

## Working From Home - Week 8!

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To: Hshsl-All Staff <hshsl-allstaff@umaryland.edu>

What a big eighth week we had!

I had an interesting thought this week that our sudden transition to working from home was a lot like being in a trauma unit. Stay with me here. When a trauma patient arrives, everyone marshals their energy to triage the patient and prioritize what needs to be done to immediately save the patient's life. That's similar to what we had to do when we closed and were sent home. We had to figure out on the fly exactly what we needed to do support ourselves and our user community. What needed to be done first? Was technology working? How could we keep in touch and provide services and resources seamlessly? How about paying bills and receiving orders? Well, I think we are out of the trauma phase and on the road to recovery to whatever the mutating daily "normal" is. We have shown great flexibility and creativity. If there is any doubt about that, I hope you all have read our special edition of Connective Issues <https://www2.hshsl.umaryland.edu/newsletter/?p=2815>. So much going on behind the scene that we can't even begin to include in a report such as this. Jobs well done!

Thanks to everyone who sent me your thoughts about what would make you comfortable returning to the HS/HSL. What a rich set of insights. I am working to bring them all together in a report for UMB Administration...just in case.

While reading the President's Fellows report on Core Values, I was tickled to see a thank you to HS/HSL staff for their help with the project and report!

Tara has been eating her Wheaties – this week she launched the new Historical Collections web site. Thanks to Brad and Michele for their help.

And, as a gift from the HS/HSL to UMB in celebration of non-commencement and the end of the academic year, we are publishing, on Monday, the first HS/HSL Coloring Book with beautiful images from our Historical Collections. For your exclusive sneak preview go to <https://bit.ly/HSLSLColoringbook> Bravo and thanks to Tara, Thom, and Everly for all their efforts to bring this over the finish line!

And Ginger, Patrick, and Aphrodite have been going great guns getting the second floor renovated. Carpeting, electricity, and furniture, oh my! Furniture has been ordered for the fifth floor and we are working on some slight renovations to the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor. If all this sounds extravagant, please remember we were given some renovation funding and we need to spend it before the end of the fiscal. So even though it looks like we are spending like drunken sailors, we are really only being fiscally responsible.

And finally, what a better way to start the week than with the good news about Robin. Nothing new to report but the early week news was incredible!

Please stay safe and well (and warm this weekend)!

I miss you all!

Best –

M.J.

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