instructional design

Additional Comments

"I can't say enough about this class, it really is like a boot camp for PubMed searchers. I've used PubMed on a regular basis for nearly six years, and I was still surprised by how much I didn't know. Plus, I learned a great deal about instructional design, and I plan on putting what I've learned to use immediately. The instructors were all truly spectacular!"

"If funding to support this course was ever in question, I would certainly be willing to pay a fee to attend it. It was that good! I had all of my librarian staff attending, and any future librarian staff will also attend as the course becomes available. This course is now a part of our librarian training."

"Discussion of individual PUBMED tools was brief given their importance to my working with them - just yesterday I was in a meeting with 10 foreign doctors and 15 technician instructors - and they were all directed to start keeping up with current literature; while our ProQuest subscription was not renewed. So using My NCBI is vastly important to the individuals and organization. The class handout on this subject is very important for me today."

Overall Rating: "A" (87%); "B" (13%)

NTC PUBMED FOR LIBRARIANS EVALUATION RESULTS

NTC taught one series of the PubMed for Librarians online synchronous class during the third quarter. The class was taught in five independent segments. The classes had an average attendance rate of 70%. A total of 226 participants registered for at least one segment; 158 participants attended the segment they registered for; and 129 filled out the evaluation questionnaire for the segment.

The evaluation results for the third 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 (98%); Somewhat Agree (2%)

Most Helpful Parts of the Course:

- *Live searches
- *Questions answered in real time
- *Aspects of MeSH such as Supplementary Concepts
- *Learning about using history to combine searches
- *"See one, do one" method

Least Helpful Parts of the Course:

- *More practice exercises
- *Time of day the webinar is given
- *NLM Catalog/Broad Subject terms not useful
- *Need more time for the instructor to answer questions.

Additional Comments:

"Appreciate having these classes offered. This is the only way that I make the time to learn how to really use PubMed efficiently and effectively! Sad to have to say this but there never seems to be enough time to engage in learning how to use resources such as PubMed well."

"I was hoping for more advanced information, but I guess that is covered in additional classes."

"Rebecca Brown's training sessions are always great! She's an excellent instructor."

"Presenter is a good instructor - clear instructions, smooth pacing, relevant demos and tips."

"Thank you so much! Pub Med is becoming less intimidating with every class I take!"

Overall Rating: "A" (91%); "B" (9%)

NTC DISCOVERING TOXNET EVALUATION RESULTS

In the third quarter the NTC taught the modular version of "Discovering TOXNET" for the first time. Fifty-nine students registered for the class. Of those, 41 completed at least one module, and 8 completed all the modules.

The evaluation results for the third quarter are as follows:

Instructor knowledge, preparation, and responsiveness to questions:
High (93%); Good (6%); Fair (1%)

Participants rating of whether they acquired Knowledge and skills they can use:
Agree (87%); Somewhat Agree (13%)

Participants rating of what percentage of the information presented they expect to use in their job: 57%

Most Helpful Parts of the Course:

*Quality of materials

*Guide on the Side tutorials

*Modular format

Least Helpful Parts of the Course:

*Would like explanation of why answers on the post-test were incorrect

*Moodle interface confusing and frustrating

Additional Comments

*"I would have liked to have longer than 4 weeks to complete all of the assignments. There was really good information and I felt like I had to rush to complete them on time. Thus feeling like I didn't get to spend as much time mulling over the information as I would have liked to have done."

*" I actually got to use TOXNET today for an oncology pharmacist and got the exact answer needed in minutes. The time I spent was well worth this result and many more to come!"

*"Although this was a valuable class, providing a great overview of the TOXNET databases and giving participants a choice in which modules to explore, I have a technology comment. If there could be an easy way to track both the completed modules and the parts within each module, that would be very helpful! It took a bit of remembering what I had completed and what needed to be completed. Even if there was a printable checklist, that would help. (Maybe there was and I missed it!) Thanks!"

"I was so surprised at all of this information and I had no idea."

Overall Rating: "A" (90%); "B" (7%); "C" (3%)

NTC Web site

Matthew Steadman updated the NTC web site RSS feed links due to a change in the way Google accepts RSS links.

Matthew Steadman added a link to the NTC YouTube channel on the NTC home page.

MLA Educational Clearinghouse Activities

No activity this quarter.

Collaboration with NN/LM staff

Matthew Steadman completed the development programming for 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 system was beta tested in November 2014 and went live in January 2015. He presented the system at the Web-STOC meeting on November 13, 2014.

The NTRP/Moodle integration system was implemented for NTC and NLM classes, as well as for several RML classes, in January 2015. Matthew Steadman fixed several bugs as they occurred during the implementation, and we believe the system is now stable enough for widespread use by the NTC and RMLs.

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

- *Updated the "search registered users" to improve the number of relevant results
- *Corrected an issue with the wait list in which users were incorrectly admitted to classes that were marked "full"
- *Fixed a bug in which registered users' information was not being saved in the database

Marketing and Promotional Activities

During the third quarter, NTC published 22 blog posts, slightly below the target of two posts per week, due to the holidays and the maternity leave of one staff member. Blog posts covered class announcements, online learning tips, use of and changes to MeSH, the NIH Public Access Policy, TOXNET instructional videos and more. The blog featured more videos (10) this quarter. During the quarter, there were 7,812 views of the blog. Additionally, the Medical Library Association shared two NTC blog posts on their Facebook page.

At the end of the quarter, NTC had 177 likes on Facebook (up from 164 in July), and 312 followers on Twitter (up from 284 in July). On Twitter, @nnlmntc has been retweeted 40 times, mentioned 11 times, and had tweets favorite 16 times.

Other

December 15, 2014: Rebecca Brown participated in a remote presentation that was setup by the NLM National Network Office (NNO) to explain the NN/LM program to the NLM Associate Fellows. She described NTC activities to date and plans for the future. Margaret McGhee from NNO followed up after the presentation via email and said that "the reviews are in and they are very positive."