

# Bridging Readership: Using an Institutional Repository (IR) to Promote COVID-19 Related Faculty Research Sara Hoover and Brittany Smith



# Himmelfarb Health Sciences Library, The George Washington University

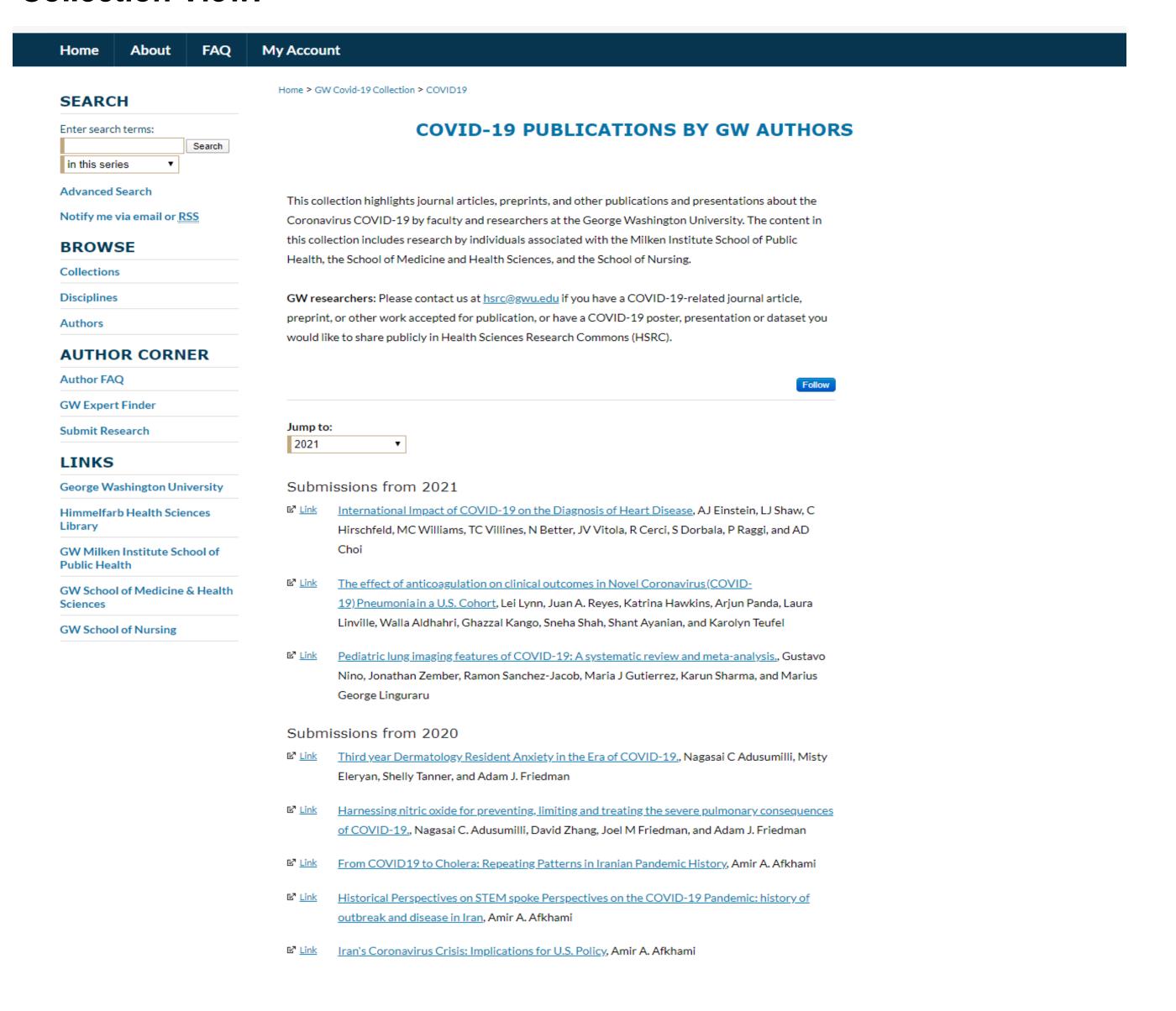
#### **Background:**

- Health Sciences Research Commons is the institutional repository for the Milken Institute School of Public Health, the School of Medicine and Health Sciences, and the School of Nursing at The George Washington University
- The repository, which includes nearly 40,000 entries for works from faculty, students, and staff, is hosted on the Digital Commons™ platform and maintained by staff at the Himmelfarb Library
- While most content is included in department specific collections, the Covid-19 pandemic provided a unique need for the creation of a subject specific collection to highlight and promote relevant research from faculty, students and staff
- With the daily influx of new information about the pandemic, the COVID-19 collection was an excellent way for scholars and researchers to contribute to ongoing medical, health sciences, public health, and nursing conversations in 2020 and into 2021
- A number of other Digital Commons users have created similar Covid-19 related subjects collection to highlight the work of faculty, students, and staff at their institution

#### **Building the Collection:**

- Establish the parameters for the collection: Whose works to include; when is it permissible to include OA content; establish guidelines for cross-archiving in both subject and discipline specific collections
- Work with Digital Commons™ to set up the collection: Established collection specific metadata fields and collection overview
- Examine similar collections from other Digital Commons™ users
- How to approach preprints: Devise a policy for archiving preprints and updating entries to reflect the version of record when appropriate
- Strategy for adding content: Develop guidelines for identifying and adding appropriate
- Collaborate with our Social Media team to promote the collection and encourage researchers to submit their publications

## **Collection View:**



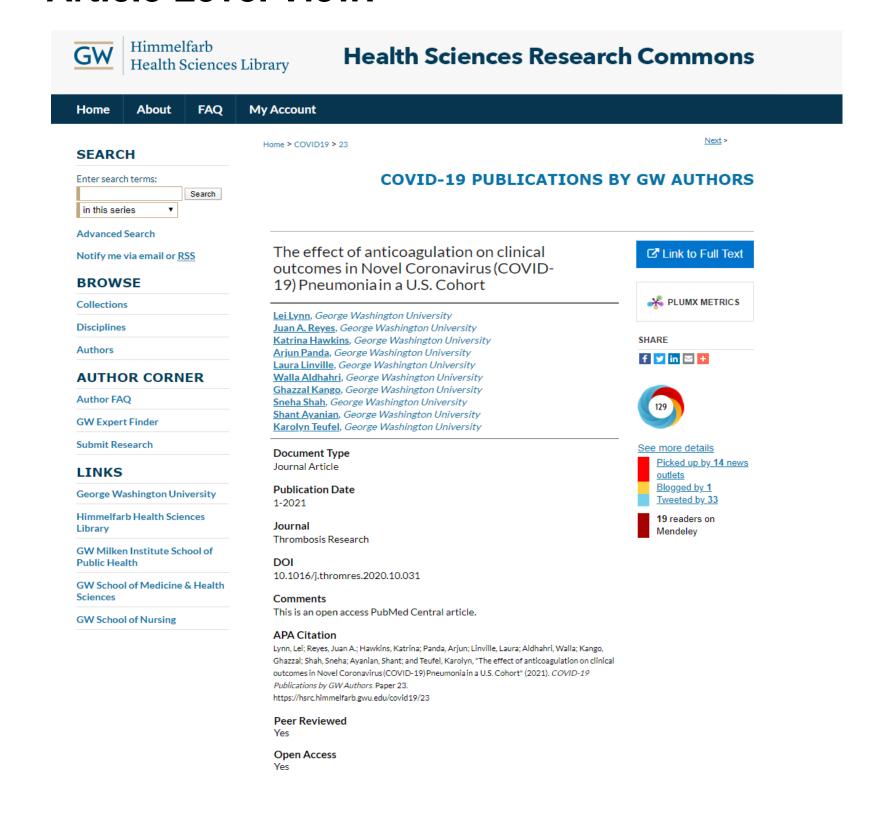
# **Repository Homepage View:**



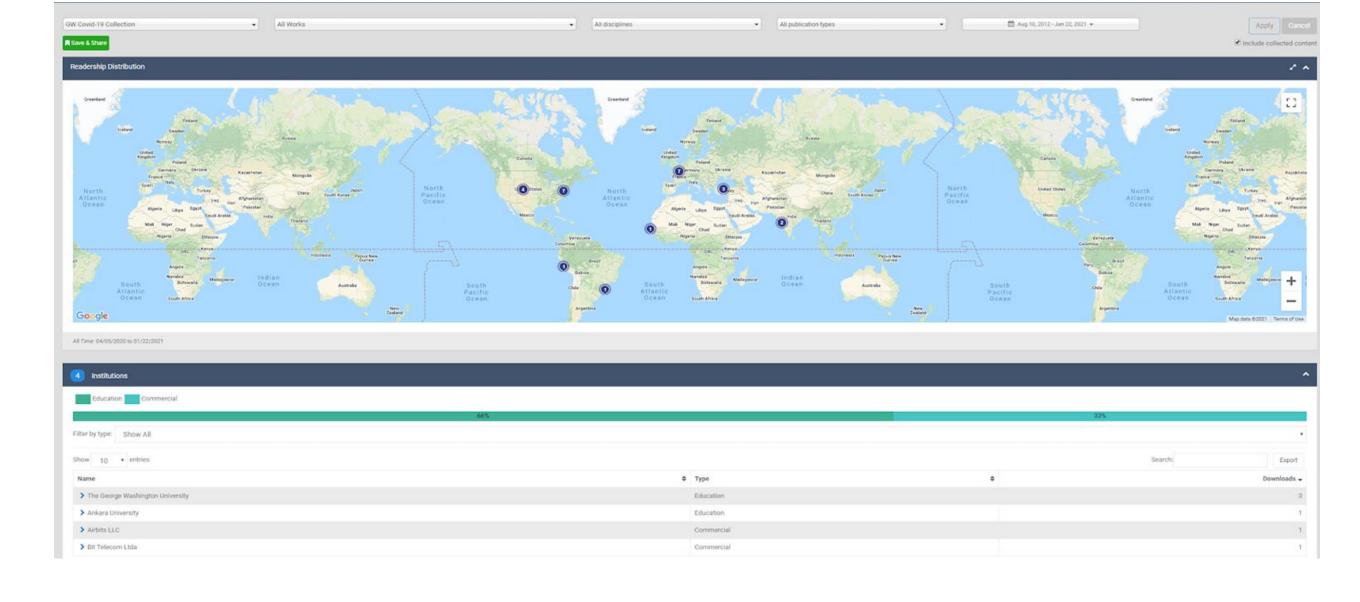
#### **Metrics:**

- The Digital Commons ™platform provides access to two metric systems: Altmetrics and PlumX metrics
- At the article level, PlumX and Altmetrics provide readership statistics such as engagement via a social media website and publicity or mentions by a major news outlet
- A PlumX readership dashboards also provides collection level readership information specifying where collection items are being downloaded and read.

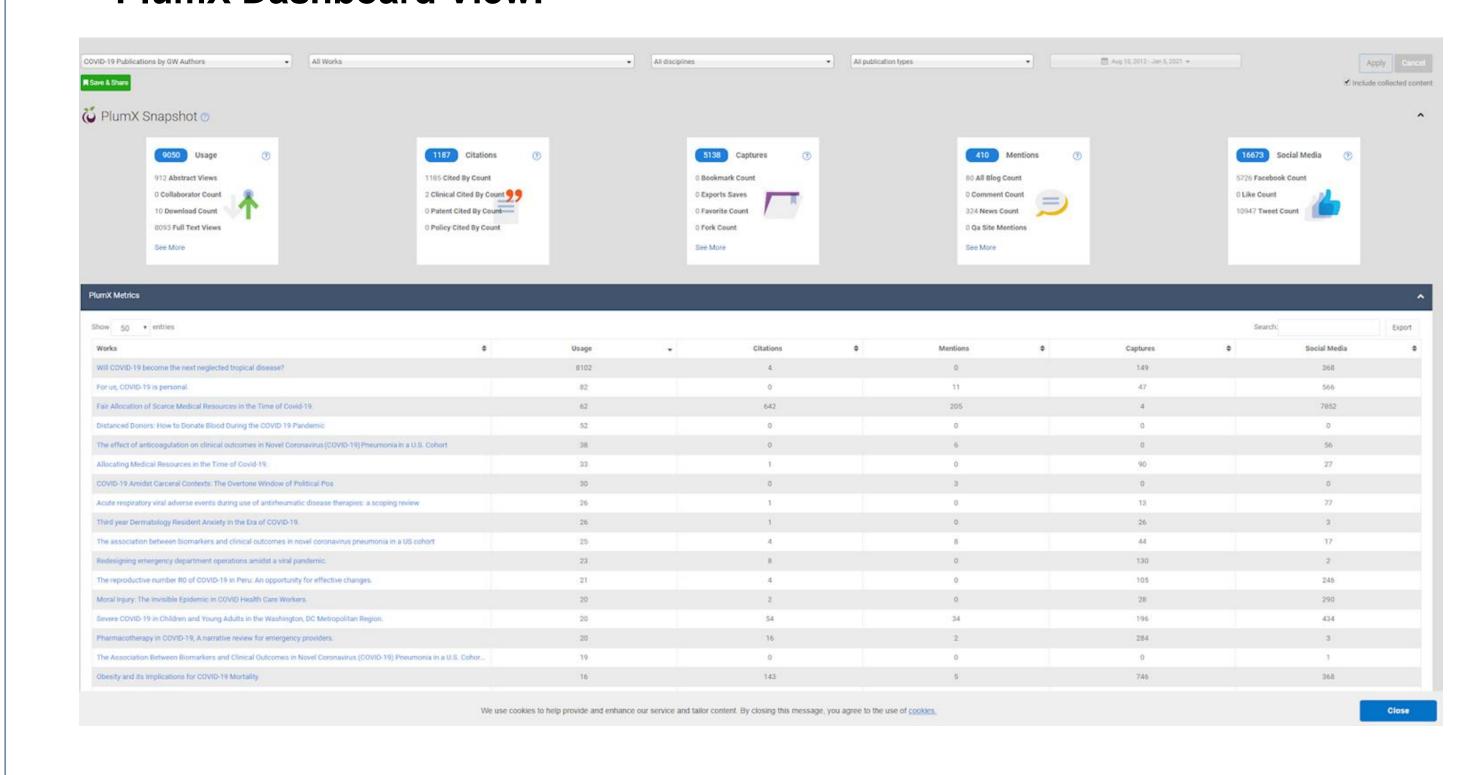
# **Article Level View:**



# Readership Map View:



#### PlumX Dashboard View:



## Impact:

- Archived linked citations or full-text for over 130 works from GW medical, health sciences, public health, and nursing researchers
- Makes institutional research highly visible and searchable via search engines such as Google™
- Ability to see a global readership distribution
- All Covid-19 related institutional research is collected in a single digital space
- Positive user feedback: "[I] Appreciate the effort of not only helping to keep our enterprise informed on most recent information being published on Covid-19 but promoting the work of our own enterprise."-Faculty member

# **Next Steps:**

- Incorporate more Open Access (OA) content
- Create a new collection for Covid-19 Intelligence Reports
- Work with faculty to add additional content
- Refine archiving practices related to preprints
- Continue to promote internally
- How can we continue to leverage technologies to tell institution specific research stories?

#### References:

- Martin S. "Virtual resident showcase: leveraging an institutional repository during COVID-19 social distancing." *Journal of the Medical Library Association*. 2020;108(4):645-646. doi:10.5195/jmla.2020.1052
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#### **Acknowledgements:**

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