BACK TO SCHOOL…
Two Librarians Share their Insights for the Year Ahead

The fall academic semester is already underway for many postsecondary institutions or will begin before the end of the month. For librarians who provide instruction for new or returning students and faculty, this is a busy time of year. What do you do to prepare? We asked two librarians for their input.

Frank Edgcombe is an Associate Professor/Reference Librarian at the William R. and Norma B. Harvey Library, Hampton University in Virginia. Over his 37 years as a librarian, he has also been the Assistant Director, Christopher Newport University, the Acting Library Director at Hampton University, and the Media Librarian at Montclair State University. Frank received his MA in History from New York University and his MLS from Rutgers University, as well as a 6th year Certificate.

Paul Fehrmann is an Associate Professor/Reference, Instruction, and Collection Librarian at the University Libraries, Kent State University. Paul has been at Kent State for 18 years.

PsycINFO (PI): What is your primary role and who is your main audience?

Frank Edgcombe (FE): My primary role is Reference Librarian. My main audiences are undergraduate students, but I also teach graduate students and faculty to use resources, including databases.

Paul Fehrmann (PF): In my role as a faculty librarian, I support students, staff and faculty at Kent State with services in reference, instruction and collection development; my emphasis is on these academic subject areas: psychology, philosophy, sociology, anthropology, and religious studies.

PI: As the fall semester approaches and gets underway, what do you have to do to prepare?

FE: As fall approaches I have to learn new interfaces with a number of databases and the change in APA PsycNET® from EBSCO to APA, new interfaces on EBSCO and Science Direct, Scopus and Scirus. We are planning an institute for all faculty on the research process, my part will be to introduce new interfaces and newer components such as citation analysis and alerting systems. Other librarians are preparing a tutorial using EmPower, which will be delivered by Blackboard for incoming students.
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PF: We are updating and sending reminders of our services to the academic departments we serve. I am also involved in orientation programs for new grad students and faculty. During the summer we also have been updating or creating new online resources (web pages, etc.) that support study and research activities at Kent State.

PI: Do you provide hands-on instruction in a computer lab or other classroom setting for students? And do you offer both introductory and advanced sessions?

PF: We provide hands-on instruction for classes, primarily in the University Libraries classrooms, both introductory and advanced. Although one-on-one ad hoc instruction frequently occurs in the Reference area, we also provide more extended research consultation by appointment.

FE: We do provide hands-on instruction in a library classroom with 36 laptop computers and computer projection. The Institute however will be in a Meeting Room with computer projection capabilities and 80+ seats. It’ll be show-and-tell.

We provide introductory sessions for freshmen and advanced sessions for upperclassmen, graduate students, PhD candidates and faculty.

PI: What instructional media are you using? What medium do you find the most useful for your purposes?

FE: We use hands-on capabilities, computer projection, PowerPoint, and clickers (hand-held response devices).

PF: I have used screen captures of search examples in PowerPoint, although I prefer hands on with actual resources being covered. For online instruction, my colleague, Vanessa Earp, used Adobe’s Captivate to develop a set of 5 modules on APA Style, and faculty have expressed appreciation for the set. Other colleagues have used Captivate for other modules.

PI: What kind of support do you provide directly to faculty?

FE: We provide instruction to faculty through Institutes; departmental meetings; one-on-one; research consultations; research guides; dissertation assistance; etc. Faculty also can request Library Instruction.

PF: In addition to library research instruction for classes, I have helped faculty with RefWorks utilization for grants and articles. I also collaborate with faculty on the selection of library/information resources that support instruction and research.

PI: How do you make use of course management software (CMS), LibGuides, and other sharing tools to support your efforts to promote information literacy?

FE: We use Blackboard and will put our tutorials up on Blackboard for faculty to use.

PF: We have a University Libraries’ created CMS that we have used for web pages. We have been working with teaching faculty using Blackboard Vista, and we are evaluating LibGuides for instruction.

PI: What is the most challenging psychology-related query you have had of late?

PF: An interesting query for me was the potential impact on folks’ views of ethical behavior (or on their actual inclination to ethical behavior) when those folks come to adopt the view that they are not “free agents.”

FE: All questions are treated as challenging, that is in the eyes of the questioner/client every request presents an important challenge. Consequently, each client deserves that the librarians respect the question and treat it with equal deference. Hopefully, by showing each client how to build a search strategy to solve the client’s needs, the question becomes a teachable moment.

PI: What do you think the biggest library-related change has been in the last five years?

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FE: Obviously the biggest change is the switch from print indexes to online databases and the variety of search capabilities that those databases provide. The other major change is the plethora of information available, much of which is bad and the need for the client to be trained to evaluate the good from the bad. Years ago clients didn’t need to do this. If it was printed and purchased by a library, it had generally gone through a multitude of quality checks, by publishers, editorial boards, reviewers, librarians, etc.

PF: One area for increased library instruction might involve the following. A core value in science is the transparent reporting of methodology; this is needed for peer review, replication, etc. Related to this, and considering the emerging resources noted just above, with respect to information literacy instruction it seems that librarians might be involved with new areas or resources for instruction having to do with students monitoring, documenting, and then reporting on the “discovery” process they use to select the resources they end up using in their literature reviews. Careful reporting of the literature search process is commonly required, for example, in health science and social science systematic literature reviews; it also was emphasized by the American Psychological Association’s Working Group on Journal Article Reporting Standards, as reported, for example in the American Psychologist (December, 2008, v 63, no 9, 839-851).

Knowledge and skills pertaining to the careful reporting of literature search processes do seem important for information literacy, and it seems that there could be an increase in instruction related to this kind of reporting.

We appreciate the input from our library partners and would be interested in hearing from others about the challenges faced and solutions used to address instructional needs. What do you think? You can email your comments to us for a follow-up article in a future issue of the PsycINFO News.

Introducing the APA Databases and Electronic Products Training Institute: ADEPT

You may have noticed this new logo on our newer presentations and tutorials. Whenever you see the training institute logo you can be assured that the material was developed and vetted by APA. Our APA Databases and Electronic Products Training (ADEPT) Institute produces all of our training presentations, online tutorials, database documentation, search guides, help menus, and podcasts.

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It’s that time again!...

Answers to your Questions about Bibliographic Instruction Support and Training Materials

I need to update the Psychology Department InfoGuide on the library website. Can you provide me with some time-saving tools?

We have links to all of our resources from the Librarian’s Resource Center and we give permission to post links to training documentation, tutorials and videos, and webinar registration pages.

Can you provide some simple documentation that we can hand out at the reference desk?

APA PsycINFO® Customer Relations staff maintain the Quick Reference Guides for APA PsycNET®, EBSCOhost, OvidSP, and CSA Illumina. These pocket-sized, fold-out guides provide basic search tips, definitions of select fields, results management strategies, and citation searching information. You can print the PDF for the guides or you can order quantities by emailing us with the number of guides you need, your name and mailing address, and a contact phone number.

We offer information literacy and other bibliographic instruction workshops at the beginning of the semester. We still get students contacting us at the last minute before their assignments are due with questions about how to find peer-reviewed literature, how to create an annotated bibliography, and so on. Do you have any information we can use?

For quick information on how to find peer-reviewed articles, search for methodologies, and other frequently-asked questions, many libraries direct their students to APA’s online tutorials and our videos on YouTube. These short—one to three minutes—closed-captioned tutorials highlight search techniques as well as topical searches. The YouTube videos are organized into playlists according to vendor. Topics include how to find peer-reviewed items, how to format a citation in APA Style, how to find literature reviews, and more.

Graduate students and advanced researchers want to know how to submit a manuscript to an APA journal for publication.

If a researcher is interested in submitting a manuscript to a specific APA journal, they can access the journal information via the table of contents in PsycARTICLES® Browse by Title. Detailed information is provided on the APA website at APA Journals Manuscript Submission Instructions for All Authors. If an author’s work has been accepted for publication in an APA journal, there are document deposit procedures available, including National Institutes of Health manuscript deposit information.

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I have psychology and behavioral sciences faculty who want us to teach a full-length class on how to use the resources provided by APA.

APA offers introductory and advanced webinar training for students and faculty. Introductory Student Training is a 50-minute session designed for students, faculty, or library staff unfamiliar with APA databases or who are accessing APA databases on a platform that is new to them. Advanced Student Training is designed specifically for upper-level undergraduates, graduate students, and other experienced researchers. These 1-hour sessions are intended for those familiar with APA's research databases, comfortable with multi-field searching, and looking for innovative ways to use the information available in the databases.

You can post the webinar schedule on your library web site or e-mail any questions or comments to PsycINFO Webinars with “Student Training” in the subject line. We can discuss arranging a classroom-specific webinar.

Our social and health sciences programs include disciplines other than core psychology. Is there a quick way for me to direct students from these disciplines to APA databases for relevant interdisciplinary research?

Yes! We highlight the interdisciplinary content, search strategies, and controlled vocabulary from the Thesaurus of Psychological Index Terms with our PsycINFO and PsycEXTRA Application Guides. The Application Guides are in PDF format, allowing for easy printing and distribution. Translated versions of many of the PsycINFO Application Guides are available in French, German, Italian, Japanese, Russian, and Spanish. Topics include Consumer Psychology and Marketing, Military Psychology, Neuroscience, and Religion & Spirituality.

A useful browsing tool is the Classification Categories and Codes. Every record in APA databases receives a classification code that is used to categorize the document according to the primary subject matter. These classification codes can help you target your search by allowing you to restrict retrieval to a specific category. You can also browse recent literature within one of these topical categories or subcategories to locate a term paper topic or keep abreast of recent research. Faculty and students will find that using the Classification Codes gives them much of the serendipity of browsing shelves of books.

Students in research methods classes want to locate peer-reviewed articles that use a specific type of research method, or they need to find only literature reviews, clinical case studies, or longitudinal studies. What are the definitions of the methodology field values as applied in the APA databases?

APA databases methodology field values definitions are available and can be downloaded in PDF format. These brief descriptions give users an idea of what types of documents and research can be found by applying these field values in a search. For example, if you limit a search to the Literature Review methodology, your results will include only documents that fit the criteria described in the field definition.

What other resources are available to support users of the APA databases?

- Are you or faculty in search of hot topics that make fascinating teaching examples? Or maybe you’re curious about what kind of content is in PsycEXTRA®, our gray literature database, and PsycCRITIQUES®, book and film reviews updated weekly?
  - Listen to our PsycEXTRA and PsycCRITIQUES podcasts or download on iTunes!
- Have you attended one of our events at a conference?
  - If you would like to view and download the PowerPoint presentation for one of these events, you can visit our presentation archive.
- Do you want to know more about the Thesaurus? Do you have any suggestions for new index terms, changes to scope notes, or improvements to term hierarchies?
  - You can read about the Thesaurus of Psychological Index Terms and view updates as well as read the introductory material from the Thesaurus. If you have any suggestions for enhancing the Thesaurus, please email our Senior Vocabulary Development Specialist, Ian Galloway, and include your contact information.
- How do I keep informed about training and documentation related to APA databases?
  - Keep up to date on news related to APA databases, training updates and schedules, and new and updated documentation by signing up for the PsycINFO ListServ mailing list. You can view current and previous issues of the PsycINFO News and subscribe to the RSS feed.
In Search of: Disaster Mental Health

This issue’s search example uses the ProQuest CSA Illumina platform to search for research on several aspects of disaster mental health.

Situation

Tsunamis, hurricanes, earthquakes, tornados, floods, mudslides, forest fires, oil spills. All of these natural and manmade disasters can have devastating and long-lasting psychosocial effects on individuals and the communities involved. Individuals’ symptoms might include emotional instability, flashbacks, sleep disturbances, interpersonal and social relationship problems, traumatic stress, and physical symptoms. First responders and others working at disaster sites often experience similar symptoms. Communities often face significant structural rebuilding as well as displacement of community members.

Build Your Search in PsycINFO® using Advanced Search on CSA Illumina

If your area of research is focused on the effects of the disaster, but even more specifically on the response to the disaster, you can start in CSA Illumina by running a broad Keyword search. Selecting Keywords from the drop-down menu searches in the title, abstract, and descriptor fields.

Use variants of the main concepts you are interested in searching, applying specific concepts or broader terminology to expand your results. Because this is in the exploratory stages of research, we will include the concept “disasters” as well as “disaster mental health,” “disaster psychology,” “disaster response,” “disaster recovery,” or “disaster preparedness.” These are some of the concepts more commonly used in the psychological literature to refer to the response of mental health, medical, and allied health professionals to a natural or manmade disaster.

Because you are more interested in recent trends in this research, limit your search by entering 2000-2011 in the Date Range.
In Search of: Disaster Mental Health —continued from page 6

Your results are still quite large, with 3,499 records returned. The tabs show you how many records are journals, books, chapters, and so on, including book reviews and dissertations if you click on the More tab:

To retrieve the most relevant results first, select the Sort by option, Relevance Rank. Sorting by Relevance presents the most relevant results first. The relevance is determined using the first eight terms in the descriptor field. The records containing the search term within the descriptor field will be listed first.
Now, scan the results for an article that seems most related to your topic:

From within the record display of the result you are interested in, you can fine-tune your search strategy by using the Descriptors to narrow or broaden your search using the Boolean operators AND and OR. Let’s check Emergency Preparedness and use Add to Current Search using AND to narrow:

Set up an Alert

At any point in this search, you can set up an Alert. For example, if you are interested in finding out when research is published in the scholarly literature on an emerging topic such as the oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico, you can receive an Alert when material on natural disasters is added to the database.
In Search of: Disaster Mental Health —continued from page 8

If you already have a CSA Illumina My Research login you can enter it here, or new users can register by clicking on the link.

Review your search strategy, select a short or full format with or without references, add comments, set expiration date, and select the delivery method. Any time new results are released in the database matching the search strategy, you will receive an email or an RSS alert:

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Create an Annotated Bibliography

On the CSA Illumina platform you have the option to create an annotated bibliography. Click on the link to Save, Print, Email from the results list. You will have the option to perform those functions as well as creating an annotated bibliography and exporting your references to RefWorks:

Selected References Using Quik Bib

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The number of natural and manmade disasters in recent years seems to be increasing. What information is available on public web sites on disasters? Can we find some very recent publications on disasters?

We will go to the APA PsycNET platform and select PsycEXTRA as the database to search. We can cast a wide net in our search and enter “disaster*” and select Keywords from the drop-down menu:

The results are numerous and mostly published in the last 10 years:

These results include magazines, press releases, newspaper articles, reports, brochures and pamphlets, and newsletters, most of which have links to the full text.
**Here are some sample titles:**

**Citations**

Role of the African American Church in Overcoming Long-Term Disaster Responses.  
Aten, Jamie D.; Topping, Sharon; Tucker, Brent T.  
Psychology Graduate Students’ Role in Psychological First Aid Training.  
Ayhens-Johnson, Knute; Belsher, Brad; Bongar, Bruce  
Treating traumatized children.  
Clay, Rebecca A.  
Monitor on Psychology; 2010; 41(7).  
Mobile forensics laboratory helps Cedar Rapids CSI recover from devastating flood.  
Cote, Bill  
National Institute of Justice Journal; 2009; No. 264.  
Workforce Issues in New Orleans and Postdisaster Recovery.  
Hoffpauir, Sarah  
Permanence eludes some Katrina victims: Many still live in trailers, rentals.  
Hsu, Spencer S.  
The Washington Post; 2009; 132(190).  
Calming the tremors: Psychologists provide expertise in the aftermath of the earthquakes in Haiti and Chile.  
Novotney, Amy  
Monitor on Psychology; 2010; 41(4).  
In Haiti, mental health system is in collapse.  
Sontag, Deborah  

**APA Events at Upcoming Conferences**

**XXX Annual Charleston Conference**  
**Charleston, SC**  
November 3-6, 2010  
Vendor Showcase  

**Association of Mental Health Librarians Annual Conference**  
**San Francisco, CA**  
October 1-3, 2010  
Vendor Presentation, October 1  
“Latest Developments in PsycINFO and APA Databases”, October 2  

**You can find more information on coping with natural disaster on the American Psychological Association web site under Psychology Topics, Natural Disasters.**