



The Library

Woodward Library Facts & Facilities

The Woodward Library is the principal library on campus for materials in the life sciences and houses the largest health sciences collection in western Canada. Biology, botany, dentistry, forestry, land and food systems, medicine, nursing, nutrition, pharmaceutical sciences, and zoology are examples of the subject areas included here.



History

1950 Medical Reading Room established as part of the Reference Division in the Main Library.

1951 First full-time Biomedical Librarian appointed; 8,000 medical volumes available.

1952 Biomedical Branch Library opened at the Vancouver General Hospital with the enrolment of the first class in UBC's Faculty of Medicine. The Biomedical Branch Library at VGH was the first official branch of the Main Library.

1957 Biological and medical collections consolidated in the Main Library at UBC. The Biomedical Branch Library at VGH moved to its present location in the newly constructed Faculty of Medicine wing.

1964 Woodward Library was built through a gift of the Mr and Mrs PA Woodward Foundation and matching federal government funds. It was officially opened on November 12, 1964.

1970 Woodward Library doubled in size through a second gift from the Woodward Foundation and matching federal funds.

1972 The Instructional Resources Centre, which adjoins the Woodward Library, was completed and occupied.

1973 First online information retrieval service (MEDLINE) introduced in the UBC Library system through a grant from the Woodward Foundation.

1977 Remote online database searching made available through DIALOG and CAN/OLE.

1978 Card catalogue closed; books from 1977 and all serials listed on microfiche.

1982 Health Sciences Network established. Woodward Library, the Biomedical Branch Library

at VGH, St Paul's Hospital Library, and the Eric Hamber Library at Shaughnessy Hospital share resources and provide next day delivery to library users.

1988 OPAC (Online Public Access Catalogue) terminals installed in Woodward Library for accessing UBC Library's online catalogue.

1989 CD-ROM (Compact Disc-Read Only Memory) version of MEDLINE installed for public use at Woodward Biomedical Library.

1992 Woodward Biomedical Library, Biomedical Branch Library, Eric Hamber Library, St Paul's Hospital Library merged and renamed the UBC Life Sciences Libraries (LSL).

1994 OVID version of MEDLINE installed in all Life Sciences Libraries and loaded for public and dial-in access.

1995 Life Sciences Libraries World Wide Web Information Service installed and made available for public access at the URL:
<http://www.library.ubc.ca/life/>.

1997 UBC Library subscribes to its first electronic journal in the life sciences, *The Journal of Biological Chemistry*.

1998 Woodward opens a 20 workstation lab for teaching and student use, funded in part by the Woodward Foundation.

2003 Partial refurbishment of the main floor of Woodward Library.

2006 Relocation of MacMillan Library materials added Land and Food Systems/Forestry to Woodward.

Services Available

- Lap top lending
- Group study rooms; study carrels for rental
- Reference and circulation services
- Wireless access; internet access ports
- Seating for study (more than 600 seats)
- Free document delivery between the hospitals branches and Woodward
- Library research workshops and instructional sessions
- More than 60 workstations, most with word processing and printing capability
- Hands-on teaching lab
- Photocopiers

Charles Woodward Memorial Room

The Charles Woodward Memorial Room houses the William C Gibson History of Medicine and Science Collection and is dedicated to the pioneer physicians of BC. The Memorial Room was the gift of Mr PA Woodward in honour of his father, Charles Woodward, founder of Woodward's Stores. The outstanding collection of more than 5,000 volumes in the history of medicine and the natural sciences is named after Dr WC Gibson, who was Professor and Head of the Division of the History of Medicine and Science from 1959 to 1978. The Sherrington Room is named for Sir Charles Sherrington, a British neurophysiologist, and a friend of UBC's first president, Dr FF Wesbrook.

The History of Medicine and Science Collection ranks second in Canada. One of the highlights of the collection is a first edition (1628) of William Harvey's *De motu cordis* in which he describes his discovery of the circulation of blood. Manuscripts of interest include autographed letters of Florence Nightingale, Charles Darwin, John Burdon-Sanderson, and other significant figures in the history of medicine and science.

Three tapestries are on display in the Memorial Room. Two modern French works, *Masters of Science* and *Masters of the Spirit*, were donated by Mr PA Woodward. *Masters of the Spirit* has interesting imperfections as a result of the weaver's illness which affected his sense of perception.

The third tapestry, a gift from Dr HR MacMillan, was woven in the People's Republic of China. It depicts the Canadian surgeon, Dr Norman Bethune, operating in China during the campaign of the 8th Army. There are displays in the lobby of the Woodward Biomedical Library and in the Memorial Room throughout the year.

