Annual Report 2022 - 2023

Houston Academy of Medicine - Texas Medical Center Library

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Message from the Chair of the Board of Directors

It is a privilege to serve as the Chair of the TMC Library Board of Directors, in addition to serving as a representative of Baylor College of Medicine.

The students, clinical and research faculty, and staff at each member institution of the TMC Library continue to benefit from the resources of this tremendous library. This past year included the addition of new resources and services, including new study pods and long powered tables, new YouTube video tutorials, and the upgraded JOVE Unlimited research skills video platform. In addition, the Library continued to provide an impressive array of services and resources to member institutions and guests from around the world. Access to the library space continues to grow, and local and remote access to the extensive online e-book and e-journal collection remains robust. The outstanding librarians continue to contribute professionally to the scholarly literature and academic community through publications and participation with national and regional professional organizations.

The Library continues to operate under the excellent leadership of Executive Director, Ms. Katie Prentice, MSIS, AHIP. In addition, the Library has been well served by Ms. Dorothy Cobbs, MBA in her role as Chief Financial Officer for the last 12 years. Ms. Cobbs will be retiring in January 2024 and we wish her much enjoyment and happiness in her retirement. I am also pleased to welcome our incoming Chief Financial Officer, Ms. Patricia Miller, who will be joining the Library in January with a brief overlap with Ms. Cobbs. Last, but certainly not least, I want to recognize the outstanding dedication and expertise of the entire staff of the TMC Library and the McGovern Historical Center. While the journal, books and databases may come to mind first when we think about the Library, I hope you will recognize our excellent staff who support all of these resources, educate our students and trainees, and use their expertise to advance our scholarly work.

Carolyn L. Smith, PhD, Chair
2022-2023 TMC Library Board of Directors
Dean, Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences
Vice President, Education Affairs
Baylor College of Medicine
As I reflect on the past year, I see the TMC Library team continue to excel at providing resources, services, and spaces to student, faculty, and staff members as well as the greater Texas Medical Center community. While during the year the Library team said farewell to several librarians and staff, we ended the year fully staffed again. Through all of the changes, TMC Library staff continued providing services, participating in educational and professional programs, and contributing to research.

The foot traffic in library spaces and web traffic to our online resources continues to increase each year. Seeing foot traffic increase from 63,068 in FY22 to 90,837 in FY23 was remarkable and it was a pleasure to see “regulars” choose study spots daily. Usage trends for the website and Digital Commons@TMC show similar growth.

This year saw the continuation of the TMC Library Student Advisory Committee with a group of student volunteers who answered the call to help continue to improve the Library. The group’s continued hybrid meeting options helped students participate from wherever they were working, studying, living, or even traveling. It is a true gift to work directly with the thoughtful students of member institutions who are not shy about sharing their thoughts and suggestions.

Across John Freeman Boulevard, Library staff and visitors, in addition to everyone who works nearby, are watching the ongoing construction of the Houston Methodist Centennial Tower. While site work started before the fiscal year, construction progress from September to August has changed the corner view completely. The phased opening is projected for 2027, so the view from Jesse Jones Library Building will continue to change until the 26-story tower is complete and active.

The TMC Library’s social media and outreach efforts, along with those of the McGovern Historical Center, continue to grow as the team shares news about available services and resources. Our Facebook presence ended the year with a reach of 2,127 (an 111% increase from the prior year) and Instagram reach grew to 3,477 (an 186.4% increase from the prior year) with 1,196 followers. Regular posts, more video, and features of photographs from student markerboard study sessions have led to growth in views and activity.

Looking ahead, I am excited to see what the TMC Library team will accomplish in pursuit of excellence in services, resources, and spaces.

Katie Prentice, MSIS, AHIP
Executive Director
TMC Library

A year of construction views from the front of the TMC Library:
The interior of the TMC Library saw only a few changes over the year.

At the request of students, additional ‘work lounge’ pods were added into the Dr. Fred Student Study Hall and along the back windows of the Library. These pods function as modern study carrels--with power, adjustable desk, and footrest--for students who prefer a more secluded study experience.

Inside the Dr. Fred Student Study Hall, four banks of long study tables were added, with accessible power and sound/visual barriers to better allow sharing and less visual distraction. These new tables immediately became popular.

Over the year, many puzzles were completed during study breaks. The community puzzle table allows students to collaboratively assemble a puzzle during breaks or between classes. Each puzzle takes between two and four weeks to complete, depending on complexity and Library foot traffic.

With a substantial return to on-site study, students are often spotted using the wall and mobile markerboards, in groups and individually, to outline topics, diagram, or even doodle. The visuals are sometimes left behind and allow a fascinating glimpse into the various areas of medical study.
Revenue and Expenses

Fiscal Year Ended August 31, 2023

We continue to be both accountable and transparent in our operations with guidelines that are regularly reviewed by our Board of Directors, our standing Finance Committee, and Blazek & Vetterling, our independent public auditors.

Total Operating Revenues: $9,004,219

Total Operating Expenses: $8,052,639

Donors

The foresight and generosity of those who contributed to the TMC Library is very important and greatly appreciated. The donors above $250 for fiscal year 2023 are as follows:

John P. McGovern Foundation
Texas Medical Center
Philip Montgomery
Earl Brewer, MD
Alan Blum, MD
MJ Figard
TMC Library Staff Accomplishments

**Internal Award**

Alice Sherwood was awarded TMC Library Employee of the Year for her exemplary service to the library.

**External Awards**

Beatriz Varman was awarded the *Distinguished Service Award* (DSA) for 2022, the South Central Chapter of the Medical Library Association’s highest honor, recognizing outstanding service.

Joanne Romano was a recipient of the 2023 Medical Library Association (MLA) Grant and Scholarship Award. Joanne used her grant to attend the Electronic Resources and Libraries (ER&L) 2023 conference, where she presented: “*All in This Together: Team Collaboration Improves Services, Expands Outreach and Demonstrates Value at the Texas Medical Center Library.*”

**Publications - Journals**


*Acknowledgment to Jennifer Stockton for her contribution to this research project.*


**Publications - Other**


**Presentations**

- **Sandra Yvette Desjardins**, Kelly Williams, Michelle Shea, Margaret Dawson, and Victoria Eastes presented a discussion entitled *Stop Fanning the Flames of Burnout: Causes of and Solutions to Burnout* to the Texas A&M University System: Virtual Library Conference in June 2023.

- **Matt Richardson** delivered a lightning talk at the 2023 Texas Conference on Digital Libraries in Austin entitled: *AtoM-izing Archival Collections*. This presentation walked through the McGovern Historical Center’s workflow for creating archival description, importing it into the archives management system (Access to Memory, or “AtoM”), and making it available online.

- **Matt Richardson** presented a talk at the Librarians, Archivists, and Museum Professionals in the History of Health Sciences 2023 Annual Meeting entitled: *Focusing on Institutional Audiovisual Resources from the Texas Medical Center*. Matt presented virtually during the hybrid meeting, which was held in Ann Arbor, MI.

- **Katie Prentice** presented *Completing a Major Library Renovation in a Global Pandemic* at the Medical Library Association & Special Libraries Association ’23 Joint Meeting in Detroit, Michigan, May 19, 2023.
• Sandra Yates chaired the educational session, *Community Archiving Workshop and Audiovisual Collections Care in Tribal Archives*, at the Society of Southwest Archivists 2023 Annual Meeting in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

• Matt Richardson led the *Texas Archival Resources Online (TARO) Brown Bag* at the Society of Southwest Archivists 2023 Annual Meeting in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

• Katie Prentice presented in the webinar *Want to Be a Medical Librarian? How to Land Your First Job!* an event provided by the SCC/MLA Early Career Librarians Initiative, hosted by the Network of the National Library of Medicine Region 3, January 27, 2023.

• Joanne Romano, MLS had a Short Talk accepted at the Electronic Resources and Libraries (ER&L) 2023 conference at UT Austin. Joanne presented: *All in This Together: Team Collaboration Improves Services, Expands Outreach and Demonstrates Value at the Texas Medical Center Library.*

• Sandra Yates was a speaker in the panel session, *Calling all CAWs: Training of Trainers (TOT) Project*, at the Association of Moving Image Archivists (AMIA) Annual Conference 2022, Pittsburgh, PA, December 7, 2022.

• Amy Sisson, Bronwyn Sutherland, and Joanne Romano held a panel discussion at the Texas Library Association District 8 conference, November 12, 2022, University of Houston, Clear Lake, Texas. entitled: *How We Get from There to Here: The Many Paths Leading to Medical Librarianship.*

• Alice Sherwood presented a lightning talk, entitled: *Bringing Open Access Peer-Reviewed Journals to the Community and Beyond: Using DigitalCommons@TMC As Example* at Digital Commons North American Conference 2022.

• Katie Prentice delivered a paper at the SCC/MLA 2022 Houston conference entitled: *Finding Space to Complete Major Renovations.*

• Amy Sisson delivered a paper at the SCC/MLA 2022 Houston conference entitled: *Too Many Cooks Make an Excellent Broth: A Comparative Analysis of Five Independently Developed Search Strategies on the Same Topic.*

• Sandra Yates, Matt Richardson, Kelly Caldwell, and Javier Garza facilitated a roundtable discussion at the SCC/MLA 2022 Houston conference entitled “It’s Mutual: Challenges and Opportunities Working with Medical Archives and Special Collections.”

• Sandra Yates presented a poster at the at the SCC/MLA 2022 Houston conference, *We Have Your Records II: Using & Contributing to the Archives of the South Central Chapter.*

• Joanne Romano, Beatriz Varman, Amy Sisson, & Kelsey Koym delivered a paper at the SCC/MLA 2022 Houston conference entitled: *All in This Together: Team Collaboration Improves Services, Expands Outreach, and Demonstrates Value at the Texas Medical Center Library.*


• Alice Sherwood delivered a Lightning Talk at the SCC/MLA 2022 Houston conference entitled: *Tracking & Presenting Your Library Website Usage: Google Analytics 4 and Google Dashboard* [https://dc.researchcommons.org/dcnoamconf/2022/nov10/5](https://dc.researchcommons.org/dcnoamconf/2022/nov10/5)

**Significant Projects**

In fiscal year 2023, Resource Management Associate Jasmin Legaspi, updated 7,900 DOCLINE holdings for accuracy. She also deleted approximately 1,200 titles from EBSCO databases that are no longer offered by the Texas State Library and Archives Commission. Publisher coverage dates and content offerings can change over time, so Jasmin manages DOCLINE holdings as a regular project and on an as-needed basis.

**Professional Service**

• Katie Prentice is the 2023-2024 Chair of the Medical Library Association (MLA) Leadership & Management Caucus.

• Beatriz Varman is the 2023-2024 Chair of the Medical Library Association Public Services Caucus.
• **Matt Richardson** is the 2023 Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect of Texas Archival Resources Online (TARO).
• **Sandra Yates** is 2023 President of Archivists of the Houston Area (AHA!).
• **Travis Holder** served on the Texas Library Association's Research Work Group.
• **Travis Holder** served on the Programming Committee for Texas Library Association's District 8 - 2022 Fall Conference.
• **Joanne Romano** is an invited member of the American Society for Microbiology's (ASM) new Library Advisory Group.
• **Katie Prentice** is a member of the Medical Library Association 2023 National Program Committee, 6/2022-12/31/2023.
• **Katie Prentice** continues to serve as an editorial board member and peer reviewer for the open access journal [Advances in Online Education: A Peer-Reviewed Journal](#) 2/2022-present.

## Research & Instruction

The Research and Instruction department experienced a few personnel changes in the last fiscal year. In May and July 2023, the department hired three liaison librarians, Sandra Y. Desjardins, Tracy Ashby, and Sonya Fogg, for the following institutions: UTHouston School of Public Health, UTHouston Cizik School of Nursing, UTHouston McGovern Medical School, and the McWilliams School of Biomedical Informatics.

Due to staffing challenges and the high demand for the systematic reviews service, the library paused accepting new requests in June 2023. This service will be re-opened in the upcoming year when the department is fully staffed and new librarians complete their training.

Throughout the pause in new projects, liaison librarians provided consultations and literature searches to users in need of systematic reviews to help them navigate this process while our full-service option is on hold.

### Services Provided

Liaison librarians provided classes, consultations, literature searches, systematic reviews, and reference questions both remotely and in person.

The Library had fewer consultation requests compared with last year. We noticed that students began requesting more group consultations, which may be one reason our consultation request numbers are lower this year. New availability of updated video tutorials developed by the liaison librarians for students and faculty may have reduced the number of additional consultations requested by the same students.

Ten new YouTube video tutorials on basic, intermediate, and advanced searching in Medline and PubMed were developed. Additional tutorials were developed for searching CINAHL and Embase.

![Department Statistics](image)
The demand for literature searches increased during this fiscal year, most likely due to the systematic review service hiatus; users needing a systematic review may have chosen to request a literature search to begin their research project. Our literature search requests increased by 13 percent.

We received 24 fewer systematic review requests in the last fiscal year due to the three-month service hiatus. There were also fewer total classes requested but the number of attendees increased by 29 percent, potentially due to an increase in enrollment or class sizes in some programs.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Library Service</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Classes</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consultations</td>
<td>428</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Literature Searches</td>
<td>361</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Systematic Reviews</td>
<td>567</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reference Questions</td>
<td>251</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Liaison librarians spent 1,658 hours providing direct library services to students and faculty. Below is a breakdown of the time spent by library service.

The liaison librarians participated in the UTHealth Houston 24th Annual Salutation Event held at Cooley University Life Center in October 2022. This annual event gives new and returning students the opportunity to visit with service representatives, and network with faculty, staff, and other students. Approximately 300-400 students participate in this event each year.

In Spring 2023, the UTHealth Houston liaison librarians joined the pilot project Night on Call, a simulation program developed to prepare 4th year medical students for the transition to residency. This project was led by UTHealth McGovern Medical School faculty and staff. It was an excellent opportunity for the librarians to collaborate on this project.

Liaison librarians were busy providing training to new librarians, updating LibGuides, attending curriculum committee meetings, participating in professional continuing education courses, monitoring office hours, volunteering in professional committees, and attending professional meetings.

In the past year, nine publications were co-authored by liaison librarians and there was one acknowledgment. We are pleased to see that librarian contributions are recognized within research projects in the TMC community.

Marketing

The monthly library email newsletter continues publication. There was an average of 238 subscribers throughout the year. The newsletter shares news about the McGovern Historical Center and promotes library resources and services.
Resource Management & Discovery Services

The Resource Management team, which includes Joanne Romano, Chad Metz, and Jasmin Legaspi, had another busy year of vendor negotiations, license renewals, resource marketing, usage reporting, access troubleshooting and assessment tasks.

Top 5 Databases

Database vendors are not consistent in the metrics they use to calculate usage. Several licensed databases do not use any kind of usage standards, such as COUNTER reports. Some rely on “home-grown” counts, such as page views, image views, content clicks. Others count only e-book chapters or journal article downloads. Inconsistency makes it difficult to compare usage across our entire database collection. However, our database vendors that do follow NISO standards can provide standardized counts of database searches performed by our users.

Top 5 TMC Library Databases, based on Regular Searches in Jan-Dec 2022

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name (Vendor)</th>
<th>Searches Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Medline (OVID)</td>
<td>159,416</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Embase (Elsevier)</td>
<td>34,906</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Web of Science (Clarivate)</td>
<td>32,553</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CINAHL Plus with Full Text (EBSCO)</td>
<td>31,114</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Merative Micromedex (Merative)</td>
<td>17,505</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The TMC Library Collection at a Glance

![TMC Library Collections, Sept 2023](image)

Cataloging

Our department cataloged 115 new original dissertations from Baylor College of Medicine and UTHHealth Houston, as well as 52 new print books for our 1st floor collections. We continue to add new dissertations and books to our print collections each fiscal year.
Acquisitions and Vendor Negotiations

In FY2023 our partnership with the University of Texas System Digital Library consortium saved the library over $14 million in subscription fees for the following journals and databases:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Elsevier</td>
<td>ScienceDirect Journals</td>
<td>$850,864.92</td>
<td>$6,433,709.69</td>
<td>$5,592,865.77</td>
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<tr>
<td>Springer Nature</td>
<td>SpringerLINK Journals</td>
<td>$368,000.91</td>
<td>$2,959,640.14</td>
<td>$3,891,140.05</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wiley</td>
<td>Wiley Online Library Journals</td>
<td>$353,619.84</td>
<td>$3,326,443.00</td>
<td>$2,972,803.16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SAGE</td>
<td>SAGE Premier</td>
<td>$48,370.00</td>
<td>$606,566.00</td>
<td>$512,196.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oxford</td>
<td>Oxford University Press Journals</td>
<td>$300,760.84</td>
<td>$2,219,197.00</td>
<td>$2,028,436.16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cambridge</td>
<td>Cambridge Journals Online</td>
<td>$4,881.14</td>
<td>$217,139.00</td>
<td>$212,237.56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IEEE</td>
<td>IEEE Internet Electronic Library</td>
<td></td>
<td>$208,685.00</td>
<td>$208,685.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Springer Nature</td>
<td>Nature</td>
<td>$164,516.38</td>
<td>$370,830.00</td>
<td>$206,313.62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IOP (Institute of Physics)</td>
<td>Institute of Physics (IOP) Journals</td>
<td>$197,573.00</td>
<td>$197,573.00</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clarivate</td>
<td>Web of Science</td>
<td>$115,752.20</td>
<td>$230,485.77</td>
<td>$114,733.57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JoVE</td>
<td>JoVE Journals</td>
<td>$52,750.00</td>
<td>$87,000.00</td>
<td>$34,250.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>InPho</td>
<td>JSTOR</td>
<td>$52,750.00</td>
<td>$87,000.00</td>
<td>$34,250.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ProQuest</td>
<td>ARTBibliography Medaris</td>
<td>$21,824.50</td>
<td>$21,824.50</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EBSCO</td>
<td>America: History &amp; Life / Historical Abstracts</td>
<td>$20,718.00</td>
<td>$20,718.00</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ProQuest</td>
<td>PINS International</td>
<td>$18,260.40</td>
<td>$18,260.40</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACS</td>
<td>ACS Web Editions</td>
<td>$49,800.00</td>
<td>$63,710.00</td>
<td>$13,920.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ProQuest</td>
<td>Historical New York Times</td>
<td>$7,060.74</td>
<td>$7,060.74</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rethink</td>
<td>ARTstor</td>
<td>$4,794.00</td>
<td>$4,794.00</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annual Reviews</td>
<td>Annual Reviews Online</td>
<td>$11,704.00</td>
<td>$16,249.00</td>
<td>$4,545.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wiley</td>
<td>Cochrane Library</td>
<td>$618.09</td>
<td>$3,926.35</td>
<td>$3,308.26</td>
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<tr>
<td>APA</td>
<td>American Psychological Association</td>
<td>$28,504.79</td>
<td>$31,671.43</td>
<td>$3,167.15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chronicle</td>
<td>Chronicle of Higher Education</td>
<td>$2,565.00</td>
<td>$2,490.00</td>
<td>$75.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rethink</td>
<td>Portico</td>
<td>$2,370.75</td>
<td>$3,163.00</td>
<td>$790.25</td>
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<tr>
<td>American Council of Learned Societies (ACLS)</td>
<td>ACLS Humanities E-Book Project</td>
<td>$552.73</td>
<td>$650.00</td>
<td>$97.27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taylor &amp; Francis</td>
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<td>$54,100.46</td>
<td>$34,219.00</td>
<td>$19,881.46</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Cost Avoidance FY23 in blue:</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>$2,210,341.02</strong></td>
<td><strong>$16,985,158.69</strong></td>
<td><strong>$14,774,817.67</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Through partnership with the Texas State Libraries and Archives Commission (TSLAC), TexShare provides library users access to 68 databases, worth over $400,000 in subscription fees, for which the library pays only $3,118 per year.

The Head of Resource Management (RM) negotiated with Mary Ann Liebert, Stat!Ref, and other STEM publishers to keep prices flat or lower than originally proposed for FY23.

New Content added to the Collection

- JoVE upgrade: **JoVE Unlimited**: includes all sections for Research and Science Education
- 13 new e-books for our humanities, equity, and health collection
- 6 new print books related to management, Alzheimer’s care and books by BCM and UTHealth Houston authors

Resource Promotion and Marketing

In collaboration with the Library’s social media team, the RM team developed a weekly schedule to create Library blog, Instagram, and Facebook posts to promote resources in our Library’s collection. In addition, resource news is shared through our Library’s monthly email newsletter.

Technical Support and Access Troubleshooting

RM staff resolved 126 trouble tickets submitted by patrons reporting resource access issues. More than 50% of these tickets had to be resolved by vendors due to technical issues. Other access issues were resolved in various ways, including user education on how to access content, articles requiring interlibrary loan, PubMed access issues, and editing links to open access publisher sites that drop content.
Accreditation

RM staff assisted governing institutions with completing data and reports for the American Association of Health Science Libraries (AAHSL) and the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS).

Consultations on Resources

The RM Dept. logged approximately 70 consultations with patrons via email, phone or Zoom, along with an estimated 42 consultations with vendors (in person or Zoom) during the 2022-2023 fiscal year.

This fiscal year we had a critical meeting with representatives from Clinical Key (CKey). After four years of intermittent access issues due to problems originating with the vendor, the Head of Resource Mgmt. and CKey coordinated an in-person meeting at the TMC Library. The Head of Resource Mgmt., Joanne Romano, presented a history of the CKey access problems our users had encountered since the license was signed in 2016. Joanne reported that over the years, several TMC Library staff spent an unacceptable volume of time testing, diagnosing, and finding workarounds for CKey access issues. Users were frustrated at the interruptions in their work due to CKey’s lack of reliability. The result was a Clinical Key-drafted action plan to drastically reduce TMC Library access barriers, mitigate access problems before they occur, and streamline the reporting process to CKey tech support for help, whenever needed. The Head of Resource Mgmt. also suggested that Clinical Key develop a library advisory group.

DOCLINE Project

The TMC Library has over 9,000 medical title holdings in DOCLINE, the National Library of Medicine’s journal portal that supports interlibrary loan services between medical libraries. In FY2023, RM Dept. staff edited over 8,000 holdings to align with publisher metadata changes throughout the year. This is a critical ongoing project that is excellently managed by our staff.

John P. McGovern Historical Collections and Research Center

The McGovern Historical Center (MHC) saw a lot of changes this year as we continue to preserve and provide access to the historical collections of the Texas Medical Center. We have new staff, a new look, and unprecedented access to collection. Thanks to the hard work and meticulous dedication of the MHC Team and the support of Library colleagues, we have pushed the boundaries by providing more access to collection materials online in our digital collection as well as increasing usage statistics.

Success is thanks to the entire MHC Team: Matt Richardson, Tara Carron, Alethea Drexler, Gina Leonard, and Billy Laruda.

New Staff

Thanks to a generous grant from the John P. McGovern Foundation, the McGovern Historical Center welcomed another Archivist and Special Collections Librarian, Tara Carron. She has begun a four-year project that focuses on Dr. John P. McGovern’s manuscript and rare book collections. Her primary objectives will be
to improve description and access of archival materials, enhance bibliographic descriptions for more
discoverability, and promote collections to potential researchers.

McGovern Foundation and John P. McGovern Processing and Bibliographic Enhancement Projects

In August 2022 the McGovern Foundation generously granted $339,000 to the Texas Medical Center Library,
McGovern Historical Center for a four-year project to hire additional staff, purchase preservation supplies and
services, and upgrade conference room furniture at the Historical Research Center facility on El Rio. The
primary objectives for the John P. McGovern Processing and Catalog Enhancement Project are to improve
description and access of archival materials, enhance bibliographic descriptions for more discoverability, and
promote collections to potential researchers. The four-year project as has two distinct objectives: (1) to process
Dr. McGovern's personal and professional papers, as well as his collection of Texas Historical Medical
Documents and a set of records related to the McGovern Museum of Health and Medical Science and (2) to
improve scholarly access to the collection, enhancing existing bibliographic records and standardizing to the
subject-based Library of Congress classification system.

New Look at El Rio Facilities

After twenty years at the facility at 8272 El Rio, the McGovern Historical Center purchased new furniture for
staff and researchers. We worked with McCoy Rockford to re-envision the space. We picked each piece to
optimize staff and researcher comfort, all with a pleasing, cohesive color palette. The reading room has four
tables with casters and sixteen adjustable chairs that are easily moved and reconfigured to suit any occasion
from research to visiting classes. A break table and chairs are now available for staff and researchers.

With additional funding from the McGovern Foundation, we were able to upgrade the conference and reception
areas as well. The conference room has a large table and console that’s perfect for the space and six adjustable
chairs. The entry now has a comfortable bench for guests, an adjustable sign-in table, and a display area for
promotional materials. We also added an adjustable table and storage table for the reading room.
Give 2 History: Secure the Past Fundraising Campaign

In October 2022 the McGovern Historical Center piloted a fundraising campaign, Give 2 History, to engage library users and the public, sharing the opportunity to help the McGovern Historical Center secure the history of the Texas Medical Center. The first year was encouraging, and we repeated the campaign in October 2023, emphasizing the Adopt a Box recognition for donations of $50 or more.

The campaign highlights real-world examples of how tax-deductible gifts of any size helps fulfill our mission:

- $10 buys an archival box to preserve papers
- $50 preserves one box of collection materials
- $250 buys permanent archival labels for boxes
- $500 purchases film preservation supplies
- $1,500 supports a year of online access to our collections
- $2,500 upgrades the camera we use for digitization
- $5,000 helps us fund a 12-week internship for an archives student

Statistics Dashboard

Since September 2020, the McGovern Historical Center (MHC) has collected real-time usage statistics using a combination of web applications and paper logs, such as Springshare’s LibAnswers Reference Analytics, sign-in sheets, and Collection Checkout Logs. Weekly data is captured using the McGovern Detailed Statistics form in LibWizard, which links out to other supplemental forms. At the end of the month the numbers are analyzed and presented in the report below. The report is divided into eight sections and provides statistics about Reading Room Visitors, Outreach Events, Reference & Service Transactions, Collections Used, Institutions Served, Volunteer Hours, and Online Interactions. These categories create a monthly snapshot of the work that the staff does for users at the McGovern Historical Center. In September 2020 the MHC statistics were revised to (1) reflect the 2018 guidelines detailed in Standardized Statistical Measures And Metrics For Public Services In Archival Repositories And Special Collections Libraries published by the Society of American Archivists (SAA) and (2) to utilize the library’s Springshare LibApps suite already used by the Research & Instruction and Circulation Departments.
The foresighted and planning paid off; the MHC now has a public dashboard that displays all the statistic metrics reported each month. We are still working with the data and the LibInsight platform to optimize how we present the great work that we do. The dashboard is available at [https://tmc.libinsight.com/mhcstats](https://tmc.libinsight.com/mhcstats). While this shows much of the data collected, it doesn’t capture the whole picture. We are working with the dataset for collections used.

*Improving Collection Access & Discoverability*

More finding aids are searchable on the collection site, [https://archives.library.tmc.edu/](https://archives.library.tmc.edu/). There are 350 collection-level descriptions searchable online. A total of 254 collections have an inventory, including 149 detailed folder- and item-level descriptions. That is an increase of 23 collections with new detailed descriptions, making more collection materials discoverable online. As we increase the content that is available, our collection site, [https://archive.library.tmc.edu](https://archive.library.tmc.edu), continues to surpass the McGovern website, [https://library.tmc.edu/mcgovern/](https://library.tmc.edu/mcgovern/), in users and pageviews.

![Online Users by Platform](image)

*Texas Medical Center Historical Audiovisual Resources Digitization project*

In FY22, “Speedy Startup” funds awarded by the South Central Academic Medical Libraries Consortium (SCAMeL) enabled the MHC to digitize more than fifty at-risk films, videotapes, and audio recordings by sending them to a vendor. In FY23, MHC staff completed the project by performing quality control, creating and enhancing metadata, moving files to preservation storage, publishing access files online, and promoting the newly available resources. The addition of these resources resulted in a nearly 30% increase in the number of audiovisual items available via the MHC’s collections site.

While these recordings will certainly be of interest to the TMC institutions themselves, archivists believe that researchers studying medical or Texas history—as well as members of the public—will also find much to enjoy and learn. Through promotion of these resources, the MHC also hopes to highlight the valuable contributions of medical libraries and archives to the institutions they serve and beyond.

The project offered an opportunity both to leverage existing channels for outreach and test new ones:
- The MHC’s Facebook, Twitter, and blog, “The Black Bag”
- An exhibit in the main TMC Library
- Articles in the newsletters of the Society of Southwest Archivists and the South Central Chapter of the Medical Library Association
• A presentation at the 2023 Annual Meeting of Librarians, Archivists, and Museum Professionals in the History of the Health Sciences
• A press release distributed by TMC.edu
• Mention in the Houston Chronicle’s Bayou City History newsletter

These outreach efforts also led to the creation of a TMC Library Press Contacts List and opened channels of communication with the TMC’s Marketing Team—developments which will pay dividends for future projects. To mark the project’s completion, archivists created a highlight reel featuring some of the most memorable content about the TMC Library itself. Following an in-person premiere for library staff, the video is available to stream on the McGovernHRC YouTube channel https://www.youtube.com/@mcgovernhrc3810.

Processed Collections

We processed and promoted 17 collections.

- IC 012 University of Texas Speech and Hearing Institute records
- IC 013 University of Texas School of Public Health records
- IC 025 University of Texas School of Nursing records
- IC 089 University of Texas School of Nursing PARTNERS records
- MS 021 John P. McGovern, MD Collection of Texas Historical Medical Documents
- MS 026 Lee D. Cady, MD papers
- MS 027 Felix Haas, PhD papers
- MS 031 Sidney Schnur, MD papers
- MS 080 Daniel J. McCarty, MD papers
- MS 082 Elvin L. Shelton, Jr., MD papers
- MS 083 Harold Pruessner, MD papers
- MS 085 Donald J. Fernbach, MD papers
- MS 088 John L. Decker, MD papers
- MS 203 Herman Detering History of Photography and Psychiatry collection
- MS 233 Phillip D. Robinson, MHA, LFACHE papers
- MS 248 Robert J. Emery, DrPH papers
- MS 249 Lucile Baird papers

Exhibits in the Library

The McGovern Historical Center manages five exhibit areas within the main library building. Throughout this year, Matt Richardson and interns curated four new exhibits. Most notably, Matt reconceptualized the long-term exhibits for the (1) window case outside the Rare Book Room and (2) the large case located outside the street-level classrooms. The exhibits on display this year:

- Akio AWA Cartoons Exhibit. The exhibit, located on the Jones Library Street Level, features cartoons drawn by Atomic Bomb Casualty Commission researcher Akio AWA, Sc.D.
- Windows into the McGovern Historical Center. The two exhibit cases embedded in the walls of the corridor now feature highlights from MHC collections and brief overviews of major collecting areas.
- TMC A/V Resources. The upright exhibit case adjacent to the Cooley Room features printed images from the recently digitized audiovisual materials for the Texas Medical Center Historical Audiovisual Resources Digitization project. It showcases the AV heritage of the Texas Medical Center and the TMC Library.
- Like Father, Like Son. The main exhibit area with two flat cases centrally located on the first floor of the library featured an exhibit curated by MHC intern, Joy Oria, showcasing the life and careers of Drs. James Greenwood, Sr. and James Greenwood, Jr., MD. The father and son specialized in neuropsychiatry and neurosurgery, respectively.

Blog Posts: News from the Archive

Our primary outlet for sharing the latest news at the MHC is our news blog on the website. This year we shared 25 blog posts.
• Health, Medicine, and Politics in 19th Century Texas, August 28, 2023
• Sidney A. Schnur, MD papers, August 22, 2023
• TMC Library Historical A/V Watch Party, August 15, 2023
• Robert J. Emery, DrPH papers, August 8, 2023
• Phillip D. Robinson, MHA, LFACHE papers, August 1, 2023
• Daniel J. McCarty, MD papers, July 25, 2023
• Herman Detering History of Photography and Psychiatry collection, July 18, 2023
• John L. Decker, MD papers, July 12, 2023
• The Legacy of Dr. John P. McGovern: An Archival Expedition, May 31, 2023
• Texas Medical Center A/V History Video on YouTube, May 24, 2023
• Like Father, Like Son, May 16, 2023
• Thomas R. Cole, PhD papers, May 16, 2023
• Felix Haas, PhD papers, May 9, 2023
• Harold Pruessner, MD papers, May 2, 2023
• Friends of the Texas Medical Center Library records, April 25, 2023
• Elvin L. Shelton, Jr., MD papers, April 18, 2023
• PARTNERS records, April 11, 2023
• Lee D. Cady, MD papers, April 3, 2023
• Akio AWA Cartoons Exhibit, March 3, 2023
• TMC A/V Resources Go Online, February 22, 2023
• Windows into the McGovern Historical Center, October 27, 2022
• Thanks to SCAMeL, TMC Library’s A/V History is Getting New Life, October 19, 2022
• 1970s Video Interviews from the TMC Historical Resources Project, October 12, 2022
• Give 2 History: Secure the Past, September 29, 2022
• UT x 3, September 6, 2022

Other Statistical Highlights, MHC Stats by Fiscal Year: [https://tmc.libinsight.com/fy-mhcstats](https://tmc.libinsight.com/fy-mhcstats)

Summary of people served by MHC staff through service points: Reading Room Visitors, Outreach Participation, and Reference Transactions. The total number of people served by MHC staff increased across all service points.

Total Reading Room Visitors increased along with Collection Used counts for Reading Room. This means researchers’ use of the reading room increased. There was a notable increase in people served from several Governing Institutions over the last 3 years.
Information Technology

Highlights

• The IT department staffing changes this year: Nick Green was promoted to Head of Information Systems and Technology in March, and Imran Naqvi was hired as the new Network Administrator in May.
• First noticed in the Spring 2023 semester, the library firewall has been showing an average of over 300 wireless devices connected at any given time, as patrons are bringing more personal devices such as smartwatches, tablets, and sometimes multiple laptops to the library.
• With the library’s existing door security and visitor management systems nearing end-of-life, the control panels, servers, and management software were replaced with C-Cure 9000.
• As the prior system finally failed due to age, the library’s overhead paging system, used for closing announcements and emergency announcements, was replaced.
• New IT helpdesk tools for ticket management and remote desktop support were implemented to better provide support for hybrid work environments.
• Wi-Fi printing for students and visitors was added over the summer after a software trial period.

Digital Commons @ TMC - Institutional Repository

Digital Commons@TMC experienced a busy year with 702 new articles, images, dissertations, and audio-visual materials submissions (255% increase from 2022), bringing the total count to 8,338 articles in the online repository. 205,552 total downloads were recorded with an average of 58.5 submissions added per month, viewed monthly by 210 countries (up 5.5% from 2022) around the world.

Another major development on Digital Commons@TMC since Nov. 2022, was the implementation of Digital Commons Exhibits. In addition, our site started as a beta tester for the scrolling exhibit feature, a more modern style of exhibit to create dynamic, narrative scrolling pages to engage viewers. One new exhibit: The History of The Texas Medical Center Library: From 1915 to Present showcases history using the scrolling exhibit style.

Over the year, additional historical AV materials were imported into the Digital Commons, either in the repository or in exhibits. For example, Historical A/V from the TMC includes 21 videos with 30 streams. The McGovern Historical Center recently digitized and shared online more than 50 archival films, videos, and sound recordings. Digitization was made possible by grant funding from South Central Academic Medical Libraries (SCAMeL) consortium.
TMC Library Website

The TMC Library website added 16 news/update posts this past fiscal year, upgraded to an automatic image gallery on the front page, and added web accessibility tools. In addition, descriptive tags were added across the site, a new color scheme was implemented to display higher contrast between fore and background, and cascading style sheets and images were optimized to accelerate page loading. All these changes made the website more user-friendly and accessible for our users.

This year, we had a total of 303,325 unique visitors to our website, with 402,687 sessions in total (1,103 sessions per day). Data shows Chrome (72%) is the most frequently used browser, followed by Safari (16%), Edge (10%), and Firefox (2%). Additionally, most users employ PCs and 5% of all users are using tablets or phones to navigate the library website.

Circulation, Operations & Interlibrary Loan

Library Visitors

The most exciting news is that we achieved an entrance count of 90,837 for the TMC Library spaces during the year. This count is higher than the previous year’s count of 63,068.

Interlibrary Loan Usage

- Total number of items requested and received (items borrowed) from external libraries: 3,573
- Total number of interlibrary loan lending requests filled for external organizations: 1,858
- Total number of document delivery requests filled for affiliated users: 2,394

Administration & Finance

The Administration and Finance teams provide leadership for the TMC Library through human resources, accounting, and the executive director’s office.

[L-R] Elizabeth Herrera, Scott Aikens, Katie Prentice, Dorothy Cobbs, Rebecca Denkeler, May Yang

The TMC Library Board of Directors FY 2023

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Baylor College of Medicine • Houston Academy of Medicine • Texas Medical Center
Texas Southern University College of Pharmacy & Health Sciences • The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston • The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center

Supporting Institutions

St. Luke’s Health • Prairie View A&M University College of Nursing
Houston Community College, Coleman Campus • Texas Children’s Hospital
LifeGift • Texas Heart Institute • Memorial Hermann Health System

Wide view of the book stacks, open study areas, and the glass-walled study rooms.
BY THE NUMBERS

Collections
- 143,208 book volumes on-site or in off-site storage
- 77,453 e-journal title subscriptions
- 1M+ e-books available
- 339 databases and platforms provided
- Upgraded to JoVE Unlimited
- Added 13 e-books on DEI topics
- Cataloged 115 new dissertations

Supporting Education and Research Activity
- 599 research Consultations
- 44 systematic review projects
- 237 literature searches
- 52 classes for 2,268 attendees
- 10 new YouTube tutorials launched

Questions and Answers
- 3,573 Interlibrary loan items borrowed and received for library users
- 1,868 Interlibrary loan item requests filled for other libraries
- 1,120 questions asked

McGovern Historical Center
- Hosted 184 visitors on-site
- Answered 175 reference questions
- Provided 955 copies or scans of archival materials
- Digitized 370 photos

Digital Commons Repository
- 702 new articles, images, dissertations, and AV submissions (255% increase)
- Final total count of 8,338 articles in the online repository
- Content viewed monthly by 210 countries

Space Uses
- Library open 89 hours each week
- 90,837 on-site visits to the TMC Library
- 3,872 hours of study room bookings
- 1,301 hours of classroom and conference room bookings
- 55 hours of One Button Recording Studio bookings