

Health Sciences Library Hires New Director

Columbia University Medical Center recently named Alena Ptak-Danchak as Director of the Health Sciences Library. "In this time of significant and somewhat uncertain transition, Alena brings a thorough understanding of the issues and, equally important, of the context - both the medical center and the university," said Pat Molholt, head of the Office of Education and Scholarly Resources. Ptak-Danchak's appointment marks the end of a lengthy search process. Molholt noted: "While this was a national search and we interviewed candidates from several other institutions, we found the best one was among us all the time".

Ptak-Danchak's face should look familiar to library regulars - she's been filling the library director's shoes for nearly two years. During her tenure as Acting Director, she has led the library through a successful lobby-level renovation that included a 24-hour computer lab/student study space and the Library Café. "Being a manager, with the ground constantly shifting underneath you, is the ultimate challenge," Ptak-Danchak said. "I'm attracted to these challenging situations."



Alena Ptak Danchak,
new Library Director

A Columbia alumna with over 25 years of experience working for the university, her vision for the emerging future of libraries focuses on innovation and collaboration. Among her top priorities is to demonstrate how the library and its resources can contribute to new ways of teaching and learning.

It is by listening to the needs of faculty, staff, and students that she will successfully plan and implement a proposed major renovation of the Health Sciences Library's two sub-lobby levels, she said.

Forming partnerships with faculty and other members of the CUMC and Columbia University communities is more important than ever now that people increasingly access library resources without visiting the library's physical space, believes Ptak-Danchak. Successful institutions involve "teams who can deal with unknowns, with 'maybe' and 'someday'," she said.

Rare Books Showcased for Ortho Alumni

Landmark texts from Hibbs Memorial Library detailing early developments in orthopaedics were showcased during a recent meeting of the New York Orthopaedic Hospital Alumni Association. The rare-book exhibit emphasized the beginnings of orthopaedics in the United States, including the work of American orthopaedic pioneers Louis Bauer and John B. Brown.

The 72nd meeting of NYOH alumni—which featured the latest research in various orthopaedics subspecialties, and honored distinguished alumni—proved a fitting venue to display special items from Hibbs Memorial Library of Orthopaedics. The exhibit drew attention to the urgent need for funds to preserve and repair items in its rare book collection.

A joint effort of two CUMC libraries, the exhibit was curated by Stephen Novak, Head of Archives and Special Collections at the Health Sciences Library (HSL), and assembled and hosted by Anca Meret, the librarian at Hibbs Memorial Library. This collaboration between Hibbs Library and HSL was spearheaded by Esperanza Soriano, Director of Administration of the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery, and Alena Ptak-Danchak, Library Director for HSL.

Hibbs Memorial Library of Orthopaedics was created in 1927 through a \$10,000 endowment by Dr. Russell A. Hibbs, one of the founders of the New York Orthopaedic Hospital. The Department of Orthopaedic Surgery, including chair Dr. Louis Bigliani, has continued a long-standing tradition of support for the library. For more information about Hibbs Memorial Library of Orthopaedics—located on the 11th floor of Presbyterian Hospital—please contact Anca Meret, at aom1@columbia.edu or 212-305-3294



Dr. Louis Bigliani, chair of the Dept. of Orthopaedic Surgery, and Anca Meret, the Librarian at Hibbs Memorial Library.

HSL HOURS

Monday – Friday 8:00 am – 11:00 pm
Saturday 10:00 am – 6:00 pm
Sunday 12:00 am – 11:00 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
Photocopy closes 15 minutes before the library
Memorial Day (May 28) Library Closed

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Need your computer fixed on the spot? Worried that a phone call to report a technical problem will take too long? Need some assistance with installing software or interpreting an error message? The Information Commons and CUBhis offer eSupport, a combined online chat and remote connection for PC support that allows an experienced technician to see exactly what you're seeing on your computer screen.

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Please note that eSupport is only available during the Information Commons' hours of operation, and it is not currently available for Macintosh users.

Office of Education and Scholarly Resources (OESR) includes the Augustus C. Long Health Sciences Library (**HSL**) the Information Commons (**IC**), the Center for Education Research and Evaluation (**CERE**), and the Office of Education of Columbia University's Medical Center. Hammer Health Sciences Center, 701 W. 168th Street, New York, NY 10032. TEL: (212) 305-3605, FAX: (212) 234-0595, EMAIL: hs-library@columbia.edu.



Windows Vista, Office 2007 and IE7 Compatibility

These programs are still being tested for compatibility with a number of vital applications at CUMC, including CourseWorks, SSOL, and the campus wireless networks. If you're shopping for a new computer, it probably now comes with Windows Vista as the default operating system. We recommend that you request Windows XP instead, and upgrade to Vista later to avoid any problems with the applications you need to use for school. Free upgrades to Vista will be available to students currently enrolled in a CUMC program, due to a campuswide Microsoft site license.

To verify that you are eligible, please log in to the Microsoft Download page with your UNI and password:
<http://vesta.cumc.columbia.edu/microsoft>

Office 2007 has a number of new features that pose a bit of a learning curve if you're familiar with prior versions of Word, Excel, Access and the other applications in this popular Microsoft software package. In addition, files created with Office 2007 are a new format that is not backwards-compatible. This means, for example, that a PowerPoint 2007 presentation might not work when you try to open it in a classroom or on a colleague's computer. The Microsoft Office Compatibility Pack has been released so that systems running older versions can open these new files, but be sure to verify ahead of time if you're relying on another computer to open a 2007 document. Be aware that many people haven't installed this update.

For more information please see:

<http://www.microsoft.com/windows/products/windowsvista> - Windows Vista homepage

<http://office.microsoft.com/en-us/products> - general information about Office 2007

<http://office.microsoft.com/en-us/downloads> - to download the Office Compatibility Pack

Details on all this and more are available at the CUBhis website: <http://www.cubhis.org>

For more information, visit the links at: **Getting Started → Students and Getting Help → Student FAQs**