Research and Information Services

The Research and Information Services Team strives to meet the educational, clinical, and research needs of the Feinberg School of Medicine community. Read on to learn more about how we can support the information needs of you, your program, or your department.

Liaison Librarians

Are you looking for the liaison librarian for your department, center, or program? Find out who to contact for personal librarian support.

The Research and Information Services Team

Click a name to find out more about that team member's interests and responsibilities. If you don't know who you should contact for your particular need, find the liaison librarian assigned to your department, see the list of services on this page, or email the Research and Information Services Team directly.

- Linda O'Dwyer: Head, Research & Information Services, Email Linda or call (312) 503-8128
- Molly Beestrum: Education and Curriculum Coordinator, Email Molly or call (312) 503-4508
- Corinne Miller: Clinical Informationist, Email Corinne or call 312-503-5459
- Jonna Peterson: Senior Clinical Informationist, Email Jonna or call (312) 503-5431
- Pamela Shaw: Biosciences & Bioinformatics Librarian, Email Pamela or call (312) 503-8689
- Q. Eileen Wafford: Research Librarian, Email Eileen or call (312) 503-5294
- Annie Wescott: Research Librarian, Email Annie or call (312) 503-0397

Literature Searches and Systematic Review Support

The library offers several search assistance models, depending on your needs.

Search consultations: If you’re about to embark on a research project and would like some tips on which databases you should use or how best to phrase your search terminology, then contact us to arrange a search consultation. Search consultations are particularly useful for individuals beginning a literature review in support of a funding proposal or for those who are beginning a systematic review and don’t feel comfortable working with search terminology and databases beyond MEDLINE. We can help you develop a search strategy that fits your needs.

Systematic review support: Many people are familiar with MEDLINE/PubMed but don’t have experience drafting comprehensive searches or searching other databases recommended for systematic reviews. Galter librarians have worked on review teams and are happy to collaborate with you to plan and execute searches for your systematic review. Galter
Librarians have been named as co-authors on Feinberg publications due to their efforts in conducting complex searches for systematic reviews and guidelines. For more information, see our Systematic Review Guide or contact Linda O'Dwyer.

For literature search assistance, contact us in one of two ways:

- Fill out the Ask a Librarian form
- Call the Reference Desk at (312) 503-8109

There is no charge for literature searches performed for currently-affiliated FSM faculty, staff, students, and residents. Alumni with in-depth literature or historical research needs may be charged an hourly rate for library services. Please fill out the Ask a Librarian form to request details.

Library Workshops and Training By Request

The Galter Library offers monthly classes in PubMed, EndNote, and more.

See our current class schedule | See our list of research guides

If you cannot attend a regularly-scheduled class, you can set up an individual training appointment with one of our librarians. If you need help with software, such as EndNote, or would like to know more about how to use our various resources, contact us to arrange a personal, customizable training session. We can also conduct training for your department or group at your Chicago campus office or in the library’s computer classroom.

Contact us at (312) 503-8109 or email Galter Research and Information Services.

Bioinformatics and Basic Sciences Support and Collaboration

Librarians can partner with basic sciences faculty and researchers to provide timely access to relevant data and literature resources.

The services we offer include:

- Visiting departments to alert users of new resources
- Directing users to appropriate resources
- Creating subject and program based resource guides
- Assisting with text based search systems
- Scheduling workshops by experts on the use of bioinformatics databases and other research tools

Contact Pamela Shaw, Biosciences & Bioinformatics Librarian at (312) 503-8689, email Pamela, or visit her page for more information.

Curriculum Support

Librarians can work with faculty to integrate information management skills into your course.

We can provide:

- Hands-on sessions
- Demonstrations in the classroom

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Flexibility - we will work with your schedule
Training in library resources such as literature databases and educational software
EBM search skills training

Contact Molly Beestrum, Education and Curriculum Coordinator, to get started.

Residents and Clinical Departments

Clinical Informationists are librarians with specialized training to help residency programs fulfill information competencies as well as provide information management training to your clinical faculty and staff. Each department or program is assigned a liaison librarian. See which librarian has been assigned to your department or program.

Here are some of the services we can offer:

- Search training in Evidence Based Medicine principles
- Informationist participation in morning reports, rounds and other departmental meetings
- Journal club assistance
- Information competencies and outcomes assessment
- Resource recommendations

Research Impact and Metrics Services and Support

The library offers expertise in bibliometrics, data visualization, continuous improvement, information systems and alternative metrics through the Metrics and Impact Core. The core provides extensive advisory services for researchers, groups or departments on topics such as:

- developing successful publishing strategies
- managing or tracking publications
- maintaining an impactful online identity
- measuring or assessing research impact by discipline
- communicating research impact to audiences

Contact Patty Smith, Research Impact Librarian at 312-503-3679, email Patty, or visit the Metrics and Impact Core page for more information.

Historical Research Assistance

The Galter Library is open to Northwestern University faculty, staff members, students, and alumni; however, the Special Collections Reading Room is open to all scholars who wish to use the Library's historical materials. Please contact us prior to coming to the Library for information on how to access the collection. We can be reached at 312-503-8133, by email, or by U.S. mail: 303 East Chicago Avenue, Chicago, IL 60611.

Reference and research services are available in person and by telephone, email, or postal service. Services are generally available 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, preferably by appointment.