2016

Himmelfarb Library Annual Report 2016

George Washington University, Himmelfarb Health Sciences Library

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INTRODUCTION

Health sciences libraries continue to play the traditional roles of providing the information resources needed by faculty, students, and residents for education, research and clinical care and of educating users in the best methods to find, assess, and organize these resources. However, health sciences libraries are also undertaking a number of emerging roles in technology, curricular innovations, and collaborative initiatives. The Himmelfarb Health Sciences Library is no exception to this trend. In the 2015/16 academic year, the Library saw record use of its many electronic resources while librarians answered more questions and developed more educational programs to meet user needs than ever before. It was an exciting year, and I hope you will catch some of that excitement in this Annual Report.

MISSION AND VISION

VISION STATEMENT:
The Library will be recognized as a center of research, learning and creativity.
We will provide relevant information resources, research tools, productive workspaces, and instruction to promote optimal information use. We will develop and utilize the talents of library faculty and personnel to achieve excellence in support of students, staff, faculty and researchers of the SMHS, GWSPH, and SON.

MISSION:
We support the information needs of the faculty, staff, and students of the SMHS, GWSPH, and SON by selecting, acquiring, and delivering information and by collaborating, educating, and building community.
We accomplish this mission by:

1. Supporting the academic goals and research activities of every student, staff, faculty member and researcher through services and resources to foster learning and intellectual growth.

2. Acquiring high quality resources and tools that support clinical care, population health and research.

3. Investing in state-of-the-art systems that seamlessly integrate, retrieve, organize, analyze and preserve information.

4. Pursuing innovation and enhancement of librarian and staff skills and services through education, training and job enrichment and by harnessing new technology.
GOAL 1

SUPPORTING ACADEMIC GOALS AND RESEARCH ACTIVITIES THROUGH SERVICES AND RESOURCES THAT FOSTER LEARNING AND INTELLECTUAL GROWTH

INSTRUCTION AND INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPORT

Librarians continued to provide in-class instruction in the following areas: information resources for health professionals, social media and professionalism, searching the medical literature: PubMed and MEDLINE, evidence-based resources, and information behavior: the law, policy and ethics. Reference and instruction librarians were embedded as teaching assistants in 72 course sections in the School of Nursing and Health Sciences programs. All Himmelfarb librarians participated in 22 first- and second-year medical small groups as part of the Clinical Integration Sessions, and reference and instruction librarians led a series of information sessions on specialized topics such as travel medicine within the FOSCE curriculum. A new workshop highlighting the EMR was also developed as part of the transition block of the revised medical curriculum for second-year students. A credit elective on systematic reviews was approved for the first time in spring 2015, and a curriculum on presenting was introduced to first- and second-year medical students.

Two new education programs were introduced this year to meet emerging student needs. The first was a series of workshops offered to incoming students in the Milken Institute School of Public Health on the following topics: Citations made easy! Using Refworks, Help with your CE Research, How to do a successful literature review, ABC’s of Systematic Reviews, and Scopus! the Dream Research Database. Each workshop was offered at the beginning of the spring and fall semesters both in-person and online so that all students could participate regardless of location. The second series of workshops was designed to support the needs of students planning to present at GW Research Days, March 29 and 30, 2016. The workshops were sponsored by the Library and taught by both librarians and faculty. Topics covered included the following: The ABCs of Abstract Writing, Show Off Your Data! How to Create Graphs, Pie Charts and Tables, Tips for Designing an Effective Poster, Steps on How to Prepare Effective Posters, How to Present Your Poster and Wow the Judges!, and Research Day and Beyond...! Students were encouraged to archive their poster presentations in the Health Sciences Research Commons and a portal highlighting their contributions to GW Research Days was created.

In total, the Library hosted 1,032 educational sessions with 22,865 attendees during the 2015/16 academic year. A greater utilization of online formats for teaching using the Webex and BlackBoard technologies allowed us to accommodate a larger number of both in-person and off-campus attendees. The “Ask Us” slide was also introduced on the Library’s web page to remind users that a librarian was available to answer questions online. New educational programs covering the systematic review process and the scholarly publishing cycle are planned for next year.

Not everyone who would like to can attend a Library educational session at the exact time given. Consequently, the Library has worked hard in the last year to create alternative ways to deliver educational content. Many of the Library’s tutorials on searching databases and mastering software programs have been updated and are now available in one location for 24/7 viewing. Similarly, the Library has created 124 research guides for users to
consult on topics ranging from citation formatting to locating data sets for research projects. New guides added in the 2015/16 academic year include the following: Poll Everywhere, Team Effectiveness, Team Development, Team Leadership, Team Dynamics, Teamwork and Team Leadership, History of Public Health PUBH 1102.10, MD Program, Residents & Fellows, Asthma Intersession May 2016, Dermatology, Otolaryngology, Midwifery, and Translational Sciences. Our research guides are heavily used, as evidenced by the 2.9 million uses of our guide to APA formatting!

Use of the media development cart/laptop stations created to assist faculty in the development of innovative, active learning materials remained steady in AY 2015/16. Software for editing videos, capturing audio, creating animations, and crunching data expanded with the introduction of an iMac workstation and 4 additional multimedia laptops that faculty can borrow to use offsite.

**OUTREACH**

Himmelfarb librarians continued to reach out to students and faculty in a number of ways. The “Librarian Is In” reference/consultation service continued at locations in the Milken Institute School of Public Health and the health sciences programs at 2000 Penn. Librarians even took the workshop, “Social Media and Professionalism” on the road and delivered it to a group of nursing and post-baccalaureate students at the Virginia Science and Technology Campus (VSTC) in Ashburn. The Library also expanded its social media outreach to include YouTube as well as Twitter, Instagram, Facebook and its own blog in order to reach out to users in ways that are convenient, pro-active, and engaging. More traditional outreach continued with liaison librarians sending monthly e-mails to departments and the publication
works submitted by students, faculty, and staff to the 2016 Himmelfarb Library Annual Art Show

of the quarterly newsletter, Himmelfarb Headlines. The Healthy Living @ Himmelfarb program, which encourages students to balance study and life outside school, continued with 10 programs on healthy eating, meditation, ice skating, music breaks, weaving and art therapy. The annual Art Show continued in April 2016 with 56 works by students and faculty represented. Librarians continue to serve as mentors, preceptors, and consultants to faculty and students in a variety of ways, including in-depth support to public health students working on projects for their culminating experience, expert searching and advising on systematic reviews, education on predatory publishing, assistance on measuring impact, archiving capstone projects of graduating students in the GWSPH and SON, and co-authoring a number of publications and presentations with faculty. The partnership between Himmelfarb Library and Children’s National Health System continued.

In May 2016, Elaine Sullo was awarded the “Evidence-based Practice Enhancement Award” by the School of Nursing for fostering the intellectual growth and research activities of their faculty, staff, and students through collaboration and community building.

ACCREDITATION SUPPORT

Librarians continued to work closely with teams from the Health Sciences programs, School of Nursing and Milken Institute School of Public Health to create documents providing Library statistics and outlining the support provided to students on campus and in distance education programs. They also met with visiting accreditation teams to describe library support to students. Services, such as embedded librarians, online reference, and the distance education online portal (http://himmelfarb.gwu.edu/services/de.cfm), which meet the needs of students at a distance, including the VSTC, were highlighted. Librarians also served on the educational resource team of the School of Medicine’s LCME preparation committee, providing information on collections, the Library facility itself and support related to informatics instruction. With the growth of distance education programs in the SON and GWSPH, the Library will assess its services, collections and outreach to students in these programs as part of its biannual student survey.

Elaine Sullo, 2016 recipient of the School of Nursing’s “Evidence-Based Practice Enhancement Award”
Art Therapy Class, April 2016 (Healthy Living @ Himmelfarb session)
GOAL 2

ACQUIRING HIGH QUALITY RESOURCES AND TOOLS THAT SUPPORT CLINICAL CARE, POPULATION HEALTH AND RESEARCH

COLLECTIONS

The Himmelfarb Health Sciences Library continues to serve as the primary library for the School of Nursing, Milken Institute School of Public Health, and the School of Medicine and Health Sciences. The Library currently provides 24/7 electronic access to over 3,500 textbooks, 4,000 journals, and 115 databases to students on the Foggy Bottom campus, the VSTC, and in distance education programs. The Himmelfarb building provides extensive on-site access to online, print and audiovisual collections, as well as access to computers and study areas. The Library’s print collections include approximately 100,000 volumes and access to extensive journal backfiles. The Library’s audiovisual collections include more than 400 current DVD and CD titles as well as applications software for word processing, publishing, spreadsheets, databases, and reference management, and dozens of specialized software titles focused on medicine, the health sciences, public health, and statistical analysis. Key health sciences databases include MEDLINE, SCOPUS, Global Health, and Cumulative Index to Nursing and Allied Health. Students also have access to major interdisciplinary databases such as ABI/Inform Complete and Academic Search Premier.

In an effort to shape a collection that meets the needs of students, staff and faculty from the three schools served, all of Himmelfarb Library’s subscribed databases, journals and e-books are reviewed annually. Factors including usage, cost, and faculty publication patterns are part of the analysis. In addition, every three years, the Library communicates directly with full-time faculty of the Milken Institute School of Public Health, School of Medicine and Health Sciences, and School of Nursing to evaluate the journal collection.

The last survey was conducted in spring 2015 and had a 28% response rate. Results indicated that Faculty are using our journal collection on a regular basis! Ninety-seven percent of respondents accessed the journal collection at least on a monthly basis, including 70% of respondents who use the journal collection on a weekly or daily basis. Eighty percent of respondents stated that they were satisfied or very satisfied with their experience of using the journal collection. This satisfaction is reflected in collection usage. The total number of e-journal click-throughs increased by 12% over the previous year, averaging 28,404 click-throughs per month. The total number of e-journal searches increased by 7%, averaging 38,014 searches per month. See below for the most frequently used journals.

Highest use titles for Academic Year 15/16

- New England Journal of Medicine (NEJM)
- JAMA: Journal of the American Medical Association
- Nature
- Health Affairs
- Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America
- American Journal of Public Health
- Lancet – British Edition
- Social Science & Medicine
- Annals of Internal Medicine
- Journal of Biological Chemistry
Unfortunately, journal price increases averaged 6% over the last year and a number of low use titles were cut, including: American Journal of Health-System Pharmacy, British Journal of Psychiatry, Military Medicine, Psychodynamic Psychiatry, Scandinavian Journal of Work, Environment & Health, and Statistical Applications in Genetics & Molecular Biology. These titles are all available through the MEDLINE Complete database. The Washington Post print subscription was cancelled due to poor delivery service and low usage, and Expert Review of Vaccines was cancelled due to an exorbitant price increase of 178%.

On the plus side, 44 Open Access journal titles were added to the Access-Only collection. Himmelfarb also transitioned to DynaMed Plus for enhanced clinical support. The information in DynaMed Plus is still updated daily via an evidence-based methodology that includes extensive searches, validity assessments, critical appraisal, objectivity review, synthesis of multiple resources, and deriving conclusions from the medical evidence, but now also includes overviews and recommendations, graphics and images, calculators, and standard drug information, specific information for medication safety, IV compatibility for reduced complications, and lab recommendations from Micromedex.

Access to electronic textbooks greatly expanded in academic year 15/16 and the Library created a dashboard to analyze school/departmental usage and trends with data visualization using MS Excel Pivot tables and charts. The most-heavily-used books in our electronic monograph collection included:

- Current Medical Diagnosis and Treatment
- Symptom to Diagnosis: An Evidence-Based Guide
- Essentials of Health Policy and Law
- Essentials of Nursing Research
- Health Care Management: Organization, Design and Behavior
- Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine
- Johns Hopkins Nursing Evidence-Based Practice
- Ferri’s Clinical Advisor
- Patient History
- Resolving Ethical Dilemmas

The Library continues to partner with the Burns Law and the Gelman Libraries to make joint purchases in interdisciplinary areas and continues to work with the faculty at the Children’s National Health System and the staff of the Clinical and Translational Science Institute to build and enhance the expert researcher community.
The Library’s institutional repository, the Health Sciences Research Commons (http://hsrc.himmelfarb.gwu.edu/), saw major growth in AY15/16 and, with 2,139 new submissions, served as a showcase for the scholarly output of faculty, researchers, and students in the School of Nursing, Milken Institute School of Public Health, and School of Medicine and Health Sciences. New collections of scholarly resources include posters and presentations from the ISCOPES program, Public Health and Nursing capstone projects, and teaching tools—freely accessible online learning modules and activities developed by SMHS faculty and Himmelfarb librarians. The Library continued to work closely with Research Days organizers to facilitate submission of Research Days posters into the repository and simplified the submission process. Two hundred sixty-three abstracts/posters were submitted from Research Days 2016. The Health Sciences Research Commons continues to serve as a home for the Faculty Publications database and access to the full-text of these publications was enhanced by the addition of links to the PubMedCentral database of articles. There are currently 9,819 resources housed in the Health Sciences Research Commons. Many of these resources have had a major scholarly impact. There were over 109,730 downloads last year. Several articles published by faculty had extremely high Altmetrics scores, meaning they made a splash in news outlets and social media. These articles included the following:


Articles deposited in the Health Sciences Research Commons meet the requirements of the Open Access Policy passed by the Faculty Senate in February 2015.

COMPLIANCE WITH NIH PUBLIC ACCESS POLICIES

The Library continues to provide support for compliance with the NIH Public Access policy by working with faculty to ensure that publications are in compliance by sending alerts to NIH grant recipients regarding new publications and compliance. Full information on the policy is available at http://libguides.gwumc.edu/NIHcompliance. GW researchers are currently 95% compliant. The Library also provided faculty support for compliance with new access policies emerging in response to a memo released by the Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) on February 22, 2013, directing Federal agencies with over $100 million in annual conduct of research and development expenditures to develop a plan to support increased public access to the results of research funded by the Federal Government. A research guide outlining these emerging requirements was created in AY15/16 and is available at http://libguides.gwumc.edu/c.php?g=27840&p=1577547.

ACCESS TO THE COLLECTIONS

With a primarily electronic collection, easy access to resources remains a key priority for the Library. Electronic resources are obtained either directly from the publisher or through services that aggregate publications. Regardless of the source, all resources are accessible through the Library’s catalog (http://catalog.himmelfarb.gwu.edu/iii/encore/ijsessionid=C40E8C696ABE9AF331C045A227CA89C3?lang=eng), through full-text links in databases, and on the Library’s web page (http://himmelfarb.gwu.edu/). Access is further facilitated through a discovery engine, *Health Information @ Himmelfarb*, the Library’s one-stop search service. *Health Information @ Himmelfarb* remains a popular resource providing access to much of the Library’s subscribed electronic content. The service averaged 17,000 search sessions and 16,000 full text downloads a month in the 2015/2016 academic year. These figures represent an 18% increase in usage over the prior year! The results of a brief demographic survey that was embedded in *Health Information @ Himmelfarb*, during late March and early April 2015 will be used to upgrade/simplify the interface in fall 2016.
Beginning in summer 2016, the library began to offer a service to review faculty syllabi and make sure all the links are working correctly, with the proxy prefix in front for GW resources. The process should make it easy for students to access class resources directly from the learning management systems used to deliver course materials.

The library uses the Libguides system to promote access to the collections by organizing subject- and class-specific resources for students (http://libguides.gwumc.edu/guides). There are currently 124 research guides available in areas of focus such as anatomy, pharmacology, health information technology, epidemiology, health statistics, health care quality, health policy, and health economics. General study guides on topics such as citation styles, reference management, and writing for research are also available. Nineteen new research guides were added in AY 2015/16. To improve their visibility, research guides were cataloged and incorporated into the Library’s online catalog. Other additions to the catalog included 224 instructional videos from the AccessAnesthesiology collection and 306 new e-books. A virtual “new book” shelf was created to highlight faculty monographs.

Himmelfarb continues to serve as a resource library for the National Network of Libraries of Medicine, South East Atlantic Region and participates fully in the DOCLINE and OCLC document delivery networks.

The policy whereby faculty and students may request 15 interlibrary loans each semester at no charge was continued for AY 2015/16. On behalf of faculty, the Library requested 1,221 documents from partner libraries. The Library remains a net lender in terms of interlibrary loan requests, having delivered over 2,448 documents to other libraries. The public interface of the “Documents2Go” system used to request interlibrary loans was redesigned in AY15/16 to make it more user-friendly as well as to create a look that matches the Library’s web page.

In September, Himmelfarb Library set up a public charging locker for mobile devices near the first floor Circulation Desk. Patrons may “check out” one of ten available lockers at Circulation for four-hour storage and charging of their mobile device.

The Himmelfarb Health Sciences Library signed an agreement for a voluntary plan of cooperation (Continuity of Service Plan) with the following libraries: Ruth Lilly Medical Library, Indiana University; Health Sciences Library, SUNY Upstate Medical University; Health Sciences Library, University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus; and Health Sciences Digital Library and Learning Center, UT Southwestern Medical Center. The plan calls for the partner libraries to provide backup services for each other in the event of a disaster, epidemic, or other situation that severely limits a library’s ability to continue services—in particular, reference services and document delivery.
GOAL 4

PURSUING INNOVATION AND ENHANCEMENT OF LIBRARIAN AND STAFF SKILLS AND SERVICES THROUGH EDUCATION, TRAINING AND JOB ENRICHMENT AND BY HARNESSING NEW TECHNOLOGY

REVISED SCHOOL OF MEDICINE CURRICULUM

In fall 2015, the School of Medicine rolled out a revised curriculum designed around a systems-based approach to learning and based on active learning principles. Incoming students each received an iPad to support learning in the revised curriculum. In conjunction with the Computer Applications and Support Services group, Himmelfarb librarians continued to design instructional materials, selected key apps, led workshops on using iPads to enhance learning, and provided technical support at the Library’s service desk as part of the iPad rollout in AY 15/16. Librarians also continued to serve as liaisons to learning communities, act as informatics tutors in selected CSR case sessions, serve as facilitators for real time research during Formative OSCE sessions, and coordinate the informatics curriculum to enhance the clinical public health and evidence-based medicine components of the revised curriculum. A new curriculum designed to enhance medical students’ presentation skills was created by librarians and incorporated into the Clinical Skills and Reasoning course.

COLLABORATION

As noted earlier, Himmelfarb librarians played important roles as consultants, mentors, preceptors, and facilitators in a number of programs during the AY 15/16 year. These roles allowed librarians to expand their collaboration skills by working closely with students on capstone projects, research electives, and literature reviews. Librarians collaborated with faculty on the production of systematic reviews, as partners in the research process, as key committee members, and as teaching consultants. They received acknowledgement from students on Research Day posters, co-authored papers, and served as co-principal investigators. The committees on which librarians served, their publications and presentation, and their grant activities are listed below. These collaborations are greatly appreciated by librarians as they give us an opportunity to better understand the information needs of faculty and students, to comprehend the research life cycle, and to enhance our collaborative skills.
Medical Education Research Grants

- Co-investigator; *Examining the Impact of Implicit Bias on Clinical Decisions by Medical Students*, Carol Rentas, PhD, MEd, MT (ASCP), Aileen Chang, MD, MSPH, Alexandra Gomes, MSLS, MT, Cara Lichtenstein, MD, MPH, Grace Henry, EdD, MEd, Jehan El-Bayoumi, MD, FACP, Yolanda Haywood MD, Medical and Health Science Education Research Grant, The George Washington University, March 2016, $7000.

- Co-investigator; *Senior Clerkships in Medical Education: (Re)Defining Evaluation & Remediation*, Steven Davis MD, James Reese Jr. MD, MPH, Alexandra Gomes MSLS, MT, Kathleen Calabrese, MD

University Seminar

- University Seminar: *Creating a Culture of Collaboration at George Washington University (C3@GWU): Collaborative Technologies and Informetrics Think Tank*. Convener: Gaetano R. Lotrecchiano. Committee members: Anne Linton, MS, MA, Alexandra Gomes, MSLS, MT.

University Committees

Librarians served on the following University committees:

- University Hospital’s Patient Education Committee
- School of Medicine’s Educational Technology Committee
- School of Medicine’s Practice of Medicine (POM) Group
- School of Medicine’s Clinical Skills and Reasoning Group
- School of Medicine’s Pre-clinical and Clinical Groups
- School of Medicine’s LCME Committee on Educational Resources
- The George Washington University’s Committee on Human Research/Institutional Review Board, Panels #1 and #2

- Faculty Senate Committee on Libraries
- GW Burns Law Library Promotions Committee
- GW Software Licensing Working Group
- GW SMHS Admissions Committee
- MD Program Healthy Living/Be Well committee

Librarians served on the following national committees:

- AAMC Group on Information Resources
- AAHSL Committee on Research (Association of Academic Health Sciences Libraries)
- Editorial Board, *Journal of the Medical Library Association*
- MLA/Mid Atlantic Chapter 2016 Program Committee (Medical Library Association)
- MLA/Mid Atlantic Chapter 2016 Local Arrangements/Hospitality Committee
- MLA/Mid Atlantic Chapter 2016 Annual Meeting Registration Committee
- MLA/Mid Atlantic Chapter Professional Development Committee
- MLA/Mid Atlantic Chapter Joint Steering Committee
- MLA/Mid Atlantic Chapter Awards Committee
- MLA Systematic Review Committee
- LiME (Librarians in Medical Education)

Posters Presented at National Meetings

Mid-Atlantic Chapter/Medical Library Association Annual Meeting October 2015

Chapter of the Medical Library Association, October 18-20, 2015, Asheville, NC.


**Medical Library Association Annual Meeting, May 2016**


**GW Research Day 2016**

- Harrod, T., Linton, A., & Levett, P. (2016). *Tracking 50 plus years of growth in scholarly output in the GW School of Medicine and Health Sciences, the Milken Institute School of Public Health, and the School of Nursing*. Poster presented at the GW Research Days March 29-30, 2016 Washington, DC.


**American Society of Pediatric Hematology/Oncology, May 2016**


**Marce Society for Perinatal Mental Health, November 2015**

- Frank, J., Kakar, S., Butera, G., Jarkowiec, M., & Gouda, S. *Meeting the Challenge of Abortion as a Topic in Medical Education*. Poster presented at the Marce Society for Perinatal Mental Health Annual Conference Meeting (November, 2015), Chicago, IL.

**American Association of Anatomists Annual Meeting at Experimental Biology, March 2016**


**ADMESP: an organization for medical student educators in psychiatry**


**Presentations at National Meetings:**

**Medical Library Association Annual Meeting, May 2016**


**District of Columbia Library Association (DCLA), March 2016**


The Catholic University of America, July 2015


Publications:


FUTURE PLANS

The Library plans to undertake the following major initiatives in 2016/17:

- Implement the findings from the survey of student user groups with regard to resources and services

- Conduct a faculty survey of journal usage preferences
  - Conduct an analysis of citation patterns for faculty publications and apply to collection development

- Expand the use of social media for the promotion of library resources, services and events particularly to our growing distance education population and to the expanding programs at the Ashburn campus

- Explore courses and workshops to promote evidence-based practice

- Create a “Manage Your Instructional Resources” portal to support faculty in course development

- Implement the “Infobutton” to deliver evidence-based information in clinical settings

- Promote scholarly publishing and communications through education on alternative means of measuring the impact of scholarly output and by promoting the Health Sciences Research Commons and supporting the GW Open Access Policy
  - Sponsor a series of workshops on tools for scholarship and publishing
  - Host a panel of local editors on emerging trends in publication
  - Expand linkages to full-text, altmetrics, and bibliometrics in the Health Sciences Research Commons
  - Compile reports on the impact of faculty publications within the SMHS, GWSPH, and SON
  - Encourage the use of ORCids among faculty and doctoral students
QUICK FACTS

HIMMELFARB HEALTH SCIENCES LIBRARY BY THE NUMBERS
AY2015/2016

4,000 accessible electronic textbooks

3,676 electronic textbooks

115 databases

4,679,373 web page views

9,645 circulations

13,135 in-depth reference questions answered

1,032 educational sessions with 22,865 attendees

491,109 in-person users

124 research guides

77 online tutorials

1,221 documents requested for faculty from other libraries

2,448 documents delivered to other libraries
WORDS OF THANKS
TO HIMMELFARB LIBRARY STAFF FROM OUR USERS

“I so appreciate the excellence and expertise of all your librarians. They contribute so much to our students and their education.”  PA professor

“A number of students identified their team librarian as a positive/help to their learning in the students’ Asthma evaluation—with a couple of students specifically mentioning Elaine! Go Himmelfarb Team!!!”  SMHS professor

“I wanted to compliment Gisela Butera on her e-professionalism guide. I think it is fantastic and was so excited to find it!”  Librarian at Penn State

“I just wanted to write to give praise to Laura Abate on being an absolutely indispensable part of our medical center. ... She is a true expert in library science and medical literature! ... Please know that Laura is a feather in your cap as library director and I hope she never leaves GW, at least as long as I’m here!”  SMHS professor

“I’m in the process of looking at every US medical school library’s LibGuides USMLE page and Laura Abate’s is without a doubt the best I’ve seen yet. Just wanted to pass this along—nice work!”  Librarian at New York Medical College

“Just a super-quick note to make sure that you know how much we appreciate everything the librarians have done to work with us in the new curriculum.”  SMHS professor

“Why is it that librarians are always the nicest and most helpful people?”  SMHS professor

“I just wanted to take a minute to tell you that Elaine Sullo and Laura Abate are tremendous! ... I am completing the second edition of my textbook and they helped me troubleshoot some very significant issues with RefWorks. They truly saved me countless—truly countless—hours of having to re-enter all of my references for each of my chapters!”  PT professor

“As we educate our future clinicians to care for patients with HIV/AIDS and to assume a role in achieving the vision of an AIDS-Free generation, I know I speak for our students and faculty when I say we are deeply appreciative of the gift you have given us and our students by sharing your expertise, experience, and time.”  SMHS dean

Himmelfarb Library staff members, December 2016