

Libora

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Leveraging a Strong Foundation

Dear Alumni and Friends,

THERE IS NO DOUBT THAT WE ARE LIVING THROUGH EXTRAORDINARY TIMES. As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, the University of Chicago has shifted entirely to remote teaching and learning for Spring Quarter, Library buildings have closed until further notice, and our staff members have immersed themselves in providing the online services and resources that will best serve our students and faculty in evolving circumstances. This has greatly impacted how we engage and communicate with the whole UChicago community, including you, our donors and friends. Our spring newsletter, for example, is being sent to you digitally rather than in print so that it can reflect our most current understanding of the situation at hand.

In these challenging times, I am proud to be able to assure our faculty, students, and staff that wherever they are, the Library is with them. The Library's Center for Digital Scholarship, launched in 2017 with generous support from donors, enables the acquisition, management and analysis of data, opens access to electronic resources, and facilitates online collaboration. Over the past few months, this Center has given librarians a strong foundation to quickly leverage resources in new formats, new methods, and new media. We have been rapidly purchasing ebooks, building online course reserves, expanding the hours of our "Ask a Librarian" service responsively, and creating new instructional support for digital scholarship.

We have also been increasing access to digital collections through a wide variety of collaborations. As a member of the HathiTrust

collaborative, we have been able to participate in the Emergency Temporary Access program, which allows faculty and students access to digitized books that are still in copyright if our Library holds a copy in print. Access to approximately 40% of our print monographs is being provided electronically in this way.

Librarians have also monitored publishers and databases and developed a resource guide listing the expanded and upgraded access that was made available in response to this crisis. And we offer a rich array of digitized collections from our Special Collections, the University Archives, the Map Library, and general collections to the world. As we move further into this online space, our librarians are providing remote library instruction to student groups and classes, including programs on our digital collections and developing effective online research skills.

We cannot know exactly how this pandemic will unfold, but we do know that we are building on our strengths as we face this moment and the ones to come. We are committed to rising to the challenges that COVID-19 and a period of remote learning present. I remain optimistic for our future and am grateful to know that I work alongside world-class professionals, with the skills, resilience and ingenuity to rise to the occasion and tackle the most



Brenda L. Johnson, Library Director and University Librarian

difficult of challenges.

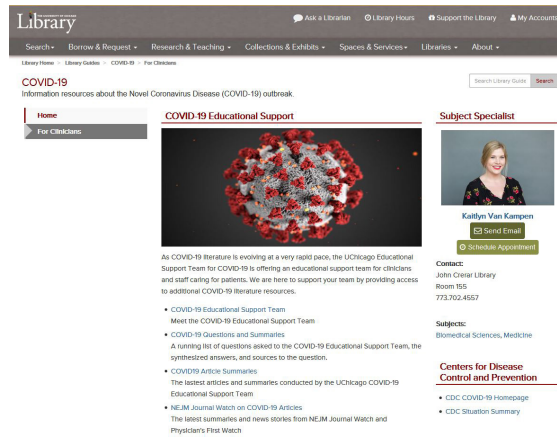
If you are wondering how you can make a difference, I encourage you to consider a contribution to the Library's Annual Fund. Our ability to facilitate access to ebooks, online publications and scholarly materials is, in no small part, made possible by the generosity of our donors. As faculty and students reach out to the Library for support from homes around the world, your philanthropy is more meaningful and takes on added significance in these challenging times. Thank you so much, in advance.

give.uchicago.edu/library

With heartfelt gratitude,

Brenda L. Johnson
Library Director and University Librarian

Librarian Leads UChicago Educational Support Team for COVID-19



FAR LEFT: Kaitlyn Van Kampen (second from left) working with medical students and residents at Mitchell Hospital early this year.

LEFT: The COVID-19 library guide

Doctors, medical students and librarians collaborate to share the latest research on COVID-19 with clinicians on the front lines

BY KAITLYN VAN KAMPEN AND AMBER CULLEN

ONLY A FEW WEEKS AFTER HER ARRIVAL at the University of Chicago, **Kaitlyn Van Kampen** began leading an interdisciplinary team gathering cutting-edge research for doctors battling COVID-19.

Hired as the Kathleen A. Zar Clinical Library Resident, Van Kampen joined the Library in January and then began to work with the Medical Center in February, **expanding the embedded clinical librarian rounding** to general surgery, pediatrics, neurology, the mother-baby unit, and general internal medicine. For each team, she provided research support to investigate clinical questions and demonstrated to the residents and students how to perform searches to find the best evidence.

Then the novel coronavirus started to spread in Chicago. All non-essential personnel were withdrawn from rounding activities. Van Kampen shifted focus to instead produce COVID-19 resources, including a **COVID-19 library guide** on the library's website for the general public. In collaboration with infectious disease Fellow, Dr. Maggie Collison, a website



Kaitlyn Van Kampen, Kathleen A. Zar Clinical Library Resident

for hospital clinicians with prominent journal articles and other resources relevant to medical teams was subsequently developed. These articles were then cross-posted to the COVID-19 library guide.

As the amount of literature being published increased dramatically, Van Kampen, Collison, and Debra Werner, the Library's Director of Library Research in Medical Education, were asked by hospital leadership to perform literature reviews and provide reliable resources for clinicians. Very quickly, this team evolved into the UChicago Educational Support Team for COVID-19, adding five fourth-year medical students and an internal medicine intern, and sponsored by Associate Chief Medical Officer for Clinical Learning Environment, Dr. Vineet Arora. The team's focus was expanded to support frontline clinicians across the organization who were treating or evaluating patients for COVID-19, including in the special "COVID" units that cohorted patients with COVID-19.

Led by Van Kampen, the team's current principal functions are to answer clinical questions about COVID-19 and to summarize important COVID-19 literature. They also play a major role supporting conferences and ongoing collaborations including one between UChicago Medicine's infectious disease team and their counterparts

at Wuhan University. To ensure the vital work of the team will continue, it has been approved to become a medical school selective course starting this May for upcoming fourth-year Pritzker students.

The impact of the UChicago Educational Support Team for COVID-19 extends beyond UChicago Medicine. They have been contacted by universities around the nation about their methods for collaborating and sharing their materials. Librarians from Northwestern University and Thomas Jefferson University have requested use of the website for hospital clinicians and its literature resources. An Emergency Department resident from Brown University requested support in establishing a similar team at their hospital.

While the COVID-19 pandemic required our librarians to physically distance themselves from patients and our hospital staff, it has also inspired them to discover new ways to engage with a worldwide health crisis and to make vital contributions to patient care and to COVID-19 education at UChicago Medicine.

The team would like to thank the medical trainees who serve on the team and the support of Dr. Stephen Weber, Chief Medical Officer, the Hospital Incident Command System leadership, and the UChicago Medicine clinical staff serving on the frontlines.