

**TRAIL**

TRANSLATIONAL RESEARCH  
AND INFORMATION LAB  
*accelerating innovation in health care*

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YEAR 4 ANNUAL REPORT

2021

## VISION

TRAIL (Translational Research and Information Lab) is an initiative between the University of Washington Health Sciences Library, the Institute of Translational Health Services, UW Medicine Research Information Technology, and the Network of the National Library of Medicine Region 5 to triage and provide consultations on research data management tools and data visualization.

## MISSION STATEMENT

A collaboration accelerating healthcare research through tools, team science, and applications.

## COLLABORATORS



## EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP

### **Tania Bardyn, MLIS AHIP**

Associate Dean for Health Sciences, UW Libraries

Director, National Network of Libraries of Medicine, Region 5

### **Sean Mooney, PhD**

Chief Research Information Officer, UW Medicine

Professor, Biomedical Informatics and Medical Education

### **Tong Sun, MBA**

Executive Director, Institute of Translational Health Sciences

## CO-MANAGERS

### **Bas de Veer, MS**

Biomedical Services Manager

UW Medicine IT Services

### **Adam Garrett**

Director, Systems

UW Health Sciences Library

## STAFF

### **Lynly Beard, MLIS**

Research Impact & Social Work Librarian

UW Health Sciences Library

### **Leah DeSantis, MLIS**

Active Edge & Research Services Librarian

UW Health Sciences Library

### **Ashleigh Lewis**

Senior REDCap Administrator

UW Medicine IT Services

### **Michael T. Moore, MIST**

Grants Administration & Special Projects Librarian

UW Health Sciences Library

### **Deric Ruhl**

Linux Systems Administrator

UW Health Sciences Library

### **Nancy Shin, MLIS**

Research and Data Coordinator

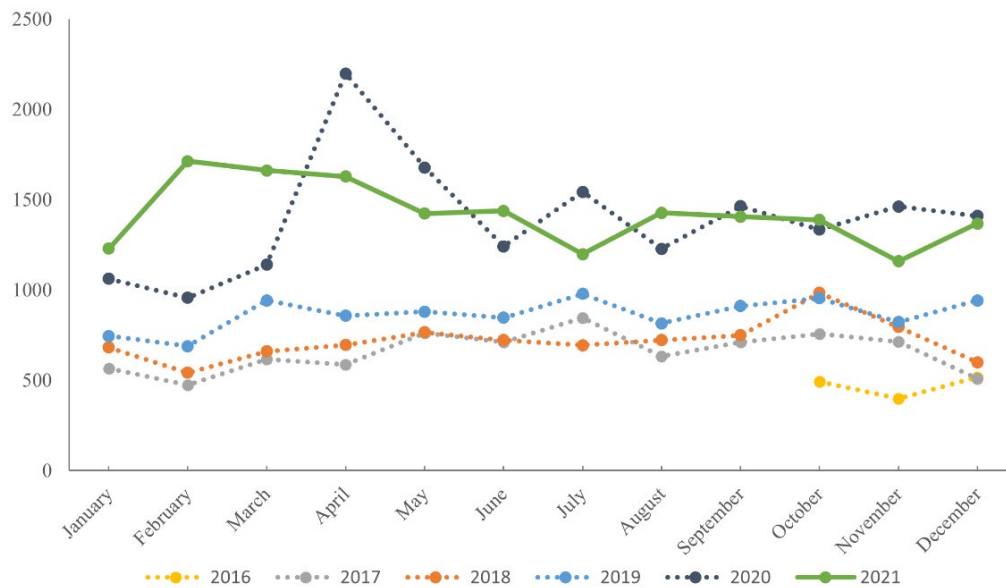
Network of the National Library of Medicine, Region 5

# YEAR 4 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

## REDCAP

In 2021, UW’s REDCap instance remained a cornerstone clinical resource for health care workers and agencies at UW and local and regional public health agencies in the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. REDCap support agents from HSL, ITHS, and NNLM Region 5 triaged more than 17,000 tickets in 2021, surpassing its previous record for tickets set the year prior, with pandemic-related projects continuing to drive ticket volume.

### REDCap Support Tickets Closed



The REDCap support team grew significantly in 2021, with Level 1 agents doubling to eight and another full-time REDCap Level 2 Administrator hired to better support UW researchers and clinicians. To improve onboarding for Level 1 agents, REDCap admins developed a ticket answering walkthrough to guide new agents through various problem scenarios they may encounter and the response they should provide to users.

### Level 1

- |              |               |               |               |
|--------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Amber Atkins | Leah DeSantis | Michael Moore | Nancy Shin    |
| Lynly Beard  | Paul Ludecke  | Sara Rind     | Frank Steiber |

### Level 2 / 3

- |             |                 |                |
|-------------|-----------------|----------------|
| Bas de Veer | Courtney Howell | Ashleigh Lewis |
|-------------|-----------------|----------------|

## AAMC GIR EXCELLENCE AWARD

TRAIL staff from the University of Washington’s Health Sciences Library, Institute of Translational Health Sciences, UW Medicine IT, and Network of the National Library of Medicine have been named as recipients of the prestigious 2021 Association of American Medical Colleges’ Group on Information Resources (AAMC GIR) Excellence Award for their support of UW’s REDCap data collection platform throughout the COVID-19 pandemic.

The AAMC GIR Excellence Award, bestowed annually on an individual or institutional or cross-institutional team, recognizes “contributions in the academic medical center information technology arena that inspire and impact the work [of AAMC GIR] to advance academic medicine.” It highlights a “work of excellence in the academic medical information technology domain” that has “innovative national impact or institutional impact for other institutions to follow.”

Watch the [2021 AAMC Awards Recognition Event](#) and read the [awards program book \(PDF\)](#).



### About the AAMC GIR Excellence Award

The [GIR Excellence Award](#) is given to an individual, or institutional or cross-institutional team, that contributed to a work of excellence in academic medical information technology domain, supporting one or more of the mission areas of the academic medical centers: clinical, educational, or research, and including administration. This award reflects a contribution that has an innovative national impact or institutional impact that is a model for other institutions to follow. The GIR Excellence Award selection criteria are designed to consider institutions of various sizes and available resources equitably. The established criteria include:

- Impact: Single Institution (One Area or Multiple Areas), Multiple Institutions
- Innovation: Sustainable and/or uniqueness
- Implementation State: Conceptualized, Tested, or Implemented
- Shareability: Not Disseminated, Internal Only, Shared via One or More External Mediums

The evaluation criteria also assess a nominated work of excellence’s potential benefit to diversity and inclusion.

## EXPANDED DNA SEQUENCING SUPPORT

HSL has hosted [GeneCodes' Sequencher DNA sequencing software](#), one of the premier platforms for assembling gene fragments and analyzing DNA sequences, for several years. The platform is used across the UW health sciences, with particular interest from UW Medicine, School of Medicine, School of Pharmacy, and the Department of Biology.

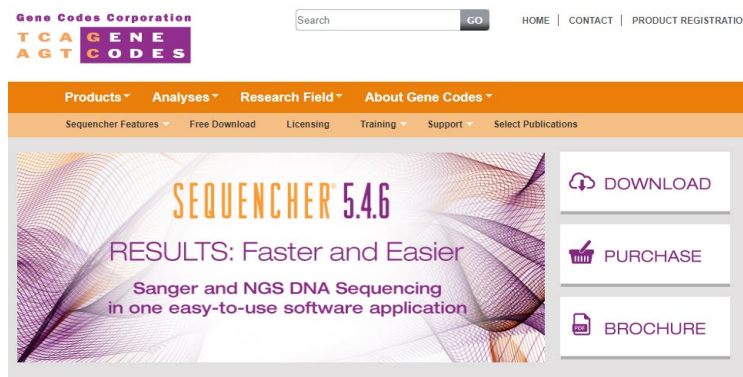
Due to budget allocations, HSL's original licensing agreement with GeneCodes was split between four Windows and five MacOS licenses. Users attempting to access the program on an operating system with all licensing "seats" in use were placed into a queue, even if seats were free on the other system. Delays in the release of a version compatible with the latest macOS operating systems placed an increased load on the Windows licensing.

With usage growing during the pandemic, HSL investigated potential options to alleviate the license congestion. HSL applied for and received generous funding from the UW Student Technology Fee, a student-levied, student-distributed fee to enhance non-classroom technology, to convert the nine licenses to dual Windows and macOS use. In the new format, up to nine users can use Sequencher, regardless of the operating system they are using.



Researcher feedback received on new licensing model:

- "This is wonderful news!!" Silvia Casadei, Ph.D., Department of Medicine (Medical Genetics)
- "Yes, thanks a bunch." Valerie Soza, Ph.D., Department of Biology
- "Thanks for the quick fix." Brian Kraemer, Ph.D., Department of Medicine, Psychiatry and Pathology
- "Wow, thank you for bringing this to my attention." Stephanie Krieg, MLS, Department of Laboratory Medicine and Pathology



## 2021 QUICK HITS

### Upcoming Active Edge Library

In Spring 2022, HSL will open a new Active Edge Library (AEL) space in the upcoming Health Sciences Building, situated on the UW's South Campus in Seattle. Centrally located in the new building, the AEL will extend existing HSL and TRAIL services to be embedded in UW's Interprofessional Education (IPE) curriculum, which allows future dentists, nurses, pharmacists, physicians, public health professionals, and social workers to learn and train together.

In 2021, the project team met with potential partners to discuss services and interactive programming that could be offered in the new AEL, such as data management, data visualization, citation management, REDCap, database searching, and scholarly communication and publishing, among others. A new website for the AEL is currently under construction.

See more: <https://hsl.uw.edu/new-hs-library/>.



### Leaf

In 2021, UW Medicine consolidated its Epic electronic medical records (EHR) with the launch of Destination: One (D1), its new single system to handle patient data across the UW Medicine network. The changeover had a significant impact on Leaf, with the development team needing to manually remap many of the pathways that linked Leaf to the UW Medicine data warehouse. The Leaf Librarian supported the developers during the launch of D1 by helping to identify bugs and broken data links, communicating with users on changes, providing one-on-one consultations with researchers and clinicians, and developing supporting research guides on using the Leaf interface and exporting data.

## PRESENTATIONS AND PUBLICATIONS

Beard, L., de Veer, B., Garrett, A., Howell, C., Lewis, A., Moore, M. T., & Shin, N. (2022). *REDCap in the Time of a COVID-19 Pandemic*. Presented at Institute of Translational Health Sciences Translational Science Expo, Online.

De Veer, B., Garrett, A., Lewis, A., & Moore, M. T. (2021). *Bend or Break: Lessons Learned about the Strain the Covid-19 Pandemic puts on a REDCap Installation*. Invited presentation for Association of American Medical Colleges Group on Information Resources, Online.

<https://www.aamc.org/professional-development/affinity-groups/gir>.

Lewis, A. (2021). *Creative Uses*. Presented at REDCapCon v2021, Online.

<https://projectredcap.org/about/redcapcon/redcapconv2021/>.

Lewis, A. (2021). *Troubleshooting the Implementation/Validation of External Modules*.

Presented at REDCapCon v2021, Online.

<https://projectredcap.org/about/redcapcon/redcapconv2021/>.

Moore, M. T. (2021). *Caseload: Expanding REDCap Support to Host COVID-19 Testing and Tracking Projects*. Presented at 2021 Research Data Access and Preservation Association Summit, Online. <https://rdapassociation.org/page-18184>.

De Veer, B. (2021). *Bend or Break: Lessons Learned about the Strain the Covid-19 Pandemic puts on a REDCap Installation*. Presentation at 2nd Latin American & Brazilian REDCap Conference, Online. <https://www.redcapbrasil.com.br/redcapcon/en/>.



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INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY  
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**W** **HEALTH SCIENCES LIBRARY**  
UNIVERSITY *of* WASHINGTON  
University Libraries

**ITHS** | Institute of **Translational Health Sciences**  
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**UW Medicine**  
UW SCHOOL  
OF MEDICINE  
BIOMEDICAL INFORMATICS  
AND MEDICAL EDUCATION

