New Ovid Functions

All of the new Ovid functions featured below are provided only to the faculty, fellows, residents, staff, and students officially affiliated with the Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center of New Orleans.

Ask a Librarian

Are you at Ovid's Main Search Page and puzzled about how to get started with your research?
The *Ask a Librarian* feature provides an online form to submit questions or requests for assistance from the Reference Department while searching in the Ovid database system. It is comparable to the Library's Electronic Reference Service in that the Reference Librarians make every effort to respond to your email questions within one working day via the user's e-mail address.

Save Search
(Also See the **Ovid Hints Column**)

What if you're doing a search and you can't finish perusing your results?
The Ovid's *Save Search* feature permits LSUHSC users to store search sets that have been created during a current search session. Users may log off and retrieve a save search at a later time without having to retype each search set. Users may save a search set temporarily, permanently, or as an *AutoAlert (SDI)*.

AutoAlert
formerly SDI (Selective Dissemination of Information)

Would you like to be informed of any recent developments on your research topic?
With Ovid's new *AutoAlert* feature, LSUHSC users can keep up-to-date with the latest information. An *AutoAlert* is a saved search that runs automatically without any intervention on the users part. When users save an *AutoAlert (SDI)* in a database, the *AutoAlert* runs whenever the database is updated. The *AutoAlert* profile retrieves any newly added documents on your subject and the search results are sent via email.

Session Recovery

What happens if while conducting a long, complex search strategy (history), the Ovid database system crashes? *Session Recovery* permits LSUHSC users to recover search sessions that timed-out or ended unexpectedly. At login, after an interrupted search strategy, users are given the options to recover the search strategy (history) intact or begin a new search. The feature works by maintaining a time log of searches in a file located in the user's home directory.

For assistance in using the above Ovid search functions, please contact the Library Reference Department at (504) 568-6102 or (504) 568-8339 or at the Dental Library (504) 619-8507. Also, our e-mail addresses are linked from the Library's web page: http://www.lsuhsc.edu/no/library/staff.html *link removed*. The Dental Library staff can be reached from their web page: http://www.lsusd.lsumc.edu/libr/ *link removed*.

-- Carolyn K. Bridgewater
cbridg@lsuhsc.edu *link removed*

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Expanded Access to MD Consult

The LSUHSC Library is pleased to announce that the School of Medicine (New Orleans) has generously expanded the availability of MDConsult to the LSUHSC Community. It is accessible as a hyperlink from the Library's web page http://www.lsuhsc.edu/library/NO *link removed* as well as directly from the LSUHSC web site http://www.lsuhsc.edu/mdconsult *link removed*. MDConsult is available to all LSU Health Sciences Center personnel with their LSUHSC User ID and Password. First time access requires that several questions be answered, and a "sign up" agreement accepted. Subsequent logins then require only the LSUHSC User ID and Password.

What is MDConsult?
MDConsult is an online resource containing full-text access to over 35 reference texts *link removed*, 45 clinical journals *link removed*, 600+ practice guidelines, drug information, patient handouts and more. MDConsult, while designed with medical clinicians in mind, will provide additional resources for the Allied Health, Dentistry, Graduate School and Nursing professions as well.

The Reference Librarians are incorporating instruction of MDConsult into their Computer Classes. Contact one of the Librarians via the Electronic Reference Service *link removed* or in the Reference Department at (504) 568-6102 or (504) 568-8339 on the Main Campus or (504) 619-8507 on the Dental Campus for information on searching MDConsult, registering for or setting up a class, or for any additional information about the Library's resources. User ID and Password questions should be directed to the individual department's computer support personnel.

Remember: LSUHSC - NO has a limited number of simultaneous user licenses. Please use the official MDConsult "Log Off" option upon completion of the session to allow other LSUHSC users access. After logout, the user is directed to MDConsult's Main web page. LSUHSC User IDs and Passwords will not be accepted at this location. LSUHSC personnel must login through the University's server.

-- Kathy Kerdolff
kkerdo@lsuhsc.edu *link removed*

Pfizer Award Winner
Elizabeth A. Strother

This summer Liz Strother, Head of the Dental Library, celebrated her 28th year as a professional librarian and was also selected as a 2000 recipient of an LSUHSC Pfizer Award for Excellence in Education, Research, and Patient Care. The Library was pleased that another of its employees was recognized for her commitment and dedication to providing a high level of Library Service.

Liz began her career in 1972 at the UNO library as the Interlibrary Loan Librarian and a staff member in the Humanities Reference Department. She came to New Orleans from her home state of Michigan after completing her Masters in Library Science at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. Originally Liz expected her move to New Orleans to be a pleasant but brief adventure, and assumed she would continue her career with a return to the Midwest. In 1978 Library Director John Isché hired her as the new Head of the Dental Library, a position Liz has held for 22 years!

A strong philosophy of service is important to Liz. She and her staff strive to create a Library environment in which users are comfortable in seeking help and in mastering the informatics skills needed of today's health care professionals. She especially appreciates the personal relationships that have developed through the years with students and faculty. In the last 28 years Liz has observed and been a part of the evolving nature of Library Service. The arrival of computers and the Internet are the most significant changes she has observed during her tenure at the Dental School Library. She is especially proud of the Dental Information Management Skills (DIMS) course she teaches to incoming freshmen students. Through her efforts the Curriculum Committee originally approved her course in 1988. The 10-hour class has been revised through the years with changes in content and in methods of presentation of material.

During her professional career Liz has been a member and officer in a variety of Library organizations including the Louisiana Library Association, the Medical Library Association, and the South Central Chapter of the Medical Library Association. She also participates actively on various Dental School committees.

In addition to her professional interests Liz enjoys a variety of activities. She is an avid quilter, and has mastered hand-sewing skills through projects for family members. She especially enjoys baking and her co-workers at the Dental and Isché Libraries look forward to her treats at department functions. With her husband, Garland, Liz shares a strong interest in Latin culture, language, and music and makes yearly trips to Mexico.

As Liz completes another year as Head of the Dental Library she says she is enjoying her role more. She described her job as a "perfect one" in which she has a nice blend of independence and support. With a centralized Library Administration providing the support for acquisitions, cataloging, and other tasks, she is able to focus on providing a high level of Library Service to Dental School faculty and students.

The staff of LSUHSC Dental and Isché Libraries congratulates Liz on receiving the Pfizer award and celebrates her commitment to Library Service. We are fortunate to have her as our colleague!

-- Pauline Fulda
Julie Schiavo

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Announcements

Library Display Featuring:

The Neuroscience Center of Excellence and Nicolás G. Bazan, MD, PhD
The Library has created a new display which highlights the accomplishments of the Neuroscience Center. The centerpiece of the exhibit is the May 2000 issue of *Neurochemical Research* which was a "Special Issue Dedicated to Nicolás G. Bazan, MD, PhD." The display cases surround the Library stairwell.

Copy Card Change Over

The Library (and the University) is changing to a single card system for both copying and printing. New vend units will be installed on all copiers in the Isché Library and on two of the three copiers at the Dental Library. The Library hopes to have some of the new vend units installed before October 1st, to begin the changeover process. Signage about the changeover will be posted in both Libraries. There will be a transition period so that our users will have ample time to exchange their old cards for new ones.

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Reference Services

The Library offers many Reference services to its patrons. The following is a list of our key services. For more information, please contact the Reference Department: Main Campus (504) 568-6102 or (504) 568-8339; Dental Campus (504) 619-8507.

Searching

The Reference Staff offers mediated searching to Library patrons. A mediated search is one the Librarian does for you. Most searches are free, but if a search utilizes a subscription database, then the cost will be passed on the requestor.

The Reference staff is also available to consult with regarding searches that you are performing yourself. If help is needed in formulating a search strategy or deciding which databases to use, please contact one of the Reference Librarians.

Classes

Computer system classes are available from the Reference Staff. The standard class covers the INNOPAC Library Catalog and the Ovid system. The Ovid system is how the library offers access to databases like, MEDLINE, CINAHL, HealthSTAR, PsycInfo, BioethicsLine, ERIC, and the Core Biomedical Collection. The classes also incorporate using MDConsult now that it is widely available (See related story).

There are many more databases and search systems available from the Library. Personalized classes (for LSUHSC faculty, staff, and students) may be arranged that are tailored to your educational needs. A professor may arrange a session for a class that will teach students how to use the systems that are particular to a field of study. There must be at least five individuals per class.

Electronic Services

The Library also offers to patrons with a valid LSUHSC User ID and Password an Electronic Reference Service. From the link on the Library's homepage *link removed* you may email your reference questions to the Librarians. The service is checked twice a day, Monday through Friday, and an answer should be received within 24 hours during the week.

Our Ovid system has a new feature which works similarly. The *Ask a Librarian* feature is linked directly from Ovid and functions the same way as the Electronic Reference Service.

-- Jennifer Kelly
jkelly1@lsuhsc.edu *link removed*

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Helpful new resource for students and researchers
Resource Guides

The LSUHSC Library's knowledgeable Reference Staff has created online "Resource Guides" to give Library users a place to start when researching popular subjects. The Guides list materials available in the Library or freely available on the Internet and include call numbers and locations. And though the Guides are selective (not comprehensive), they include a wide variety of resources -- from books and journals to Library-created databases, suggested database subjects, and useful Internet resources.

Available Resource Guides include:
- Herbal Medicine
- Nursing Care Plans
- Statistics
- Tests and Instruments

They are located at http://www.lsuhsc.edu/no/library/guides/ *link removed* (or just follow the link from the Library's homepage *link removed*). These topics were chosen because they were identified as frequently requested subjects; more topics will be added in the future. We hope that these Resource Guides will make the initial searching process a little easier for our valued patrons.

-- Beth Oliver
eolive@lsuhsc.edu *link removed*

Ovid Hints:
Save Search

By selecting the *Save Search History* button from Ovid's Main Search Page, LSUHSC users may store their current search session, and retrieve the search later without retyping each search set manually. When users select the *Save Search History* button, the following page appears:

Users of the Ovid system may choose from one or more of the following *Save Search* options:
- Select the *temporarily* button to save a search history for 24 hours
- Select the *permanently* button to save a search for an indefinite period of time, or until the user deletes it
- Select the *AutoAlert (SDI) Service* button to save a search as an *AutoAlert* which executes automatically when the Ovid databases are updated, and any recently-added publications based upon the user's save search will be forwarded directly to the specified email address.

In the box labeled *Search Name*, users are directed to type a short one word or phrase to identify their search history at a later date. In contrast, in the box labeled *Comment*, users may give a more detail explanation of

the contents and/or purpose of their research. After selecting the appropriate checkbox and adding pertinent information, users are directed to the *Save Search* button at the bottom of the page to store their search history. In order to execute a save search, users simply select *Run Save Search* on Ovid's Main Search Page. LSUHSC users should note that the *Save Search* is stored on the computer server running Ovid, and not the individual's personal computer.

For assistance on using the *Save Search* feature, or any other search features, please contact the Library Reference Department at (504) 568-6102 or (504) 568-8339 or at the Dental Library (504) 619-8507. Also, our email addresses are linked from the Library's web page: http://www.lsuhsc.edu/no/library/staff.html *link removed*. The Dental Library staff can be reached from their web page: http://www.lsusd.lsumc.edu/libr/ *link removed*.

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-- Carolyn K. Bridgewater
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Highlighted Websites:
Student Loans

There's a catch to that magical money bankrolling our educations called Student Loans. At some point in the future, the lending institution will want the money back - with interest. So it's important to fully understand your payment options and obligations. Oh sure, we all sat through the video and signed/initialed in triplicate, but we really just wanted the cash. Now that the time to pay the piper is creeping closer, or perhaps that dreaded time has arrived, suddenly the small print has become more interesting. Here are a few web sites to ease your financial woes and help with the journey back to solvency.

Federal Student Financial Aid Homepage
http://www.ed.gov/offices/OSFAP/Students/ *link removed*
Under the heading "Paying Back Your Student Loan" are a variety of repayment options tailored to the needs of the individual. Deferment, consolidation, defaulted loans, and service options for reducing debt are well covered.

FinAid! The SmartStudent Guide to Financial Aid
http://www.finaid.org/ *link removed*
This site addresses the entire financial aid process from applying for loans to the monthly repayment you can expect in the end. One of the most useful sections is "Answering Your Questions" which not only links to "Frequently Asked Questions", but also provides the option to email a financial aid advisor for very specific answers to questions.

Louisiana Office of Student Financial Assistance
http://www.osfa.state.la.us/ *link removed*
The site provides information on interest rates, loan limits, and fees associated with student loans. It also provides phone/FAX/email contact information within the state for questions regarding a variety of topics related to student loans.

Types of Financial Aid Available
http://www.lsuhsc.edu/catalog/1998/typesfa.htm *link removed*
Many financial aid offices, universities, and lenders have their own web sites available to help you to better understand the terms of student loans. The LSU Health Sciences Center is no exception with a variety of financial aid options and information provided through the online catalog.

-- David Wolff
dwolff@lsuhsc.edu *link removed*

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Staff News

Marlene Bishop is the new Acquisitions/Collection Development Libarian. She has worked at the LSUHSC Library since 1995 and is a recent LSU School of Library and Information Science graduate.

Carolyn K. Bridgewater, Reference Librarian at the John P. Isché Library (Resource Center), received a William D. Postell Professional Development Award to attend an ALA-REFORMA workshop entitled, "Electronic Resources for a New Majority."

Marilyn Harrison, Evening Circulation Associate, received an Employee Service Award for achieving 20 years of service to the Library.

James Hartgers joined the Library Staff in July as a Day Circulation Associate at the John P. Isché Library.

Michelle Hudson, Document Delivery Associate, left the Library in June to pursue a graduate degree.

Jennifer L. Kelly, Evening Reference Librarian at the John P. Isché Library (Resource Center), was married to Lance Hill in early October.

Kathryn E. Kerdolff, Reference Librarian at the John P. Isché Library (Resource Center), presented a paper, "Technical Gumbo: A Common Sense Approach for Increasing Access to State Morbidity Publications via the Internet" at the Public Health Informatics and Distance Learning Conference in New Orleans in August.

Elizabeth Strother, Head of the Dental Library, has been awarded one of the 2000 Pfizer Excellence Awards (See related story).

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Publishing Information

LSUHSC Library-New Orleans' *Library Bulletin* is published three times per year, corresponding to the university's three semesters.

All current LSUHSC faculty, staff, and students should receive an automatic announcement about the availability of a new issue. If you are not receiving these announcements, or if you are not a current member of the LSUHSC community and would like to receive these announcements, please contact Jennifer Lloyd at jlloyd@lsuhsc.edu.

Archived copies of the newsletter may be found via the LSUHSC Library's homepage at http://www.lsuhsc.edu/no/library/ *link removed*.

Additionally, the LSUHSC Dental Library publishes its own newsletter, the *Library Explorer*. Copies are archived via the LSUHSC Dental Library homepage *link removed* under *Library Explorer*.

Contributing Writers

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