

# BUILDING ON STRONG FOUNDATIONS

BERNARD BECKER MEDICAL LIBRARY  
FY2019 ANNUAL REPORT

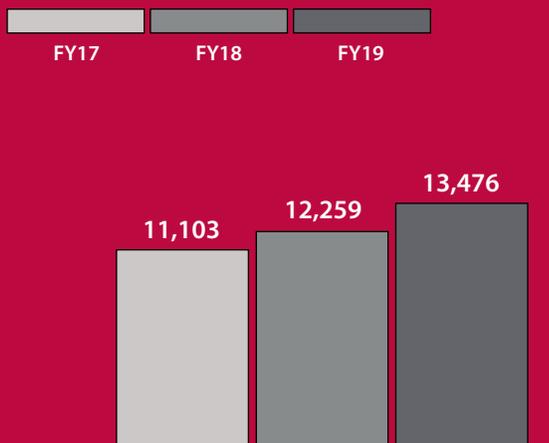


Washington University in St. Louis

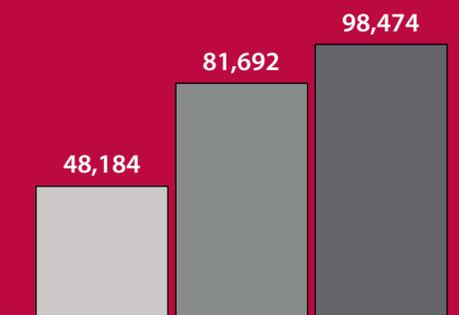
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SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

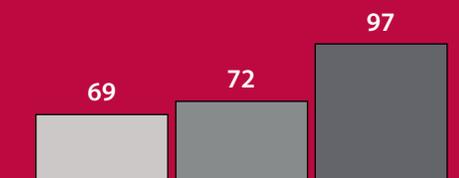
# Snapshots: Use of Becker Library Resources and Services



Digital Commons@Becker:  
Total Items in Repository



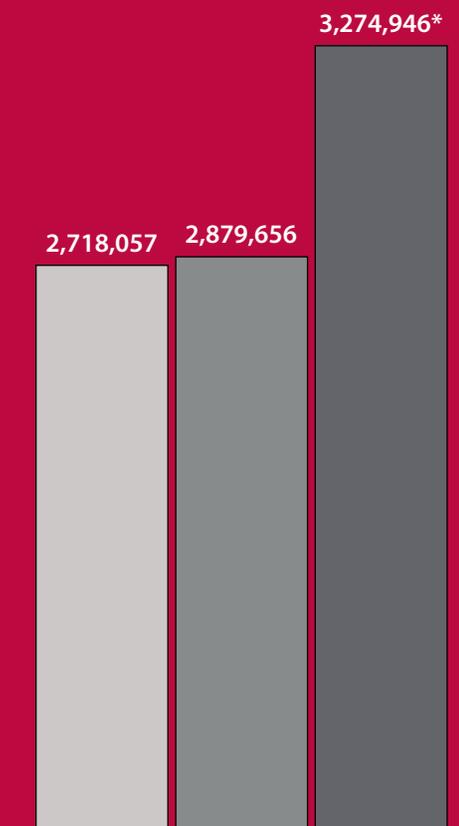
Becker Guides Views



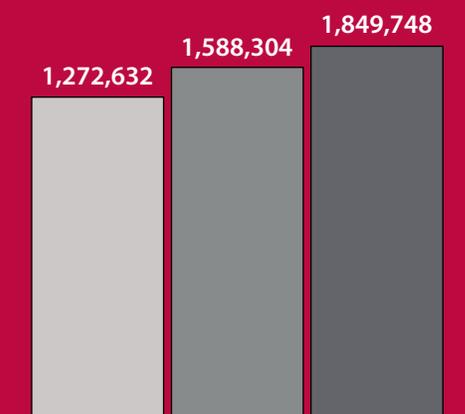
Systematic Review Packets Completed



Digital Commons@Becker:  
Number of Collections



E-journal Downloads



Digital Commons@Becker:  
All-time total downloads

\* Beginning in the FY19 report, e-journal usage includes archival and back file items, whereas previously only currently subscribed-to items were included, accounting for the increase.

# Average Daily Use of Becker Library in FY19

**459**

becker.wustl.edu visits



**6**

askbecker@wustl.edu  
query answers



**7**

Book/item checkouts



**1,321**

E-book downloads



**8,972**

E-journal downloads



**4**

Items borrowed  
from other libraries



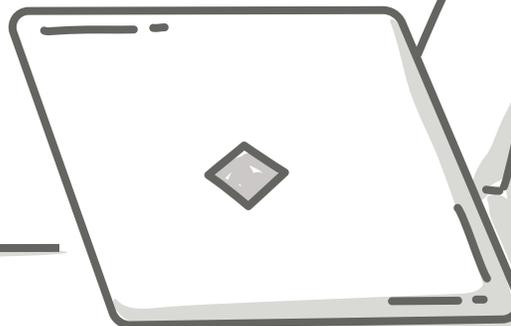
**269**

Becker Guides views



**716**

Digital Commons  
downloads

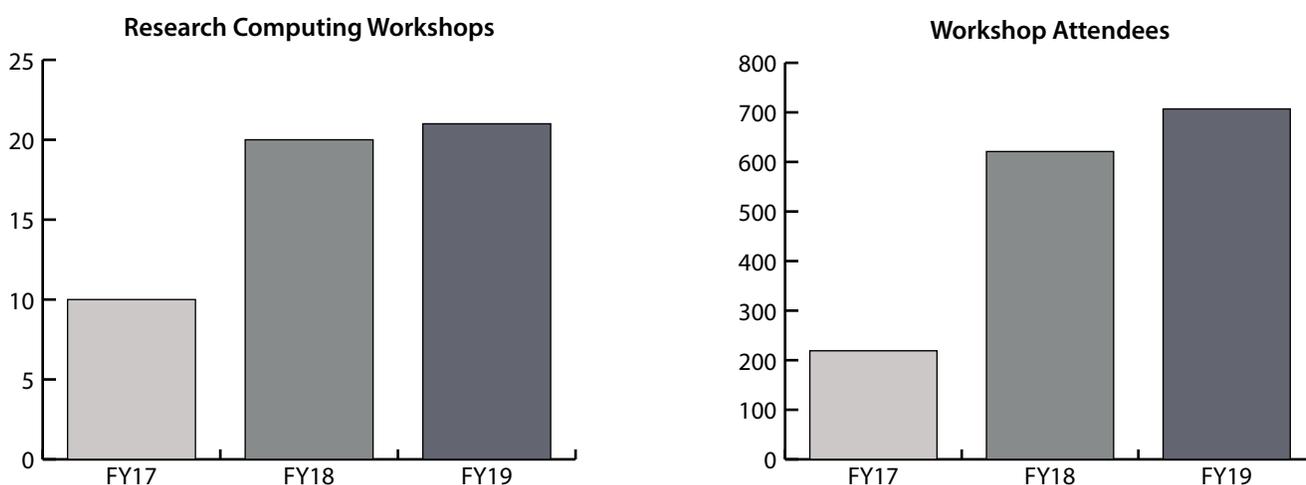


# Accelerating Research

*Our primary focus is supporting a cutting-edge research university with innovative tools and services.*

## Research Computing

Biomedical researchers increasingly need basic programming skills to conduct their research. In response to this evolving landscape, Becker Library continues to partner with the Center for High Performance Computing and the Institute for Informatics to organize and teach hands-on workshops covering a variety of research computing topics, including Python, R, UNIX, cluster computing basics, and MATLAB. Workshop attendees include faculty, staff, students and trainees, representing several departments at the School of Medicine. Workshop statistics from the past three fiscal years demonstrate the demand for education in this area and are pictured below.



## Data Management and Sharing

In partnership with the Institute for Informatics, Becker Library recently hired a new senior support scientist to provide training and services in the areas of data management and sharing. These new educational offerings and support programs will roll out in FY20 and include providing assistance to researchers as they construct data management plans for grants, share data associated with their published findings, and learn to collect and manage their data in the university's institutional instance of the Research Electronic Data Capture (REDCap) research tool.

## Author & Publishing Support

Becker Library support for School of Medicine authors continues to be an expansive core service area utilized by virtually every user group on campus - graduate and medical students, post-docs, investigators at all stages of their careers, clinicians, and support staff. The library provides guidance and crafts programs and services on a wide variety of topics including:

- Copyright – Copyright transfer agreements, copyright for software, how to protect content from being re-used without permission, use of materials created under work-for-hire, fair use, Creative Commons license information, the use of images in publications, and obtaining permissions.

- DOIs, authorship roles, and the use of ORCID.
- Correction of names in databases.
- Publishing options for authors.
- Use of data repositories for supplemental data.
- How to handle course materials with identifiable patient information.



*Most popular Becker Guide:  
Selecting a Journal for Publication  
(18,595 views in FY19)*

In FY19, interest continued to increase in assistance with selecting a journal for publication. In addition to the presentations library staff have developed, a Selecting a Journal for Publication resource guide continues to be a popular source for information on this topic with over 18,000 views just in the past fiscal year.

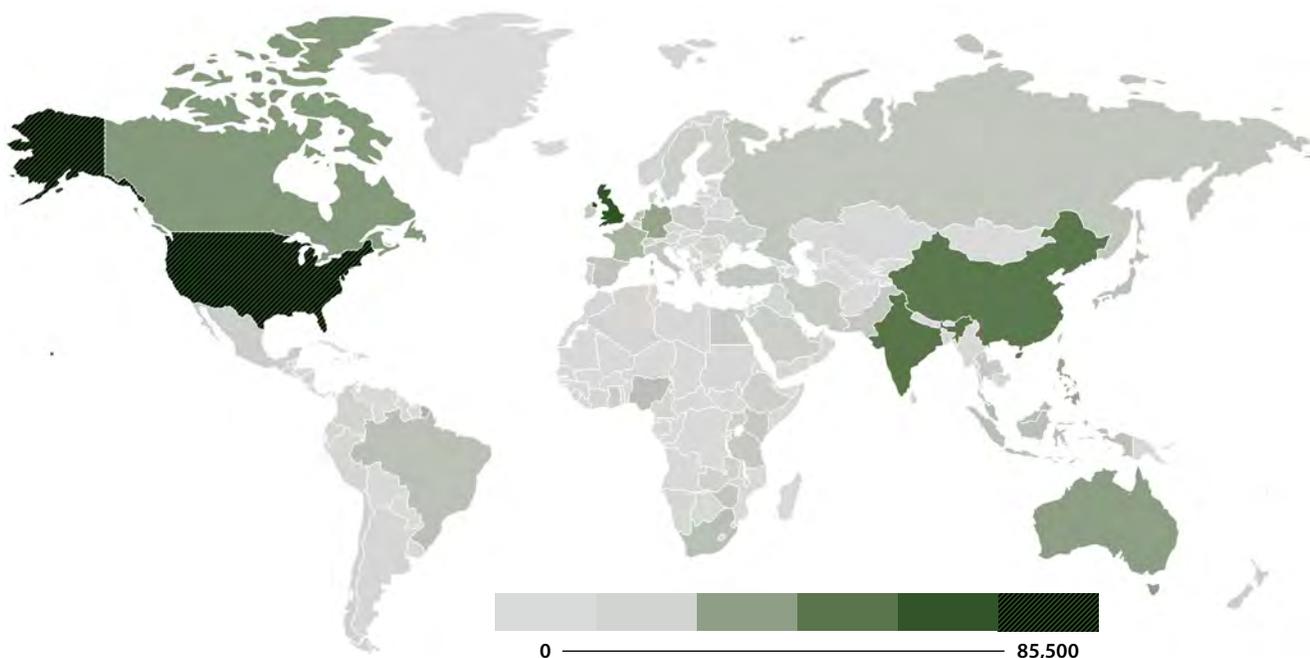
Other trends in the area of author and publication support include identifying the top School of Medicine authors in specific areas of medicine to use for funding or collaboration efforts, an increasing interest in how to facilitate a dynamic listing of publications on a departmental website, and methods for longitudinal tracking of trainees.

The library's Research and Publishing Support Team have also developed a number of live presentations on topics of interest to the School of Medicine community including the NIH Public Access Policy, NIH Biosketch and SciENcv, ORCID, My Bibliography, selecting a journal for publication, grant preparation resources, and NCBI Tools. These presentations continue to be in great demand and have been attended by over 200 faculty, staff and students during the past year.

#### DIGITAL COMMONS@BECKER

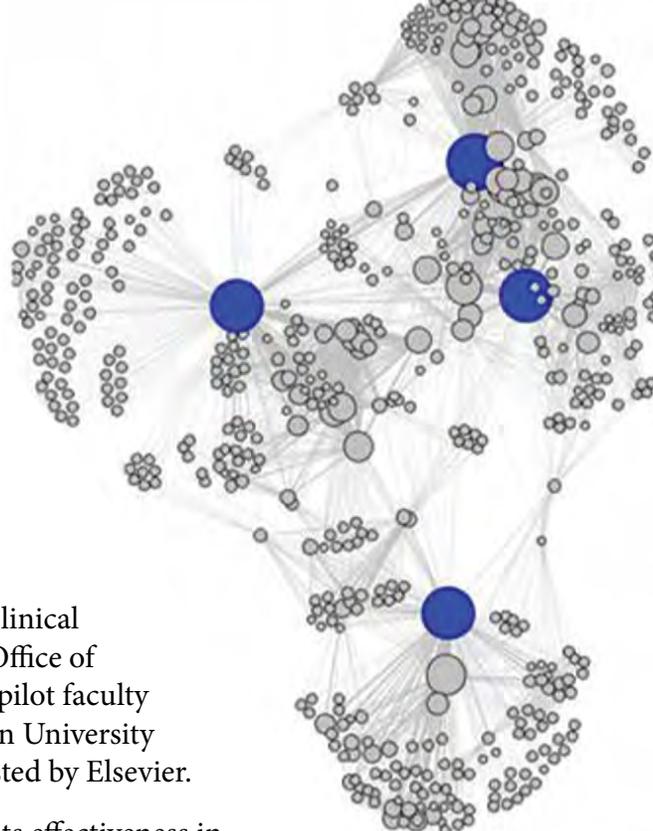
The digital repository for the School of Medicine continues to feature a wide variety of content and media types from across the campus. During the past year, 261,444 items were downloaded from Digital Commons@Becker, making the total number of items downloaded since its launch in 2010 approximately 1.85 million.

**Digital Commons@Becker Downloads by Country in FY19**



## Research Analytics & Impact Evaluation

Over 50 impact and evaluation reports for departments, programs, administrative groups and faculty were completed during FY19. This also included a number of visualized reports such as choropleth geographic maps that display worldwide co-authorship patterns, co-author network maps that display collaboration among authors, and word clouds that display topics to demonstrate trends or areas of expertise.



Co-author network.  
Sci2 Team, 2009,  
(<http://sci2.cns.iu.edu>)

## PROFILES AT WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

A major collaboration between Becker Library, the Institute of Clinical and Translational Sciences (ICTS), and the School of Medicine Office of the Dean was the implementation and launch in April 2019 of a pilot faculty profile and research information platform, Profiles at Washington University School of Medicine. It uses the Pure platform developed and hosted by Elsevier.

The platform is being piloted through October 2019 to evaluate its effectiveness in facilitating research, discovery and collaboration at the School of Medicine. Becker Library has formed a project support team to work with Elsevier on implementation, data quality assurance, promotion, answering questions, and gathering feedback for ICTS and the dean.

## ICTS TRACKING AND EVALUATION TEAM

Becker librarians continued to serve on the ICTS Tracking and Evaluation Team and provide support on a variety of projects. The website for the Translational Science Benefits Model (TSBM), a framework for assessing the health and societal benefits of clinical and translational sciences, launched in January 2019 at [translationalsciencebenefits.wustl.edu](http://translationalsciencebenefits.wustl.edu), and drew over 200 unique visitors by the fiscal year-end.

Becker Library is the lead for developing the case studies used to provide a contextual narrative to illustrate the TSBM. Three new case studies were developed in conjunction with the website launch, with two additional case studies added as of June 2019. Other case studies are in progress by Becker Library. These case studies were viewed more than 130 times between launch and fiscal year-end.

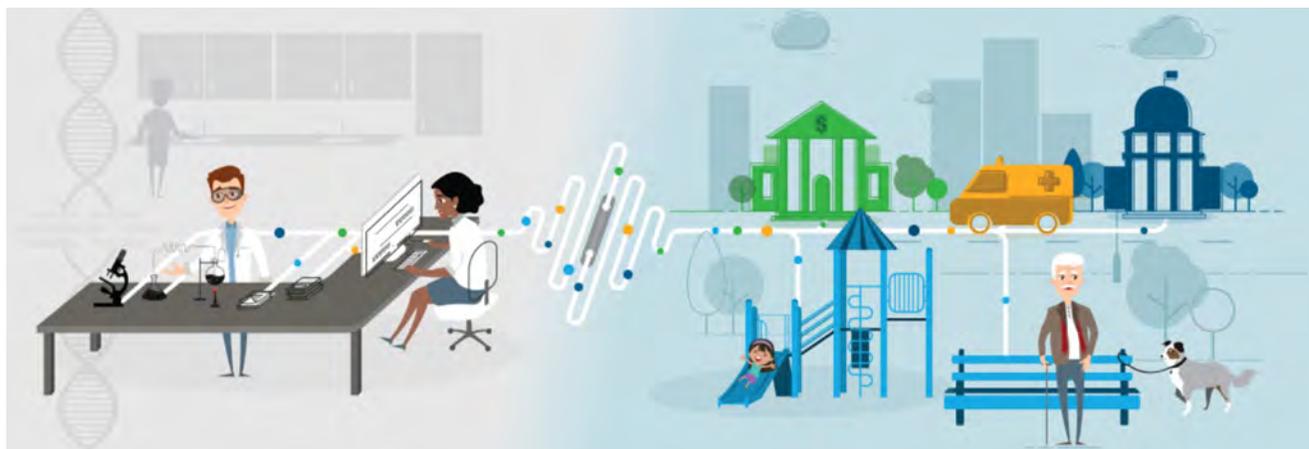


Image from [translationalsciencebenefits.wustl.edu](http://translationalsciencebenefits.wustl.edu) illustrating how research goes from the lab to real-life applications.

## Systematic Reviews



*Six librarians were named co-authors on 13 systematic reviews published in FY19.*

As the publication of systematic reviews continues to rise, so does the demand for systematic review support from Becker librarians. From 2014 to 2019, librarians were co-authors on over 40 systematic reviews covering a wide range of clinical topics from assisted reproduction to opioid alternatives. In FY19 alone, librarians spent over 1,000 hours completing 97 reviews.

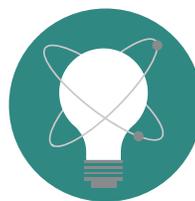
Sixteen medical librarians from around the United States and Canada attended Becker Library's fourth annual offering of "Designing Search Strategies for Systematic Reviews." This two-day workshop is designed to instruct librarians about best methods and practices for creating reproducible systematic review search strategies. Feedback from course participants was very positive with all agreeing they would recommend the workshop to a colleague.

## Enriching Teaching

*We train students to be thorough and agile researchers who can lead in the age of the physician-scientist.*

### Clinical Informatics Fellowship Program

The Institute for Informatics' Clinical Informatics Fellowship Program provides training required for board certification in clinical health informatics. The 2019 year-long program included a Becker library rotation along with pathology and radiology informatics, clinical decision support, and clinical genomics. Becker staff provided curriculum on licensing, evidence-based practice, taxonomies, information technology and clinical information resources.



## #SciCommThursdays

A monthly series about **Communicating Your Science**.

The library's partnership with the Institute of Clinical and Translational Sciences (ICTS) continued for a second academic year in hosting this monthly series on the importance of effectively communicating science and research. Over 100 attendees heard presentations on a wide variety of topics including visual communication techniques, designing prevention messages for the public, communicating genetic test results and promoting work through social media.

## Feuerstein Health & Wellness Information Center

The Irwin M. and Laura J. Feuerstein Health & Wellness Information Center officially opened with a dedication ceremony in October 2018, thanks to the alumni couple's generosity.

Located on the first floor of Bernard Becker Medical Library, the center is a campus resource for the Washington University community providing access to printed and electronic health information and promoting programs and campus events on wellness and healthy living to benefit staff, students and faculty.

The library is collaborating with Washington University's Human Resources Wellness Connection program and the Center for Families Resource Library at St. Louis Children's Hospital to build the collection of books and other print materials, and promote wellness resources and programs available on campus.



*Laura and Irwin Feuerstein with library director Paul Schoening at the October 2018 ribbon cutting, and various views of the center.*

## DBBS Resource Portal

When the Division of Biology & Biomedical Sciences (DBBS) curriculum and research faculty needed a practical, sustainable method for curating education resources, Becker librarians offered a solution by creating an easy-to-use web guide ([beckerguides.wustl.edu/dbbs](http://beckerguides.wustl.edu/dbbs)) for faculty and students.

The portal contains videos, teaching tools, and e-resources for computer coding, laboratory techniques, and science/grant writing. It is a collaborative work-in-progress between DBBS and Becker Library.

## Health Communication Training in WUSM Education Programs

The library's health communication specialist is now included as an annual lecturer in the curriculum schedule for medical doctor and physical therapy students, and, beginning in FY19, occupational therapy doctoral students.

In these sessions, students are introduced to basic health literacy principles, strategies for clearly communicating with patients, and tactics for creating or selecting appropriate health education materials.

# Strengthening Patient Care

*We bring expertise and thoughtfully curated resources to clinicians at the point of decision-making.*

## Clinical Support

Becker librarians participate in teaching rounds at both Barnes-Jewish Hospital and St. Louis Children's Hospital, providing information services that save physicians' time. Librarians are able to quickly find answers to facilitate real-time patient care on a Barnes-Jewish internal medicine hospitalist service. They are part of a team that includes hospitalists, residents, medical students and pharmacists.



*Becker's clinical rounding service has been informing bedside decisions since 2015.*

Follow-up is provided for more complex inquiries and delivered to a shared WUSTL Box folder. Librarians update physicians on available medical mobile apps and other quality information resources.

Becker's librarian at Children's Hospital works with chief residents to determine the rounding teams' needs. Some prefer that the librarian finds answers to patient issues on the fly and others prefer for residents or students to formulate a question to work through with the librarian.

Rounding librarians also teach evidence-based medicine techniques and assist with journal club article selection.

## Supporting Families

Becker Library continues its longstanding partnership with the St. Louis Children's Hospital Center for Families Resource Library.

Working alongside Children's Hospital nursing professionals, Becker Library's consumer health librarian provided health information services, prepared and delivered education materials to patients and their families, and represented Becker Library and the Center for Families at community outreach events.

Highlights from the past year include:

- Processing over 1,500 requests for information.
- Working as part of a team with nursing staff to introduce patients and their families to the OneView information and education system now being installed in patient rooms.
- Expanding an "inter-library loan" program with the Children's Hospital Specialty Care Center to include the psychology department and more books for the Nurse Navigator.
- Presenting to the St. Louis Special School District Agency Collaboration Meeting to share resources with other community agencies.
- Presenting consumer health resources at the St. Louis County Library Tech Expo.

## EVIDENCE-BASED PRACTICE SUPPORT

A Becker librarian is a member of the Barnes-Jewish Hospital Evidence-Based Practice (EBP) committee and co-instructor for the EBP fellowship program conducted annually by the Department of Research for Patient Care Services.

A librarian led the redesign project for the Evidence Equals Excellence course, which is a prerequisite for the six-month fellowship program. The course's learning objectives include basic EBP elements, instruction on question formulation and information-seeking skills. During the EBP fellowship, the librarian provides hands-on personalized assistance to fellows for their specific projects and continues to support both mentors and students throughout the program.

Many EBP projects become published papers or conference presentations. More importantly, they are translated to a nursing unit for improved patient care policies or procedures in areas such as safety, patient monitoring, critical care, workplace violence and readmission factors.

## Health Communication

In FY19, Becker Library's health communication services were in high demand. Projects included:

- Consulting with the Human Research Protection Office and editing a National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases consent document for a multi-site research project.
- Reviewing and editing a new survey instrument for a virology study on HIV/AIDS patients.
- Reviewing and editing a conference poster for a physical therapy doctoral student.
- Reviewing and editing recruitment material and study instruments for a pediatric psychiatry study.
- Creating a list of health literacy resources and consulting on projects for dermatology students.
- Organizing and hosting a Wikipedia "Edit-a-Thon" event for Rare Disease Day.

Approximately 300 attendees from across the medical campus attended sessions on health communication topics. Sessions focused on a range of issues, including social media and health care, health literacy and media literacy, elevator pitches, and interviewing tips.

## Preserving the History of Medicine

*We conserve and retain a renowned collection of rare books and archival material for posterity.*

## Serving Scholars of History

The library's significant archival and rare book collections were well-used in FY19, with 2,074 items requested by patrons. Two travel scholarships were awarded in FY19. Of note, Jaipreet Virdi, professor of history at the University of Delaware, came to research the Hallowell Davis Collection and Central Institute for the Deaf Collection in preparation for her book on hearing impairment research programs.

A generous donation will allow users to more easily identify and access the archival collections through a new archives database. Public release will not occur until FY20, but FY19 included significant preparatory work for migrating data to the new archives management software, Access to Memory.

## Major Acquisitions

In FY19, Becker Archives added 32 accessions. Of note are the papers of Teresa J. Vietti, former professor of pediatrics at the School of Medicine, and the papers of William H. Danforth, former professor of medicine, vice chancellor for medical affairs, and chancellor of Washington University.

Rare books acquisitions during FY19 included six pamphlets, mostly on home remedies used by the lay public in the early modern period, and a monograph, Antonius Novarinus' "Anatomia curiosa" (1681).

## Outreach

In the fall of 2018, Becker Archives and Rare Books began its monthly series, First Fridays @ Becker. On the first Friday of each month, items from the archives and rare books collections highlighting a specific theme are displayed for the public in an informal show-and-tell. These well-attended events increase the community's awareness and enjoyment of Becker Library's special collections.

The rare book librarian developed a new online exhibit, "Stocking the Early Modern Medicine Cabinet" ([beckerehibits.wustl.edu/medicine-cabinet](http://beckerehibits.wustl.edu/medicine-cabinet)), by collecting medicinal remedies found in the rare book collections. Visitors to the online exhibit can explore treatments used by Europeans in the early modern period through an interactive interface.



Images from the archival and rare book collections used in FY19 exhibits.

# BERNARD BECKER MEDICAL LIBRARY

Books, journals and databases

Assistance searching the literature

Clinical support

Systematic reviews

Research computing

Data management and sharing

Publishing and evaluation services

Health literacy and communication services

Special collections

[becker.wustl.edu](http://becker.wustl.edu)

