

The Welch Medical Library: Resources, Services, and Technology to Meet Your Needs

The William H. Welch Medical Library serves the Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions and plays a leadership role in the management and delivery of health sciences information. The library offers an extensive array of print and electronic resources, specialized databases, and statistical data that support the goals of the Medical Institutions and the University. Faculty, students, and staff can access over 3,000 full-text online journals, search over 300 databases, and take advantage of the many library services like free Interlibrary Loan, information management courses, and a customizable library portal, MyWelch.

In addition to aggressively supporting the demand for electronic resources, the Welch Library offers educational and liaison programs to assist patrons throughout the medical campuses in using information resources to access critical biomedical information. These instruction and consultation services are tailored to meet individual or departmental needs. Liaison librarians seek an active exchange with their departments, focusing on needs assessment, identification of barriers to information access, and the creation of strategic partnerships.

Responding to changes in the way knowledge is distributed and managed, the Welch Medical Library is developing new space strategies that will allow services to be provided to the library's users more effectively and conveniently, known as "touchdown suites". Core services include collaborative information services, content-specific electronic resources, customized training classes, tailored technology systems and toolkits as well as suite configuration. While continuing to expand its "virtual" library and new service models, the Welch Library looks for opportunities to implement plans for the future that support the teaching, research, and patient care activities of the Medical Institutions.