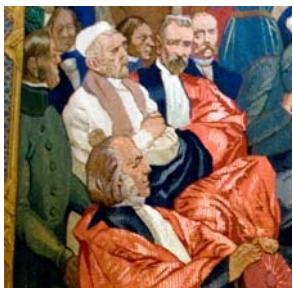


## Charles Woodward Memorial Room

The Memorial Room area of the Woodward Biomedical Library consists of two rooms on the main floor of the Woodward Library and a gallery with book shelving above. It houses the W.C. Gibson collection in the history of medicine and science. The first room is called the Charles Woodward Memorial Room. Dedicated to the pioneer physicians of British Columbia, whose names appear on four bronze plaques above the fireplace, it was the gift of Mr P.A. Woodward in honour of his father, founder of the department store which formerly bore his name. The Sherrington Room, used for seminars and small meetings, is named for the Nobel Prize winner Sir Charles Scott Sherrington, friend of Dr F.F. Wesbrook, first President of the University of British Columbia. The area was specially designed to provide optimum conditions for more than six thousand historical and important volumes in the biological and health sciences. The climate is stabilized at 21 degrees Celsius and 50 percent humidity, and special care is taken in preserving materials kept here.

## Wall Hangings

Three modern tapestries are hung in the Memorial Room area. The two facing the entrance door are French. They are the gift of Mr P.A. Woodward. The upper is called "*Masters of the Spirit*" and the lower "*Masters of Science*." The former is of particular interest because of its imperfections which arose from an illness of the craftsman who made it. Two plexiglass-covered diagrams on the table near the tapestries provide further information. The third tapestry hangs on the west wall of the Sherrington Room. It was the gift of Mr H.R. MacMillan. Made in the People's Republic of China, it shows Canadian surgeon, Dr Norman Bethune, operating in a little Buddhist temple. He was assisting the 8th Route Army in northwest China in 1939.



*Masters of Science*



*Masters of the Spirit*



*Norman Bethune*

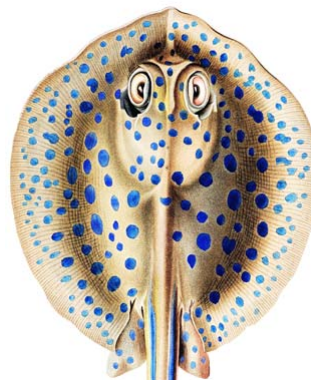


**Queen of the Night**

*Selenicereus grandiflorus*

*QK98.T5 1951*

**Photo: UBCLibrary Vault**



**Blue-spotted Ribbontail**

*Taeniura lymma*

*QL5.L3 1826*

**Photo: UBCLibrary Vault**



**Trumpet manucode**

*Manucodia keraudrenlii*

*QL5.L3 1826*

**Photo: UBCLibrary Vault**

## Book Collection

Although the collecting of special materials in the biological sciences dates back to the beginnings of the University in 1913, the first major acquisition of historical medical material occurred in 1963 when a grant from the Mr and Mrs P.A. Woodward Foundation enabled the University to purchase a well-chosen collection of rare medical books from Dr C.D. Leake. Two other important collections were subsequently acquired, one through the generosity of the late Mr H.R. MacMillan of Vancouver. The Wellcome Trust assisted the Library with other purchases. And, in 1998, a gift of rare obstetrical and gynecology books from Dr. G.W. Korn strengthened that subject area. In Canada, the medical portion of the Memorial Room collection ranks second only to that of the Osler Library at McGill University. Not surprisingly, the collection, which includes a book printed in 1476, attracts scholars from many places.

The collection of books and periodicals on sport fish and sport fishing was moved to Woodward Library from the Main Library in 1978. A substantial number of these books were bought with funds provided by the Harry Hawthorn Foundation, and also with monies given as a memorial to Leon Ladner, a long-time member of the Foundation. The bulk of this collection is shelved in the Woodward Library stack area but selected items are housed in a cabinet in the Sherrington Room. This cabinet is designed as a memorial to the late Roderick Haig-Brown of Campbell River, British Columbia, author, magistrate, sportsman and conservationist. The Hawthorn Foundation added display cases and extra shelving in 2003.

## Infant Feeding Devices

While there is nothing resembling a museum in the Memorial Room area, there is a modest collection of artifacts. Notable among these are infant feeders, largely the gift of Miss Alice Wright of Vancouver. There are some sets of older surgical instruments and a few nineteenth century microscopes and pharmaceutical kits.



## Other Materials

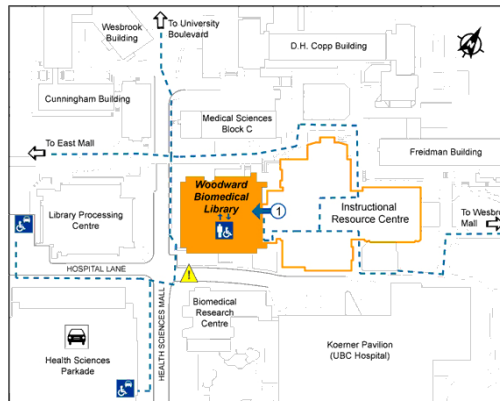
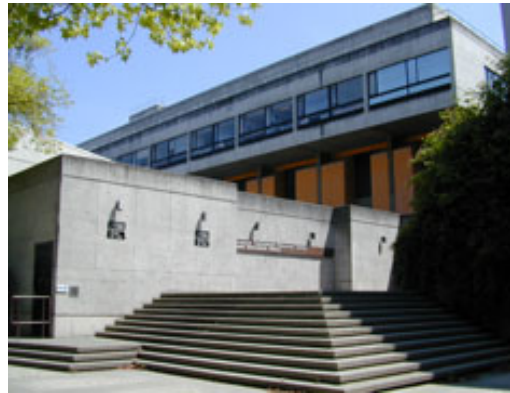
Of considerable interest are autographed letters of Charles Darwin, Florence Nightingale, John Burdon-Sanderson, Sir Charles Scott Sherrington, and other illustrious scientists. Items of Sherrington memorabilia are displayed from time to time in the Sherrington Room.

### Photo Credits:

Book Collection from the *UBCLibrary Vault*  
Infant feeder, Memorial Rm. by *Jill Pittendrigh*  
Wall hangings by *Suzan Zagar*

## Use of the Memorial Room

Anyone with an interest in the biological or health sciences may consult the materials. Rare items must be used under supervision in the Memorial Room, but otherwise there are few restrictions. All books are listed in the Library online catalogue. Use of the room is limited to persons consulting Memorial Room resources.



### Address:

Woodward Library  
The University of British Columbia  
2198 Health Sciences Mall  
V6T 1Z3

**Hours:** 9am – 5pm

**Telephone:** 604-822-4447

**Contact:** Lee Perry

[lee.perry@ubc.ca](mailto:lee.perry@ubc.ca)

[www.library.ubc.ca/woodward/memoroom](http://www.library.ubc.ca/woodward/memoroom)



## CHARLES WOODWARD MEMORIAL ROOM

