

The Linda Hall Library Collections: an Overview



Lisa Browar, President
Linda Hall Library

Linda Hall Library

- Located in Kansas City, Missouri
- World's largest independently funded library devoted to science, engineering, & technology



Mission Statement

- The Linda Hall Library is a guardian of the collective intellectual heritage with regard to science, technology, and engineering disciplines; a destination for advanced research and scholarship, and a center for public education in the sciences. Additionally, the Library's grounds are maintained as an urban arboretum that is open to the public for education and enjoyment.

Herbert and Linda Hall

- Herbert Hall made his fortune as a grain broker.
- No relation to the “other” Kansas City Halls who founded the greeting card company.
- Linda Hall was active in local philanthropies.
- The Halls were civic-minded and left a portion of their estate in trust to establish a public library for Kansas City.

The Linda Hall Library

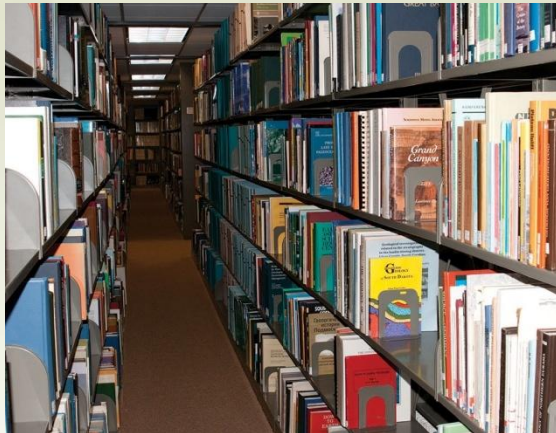
- The Linda Hall Library opened in 1946 and was located in the Hall's Georgian mansion which was built in 1912 on 20 acres of prime real estate.
- The Library outgrew the mansion by the early 1950s and a new library building was built on the property, opening in 1956.
- Over time, some acreage was sold to UMKC, and the Library added on several additions.

The Linda Hall Library Today

- Today, the Linda Hall Library consists of 220,000 square feet of space.
- The Library houses over 1 million volumes in its general collections, and over 10,000 volumes in its History of Science collection.
- The Library's grounds are maintained as a 14 acre urban arboretum, home to over 450 trees representing 58 genera and 165 species.

Linda Hall Library

- Core Collections
 - American Academy of Arts and Sciences (1946/7)
 - Franklin Institute (1985)
 - Engineering Societies Library (ESL) (1995)



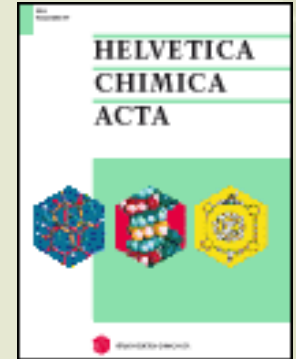
Linda Hall Library

- Materials of note
 - Industry standards and specifications
 - Engineering societies' meeting papers
 - Conference proceedings
 - Technical reports
 - Government Documents
 - Patent Collection



Linda Hall Library

- Collection strengths
 - Engineering & Technology
 - Physics & Astrophysics
 - Chemistry
- Languages
 - Russian, Bulgarian, and Eastern European
 - Chinese, Japanese, and Korean
 - Western European



Selected Subject Subcategories

- Engineering & Technology
 - Mechanical Engineering
 - Chemical Engineering
 - Electrical Engineering
 - Mining Engineering & Metallurgy
 - Aeronautics & Astronautics
 - Civil Engineering
 - Analytical & Experimental Mechanics

Selected Subject Subcategories

A faint, light-colored world map is visible in the background of the slide, centered behind the text.

- Chemistry

 - Organic & Inorganic Chemistry

 - Analytical Chemistry

 - Crystallography

 - Physical & Theoretical Chemistry

Linda Hall Library



LHL maintains approximately 30 miles of shelving or:

- 100,000+ linear feet (serials)
- 20,000+ linear feet (open stacks monographs)
- 32,000+ linear feet (closed stack monographs)

Linda Hall Library



- **Serials**

45,000+ print serials titles

Currently receive 3,700+ print serials

Fun fact:

One of the most complete collections of 19th century railroad technology journals and periodicals

Linda Hall Library

External Relationships

- Linda Hall Library has legacy collections from over 450 exchange partners worldwide
- Currently maintain over 200 active exchanges with distinguished societies
- Currently maintain the historic exchanges originated by the American Academy of Arts & Sciences
- Many of the titles obtained via exchange have under 10 OCLC holdings; none are widely held

Selected Long-Standing Exchanges

- Royal Society of Edinburgh
- Cambridge Philosophical Society
- Royal Irish Academy Library
- Academie des Sciences, Arts et Belles-Lettres de Dijon
- Academie et Society Lorraines des Sciences
- Academie Nationale des sci., belles-lettres et arts de Bordeaux

Selected Long-Standing Exchanges

- Societa Italiana di Scienze Naturali
- Societa Toscana di Scienze Naturali
- Accademia Gioena di Scienze Naturali
- Oesterreichisches Akademie der Wissenschaften
- Akademie der Wissenschaften zu Gottingen
- Sachsische Akademie der Wissenschaften zu Leipzig

Selected Long-Standing Exchanges

- Numerous Cyrillic language and Eastern European academies and research institutes including:
 - Russian Academy of Sciences
 - National Library of the Ukraine

Professional Engineering Societies

- American Society of Mechanical Engineers
- American Society of Civil Engineers
- American Institute of Chemical Engineers
- American Institute of Mining, Metallurgical, and Petroleum Engineers
- American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics

Linda Hall Library

Patent and Trademark Collection

- LHL is one of over 80 U.S. libraries participating in the Patent and Trademark Resource Center (PTRC) Program administered by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.
- PTRC provides access to information and resources for the public to conduct self-directed searches.
- LHL librarians provide general instruction in the use of the search tool provided by the PTO but are prohibited from conducting patent and trademark searches or providing legal advice.

Linda Hall Library

History of Science Collection

- Over 10,000 volumes dating from 1476 to the mid-20th century.
- Runs of scientific and technical journals from the 17th century onward are a special strength including a complete set of the *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society of London*, 1665 onward.
- Other notable items include:

Rheticus, *Narratio Prima*, 1540

Copernicus, *De revolutionibus orbium coelestium*, 1543

Galileo, *Siderius Nuncius*, 1610

Newton, *Philosophiae naturalis principia mathematica*, 1665

Catesby, *Natural History of Carolina, Florida & the Bahama Islands*, 1754

Darwin, *On the Origin of Species*, 1859

Linda Hall Library

- Holdings
 - RapidILL and LHL Catalog reflect most up-to-date serials issue-level holdings
 - OCLC monograph holdings are accurate
 - OCLC serials local holding records (LHRs) need to be replaced



Linda Hall Library

- 2012 saw first increase in 6 years for number of document services requests received
- In the final two quarters of 2012:
 - LHL received 20,227 requests and supplied 12,564
 - Requests received increased by 19% and requests supplied increased by 12.5%
 - Compared to 16,992 requests received and 11,168 requests supplied in same quarters of 2011

Linda Hall Library

- Requests through March 2013 (first 9 months)
 - 9,555 requests
 - 7,917 filled
 - 83% fill rate
- Two Rapid pods: LHL4CRL and LHL4CRLRM
 - LHL4CRLRM is restricted to items held by 25 libraries or fewer in OCLC

Linda Hall Library

- Most requests to LHL come through non-Rapid member libraries
- Q1 2013
 - 3,317 total requests were supplied out of 3,970 (84% fill rate)
 - 2,567 requests were supplied out of 3,041 for LHL4CRL
 - 750 requests were supplied out of 929 for LHL4CRLRM

Linda Hall Library

- Services
 - Document delivery
 - Research assistance
 - Digitization
 - Image rights and reproduction



Fellowships

- Linda Hall Library re-launched its Fellowship program in 2012 after a 3-year hiatus.
- Resident fellowships are available on a competitive basis; applications are solicited once a year.
- Fellows must be in residence for a minimum of 1 month and a maximum of 9 months.
- Fellows' research projects must require substantial use of LHL collections.

Fellows' Projects

- A comparison of Protestant and Italian Catholic perspectives in 17th and 18th century theories of the earth
- An examination of engineering as a profession in Germany and the U.S. from 1870 to 1930
- Culture and technology in the Brazilian airspace; colonizing Amazonia from the air
- Analysis of regulatory engineers in the EPA and Engineering Societies, 1969 to 1980

Fellows' Projects continued

- A study of European attempts to classify plants native to the New World, the uses of those plants, and the effect of classification on colonial hierarchies of authority

Public Programs

- The Linda Hall Library maintains a fall and a spring lecture series.
- Most lectures are videotaped and become available permanently on the LHL website.
- Lecture videos have been viewed in countries on every continent except Antarctica.
- Lecture videos may be accessed at:
www.lindahall.org/events/

Linda Hall Library

- Online catalog
 - <http://catalog.lindahall.org>
- Digital collections
 - <http://lhldigital.lindahall.org>
- Contact

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