From Fear to Fruition: Developing Student Research Day Videos
Brian McDonald, Gisela Butera, Alexandra Gomes
Himmelfarb Health Sciences Library, The George Washington University

Why did we do this?

The George Washington University (GW) has held annual Research Days highlighting research done by students and residents. During spring 2017, GW’s Himmelfarb Library proposed a video series capturing students’ research experience and participating in GW’s Research Days. The primary goal of the video series was to promote GW research achievements on both a school and individual level. The short video interviews provided participants with a new experience and participating in GW’s Research Days.

What did we do?

- **Collaboration:** The library collaborated with GW’s Office of the Vice President for Research (OVPR), School of Medicine and Health Sciences, Milken Institute School of Public Health, and School of Nursing to obtain permission to record students during Research Day.
- **Equipment:** Using library-owned camera equipment, two librarians conducted short 2-3 minute interviews asking participants to briefly describe their study, share their personal experiences, and provide highlights of their research.
- **Consent Forms:** Participants signed an authorization form permitting use and distribution of the video.
- **Video Editing:** The recordings were edited to create individual short videos, as well as a “trailer” video that showed some of the highlights. The final edited videos were shared with the interviewees to obtain final approval from them and their advisors prior to public release.
- **Access to Videos:** Closed captioning was added to the videos before uploading them to the Himmelfarb Library YouTube channel and Health Sciences Research Commons.

How did it turn out?

- Nineteen interviews were conducted
- 15 participants provided final approval to use their video
- Both on-campus and distance education students, as well as residents were recorded
- All three schools were represented among the set of recordings

Research Day Videos

**What was the topic of your research?**

Research: Implementation of a Falls Prevention Plan Among the Community-dwelling Seniors of Ward 8
“We looked at ways we can help that community specifically Ward 8 population of DC meeting their needs ...ways to re-access your home to help prevent you from falling.”

Research: Recognition and Management of Cardiac Arrhythmias: A Teaching Module for Physician Assistant Students
“I really enjoyed working alongside the attendings, the fellows and residents and it has been a really great atmosphere for me here.”

Research: E-Cigarettes and Smoking Cessation Among Pregnant Women: Insights From a Secondary Analysis of a Randomized Controlled Trial
“E-cigarette dual users – so they use both e-cigarettes and cigarettes at the same time - have a higher reduction of cigarette usage over time but it does not necessarily help them quit smoking.”

**What challenges did we encounter?**

- **Planning:** The original plans to have students record in an alternate location were scrapped in favor of recording during Research Day event.
- **Stakeholders:** We needed buy-in! Our proposal needed to be approved by GW OVPR as well as the three schools.
- **Consent Forms:** Working with General Counsel took longer than expected in order to arrive at a consent authorization form that pleased everyone.
- **Coverage:** The interviewer and cameraman made an effort to ensure that all three schools were included, as well as a range of participants (age, gender, international, student/resident, etc.).
- **Time:** Time was of the essence! Posters were only staffed for 2 hours so all recording needed to occur quickly.
- **Camera:** There was a learning curve in using the digital camcorder, capturing audio without too much background noise, and finding appropriate lighting.
- **Editing:** Video edits were time-consuming. We needed to address background noise and participants’ verbal errors.

What’s next?

- Expanding the video series to use it as a positive marketing tool to help promote GW Research Day
- Acquiring better equipment for recording audio
- Interview research mentors before Research Day
- Interview Research Day judges as well as participants

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