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Report

SPRING 2009 ISSUE

LIBRARIES AND COLLEGE OF NURSING CREATE ONLINE STUDENT TUTORIAL

Nursing students can learn the basic steps for success in their academic research in a short, straightforward online tutorial now offered on the Libraries website and the College of Nursing web site. The Nursing Information Literacy tutorial enables students to refine their skills in:

- developing a research question
- working with the two major databases for nursing, CINAHL and Medline, by using advanced search methods
- locating full-text articles
- using RefWorks to obtain citations and create bibliographies in APA format.

The tutorial, presented in Flash-animated format, also

offers a printable summary of all the steps reviewed. A direct link to the *Ask A Librarian* service within the tutorial allows users to pose follow up questions to Rutgers University librarians. The entire tutorial will take most users less than half an hour to complete.

The Nursing Information Literacy Tutorial was created by the Rutgers University Libraries and the Rutgers College of Nursing, with programming support from the instructional design firm Kognito. The faculty at the

College of Nursing and their students participated in the initial development of the tutorial and also helped to test it as the design process progressed. Faculty members from the college also served on the advisory team for the project.

Librarians in the Rutgers University Libraries who specialize in nursing - Jackie Mardikian at New Brunswick, Ann Watkins at Newark, and John Maxymuk at Camden -



worked to keep the tutorial focused on the material that would be most useful to nursing students as they conducted their research.

The development of the nursing tutorial fits within the Libraries broader goal of curricular integration of information literacy skills, which are best fostered by working collaboratively with academic departments and units. Activities in this vein are a vital goal for Rutgers, since information literacy is a value

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DESIGNING THE LIBRARY INFRASTRUCTURE OF TOMORROW

The Rutgers University Libraries are part of a select international group working together to design the software needed to effectively run the libraries of the 21st century.

Libraries across the western world have come to recognize the many limitations of the current vendor-created software systems that libraries use to catalog resources and monitor their use. Commercial integrated library systems (ILS), built on a model of library functions that is now 15-20 years old, are not easily adaptable to current realities.

Libraries face significant hurdles in customizing commercial ILS software to meet their needs due to the software's proprietary nature. Libraries find current ILS software – developed with a focus on print publications - inadequate to the task of integrating digital resources in a variety of forms into their collections. Libraries also expend considerable effort working to integrate other institutional software that identifies users, such as university enrollment systems, with their ILS.

Duke University Libraries posed a casual inquiry on library list-servs in January 2008 about ILS software. The posting drew responses from over 100 institutions with most expressing dissatisfaction with current commercial ILS products and interest in developing alternatives.

Responding to the need for more functional alternatives, Duke University Libraries has formed a

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explicitly recognized in the Middle States accreditation process. The partnership with the College of Nursing was uniquely beneficial since the nursing program is offered on all three Rutgers campuses, the library liaison relationship with the school is quite strong, and the evidence-based practice used in health care is quite consciously dependant on information literacy.

"The tutorial is still relatively new but already this past semester nursing faculty and library liaisons have used the tutorial within their classes," said Valeda Dent Goodman, Associate University Librarian for Research and Instruction Services. "Our end goal is to have the tutorial embedded in as many nursing courses as possible, thus providing a way to infuse baseline research skills into each course, especially those courses that have a research component."

To access the tutorial, please go to: <http://tinyurl.com/ajg2ys> ■

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consortium with academic library partners to develop a new open source ILS to best serve libraries' needs. The initiative, funded by a grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, has been called OLE – the Open Library Environment.

The Rutgers University Libraries were chosen to be partners in the OLE project in recognition of our cutting-edge work in developing the technology that runs the statewide New Jersey Digital Highway (NJDH) repository and the NJVid video-on-demand repository, both funded by grants from the federal Institute of Museums and Library Services organization (IMLS). The Rutgers University Libraries were recognized as well for our pioneering work on two projects that have received support from the Library of Congress: developing the Moving Images Collections catalog of notable video collections and creating a workflow management systems that the Library of

LIBRARIES WELCOME NEW DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

The Rutgers University Libraries are pleased to welcome Tara McDonnell as the Libraries' newly appointed Director of Development. Tara began her work in the Libraries in January.

Tara comes to the Libraries with considerable fund raising experience. Most recently she served as manager of board relations for the New York Botanical Garden. Prior to that, she worked for six years as a fund raiser for the New York Public Library in Manhattan, rising to the position of associate manager of major gifts. Tara received her Bachelor of Arts degree from Oberlin College with a double major of East Asian Studies and English, and also worked as a middle school English teacher in the Bronx, New York.

As Director of Development for the Rutgers University Libraries, Tara will work closely with the Rutgers Foundation and the Vice President for Information Services/University Librarian to build relationships with university alumni, faculty, staff,



Tara McDonnell

volunteers and students in support of the Libraries and our priorities in the capital campaign. She will be working with individuals, corporations, foundations, and organizations to expand the external funding necessary to advance our innovative digital

projects, collections, academic services, instructional activities, and facilities.

Over the next several months, Tara will be learning about the operations of the Rutgers Foundation, visiting the campuses, and meeting with the Libraries' staff to learn more about our operations and needs.

"It is an exciting time to join the University Libraries as they explore new ways to advance research and learning at Rutgers," said Tara recently. "I look forward to connecting to the Libraries' many loyal friends and supporters and exploring new ways to promote the work of the university's most essential resource."

To contact Tara, please call her at 732/932.7505 or send her email at taramcd@rci.rutgers.edu. ■

Congress plans to use for other projects.

The Rutgers University Libraries hosted two two-day workshops with other regional OLE partners in December. Participants in these and other regional design workshops used Business Process Modeling (BPM) to identify all the work activities that must be integrated into a new software infrastructure, so that it operates most effectively.

The OLE project leaders plan to finish an Open Library Management System design document by the summer of 2009. The OLE project team hopes to receive additional grant support to develop the software and supporting infrastructures needed to create the new ILS software, which will dramatically improve libraries responsiveness to our digital era and best serve users needs in the 21st century and beyond.

Other partners in the OLE project include libraries professionals and IT leaders from Columbia University,

Duke University, Lehigh University, Library and Archives of Canada, National Library of Australia, Orbis Cascade Alliance, University of Chicago, University of Florida, University of Kansas, University of Pennsylvania, Vanderbilt University, and Whittier College.

For more information on the OLE project, please see: <http://oleproject.org>. ■

SAVE THE DATE

RUTGERS

DAY

Experience New Jersey's State University

Saturday, April 25

10 a.m.–4 p.m. • Rain or Shine • New Brunswick and Piscataway Campuses

A day of fun and learning for you and your family.
Admission, parking, and on-campus shuttles are free.

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For more information, visit rutgersday.rutgers.edu or call 732-445-INFO.

The Report is a semi-annual publication from the Office of the University Librarian.

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NEW GROUP STUDY ROOMS IN KILMER LIBRARY

The four newly created group study rooms on the second floor of the Kilmer Library have become a popular attraction for students on the Livingston campus. In the photo to the right, Sarah Carpen, Stephanie Cottino, and Dan Ulvoczyk work on a class assignment together in one of the rooms. ■

