In the news

Welcome to the September 2009 issue of CERL News. And welcome back to fall term! With the start of the new school year, many academic and research librarians are beginning the process of recording their activities for promotion and tenure packets, along with the usual yearly performance reviews. Librarians at Grand Valley State University recently experimented with moving beyond the folders of paper portfolios and created their review materials using LibGuides. Read about the impact of technology on their process in "At the crossroads: Bringing the tenure and promotion process into the Digital Age" by Laura Harris, Julie Garrison, and Emily Frigo.

The promotion and tenure process can be a daunting one, even for seasoned librarians. Mara L. Houdyshell relates lessons learned from her journey to becoming tenured in "Ten tips towards tenure."

Managing the research paper process can also be a daunting task, especially for new students. At California State University-Fresno, librarians adapted and customized the open source Assignment Calculator, developed at the University of Minnesota, to the specific needs of their student body. Monica Fusich, Jane Magee, and Elisabeth A. Thomas detail the process of developing their own "Assignment Research Calculator" in this month's issue.

The debate over national health care reform proposals reached a fever pitch this summer. In this month's Internet Resources feature, Shikha Sharma provides a detailed list of online "Health care management resources" to assist in researching this complex and controversial issue.

Make sure to take a look at all of the other great articles and columns, including a look back at the recent 2009 ALA Annual Conference with reports on ACRL programs and Board of Directors' actions.

Thanks for reading the News!

—David Free, editor-in-chief dfree@ala.org

