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Himmelfarb Headlines (2009 - present)

Himmelfarb Health Sciences Library

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9-2010

# Himmelfarb Headlines - September/October 2010

George Washington University, Himmelfarb Health Sciences Library

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# Himmelfarb Health Sciences Library

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## Himmelfarb Headlines - September / October 2010

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### Director's Desk - Welcome to a New Academic Year!

On behalf of the entire Himmelfarb Library staff, I would like to extend a warm welcome to all new Medical Center faculty, students, staff, residents, and fellows. I would also like to extend greetings to all returning faculty and students on the start of a new academic year.

The Library staff looks forward to meeting your information needs in the upcoming months. We also welcome your input! You may contact me at 202-994-1826 or [mlbaml@gwumc.edu](mailto:mlbaml@gwumc.edu). The Library's e-mail address is [library@gwumc.edu](mailto:library@gwumc.edu). The telephone number for the reference desk is 202-994-2850. Or send us an instant message by following the directions at: <http://www.gwumc.edu/library/ask/> !



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### Mobile Information at Your Fingertips

Himmelfarb is launching a new mobile website this Fall that will provide users with access to many library resources customized for your iPhone, Android, Palm, or Windows device. From this site you will be able to search databases and use apps, download medical calculators, check the library catalog and renew or hold specific items, contact a reference librarian through IM, email, phone or text, as well as access demographic information about the library.

A research guide will also be released this Fall containing more suggested mobile websites and apps for public health and medicine, as well as mobile utilities, news related to mobile technology and health care, and information on specific mobile devices.

Finally, the library is offering a series of drop-in support hours to assist users in getting their mobile devices on the wireless network at GWUMC and in the installation of various healthcare related



apps. Upcoming sessions will be held on September 21st from 3-5pm, October 19th from 3-5pm, and November 16th from 3-5pm at the service desk on the 3rd floor of Himmelfarb Library.

### Tool of the Quarter - Dynamed

DynaMed is a clinical information tool designed for use at the point-of-care. DynaMed's format is designed for quick reference and integrated access to evidence from original research and practice guidelines. DynaMed contains clinically-organized summaries on more than 3,000 topics plus current drug information from the [American Society of Health-System Pharmacists](#).



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### Faculty Profile - Dr. Alex Stagnaro-Green, Senior Associate Dean for Education

Himmelfarb Library introduces a new feature in our newsletter that lets us become better acquainted with our friends and colleagues in the Medical Center. In this issue we learn more about Dr. Alex Stagnaro-Green, MD, MHPE, the Senior Associate Dean for Education in the School of Medicine and Health Sciences.



Question: What has been your most memorable moment at GW?

Answer: My most memorable moment at GW occurred on my first day. After completing a four hour orientation, I went to my office, arranged my desk, and set to work. What I realized at the end of the day was that I felt completely at home in my new position. For whatever reason (I am sure in large part due to the collegial and supportive atmosphere that exists here), I never went through a period of adjustment. It just felt like this was where I was supposed to be.

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### Meet Tom Harrod, Reference/Instructional Librarian!

Himmelfarb Library is pleased to welcome Tom Harrod to its staff. Tom came to Himmelfarb from the University of Maryland, College Park where he was a reference librarian and worked extensively with the biology, cell biology, and public health departments. Tom's prior educational background includes a MS degree in Basic Medical Sciences with a focus on biology from the University of Alabama, Birmingham and a MS degree in Library and Information Sciences from the University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana.



Tom's career path initially led him toward work as a laboratory scientist, until he switched gears and decided to apply his interest and knowledge of science to a library career. Tom is a reference librarian at Himmelfarb Library and will act as a liaison between the library and the departments of Biochemistry & Molecular Biology, Neurology, and Neurological Surgery. Tom will also work with first year medical students as their librarian-tutor in the Problem-Centered Learning class, and provide instruction and research assistance to GWUMC faculty, students, and staff.

In his spare time, Tom likes to read, watch movies and play chess - albeit not as well as he would like.

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To schedule an orientation, locate a book on teaching, or access a specialized database or e-journal, simply:

- Use the [Library webpage](#) as your base of operations for information resources. It includes links to the [Library Catalog](#), [databases](#), [e-journals](#) and [e-texts](#) as well as a [staff listing](#), [class schedule](#), and [Library policies](#).
- Call the Reference Desk at 202-994-2850 or send an e-mail to [library@gwumc.edu](mailto:library@gwumc.edu) to schedule an orientation, consultation, or special in-class information session.
- Contact one of the Library's topic specialists:
  - Leah Pellegrino at 202-994-3685 or [mlblcp@gwumc.edu](mailto:mlblcp@gwumc.edu) with questions relating to reserves or intellectual property.
  - Laura Abate at 202-994-8570 or [mlblea@gwumc.edu](mailto:mlblea@gwumc.edu) with questions about off-campus access, linking, and electronic resources.
  - Alexandra Gomes at 202-994-1825 or [mlbawg@gwumc.edu](mailto:mlbawg@gwumc.edu), with questions about the curriculum and technology.
  - Steve Brown, 202-994-9756 or [mlbswb@gwumc.edu](mailto:mlbswb@gwumc.edu), with questions about serials.

A number of new resources have been recently added to the Library's electronic collection.

In the clinical arena, these include:

- *Dynamed*, which contains evidence-based point-of-care information, in a format designed for quick reference and integrated access to evidence from original research and practice guidelines.
- *Journal Watch*, which reviews nearly 300 top scientific and medical journals to present important clinical research findings and insightful commentary
- *Essential Evidence Plus*, which provides evidence-based point-of-care information through evidence-based summaries and analysis as well as clinical tools and calculators.

In the public health arena, new materials include:

- *Health Policy Reference Center*, which provides full-text coverage on health policy topics including documents from related areas such as health care access and delivery,

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administration, financing and economic, planning, quality, reform, insurance, law, research, long-term care, maternal and child-health, ethics, public health, and social medicine.

In the research arena, the Library has subscribed to:

- *Science Translational Medicine*, a new interdisciplinary journal from the publishers of Science, the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) whose mission is "To promote human health by providing a forum for communication and cross-fertilization among basic, translational, and clinical research practitioners and trainees from all relevant established and emerging disciplines."

The Library staff and Medical Center facilities also continue to work to make Himmelfarb Library a comfortable place to work and study. Summer 2010 brought additional changes to the Library. Look for new tables on the first floor designed to blend with the new furnishings on the second floor. Take a tour of the third floor and you will see fresh carpeting and paint, new single person study carrels, and sound proofing in group study rooms.

We hope you will enjoy using the Library's new resources and refurbished space.

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DynaMed articles focus on the questions healthcare providers are most likely to consider in patient care. DynaMed information summaries go beyond focusing on single diagnoses (e.g. hypercholesterolemia) and address multiple aspects of diagnosis, management, and prevention (e.g. Cholesterol screening and management for cardiovascular disease prevention, Cardiovascular risk prediction, Statins for prevention of cardiovascular disease, Lipid-lowering drugs, NCEP/ATP III guidelines, etc.). DynaMed summaries also contain links to important references including both practice guidelines and review articles.

DynaMed is updated daily. DynaMed monitors both original research articles as well as systematic reviews and practice guidelines. Each publication is evaluated for clinical relevance and scientific validity. New evidence is integrated with existing DynaMed content and conclusions are updated to represent a synthesis of the best available evidence.

DynaMed is listed on Himmelfarb Library's [E-Databases](#) webpage with [Clinical/Evidence-Based Medicine](#) resources. DynaMed is available from both on- and off-campus locations to GWU faculty, residents, students, and staff. DynaMed is also available as a [download/application](#) for your SmartPhone (iPhone, Blackberry, etc) or PDA (Palm, Pocket PC, etc.); email [library@gwumc.edu](mailto:library@gwumc.edu) for a serial number to download.

[> Archive of Tool of the Week Entries](#)

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[Faculty Profile - Dr. Alex Stagnaro-Green, Senior Associate Dean for Education](#)

Question: What has been your most memorable moment at GW?

Answer: My most memorable moment at GW occurred on my first day. After completing a four hour orientation, I went to my office, arranged my desk, and set to work. What I realized at the end of the day was that I felt completely at home in my new position. For whatever reason (I am sure in large part due to the collegial and supportive atmosphere that exists here), I never went through a period of adjustment. It just felt like this was where I was supposed to be.



Question: Tell us a little bit about your current position or research/projects.

Answer: My current position is senior associate dean for education at the George Washington University School of Medicine and Health Sciences. My responsibilities include working with faculty, students, and administration to provide an optimal education for our medical students. We plan on continually improving our curriculum and teaching methodologies and by the fall of 2013 to develop and implement a comprehensive restructuring of our four-year curriculum.

Over the last 20 years, I have been involved in research on thyroid disease and pregnancy. My initial work, which was published in JAMA in 1990, identified a novel cause for miscarriage. Since that time, thyroid disease has been linked to preterm delivery and it has been shown that 8% of all women develop transient thyroid disease in the postpartum period. Earlier this year my colleagues and I published the results of a large-scale prospective trial, performed in concert with medical professionals in Southern Italy and Chicago, demonstrating that treating pregnant women with subclinical thyroid disease decreases both maternal and neonatal complications. We are currently conducting ongoing studies to evaluate the iodine status of pregnant women and to perform a cost-effective analysis of screening all pregnant women for thyroid disease.

Question: What has been your biggest professional challenge?

Answer: As an educator, my biggest professional challenge, and most rewarding experience, has been the development and implementation of comprehensive curriculum change at Mount Sinai School of Medicine and New Jersey Medical School. Leading institutions in curriculum renewal is immensely challenging. However, I greatly enjoy the process of bringing an institution together to develop its unique curriculum and consider it an incredible honor to be entrusted with helping create the curriculum for the next generation of physicians.

As a thyroid researcher, my biggest challenge has been in translating research into clinical practice so as to improve maternal, fetal, and neonatal health. Much progress has been made but much remains to be accomplished. Presently, I chair an International Task Force, created by the American Thyroid Association, charged with developing new clinical guidelines for the diagnosis and treatment of thyroid disease during pregnancy and the postpartum period. Our task force is meeting in Paris in the fall and will publish guidelines in 2011.

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Question: How did you become interested in your field?

Answer: I have always been passionate about teaching. As a resident and fellow, I thoroughly enjoyed teaching students and housestaff on my team. My first year as a faculty member at Mount Sinai, I was co-director of the fellowship in Endocrinology and by year two I was clerkship coordinator for the third and fourth year medicine clerkships. From there it seemed like a natural progression to increased educational responsibilities both within the Department of Medicine and the dean's office and in 2005 I completed a Masters in Health Professions Education at the University of Illinois-Chicago.

On the other hand, I had no interest in research as a medical student or resident. My initial involvement was during my fellowship, and only because research was a prerequisite to completing my endocrinology fellowship. The combination of a wonderful mentor, a research project that early on yielded exciting results, and the realization that involvement in research would enrich my career and allow me to interact with dedicated colleagues around the world, resulted in my catching the "research bug". To my great surprise, some of my most rewarding experiences as a physician have come from the dynamic process of sitting with my research colleagues and analyzing the implications of the data that our research had generated.

Question: What library resources or services have you found to be the most useful?

Answer: Without a doubt, the most valuable resource in the library is the staff. They have not only been extremely helpful in regards to all aspects of our medical school curriculum, but are a wonderful resource supporting my needs as a clinician and scientist.

Question: How do you spend your free time? (or What do you do to relax?)

Answer: The things I most enjoy doing with my free time are spending time with my terrific family, reading, playing sports, and travel. Presently, I am finishing the 12th book in the Terry Goodkind series called The Sword of Truth. Goodkind is my son's favorite author and the series is his signature work, so I decided that I would get a feel for the literature my son likes. I enjoy competitive sports, especially basketball and tennis. Since coming to DC, I have become more involved in biking as it is a great way to get to get to know DC and a fun way to spend time with my daughter who is quickly becoming a biking enthusiast. Finally, I love to travel. Over the last couple of years, I have been fortunate enough to spend time in Southern Italy, Israel, the Czech Republic, Antigua (celebrating my 30th anniversary with my lovely wife) and will be in Paris and Edmonton this Fall (most of the travel being spent with some or all of my family).

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

Answer: I would recommend that any new faculty member, no matter what their primary role at the medical center, become involved in teaching early on in their career at GW. We have great students in the medical center and it is extremely gratifying to become involved in their professional development and educate/mentor them as they mature into outstanding health care professionals.

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Tom works in Himmelfarb Library's [Public Services department](#) which provides reference, research, and instruction on information tools and resources. Please [ask us](#) if you need:

- › Information. Contact us when you can't find the information that you need and we'll do our best to find it for you.
- › Assistance with research. We can help you select the best resources and manage information to track research and format your citations/bibliography.
- › Instruction. We regularly teach both small and large-groups, and can focus our instruction to a particular subject area, research project, or resource or tool.

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