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Highlighting Health and Diversity: Curating Digital Exhibits to Promote Online Resources Across Cultural Months

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Highlighting Health and Diversity: Curating Digital Exhibits to Promote Online Resources Across Cultural Months

Comments

Presented at the Medical Library Association Annual Meeting in May 2024 in Portland, Oregon.

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INTRODUCTION

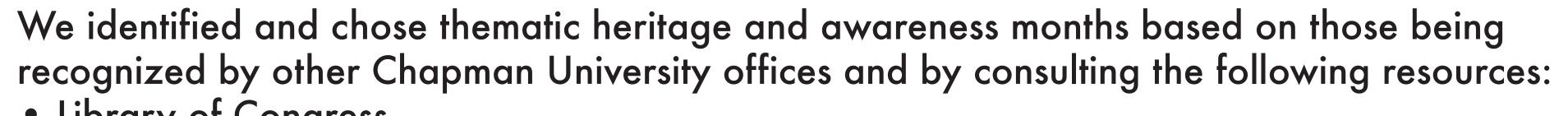
Libraries have increased their efforts to support and promote diversity, equity, and inclusion at their institutions. One method to accomplish this goal is by providing culturally diverse resources and services to support teaching and learning. Medical and health science libraries may find that culturally diverse health resources are rare in existing resources and materials. To highlight the available resources and historical hallmarks, two health science librarians created digital exhibits to promote these available tools across widely recognized thematic cultural heritage and awareness months.

The idea to curate and develop digital exhibits came as an alternative to the physical exhibits being curated at the main library at our institution. While our health science library did not carry a physical collection covering competent healthcare for diverse populations, there were relevant titles in our eBook collections on caring for diverse populations. To further enhance the digital exhibit, we highlighted individuals and historical events that have led to significant achievements or developments in providing quality care to each population, highlighted across cultural months.

We currently have digital exhibits for:

- APIDA Heritage Month
- Black History Month
- Breast Cancer Awareness Month
- Hispanic Heritage Month
- LGBTQ Pride Month
- Native American Heritage Month
- Women's History Month
- World AIDS Day
- World Autism Month

METHODS



- Library of Congress
- The University of Buffalo Office of Inclusive Excellence

Rather than creating a LibGuide or webpage to display the resources, we used Scalar to create an interactive and visually rich exhibit. Scalar is an open-access platform designed for universities to publish long-form scholarly content. The digital exhibits we created included the following elements:

- Cover image
- Introduction to the theme
- eBooks and Journals provided by the library
- Online resources (such as professional organizations, advocacy groups, government websites, and sources for data and statistics)
- Biographical summaries of relevant significant figures
- Timelines of milestones
- Glossaries
- Data visualizations

We found and selected eBooks and journals within our collection by completing keyword searches, limiting to recent publications, and reviewing titles, summaries, table of contents, and authorship to ensure relevance and suitability. We identified additional resources, guidelines, and statistics based on those highlighted by local, state, and federal government websites and reputable professional organizations.

The digital exhibits were marketed to our campus community through:

- Digital signage
- Library newsletters
- Library blog posts
- Social media (e.g., LinkedIn)

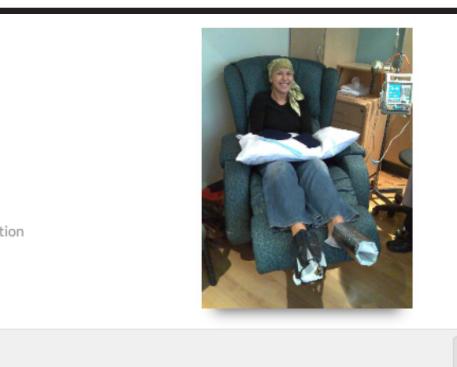


Highlighting Health and Diversity: Curating Digital Exhibits to Promote Online Resources Across Cultural Months Ivan Portillo & David Carson Leatherby Libraries, Chapman University, Irvine, CA

EXHIBIT SAMPLES



Each exhibit has an introudctory image designed by library staff to illustrate a component or symbol from each cutural or health awareness month. These images are also used for outreach and marketing.



1940 - 1949 1940s: Chemotherapy Chemotherapy was introduced as a treatment for cancer. Image Attribution: Jenny Mealing, CC BY 2.0, via Wikimedia Commons

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A Timeline on Breast Cancer Discovery and Treatment

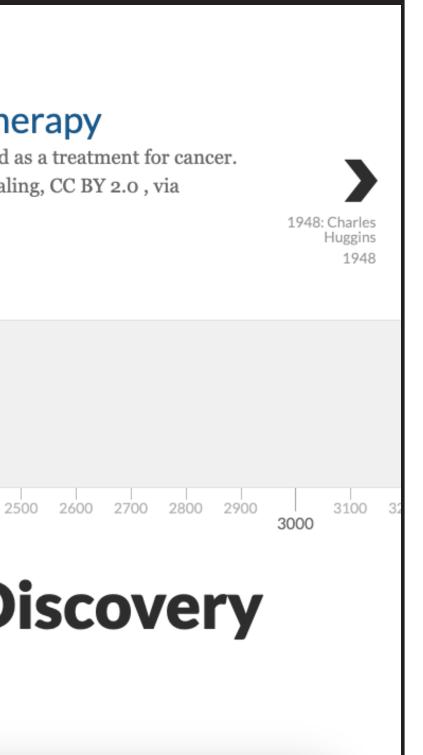
The timeline module in Scalar has helped to illustrate the impact and evolution of diseases covered during health awareness months.

DISCUSSION

The initial implementation of the digital exhibits received positve feedback and praise for highlighing cultural heritage months that weren' being previously celebrated at the Health Science Campus, compared to our counterpart at the main campus. The positive feedback inspired the creation of additional digital exhibits to focus on health awareness months and additional causes currently not being represented at the institution. Faculty have also discovered library resources that may have previously been lost due to our expanding online resources. These resources were not specifically purchased by the Health Science librarians, but were included in our existing subscription packages, while others were discovered through local and federal agencies. Each exhibit needs to be updated annually to ensure that access to online resources are still active while also updating data visualizations to display current statistics.

While we have only received positive feedback, one of the limitations we have found with the use of Scalar for our platform for our exhi is that they don't provide the ability to view statistics for the digital exhibits. The ability to track statistics on views or clicks, would help that we are properly promoting the digital exhibits and which topics are more popular amongst the Health Science campus. Other platforms y be considered in the future that provide similar functionality as Scalar.

The digital exhibits still accomplish our goals of highlighting the library's culturally diverse resources and recognizing cultural heritage and awareness months.



Hispanic Pioneers in Medicine

Hispanic American Pioneers in Medicine



Individuals who have played a critical role in the health care for each culture or disease covered during the month, are highlighted with a brief bio. References are linked to library resources to learn more about the individual.

Organizations and Resources

- Association of American Indian Physician
- California Consortium for Urban Indian Health (CCUI)
- California Rural Indian Health Board (CRIHB)
- CDC American Indians and Alaska Natives High Risk of Flu Complications Infographic CDC and Indian Country Working Together Booklet
- CDC Tribal Health
- CDC National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion: Healthy Tribes
- CDC National Diabetes Prevention Program Indian Health Service (IHS)
- Indian Health Service California Health Programs
- IHS Special Diabetes Program for Indians
- National Indian Health Board
- Native American Caucus of Speech-Language Pathology & Audiology
- NLM Native Voices: Native Peoples' Concepts of Health and Illness
- MedlinePlus American Indian and Alaska Native Health OMH Knowledge Center Online Catalog – AI/AN Health Resources
- SAMHSA Office of Tribal Affairs and Policy
- Urban Indian Health Institute White House Initiative American Indian and Alaska Native Education

Statistics and Research

Local, federal, and professional organizations are listed to provide Handbooks and monographs carried in the library's ebook collections offer faculty and students with information on how to readers with additional resources for further statistics and better treat or support the cultural groups or patients covered in guidelines to help patients and groups highlighted in the month's each month's exhibit. Historical titles that detail the past and key exhibits. individuals are also highlighted in the books list.



Data visualizations are created for exhibits to illustrate impact and stories for certain topics. Statistics are referenced and linked from reputable organizations or government agencies.

 Acquaviva KD. LGBTQ-Inclusive Hospice and Palliative Care: A Practical Guide to Transforming Professional Practice. Harrington Park Press, LLC; 2017. American Academy of Pediatrics Section on Adolescent Health, Michelle F, Joanna DB, Robert TB. AM:STARs LGBTQ Youth: Enhancing Care for Gender and Sexual Minorities: Adolescent Medicine: State of the Art Reviews. Adolescent Medicine: State of the Art Reviews. American Academy of Pediatrics; 2018. Anderson SC. Substance Use Disorders in Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Clients: Assessment and Treatment. Foundations of Social Work Knowledge Series. Columbia University Press; 2009. Douglas K, Tara R, Steven D. Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Aging: Research and Clinical Perspectives. Columbia University Press; 2006. Eliason MJ, Chinn PL. LGBTQ Cultures: What Health Care Professionals Need to Know About Sexual and Gender Diversity. 3rd edition. Wolters Kluwer Health; 2018. Fish J, Karban K. Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Trans Health Inequalities: International Perspectives in Social Work. Policy Press; 2015. Hancock AB, Siegfriedt, L. Transforming Voice and Communication with Transgender and Gender-Diverse People: An Evidence-Based Process. Plural Publishing; 2020. Herdt G, De Vries B. Gay and Lesbian Aging: Research and Future Directions. Springer Publishing Commany: 3004 	Το	opics
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