

Biomedical and Health Informatics Series

Tuesday, February 20th, Room RR 134, 12:00-12:50

Wanda Pratt, PhD

Associate Professor, Information School

Associate Professor, Division of Biomedical and Health Informatics

"Managing Health Information in Your Life"

As clinicians are forced to decrease time spent with patients and as the specialization and fragmentation of care increases, patients are required to play an increasingly prominent role in their health care. Yet, few information tools exist to support patients in this active role. Patients often must coordinate their health care across multiple clinicians, learn new health terminology, make treatment choices, manage their home care, track insurance benefits, etc. These information rich tasks demand information management work of patients. The long-term objectives of this research are both to understand patients' information management work and to develop new technology that will support that work and thus help patients actively participate in their health care as they maintain the personal and professional aspects of their lives.

Dr. Pratt is an Associate Professor in both the Information School and the Division of Biomedical & Health Informatics in the Medical School at the University of Washington. She is also the Director of the Graduate Program in Biomedical and Health Informatics. She received her Ph.D. in Medical Informatics from Stanford University, her M.S. in Computer Science from the University of Texas, and her B.S. in Electrical and Computer Engineering from the University of Kansas. She received an NSF CAREER Award for her work in literature-based discovery systems. She serves on the Biomedical Library and Informatics Review Committee of the National Library of Medicine. She leads the iMed group, which researches ways to improve the way patients, clinicians, and biomedical researchers search for, manage, and use information.

The Biomedical and Health Informatics lecture series covers current topics and developments in Biomedical and Health Informatics. Presenters include faculty, students, researchers and developers from the University of Washington, other academic institutions, government, and industry (locally and nationally). The intended audience is the broader University of Washington and Seattle area community with an interest in BHI as well as BHI faculty and students.

Series Website: <http://courses.washington.edu/mebi590/>