Welcome New Students!

The end of August saw a flurry of activity around the CUMC campus with the arrival of new students. We wish all of them a warm welcome and good luck in this new adventure! In order to help them get started with their research and study, the library has added a page of information for individuals new to Columbia with tips on wireless use, printing, setting up a consultation with a librarian, signing up for a class, and finding a quiet study space. Go to: http://library.cumc.columbia.edu/new-columbia

New Mobile Apps HSL Page

A new comprehensive page of useful mobile apps for iOS or Android devices has been added to the Health Sciences Library Web site. Read books and articles available at Columbia, search remote databases, or save and organize the citations to sources you find interesting. It is all at your fingertips with the help of a number of mobile apps that you can find at:

http://tinyurl.com/ldo8sjn

SPSS & R on Lynda.com

Lynda.com is an extensive library of training videos on a diversity of topics ranging from social media, Web design, digital photography and resume writing. Those interested in using SPSS and R may find introductory courses on the installation and use of these statistical analysis tools: SPSS Statistics Essential Training and Up and Running with R. You may log in to Lynda.com with your Columbia UNI and password at:

http://tinyurl.com/oq4cpwt

Resource Spotlight

The Augustus C. Long Health Sciences Library has recently licensed the online tutorial resource, OpenHelix. This resource provides how-to tutorials, PowerPoint slides, and hands-on exercises for a variety of genomic research tools ranging from literature databases like PubMed to genome browsers like UCSC Genome Browser and all the NCBI tools.

Start with OpenHelix’s overview presentations.

- NCBI Overview
- Overview of Genome Browsers
- Word Tour of Genomics Resources

Or browse all the OpenHelix tutorials by the various categories, such as Algorithms and Analysis, EBI Expression, Genome Databases (eu) Genome Databases (pro), Literature and Text Mining, Miscellaneous, NCBI, Nucleotides, Pathways Proteins, Variation & Medical.

You may find OpenHelix at:

http://tinyurl.com/qescozu

or you may go to More Health Sciences databases under Top Resources on our library home page at:

http://library.cumc.columbia.edu/

Follow us on Twitter @CUMC library

Got a question or a suggestion?
Send us a tweet! Now you can follow us on Twitter at:

@CUMClibrary

Improved Borrow Direct Service

Borrow Direct, a lending consortium that allows for fast and easy access to materials held by other Ivy League institutions, has recently been expanded to include the University of Chicago.

The Borrow Direct libraries collectively share over 50 million volumes that can be searched in a single search. Requests made through the system typically arrive in four to five days and are available for a six week loan period with one renewal. See the Columbia University Library website for more information:

http://tinyurl.com/nhcd7fr
Ending XP Support Means a Rise in Attacks

In April of 2014, Windows XP will no longer be supported by Microsoft. Security patches and updates won’t be released to protect computers still using XP, making it much more vulnerable to attacks.

Security experts are also predicting that hackers who uncover zero-day exploits (new discoveries about vulnerabilities with XP) will hang on to the information until support ends in order to increase their value. exploits are usually exposed soon after their discovery, as hackers start taking advantage of them and the software vendor works to create and release fixes. With XP reaching end of support, exploits that will never have a patch released will be much more useful to those wanting to take advantage of them.

It is tempting to assume that XP does not have many vulnerabilities left after having been used for so long, but this is faulty thinking. Operating systems are complex by nature; the fact that security patches are still needed more than a decade after XP’s original release proves this. They also interact with new and updated versions of programs which can uncover or even create new flaws.

Microsoft estimates that approximately thirty percent of PCs are still running Windows XP, however with the inevitable need to replace old systems and hardware it is important to prepare for upgrading now. Old operating systems also become less able to run contemporary versions of software and websites that use newer technologies.

Windows 7 is the current OS that is most compatible with common CUMC applications and security requirements. Columbia’s site license with Microsoft provides a free copy of Windows to Medical Center students: http://cuit.columbia.edu/cuit/software-downloads/microsoft-student-software-portal

What’s That Application?

The Medical Center offers a wide variety of programs and avenues of research. Software and applications used by schools and departments can vary just as much. If you aren’t sure how to gain access to an application, it is usually easiest to check with your instructor or school since access is most often granted based on enrollment or approval by them.

To help keep track of commonly used applications, CUMC IT does keep a list that includes information on how to get an account or other assistance with a program. Visit the CUMC Applications and Access page at: http://cumc.columbia.edu/it/getting_help/applications.html

The most widely used programs are listed near the top of the page, with umbrella categories of programs such as “Academic and Research” or “Clinical” listed further below.

We welcome any help in keeping this information as current as possible, if you notice a program that isn’t listed or have any suggestions please email us at help@columbia.edu

Regular Hours (from 9/4)

Mon. - Thurs. - 8:00 AM – 11:00 PM, Fri. - 8:00 AM – 8:00 PM
Sat. - 10:00 AM – 11:00 PM, Sun. - 12:00 Noon – 11:00 PM

Walk-in Research Help: Mon. - Fri., 11:00 AM – 5:00 PM
24 Hour Computer Room - 24 hours/7 days
After Hours Study Room - 24 hours/7 days
PH-17 Computer 8:00 AM - 2:00 AM