Project Title: Should NLM Resources be added to Wikipedia?

Background:
Wikipedia often shows up in Google search results as the first or second item in the list. People also often start their search by going directly to Wikipedia. If we want to direct people to NLM websites, should we have links to our web topics pages on Wikipedia? If so, should they be discrete pages, or links on existing pages, or a combination of both?

This project is being offered through the NLM Specialized Information Services Division (NLM/SIS). http://sis.nlm.nih.gov/

Project:
Determine if it is worthwhile to add NLM information and web pages to Wikipedia.

1. Develop and use a list of criteria for assessing the value to NLM of adding resources to Wikipedia.
2. If yes:
   a. Develop a process that can be followed by future interns and NLM Associates to
      i. create new Wikipedia pages around NLM resources,
      ii. locate existing Wikipedia pages about NLM resources and update as necessary, and
      iii. locate existing Wikipedia pages of interest to NLM and add links to NLM resources.
   b. Develop tool to track work completed.
3. If no:
   a. Present a report outlining reasoning.
   b. Investigate similar online information sites where NLM resources could be promoted.

Primary Learning Objectives for Intern:
- Develop project management skills.
- Translate evaluation theory into practical use.
- Improve understanding of Wikipedia and its potential use for libraries.

Expected Outcomes/Products:
- Written and oral report including methodology and recommendations. Oral report can be conducted using online conference software provided by NLM.
- Wikipedia account in student’s name.
- Improved understanding by NLM of Wikipedia and its potential use for NLM

Methodologies/Tasks:
1. Develop a Wikipedia account.
3. Select an area of interest in NLM/SIS to investigate (Disaster Information, Special Population Health Information, Toxicology, HIV/AIDS, Environmental Health)
4. Develop a list of criteria for assessing the value to NLM of adding resources to Wikipedia.
5. Review topics in Wikipedia and in NLM/SIS in selected topic area and use criteria to determine the appropriateness and value of adding NLM information to Wikipedia.
6. Write a report with recommendations regarding adding NLM resources to Wikipedia.
7. If recommendations include adding NLM resources to Wikipedia, develop a How-to-Manual and a tracking system for future interns and NLM Associates.
8. Expected Time: 120 hours

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