Annual Report 2018 - 2019

Houston Academy of Medicine - Texas Medical Center Library

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Houston Academy of Medicine – Texas Medical Center Library
FY 2019 Annual Report

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It is with great pleasure that I share my reflections on serving as the Acting Chair this year on behalf of Dr. William Thomson. He assumed the Chair position in September 2018 and provided great leadership in launching this year’s initiatives with our executive director, Ms. Debbie Sibley. Our work this year focused upon opportunities for renewal across the TMC Library.

The Library leadership, staff, and stakeholders engaged in a strategic planning effort which culminated in a three-year plan approved by the Board in March of this year. The plan set the stage for the accomplishments for this year and those to follow.

In renewing our physical plant and footprint, the Library team focused on streamlining work and space to increase efficiencies and better serve our faculty, learners, and the public. Renovations are now underway in earnest on both floors of the Library to improve space, furniture, and technology for students and clients for study, online learning, and training. The staff has accommodated the renovations, internal moves, and accompanying noise with great aplomb, never complaining while continuing to provide quality service to our students, faculty members, and the public.

In parallel with the renovations, the Library team upgraded the technical infrastructure and computing systems to provide increased capacity, improved communications, and enhanced network security while reducing costs. For our users, the Library developed and launched a new website with much improved navigation, usability, and resource findability. The Library also licensed cloud-based services Alma and Primo from Ex Libris to enable our staff to better manage Library services and collections and our users to access all components of our collections from one portal. In addition, the Library transitioned to Open Athens to provide access to our digital publications from any one of our learning institutions using a single sign-on system. Here I must recognize the invaluable contributions of Joanne Romano and her staff in electronic collections. The collections team worked and continues to work tirelessly with publishers to ensure smooth access to all publications by our faculty and learners even as publishers faced their own integration challenges with this new software.

The TMC Library is home to the John P. McGovern Historical Collections and Research Center housing collections on the foundations of medical specialties, Texas medicine and other archival collections including an invaluable rare book collection. This year facilities were upgraded to ensure protection of this irreplaceable resource and a new Board subcommittee was formed to plan for the long-term sustainability of this important asset.

In closing, let me express my deep appreciation to Ms. Debbie Sibley for her continuing exemplary leadership of the Library, to the staff for their dedication and commitment, to the Board members who serve with great enthusiasm, and most of all to our learners, faculty, and the public whom we humbly serve in hopes that the Library services will advance their work and study and lead to improvements in health and healthcare for all. Finally, with deep appreciation I thank Dr. William Thomson for his tremendous service this year until he was forced to step down due to a very serious health issue. He has given me permission to share with you that he has made exceptional progress in recovering and is now back at work. Regrettably, while recovering he has not been able to assume all of his previous duties including those at the Library. He misses the Library, as we do his many contributions, sense of humor, and warmth. We will remain forever grateful for his launching the efforts described here.

Michael Fordis, MD
Acting Chair
TMC Library Board 2018-2019
Message from Executive Director

The TMC Library began our renovation journey at the beginning of the year. It will continue throughout the coming year. When work is complete, the space will be more comfortable, modern and welcoming to all of our users and member institutions. The renovation is occurring in three phases. We have all learned about heating, air conditioning, plumbing, architectural plans and the differences between a general contractor and subcontractors.

We are fully engaged in providing excellent service to our member institutions and improving the methods for delivering content and services. During the year, we created a new website and worked through the process of implementing two new systems – Open Athens provides single sign-on capability for accessing electronic resources and Alma/Primo provides new searching capabilities for both print and electronic resources. The new website is a useful tool for finding information about the Library as well as for locating educational and research materials.

The McGovern Research Center was also renovated and now has new air conditioning and new lighting – all important aspects for maintaining climate control in our Archival space. A newly formed Archives Committee is helping to update the Archive’s mission, goals and procedures. The committee met monthly through most of the year and is continuing to work on its charge to identify strengths and weaknesses in the Archives and our services.

The Library said farewell to several librarians this year to retirement and as they decided to pursue other opportunities. We have been lucky to recruit several new librarians who are learning each week about the TMC and our valued members. Outreach to our communities is a very important aspect of what we do. These librarians are the “face” of the Library.

My great thanks to our dedicated TMC Library Board and committee members. Board members support the Library by contributing their ideas and time for meetings, conversations and thoughtful feedback.

The Library has undergone many changes in the past twelve months; many more will occur during the next twelve months. We appreciate you, our members and patrons, for your support and for the opportunities we’ve had to be involved in the TMC community.

Debbie H. L. Sibley, MLS, MEd
Executive Director

The Executive Director has many responsibilities, and Debbie Sibley makes them look so easy!
Welcome to the TMC Library FY2019 annual report and thank you for your interest.

The TMC Library experienced many physical changes in fiscal year 2019 (September – August). The long-anticipated remodeling project that began in March 2019 will continue through 2020. Phase I is expected to be completed in November 2019. The northwest corner of the Library, where the stacks were located previously, will soon be open and patrons will enjoy the new study areas, study rooms, and furnishings. New staff offices were also completed so temporarily displaced employees will be able to return to permanent offices. All good news!

Phase II will include an expansion of the popular Herbert L. Fred, MD, MACP Study Hall and improved space for the Denton Cooley, MD collection and the Fellows Room. Drs. Fred and Cooley were ardent supporters of the TMC Library, and the Library continues to benefit from their foresight and generosity. This phase will also include an enhanced circulation and reference desk area, and new staff spaces. Some staff members will have to move temporarily during this phase and the Library’s entrance will be moved temporarily to the Webber Plaza side of the building.

Phase III will be completed in 2020. A new state of the art classroom and conference room will be built out on the street level. The new classroom will accommodate twice as many people as the present classroom and will have the ability to be divided into two classrooms. New laptop computers will be available to those using the classroom.

In addition to the remodeling of study spaces, offices and the classroom, updated air handlers, bathroom improvements, and new floor and window coverings are part of the remodeling project.

Yes, it has been a long time coming, but we are almost there! These improvements were carefully thought out for you, our constituents and friends. We hope you enjoy the new and improved TMC Library. Come see us soon.
REVENUES AND EXPENSES
Fiscal Year Ended August 31, 2019

Operating Revenues:
Institutional Assessments $ 7,149,928
Service Fees 147,198
Contributions 115,197
Investment Income 5,329
Total Operating Revenues 7,417,652

Operating Expenses:
Salaries & benefits 2,765,078
Building related costs 306,011
Collections 3,493,623
Depreciation and amortization 186,625
Rent & leases 480,841
Other 503,698
Total Operating Expenses 7,735,876

Donors
The foresight and generosity of those who contributed to the TMC Library is very important and greatly appreciated. The donors for fiscal year 2019 are as follows:

Greg Bernica ~ Thomas Krousk ~ Thomas O’Brien ~ Elkins Foundation ~ Friends of the Texas Medical Center Library ~ Houston Academy of Medicine ~ John P. McGovern Foundation ~ Millar Instruments ~ Texas Medical Center
The Resource Management (RM) Department staff completed training and migration to the ALMA/Primo content management and discovery system in December 2018. While a steep learning curve, the RM staff has adapted their workflows to integrate the functionality within this complex system, to complete their daily work while learning new technical skills.

Joanne Romano, Head of Resource Management, received a National Library of Medicine Professional Development Award to attend her first ExLibris Users of North America (ELUNA) conference in Atlanta, Georgia, May 3-9th, 2019. This conference brings library customers of ExLibris products together to attend sessions that assist with product implementation, technical troubleshooting, and networking with ExLibris developers. Joanne's attendance at ELUNA was timely; her face-to-face meeting with ExLibris developers enabled quick resolution to a crucial technical problem with access to the Library's licensed Ovid journals.

In August 2019, Resource Management staff began processing circulating print materials at the McGovern Historical Research Center (MHRC), for disposition to the Joint Library Facility (JLF) at Texas A&M Universality. Items already owned by the JLF are being donated to Better World Books, to support libraries in undeveloped countries. Approximately 1,500 linear feet of shelf space at the MHRC will be cleared during this project, with an estimated 5,000 items going to the JLF.

Resource Management and the MHRC began a cataloging pilot project in August 2019, to catalog rare books housed at the MHRC. The Menninger collection is currently being processed.

- The Library served as the front line for Open Athens issues and continues the work of stabilizing the platform to alleviate the significant initial frustration experienced by staff and users. The RM staff continues to work with individual publishers and vendors to resolve issues and improve user experiences.

- The process to transition to the Alma/Primo platform was an arduous task for the Library staff and required yearlong attendance at webinars and meetings to ensure the tasks were accomplished in a timely and correct fashion. (Read: Extremely difficult learning curve, but we did it!)

- Myriad access issues were – and are – dealt with individually, a painstaking process, but necessary for our constituents to receive the very best access to electronic resources.

- Five new e-book packages were added to the electronic collection.

Information Technology

- The Information Technology staff updated technology of important Library systems, creating cost savings in addition to increased capacity and network security.

- Library updates included new firewall devices; migration of systems to allow movement to the cloud, thus making remote access possible; updated desktops and terminal server; replacement of the old fax system; and migration of the website to a new platform. These actions resulted in more efficient website performance for our customers and staff.
Research & Instruction

Presentations:
“The Other Library Charges: Article Processing Charges in Library Science Journals” at the Texas Library Association Annual Conference, April 17, 2019. (Travis Holder)

“An Outpatient Performance Improvement Project: Workflow Analysis to Improve Care coordination in the Homeless Population by Evaluating Patient Wait Times” with Dr. Angela Ross (UT SBMI) and Dr. Kai Makeda (Michael E. DeBakey VA Medical Center) at AMIA 2019 Informatics Summit, March 28, 2019. (Travis Holder)

“Publish and Perish: The Threat of Predatory Journals” at the Texas Library Association District 8 Fall Conference, October 20, 2019. (Travis Holder)

Publications:
“Opening the Door for LIS Articles” in Texas Library Journal, Vol 95, Number 2.5 (Summer 2019). (Travis Holder)

Professional Activities:
Webmaster, TLA District 8 (2018-2019), Conference Planning Committee, TLA District 8 (Travis Holder)

Professional Organizations:
Medical Library Association, Research Section Membership Committee Chair (Beatriz Varman)

South Central Chapter of the Medical Library Association, Fundraising Committee Chair (Beatriz Varman)

Certifications:
Academy of Health Information Professions, Distinguished Level renewal (Beatriz Varman)

Completed a Scopus Certified Librarian course (Lara Ouellette)

Accomplishments

Research and Instruction

❖ The Research and Instruction Department includes seven librarians who held classes and consultations with many of the Library’s constituencies including UTHealth, Baylor College of Medicine, Texas Southern University and Houston Community College.

❖ Students’ educational needs were supported by the staff providing:
  o 531 one-on-one or group consultations, 51 of which were for students working on systematic reviews.
  o Representation at Curriculum Committees at McGovern Medical School and Baylor College of Medicine.

❖ Liaison librarians provided weekly office hours at Baylor College of Medicine, UTHealth Cizik School of Nursing, McGovern Medical School, and UTHealth School of Biomedical Informatics, for a total of 56 hours per month.

❖ The Department conducted 59 classes and orientations including 31 curriculum-integrated classes, 20 orientation and searching classes, and eight open classes offered at the Library. Topics included PubMed, systematic reviews, EndNote, formulating PICO questions, tracking publications, nursing resources and evidence-based medicine. There were 2,250 attendees at these various classes.
McGovern Historical Center

The McGovern Historical Center (MHC) staff updated inventories of archival collections and implemented a new archival management system. The Archives Advisory Committee was created by the TMC Library Board. The group is charged to develop and update the mission, vision, and policies of the McGovern Historical Center.

Throughout the year, the archivists lectured about specific aspects of medical history, how to use archives and specific collections.

- Philip Montgomery gave a lecture titled, “Quack Medicine: selling hope for profit and glory” at the Bryan Museum in Galveston as the invited speaker for the UTMB Galveston’s Institute for Medical Humanities 2018 series of the Elizabeth and Chauncey Leake Memorial Fund lecture. More than 80 people attended.

- Sandra Yates provided a tour to an Introduction to Film Studies class from University of Houston Downtown. She talked about materials from the Medical World News Photograph Collection and the Texas Heart Institute (THI) Film Collection to illustrate film production of heart surgeries.

- Archivists taught Rice University medical humanities students the basics about using an archive and of the resources available.

- Thomas Cole, PhD, donated his papers related to his research on aging and administrative files from the McGovern Center for Humanities and Ethics for which he is the founder and head.

- The TMC’s Institute for Spirituality and Health donated the papers of Sister Agnes Mary Joy, the first head of the chaplaincy program for the TMC.

- The El Rio facility received renovations to lighting, plumbing and floor work. The installation of new LED lights in the stacks improved visibility and saved electrical costs.
The mission of the Friends of the Texas Medical Center Library (Friends) is to support and promote the Library. The Friends Board, which meets bimonthly, is composed of medical professionals, faculty, and community volunteers.

The Friends host an annual book and author fundraiser each September to raise funds to support the TMC Library. The proceeds are used for staff development, webinars, and other Library needs. In fiscal year 2019, the Friends provided $9,251 for staff development. The annual fundraiser was held on September 6, 2019 with guest speaker Peter J. Hotez, MD, PhD. Dr. Hotez is a world-renowned vaccine scientist, pediatrician and autism dad. Dr. Hotez spoke about his book Vaccines Did Not Cause Rachel’s Autism. He is an amazing physician-scientist and his lecture was very well received. Sarah Davis, the State Representative for Texas House District 134 and an ardent supporter of vaccinations, was the Special Guest for the evening. Representative Davis’ constituents include those within the Texas Medical Center. The event was well attended, and the Friends raised $12,400. The Library staff assisted with the fundraiser and are pictured below.

Many thanks to Dr. Peter Hotez, Ms. Sarah Davis, the sponsors, and the TMC Library staff for making this a successful event!
Friends of the TMC Library Board of Directors FY2019

John E. Wolf, Jr., MD, MA, President
Baylor College of Medicine

Adrian Melissinos, PhD, RN
Community Volunteer

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Baylor College of Medicine

Agnes E. Perry, Principal
DeBakey High School for Health Professions

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Christopher Sanderson
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Shanna Cummings Doucet, RN, MBA
Harris Health

A. William “Bill” St. Clair
Independent CFO Consultant

Mark Dannenbaum, MD
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Alison J. Haddock, MD, FACEP
Baylor College of Medicine

Arlo Weltge, MD, PhD, MPH
UTHealth

In Memory

The TMC Library and the Friends of the TMC Library lost a very good friend in December 2018.

Herbert L. Fred, MD, Professor Emeritus of Medicine, McGovern Medical School, Houston, and Master in the American College of Physicians (MACP), passed away on December 30, 2018. As a full-time medical educator for almost six decades, he leaves a legacy of several thousand trainees who learned to be better doctors under his watchful eye. He will be remembered as a self-motivated, deeply committed, highly disciplined, strongly competitive, achievement-driven, independent thinker for whom learning was a passion, hard work the norm, and excellence the standard. Dr. Fred was a member of the Friends of the TMC Library Board of Directors for seven years. He donated his papers to the McGovern Historical Research Center, the TMC Library’s historical collection. He also provided funding for the Herbert L. Fred, MD, MACP Study Hall at the TMC Library, which is very popular with students. Dr. Fred will be remembered fondly and missed very much.
The TMC Library Board of Directors FY2019

William Thomson, PhD, Chair
Baylor College of Medicine

Lisa A. German, MLIS
University of Houston

Michael Fordis, MD, Acting Chair
Baylor College of Medicine

Toi Blakely Harris, MD
Baylor College of Medicine

George Stancel, PhD, Vice Chair until June 30, 2019
UTHealth Science Center at Houston

Shirlette Milton, PhD
Texas Southern University

Stephanie Fulton, MSIS, AHIP, Secretary until May 10, 2019
The UT MD Anderson Cancer Center

Carolyn L. Smith, PhD
Baylor College of Medicine

Greg Bernica, CPA
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Eric J. Solberg, MS
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Elmer Bernstam, MD
McGovern Medical School at UTHealth

Arlo Weltge, MD, MPH, FACEP
Houston Academy of Medicine

Clara Fowler, MSLS, as of May 13, 2019
The UT MD Anderson Cancer Center

Debbie Sibley, MLS, MEd
Executive Director, TMC Library

Arthur (Tim) Garson, MD, MPH, MACC
Texas Medical Center

Governing Institutions FY2019

Baylor College of Medicine ~ Houston Academy of Medicine ~ Texas Medical Center
Texas Southern University College of Pharmacy and Health Professions
University of Houston Colleges of Pharmacy and Optometry ~ UTHealth ~ UT MD Anderson Cancer Center

Supporting Institutions FY2019

CHI St. Luke’s Health ~ Houston Community College, Coleman Campus ~ LifeGift ~ Memorial Hermann Hospital System
Prairie View A&M University College of Nursing ~ Shriners Hospital for Children ~ Texas Children’s Hospital