

May 22, 2023

It is with a heavy heart that we announce the passing of Dr. Margaret (Peggy) Acara who died on May 9 at the age of 89. Professor of pharmacology and toxicology at UB's School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences, she co-founded the Institute for Research and Education on Women and Gender (now known as the UB Gender Institute) with Isabel Marcus in 1997. During her time as co-director, Dr. Acara pushed for five research concentrations: 1) data and resources on gender and violence, 2) women's health, 3) the impact of changing welfare laws, 4) education on women and gender in the schools, and 5) feminist topics in the humanities.

Dr. Acara stepped down as director in 2001 but her influence on the Gender Institute is still felt today. The last time many of us saw Peggy was at Isabel Marcus's retirement luncheon in October 2019. With Isabel's passing in 2021, and Peggy's earlier this month, the Gender Institute community grieves the loss of our founding mothers while finding inspiration in their example. We send condolences to Dr. Acara's family and friends.

[Buffalo News announcement.](#)