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Brown Bag Sessions

February
If you weren’t able to attend our February Brown Bag: Working Together: Health Care and Law Enforcement, watch the video available on the Library’s page on exhibits and brown bag sessions, http://libguides.siumed.edu/exhibits/bb-lawenforcement

Our panelists were Sergeant Gerry Castles, Officer Rikki Castles, Officer Chris Jones (Springfield Police Department), Chief Greg Damarin (SIU School of Medicine’s Office of Police and Security), Tracey Smith, DNP (SIU Family and Community Medicine), and Dr. Kari Wolf (SIU Medicine, Psychiatry).

We were lucky to get this great panel together to share projects, resources and procedures and discuss how local law enforcement and health care professionals can work together more effectively, particularly with clients with mental health issues.

This brown bag was organized as part of an ongoing discussion between Springfield Law Enforcement, SIU School of Medicine, and other local health care professionals and community services to build better connections and ultimately, long-term solutions for issues within our community

April
April is Prevent Child Abuse Awareness Month. A brown bag is scheduled for April 25th in the Dirksen Conference Room.

Watch for a brown bag announcement later this month.

In the meantime, a Library Subject Guide with a list of Resources is at http://libguides.siumed.edu/exhibits/bb-childabuse

Multimedia Project Design Elective

The Medical Library (Dept of Information & Communication Sciences) offers an 1 week elective for 1 credit for 4th year medical students.

Students will use the high end software and equipment available in the Library’s audio and video editing suite (also known as the CAVE) to create a short video, podcast or multimedia presentation on a health or medical topic for a target audience.

Students may develop their own topic or choose one suggested by School of Medicine faculty.

Library faculty provide support and training for using equipment. Students do not need to have expertise in multimedia. It is an opportunity to be creative in delivering a message or information.

We encourage faculty to contact us with ideas for projects such as a short (5 min or less) informational
Study Breaks

It’s a Circus!

The Medical Library hosted a circus themed study break on March 1. In addition to guzzling coffee, students enjoyed hotdogs, peanuts, cupcakes decorated like popcorn, and other circus-themed snacks.

A message on a dry-erase board asked students and staff what job they would most enjoy if they worked in a circus; the most common answer was trapeze artist.

Zen Study Breaks

The library will host two additional study breaks on May 31st and June 7th. Because we know students will be frantically studying for Step 1 during this time and thus understandably under a lot of stress, these study breaks will be “Zen” themed. In addition to tea, coffee, and treats, a professional massage therapist will be available on both days to provide massages.

More information about how to sign up for a massage will be sent out in May.

15 Year Service Awards

Please join us in celebrating Sheri Daniels and Lori Thompson’s 15 year anniversary working at the Medical Library! We are so lucky to have these two incredible employees and we are extremely grateful for their continued service to SIU Medicine.

Thank you Sheri and Lori!

Good Reads


In his new book Attending: Medicine, Mindfulness, and Humanity, Dr. Ronald Epstein explores how the “four foundations of mindfulness” (Attention, Curiosity, Beginner’s Mind, and Presence) can be applied to the clinical experience.

Epstein believes that the commodification of health care” has led to clinical burnout and a focus on the bottom line; he argues that mindfulness can help reverse this trend and help restore humanity and compassion to medical practice.


Following up on his Pulitzer Prize winning “biography” of cancer, The Emperor of All Maladies, Siddhartha Mukherjee recently published a new biography entitled: The Gene: An Intimate History.

As the title suggests, the book guides readers through the history of the gene from theoretical conception to scientific mastery. In so doing, Mukherjee also explores the ethical implications that arise from the ability to manipulate the human genome.

Medical professionals and novices alike will enjoy this highly engaging exploration of the gene.

Both books are available at the Medical Library.

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Highlighted Resources: Intro to Infographics Guide

Looking for ways to make data and resource videos more interesting? Infographics might be the answer, offering a way to use fewer words and more pictures or graphics to get your point across.

The class guide for Intro to Infographics can be used by anyone on their own time. While it is not a step-by-step type of guide, it provides links to examples, online tools and guidelines on creating infographics. Explore and get ideas for your own presentations.

Free versions of the online creation sites, provide templates to get you started, and provide many Icons, Shapes and Interactive Charts and Maps.

Download jpg images of the presentation to use in PowerPoint slides or handouts or use screen capture software such as Camtasia to capture the dynamic presentation on the screen.

The direct link to the guide is http://libguides.siumed.edu/infographics.

Need a Nap?

Tired, sleepy medical students and residents now have a comfy place to take a quick nap or to lounge while they study.

Deb Kamen, MD, Associate Dean for Education and Curriculum has contributed two inflatable hammocks to the Library. We were entertained by Dr. Klamen and others running through the Library to inflate the hammocks with air.

Regrettably, no pictures were taken of inflation running rampant through the Library.

Pi Day in the Library

Pi Day is celebrated on March 14th (3/14) around the world.

Pi (Greek letter “π”) is the symbol used in mathematics to represent a constant — the ratio of the circumference of a circle to its diameter — which is approximately 3.14159.

In the spirit of fun, Library staff made a Pi symbol out of Oreos so students and Library visitors could celebrate.

See picture on back page.
Pi made of Oreos to celebrate National Pi Day,