The 2021-22 academic year was a slow return to normal for our campus and library. As the pandemic finally seemed to release its grip on all of us, it was great to get back to campus on a more regular basis and have the library full of students again. We have learned a great deal these past two years and have needed to adjust to the new normal. We are all more comfortable doing our work in an online environment, but nothing beats the in-person interactions with our wonderful faculty and students.

The Library was finally able to return to 24/7 access for our students this year. We were given the okay to start planning for a renovation of our fourth and fifth floors. We are also planning to add lockers on each floor of the library for our students to use. This has been a long-standing request made by our students over the years. Hopefully, these renovations and additions will be ready for student use in the coming months.

Our historical collections and archives had another fantastic year, with many new historical materials added to the collection. The historical collections and archives help us preserve our university’s rich history and the many accomplishments of our faculty, staff, and students. In addition, our historical collections and archives represent the institutional memory of our university and contribute significantly to campus development efforts and alumni relations. Of particular note is the continued development and growth of our Digital Commons, the UTHSC institutional repository managed by our Library. It provides an exciting new avenue for disseminating UTHSC scholarship and research to a global audience.

We welcomed a new librarian to our team, Annabelle Holt. She replaces Kay Strahan, who went back home to Arkansas. We were very sorry to see Kay leave but are extremely excited to have Annabelle join our team! Our librarians have continued their excellent work in the national, regional, and local Library professional organizations. They chaired and participated in numerous committees and panels. They also contributed many presentations, posters, and publications to the profession. It was an excellent year for our librarians and staff!

In closing, I am, as always, grateful for the dedication and efforts of our terrific library faculty and staff at the UTHSC Health Sciences Library. They have performed at a remarkable level throughout the entire pandemic. They have exceeded all expectations in their dedication, hard work, and willingness to adapt to such difficult circumstances. As always, I must thank our outstanding administration at UTHSC for their unceasing support and encouragement of the Library and our many friends and supporters throughout the UTHSC community. We could not do it all without you, and it has been our pleasure to work with you this past year. We look forward to the new academic year to continue building upon our success and contributing to the university’s mission.

Sincerely,

Dr. Rick Fought
The Library’s Research and Learning Services offices were buzzing with the excitement of new Librarian accomplishments.

During the first quarter of the fiscal year, Tamara Nelson was selected to service on the Journal of the Medical Library Association (JMLA) Editorial Board. JMLA is the premiere journal of health sciences librarians. Hilary Jasmin received the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy Sewell Stipend and also published an article in JMLA. The purpose of the Sewell Stipend is to “increase librarians’ identification with medical, pharmaceutical, and health care professionals.” Additionally, Jenessa McElfresh and Kaitlyn Ritacca were both accepted in the UTHSC Diversity Certificate program.

Across the way, in the Electronic Services and Collections department, eBook acquisitions were underway, and the staff worked to clear out of date books from the library collections.

Upstairs, a little more Zen was unveiled at the Library with the introduction of the meditation room, while the lobby saw the addition of a large chess set to help students unwind for a moment in between intense study session.

SUMMER DAYS

FALLING INTO WINTER

With the days getting shorter, two things were increasing in the UTHSC Library. First, in October, the students were able to indulge in longer study days with 24-hour access returning to the Library. Second, we also saw a spike in LibGuide views thanks to the completion of the Clinical Research Training program.

Collaborating with the Tennessee Clinical and Translational Science Institute (TN-CTST), the library faculty successful delivered the Library Research Training Series for Clinical Researchers across the state. The training series included a series of 11 sessions designed to engage, educate, and support clinical researchers.

The Library celebrated the first of the holidays this quarter by handing out candy for Halloween and wrapped up the winter holidays with a library themed 12 days of Winter Holidays.

Staff members saw accomplishments this quarter: Kaitlyn Ritacca was accepted into the Master of Information Science program at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville, Jacqueline Smith completed the customer service certificate program, and Sarah Thompson won a regional book spine poetry contest from the Network of the National Library of Medicine (NNLM).

UTHSC had a strong showing at the Southern Chapter of the Medical Library Association (SC/MLA) meeting with presentations and our very own Tamara Nelson winning SC/MLA Academic Librarian of the Year 2021.

BY THE #S
CLINICAL RESEARCH TRAINING IMPACT

147 SYNCHRONOUS ATTENDEES
11 SESSIONS
154 ASYNCHRONOUS ATTENDEES
When the calendar rolled over to 2022, the Library was rocking with activity and a sense of newness to rival the new calendar year. There were two student events during this quarter in which students were offered hundreds of snacks.

One of the biggest additions to the UTHSC Library was a new database, VisualDx. VisualDx is an award-winning diagnostic clinical decision support system designed to enhance diagnostic accuracy, aid therapeutic decisions, and improve patient safety. One of its biggest selling points is that it helps improve health equity by providing students with photos of skin conditions on lighter and darker skin.

We started two new Workshops – Better Data Visualizations offered by Research Data & Scholarly Communication Lead, Jess Newman, and Introduction to Embase, offered by Research and Learning Services Librarian, Hilary Jasmin.

Jasmin had several accomplishments over the quarter. Her excellent work for the College of Pharmacy (COP) earned her a dual faculty appointment as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Clinical Pharmacy and Translational Science. In addition to her work with the COP, she has been selected for the Medical Library Association’s (MLA) Rising Stars Program for 2022-2023. Only four early-career librarians are selected annually for this national program! The Rising Stars program “gives members the opportunity to develop skills, knowledge, and personal characteristics needed to become a leader in MLA.”

In the summer students started filing out for summer breaks and Librarians also ventured out of the Library to the first in-person Medical Library Association conference since 2019. While there, UTHSC Librarians presented five different projects, including topics ranging from virtual reference to systematic reviews. Tamara Nelson led a panel discussion on the mentor-mentee relationship. Jess Newman discussed “The Impact of Open Access Publishing on Altmetric Indicators.” The librarians also collaborated on a paper on the training series for clinical researchers, that launched in October.

It wasn’t just the Librarians who received awards and accolades this quarter. The Evenings and Weekends Assistants, Alicia Sanders and Delores Johnson, completed the UTHSC Customer Service and Relations Certificate program!

The second and third week of June the Library hosted a high school student intern, Eliana Sandy, for two weeks. Just days before the end of the fiscal year, we welcomed a new Research and Learning Services Librarian and College of Dentistry liaison, Annabelle Holt.
HEALTH SCIENCES HISTORICAL COLLECTIONS

The Health Sciences Historical Collections built upon the previous year’s growth in historical research requests. Requests for 2021-2022 totaled 111, a 25% increase from 2020-2021 (which itself had a 39% increase from 2019-2020).

As in-person events slowly began resuming, HSHC continued its support of Alumni Affairs events through providing supporting historical photos and memorabilia as well as curating on-site exhibits tailored for specific alumni groups. New collections of UTHSC photographs, documents, and memorabilia were received through private donations and accessions funded by the Simon Bruesch Endowment Fund.

Archivist and Special Collections Librarian Jennifer Langford concluded her term as Chair of the Society of American Archivists’ Science Technology and Health Care Section and was appointed to the SAA 2023 Program Committee.

HSHSC provided digital images and curated a physical exhibit to present at the Methodist Hospital Training School for Nurses reunion weekend at the Mooney Library.

One of the year’s new donations is a collection of photos and memorabilia of 1899 UT Nashville Medical Department graduate Bruce McCubbins. Dr. McCubbins is second from the left in this anatomy class photo.

HSHC reclaimed this impressive portrait of Dr. Phillip Schmeisser from a local estate sale. Dr. Schmeisser founded UTHSC’s Clinical Laboratory Science Program in 1922. We’re thrilled to have this portrait back in our collection!

DIGITAL COMMONS

Digital Commons is the UTHSC Institutional Repository. Managed by the Library, it disseminates UTHSC scholarship and research to a global audience.

CHECK IT OUT AT DC.UTHSC.EDU

85,958 DOWNLOADS DURING THE 2021-2022 YEAR

191 COUNTRIES ACCESSED RESEARCH

118 NEW WORKS ADDED

4,637 INSTITUTIONS

ALL AROUND THE WORLD The map below shows global downloads of UTHSC research for the 2021-2022 year.
Presentations


- Langford, J.M.; Watts, G.R. “Riding the Wave: Getting Faculty on Board with the IR during the Pandemic” Presentation, Medical Institutional Repositories in Libraries Symposium. (November 2021)


Publications


- Jasmin, H., Hohmeier, K., Spivey, C. Implementation of the cognitive apprenticeship model for enhancement of advanced searching skills in a pharmacy academia rotation. Accepted for publication to Journal of the Medical Library Association January 2022


Throughout the year the UTHSC Library was able to add three new database resources and numerous eBooks. One of these was none other than VisualDx.

VisualDx is an award-winning diagnostic clinical decision support system designed to enhance diagnostic accuracy, aid therapeutic decisions, and improve patient safety. Features include the world’s best curated medical image library; smart search for chief complaints, diagnoses, and drug reactions; and custom patient-specific differential diagnosis builder.

The Library held a launch of the platform on February 9 with 147 attendees showing up to learn more about this new-to-UTHSC resource from VisualDx rep Amanda Moscicki. She discussed the exciting features of VisualDx and answered the audience’s questions. More than 400 library patrons explored VisualDx’s diverse information during the initial campus launch.

“Towards the end of the launch, some of our patients at the reception were curious about the capabilities of VisualDx. I showed them the features such as the world’s best curated medical image library and the custom patient-specific differential diagnosis builder. They were impressed by how easy it is to use and how effective it is in improving diagnostic accuracy and patient safety.”

The database provides users with an unrivaled medical image library that allows you to view skin symptoms on both darker and lighter skin. This is a task that Dr. Linda Pifer, professor in the UTHSC Department of Diagnostics and Health Sciences, describes as time-intensive, saying, “I used to have to spend hours going through Google and everywhere to find an appropriate image that would translate to people of color.” VisualDx also includes x-rays, MRI and other medical images alongside the overview of each condition.

In May 2022, the Library added PsychiatryOnline Premium to their list of databases. PsychiatryOnline Premium provides online access to a rich, well-rounded collection of psychiatry and psychology books. This comprehensive collection covers diagnosis and differential diagnosis, case vignettes to bring abstract concepts to life, multidisciplinary treatment guidelines, as well as the latest research—all within a single search and navigation interface that integrates journals and books.

This resource also includes access to the latest versions of the DSM.

“The key to the DSM is that it is one unique you. It is comprehensive and includes the latest research. It is user friendly and easy to use.”

All of these fabulous resources don’t just appear. It takes the hard work of the Electronic & Collection Services department to make them accessible to our patrons. Between working with different companies to set up our accounts, to cataloging, to interlibrary loan, to working through technical difficulties, you wouldn’t be able to access any of these databases, ebooks, journals, and more without the hard work of this often behind-the-scenes crew.

Jess Newman is leading the way in Research Data Management service development including leading a search for an Assessment and Data Services Librarian.

Dr. Linda Pifer
Virology, Parasitology

RICH WITH REFERENCE

NEW EBOOKS ADDED TO OUR COLLECTION

375

The key to the DSM
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THE TEAM THAT MAKES IT HAPPEN

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ORCID provides a persistent digital identifier (an ORCID iD) that you own and control to distinguish you from every other researcher. The institutional membership makes it much easier for UTHSC researchers to integrate all of their scholarship under one standard ID.

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