
Governed by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), the Office of Global Health Affairs (OGHA) exists as an organizational unit within the Office of the Secretary of HHS. The mission of OGHA is to promote the health of the people of the world by advancing the Department of Health and Human Services’ global strategies and partnerships.

GlobalHealth.gov, a project of OGHA, offers access to an array of resources from its nine main headings located on the left of the homepage. At the top, users can click on links to learn about HHS global agencies and partners and get answers to frequently asked questions. The Web site opens with regularly updated news and press releases about the Secretary of HHS and other HHS officials’ involvement with global health. Also, colorful photos with captions are included.

There is information on events, funding opportunities, and the HHS exchange visitor program. Persons interested in devoting a career to global health will find the information on employment opportunities helpful. Users can access archives of photos, feature articles, and statements/speeches of the Secretary of HHS. International travelers would be interested in the links to international organizations and travel Web pages from the Center for Disease Control and Department of State. In addition, a link to travel advisory information is provided.

For researchers, the most useful information is found under the Data Resources heading. Among the data are health profiles of various countries that can be accessed by clicking on Country Information. Users can then select from the geographic regions followed by a click on a country. Within each health profile is information on activities and projects that HHS is engaged in. The inclusion of links to information on foreign government leaders and government Web sites is valuable. World health statistics are provided from the World Health Organization, the World Bank, UNICEF, and other organizations. By clicking on Global Health Topics, users can access White House news releases, Web pages, and documents relating to hot topics such as bioterrorism, HIV/AIDS, avian influenza, and more. Also, HHS reports, publications, and fact sheets are available.

Other features of the site include a keyword search box with the option for advanced searching and links to the National Library of Medicine’s Health Information, PubMed and Malaria Research Resources Web pages.

Overall, this is a well-organized Web site for those interested in health problems and solutions that transcend national boundaries.

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Among the advantages of online content is that it can be expanded and updated more easily than printed matter. And although the National Agricultural Library Digital Repository (NALDR) currently contains over 2,000 individual items, this repository could grow to a much larger size.

Monographic works in the repository date primarily from 1980 and later, while some of the United States Department of Agriculture series cover a broader historical period. The print counterpart to this primary source material
is mostly distributed among university libraries with agricultural collections, but researchers in farm labor history, new crop introductions, plant disease, or rural development will find this online collection more conveniently available.

Both the simple and advanced search boxes treat multiple terms as a phrase unless Boolean operators are used. The preliminary results list both number of keyword occurrences and number of documents retrieved.

The default sort for the brief record list is by hit density but clicking on column headings re-sort on corresponding fields.

Documents are displayed one page at a time and users can begin with the first page in the document or the place at which the term first appears.

Navigation allows paging through each document or jumping to the next occurrence of search terms, which are highlighted in the text.

Unfortunately, neither results page includes a quick search box, forcing the user to return to the search pages to begin again.

Aside from being linked from corresponding Agricola database records, it is not clear how well this information is currently integrated with other service providers. Digital publications are most useful when easily discovered; and, unless the repository is OAI-compliant and integrated into other meta-search capabilities, it may be too esoteric for most undergraduates to find. Google appears to have indexed at least one series, but other items were noticeably absent from Google search results.

With the federal government beginning to address the public-domain status of its research, the USDA is in a position to both archive and make public a massive body of research. At this writing, the NALDR seems to be experimenting with the inclusion of peer-reviewed scientific reprints authored by agency scientists, and the potential size of this body of literature is enormous. This expansion and the inclusion into standard cross-repository search engines would make the future NALDR a tremendous tool for scientific research. Stay tuned. Alvin Hutchinson, Smithsonian Institution Libraries, hutchinsona@si.edu


Violence Against Women (VAW), a section of the National Women’s Health Information Center, provides information on a variety of violence issues facing society. From domestic or interpersonal violence against women to bullying children and elder abuse, VAW is an excellent choice for information. The homepage provides essential data on violent acts against women, stressing that violence of any type by any person is wrong.

A topic menu provides links to other issues, including Sexual Assault & Abuse, Stalking, and Signs of Abuse. Legislation & Actions provides a brief history on legislation concerning violence against women. State Resources provide links to the organizations that fight domestic abuse in each state. Bullying for Parents provides links to additional articles, organizations, and publications. Not sure if your child is a bully? Quizzes are provided to help determine if your child is a bully or is bullied.

Usually, links provide basic information on the topic, plus a list of Publications and Organizations. Within each basic information section, definitions and links are provided to assist someone in determining if abuse is occurring.

Information is also provided on how to prevent abuse or violence. Dating Violence should be required reading for parents and children (both sexes) before dating. Violence Prevention for Men provides startling statistics such as: 85% of the Americans who died by suicide in 2001 were men. Also included are ways to help combating violence and abuse.

OWH Initiative (Office on Women’s Health) provides information about violence and women, including Domestic Violence in the Workplace: The Action Guide, and the National Advisory Council on Violence Against Women. Additional resources include (continued on page 441)
the history of electricity, civil and structural engineering, optics, and color theory, among others. The collection includes such rare treasures as a 1544 edition of Archimedes' Philosophiac Geometrae, a 1st edition of Robert Boyle's Experiments and notes about the mechanical origin or production of electricity (1675), and the scientific library of Louis Pasteur. Dibner designed and patented the 1st solderless electrical connector—a new way to join cable and wire—and founded the Burndy Engineering Company in 1924. He established the Burndy Library in 1941 to house his growing collection of rare books and manuscripts.

The Elmer Bernstein Collection has been donated to the University of Southern California's Cinema-Television Library. Bernstein, who died in August 2004, taught at the USC Thornton School of Music for more than eight years. To honor Bernstein's lifelong commitment to musical education and to celebrate his connection to USC, his family has donated his personal archives, which contain numerous treasures, ranging from original scores to momentos. It is valued at more than $5 million. Plans to digitize a significant portion of the collection will make it easily accessible to students, aspiring musicians, composers, and fans.

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In the News (links to news, Webcasts, and campaigns dealing with violence).

The message that one is not responsible for any act of violence perpetuated against her or him is a strong component of this site. The straightforward presentation of information on all types of violence and on ways to find assistance makes this an excellent site for professionals and victims of abuse.

This Web site is an excellent, easy-to-navigate resource for information and help in dealing with personal violence. As an additional bonus, much information is available in Spanish. Karen Evans, Indiana State University, kevans4@isugw.indstate.edu

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