

JIBS Ovid enhancement group meeting (summer 2016)

Present: Betsy Anagnostelis (UCL); David Brown (York); Mark Clowes (ScHARR, Sheffield - minutes); Mike King (Bucks); Delyth Morris (Cardiff).

Ovid staff: Luke Collert; Mauro Castillo Garcia; Philip Marston

This was the first meeting since Robert Kimberley's retirement and was hosted by regional manager Philip Marston (who will be taking over Robert's JIBS liaison role), in the new surroundings of Ovid's Canary Wharf offices.

1. New features and content (Mauro Castillo Garcia)

- E-pub ahead of print

Many users like to search PubMed as well as Medline, in order to access the very latest research not yet added to the main database. This new addition to Ovid MEDLINE is intended to be equivalent to the similarly-named section of PubMed, although there may still be a short time delay before the same records are added to Ovid. Mauro pointed out that auto-alerts won't automatically include these records, but can be manually updated to do so.

- Ovid Discovery

Mauro promoted this new single search interface which is designed to cut out "noise" of ambiguous terms occurring in the irrelevant contexts, by searching exclusively across a suite of health sources including LWW journals.

- Updates to e-book and journal interfaces

A 'cosmetic' upgrade has been implemented to these in order to make them more modern and mobile-friendly. For certain journal titles including JBJS it is now possible to view videos inline within Ovid rather than linking out to the native platforms.

- Searching Byline Text

Mauro highlighted the "byline text" feature in Journals@Ovid, which it seems few users are aware of. Byline Text (.bt.) contains miscellaneous information beyond that contained in the usual searchable metadata, and could be useful for impact purposes as a means of finding acknowledgements or mentions of specific institutions.

- New tutorials

Ovid have recently upgraded their online tutorials (at: <http://www.ovid.com/site/support/training.jsp>) and Mauro encouraged us to check them out.

Mike King remarked that the new tutorials were excellent and are being recommended to students at Bucks.

2. Issues raised by JIBS community

Claire Beecroft, University of Sheffield: *"Something I have always wanted is the ability to edit a search strategy "on-the-fly" as you are working on it from the main search screen rather than from your "saved searches" workspace... The new "annotation" feature is somewhat useful but it's not the same as being able to actually edit incorrect lines on the strategy as you actually work on it."*

- Excitingly, Mauro revealed that the technical team had been working on a feature to do just this, which has subsequently gone live (to access it, click on "More" next to a search string, and select "Edit").
- The Ovid team welcomed the positive feedback about the "annotation" feature which had recently been launched.
- There was some discussion about the display of search strategies in 'edit' feature, with members of the group commenting that it would be easier to follow the display across from the search string on the left to the 'edit' buttons on the right if alternate lines were shaded.

Folusho Ojotalayo, Imperial college: *"One pertinent issue I faced most of the time is that it takes a while for me to access Ovid. I don't know if this happens to other colleagues as well. I don't know if the problem emanates from this end or from Ovid's but it's worth pointing out."*

- Mauro confirmed that the technical team were aware of these performance issues and encouraged all Ovid users to report any problems to support@ovid.com so that they can be promptly investigated.
- He explained that there are two main hosting platforms used by Ovid, in Manchester and Texas respectively. Texas is usually the default as it has many servers; Manchester has fewer servers but also less traffic. If one platform goes down, the service shifts to the other; but customers can change their default server by request.

Tracey Middleton, Bangor University: *"One thing I like to see on any platform is a 'Search within these results' option. I realise there are a great many ways to filter and combine results, but having this option can (sometimes) be more time efficient."*

- Mauro advised that the easiest way to "search within" a set of results was to add another line to the search strategy and combine it with the previous total using AND.
- However, it is also possible to save selected records to "My Projects" and search within them there. External content can also be added to My Projects and searched in this way.

Mauro thanked the members of the group for taking the time to visit and reminded us that we are welcome to get in touch at any time (support@ovid.com) and he is also happy to make site visits to provide training in getting the most out of Ovid and its features.