

# Medical Libraries to the Rescue

Meeting Critical Institutional Goals

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# The Plan

- Introduce Health Sciences Research Commons, Himmelfarb's institutional repository
- Describe initiatives undertaken by our institution
  - Raise visibility of GW health sciences research
  - Providing a publication venue for students and researchers
  - House non-journal output (i.e. grey literature, Congressional testimony, policy briefs)
- Relate successes and challenges
- Summarize future directions
- Questions and discussion

# About Us

- Himmelfarb Library is an academic health sciences library, serving the three health sciences schools at The George Washington University
  - School of Medicine and Health Sciences (SMHS)
  - School of Nursing (SON)
  - Milken Institute School of Public Health (GWSPH)

# About our IR

- Health Sciences Research Commons (HSRC) was established in 2012
- Replaced old static faculty publications lists, which had been maintained by the library since the 80s
- Maintained by 2 library staff (0.5 FTE)
- Contains metadata-only AND full-text (downloadable) records
- Notable collections:
  - Faculty publications series – sorted by department, Faculty Bookshelf
  - Grey literature, Congressional testimony, policy briefs
  - Teaching Tools – open access educational resources
  - Locally-produced journals and newsletters
  - Student works: Research Day posters and abstracts, capstone projects
  - Librarian scholarship

# Growth of HSRC

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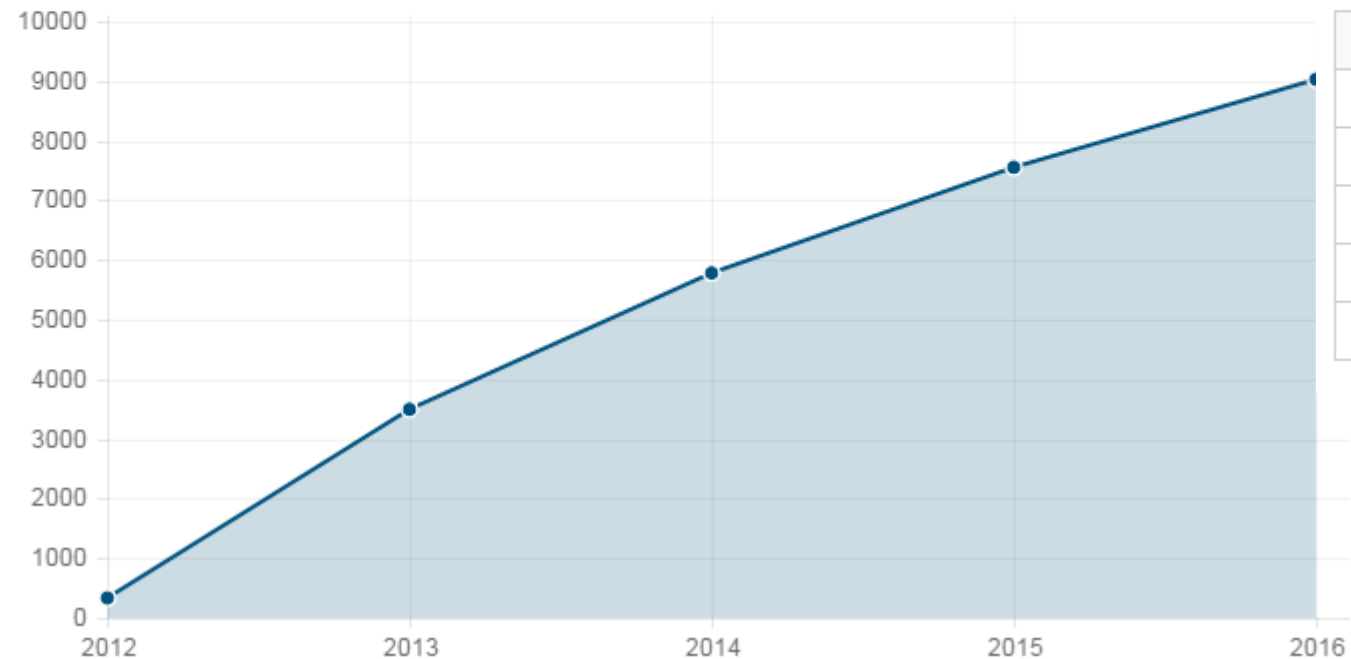
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## Activity by Year

Health Sciences Research Commons adds works throughout the year, increasing the impact of Himmelfarb Health Sciences Library, The George Washington University's scholarship. View the repository's growth over time, updated monthly.

Total Works in the Repository

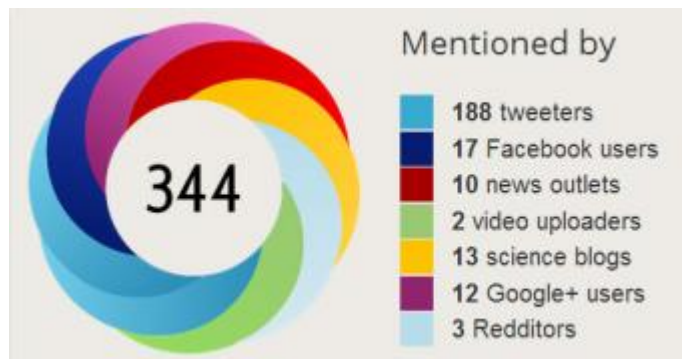


Works Added by Year

Year	Total Works Added
2016	1474
2015	1771
2014	2285
2013	3163
2012	335

# Raise visibility of research

- HSRC records of publications are another access point, appearing at the top of Google search results
- Altmetric badge installed on HSRC records provides visual representation of a publication's reach and popularity
  - Can provide this data to schools' marketing and PR departments
- Readership map is very popular
- Counts of downloads for non-traditional publications are impressive



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## Recent fast food consumption and bisphenol A and phthalates exposures among the U.S. population in NHANES, 2003-2010

[Ami R. Zota](#), [George Washington University](#)[Cassandra Phillips](#), [George Washington University](#)[Susanna D. Mitro](#), [George Washington University](#)**Document Type**

Journal Article

**Publication Date**

2016

**Journal**

Environmental Health Perspectives

**DOI**

10.1289/ehp.1510803

**Abstract**

**Background:** Phthalates and bisphenol A (BPA) are widely used industrial chemicals that may adversely impact human health. Human exposure is ubiquitous and can occur through diet, including consumption of processed or packaged food.

**Objective:** To examine associations between recent fast food intake and BPA and urinary metabolites of di(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate ( $\Sigma$ DEHPm) and diisononyl phthalate (DiNPm) among the US population.

**Methods:** We combined data on 8877 participants from the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES 2003-2010). Using 24-hour dietary recall data, we quantified: 1) fast food intake (percent of total energy intake (TEI) from fast food); 2) fast food-derived fat intake (percent of TEI from fat in fast food); and 3) fast food intake by food group (dairy, eggs, grains, meat, and other). We examined associations between dietary exposures and urinary chemical concentrations using multivariate linear regression.


**Results:** We observed evidence of a positive, dose-response relationship between fast food intake and exposure to phthalates ( $p$ -trend $\Sigma$ DEHPm and DiNPm ( $p$ -trend

**Conclusion:** Fast food may be a source of exposure to DEHP and DiNP. These results, if confirmed, could inform individual and regulatory exposure reduction strategies.

**Comments**





This is the Accepted Manuscript version of this article. A final, corrected version will be

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"Our findings raise concerns because phthalates have been linked to a number of serious health problems in children and adults." -- Assistant Professor Ami Zota, as quoted in *Newsweek*



Assistant Professor Ami Zota

## Inspiring an International Dialog on a New Danger from Fast Food

Over the past month, people throughout the world have learned that, as [Newsweek told its readers](#), if you're eating fast food, you're probably also eating environmental chemicals known as phthalates. Or, as [FOX News put it](#), the next time you add fries to your burger, you may also be adding extra chemicals.

These stories and more than 770 others, by outlets including [NBC News](#), [CNN](#), and the [Today Show](#), were inspired by EOH Assistant Professor Ami Zota's [research linking fast food consumption with human uptake of phthalates](#), chemicals used to make plastic more flexible that have been linked with serious health concerns. Her coauthors are Global Environmental Health (GEH) MPH Alumna Cassie Phillips, who worked on the research as [her Culminating Experience Project](#), and Research Associate Susanna Mitro.

The research, [published](#) in the prestigious journal *Environmental Health Perspectives*, documented that people who ate more fast food in a 24-hour period had higher levels of two substances that occur when phthalates break down in the body. The Milken Institute of Public Health's analysis showed that the media coverage of the article extended to an audience of nearly 650 million people.

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GW School of Public Health press release

<http://publichealth.gwu.edu/content/inspiring-international-dialog-new-danger-fast-food>



# Provide a publication venue for students

Student Research Journal

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**Fusion, 2017**  
 George Washington University, William H. Beaumont Medical Research Honor Society

**Fusion, 2016**  
 George Washington University, William H. Beaumont Medical Research Honor Society

**Fusion, 2015**  
 George Washington University, William H. Beaumont Medical Research Honor Society

**Fusion, 2014**  
 George Washington University, William H. Beaumont Medical Research Honor Society

**A Systematic Review of Coal Fired Power Plant Proximity and Local Socioeconomic Status Trends and Outcomes**  
 Oshane Mcrae<sup>1</sup> Peter LaPuma<sup>1</sup>  
<sup>1</sup> George Washington University Milken Institute School of Public Health Department of Environmental and Occupational Health, Washington, District of Columbia

**Introduction**  
 Coal fired power plants emit 66% of sulfur oxides, 65% of carbon dioxide, 93% of mercury and 72% of nitrogen oxides in the U.S. and are cited as a link to air quality degradation, cardiovascular disease, and other respiratory issues. To reduce environmental and public health risks, the rigorous health effects that come with the presence of hazardous waste from the coal fired power plants, there are broader socioeconomic trends and outcomes related to their siting, especially affecting those who live near these facilities. This systematic literature review research study explored the relationship between the location of coal fired power plants and the socioeconomic conditions and trends of proximate communities and the quantitative evidence supported from a meta-analysis.

**Methods**  
 Abstracts Searched: Elsevier, Scopus, PubMed & Environmental Health Perspectives  
 Eligibility Criteria: Peer reviewed publications after 1980, based in the United States  
 Types of studies: No study type restrictions were imposed. English written, published after 1980, United States based were the only study restrictions, no other restrictions were imposed.  
 Types of participants: Only studies with participants (children/infants, patients) based within the United States were included.  
 Types of outcome measures: The socioeconomic status of the residents were income level (low income - high income), poverty rates (poor vs not poor) and health 2) educational attainment (literacy rate & test performance) Secondary outcome measures were blood lead levels (BLL), mercury pollution as a proxy for toxic pollutant emission from historical industrial sites including coal fired power plants.  
 Risk of Bias:  
 - Demographic Homogeneity  
 - Site Proximity Analysis  
 - Lack of Stratification  
 - Publication Bias

**Results**  
 Outcome Measures:  
 - exposure  
 - population(s) studied  
 - size of population(s)  
 - location  
 - funding sources  
 - the inclusion of race/ethnicity in analysis  
 - the measure  
 - direction and strength of association

**Conclusions**  
 This study used recent U.S. Census data to examine housing status and trends in education in the vicinity of coal fired power plants during the 1980s and found that there were statistically significant differences in housing status, educational attainment, and income in high income and college completion rates, and increases in the proportion of high school and college graduates.

**References**

THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY  
 WASHINGTON, DC

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**GWRESEARCHDAYS**

SCHOOL OF NURSING POSTER PRESENT.

**Disparities in Cardiac Rehabilitation Referral for Patients with Myocardial Infarction in the United States**

This document is available in English

**Authors**  
 Kathleen Hewitt, George Washington University  
 Cathie E. Guzzetta, George Washington University  
 Frances Thorpe, George Washington University  
 Jessica Wei, George Washington University

**Document Type**  
 Poster

**Keywords**  
 Myocardial infarction; Cardiac Rehabilitation; Quality Improvement; Referral and Consultation; Cardiac

**Publication Date**  
 4-2017

**Abstract**  
**Background:** Each year an estimated 635,000 Americans experience a myocardial infarction (MI) and a treatment that has been shown to decrease mortality is cardiac

**The Most Effective Uses of Acupuncture**

Meq Landau, George Washington University

**Document Type**  
 Restricted-Access Work

**Publication Date**  
 5-2016

**Abstract**  
 Acupuncture involves the insertion of extremely thin needles through your skin at strategic points on your body. A key component of traditional Chinese medicine, acupuncture is most commonly used to treat pain. In the large scheme of things, this is small literature review, looking at 10 different sources from various journals. However, by looking at multiple systematic reviews, this literature review looks at hundreds and hundreds of patients who have used acupuncture and discusses the outcomes of their treatment. Overall, acupuncture is an effective treatment that has changed many people's lives. Currently the best use of acupuncture is the treatment of neck, knee, and shoulder pain and for multiple symptoms that come with having cancer. I suggest the continued research of this treatment so that we can figure out even more ways to help people in the best and most efficient way possible.

**Comments**  
 Presentation submitted for:  
 Issues in Alternative Medicine - HLW 1110  
 Professor Hannah Bradford

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Capstone Projects

# Provide a home to faculty for non-traditional publishing/grey lit

- Many faculty publish in venues other than scholarly journals
  - Examples: issue briefs, congressional testimonies, reports for non-profits and government agencies
- HSRC can provide a “digital home” for these documents
  - Make them discoverable by search engines
  - Link on CVs, job applications , tenure and promotion documents etc.
- Conference papers and posters too!

# Challenge #1: Buy-In

- Additional time demands on already busy faculty and researchers
- Faculty already have researcher profiles elsewhere (e.g. ResearchGate, Mendeley, ORCID) → why should they archive their works with us?
- Copyright and author rights are complicated topics
  - Faculty unsure if archiving is permitted
  - Difference between post-prints, accepted manuscripts, version of record

# Answer: Framing the IR as a service

- **Benefits:**
  - For students:
    - Link to their works on their CV or job applications
    - Provide proof of completion + university branding
  - For faculty and researchers (and students!)
    - Make your works discoverable and searchable with persistent link to scholarship
  - For deans and administrative offices
    - Raise visibility of research being conducted at GW
    - Accreditation
- **Simplifying submission process:**
  - Using a form-based Author Agreement instead of account sign-up
  - Reducing number of metadata fields
  - Library staff figure out copyright and author licensing agreements

# Challenge #2: Finding Content

Moved from simply monitoring health sciences databases to:

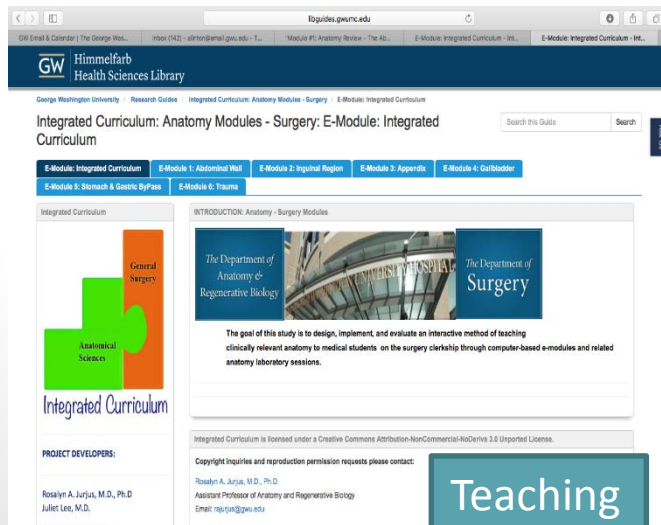
- Scanning social media channels and news releases
- Reviewing faculty CVs and end-of-year annual report from faculty profiling system
- Actively seeking out areas where HSRC could help
  - Student organizations
  - Labs
  - GW health sciences institutions and centers

# Challenge #3: Author Rights

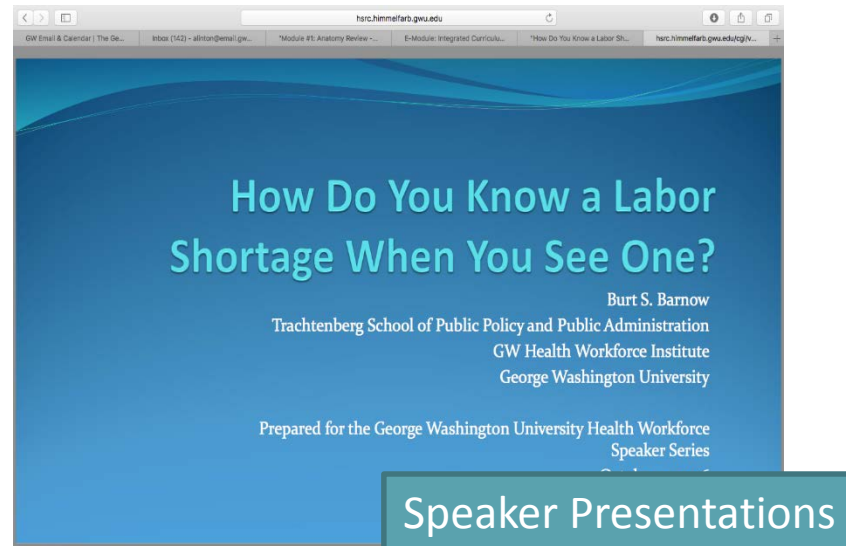
- Am I allowed to archive?
- Confusion between versions of an article: pre-print vs. accepted manuscript vs. Version of Record
- Scholarly Publishing Librarian has become knowledgeable in consulting on these issues and does all the legwork!
- Encourage the use of Creative Commons Attribution-Non-Commercial-No Derivs Unported 3.0 license

# Benefits of using Digital Commons

- Easy to get up and running
- Good customer support
- Strong base of users who have helped us find solutions to problems
- Flexible product
  - Able to load different kinds of content; set levels of access
  - Able to reorganize layout as repository has grown in size and complexity



Teaching Modules



Speaker Presentations



Videos



# Future Directions

- Integration with ORCID or other faculty profiling systems
- Pursue journal publishing capabilities of our Digital Commons site
- Continue seeking out grey literature and departmental documents
- Create digital archive of SMHS historical materials
- Increase use of archive for capstone projects and culminating experiences
- Review role of repository supporting promotion and tenure packets

Questions?