

Himmelfarb Health Sciences Library, The George Washington University
Health Sciences Research Commons

Himmelfarb Headlines (2009 - present)

Himmelfarb Health Sciences Library

2-2024

Himmelfarb Headlines - February/March 2024

The George Washington University, Himmelfarb Health Sciences Library

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Himmelfarb Headlines: February/March 2024

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Director's Desk

The end of the spring term means that things get quiet in the library, at least for a few days after graduation. Soon, though, the summer term begins and the new residents and fellows arrive. This year, spring has brought a few changes to Himmelfarb Library.

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What's New at Himmelfarb Library

- The Annual Himmelfarb Art Show will happen soon! Mark your calendar for the opening day reception on Monday, April 15, from 4-5:30 pm!
- The Health Info @ Himmelfarb search tool has been updated! The default search scope has been changed to: "Articles + GW & Consortium Catalog". This search includes items from other academic libraries in the Washington Research Library Consortium in your search results. Check out our blog post on the update for additional information.
- Come and check out our new furniture! We hope these new study spaces offer you the comfort and space needed for the best study sessions!



The Annual Himmelfarb Art Show!

For more than 35 years, this annual event has given artists from the SMHS, GWSPH, and Nursing an opportunity to share their work! Submitted items will be displayed throughout the first floor of the library from Monday, April 15 through Friday May 10. There will also be an opening reception on the first floor of the library on Monday, April 15, from 4-5:30pm.



We are accepting submissions starting Monday, March 4 through Friday, April 12. We gladly accept submissions from students, faculty, and staff within the SMHS, GWSPH, and SON.

The Art Show isn't limited to photographs and paintings. We accept and display artwork in a variety of media - needlepoint, pottery, jewelry, metal craft, and more.

We also accept digital artwork for inclusion in our Virtual Art Show.

To see items from past Himmelfarb Art Shows, check out the [collection](#) in our Health Sciences Resource Commons.

To submit, please bring your artwork to the library's first floor circulation desk, just past the entry gate. If you would like to make a submission to the Virtual Art Show or if you have any questions, please reach out to Temitayo Wolff at temitayo.wolff@gwu.edu.

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Drug Information Resources & Apps

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New Year, New Catalog Scope!

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2023 Highlights!

The new year offers us the opportunity to reflect on all that we’ve accomplished over the past year. In that spirit, here are some highlights from Himmelfarb’s 2023!



Last year, we acquired new resources and updated our current collection to provide the latest in health sciences research and support. The Bloedorn Technology Center received [new 3-D printed anatomical models](#). Thanks to a generous gift from Dr. Seymour Perlin and Ruth Perlin, the library now hosts the [Suicide and Suicidology Collection](#). Our Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee was hard at work: in spring, the committee released an [Anti-Racism in Healthcare research guide](#), and the [Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Policy](#) was published in the fall

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Staff Profile - A Sit Down With Himmelfarb’s Associate Director, Library Operations: Ruth Bueter

Learn more about Himmelfarb Library staff members. In this issue, we learn more about Ruth Bueter, Associate Director of Library Operations.



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Faculty Profile - Interview with Dr. Juan Klopper, Teaching Associate Professor of Biostatistics and Bioinformatics

Himmelfarb Library continues this feature in our newsletter that lets us become better acquainted with our friends and colleagues at the George Washington University. In this issue, we learn more about Dr. Juan Klopper, Teaching Associate Professor of Biostatistics and Bioinformatics.



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Director's Desk

While it still looks and feels wintry outside, I think many of us are looking forward to spring. In the library, there are signs of a fresh start as users settle into a recently updated study space on the 1st floor. The study alcove which until recently housed workspaces with desktop computers, has been updated with shared high-top study tables which provide access to electric and USB plugs as well as comfortable rolling stools. The space seems to be working well as users sat down, plugged in, and got to work as soon as the tables and chairs were in place! Please stop by Himmelfarb to check out this new study area!



Library staff are finding new ways to use existing research tools like the [Dimensions Analytics](#) database. This resource has been harnessed at GW to track faculty publications by departmental groups; additional groups are also available in the 'shared group' areas and allow users to explore GW's market basket schools. Dimensions has a bit of a learning curve to navigate, but offers a rich data environment to explore connections in research. For example, you can search by a topic to identify researchers, funders, and institutions globally with research in that area, or focus the search to GW to find local collaborators and funded research. To learn more about Dimensions, be sure to check out the video produced by Himmelfarb's Scholarly Communications Committee: [Dimensions Analytics: An Introduction](#).

And, in a continuing effort to improve our systems for our users, the library's catalog interface was modified to expand the default search scope. The default search scope now includes materials, primarily books, owned by other libraries in the local academic library consortium of which GW is a member, and GW affiliates can request to borrow those materials at no charge and have the books delivered to Himmelfarb or the VSTC Library. This change will remain in place through the spring, after which we will assess whether it should be implemented permanently. You can read more about the change and ordering materials from consortium libraries on Himmelfarb's blog: [Library Catalog Change Expands Results for Users](#)

Finally, Himmelfarb Library recently launched a new presence on LinkedIn which is designed for GW faculty - and where we plan to share research and scholarly communications information. Please access the [Paul Himmelfarb Health Sciences Library on LinkedIn](#) and follow us!

Many thanks,

Laura Abate

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Himmelfarb Headlines: Drug Information Resources & Apps

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Drug Information Resources & Apps

Himmelfarb Library provides multiple drug information resources to meet your needs whether you're accessing online or using an app!



[Lexicomp](#) is a clinical drug information tool produced by Wolters Kluwer.

Lexicomp's search interface allows you to search simultaneously across [all available content sets](#) to identify information in Lexi-Drugs, Pediatric and Neonatal Lexi-Drugs, Geriatric Lexi-Drugs, Pharmacogenomics, Drug Allergy and Idiosyncratic Reactions, Lexi-Tox, Briggs Drugs in Pregnancy and Lactation, and more. Lexicomp's drug monographs provide the complete full-text as well as images and patient education materials. In addition to these content sets, Lexicomp provides decision support tools including Trissel's IV Compatibility, a drug interaction checker, drug identification search tool, patient education materials, and clinical calculators.

[Lexicomp](#) is available via 24/7 web access, and can also be downloaded and installed as an app. The app allows you to have access to Lexicomp content regardless of whether you have WiFi or cellular connection, and is available via the App Store and Google Play. To connect the free Lexicomp app to Himmelfarb Library's Lexicomp subscription, please follow the instructions available on [Himmelfarb Library's App Shelf](#).

The screenshot displays the Lexicomp Standard View interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with tabs for Home, Trissel's IV Compatibility, Interactions, Drug I.D., Patient Education, Calculators, and More Clinical Tools. Below the navigation bar is the Himmelfarb Library logo and a search bar. The main content area is divided into three columns: New FDA Drug Approvals (listing Berdazimer, Eplontersen, Birch Triterpenes, Eflornithine (Systemic), and Exagamglogene Autotemcel), Special Alerts (listing Dulaglutide, Exenatide, Insulin Degludec, and Insulin Glargine), and Help and Training Resources (listing Mobile Access Codes, Training Videos, and Quick Reference Guide).

[DynaMed](#) is an evidence-based, point-of-care information resource that provides access to drug information as well as, [information summaries](#) categorized by Condition, Evaluation, Approach to Patient, Management, Prevention, Procedures, and other areas. DynaMed's drug information originates from Micromedex, and provides full-text drug monographs. Information on specific uses of drug therapies is also integrated in specific clinical care articles. A drug interaction checker and clinical calculators are also available as part of DynaMed.

The screenshot displays the DynaMed interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with tabs for DynaMed and DynaMed Decisions. Below the navigation bar is the DynaMed logo and a search bar containing the text 'paxlovid'. There are also icons for user profile, CME, and a search icon.

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[DynaMed](#) is available via 24/7 web access and provides a mobile-optimized interface which will automatically adjust to the appropriate screen size. DynaMed can also be downloaded and installed as an app, which provides you access to DynaMed information regardless of whether you have WiFi or cellular connection, and is available via the App Store and Google Play. To connect the free DynaMed app to Himmelfarb Library’s DynaMed subscription, please follow the instructions available on [Himmelfarb Library’s App Shelf](#).

[NatMed Pro](#) (formerly Natural Medicines) provides access to evidence-based information on natural medicines. Users can search across 1,400 monographs on natural medicines and therapies to explore topics such as common uses, safety, adverse effects, effectiveness.

Effectiveness information is organized by effectiveness rating (e.g. Possibly Effective) and by indication; users can review a brief description of the agent’s effectiveness as well as link to the original research.

Safety

LIKELY SAFE ...when used orally and appropriately, short-term, Turmeric products providing up to 8 grams of curcumin have been safely used for up to 2 months [10453,11144,11150,17953,79085,89720,89721,89724,89726,101347] [10034,101349,107110,107118,107117,107119,107121,109276,109281]. Turmeric in doses up to 3 grams daily has been used with apparent safety for up to 3 months [102350,104146,104148] ...when used topically and appropriately [11144].

LIKELY SAFE ...when used as an anxiolytic, short-term, Turmeric extract (curcumin) has been used as a safe anxiolytic for up to 8

NatMed Pro users can also locate patient information for specific agents, as well as information about specific commercial preparations. NatMed also provides tools to support clinical care including an interaction checker, an effectiveness checker, a nutrition depletion checker, a pregnancy & lactation checker, and an adverse effects checker.

If you have questions regarding Himmelfarb Library's drug information resources or need assistance with setting up the Lexicomp or DynaMed apps, please [ask a librarian!](#)

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There are many instances when including this content will improve your search results. Searches for books and topics beyond clinical medicine will frequently be enhanced by inclusion of the holdings of these libraries. The consortium content will be included in your search results automatically now. You'll be able to see where items retrieved are available when you click through to the full record from search results:

The screenshot shows a search results interface with a left sidebar for refining results and a main area with three search results:

- Item 1:** Article titled "Combined vitamin B6-magnesium treatment in autism spectrum disorder" by Nye, Chad; Brice, Alejandro; Nye, Chad. It is available online.
- Item 2:** Book titled "Madwives: schizophrenic women in the 1950s" by Warren, Carol A. B., 1944-1987. A "Check Availability" link is present.
- Item 3:** Article titled "Impact of cognitive and social cognitive impairment on functional outcomes in patients with schizophrenia" by Green, Michael F. It is available online.

The screenshot shows a "Consortium Loan Service Request" form with the following fields:

- From library:** Himmelfarb Health Sciences Library
- Request Type:** Book (selected), Article
- Title:** Madwives: schizophrenic women in the 1950s /
- Volume(s)/Chapter/Pages:** (empty)
- Format:** Borrow (selected), Chapter/Article
- Email:** [redacted]@gwu.edu

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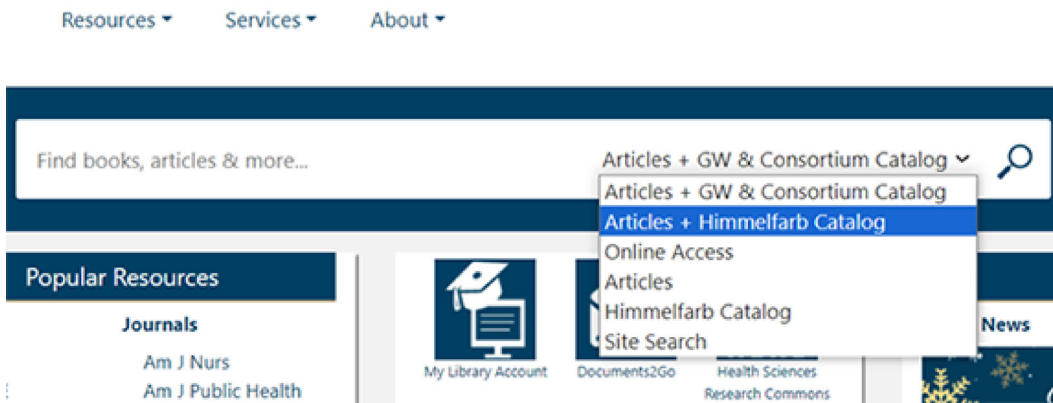
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★ pickup location at home institution

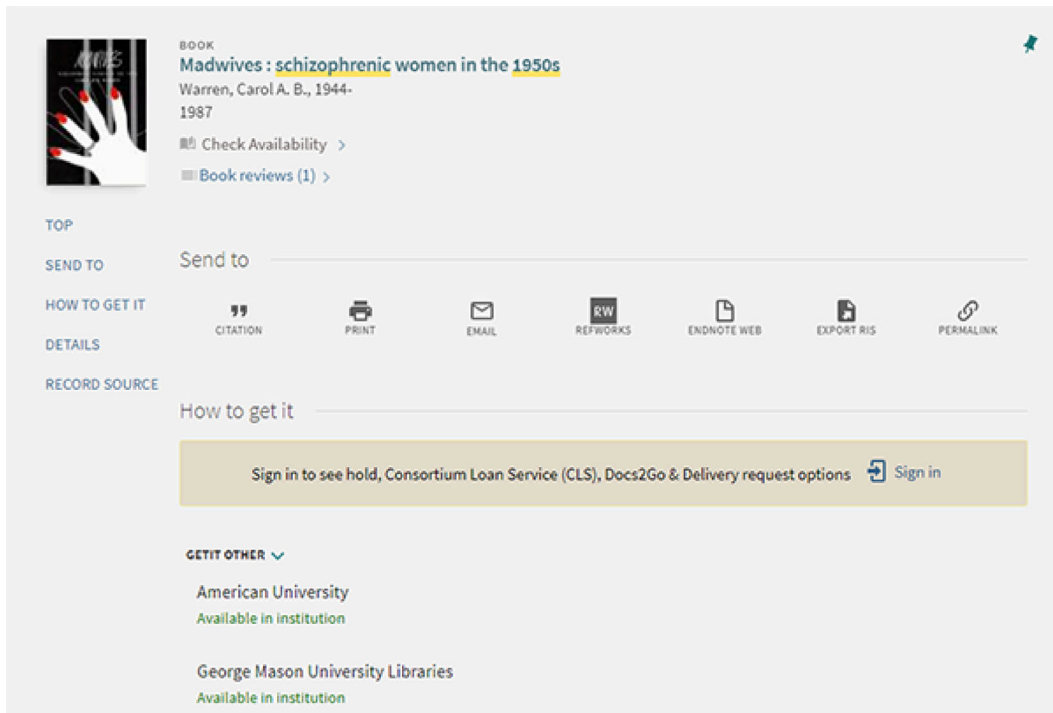
Not needed after

If you prefer to use the original default search scope which includes Himmelfarb collections and subscription content only, you can still find it by clicking the down arrow in the search box and selecting the Articles + Himmelfarb Catalog scope:



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The change in default search scopes will continue through the Spring 2024 semester and then we will assess whether to make it permanent or revert back. Please provide feedback on the change by clicking on the link in the banner at the top of [Health Information @ Himmelfarb](#) pages.



The [Consortium Loan Service \(CLS\)](#) allows you to request these items and have them delivered directly to Himmelfarb Library or the VSTC Library. You will see the option for the CLS Request form when you are signed into Health Information @ Himmelfarb with your GW UserID. Items borrowed on CLS typically arrive within a week of request. There are no charges or limits on how many CLS requests you can make.

The default search settings have changed. [Learn more and give feedback on this change](#)





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- JOURNAL SEARCH
- DOCS2GO
- SPECIAL COLLECTIONS
- FAQ
- FIND ITEM
- ...

Articles + GW & Consortium Catalog

Your feedback will help us make the decision that is most helpful to you, our users. GW SMHS, SON and SPH students, faculty and staff who would be willing to participate in a brief focus group about the change can include contact information in the feedback form and will be entered in a raffle for Starbucks \$10 gift cards.

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The library also held a number of engaging events. In January, we enjoyed hosting the National Library of Medicine's traveling exhibit Renaissance Science, Magic, and Medicine in Harry Potter's World. In March, we held a basketball shootout fundraiser for the GW Healing Clinic. The library had its inaugural springtime Cherry Blossom Photo Contest, followed by the first Fall Colors Photo Contest. The 35th Annual Art Show was held in May (keep an eye out for information on the 36th!).

We also celebrated the arrival of three new staff members: Deborah Wassertzug and Rebecca Kyser joined the Reference and Instruction team, and Randy Plym joined us as our Evening/Weekend Circulation Supervisor. Ruth Bueter was promoted to Associate Director for Library Operations. Himmelfarb Library staff had several works published, including JoLinda Thompson and Sara Hoover's chapter "Discoverability Within the Library" in the book Discoverability in Digital Repositories: Systems, Perspectives, and Users Studies, and Rachel Brill's article on her Disorder in the Court series.

Read more of the library's 2023 highlights in our blog post! We can't wait to see what 2024 brings.

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Staff Profile - A Sit Down With Himmelfarb's Associate Director, Library Operations: Ruth Bueter

Learn more about Himmelfarb Library staff members. In this issue, we learn more about Ruth Bueter, Associate Director of Library Operations.



Congratulations on your promotion to this position! What would you say has been the best part of your experience in transitioning to Associate Director?

Thank you for the kind congratulations! I would say that the best part of moving into the Associate Director position has been gaining a more in-depth understanding of what the folks in the Library Operations department do day-to-day. Having been part of this department since 2016, I thought I had a pretty good idea of what other folks in the department did as part of their jobs. However, taking over as Associate Director has allowed me to take a much deeper dive into what goes into every position. I've gotten to know the amazing staff that make up this department even better. It's helped me have a greater appreciation for the hard work and dedication that goes into making Himmelfarb operate so smoothly.

Have there been any hurdles in adjusting to the role?

The biggest challenge has just been learning how to manage my time more efficiently. We're still working on hiring for my previous position, so I've been juggling both jobs, which has made things more interesting. I've learned to better prioritize tasks while juggling the duties of both jobs. Since this is my first time in a library administration role, I have a lot to learn about the administrative portion of the position, but it's been exciting to explore new skill sets. I'm very lucky to have Laura Abate and Tom Harrod to answer all of my questions and provide support when I need it!

What is your favorite service that the library has to offer?

It's difficult to pick just one! I think our [3D printing service](#) is fantastic! I love walking past our 3D printers and hearing them humming away because someone has placed a request. I also really like our [systematic review service](#), in large part because I'm constantly impressed at how our reference librarians can perform complex database searches and find such relevant information to help researchers.

What makes Himmelfarb special to you?

Without a doubt - the staff! Himmelfarb has by far the best work culture I've experienced working in libraries, and that is a direct result of the staff who work here. The people who work here are not only some of the most hard-working colleagues I've ever had the pleasure of working with, but they are also some of the most authentic, kind-hearted, and funny people I know. While I sincerely enjoy the work that I do here, it's the people I work with that make me look forward to coming to work every day!

What has been your favorite project to work on at Himmelfarb?

I have two favorite projects. I enjoy being a Librarian Instructor in the Clinical Integration Sessions. Because we get to be with the same groups of students for the first year and a half of their medical school journey, I feel like I get to know my students fairly well, which is a change

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from my previous experience teaching in libraries where I only got to be with a group of students for a single class. I love getting to watch my students learn, grow, and become more confident as they progress through the program.

My second favorite project I've worked on has been providing predatory publishing consultations to authors as part of our [Journal PreCheck service](#). I enjoy helping authors evaluate if a journal is scholarly, questionable, or predatory. I've seen some wild things while investigating predatory journals, like journals whose physical address shows up in Google Maps as a vacant lot, an apartment building or single-family home in a residential neighborhood, or even a sketchy check cashing business. These are not the types of places from which reputable publishers do business.

Is there any advice that you would give to our medical faculty, students, and staff?

Reach out to the library more. Himmelfarb isn't just a collection of books, databases, and journals and a place to study. We offer a wide range of services that can help you with your projects. Our librarians and staff have expertise in research, scholarly communications (publishing), technology, and much more. People are often surprised when they find out how much we can do, so reach out to us and see how we can help with your projects!

Do you have any favorite hobbies that you like to do when you have downtime?

I have some fairly stereotypical librarian hobbies like reading and knitting. I also recently started playing the piano again after a 25+ year hiatus, so that's been great fun and a great outlet for stress relief. Before the pandemic, I took up flying trapeze, and quickly fell in love with it. I'd love to make time to get back to that sometime soon. I also enjoy hiking, cooking/baking, and watching baseball and hockey.

Last but not least, what is your favorite book and why?

My all-time favorite book is *The Unbearable Lightness of Being* by Milan Kundera. I've read it a few times, and each time I was just blown away by Kundera's ability to make me feel so connected to a character and so invested in what's happening to them. And then in a single paragraph, reminds me that this fictional character whom I've grown to love is simply a figment of the author's imagination. It's also the first book that I remember made me sob uncontrollably while reading - which is a powerful thing for a book to accomplish.

My runner-up favorite book is *Mother Night* by Kurt Vonnegut, Jr. It's just a great story and is beautifully written, as is most of Vonnegut's writing.

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Himmelfarb Headlines: Faculty Profile - Interview with Dr. Juan Klopper, Teaching Associate Professor of Biostatistics and Bioinformatics

February/March 2024 ▾

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Faculty Profile - Interview with Dr. Juan Klopper, Teaching Associate Professor of Biostatistics and Bioinformatics

Himmelfarb Library continues this feature in our newsletter that lets us become better acquainted with our friends and colleagues at the George Washington University. In this issue, we learn more about Dr. Juan Klopper, Teaching Associate Professor of Biostatistics and Bioinformatics.



Tell us a little bit about yourself, and about the work you are currently engaged in?

I am an associate professor in the Department of Biostatistics and Bioinformatics, teaching undergraduate and postgraduate courses in health data science, research methods, biostatistics, R, Python, and categorical data analysis. My research interests are purely clinical, though, as I was an attending surgeon for 20 years, serving as the Head of the Acute Care Surgery Unit at Groote Schuur Hospital, University of Cape Town.

What inspired you to work in your field?

After qualifying as a surgeon I also studied mathematics at the University of South Africa. Two years ago, the South African Medical Council (the HPCSA) introduced a change in the regulations for registering as a medical specialist, requiring any resident who wanted to register as a specialist (attending) to have conducted clinical research. This sudden change in policy meant that not many institutions had resources in place to support these research efforts. As a surgeon with training in mathematics, I was in an ideal position to build this support infrastructure. This included direct supervision of many research programs, but also the development of many education resources and courses. This included online courseware for which I received much international recognition. The last 10 years have also seen the proper birth of machine learning and artificial intelligence (AI). The current approach to AI is mathematical and I have also created courses on linear algebra and calculus that are the basis for the models that we use today.

What brought you to GW?

I joined The George Washington University (GWU) in July 2022. The Milken Institute School of Public Health has a tremendous standing in the country and also internationally. The Department of Biostatistics and Bioinformatics, in particular, has some of the most respected faculty in the world. When the opportunity arose, it was both an honor and an easy decision to join.

What is your favorite aspect of your work?

There is no doubt that the favorite aspect of my work is the engagement that I have with the students of GWU. While I was acutely aware of the quality of the faculty and staff in the School, it is such a wonderful experience to teach and work with some of the best students that I have ever seen. Students in the School are the future leaders in public health and so many of them have an absolutely bright future ahead.

Could you describe the new research methods class you designed?

I was very excited to be tasked with working on a new course on research methods. With some

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hard work, it is always possible to become a domain expert. A part of being an expert can involve research. Often, though, engagement with research is not formally taught. Instead many are just required to pick it up along the way. The course aims to provide a solid foundation in research, all the way from developing a research question to producing a final research manuscript, sharing the results, and considering the response and impact of your work. The first cohort of over 30 students produced wonderful research projects and I am very proud of them. I also had wonderful support from the Library as well as the Institutional Review Board during the semester.

What has been your most memorable moment and your greatest professional challenge?

The COVID-19 pandemic was by far the biggest challenge of my professional career. As a surgeon, it was difficult to cut back on our surgical services as we started to be inundated by those suffering from the virus. For two years I joined the ranks of treating those unfortunate to fall seriously ill. As a surgeon, you are equipped to deal with a certain type of patient management and treating a medical condition of such serious nature was not immediately natural. It was difficult to deal with the mortality rate. It was especially difficult to see friends and colleagues fighting alongside you, then get sick, and die. My heart still goes out to everyone who has lost loved ones and who continue to do so, even today. I am very thankful for everyone who puts their lives on the line so that we may be safe. I did a military rotation during my residency and I always include our military in this regard.

Which library resource or service have you found to be most useful?

I have nothing but praise for the library services at GWU. I have not been here long enough to explore all the services provided by the library system, but the kindness, helpfulness, but especially the skills, knowledge, experience, and hard work that I have seen are phenomenal.

How do you spend your free time?

My wife and I love to explore DC and the surrounding areas. The history and culture is second to none. I will not forget the first time I saw the White House. It was a strangely emotional experience. My favorite spot in DC is the Kennedy Center, though. I highly recommend visiting the permanent exhibition of the life of the 35th President of the United States of America to anyone who has not been there.

What advice would you give to a new faculty member just starting at GW?

To any new faculty at GWU I say congratulations, you have made a fantastic decision to join us. Your opportunities are endless. Go and do something great.

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