

Public Health Library & Informatics (PHLI)
www.sph.umich.edu/phli

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Public Health Library & Informatics is part of the University of Michigan University Library System, the Health Sciences Libraries, and the School of Public Health

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Library Hours

Fall Semester, 2006:
 Mon - Thurs 8 am - 10 pm
 Fri 8 am - 5 pm
 Sat 11 am - 5 pm
 Sun 11 am - 10 pm
 Closed: Dec. 23rd-Jan.. 1st



Letter from the Interim Head: Nancy Toronto

Welcome. Welcome back. Welcome to new students, faculty and staff; you are just in time for an exciting new beginning at the Public Health Library & Informatics (PHLI).

Welcome back to returning students, faculty and staff who may begin to notice a few new things around PHLI. There certainly have been a *few* changes.

Nancy Allee, the former Director of PHLI can now be found as the Deputy Director of the Health Sciences Libraries. Though out of sight she is not far away! Shortly prior to Nancy's new position, we welcomed a new Director of the Health Sciences Libraries, Jane Blumenthal.

This leadership change marks a new and exciting path for the Public Health Library & Informatics as we join forces with all health science libraries at UM, namely the Taubman Medical Library and the Dentistry Library as one unit, the **Health Sciences Libraries**. This adds not only to our resources, but to our services as we can now draw on the expertise of staff across all three libraries!

In Nancy's absence, I have been appointed the Interim Head of the Public Health Library & Informatics, and aside from duties such as writing letters for the Newsletter, I will also serve as the Informatics Coordinator within the Health Sciences Libraries.

Here at PHLI that means we will continue our many valuable services such as E-Reserves, training, and podcasting, but we will also add many services and products in the coming year as our view broadens to see *information* as a thing we all must learn to understand, organize, and manage so that we may harness the technologies that allow us to improve our research, services, and development.

-Nancy Toronto

New Space for Public Health and PHLI!

On October 26th, the SPH Crossroads Building and Tower officially opened. This event also marked the opening of new space for the Public Health Library & Informatics in the Crossroads section of the new building, funded by a generous grant from the Kellogg Foundation.

This expansion includes primarily meeting and training space, but not necessarily for your average meeting or training session. The rooms are pre-designed and wired to accommodate web conferences, live feeds, and interactive training sessions through technically enhanced stations, web conferencing and ink technologies.

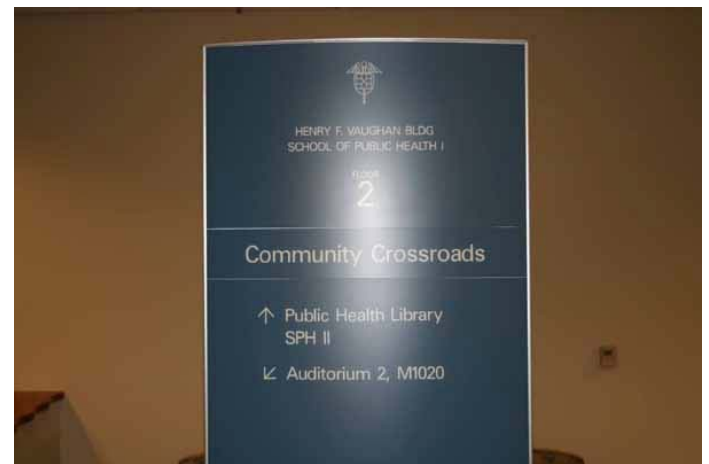
This marks the significant expansion not only of space but of services and expertise to the public health practice community. The full name of the Crossroads space is Community Crossroads for it will be here where SPH and the public health practice community meet whether in person or via the Internet through the use of various technologies.

In the very near future, valuable training sessions will be accessible in person, in real-time via the Internet, or later via recorded and archived sessions.

The *desire* to meet and service the public community has always been present within the library. Now, the *ability* to serve beyond our traditional walls will now be possible in the Community Crossroads. Come and visit!



A view of the new 2nd floor Crossroads space from the entrance just across the hall from PHLI.



The Community Crossroads connects the many elements of SPH and provides its own space as well.



The new training room will be home to PHLI's many informatics and software classes.

UM-Authored Articles Accessible via Deep Blue



The University Library has reached agreements with a number of major journal publishers to share the right to distribute UM-authored articles via our institutional repository Deep Blue <<http://deepblue.lib.umich.edu>>.

We have done this because we want to see published articles by UM authors more accessible to scholars worldwide. Until now, if someone found a UM author's articles (via MEDLINE or Google), they would not be able to read it unless they or their institution subscribed to the journal in which it appeared.

With Deep Blue, they can now freely access it, which allows our scholarship to have a greater reach, and scholarship as a whole to move forward more quickly. In a cross-disciplinary study, when compared to articles that require paid access, those in systems like Deep Blue "...have consistently more citations, the advantage varying from 25%-250%" See Footnote

If you would like to learn more about Deep Blue, and how to make more of your research available through this service, please contact Helen Look, PHLI Collection Management Coordinator, at hlook@umich.edu or Jim Ottaviani at deepblue@umich.edu

Footnote:
Hajjem, Harnad, and Gingras, "Ten-Year Cross-Disciplinary Comparison of the Growth of Open Access and How it Increases Research Citation Impact." IEEE Data Engineering Bulletin, Vol. 28 No.4, December 2005, 8 pp.

Newly Redesigned PHLI Website

Public Health Library & Informatics is pleased to announce the launch of their newly redesigned web site.



The new web site offers the following improvements:

- A pleasing new color scheme.
- A new interface designed to help users find information quickly and easily.
- Portal pages containing information especially for students, especially for faculty & staff, and especially for the public health practice community.
- The ability to view PHLI workshops by date or by topic, as well as to see how many seats are left in each workshop.
- Sections for each of PHLI's six domains:
 - Library & Information Resources
 - Training, Instruction & Informatics Curriculum Support
 - E-Learning & Instructional Technology
 - Distance Education
 - Web & Database Services
 - Informatics Outreach

We welcome your feedback!
sph.web@umich.edu

Department Liaisons

The liaisons function as the primary source of contact for their departments and will be working on developing interactive professional partnerships.

Helen Look

Health Management and Policy & Biostatistics
hlook@umich.edu | 936-7663

Gillian Mayman

HBHE and Epidemiology
gmayman@umich.edu | 615-1516

Jason Nargis

Environmental Health Sciences
jnargis@umich.edu | 936-1392

Consultations Individual or group consultations on research, software, e-learning, web site development, and online searching.

Instructional Support Course reserves, e-reserves, customized resource guides, and librarian-led workshops.

Workshops Including Excel, Access, PowerPoint, DreamWeaver, Acrobat, Photoshop, Refworks, Podcasting, and PubMed.

Computing Wireless computing, scanning stations, color printing, and 17 public-use computers.

Books Search Mirlyn, the library's online catalog, to find books in the Health Sciences Libraries and across campus.

Journals 100s of print journals, 1,000s of electronic journals. Search Mirlyn to find both print and electronic journals.

Databases Use SearchTools to locate databases of journal articles. Look for the SFX button or "Find This" to find full text articles.

E-Learning CTools support, Sympodiums, podcasting, and more.

Tailored Curriculum Support

PHLI liaisons support the work of teaching faculty in a multitude of ways. Examples of past projects include:

- Developing resource guides such as "Five Steps to Finding Tests and Measures" and "A Guide to HBHE Bibliographic Databases"
- Partnering in homework assignments using information or technology resources such as creating a web site and searching for peer-reviewed articles
- Teaching classes such as Epi-Info and DreamWeaver.



PHLI New Books List

Now there's an easy way to see the latest books that PHLI has added to its collection. In the lower center of the new PHLI web site is an automatically generated list. You can click on a book you're interested in and link directly to the Mirlyn record for that item.

New Books at PHLI This Week

A review of current state-level adverse medical event reporting practices: toward national standards / RAND Corporation, 2006.
Loue, Sana. Assessing race, ethnicity and gender in health / Springer Sciences-Business Media, c2006.
Biological safety: principles and practices / ASM Press, c2006.
JÄarvikoski, Aila. Early rehabilitation at the work place / International Exchange of Information in Rehabilitation, World Rehabilitation Fund, c1980.



Also, you can easily see a list of new books at other UM libraries by going to this site: <http://www.lib.umich.edu/newbooks/>

Collaborative Podcasting: Introducing CTools' "iTunes U" Tool

CTools is the Learning Management System (LMS) at the University of Michigan-Ann Arbor for creating course and project sites for online collaboration. It has traditionally given the campus a collaborative space for organizing classroom and project materials, sharing digital resources, scheduling and more. But what can be considered a breakthrough in many respects is the introduction of integration with Apple's iTunes U¹ tool, available on request starting Fall 2006.

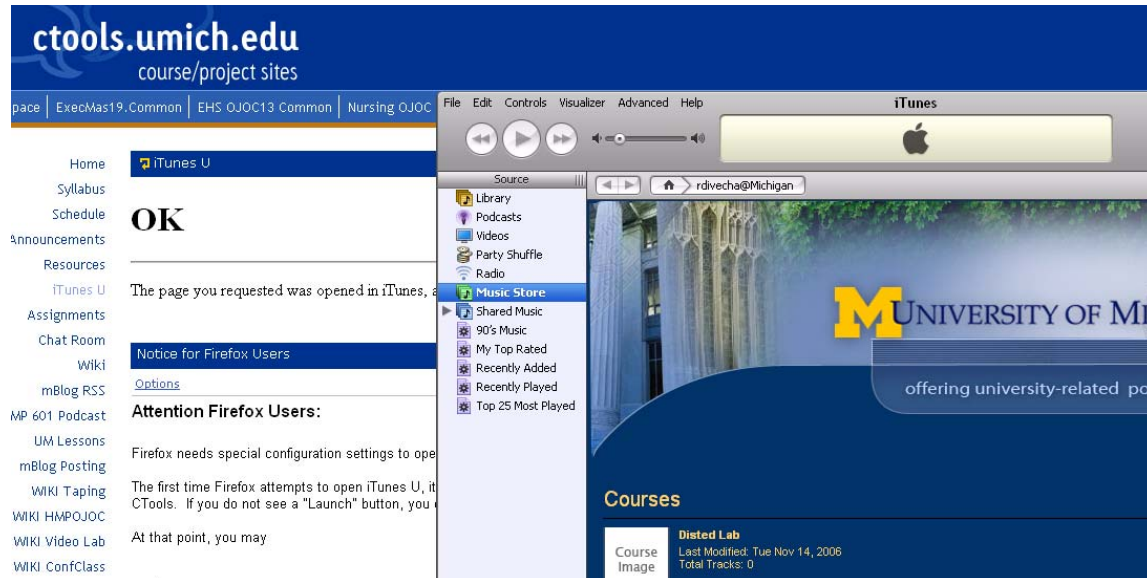


Figure 1: iTunes U tool in CTools: Automatically starts the iTunes on program on your computer and takes you to the course or project's podcasting space in iTunes for accessing podcasts.

Podcasting

Those who have tried their hand at podcasting (posting digital audio files online for download) have faced the clumsy reality of finding ways to manually record, post and create a wrapper XML file for their audio files, if they wish to create podcasts. Podcasting can have many definitions², but the most common features are the ability of the audience to subscribe to the podcast via a RSS feed containing information about the audio files, obtain them automatically as they become available, and possibly sync with their digital audio players like iPods. iTunesU makes these steps possible, and more. For more information about the basics of podcasting, see author's podcasting workshop website: <http://sitemaker.umich.edu/podcasting>.

iTunes U: Posting and Sharing

Apple defines iTunes U as a tools available free of charge to educational institutions who sign an agreement with Apple to be eligible to use the service. What is exciting is that this service takes things beyond a one-way broadcast that a podcast is. It allows not only the instructors to post audio files for subscription in iTunes (desktop software for playing music) but allows students to post assignments as audio files, organize and share them. I would recommend requesting a iTunes tool from the CTools team (refer to CTools help for simple instructions) and start playing around. iTunes U eliminates the need to worry about generating, posting and maintaining XML files that are subscribed to.

Another point to note is that an iTunes podcast may contain PDFs and iPod videos as well.

¹ Apple defines iTunes U as “... a free, hosted service for colleges and universities that provides easy access to their educational content, including lectures and interviews... Through iTunes U, students can download content to their Macs or PCs, regardless of their location. They can listen to and view that content on their Mac or PC, or transfer it to iPod for listening or viewing on the go. Instructors can easily post and change content on their own without impacting the IT department. And, of course, students can upload their own content to share with professors or with the class.” (http://www.apple.com/education/products/ipod/itunes_u.html Retrieved 19th November, 2006)

² An interesting FAQ about podcasting exists at <http://www.apple.com/itunes/store/podcastsfaq.html>

Collaborative Podcasting, Cont'd.

Software tools to get started:

Audio Editing: Audacity (<http://audacity.sourceforge.net>) is an open source and free to download audio editing tool which audio podcasters recommend for getting your podcasting project going. Its intuitive non-linear editing interface and a decent range of effects (Fade in, Fade out, Noise Removal, Reverb etc) and essential features (multiple tracks, wav/mp3 export) will get you close to a professional sounding audio track.

Video Editing: If video podcasting is your aim, you will need to edit your digital video. Windows Movie Maker is a free Windows XP accessory and quite popular amongst the video blogging community on YouTube. The stability of this program has increased over time. However, on the Windows platform you may want to consider starter editions of video editing suites by Pinnacle (Studio 10) later which cost close to \$130. Exporting your edited movie as an AVI should prepare you for the next step before uploading: Video Compression.

Video Compression for iPod:

Jodix and QuicktimePro are two programs that we extensively use for producing video podcasts. QuicktimePro, \$29.99, provides fast and reliable compression. However batch programming compression jobs is not an easy task with QuicktimePro. Also, the input format is limited to Quicktime files (.mov) and AVI (.avi). Jodix, on the other hand, is a free tool on Windows (www.jodix.com). It is not as reliable, but it works great with a variety of file formats for input: Windows Media, Real Media etc. Its other strength is to create jobs with multiple file compression. Works great for a small production facility which needs to convert a dozen files at a time. Higher end options include Autodesk Cleaner XL (Windows & Mac): the suite costs more than \$500.

Adding & Editing Metadata

iTunes, the desktop client for Win/Mac is a great tool for editing metadata associated with a iTunes compatible audio or video media file. It can even assign metadata to multiple files together. Just right click on a media file(s) in the iTunes library and fill in the metadata.

iTunes U and School of Public Health

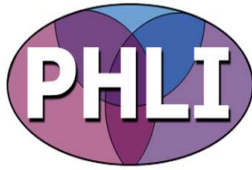
iTunes / iPod compatible content will be made available to the students in the Executive Masters programs in Health Management & Policy and Environmental Health Sciences. 6-7 students out of 30 HMP Executive Masters students already own a video capable iPod. When asked how many were willing to purchase one, a dozen hands shot up. It will be interesting to see their consumption patterns. Podcasts have been made available on request basis for several classes since Fall 2005.

Podcasting is maturing and quietly becoming an established tool with a terrific potential for collaboration due to the introduction of iTunes U. Giving every individual on campus the ability to create a podcast or contribute to it opens new possibilities for the campus community. Instructional Designers and eLearning content producers on campus have started using iTunes U, but the possibilities are greater. Project managers, instructors or GSIs may find this tool useful for creative deployment in their regular projects or courses. Administrators and staff could podcast their meetings or instructors can increase learning by posting audio versions of academic journal articles, with permission to use in a classroom setting.

As an eLearning Specialist, I am hopeful that this tool will further evolve to accommodate tighter integration of desktop based recording software with the iTunes U service on Apple servers to eliminate manual steps of uploading files. Please see some additional podcasting resources on page 7.

For more information:

Contact Vic Divecha, eLearning Specialist, Public Health Library & Informatics
734-763-4355 / sph.informatics@umich.edu



Staff Accolades

The Joint Conference of Librarians of Color (JCLC) was held in Dallas, Texas between October 11-15th. JCLC is the first national conference to be held and sponsored by the five ethnic associations affiliated with the American Library Association.

Helen Look served on the Evaluation Committee and is working on publishing the conference proceedings.



Joint Conference
of Librarians of Color
October 11-15, 2006

Health Sciences Librarians Merle Rosenzweig, Anna Ercoli Schnitzer, and **Helen Look** presented their "Getting to 'Go' with Grants" poster session at the Midwest Chapter of the Medical Library Association Annual Conference on October 9th in Louisville, Kentucky. The presentation covered how librarians can assist busy researchers and clinicians by searching for appropriate grant sources and providing strategies on how to apply for grants effectively. The "Getting to 'Go' with Grants" guide is available at <http://www.lib.umich.edu/taubman/eres/data/about/grants/>.

Additional Podcasting Resources:

Podcasting Workshop Materials

<http://sitemaker.umich.edu/podcasting>

Software

Creating mp3 / aac Audio

iTunes <http://www.apple.com/itunes/>

Creating mp4, m4v (iPod Video)

JODIX: www.jodix.com

QuicktimePro: www.apple.com/quicktime

Apple iTunes U Guide

http://images.apple.com/support/itunes_u/docs/iTunes_U_User_Guide.pdf

Audacity Audio Editor

<http://audacity.sourceforge.net/>

Portable: http://portableapps.com/apps/music_video/audacity_portable

Dentistry Podcast Resource Page:

<http://www.lib.umich.edu/dentlib/resources/guides/podcast.html>

Educause: 7 Things You Should Know about Podcasting:

<http://www.educause.edu/LibraryDetailPage/666?ID=ELI7003>

Request iTunes U Tool in your Ctools site: ctools@umich.edu