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UB LIBRARIES today

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HEALTH SCIENCES

THE HEALTH SCIENCES LIBRARY – A leader in the global partnership of developing, managing and providing access to biomedical information.

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A beautiful autumn day at Abbott Hall, South Campus. © 2012 University at Buffalo | Douglas Levere

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DID YOU KNOW?

On an average weekday approximately 1,000 people come through HSL's front doors and another 200 visit the HSL website.

In addition, **every** day, UB faculty and students complete at least 4,000 searches of HSL's online resources.



Dear Friends,

When the University of Buffalo Medical School opened in 1846, its 500-volume library included “all the late and standard works upon every department of medicine and surgery, with the collateral sciences.” Today, UB’s Health Sciences Library (HSL), located in Abbott Hall on the UB South Campus, is a leader in the global partnership of developing, managing and providing access to 21st-century health sciences information.

Whether you visit HSL in person or connect online at library.buffalo.edu/hsl, you’ll discover a vast array of resources and research services in all areas of biomedicine and health care. You’ll also find a library staff committed to serving the information needs of instructional, clinical and research programs in the UB Schools of Medicine & Biomedical Sciences, Dental Medicine, Nursing, Pharmacy & Pharmaceutical Sciences, and Public Health & Health Professions. As a Resource Library in the National Network of Libraries of Medicine, our Health Sciences Library also serves UB’s affiliated teaching hospitals, and provides health-related information for health professionals and members of the Western New York community.

In this issue of *UB Libraries Today*, we highlight two collections that illustrate the growth and development of the health sciences from past centuries to the present: the *Robert L. Brown History of Medicine Collection* and the *Edgar R. McGuire Medical Instrument Collection*. We also feature a profile of Annette Cravens, whose lifelong passion for medicine and the arts is reflected in her generous support for UB and the Health Sciences Library, and we provide details on the Friends of HSL, an organization open to all those at UB and beyond who are interested in supporting HSL’s resources and services.

Other articles describe HSL’s community outreach initiatives, introduce “Bioinformatics @ HSL,” a program series developed for UB’s growing life sciences research community, and offer librarian Sharon Murphy’s reflections on her 25-year career as liaison to UB’s School of Nursing.

I invite you to visit our Health Sciences Library the next time you’re on campus, and I encourage you to explore the many health information resources available on the HSL website. With your continuing support, HSL and the UB Libraries look forward to a bright future.

Sincerely,



H. Austin Booth
Vice Provost for University Libraries
library.buffalo.edu/haboath



Abbott Hall, Home of the Health Sciences Library

The Health Sciences Library occupies one of UB's most beautiful and historically significant buildings-Abbott Hall, the "heart" of the South Campus. Built in 1935 as the original Lockwood Memorial Library (UB's main research library, relocated in 1978 to the UB North Campus), and renovated to house the HSL in 1985, Abbott Hall retains many of the outstanding architectural features that make it a significant historical landmark in Buffalo.

One of the building's most impressive spaces is the Austin Flint Main Reading Room, carefully preserved during the building renovations. This lovely room features new reading tables and chairs that complement its magnificent décor.

We invite you to visit our building, view our exhibits of historical and current resources, and take advantage of the expertise of our outstanding librarians.

Sincerely,
Gary Byrd, PhD
 Director, Health Sciences Library

Gateway to Medical History



Two beautiful new display cases, featuring items from the Edgar R. McGuire Historical Medical Instrument Collection, were recently installed in the lobby of the Health Sciences Library. The Gateway to Medical History project began in 2010 under the leadership of Dr. Gayle Brazeau, Dr. Michael Hatton and Dr. Edward Fine, officers of the Council of the Friends of the Health Sciences Library.

The project's aim was to create rotating displays in the library's lobby that would act as a gateway, inviting library patrons and visitors to investigate additional exhibits and historical materials in the Robert L. Brown History of the Health Sciences Collection in the lower level of the library.

Following successful fundraising efforts, the *Gateway to Medical History* exhibit officially opened with a reception for staff and guests on October 21, 2011. The new exhibit celebrates UB's rich health care history by illuminating development of surgical and dental instruments, anatomical models and diagnostic tools that contributed to the advancement of medicine, dentistry, pharmacy, nursing and the health professions.

International Donations

Searching for a reputable charity that will accept old textbooks or an extensive personal library? Visit the **International Book Donations** page on the Health Sciences Library website and choose from a list of programs in over 35 countries that desperately need educational materials.

Programs range from the large *Books for the World* initiative, to the small *Rehmania Public Library*, a village project in a remote area of Pakistan, and the tiny *Tanzania Volunteer Education Program*, an initiative housed in grass and mud huts in Dar Es Salaam.

Each entry on the donations web page includes contact information, a description of the program's mission, and the type of materials needed. Use your web browser's "find" feature to search for subject areas, and please note that donors usually pay postage, although some programs may reimburse for shipping costs.

For more information, contact:

Pamela Rose
 HSL Web Services & Library Promotions Coordinator
 (716) 829-5722
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THE ROBERT L. BROWN HISTORY OF MEDICINE COLLECTION

CHART THE FUTURE BY EXPLORING THE PAST

LINDA LOHR & KEITH MAGES, *History of Medicine Collection*

Forty years ago, rare and valuable books illustrating the history of medicine and the other health sciences sat unorganized, uncataloged and virtually ignored in a locked, wire-caged room located in Farber Hall, home of the UB Medical School. Fortunately, in 1972, C.K. Huang, then director of the Health Sciences Library, and Dr. Robert L. Brown, Associate Dean of the Medical School (1959-1985), recognized the significance of these materials and established the Health Sciences Library's History of Medicine Collection, creating a permanent home for these volumes.

The personal libraries of Dr. James Platt White, Dr. George Burwell and Dr. Roswell Park, three prominent 19th-century faculty members of the UB School of Medicine, form the core of the History of Medicine Collection. Over the years, the collection has grown in size and scope through purchases made possible by endowment funds established by local medical leaders, including Dr. Brown, and gifts of noteworthy historical materials from generous individuals.

Today, the History of Medicine Collection is home to more than 11,000 titles, including over 500 pre-19th-century works, the oldest of which, *De conservazione sanitatis* by Benedictus de Nursia, dates back to 1493. Books published in the 19th century constitute the largest segment of the collection, with particular subject strengths in oncology, gynecology-obstetrics, psychiatry, surgery, dentistry and pharmacology. Works by such historically notable physicians as Vesalius, Thomas Addison, John Hunter, William Harvey, and William Beau-

mont represent just a few of the collection's many noteworthy treasures.

Another significant collection resource is the Bonnie & Vern Bullough History of Nursing Collection. Established in 1985 by Bonnie Bullough, former Dean of the UB School of Nursing, and Vern Bullough, SUNY Distinguished Professor of History at Buffalo State College, this collection features historical materials in all fields of nursing, including first edition copies of Florence Nightingale's *Notes on Nursing* and texts authored by many early leaders of American nursing.

The History of Medicine Collection also houses a variety of archival materials including newspaper clippings, yearbooks, catalogs, newsletters and reports that document the establishment and evolution of the university's health sciences schools. A complete run of the *Buffalo Medical Journal*, published from 1846 to 1919, provides a wealth of information about the practice of medicine and health sciences research in Buffalo and Western New York during that era. The 1846 *Annual Circular of the Medical Department of the University of Buffalo* lists the cost of tuition for UB's first medical students in 1846-47 as \$65 per semester – a fact that surprises many current prospective medical students! Unique historical artifacts include the death masks of Dr. Roswell Park and Dr. Edward R. McGuire, and the official mace carried in the UB School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences graduation procession. A wide variety of more recent works, including a strong current reference collection, rounds out the book collection.



Dr. James Platt White
(1811-1881)

Dr. James Platt White, M.D., was one of the founders of the University of Buffalo Medical College and a pioneer in American obstetrics and gynecology. He served as president of the Erie County Medical Society, and was a co-founder of the Buffalo YMCA, Academy of Fine Arts, the Historical Society and the Buffalo Club.



Dr. George Burwell
(1819-1891)

Dr. George Burwell, M.D., was a prominent 19th century Buffalo and Western New York physician. He was one of the original consulting physicians at the Buffalo General Hospital and a founder of the Buffalo Medical Society.



Dr. Roswell Park
(1852-1914)

Dr. Roswell Park, M.D., served as Professor and Chair of Surgery at the University of Buffalo Medical College. In 1898 Dr. Park established the New York State Pathological Laboratory at the University of Buffalo, which is known today as Roswell Park Cancer Institute.

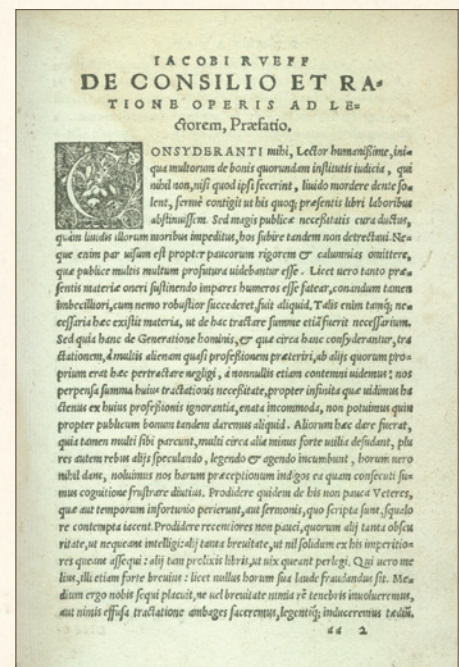


Baby Alice Thumb Guard - a plaster drugstore display model for a metal-wire thumb guard designed to discourage thumb-sucking. This instrument was produced by the Guard Manufacturing Company, of Cincinnati, Ohio, circa 1920.

The collection was greatly enriched in 1985 when Annette Cravens established the Edgar R. McGuire Historical Medical Instrument Collection in memory of her father who served as Professor and Chair of Surgery at the University of Buffalo from 1915 until his death in 1931. Today, the McGuire Collection includes more than 200 individual instruments, sets of instruments, and artifacts that illustrate health care tools and practices from the early Roman period to the 20th century.

The instruments have been crafted from a variety of materials, ranging from silver, gold and bronze to ebony, ivory and wood, and while the collection's name contains the phrase "historical *medical* instrument[s]," numerous items that were used by other health care professionals are included, such as dental forceps, a thumb-operated drill, apothecary scales, medicine spoons and sick room artifacts used by nurses. A variety of beautiful microscopes, including one crafted in Buffalo, and various anatomical models are also a part of the McGuire Collection. A number of these historical instruments have been digitized and are available for viewing and study on the UB Libraries' Digital Collections website: digital.lib.buffalo.edu.

Since its founding, the History of Medicine Collection has had three previous managers: Linda Morgan Klongkomnaunkarn, MLS (1972-74), Mildred F. Hallowitz, MLS (1975-81), and Lilli Sentz, MLS (1982-96). Linda Lohr, MA (French and Education), became the current manager in 1997. She receives additional staff support from Pamela Rose, MLS and Keith Mages, RN, PhD, and together they provide reference services, student tours, and class/departmental lectures and instruction with the goal of helping students, staff, faculty and community groups make full use of the collection's rich historical resources.



The first page of the preface of *De conceptu et generatione hominis...*, the University Libraries' three millionth volume, presented to the Health Sciences Library by George M. Ellis, MD, Class of 1945, UB School of Medicine. Published in Zurich in 1554 by Jacob Rueff, there are fewer than five copies of this edition in the United States. This is a very significant work in obstetrics as it was the first text to use anatomically correct illustrations. Many of its woodcuts depict physiological abnormalities.



This death mask of Dr. Roswell Park was crafted by Dr. Charles R. Bethune. The death mask is on display in the History of Medicine Collection.....

They take special pleasure in introducing young students from local schools to the historical and cultural side of health care.

Researchers and students from a wide range of academic disciplines, as well as scholars and researchers from around the world, make frequent use of the collection. Books and artifacts from the McGuire Collection have been highlighted during programs hosted by the Western New York Library Resources Council (WNYLRC), local historical societies, and the annual Buffalo/Niagara Dental Convention. The recently-launched Curiosity Cabinet introduces the McGuire Collection to a global audience. Each month, a brief video demonstrating the function of an intriguing medical instrument is posted on the collection's blog library.buffalo.edu/hsl/history. Several clues are offered, and the first person to correctly identify the instrument in the Curiosity Cabinet receives a set of HSL's beautiful botanical notecards.

Over the past four decades, the collection's resources and outreach activities have continued to expand. The evolution of the collection's name is perhaps the best way to illustrate the trajectory of this growth. Initially called *The History of Medicine Collection*, in 1985, the collection was officially renamed *The Robert L. Brown History of Medicine Collection* in appreciation of the former Associate Dean of UB's School of Medicine, his staunch support of the Health Sciences Library, and his leadership in establishing the collection.

Today, the collection is unofficially known as *The Robert L. Brown History of the Health Sciences Collection*, a name that better reflects the Health Sciences Library's commitment to the collection, preservation and promotion of the history of every health science discipline taught at UB. We expect that this collection will continue to serve as an outstanding resource for students, faculty, staff, and community members engaged in research for the betterment of human health and welfare.

FRIENDS OF THE HEALTH SCIENCES LIBRARY

The Friends of the Health Sciences Library was established in 1975 by a group of Western New York health professionals. Since its inception, the purpose of the Friends group has remained constant: to develop and promote interest in the resources and services of the Health Sciences Library and the History of Medicine Collection.

Over the years, the organization has provided invaluable support for a variety of programs, including the Health Sciences Library's Art and Media Group art initiative, the *Buffalo Medical Journal* database indexing project, and the Gateway to Medical History initiative. The Friends of HSL have also sponsored lectures and annual meetings on a wide range of health-related topics featuring speakers from UB, the

region's health sciences community, and universities and institutions across the United States. For example, in 2005 Dr. Edward Fine and Dr. Arie Weinstock of UB's Department of Neurology presented a wonderful program on past and current methods of treating epilepsy. In 2010, former Erie County Commissioner of Health, Dr. Anthony J. Billittier, discussed "The People's Health." In addition to the informative presentations, these events also include food, drink, and great company.

Membership in the Friends of HSL is open to all individuals, both at UB and in the Western New York community. For further information, please contact Linda Lohr at (716) 829-5737 or lalohr@buffalo.edu.

Annette Cravens

LINDA LOHR, Manager, History of Medicine Collection

Throughout her life, Annette Cravens has successfully combined her passion for the arts and medicine with her love of collecting. A longtime supporter of the University at Buffalo and the UB Libraries, Mrs. Cravens graduated from the Masters School in Dobbs Ferry, New York, and is an alumna of Sarah Lawrence College. She received her MSW degree from UB in 1968, and was named the recipient of the UB Alumni Association's Samuel P. Capen Award, the organization's highest honor, in 2007, in recognition of her many generous contributions to the university.

While studying art at Sarah Lawrence College, one of Annette Cravens' professors taught her "to see, therefore to think," a lesson which led to her belief that an effectively displayed collection should educate and inspire observers to want to learn more about the individual objects. During a recent interview, Mrs. Cravens discussed her philosophy of collecting with longtime friend, Dr. Richard V. Lee, UB Professor of Medicine. She noted that each individual piece, whether a painting, sculpture or medical instrument, should "speak to the observer and tell its story. In order to truly understand and experience the beauty of objects, people need access to the authentic object, not just pictures."

Annette Cravens' interest in acquiring medical instruments and artifacts was first sparked after viewing carved medical figures in the personal collection of Dr. Robert L. Brown, former Associate Dean of the UB Medical School.


She recognized that Dr. Brown's collection could be expanded and, in 1985, after many years of determined and fruitful collecting, she formally established the Edgar R. McGuire Historical Medical Instrument Collection in the Health Sciences Library in memory of her father, Dr. Edgar R. McGuire, who served as Professor and Chair of UB's Department of Surgery from 1915 until his death in 1931.

For Annette Cravens, the most important criteria for selecting a piece are the piece's form and appearance, followed by its function, and her search for intriguing objects to enhance the Historical Medical Instrument Collection has taken her all over the United States and around the world. Mrs. Cravens recently played a key role in the design and purchase of new exhibit cases for the Health Sciences Library, and she personally selected items for inclusion in the current *Gateway to Medical History* exhibit in the library's lobby.

In choosing medical instruments to display in the exhibit, Mrs. Cravens focused on how the instruments' appearance, rather than their function, complements each other. It is her sincere hope that the exhibit will inspire all who see it, especially students, to learn about the history and evolution of the objects as well as their role in the history of medicine and the health sciences. From archaeology and ethnography to the arts and health sciences, Annette Cravens' continuing generosity

has greatly enriched not only the History of Medicine Collection, but the University Libraries, the University at Buffalo, and the Western New York community.





STAFF PROFILE

Sharon Murphy

Nursing Librarian

“Like most health sciences librarians, I find supreme satisfaction in finding the needle in the biomedical haystack”.

I first arrived at UB with a New York State Regents' Scholarship in hand. I entered the UB School of Nursing, and eight semesters later joined the workforce as a nurse and college graduate. I practiced frontline medical-surgical, orthopedics and oncology nursing, both in hospitals out West and in Western New York. During that time, I developed a keen appreciation for the complexity of health care delivery and its amazing people and stories.

Ten years later, I sampled a graduate offering in UB's then-named School of Information and Library Science. Could I meld my grounding in healthcare with my lifelong love of information and libraries? The course, *Introduction to Reference Services*, answered my question. It led to a student assistant position in the Health Sciences Library, and, upon completion of my MLS degree, to my appointment as the librarian liaison to the UB Nursing School. For some 25 years now, this hardworking group has embraced me as an essential participant in their educational mission. It has been a great pleasure to serve as the nursing subject specialist to the faculty, staff and students of my alma mater.

I consider myself an embedded librarian, offering research consultation hours in the Center for Nursing Research, supporting the Nursing School's curricular developments and distance-learning initiatives, and harnessing evolving technology to provide user support. During my career, I have witnessed many amazing advancements first-hand, including the debut of the first web browser (Mosaic) and the introduction of one of the first library-based end-user search systems (mini-MEDLINE). Although I don't recall

my first encounter with email, it still impresses me with its magical connecting capabilities, as does its streamlined cousin, texting, and the ability to send my desktop online to a distance learner. I have followed from day one the evolving “evidence-based” movement, been heartened by the development of narrative medicine, watched nursing move to the Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP), and witnessed, daily, the exciting diffusion of information and innovation.

Like most health sciences librarians, I find supreme satisfaction in finding the needle in the biomedical haystack. There are daily mysteries to solve - locating an elusive piece of research not readily found on Google, finding just the right untapped resource, or validating that published research in an area has not yet caught up to practice. It's the happiness of connecting an information-seeker with that nugget of information, or being there at the start to provide the right tool to begin the excavation.

And so it has continued through the years, this satisfying intersection of libraries, nursing, and education. When I was preparing for a serious surgery recently, a nursing faculty member wished me the best. But more than that, she said, she wished me to have a “good nurse.” I am grateful and proud to say that I had many. It is lovely to contribute to this part of the UB story, to meld my library and nursing expertise, and assist in meaningful educational experiences for those who make an enormous difference.

My staff profile is online at: library.buffalo.edu/smurphy

BIOINFORMATICS @ HSL

Diane Rein, Bioinformatics & Molecular Biology Information Resources Liaison

Bioinformatics, the field of science in which biology, computer science, and information technology merge to form a single discipline, has rapidly evolved since the completion of the Human Genome Project in 2003. It is both the current way of doing molecular biology research, and a rapidly emerging separate discipline. Those working in this discipline draw on the computer sciences, information sciences, and mathematics that bears on biological problems to develop database structures, search algorithms and tools to explore biological data. Bioinformatics research, which makes use of thousands of different Internet-accessible databases, is now intricately woven into "wet bench research" in the life sciences. Scientists engaged in bioinformatics research analyze and manipulate massive datasets in order both to understand and predict experimental results.

In 2008, the UB Libraries joined a handful of other academic libraries with professional staff dedicated to supporting

the specialized information needs of the bioinformatics research community. In her role as Bioinformatics and Molecular Biology Information Resource Liaison, Diane C. Rein, Ph.D., M.L.S., provides expert searching, research consultation, resource discovery, and training services. She is also developing new forms of collaborative support for researchers on all three UB campuses and in UB's affiliated research institutes, centers and hospitals.

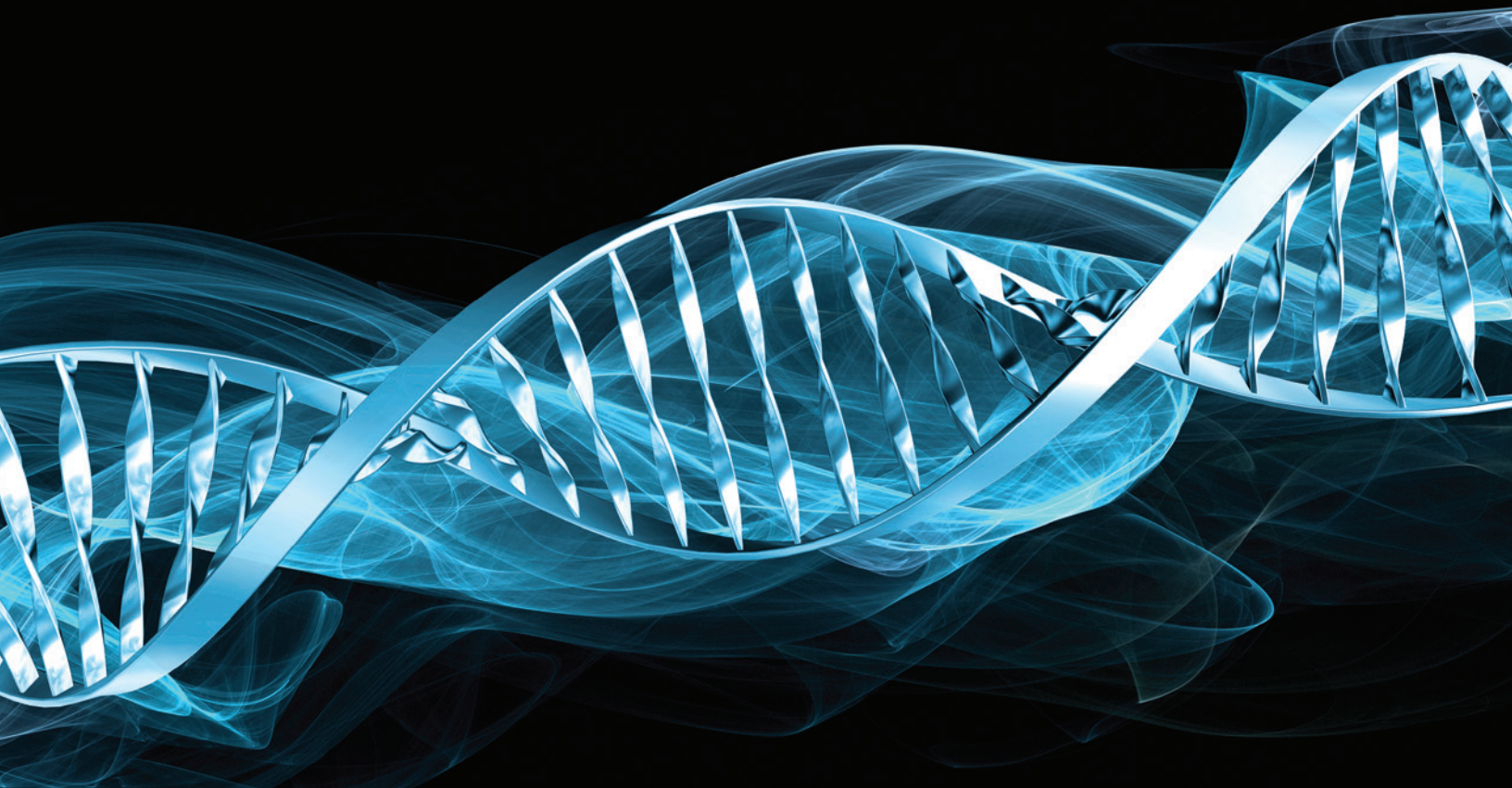
Dr. Rein's "Bioinformatics @ HSL" series combines walk-in workshops, short courses, team-teaching in graduate level courses, and work with individual laboratory groups. To date, over 500 UB faculty, residents, medical fellows, physicians, professional staff and graduate students have been trained in foundational bioinformatics topics such as sequence similarity searching and protein structure modeling. Dr. Rein is also developing new instructional models to support translational bioinformatics initiatives, including use of the Protein DataBank and the

resources of the European Bioinformatics Institute.

To support higher level bioinformatics and clinical research, the Health Sciences Library recently hosted several workshops for users of the powerful Genome Browser developed at the University of California, Santa Cruz. Future plans call for Bioinformatics @ HSL to host expert-level instructors from around the world, including the European Bioinformatics Institute and the U.S. National Cancer Institute. Development of a web portal is also planned, with links to useful research tools and techniques for UB's bioinformatics research community.

For more information please contact:

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Health Literacy:

Community Outreach with Health Information

OPHELIA MOREY, Coordinator, Community Outreach Services



The U.S. Public Health Service's *Healthy People 2010* objectives define health literacy as "the degree to which individuals have the capacity to obtain, process and understand basic health information and services needed to make appropriate health decisions." In light of the fact that limited health literacy is a widespread problem affecting many community members regardless of age, race, education or income level, the National Library of Medicine (NLM) and the National Network of Libraries of Medicine (NN/LM) offer health literacy grants to provide the public with access to information supporting good health decisions and consumer health literacy.

Ophelia Morey, Coordinator of Community Outreach Services for the Health Sciences Library, was awarded a \$15,000 health literacy grant from the National Network of Libraries of Medicine (NN/LM) in 2010 to partner with Mary Rose Gaughan, MS, RN, New York State Department of Health, Health Insurance Outreach and Enrollment Specialist for Western New York. Ms. Morey used the grant funds to provide health information outreach and demonstrations of online health resources at eight community health fairs targeting the uninsured, primarily women and children who reside on Buffalo's East Side.

By participating in these community events, Ms. Morey was able to explain and provide online demonstrations of NLM resources, such as MedlinePlus.gov, with its rich array of authoritative consumer health information, and to provide attendees with copies of the *NIH MedlinePlus* magazine. Ms. Morey also distributed information on *HEALTHeLink*, the

collaborative initiative of the region's hospitals and health insurance companies to facilitate the adoption of electronic medical records and to make sure doctors and patients can quickly access all the information needed for effective treatment and care.

The grant award supported the creation of a 44-page guidebook for event participants to take home. Titled *Bridging the Gap: Health Information for You and Your Family*, this booklet follows current health literacy guidelines, including plain language and a larger font size. The guidebook provided participants with community-based information on local health insurance and primary care options, community health and wellness programs, and public and medical library resources and locations, including UB's Health Sciences Library.

Gaughan describes the guidebook as "an excellent resource that provides Erie County residents with a roadmap to navigating the health care system," and Ms. Morey notes that it has become a very popular and valuable resource, not only for event participants, but also for the exhibitors from community-based organizations, including social workers and health insurance enrollers, who are making it a part of their outreach efforts to clients and the public. Today's complex health care environment makes the provision of accessible health information especially important and challenging. At UB's Health Sciences Library, Ophelia Morey views these challenges as opportunities to work with and educate community leaders and groups about accurate and accessible health information.

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A view of the original Lockwood Memorial Library, designed by architect E.B. Green, during construction in April, 1934.

The building was renamed Abbott Hall in 1977, when Lockwood Library's name was transferred to a new library building on the university's North Campus. Abbott Hall has served as the home of UB's Health Sciences Library since 1985.

Photo: University Archives