The Journals@Himmelfarb Committee was established with the following members: Associate Director, Collections and Access Services; Serials Librarian; Electronic Resources and Instructional Librarian; Associate Director, Public Services; Director, Library Services.

**Objectives:**

- Establish a framework for evaluating the mix of print and electronic titles in the Himmelfarb serials collection
- Preserve the quality and subject diversity of the collection in a time of flat budgets and increasing serials costs
- Meet patron demand for expanded access to electronic resources
- Integrate access to electronic journals through the Library’s OPAC, electronic journals webpage and holdings notes/links to full-text
- Develop a combined print and electronic serials collection development policy

**Challenges Faced by the Committee:**

- **Project Challenges**
  - Application of subject headings to serials collection for faculty survey and internal analysis
  - Tracking cost and usage for titles in print only, print + electronic, electronic only formats
  - Time, effort, research required to compile adequate data for analysis
  - Balancing needs, electronic access vs archival stability and interlibrary loan privileges

- **Budgetary Challenges**
  - Budget does not allow purchasing multiple formats
  - Electronic pricing currently more volatile than print pricing
  - Transition from predominantly print collection to one focused on electronic formats did not result in expected net cost savings
  - Budget cycle requires budget creation 18 months before its implementation
How Diverse Librarians Increased Access to Electronic Journals, Developed a Print/Electronic Collection Development Policy and Preserved the Collection

Kathe Obrig, MLS, Associate Director, Collection and Access Services; Patricia Wilson, MIS, Associate Director, Public Services; Cynthia Swope, MLS, Serials Librarian; Laura Abate, MSLS, Electronic Resources & Instructional Librarian; Anne Linton, MS, Director, Library Services.
The George Washington University, 2300 Eye Street, NW, Washington, DC 20037.

Methods:

- **Collection Evaluation**
  - “Top 3 Titles” Survey: all faculty members asked to identify the three journals most critical to their research, patient care, and educational activities and to state preference for print or electronic
  - Faculty Survey: department heads asked to evaluate usefulness of each title in their subject area
  - Faculty Publication Pattern Journal Title Analysis: analyzed existing database of faculty publications to determine the number of publications per journal title, if title exists in Library’s collection, and if indexed by MEDLINE
  - Interlibrary Loan Usage Study: reviewed annual report of Titles Borrowed to identify titles for possible addition to collection
  - Weighting Titles: developed mathematical formula to assess title value by assigning points to cost, usage, impact factor, appearance in Brandon Hill list and faculty survey preferences

- **Expand Access to Electronic Journals**
  - Provided extensive linking to electronic journals indexed in MEDLINE, CINAHL, SPORTDiscus, or PsycINFO
  - Established full-text links using Ovid OpenLinks and PubMed LinkOut at the article level
  - Created holdings notes in Ovid MEDLINE and PubMed to identify print and electronic journal titles available at Himmelfarb
  - Improved linking from OPAC to electronic journal titles
  - Added access to additional electronic titles not owned by Himmelfarb but accessible through other campus libraries or open access

- **Policy Review**
  - Updated collection development policy to reflect subject areas and user populations
  - Created guidelines for acquiring electronic access
  - Developed check list of requirements for electronic licenses including authorized users, remote access, interlibrary loan
  - Created model electronic license based on NERL Generic License

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>SAMPLE FACULTY SURVEY</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Value of Title</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Preferred Format</strong></td>
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Results:

- Methodology developed by the committee was used to make decisions on conversion of print and electronic titles to electronic only format
- In a 900 title collection, slightly more than 700 titles were retained in print format with electronic access maintained where available
- 150 titles were moved to electronic only access
- 25 titles were cancelled from the collection
- Expected cost saving did not result from the substantial format changes that were made to the collection

Conclusions:

- Continue dialogue with faculty regarding the committee decisions as more titles are converted to electronic only format
- Additional focus will be placed on the special needs in specific departments and new programs
- Develop core list of 100 to 150 titles to retain in print and electronic format and begin transition of remaining titles to electronic only format
- Focus on maintaining the stability of access for the electronic collection
- Address archival access issues
- Re-engineer the workflow of the serials department
- Reallocate the workload involved with the conversion to an increasingly electronic collection
- Analyze specific subject areas as required