From the Director

Greetings everyone,
I hope all is well, and everyone is gearing up for the final month of the semester. I just wanted to take a moment to discuss some of the changes that we have made to our website over the past couple of months. As we continue to strive for more user-friendly, streamlined web services, it’s my pleasure to highlight some of our accomplishments of late. With the latest tweaks, students and faculty should find a more simplified site at their disposal. Whether it’s looking for academic articles, perusing the library catalog, navigating our E-Book collection, or brushing up on research techniques via our library research tutorials, we here at the MMCC Library hope to make the process of seeking information more convenient for the user. If anyone has any further suggestions concerning this, please don’t hesitate to contact any member of the Library/Media team. Thanks for your time, see you next month.

Shawn R. Troy
Library and Media MMCC
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Health Information Technology Program
Guest Writer: Christi Beck

The Health Information Technology (HIT) Program at Mid Michigan Community College (MMCC) is designed to provide students with the knowledge base and skill sets desired of the Health Information Technology professional. HIT program graduates will earn an Associates of Applied Science Degree-Health Information Technology. Graduates of the Program will meet all entry level criteria required of The American Health Information Management Association. Upon completion of the accredited HIT Program students will become eligible for the nationally recognized Registered Health Information Technician certification exam.

The two-year associate degree program is dedicated to the effective management of patient information and healthcare data needed to deliver high quality treatment and care to the public. Health Information Management professionals who perfect their technical skills become experts in health data collection, data abstraction, enhanced coding, and monitoring, maintenance, and reporting activities while maintaining the highest standards of data integrity, confidentiality, and security.

Fall semester of 2009 marked the beginning of the third academic year for the HIT program. There are presently 21, first-year students and 12, second-year students enrolled in the program. At present there have been 9 graduates of this program. Each graduate has completed the HIT curriculum, including a 240 hour internship experience.

The internship experience has been designed by the HIT Program Director in coordination with various site mentors to meet the individualized needs of each student. The internship provides students with opportunities to practice hands-on applications designed to foster abilities and growth within the areas of Health Information Management.

According to the Bureau of labor and statistics, “The increasing use of electronic health records (EHR) will continue to broaden and alter the job responsibilities of health information technicians. For example, with the use of EHRs health technicians must be familiar with EHR computer software, maintaining EHR security, and analyzing electronic data to improve healthcare information. Health information technicians use EHR software to maintain data on patient safety, patterns of disease, and disease treatment and outcome. Technicians also may assist with improving EHR software usability and may contribute to the development and maintenance of health information networks.”

The Bureau further states that there is a very good job prospect as the employment opportunities are expected to grow much faster than average. The American Health Information Management Association (AHIMA) anticipates the need for approximately 150,000 new HIT jobs within the next three years.

Christi Beck

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As we continue to

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Christi Beck
How Not to Shut Down Your PC
Rick Brodia

Imagine my horror the other day when I saw an otherwise sharp friend of mine shut down his laptop by holding down the power button until the system turned off.

"Whoa, whoa, whoa, whoa!" I cried. "Why'd you do that?"

"What? I was just turning off my PC," he replied innocently.

Sometimes I forget that some of the stuff I take for granted isn't common knowledge. So in case you've been committing this same heinous shutdown crime, allow me to enlighten you. That is not, repeat, not the proper way to shut down a PC. The proper way is to click Start, Shut down. (I know, it's ridiculous that after all these years, Microsoft still forces you to use the Start button to end your computing session.) Alternately, you can press (and immediately release!) the power button, which will either shut down your PC or put it in sleep/hibernate mode, depending on how Windows is configured.

(To change that configuration, see Change the Function of Your Laptop's Power Button.) The only time you should press and hold the power button is if your computer is locked up and otherwise unresponsive. A five-second press will usually force a "hard" power-off, after which you should wait another five seconds before turning the machine back on. But if you do this all the time, Windows won't be able to perform its necessary shut-down housekeeping stuff, and ultimately you'll muck up the OS.

April is National Poetry Month
Melissa A. Rohen

April is national poetry month ... Here are some poets you may want to check out!

The sun was warm but the wind was chill. You know how it is with an April day.

Robert Frost

O thou with dewy locks, who lookest down Thro' the clear windows of the morning, turn Thine angel eyes upon our western isle, Which in full choir hails thy approach, O Spring! William Blake

April is wholesome The uncertain glory of an April day; Which now shows all the beauty of the sun, And by and by a cloud takes all away. William Shakespeare

The year's at the spring And day's at the morn; Morning's at seven; The hillside's dew-pearled; The lark's on the wing; The snail's on the thorn; Robert Browning

Came the Spring with all its splendor All its birds and all its blossoms, All its flowers, and leaves, and grasses. Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

Questions/Comments? Email Us!
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See us at:
www.midmich.edu/library

Laptop Checkout
Laptops are available for 48 hour checkout at the Harrison and Pickard campuses
Stop in today!