2018

Himmelfarb Library Annual Report 2018

George Washington University, Himmelfarb Health Sciences Library

Follow this and additional works at: https://hsrc.himmelfarb.gwu.edu/annual_report

Part of the Library and Information Science Commons, and the Medicine and Health Sciences Commons

Recommended Citation


This Report is brought to you for free and open access by the Himmelfarb Health Sciences Library at Health Sciences Research Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Himmelfarb Library Annual Report by an authorized administrator of Health Sciences Research Commons. For more information, please contact hsrc@gwu.edu.
ANNUAL REPORT
AY2017-18

GW
Himmelfarb
Health Sciences Library
Contents

Introduction .......................................................... 1
Mission and Vision .................................................. 2
Welcoming the Center for Faculty Excellence .................. 3
New Integrated Library and Discovery System Debuts ........ 4
Outreach, Collaboration, and Instruction ....................... 10
Outreach Beyond the University ................................ 15
Outreach to Faculty ............................................... 16
Future Plans/Challenges .......................................... 20
Quick Facts .......................................................... 21
Publications and Service .......................................... 22
University Committees ........................................... 24
Honors ................................................................. 26
Words of Thanks ................................................... 27
Introduction

The 2017/2018 academic year saw many changes for the Himmelfarb Health Sciences Library. The Center for Faculty Excellence was integrated into the Library’s first floor space bringing new faces and partners. A new integrated library and discovery system was implemented in conjunction with Gelman and Burns Law Libraries to improve access to the Library’s collections. A new web site debuted with a fresher look and a more logical organization. The School of Nursing partnered with the Library to create a DNP project repository within the Health Sciences Research Commons. Read below for more details about these evolving projects as well as the many other projects and accomplishments of Himmelfarb librarians and staff, all designed to meet our mission and vision.

While change seemed a constant this year, Himmelfarb continued to offer reference and consultation services, to educate users on information resources and evidence-based practice, to conduct systematic reviews, to purchase books and journals, to host popular programs such as the Annual Art Show, annual book sale, and Food for Fines drive, and to upgrade facilities. The Library currently provides 24/7 electronic access to 4,123 journals, 125 databases, and over 4,468 textbooks. 947 educational sessions were taught by librarians. Over 270,000 individuals visited the Library on-site, and 3.7 million users visited the Library’s web site. A new and more reliable elevator debuted in fall 2017. New white boards were added to many group study rooms during summer 2018. Prize winning images from the SMHS Art of Science project were installed in the entrance to the Library.
Welcoming the Center for Faculty Excellence

In March 2018, the SMHS Center for Faculty Excellence moved into their new offices in Himmelfarb 103. The Center for Faculty Excellence is intended to serve as an identifiable “home” for teaching faculty. This new space includes two desk spaces available for use by teaching faculty in need of a quiet space to work from time to time.

As a result of this space innovation, Himmelfarb Library staff officially settled into new office spaces on the first and third floors. Library operations staff are now located behind the reference and circulation desks in Himmelfarb 105. Reference and instructional services staff are located in Himmelfarb 107 and 303.

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.
The many Himmelfarb librarians and staff who worked to make the successful transition to the new integrated library and discovery systems deserve strong praise for their hard work and dedication over the past year!

**Consortium Loan Service Delivery Introduced**

Because the new integrated library and discovery systems are supported by the Washington Research Library Consortium, the new Health Information @ Himmelfarb allows users to place requests for books owned by WRLC member libraries via the Consortium Loan Service. Himmelfarb is now a stop for the consortium delivery service, allowing delivery of materials to the Himmelfarb Information Desk. Nursing faculty and students at the Virginia Science and Technology campus in Ashburn can now request Consortium Loan Services for delivery to Ashburn.

**New Library Web Page**

The redesigned web site was launched in July 2018 with a complete visual refresh to bring it in line with other GW web properties, as well as an internal reorganization to make the structure more logical. The redesign was done in coordination with the implementation of the new integrated library and discovery systems to make the two sites visually consistent. The result is a streamlined and sleeker tool that retains many of the elements of the old page, but with a new layout that features the most frequently used content. The site is designed for both desktop and mobile environments. Some new features are highlighted below:

- The Health Information @ Himmelfarb search box is the central feature of the new page and allows users to search for journal articles, books, and book chapters and also allows users to search the library website.
- The Popular Resources box has quick links to frequently used databases, clinical tools, and journals and provides links to full lists of resources.
The library’s curated Research Guides are now front and center. Users can navigate quickly to Citation help or filter guides by their school or subject area.

What’s New is at top right and features what’s new on our blog, links to new books, and news about library services.

Quick navigation to social media sites, email, Blackboard, and other GW libraries is located at the bottom of the page.

Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) Projects Repository Goes Live May 2018

A new Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) Projects repository was developed by GW’s School of Nursing in collaboration with the Himmelfarb Health Sciences Library’s Health Sciences Research Commons. The DNP Project Repository archives all doctoral projects completed within GW’s DNP program. It will be used to advance nursing practice by preserving, archiving, and sharing these projects in a permanent digital archive even after student graduation. In addition, the repository can assist current and future DNP students in developing their own projects.

The repository project began in 2016 when faculty from the GW School of Nursing approached Himmelfarb Library looking for a permanent archive to support their accreditation process. Accreditation guidelines required that Doctor of Nursing Practice projects be stored in a permanent digital archive, to enable historical research on nursing topics. Working with the SON faculty, librarians developed a process for accepting student submissions of their DNP projects, along with several supplemental forms that were deemed to be required by the faculty: GW IRB approval form (or waiver, if the student’s research did not require IRB approval), HIPAA waiver, and written permission from the student’s workplace to reuse and publish their data in the open access HSRC archive. The resulting repository is an open access site that is searchable and discoverable via search engines. Students retain copyright of their work and receive a unique, persistent URL that can be shared with colleagues and added to their CV/resume. Use of the repository has been robust with over 7,500 downloads to date.

Health Sciences Research Commons Update

The Health Sciences Research Commons (HSRC), maintained by the Himmelfarb Library, is an online repository for showcasing the scholarly output of the Milken Institute School of Public Health, the School of Medicine and Health Sciences, and the School of Nursing. The HSRC maintains a record of faculty publications and houses a variety of full-text reports and publications unique to the George Washington University, such as the groundbreaking report, "Ascertainment of the Estimated Excess Mortality from Hurricane Maria in Puerto Rico" (Santos-Burgoa, C., Goldman, A., Andrade, E., Barrett, N., Colon-Ramos, U., Edberg, M., Garcia-Meza, A., Goldman, L., Roess, A., Sandberg, J., & Zeger, S. (2018). Retrieved from https://hsrc.himmelfarb.gwu.edu/sphhs_global_facpubs/28). The HSRC also includes a number of collections highlighting student output, including posters from GW Research Days and ISCOPEs (a service-learning initiative that places GW students with community partners) and capstone projects from the Occupational Therapy and Doctor of Nursing Practice programs (as described above).

PlumX metrics became available in the HSRC this year allowing authors to track information on their research post-publication both through traditional metrics such as times cited and through non-traditional metrics such as usage, captures, social media mentions, and shares.

The Health Sciences Research Commons hit a new milestone in July 2018 when it reached 400,000 document downloads from users worldwide. The repository now includes nearly 15,000 records including poster and paper abstracts, full-text open source content, and artworks produced by SMHS, GWSPH, and SON contributors.

The most heavily downloaded articles in 2017/18 were the following:


https://hsrc.himmelfarb.gwu.edu/sphhs_policy_briefs/6

https://hsrc.himmelfarb.gwu.edu/sphhs_centers_nphpf/244

https://hsrc.himmelfarb.gwu.edu/smhs_crl_capstones/5


https://hsrc.himmelfarb.gwu.edu/sphhs_policy_briefs/6

https://hsrc.himmelfarb.gwu.edu/sphhs_centers_nhp/244

https://hsrc.himmelfarb.gwu.edu/smhs_crl_capstones/5

Outreach, Collaboration, and Instruction

The Himmelfarb Health Sciences Library prides itself on reaching out to faculty and students in order to provide the collection and services most needed by its patrons. Outreach can take many forms, i.e., surveys, informal conversations, e-mails, and attendance at committee meetings and faculty retreats. Outreach also extends beyond the University as librarians work with other health sciences libraries to ensure service continuity, explore new programs, and meet the needs of unaffiliated health professionals.

Instruction and Programming

Himmelfarb librarians regularly attend student orientations, conduct in-service workshops, make guest appearances in classes, and create online tutorials on topics related to student and faculty research, health informatics, and electronic resources. In the 2017/2018 Academic Year, librarians worked with faculty to introduce new or expanded education programs to meet emerging information needs. They taught 947 sessions to students and residents over the course of the year.

Education on Predatory Publishing

Himmelfarb Librarians continued to work with faculty on predatory publishing issues—particularly how to differentiate a legitimate, scholarly journal from a predatory journal. Many consultations resulted when faculty received unsolicited e-mails from unknown journals asking them to review or submit a manuscript. To promote education on this issue, the Serials Librarian created a new, stand-alone Predatory Publishing LibGuide that was published on February 27, 2018. This new guide includes comprehensive information about:

- What predatory publishing is, how it works, and why it is harmful
- Red flags
- Tools for evaluating predatory journals
- Infographics about predatory publishing
- How to protect yourself (including sample e-mails from predatory publishers)
- Information about Jeffrey Beall
- Numerous articles, blog posts, and videos

The new guide was promoted through a blog post entitled Need Help Deciding Where to Publish? Himmelfarb Can Help! This blog post highlighted the librarian’s role in helping authors identify journals that follow best practices in which to publish their research findings.
Monthly usage for the guide has averaged 519 uses per month. Four other institutions have requested to use portions of the guide as part of their own predatory publishing outreach efforts including the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), CUNY Brooklyn, Franklin Pierce University, and Touro College of Osteopathic Medicine.

Additionally, the Predatory Publishing: What You Don’t Know, Can Hurt You video of Ruth Bueter and Tamara Ritsema presenting as part of the Scholarly Communications Series in March of 2017 was featured in a Scholarly Kitchen blog post titled When Authors Get Caught in the Predatory (Illegitimate Publishing) Net and also listed as a resource in the Elsevier Connect newsletter’s piece Mentors Help Authors Say “No” to Predatory Publishers.

Research Days 2018

The Library organized a series of workshops for on-campus and DE students to help them prepare for Research Days 2018. Each workshop was offered in person and via WebEx. Each workshop was also recorded and is now available through a research guide. Research Day Workshops included the following topics:

- Creating Effective Posters: Design, Layout & Content
- Link, Share, Publicize Your Poster
- Show Off your Data! Create Effective Graphs, Pie Charts and Tables
- Hands-On Research day Poster Feedback
- How to Present Your Poster and Wow Judges

Library faculty also conducted interviews with students and mentors presenting at GW Research Days 2018. Click here to hear about student and mentor experiences with research.

Elective: Using Media for Health Information

Working with the SMHS Associate Dean for Student Affairs, two Himmelfarb librarians designed and taught a new 3-credit elective which focused on using emerging media positively to share health information with both colleagues and patients. Over a two-week period, students heard from a variety of experts on video creation, interviewing, and messaging while they worked on creating a public service announcement (PSA) on a topic of their choice. They were introduced to storyboarding, script writing, shooting and editing digital video, and best practices for sharing and publicizing health information. On the final day of the course students presented their PSAs. Click here to view their videos.

The Librarian is In

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. Additionally, Himmelfarb librarians consulted with distance education students using the WebEx online conferencing service, bringing off-campus students to the Library’s reference service and allowing students to get to know librarians more personally than on e-mail or chat.
Outreach Beyond the University

Visiting Librarians Hosted

The Cunningham Memorial International Fellowship is awarded annually by the Medical Library Association to assist in the education and training of librarians outside of the United States and Canada. The library hosted Ha To Tam (from Vietnam) and Biliamin O. Popoola (from Nigeria), the Medical Library Association’s Cunningham Fellows, on May 7th-8th, 2018.

Himmelfarb Library Partnership with Children’s National Health System Library

Himmelfarb Library continued its partnership with the Children’s National Health System (CNHS) Library in an effort to improve access to information resources for hospital faculty, physicians, staff and students. Himmelfarb’s shared resources with Children’s National include: New England Journal of Medicine, Science Direct, Medline Complete, CINAHL Plus, and Serials Solutions.

Resource Library, National Network/Libraries of Medicine

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

Healthy Living

Himmelfarb Library continued to offer its Healthy Living initiative offering games, yoga mats, and other resources for taking a break from the hectic and sometimes grueling schedule of school. The Library also sponsored a number of study breaks for students including the following: Healthy Snacks, Eclipse Fever, Hula Hoop Madness, Silk Painting with the Art Therapy Clinic, and Ice Skating.
80% reported that the library enables them to be a more productive researcher.

81% stated that the library helps them make more efficient use of time.

74% of faculty reported accessing journals for teaching purposes on a weekly basis, while 19% of faculty reported accessing journals for teaching purposes on a monthly basis. Of the 52% of faculty who use a mobile device to access library resources, the most common mobile use habits included reading articles in an internet browser or downloading a PDF of the resource.

Overall satisfaction with the Himmelfarb journal collection was high. 51% of respondents reported being extremely satisfied with their experience using the journal collection. 35% reported being somewhat satisfied. 9% of respondents were neither satisfied, nor dissatisfied. Only 5% of respondents reported being somewhat dissatisfied. Reasons for being dissatisfied included accessibility issues, large number of required clicks to access full-text articles, and limited resources in specific disciplines.

The faculty’s overall satisfaction with the Himmelfarb journal collection is reflected in journal usage. Overall journal usage for Core and Access Only titles totaled 1,147,191 uses during FY2017-18. Total journal usage increased from FY2016-17 by 77,218. The total cost-per-use for all core and access-only journals was $1.85. The most highly used journals are listed below:

“90% of respondents stated that the library helps them stay current in their field.”

Satisfaction with accessing Himmelfarb’s electronic resources (e-resources) from both on and off-campus was extremely high. An average of 76% of respondents reported being satisfied with e-resource access. Respondents who were dissatisfied with access listed a variety of reasons for dissatisfaction including access issues, frustration with logging-in, poor journal selection, and frustration with RefWorks.

Faculty overwhelmingly agreed that the library makes positive contributions to their teaching and research experiences.

- 90% of respondents stated that the library helps them stay current in their field.
- 89% stated that the library helps them enrich student-learning experiences.
- 85% stated that the library helps them provide quality clinical care.
- 89% reported that the library helps them find scientific literature for research.
- 60% reported that the library helps them get research funding/grants.

 Outreach to Faculty

Biannual Faculty Survey

The 2018 Faculty Journal Survey was conducted during April 2018. The survey was available from April 1, 2018 to May 7, 2018. Faculty from the School of Medicine and Health Sciences (SMHS), the George Washington School of Public Health (GWSPH), and the School of Nursing (SON) were invited to participate in this survey via survey invitations on school listservs and e-mail invitations from Liaison Librarians. A total of 264 survey responses were returned. To view complete survey results, click here.

Satisfaction of E-Resources Accessibility

Satisfaction with accessing Himmelfarb’s electronic resources (e-resources) from both on and off-campus was extremely high. An average of 76% of respondents reported being satisfied with e-resource access. Respondents who were dissatisfied with access listed a variety of reasons for dissatisfaction including access issues, frustration with logging-in, poor journal selection, and frustration with RefWorks.

Library Contributions to Teaching and Research

Faculty overwhelmingly agreed that the library makes positive contributions to their teaching and research experiences.

- 90% of respondents stated that the library helps them stay current in their field.
- 89% stated that the library helps them enrich student-learning experiences.
- 85% stated that the library helps them provide quality clinical care.
- 89% reported that the library helps them find scientific literature for research.
- 60% reported that the library helps them get research funding/grants.
### Highest Electronic Usage for Individual Journal Titles:
Top 10 (Calendar Year 2017)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Usage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Medical Letter</td>
<td>69,733</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New England Journal of Medicine (NEJM)</td>
<td>60,508</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA)</td>
<td>26,277</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nature</td>
<td>14,737</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (PNAS)</td>
<td>12,570</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lancet</td>
<td>11,174</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pediatrics</td>
<td>10,545</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Journal of Public Health</td>
<td>10,132</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Science &amp; Medicine</td>
<td>7,351</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>British Medical Journal (BMJ)</td>
<td>6,617</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Highest Electronic Usage for Individual Book Titles:
Top 10 (Calendar Year 2017)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>E-Book</th>
<th>Usage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Essentials of health policy and law</td>
<td>14127</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Introductory Textbook of Psychiatry</td>
<td>13024</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine 19e</td>
<td>8414</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basic and clinical biostatistics</td>
<td>6845</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Symptom to Diagnosis: An Evidence-Based Guide</td>
<td>6806</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shortell and Kaluzny’s health care management: organization, design, and behavior</td>
<td>6396</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Essentials of health, culture, and diversity: understanding people, reducing disparities</td>
<td>6352</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ferri’s Clinical Advisor 2018</td>
<td>5481</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Essentials of nursing research: appraising evidence for nursing practice</td>
<td>5384</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Histology: a text and atlas: with correlated cell and molecular biology</td>
<td>5360</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IM ESSENTIALS</td>
<td>4973</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diagnostic and statistical manual of mental disorders: DSM-5</td>
<td>4944</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biochemistry</td>
<td>4669</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current Medical Diagnosis and Treatment 2018</td>
<td>3996</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robbins and Cotran pathologic basis of disease</td>
<td>3777</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Future Plans/Challenges

The Himmelfarb Library plans to undertake the following major initiatives in 2018/2019:

- Analysis of the serials collection with an eye to identifying titles for cuts in a flat budget year. The faculty survey will serve as a basis for identifying possible cuts as respondents were asked to identify low value titles.

- Introduction of new cutting-edge technologies such as 3D printing. Thanks to the generosity of the GW Hospital Women’s Board Foundation, the Himmelfarb Library plans to initiate a pilot 3D printing service in fall 2018.

- Explore the need for research data management services including ontology support, data visualization, and data curation.

- Compile reports on the impact of faculty publications within the SMHS, GWSPH, and SON.

- Encourage the use of ORCids among faculty and doctoral students.

- Conduct a student survey of resources and services.

- Create a series of a series of presentations on measuring and presenting research impact to support faculty with the promotion/tenure process and to assist in the promotion and tracking of research output through social media.

Quick Facts

Himmelfarb Health Sciences Library by the Numbers: AY2017/18

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Accessible Electronic Textbooks</th>
<th>4,648</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Electronic Journals</td>
<td>4,123</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Databases</td>
<td>124</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Million Page Views</td>
<td>8.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Circulations</td>
<td>5,440</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In-Depth Reference Questions</td>
<td>7,159</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Educational Sessions with Attendees</td>
<td>947</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In-Person Users</td>
<td>271,114</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Guides</td>
<td>131</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Online Tutorials</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Documents Requested for Faculty from Other Libraries</td>
<td>1,359</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Documents Delivered to Other Libraries</td>
<td>1,623</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sessions per Month</td>
<td>25,602</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full-Text Downloads Annually</td>
<td>199,580</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Publications and Service

Productive Scholarship, Including Peer-Reviewed Publications


Posters/Presentations


- Using Social Media to Promote Learner Wellbeing, Peer Support and Advocacy, Katherine Chretien, Lorenzo Norris, Alexandra Gomes, Jordan Scher, Ariel Ozbeki. Continuum Connections: an AAMC joint meeting of the Group on Student Affairs, Group on Resident Affairs, Organization of Student Representatives, and Organization of Resident Representatives, Orlando, FL, April 28-May 1, 2018. (Presentation)


- From Fear to Fruition: Developing Student Research Day Videos, Gisela Butera, Brian McDonald, and Alexandra Gomes. Mid-Atlantic Chapter of the Medical Library Association Annual Meeting, Staunton, VA October 22-24, 2017. (Poster)

- E-professionalism and Social Media Panel, Alexandra Gomes, Joyce Pulcini, Kim Acquaviva, The George Washington University Virginia Science and Technology Campus, Ashburn, VA, October 26, 2017 (Panel presentation)

University Committees

Librarians served on the following University committees:

- University Hospital’s Patient Education Committee
- University Hospital’s Nursing Research Council
- 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 Themes Subcommittee
- School of Medicine’s Pre-clinical and Clinical Groups
- School of Medicine’s Admissions Committee
- 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
- MD Program Healthy Living/Be Well Committee
- SMHS Peer Teaching Consultant Roster
- University Seminar: Creating a Culture of Collaboration at GW
- Review Committee, Medical and Health Science Education Research Grant Awards

Librarians served on the following national committees:

- AAMC Group on Information Resources
- AAHSL Committee on Research (Association of Academic Health Sciences Libraries)
- AAHSL Nominating Committee
- Editorial Board, *Journal of the Medical Library Association*
- MLA Books Panel
- MLA/Mid Atlantic Chapter Board
- MLA/Mid Atlantic Chapter 2018 Program Committee
- MLA/Mid Atlantic Chapter Professional Development Committee
- MLA/Mid Atlantic Chapter Research and Assessment Committee
- MLA/Mid Atlantic Chapter Communications Committee
- MLA Systematic Review Committee
- MLA Research Curriculum Committee
- Educause/ECAR Working on Data Curation
- Member, EBSCOhost Advisory Board
- Member, JAMA Network, Library Advisory Board
- Member, BE Press Advisory Board
- NN/LM SEA’s Medical Librarian Program Advisory Committee (PAC)
The Association of Research Libraries (ARL) announced the 2018-2019 ARL Leadership Fellow cohort in November of 2017. Himmelfarb Library’s Julie Silverman was among the 30 individuals selected from an extremely competitive applicant pool. The ARL Leadership Fellows program is an executive leadership program that facilitates leadership development in future senior-level leaders within research libraries and archives.

Words of Thanks

“I want to extend a big thank you for all of the help you have been giving the school in getting us ready for Research Day. You help has been enormous!” GWSPH Dean

“You rock. I appreciate you so very much. Have a great day. You made mine great!” PH student

“I have only had very positive experiences with the Himmelfarb Library staff which I will miss after my fellowship.” Primary Care fellow

“I would like to thank you all for the [systematic review] class. It was a truly wonderful and incredibly informative experience. I have already recommended the class to several of my classmates.” Med student

“Thank you very much for your insights into searching the library and internet. Your list of best internet search practices is terrific and will get top billing in the syllabus.” SMHS professor

“You were extremely helpful and made me feel so much more comfortable with this. I obviously have a lot more to learn, but I feel a lot better about it. Thank you!” SMHS undergrad

“This is the most amazing compilation of asthma resources I have ever seen!... Wow!” PA professor

“Your library orientation session was one of the best orientations I have ever been to.” PH student

“I wanted to let you know that of all the online sources I have used, your online APA citation style web site is the clearest and most comprehensive. Your page on formatting captions for figures in APA is particularly useful; it has so much more detail than the page at the Purdue University OWL, my other go-to site.” Online writing tutor, National University Writing Center

“Thank you so much, Alex!! I’ve really appreciated all that you’ve done! I’ve got nothing but positive feedback for you. Please continue what you’ve been doing with medical students.” Med student
“Thank you for these instructions. This was extremely helpful! I just set up my GWNet ID and email, and I feel so liberated to do more with GW! I also accessed the Himmelfarb Library online, which was great! I've been faculty for at least 5 years, and this is so great to finally access the resources at GW! Thank you, thank you, thank you!” SMHS faculty

“This is absolutely brilliant. Thank you so much...The information will be put to good use and I will give you whatever follow-up I can. Thanks again.” PH professor

“A very belated but very heartfelt ‘thank you’ for arranging such an informative visit last Thursday. I learned a lot myself and am really impressed with the extent that you and your staff are embedded in teaching throughout the schools. I’m just in awe of the elective Alex is proposing for the spring on creating your own PSAs. I look forward to hearing more about that at a Chapter or MLA meeting near me. I’m also pondering how you find the time to teach as well as manage the library. Thinking on that! And I loved hearing the next steps in Library Operations: what’s happening with the catalog, repository, and interlibrary loan. All the very real ‘stuff’ of service that drew me to librarianship to begin with.” NLM Associate Fellowship Program coordinator

“The librarians (both assigned to this course and at GW Himmelfarb in general) are amazing. Specifically, Ms. Gisela Butera has been an incredible help. She is always willing to recommend a resource, and the online citation webinars she offers are very helpful as well. The librarian instant message chat is wonderful, too.” SON faculty

“I was beyond intrigued to learn of your upcoming elective on PSAs—communicating health information, videos, medical students—the whole thing. I’d love to hear more when you have more to share! I really appreciate learning from you and the reference librarians on your work in reference and teaching.” NLM Associate Fellowship Program coordinator

“It helps that Laura @ the library is always wonderful to work with and is incredibly attentive to our needs!” GWSPH director

“I have an exciting announcement: the amazing and tireless Laura Abate (our reference librarian whom you’ve seen in morning report) has updated our website reading list and helped us convert it to a “by rotation: format!!” SMHS professor

Notes created by students during exam period to cheer on their classmates
“I recently read about your excellent study on students and social media use, and I was hoping to write about it for our blog...” InformED blogger

“I’m an off-campus graduate student, and I just wanted to write to you to say how phenomenal my experience with Himmelfarb Library has been. The scope of the online scientific articles is just tremendous, and the few times I have had to order an article, they were sent to me within a couple of days. I feel like I have all the latest information at my fingertips no matter how obscure the subject or the journal.

I have contacted the staff for help a couple of times (at least) and have always received immediate assistance. Not only were the responses prompt and professional, but my issues were always quickly resolved. Many thanks to you and all the Himmelfarb Library staff for helping me so much in my studies. SMHS grad student