Like its prototype in ancient Alexandria, the University of Maryland's Health Sciences and Human Services Library is a place to store the physical containers of knowledge while it provides the space for contemplation and scholarly discourse.

Today, that means a high-tech building with networked access to resources worldwide—as well as the controlled atmosphere of a fifth-floor rare books room for volumes from as far back as the 15th century.

While it is tempting to let the Indiana limestone, brick, granite, and aluminum tell the Library's story, that would only scratch the surface. This $32 million facility was built entirely with state funding and took eight years to plan and construct. Its opening on April 3, 1998 came nearly 200 years after the nation's first university medical center library was built on this campus.

As the second-largest medical library building on the East Coast, the Library must serve several functions. It is the physical symbol of the University's dedication to the search for knowledge; a focal point for the campus community; a haven for study and collaboration; an access point and distribution center for print and electronic information; a teaching library; a workplace for library and computing staff who support it behind the scenes.

Its location opposite the University of Maryland Medical Center's expansive new entrance and the University's historic landmark, Davidge Hall, anchors the campus' 25-acre urban setting. And it solidifies a significant presence in a neighborhood that includes the Baltimore Convention Center, Oriole Park at Camden Yards and the new stadium of the Ravens National Football League team.
The Library’s profile includes:

• 190,000 square feet of space for study in solitude or collaborative learning

• 360,000 volumes

• 8,000 to 10,000 volumes added annually

• 1,500 computer data connections, the most of any medical library in the country

• 2,300 periodicals

• Seating for 15 percent of the entire student body at any given time (900 seats)

• 40 study rooms

• 35 workstations

• Teaching space in three computer classrooms

• Headquarters for the Southeastern Atlantic Region of the National Network of Libraries of Medicine

• Historical Room

• Center for Innovations in Technology

• Distance Education Center

• 70 employees

• 104-step stairway, one of the longest in Baltimore
**List of facilities by floor**

**LOWER LEVEL**
- Computer Classrooms
- Center for Innovations in Technology
- Distance Education Center
- Data Processing Service
- Counter

**FIRST FLOOR**
- Main Entrance
- Circulation/Reserve Desk
- Electronic Reserve
- Reference Desk
- Reference Collection
- Indexes/Abstracts
- Computers and Printing
- Commons Computing
- Assistance Desk
- Graphics Room
- Tower Cafe

**SECOND FLOOR**
- Current Journals
- Bound Journals (A-Cytogenet)

**THIRD FLOOR**
- Bound Journals (Cytologia-Z)
- Interlibrary Loan Drop-off

**FOURTH FLOOR**
- Books (A-RC565)

**FIFTH FLOOR**
- Board Room
- Historical Room
- Books (RC566-Z)
- Oversized Books
- Dissertations/Theses

*Photographs by Anne Gummerson
Design, layout and copy by the Office of External Affairs*
“Those who see our new library, from the outside and inside, will have no doubt as to the seriousness of our academic mission. This wonderful building puts us in a leadership position on an international scale.”

DAVID J. RAMSAY, DM, DPhil
President