

EVIDENCE BASED COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT

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ABSTRACT

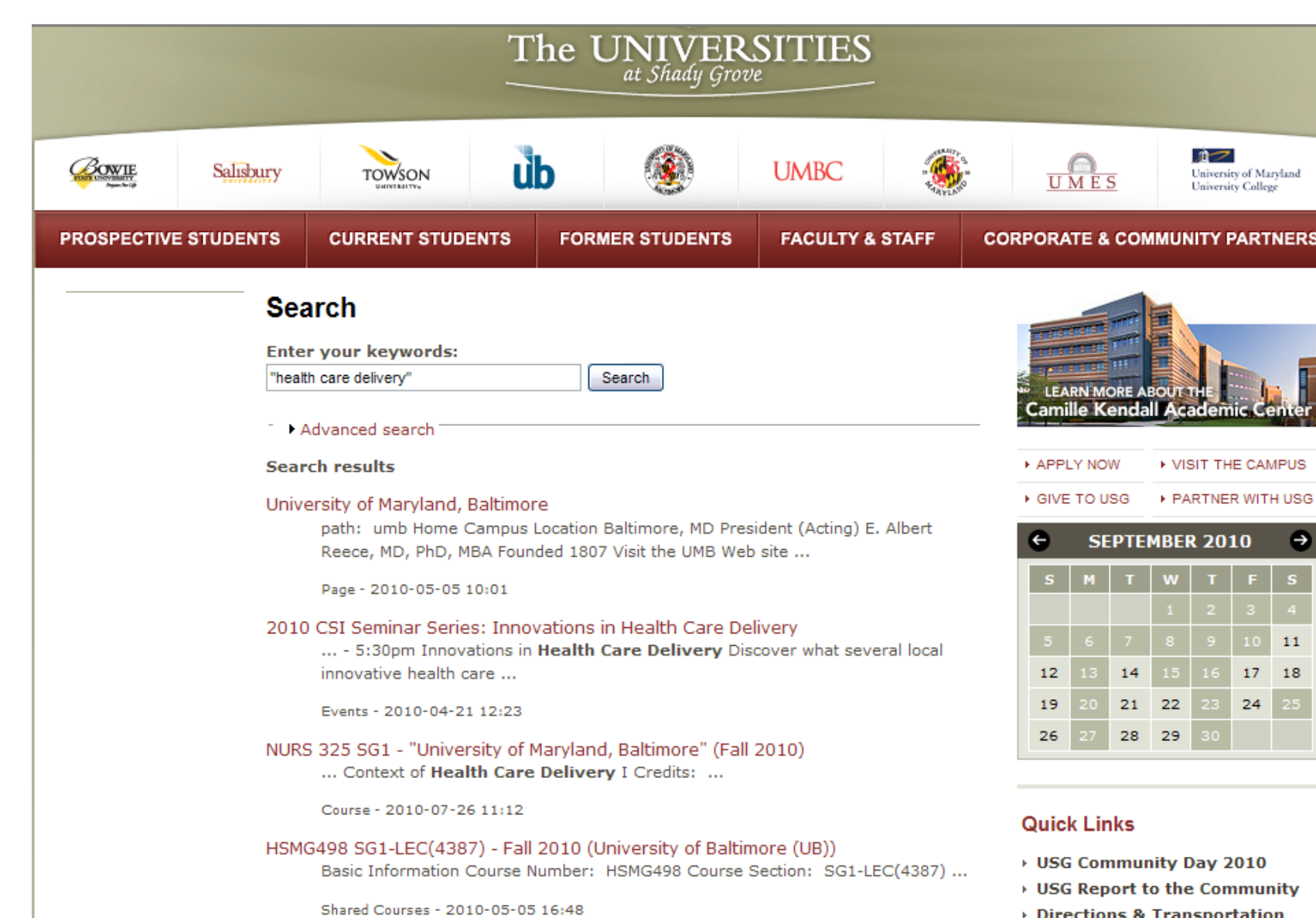
Between 2002 and 2007, 549 chemistry books were selected for the University of Houston (UH) Libraries' collection. Selection involved three tools: Google, SciFinder Scholar, and the Libraries' integrated library system (ILS). The circulation of books ordered 2002-2004 were compared to the circulation of books ordered 2005-2007. It was expected that the 2005-2007 cohort would circulate at a higher rate than the 2002-2004 cohort, because methods involving the three selection tools were being continually improved and more consistently applied over time. However, no statistically significant difference was found in the circulation rates of the two cohorts.¹ Research at the Priddy Library at The Universities at Shady Grove (USG) will test similar methods differently.

EXPERIMENTAL DESIGN

Unlike the UH study, in which multiple methods were developed over time and tested together, the USG study will test fully-developed methods individually. Circulation rates of books ordered using the different methods will be compared to determine the relative value of each in building relevant collections.

1. WEB SEARCHES

The websites of USG and its 9 partner institutions will be searched, with selection decisions based on curriculum-relevant results.

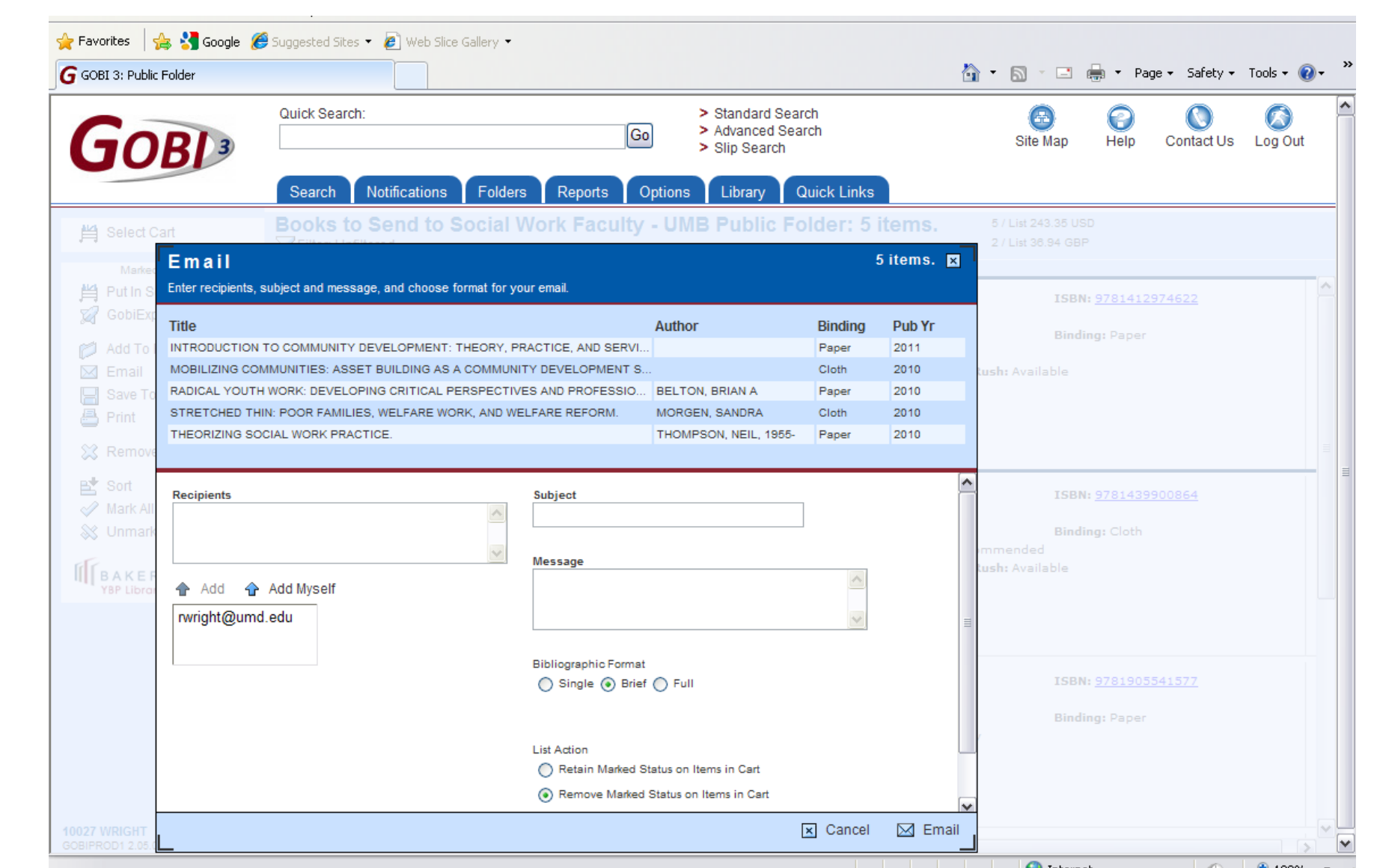


REFERENCES

1. Wright, R.A. (2008). Three evidence based methods to compensate for a lack of subject background when ordering chemistry monographs. *Evidence Based Library and Information Practice*, 3(3), 3-17.

2. FACULTY INPUT

Selection decisions will be based on USG faculty preferences from librarian-generated title lists.



3. CIRCULATION DATA

Selection decisions will be based on the circulation of books already in the Priddy Library's collection, including previous editions.

