Her name is Lindsay Greenawalt and she is the new Reference and Instruction Librarian at the Health Sciences Library. She recently completed her Master’s degree in Library and Information Science from Kent State University, where she focused on health sciences librarianship and interned at Case Western Reserve University’s Health Center Library. Lindsay holds a B.S. in Biology with a concentration in Genetics and she spent two years working in biomedical research labs at the Cleveland Clinic and Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center before starting graduate school. She is excited to join the staff here and looks forward to providing information and research support to the students, faculty, and clinicians at CUMC. Look for classes starting next semester aimed for Mac users, and in the interim please see her with questions. Contact Lindsay by email at lg2683@columbia.edu or phone at (212) 305-1410.

In addition to the e-books already owned, the Health Sciences Library has acquired an Elsevier Clinical Dentistry 2000-2010 e-book collection on ScienceDirect comprised of 23 online books. The titles may be searched individually in CLIO (library catalog). Examples of the titles in the collection: Principles and Practice of Implant Dentistry, Treatment Planning in Dentistry, Principles and Practice of Laser Dentistry. For more information contact Marina Chilov, Reference and Monograph Collection Development Librarian at mz84@columbia.edu or 212-305-6875.

In order to satisfy some long standing requests for new journal subscriptions in the Health Science Library journal collection, cancellations of lower use journals were made at a relatively equal level. For future information on HSL journal management please check the Journals Collection Development Policies or contact Susan Klimley, Serials and Electronic Resources Librarian at klimley@columbia.edu, or 212-305-1409.
Sockets online refer to a method used by web sites to securely transmit sensitive financial and personal information. Secure Sockets Layer (SSL) is a method of encrypting data that is being sent between computers. Companies that provide banking, shopping, and account services online can obtain an SSL certificate that proves the web site has been thoroughly reviewed and approved by trusted third parties such as VeriSign.

While the receipt of a valid digital certificate and encryption of the data being sent is typically transparent while you are using the web site, current web browsers have easy to recognize flags that show SSL is being properly used:

- The address of the web site begins with https. Checking the weather, looking up news and other general web surfing doesn’t need the same level of security as logging into your bank account. You’ll notice that general web site addresses start with just http; think of the additional s as standing for security.
- A padlock will appear on the browser when SSL is used – it may be in the lower right corner or top bar depending on the browser you use.
- Part of the browser’s address bar is green or blue, with the company name appearing in this area. If you see red here, the certificate is not valid and the site should not be trusted — don’t log in or enter any sensitive information!

Aside from businesses that deal with financial data online, companies including Facebook and Gmail offer SSL encryption for your account to help protect personal information. While these sites should still be used with caution and the knowledge that they are frequently targeted by hackers and phishers, if you do use them make sure your account is set for SSL by default. Go into your Account Settings and select any option for a “secure connection”, “secure browsing” or “https”.

Cloud computing – the ability to store and access files or applications from multiple devices using an account login – is a great development that frees us from the problems associated with physically transporting electronic information. Anyone who has gone through a computer crashing, losing their smartphone or USB key, or dropping a laptop or tablet can easily understand how convenient it would be to simply log in to another system and have some or all of their data immediately accessible again.

Health care institutions and any public or commercial businesses that access and storage their data must comply with federal HIPAA regulations to prevent release of PHI and other sensitive information. Popular cloud computing companies such as Apple’s iCloud or Dropbox cannot be used for file storage, backups, etc. from devices that access CUMC institutional data and applications, including email and VPN.

For alternate methods please see the Computer Security pages at http://www.cumc.columbia.edu/it/security, including encryption and backup information.

Sockets on a Web site?

ICloud, Dropbox—Not Secure Enough

Regular Fall Semester Hours

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