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Background

Increasingly, health science librarians are called on to serve as publication support navigators and to develop services that support all phases of the research lifecycle. In the Fall of 2023, the Himmelfarb Library launched Author Services – a collection of research support services that includes:

- Conference Poster Archiving
- Journal PreCheck
- ORCID Profile Evaluations
- Researcher Profile Audit Service (RPAS)
- DMS Plan Consultations

This poster explores the process of developing these services and highlights how existing work by medical libraries can be streamlined to provide visible institutional support.

Project Description

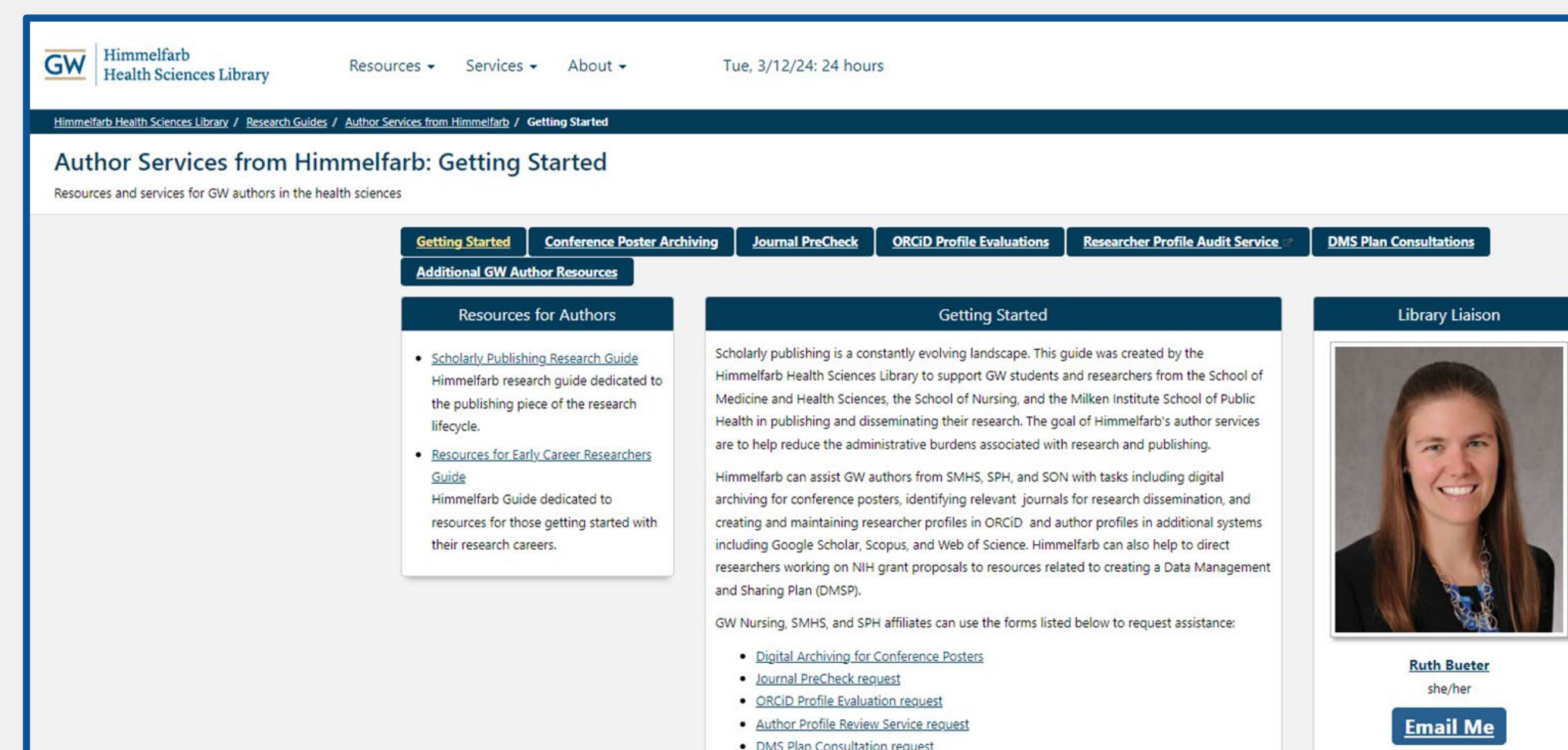
In the early 1990s medical libraries began to adopt a new research support role through the development of systematic review services [1]. Today, there is an increasing need for health science librarians to serve as publication support navigators and to develop services that support additional phases of the research lifecycle.

In 2020, our institution developed the Researcher Profile Audit Service which aimed to help researchers improve their profiles in systems such as Scopus, ORCID, Web of Science, Google Scholar, and more. Since beginning the service, we have provided over 50 researchers with profile audit reports detailing recommendations for improving researcher profiles. In 2022, we began to assess additional areas for scholarly communications related services and in 2023 we elected to build four additional support services to provide publication-based assistance to researchers.

Project Questions

- How can medical libraries build support services that map onto the full research lifecycle?
- Where are medical libraries well-positioned to provide publication related support?
- How can medical libraries build research support programs specific to individual institutional needs?

Author Services from Himmelfarb



QR Code to Author Services from Himmelfarb

Overview page for Author Services from Himmelfarb

Project Services

- **Conference Poster Archiving Service:** Service to digitally archive conference poster PDFs in the local institutional repository (IR)
- **Journal PreCheck Service:** Service to help authors use tools to select high-quality journals and to avoid predatory publishers
- **ORCID Profile Evaluation Service:** Service to help authors create or curate their ORCID profile
- **Researcher Profile Audit Service:** Service to provide an audit and recommendations for improvements of author profiles in systems including Web of Science, Scopus, Google Scholar, ORCID and more
- **DMS Plan Consultations Service:** Assistance with tools related to creating a Data Management and Sharing (DMS) Plan for a grant application

Digital Conference Poster Archiving

Conference posters are a central piece of scientific communications. Himmelfarb Library can help extend the impact of research from conference posters by digitally archiving poster PDFs in our institutional repository, [Health Sciences Research Commons](#). Digitally archiving conference posters has numerous advantages including generating a URL for use on CVs and resumes and the ability to see download metrics. Posters archived in Health Science Research Commons are also indexed by Google which enhances usage.

Please complete the Himmelfarb [Conference Poster Archiving form](#) or email a PDF of your poster to hsrc@email.gwu.edu. Posters may be submitted after the completion of a conference provided that the event does not retain content distribution rights. Email hsrc@email.gwu.edu for questions related to digital archiving.

Conference Poster Archiving Service

Journal PreCheck Service

You've compiled your research and assembled your findings. You're hoping to publishing your findings quickly and are considering submitting to a journal that you're unfamiliar with, but which claims they can review items quickly. How can you ensure that the journal in question is a legitimate scholarly publication?

[Predatory Publishing](#) is a growing industry and the Journal PreCheck service from Himmelfarb uses tools such as Cabells Predatory Reports and Journal Citation Reports to help GW health sciences researchers to ensure that they are submitting to reputable journals. Complete the [Journal PreCheck request form](#) for assistance. Himmelfarb can also help you to identify tools that can help you to effectively select a journal for disseminating your research.

Journal PreCheck Service

ORCID Profile Evaluation Service

ORCID profiles are already required by many journal publishers and likely to be come increasingly important element of federal grant funding. A well maintained ORCID profile can be used to help create a ScENcv Biosketch or to generate a QR code for a conference poster. Students and researchers associated with GW SMHS, SPH, and SON can complete the [ORCID Profile Evaluation](#) form for tips on curating profiles.

ORCID Profile Evaluation Service

Data Management and Sharing (DMS) Plan Consultations

Do you need to create a data management and sharing plan as part of your grant application, but are unsure where to begin? If you are a GW student or researcher associated with SMHS, SPH, or SON, complete the [DMS Plan Consultation](#) form if you need assistance with resource recommendations to support this process.

DMS Plan Consultation Service

Project Overview

- Building on the success of the Researcher Profile Audit Services (RPAS), the Himmelfarb Library informally assessed user needs with the goal of designing additional author support services
- The Metadata and Scholarly Publishing Librarian explored data and trends for publication related consultation questions and compiled a list of potential service needs
- The Himmelfarb Library Scholarly Communications Committee determined which areas would most dramatically benefit from additional services or visibility
- The Scholarly Communications Committee determined that the LibGuide format was the best infrastructure for creating a platform for Author Services
- The Metadata and Scholarly Publishing Librarian created service area content which was reviewed by the Scholarly Communications Committee
- The Metadata and Scholarly Publishing Librarian created intake forms using google forms to enable specific service requests
- The Himmelfarb Library Director and Associate Director of Library Operations reviewed the LibGuide and associated service intake forms
- Himmelfarb Library launched Author Services from Himmelfarb in the Fall of 2023

Project Highlights and Challenges

- Project allowed the library to build on the success of existing research support services such as the Systematic Review Service
- Author support services help to streamline consultation-based work and provide greater visibility of library work to the larger institution
- Resource allocations and staffing changes can present challenges to developing services
- Service promotion is important. How can existing library communications channels can be leveraged?
- No two libraries have the same user needs. Start with an internal needs assessment

Next Steps

- Use existing library communication channels to expand external promotion of the new services
- Consider staffing needs for new services
- Re-evaluate intake forms for needed improvements
- Assess services and make modifications
- Collaborate across medical libraries to expand research related to evolving author support services

References

1. Roth S. C. (2018). Transforming the systematic review service: a team-based model to support the educational needs of researchers. *Journal of the Medical Library Association: JMLA*, 106(4), 514–520. <https://doi.org/10.5195/jmla.2018.430>