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ABSTRACT

This document describes a bibliographic instruction (BI) course on accessing medical resources on the Internet through discussion lists and Gopher that consisted of short sessions taught biweekly each semester at the University of Vermont medical library. The introduction lists the rationale for starting the program; principles for teaching the program; content coverage; and frequency of the courses. The syllabus includes brief descriptions, instructional outlines, and course objectives for two 50-minute sessions--one on computer conferences and the other on Gopher. Handouts on the following topics are included: basic Listserv commands; medical discussion lists; string search commands; medical Gopher sites; basic Gopher commands; Internet medical Usenet newsgroups; and newsgroups search commands. The evaluation form used in the course is also included. (JLB)

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Developing a BI Program for Medical Resources

by Hongjie Wang

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DEVELOPING A BI PROGRAM FOR MEDICAL RESOURCES ON INTERNET

I. RATIONALE FOR STARTING THE PROGRAM

1. Libraries have the responsibilities to teach their patrons to use the library resources.
2. Internet is increasingly becoming an important gateway to library resources.
3. More and more library users are having access to Internet and are eager to know how to use it.
4. Medical Libraries should help library patrons use Internet intelligently and for serious medical purposes.
5. Many medical libraries in the country are including Internet training in their bibliographic instruction programs (The Biomedical Library of the University of Pittsburgh, Norris Medical Library of the University of Southern California).
6. Information specialists at Dana library, to work as a team, are ready to share with the public what they know about Internet.

II. PRINCIPLES FOR TEACHING THE PROGRAM

1. Teach practical skills, not theory.
2. Focus on what is available rather than basic mechanisms.
3. Start with the most useful, yet easiest-to-learn resources.
4. Ensure uniformity and continuity of the course content.

III. THE CONTENT COVERAGE OF THE PROGRAM

1. Discussion Lists.
2. Gopher.
3. FTP (?)

IV. FREQUENCY OF THE COURSES

Twice a month with each class covering a different topic.

SYLLABUS

COURSE: ACCESSING ON-LINE MEDICAL RESOURCES THROUGH DISCUSSION LISTS AND GOPHER

I) Course Description

This syllabus outlines the series of short courses taught on Internet medical resources by information specialists in Dana Medical library at the University of Vermont.

Brief Course Descriptions

- Offered biweekly, each semester.
- Participants encouraged to take all of them.
- Joint instruction by information specialists.
- "Hands-on" emphasis; classes held in computer labs.
- Equipment: overhead projector and screen.
- Maximum number of participants: 20; minimum number: 5.
- Prerequisites:
 - a) a central computer account, and
 - b) familiarity with login procedures and some fundamentals

1) Computer Conferences (50 minutes)

From the scholarly to the personal, whether you're interested in the use and abuse of alcohol or nutritional epidemiology, there is very likely an electronic journal or computer conference on the topic. Find out how to overcome geographic isolation and communicate with colleagues around the world and how to use these new computer-mediated communication tools as information resources.

2) Gopher (50 minutes)

Learn about the latest tools to evolve on the Internet. These information servers provide access to a wide variety of Internet resources using a common interface and commands.

II) Instructional Outlines

1) Computer Conferences (50 minutes)

- a) Welcome, introduction, our series of courses
- b) Brief review of mail commands & network addresses
- c) Computer Conferences and electrical journals (Internet and Bitnet)
 - types of conferences
 - directories (scholarly and list of lists)

- moderated vs. unmoderated conferences
 - computer-mediated communication (flaming, emotions, etc.)
 - conference etiquette
 - listserv vs. other types
 - commands and procedures for subscribing to them
 - searching archived conferences
- d) Directed Search (Hands-on)
- subscribe to a conference and a journal
 - check acknowledgements
 - unsubscribe
- e) Handouts:
- Subscribing to an Internet conference and an e-journal
 - List of medical discussion lists
 - How to access directories for computer conferences and e-journals
 - Evaluation Form
- 2) Gopher (50 minutes)
- a) Welcome, introduction, our series of courses
- b) Explanation of Gopher
- description and history
 - what they do
 - information resources available through them
 - directories (e.g. Veronica, Directory of Servers)
 - sources of information (e.g., Ed Krol's The Whole Internet, online)
- c) Overview of Gopher.
- conceptual overview
 - commands (e.g., bookmarks, saving information, interrupting searches)
- d) Directed Search (Hands-on)
- Various Gopher resources
- e) Handouts:
- Basic Gopher commands
 - List of medical gopher sites
 - How to access databases through Veronica
 - Evaluation Form

III) Course Objective

After taking this course the student will get acquainted with the medical resources on Discussion Lists and Gopher sites and use proper commands to locate, retrieve medical resources from the most popular Lists and Gopher sites. Specifically, they will be able to:

1. Locate the addresses of some popular medical Discussion Lists.
2. Use basic commands to subscribe and sign off specific Lists.
3. Obtain the file of the Listserv lists.
4. Execute subject/key word searches for subject files.
5. Locate the addresses of some popular medical Gopher Sites.
6. Use basic commands to view, print and mail documents on Gopher.
7. Execute key word searches using Veronica.

HANDOUT 1

BASIC LISTSERV COMMANDS

Subscribing:

- * Send an e-mail message to **listserv@_____**.
- * Leave the "Subject:" line blank.
- * In the body of the message type **subscribe list name Your Name**
- * Delete any extra lines that may appear in your message
- * Send the message.

Sending Messages:

- * Send your message to **list name@_____**.
- * In the "Subject:" line type a brief description of your topic.
- * Type your message.
- * Sign your name, including your e-mail address.
- * Send your message.

(Beware of two different addresses of a list: the **listserv** address and the **list** address. The first is for sending messages to the computer that runs the list; the second is for sending messages to the list itself, to all the other subscribers.)

Signing Off:

- * Send an e-mail message to **listserv@_____**.
- * Leave the "Subject:" line blank.
- * In the body of the message type **sign off (or unsubscribe) list name your name.**
- * Delete any extra lines that may appear in your message.
- * Send the message.

HANDOUT 2

MEDICAL DISCUSSION LISTS

Network-wide ID

Full Address

List Title

ADDICT-L addiction+ AIDS	ADDICT-L@KENTVM	Academic & Scholarly discussion of (Peered) Sci.Med.AIDS Newsgroup
AIDS_INTL ALCOHOL AMIA-37	AIDS@EBCESCA1 AIDS@RUTVM1 ICECA@RUTVM1 ALCOHOL@LMUACAD AMIA-37@UMAB	Sci.Med.AIDS Newsgroup Intl Committee for Elec Comm on AIDS ALCOHOL & DRUG STUDIES AMIA Anesthesiology, Critical Care Medicine +
ANEST-L AUTISM	ANEST-L@UBVM AUTISM@SJUVM	Anesthesiology Discussion List SJU Autism and Developmental Disabilities List
BEHAVIOR	BEHAVIOR@ASUACAD	Behavioral and Emotional Disorders in Childr+
BRAINTMR C+HEALTH CLINALRT COMMDIS CONFLIST CYBSYS-L DEAF-L DENTAL DIET DOWN-SYN DRUGABUS	BRAINTMR@MITVMA C+HEALTH@IUBVM CLINALRT@UMAB COMMDIS@RPITSVM CONFLIST@UCSFVM CYBSYS-L@BINGVMB DEAF-L@SIUCVMB MEMBERS@UMAB DIET@UBVM DOWN-SYN@NDSUVM1 DRUGABUS@UMAB	Brain Tumor Research/Support Health effects of computer use Clinical Alerts from NIH Speech disorders School of Medicine Conference List Cybernetics and Systems DEAF LIST DENTAL TEST LIST Support and Discussion of Weight Loss Down Syndrome Drug Abuse Education Information and Research
EMERG-L FAMILY-L FIBROM-L	EMERG-L@MARIST FAMILY-L@MIZZOU1 FIBROM-L@UIUCVMD	Emergency Services Discussion List Academic Family Medicine Discussion. FIBROM-L Fibromyalgia / Fibrositis Discussio+
FINAN-HC	FINAN-HC@WUVM	Health Care Financial Matters Discussion List
FIT-L FORENSIC GERINET HEALTHRE HYPBAR-L IMIA-L	FIT-L@ETSUADMN FORENSIC@UABDPO GERINET@UBVM HEALTHRE@UKCC HYPBAR-L@TECHNION IMIA-L@UMAB	Exercise/diet/wellness talk list Forensics List Geriatric Health Care Discussion Group Health Care Reform Discussion List HyperBaric & Diving Medicine List International Medical Informatics Assn. Boar+
IMMNET-L INGEST JMEDCLUB LTCARE-L MED-TECH MEDIMAGE	IMMNET-L@DARTCMS1 INGEST@CUVMB JMEDCLUB@BROWNV LTCARE-L@NIHLIST MED-TECH@FERRIS MEDIMAGE@POLYVM	Medical Immunization Tracking systems Ingestive Behavior Mailing list. Medical Journal Discussion Club Research on Disability and Long-term care MED-TECH Medical Technology List Medical Imaging Discussion List

MEDINF-L	MEDINF-L@DEARN	MEDINF-L
MEDLAB-	MEDLAB-L@UALTAVM	MEDLAB-L is a discussion group for medical
MEDLIB-L	MEDLIB-L@UBVM	Medical Libraries Discussion List
MEDNET	MEDNETS@NDSUVM1	MEDNETS Medical Telecommunications Networks
MEDNES	MEDNEWS@ASUACAD	MEDNEWS - Health Info-Com Network Newsletter
MEDPHY-L	MEDPHY-L@AWIIMC12	EFOMP Medical Physics Information Services
MEDSCI-L	MEDSCI-L@BROWNVN	Medieval Science Discussion List
MEDSTU-L	MEDSTU-L@UNMVMA	Medical student discussion list
MEDSUP-L	MEDSUP-L@YALEVM	Medical Support List
MENOPAUS	MENOPAUS@PSUHM	Menopause Discussion List
MHCARE-L	MHCARE-L@MIZZOU1	Managed Health Care
MSLIST-L	MSLIST-L@TECHNION	Multiple Sclerosis Discussion/Support
MXDIAG-L	MXDIAG-L@ALBNYDH2	Molecular Pathology and Diagnostics
NURSENET	NURSENET@UTORONTO	NURSENET - A Global Forum for Nursing Issues
NURSERES	NURSERES@KENTVM	Discussion list for nurse researchers
NUTEPI	NUTEPI@DBOTUI11	Nutritional epidemiology
OMERACT	OMERACT@HEARN	Focused on Outcome Measures in Rheumatoid Ar+
PARKINSN	PARKINSN@UTORONTO	Parkinson's Disease - Information Exchange
PSYART	PSYART@NERVM	N+ Institute for Psychological Study of the Arts
PSYC	PSYC@PUCC	PSYCOLOQUY: Refereed Electronic Journal of P+
PSYCGRAD	PSYCGRAD@UOTTAWA	Psychology Graduate Students Discussion Grou+
PS319-L	PS319-L@MIZZOU1	Discussion of Health Policy Students
RADSIG	RADSIG@UWAVM	Radiology Special Interest Group
SCHIZOPH	SCHIZOPH@UTORONTO	SCHIZOPH - Schizophrenia Discussion Group
SCHLRN-L	SCHLRN-L@UBVM	School Nurse Network
SMDM-L	SMDM-L@DARTCMS1	Medical Decision Making List
SNURSE-L	SNURSE-L@UBVM	SNURSE-L - An International Nursing Student +
SOREHAND	SOREHAND@UCSFVM	Discussion of Carpal Tunnel Syndrome, Tendon+
SPORTPSY	SPORTPSY@TEMPLEVM	Exercise and Sports Psychology
STROKE-L	STROKE-L@UKCC	Stroke Discussion List
THPHYSIO	THPHYSIO@FRMOP11	Thermal Physiology
TRNSPLNT	TRNSPLNT@WUVM	Organ transplant recipients and anyone else +
WISHPERD	WISHPERD@SJSUVM1	Women in Sport, Health, Physical Education, +
WITSENDO	WITSENDO@DARTCMS1	ENDometriosis Treatment and Support
WMN-HLTH	WMN-HLTH@UWAVM	WMN-HLTH

HANDOUT 3

TO GET A FULL LIST OF LISTS

- * Send your message to `listserv@bitnic.educom.edu`
- * Leave the "Subject:" line blank.
- * In the body of the message type `list global`.
- * Send the message.

TO DO A STRING SEARCH

- * Send your message to `listserv@bitnic.educom.edu`
- * Leave the "Subject:" line blank.
- * In the body of the message type `list global /###` (There is a space before the "/" sign which is followed by your key words.)
- * Send the message.

HANDOUT 4

GOPHER SITES ADDRESS

Albert Einstein College of Medicine, New York
gopher gopher.aecom.yu.edu

American Heart Association Gopher
gopher gopher.amhrt.org

Austin Hospital, Heidelberg, Victoria Australia
gopher petl.austin.unimelb.edu.au

Dana Medical Library Gopher
gopher salus.med.uvm.edu

Disability Gopher at Univ. of Wisconsin
gopher trace.waisman.wisc.edu

National Institutes of Health
gopher gopher.nih.gov

National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases
gopher gopher.niaid.nih.gov

The National Library of Medicine Gopher
gopher gopher.nlm.nih.gov

Nursing Gopher at the University of Tennessee
gopher nightingale.con.utk.edu

Pharmacology Gopher at Univ. of Texas, Houston, Medical School
gopher farmr4.med.uth.tmc.edu

Public Health Information in New York State.
gopher gopher.health.state.ny.us

Rural Health Care Gopher
gopher ruralnet.mu.wvnet.edu

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
gopher gopher.os.dhhs.gov

United Cerebral Palsy Association
mchnet.ichp.ufl.edu

Stanford University
gopher camis.stanford.edu

Swedish Univeristy Network
gopher sunic.sunet.se

QUICK GOPHER HELP

Moving Around Gopherspace:

- * Up----- Move to previous line.
- * Down----- Move to next line.
- * Right Return----- "Enter/Display current item.
- * Left, u----- "Exit" current item/Go up a level.

- * >, +, pgdwn, space-- Veiw next page.
- * <, _, Pgup, b----- Veiw previous page.
- * 0-9----- Go to a specific line.
- * m----- Go back to the main menu.

Bookmarks:

- * a---Add current item to the bookmark list.
- * A---Add current directory/search to bookmark list.
- * v---View bookmark list.
- * d---Delete a bookmark/directory entry.

Other Commands:

- * s---Save current item to file.
- * D---Download a file.
- * q---Quit with prompt.
- * Q---Quit unconditionally.
- * =---Display technical information about current item.
- * o---Open a new gopher server.
- * O---Change options.
- * /---Search for an item in the menu.
- * n---Find next search item.
- * !,\$-Shell escape (Unix) or spawn subprocess (VMS).

QUICK GOPHER FILE HELP

- u, ^G, left---Return to menu
- space, down---Move to the next page
- b,up-----Move to the previous page
- /-----Search for text
- m-----Mail current document
- s-----Save current document
- p-----Print current document
- D-----download current document

HANDOUT 6

INTERNET MEDICAL USENET NEWSGROUPS

A. Patient Support

1. alt.support.arthritis
2. alt.support.attn-deficit
3. alt.support.big-folks
4. alt.support.cancer
5. alt.support.crohns-colitis
6. alt.support.depression
7. alt.support.diet
8. alt.support.eating-disord
9. bit.listserv.transplant
10. clari.tw.health
11. clari.tw.health.aids
12. alt.support.mult-sclerosis
13. alt.support.obesity
14. alt.support.spina-bifida
15. misc.health.diabetes
16. alt.med.allergy

B. Clinical

1. bit.listserv.autism
2. bit.listserv.deaf-1
3. bit.listserv.medforum
4. bit.listserv.medlib-1
5. bit.listserv.mednews
6. alt.image.medical
7. sci.med
8. sci.med.aids
9. sci.med.dentistry
10. sci.med.nursing
11. sci.med.nutrition
12. sci.med.occupational
13. sci.med.pharmacy
14. sci.med.physics
15. sci.med.psychobiology
16. sci.med.radiology
17. sci.med.telemedicine
18. talk.politics.medicine

HANDOUT 7

NEWSGROUP SEARCH COMMANDS

TO READ

VN -N newsgroup address
VN -N alt.usage.english

TO FIND THE ADDRESS BY DOING A KEY WORD SEARCH

GREP keyword .newsrc
GREP library .newsrc

TIN

Type TIN at home directory
hit / to search a particular newsgroup
for example: / uvm.forsale

LS -a (to find a file ".newsrc")

Selectnews (to subscribe or unsubscribe)

More .newsrc (to view the file only)

HANDOUT 8

EVALUATION FORM
LISTS/GOPHER

Please complete this evaluation form to help us improve our service.

Status: (1) UVM Faculty/Staff/Fellow (2) UVM Student (3) MCHV

Date _____

Scale:

- 5 = strongly agree
- 4 = agree
- 3 = uncertain
- 2 = disagree
- 1 = strongly disagree

- 1. I learned valuable List/Gopher skills and info. 5 4 3 2 1
- 2. Course content met my expectations. 5 4 3 2 1
- 3. Class examples were useful. 5 4 3 2 1
- 4. The class length was adequate. 5 4 3 2 1
- 5. The instructor was patient and helpful. 5 4 3 2 1
- 6. The instructor was knowledgeable in the subject. 5 4 3 2 1
- 7. Please record your overall reaction to the CDPLUS/CINAHL training session by **CIRCLING** the appropriate point on the scale.

5 EXCELLENT 4 3 2 1 POOR

Other Comments:

Thank you for your time and cooperation

Tutor's Initial _____