Into the Trenches:
Collaborating with Medical Students

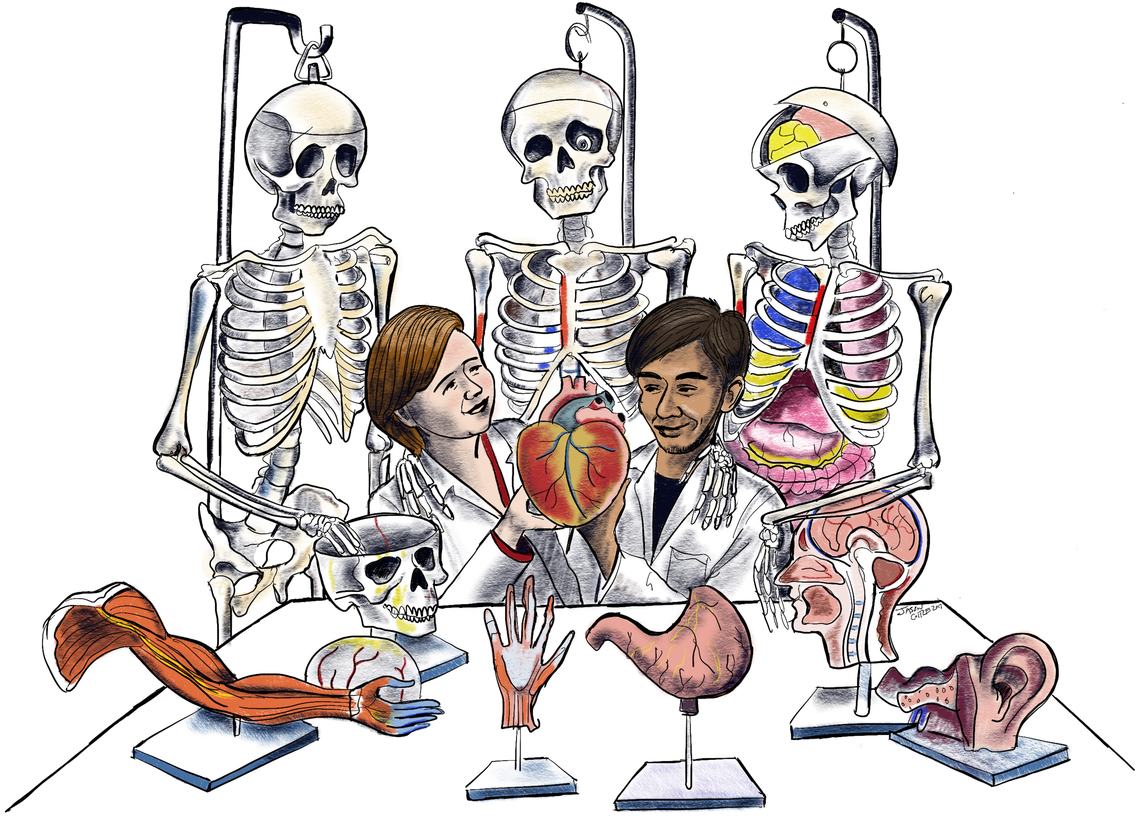
Objective:

- The liaison librarian for the School of Medicine was challenged to increase medical students' use of the library's anatomical models collection.

Methods:

- The liaison librarian to the School of Medicine, Head of Access Services and second year medical students worked to identify items in the library's anatomical models collection that would be useful for first year medical students.
- Gaps in the library's current anatomical model collection were identified.
- New models were purchased to ensure availability of library resources to support the anatomy curriculum.
- Librarians developed an orientation guide to provide a customized study experience for first-year medical students progressing through their anatomy curriculum.

libguides.ecu.edu/models



Results:

- By identifying relevant anatomical models targeted at specific pieces of the anatomy curriculum, the library's anatomical model usage has more than doubled during the 2016–2017 fiscal year.

2015-2016	2016-2017
47 checkouts	**215** checkouts

Conclusions:

- Integrating medical students into the library's collection development procedures resulted in an increase in the use of library's anatomical model collection.
- Relationships were forged that will help the library identify medical students' future needs.
- The success of this pilot program spread, and librarians are now involved in similar projects to integrate the library's anatomical models in the anatomy curriculum for physician assistant studies, nursing and the anatomy and physiology undergraduate courses.

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