

[NO.61 FALL 2002](#)
[BENE LEGERE](#)
[NEWSLETTER OF](#)
[THE](#)
[LIBRARY](#)
[ASSOCIATES](#)

- [Charles Franklin Doe and Michael Reese: Library Legacies](#)
- [New Library Prize to be Awarded for Outstanding Undergraduate Research Projects](#)
- [The Teaching Library: Reaching Cal Undergraduates](#)
- [The Reference Center and the Great Rooms](#)
- [Bear in Mind: The California Grizzly at The Bancroft Library](#)

The Library Associates

Join more than 6,000 other friends, book lovers, alumni, and faculty who recognize that the influence of a great research library reaches beyond the university it serves to the many communities of which it is a part.

Library Associates receive complimentary copies of the quarterly newsletter *Bene Legere*, as well as invitations to special occasions at the Library. For more information on the Library Associates program, please write or telephone: The Library Development Office, Room

The Reference Center and the Great Rooms

Bene Legere Saecla Vincere is inscribed on the north wall of the East Reading Room in Doe Library Building. Translated, it means "To read well is to master the ages." Scholars in the Humanities and Social Sciences will identify with this quote as they are inspired by the newly remodeled and configured Research Center. This semester The Library is celebrating the opening of the new Reference Center. Harking back to a time of grand architecture, the Reference Center is a single centralized research space developed out of the three great rooms within Doe Library. The Center is comprised of the Reference Hall where the reference desk, Research Advisory Services, special shelving locations for the reference collection, and 34 computer workstations are located. Banked on either side are the North Reading Room, where the Doe Reference Collection is located and the East Reading Room (formerly known as GSSI) location of Government Documents Reference Collections, selected current periodicals for the social sciences and 15 more computers.



Reference Hall, Doe Library, 2002.

A Beaux-Arts room set next to a recreation of an Italian Renaissance palace creates an architectural flight of fancy as well as a focal point for research and reference services for researchers in the Doe Library. Librarians serving as liaisons to academic departments and programs, as well as other library staff, provide assistance and instruction with both print and electronic resources. A newly designed reference desk incorporates decorative details from nearby historic bronze doors. The mix of the old with the cyber-present allows unparalleled access to the online and print reference collection. The print collection includes 27,000 volumes located in the North Reading Room and in the Reference Hall, and the 15,000 volume government document reference collections located in the East Reading Room.

The remodeling cost so far is about \$500,000, and it is estimated that a like amount will be spent to finish work on the Reference Hall alone. Eventually, renovation of the North Reading Room, which houses the bulk of the reference collection, will be undertaken with an estimated cost of \$3 million to \$5 million.

The placement of reference services in the historical second floor space links the functions of

131 Doe Library,
University of California,
Berkeley, CA 94720-6000;
telephone (510) 642-9377.
Or, [check our website](#).



Reference Hall, Doe Library, 1939.

[\[top\]](#) [\[prev\]](#) [\[next\]](#)

adjacent spaces, the Rosberg Reading Room and Graduate Services, providing a single place in the Doe Library for users in need of research assistance. We invite all researchers and Library patrons to come by and marvel in the beauty of the architecture and the bounty of research materials.

[HELP / FAQ](#) | [CATALOGS](#) | [COMMENTS](#) | [HOME](#)

[Copyright](#) © 2006 by the Library, University of California, Berkeley. *All rights reserved.*
Document maintained on server: <http://www.lib.berkeley.edu/> by the [Library Development Office](#)
Originally published Fall 2002. Server manager: [contact](#)