

fiat lux

SUMMER 2009 • NO. 12

The Promise of Summer

IT STARTS HERE.

Berkeley's excellence is founded on its library. Opened in 1868 with one thousand books, the University Library now holds over ten million volumes, and ranks as one of the world's great research collections. Join us in supporting the growth and preservation of this stellar library.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

If Mark Twain ran the place....

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The UC Circus

On the UC Berkeley campus, the spring is a time for both intensity and relaxation. Students are immersed in concentrated academic work, studying for final exams and researching final papers, and taking breaks when they can. The two friends at right are enjoying each other's company on the Esplanade by the Campanile.

Desteni Smith, a sociology major and global poverty and practice minor, hails from Pasadena. This summer she will be studying the sociology of religion during the Berkeley summer session.

Jullian ZZenith, who is also majoring in sociology, hails from Indianapolis. Describing the challenges of combining the demands of university study with parenting his daughter, he says: "If I had to pinpoint one thing that has kept me going, it would be this Latin phrase: *Fortitudine Vincimus*. It means 'through endurance, we conquer!' My academic success has not come from me being 'the best' or 'the brightest.' It stems from my unyielding belief in a dream. When I stepped onto UC Berkeley's campus as a transfer student, this dream came true." 🌻

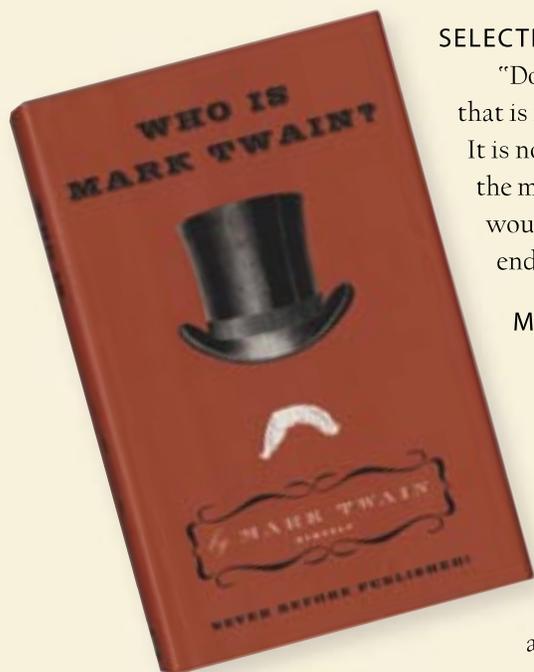


University Librarian's Letter

"NEVER BEFORE PUBLISHED!" AND NOT HIRED, EITHER

Who Is Mark Twain? the new collection of his writings, clears up the question: Was he the right man for the job of running our library? I don't find the question far-fetched. Mark Twain's fellow writer and fellow San Franciscan, Bret Harte, was offered the job of running the new University of California library. Why not Mark Twain?

Without meaning to do this, editor Robert Hirst, who leads the Mark Twain Project at the Bancroft Library, settles the question. The never-before published words of Mark Twain give new meaning to the phrase that ends so many job searches: "poor fit." Here is Mark Twain, erupting:



SELECTING BOOKS

"Does Jane Austen do her work too remorselessly well? For me, I mean? Maybe that is it. She makes me detest all her people, without reserve. Is that her intention? It is not believable. Then is it her purpose to make the reader detest her people up to the middle of the book and like them in the rest of the chapters? That could be. That would be high art. It would be worth while, too. Some day I will examine the other end of the books and see."

MANAGING PEOPLE

"Nothing is done in California without calling a meeting about it. There must be a free, open, expression of opinion. In old times they always called a meeting, even when they were going to lynch a man who needed the most salutary and immediate hanging."

ARCHIVING MANUSCRIPTS

"You had better shove this in the stove, for I don't want any absurd 'literary remains' & 'unpublished letters of Mark Twain' published after I am planted."

PUBLIC SERVICE

"Reader, suppose you were an idiot. And suppose you were a member of Congress. But I repeat myself:"

SUPPORTING WELLNESS

"At the end of an hour, something was said about chloroform. I knew I did not need it myself, but I believed my imagination did; so I accepted the bottle, and after that I held it always in my hand, and put it to my nose whenever my imagination got too brisk."

Budgets being tight, Berkeley's library is in a hiring freeze these days. But when times are better, we can point to *Who is Mark Twain?* as free speech that may be dangerous to your career. To judge by Facebook pages, the need to be reminded of the hazards of excessive personal disclosure is there. But *Who is Mark Twain?* is also a treasure book from Berkeley, of what great libraries are here to share.

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'The Leonard'.

Thomas C. Leonard
Kenneth and Dorothy Hill University Librarian

What's Cooking at the Library?

THE KOSHLAND BIOSCIENCE LIBRARY'S CULINARY COLLECTION PROVIDES FOOD FOR THOUGHT FOR LOCAL CHEFS, CAMPUS RESEARCHERS, AND HOME COOKS

By Carol Ness. Adapted from a longer story, which originally appeared in the Berkeleyan.

Dishes like pig's-ear salad and long-roasted lamb neck now appearing on fashionable San Francisco restaurant menus — from chefs embracing the “whole animal” concept of putting all precious bits to good use — might seem cutting-edge, even daring.

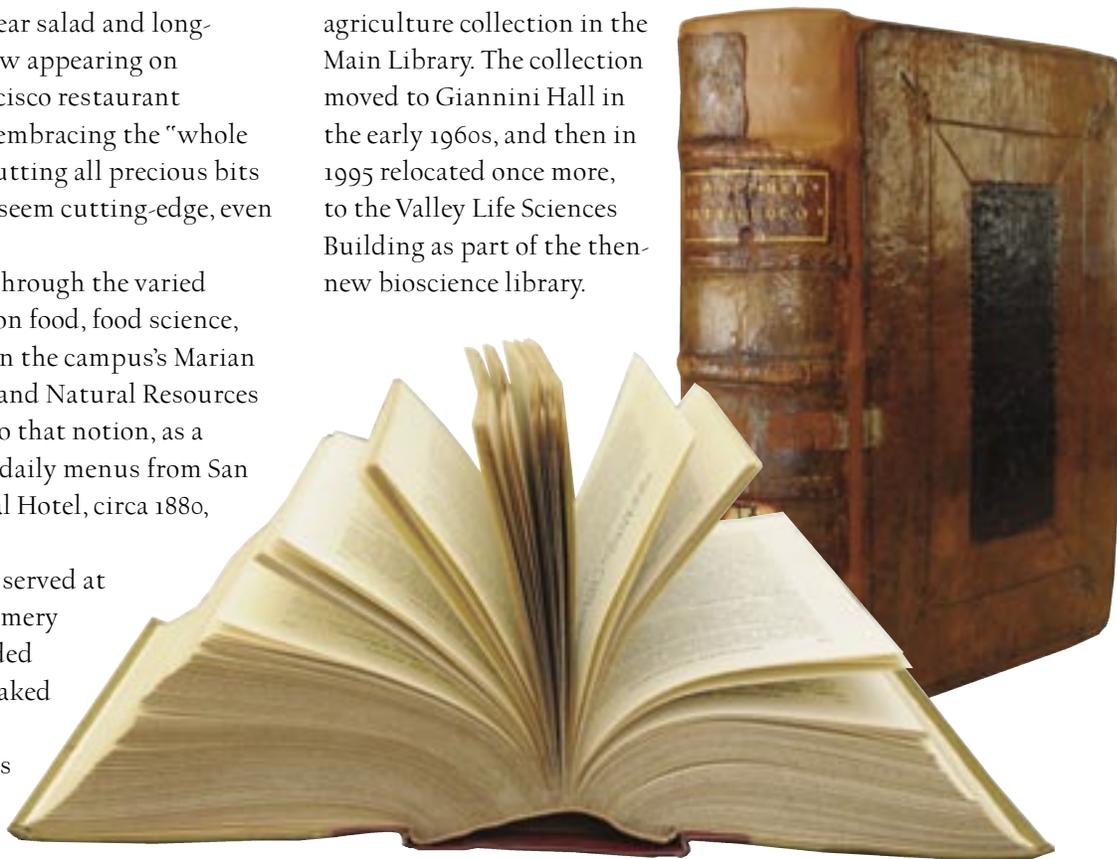
But a quick trip through the varied assortment of books on food, food science, and cooking housed in the campus's Marian Koshland Bioscience and Natural Resources Library gives the lie to that notion, as a glance at a volume of daily menus from San Francisco's Occidental Hotel, circa 1880, makes clear.

Everyday entrees served at the esteemed Montgomery Street hostelry included “calf's head poelé,” “baked brains,” and “lamb's heart sauté” — dishes not likely to make a comeback, even on the edgiest San Francisco tables, anytime soon.

The Occidental didn't survive the 1906 earthquake and fire. But its early menus did, republished in one of the 1,500 eclectic books that make up the Holl Collection, the juicy heart of the bioscience library's holdings of some 5,000 cookery and food-related volumes.

The books were collected by George Holl, a San Francisco painter who was Fox Theatres' West Coast art director during the first half of the 20th century and, in the words of the legendary *San Francisco Chronicle* columnist Herb Caen, “San Francisco's No. 1 gourmet and connoisseur.” Four years after Holl's death in 1946, his brother Walter turned the books over to Berkeley, where they were initially shelved as part of the

agriculture collection in the Main Library. The collection moved to Giannini Hall in the early 1960s, and then in 1995 relocated once more, to the Valley Life Sciences Building as part of the then-new bioscience library.



CHEFS AND SCHOLARS ALIKE

Apart from the Holl books, the library's holdings include early books on nutrition, diet, and health, overviews of the foods of various cultures, the amusing and literate writings of culinary documentarians like Waverley Root, traces of early and modern California cuisine, and many, many cookbooks.

A collection this varied is bound to be used for many purposes. Environmental-science students use the books to analyze such issues as the effects on the land of growing and processing food. Dietetics students use them to track dietary patterns or changes among populations: how much fat

continued on page 4



Books from the Holl Collection can be viewed only by request, at a table watched by the reference librarian with the kind of attention normally paid a *Hollandaise* about to curdle.

continued from page 3

is consumed by various cultures, or points of comparison between the eating habits of Asians and Asian Americans. Natural-resources librarian Norma Kobzina, in fact, teaches classes every semester in the use of the cookery books as scientific references.

The collection is a resource for local chefs as well, professional and otherwise. Paul Bertolli, now producing artisanal salumi in Berkeley under the Fra' Mani label, used the collection to plan Escoffier dinners at Chez Panisse when he cooked there; he once enlisted Kobzina to research the kind of

wood originally used for olive-oil barrels, she recalls. But any aspiring cook with a Cal ID who wants to learn the culinary tricks of local luminaries like Boulevard's Nancy Oakes or Chez Panisse's Alice Waters can check out their cookbooks and take them home to inspire experiments on friends and family.

"There's greater use of [the books] now," Kobzina says, partly because of publicity about the collection and partly because some of the books have been digitized by Google and Yahoo and people are stumbling across them online.

THESE BOOKS CAN'T STAND THE HEAT

The Holl Collection is the library's *pièce de résistance*, and its books go nowhere near a stove. They're kept under lock and key and can be viewed only by request, for use at a single table watched by the reference librarian with the kind of attention normally paid a Hollandaise about to curdle.

Though Holl was from San Francisco, his collection is far from parochial, containing books on cooking and culture from every continent except Antarctica, starting with recipes from Imperial Rome (in Latin) to 1930s Africa to London's Chinatown circa 1932, and on to Scotland, Russia, and many books from Germany. He also had an eye for American cooking, with selections ranging from the foodways of Martha Washington and a wealth of Southern cookbooks to celebrity "cookbooks" featuring such gems as recipes for Franklin D. Roosevelt's Eggs President (scrambled, basically) and Robert Frost's take on a baked potato (cooked outdoors in wood ashes, the only thing the poet says he ever cooked).

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 extends beyond the university it serves to the many communities of which it is a part.

The Library adds an astounding amount of printed and electronic resources each year, including rare and unique materials. In order to continue to acquire, organize, and make accessible new information, the Library depends on the support of those who understand how important a world-class library is to the education of students who will one day shape our future. Your gift is crucial to the continued excellence of the University Library.

Library Associates receive complimentary copies of the quarterly newsletter as well as invitations to special occasions at the Library. For more information or to make a gift, contact us at (510) 642-9377 or give@library.berkeley.edu. Or visit our website at www.lib.berkeley.edu/give/



Spooning the stacks: The Koshland Library's Norma Kobzina oversees the culinary collection there.

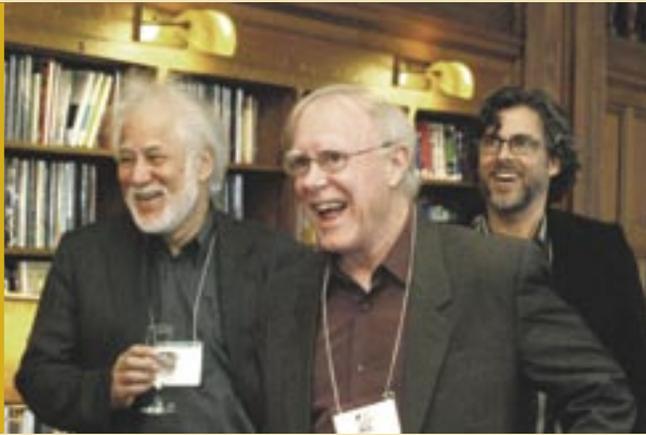
The Koshland Library's cookery books provide insight into both the highly contemporary and the thoroughly antiquarian, while serving as a resource for both the chef and the scholar.

The longer version of this story is available at http://berkeley.edu/news/berkeleyan/2009/02/12_cookbooks.shtml 🍴

JOY TO THE WORD

Authors Michael Ondaatje, Robert Hass, and Michael Chabon, at a March 20 special event for the Campaign for the University Library. The event featured a conversation between the three renowned writers, in which they discussed influences on their work through music and movies, cartoons and adventure tales. You can view the March 20 conversation at webcast.berkeley.edu.

Professor Robert Hass co-chairs the Campaign for the University Library (www.lib.berkeley.edu/give), which is raising funds to strengthen research collections and to revitalize Moffitt Library.



The guests at the March 20 event included library donors and friends as well as people from film and literary circles, including Academy Award winner Frances McDormand, NewsHour correspondent Elizabeth Farnsworth and NPR's Davia Nelson, cultural critic Greil Marcus, film editor Walter Murch, poet Brenda Hillman, and novelists Daniel Mason and Bharati Mukherjee. At right, library development director Dave Duer introduces the three featured speakers.



Women writers at the event included Sara Houghteling, far left, whose first book, *Pictures at an Exhibition*, was published in February. With Houghteling are novelist Michelle Richmond, photographer Patricia Williams, and author Ayelet Waldman.

Elizabeth Heyman, wife of former chancellor Ira "Mike" Heyman, with dedicated library supporter Janet McKinley.



Academy Award-winning writer, director, and producer Joel Coen, with University Librarian Tom Leonard.



“DO I HAVE TO READ ALL THESE BOOKS?”

Alumna Alice Constantian remembers visiting the University Library with her children in 1972:

“Our family (George, Alice and three children—June age 12, Ray age 10, and Joel age 8) attended Cal Day in 1972. We all enjoyed visiting the Campanile and the many exhibits, as well as wandering through the buildings, once sliding down an outdoor banister. The most memorable memory was walking through a bit of the stacks. George worked as an electronics engineer at the Lawrence Berkeley Lab, and so was privileged to use the stacks. (*Ed. note: Until the 1990s, access to the stacks was restricted.*)

While George was showing us a section of the book stacks with very low ceilings of light purple glass floors, our daughter, June, who was then 12 years old, took a long look around and finally said, “You mean if I come to Cal, I’m going to have to read ALL these books?” Boy! Did George and I laugh, as we reassured her that this would NOT be the case!”

—by Alice Constantian ('58, Social Welfare)



NEW DATA LAB OPENS IN DOE LIBRARY



The transplanted and upgraded Data Lab in Doe Library — new location, longer hours, lots of data, and the software that students need to find and analyze it.

The Library’s Data Lab reopened last September, spiffed up and in a new location on the first floor of Doe Library. The Data Lab provides access to statistical and GIS (geographic information system) software. Coverage includes political, demographic, economic, and financial data. The services provide access to a growing collection of electronic data including the ICPSR (Interuniversity Consortium for Political and Social Research) and Roper Archive, Thomson DataStream and CEIC Global Database and analytical software such as SAS, SPSS, Stata, and ArcGIS. The lab is open to all UC Berkeley students, faculty, and staff.

—by Dick Cortén

Student Employees in the Library

KIMBERLY CHU

Majoring in public health
Employed in Doe Library
Graduating in spring 2010



Kimberly speaks highly of her experience working at the Privileges Desk in Doe Library. "Since I haven't had a real job before this one, I have really learned a lot from my work there," she says. "And my supervisor and co-workers are great!"

A public health major, and education minor, Kimberly is thrilled with how inspiring and supportive her professors and graduate student instructors are. In her own studying, she enjoys working with friends in a group study room in the Gardner Stacks. She and her

friends encourage each other in their endeavors, and take breaks together to relax.

At other times, Kimberly works in her studio apartment, where she can access all the Library's licensed databases and online journals through the proxy server (available to current students and faculty) on her laptop.

A piano player and a practitioner of martial arts, Kimberly also finds time to tutor at a local elementary school and be active in her church. It's clear that the Library is lucky to have Kimberly on board! 🍀

Every day at the two dozen campus libraries, students keep the wheels turning. Almost 600 students work in the University Library in some capacity, constituting a vital part of our workforce. Here, we highlight a few of our student employees, with gratitude for their many contributions.

Majored in psychology (pre-med)
Employed in the Gardner Stacks, Doe Library
Graduated in spring 2009

PAUL FORMAKER



Paul Formaker has probably spent more hours in the Gardner Stacks than even the most assiduous student. As a member of the stacks crew, he and his student co-workers aim to "fine-order" the entire collection book by book, scrutinizing the sequence of call numbers to catch any mis-shelved items.

With almost two million volumes in the stacks, this is no small task. Paul's team, which varies between 35 and 50 students, aims to complete this Herculean project not just once a year, but twice! They also "fine-shelve" the books, lining up the volumes for better preservation and appearance.

Paul, whose two older brothers also attended Cal, grew up in the Russian River Valley. He majored in psychology, as a pre-med student, and graduated this spring.

This summer he'll be spending a month in Madrid through a UC study abroad program, where he plans to improve his Spanish. Over the next year, he will pursue research in kinesiology, take the MCAT, and apply to medical school. Good luck, Paul! 🍀

JOSEPH GUZMÁN

Double major in philosophy and history
Employed at the Jean Gray Hargrove Music Library
Graduating in spring 2010



At Cal, Joey Guzmán comments, it can be challenging to balance one's academic life with extracurricular interests, while also keeping career prospects in mind. "But every time I walk into a campus library," Joey says, "I remember the fundamental reason I'm here: to get an education."

Among the two dozen campus libraries, his favorite places to study are the Philosophy Library in Moses Hall and the just-opened C.V. Starr East Asian Library. For late-night study sessions, he relies on Moffitt Library; open until 2 am during the semester, Moffitt is a convenient haven for night-owl students.

The Jean Gray Hargrove Music Library, where Joey works on the circulation desk, is one of the newest campus libraries, opened in 2004. It has received much acclaim for its architecture. "We get tons of compliments on how beautiful the building is," he says.

Originally from the Los Angeles area, Joey had been educated in private schools, and was attracted to Berkeley's character as a public university, with its academic excellence. "I couldn't be happier here at Cal," he says. "For me, there's something exciting about walking through Sproul Plaza and hearing about all the various causes people are fighting for. The campus has a very cosmopolitan feel to it, which I enjoy. And, I've gotten to study with philosopher John Searle!" 🍷

Student library employees gain many benefits—not only are they earning money, enjoying flexible hours, and developing good work habits, but their library jobs provide them with a ringside seat to the hub of information on campus.

Majoring in civil engineering
Employed at the Kresge Engineering Library
Graduating in December 2009

PAULA BRAN



"I heard Cal was challenging, and I like challenges," says Paula Bran of her wish to attend UC Berkeley. A native of Guatemala, she transferred here after two years in community college, knowing that Berkeley is one of the best schools for her field of civil engineering. "I worked really hard to get here," Paula says, "and I feel like I belong."

This year, Paula participated in Cal's Student Steel Bridge Competition Team. In a recent regional contest, their design—the result of a year's work—won first place in all categories: construction speed, stiffness, efficiency, lightness, economy, and display.

Working as a student employee at the Engineering Library has been an integral part of Paula's years at Cal. She is currently a student supervisor.

After graduating in December 2009, Paula plans to find an internship before applying to a master's program in structural engineering. Her specialty will be forensic engineering—and her top choice of graduate program will be, of course, Berkeley. 🍷

John Olson

ANNUAL DONOR TO THE LIBRARY SINCE 1983



LIBRARY AND CAL CONNECTIONS

One of the University Library's most loyal donors, having given annually for the past twenty-five years, John Olson traces his allegiance back to his student job in Doe Library. As an undergraduate, Olson worked in the main stacks 18 hours a week. His library position was "one of the good jobs," he remembers; the hours were flexible, one could meet students from other majors, and at quiet times catch up with studying. Olson also enjoyed the chance to browse in the stacks as he was shelving books.

Olson graduated in 1961 with a B.A. in political science, with highest honors. He was elected to the Order of the Golden Bear in his junior year, and as warden (president) his senior year. Olson subsequently earned his J.D. *cum laude* from Harvard.

PROFESSIONAL CAREER

Considered one of the top securities attorneys in Washington D.C., Olson's entire legal career has been with Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher. He joined the firm in 1964, and is a founding partner of their Washington, D.C. office. Officially retired, Olson continues to practice and to teach at Georgetown Law School. 🍷

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Standing at the center of the academic experience on the campus, the Library reflects the strength and distinction of the University of California. The Campaign for the University Library will enable us to achieve the next level of excellence, and to build on it for generations to come. Our goals are:

REVITALIZING MOFFITT LIBRARY

Focused on discovery, collaboration, and community, the revitalized Moffitt Library will be a place dedicated to supporting undergraduate research, and to fostering a vibrant community of scholarship and inquiry.

STRENGTHENING THE RESEARCH COLLECTIONS

The University Library is seeking private support to maintain the excellence of its research collections. Known for their depth and breadth, the Library's collections support the work of Berkeley's scholarly community across 130 academic departments.

Berkeley's libraries are at the heart of the University's mission of teaching, research, and public service. We appreciate your support of the Campaign for the University Library.

www.lib.berkeley.edu/give

Fiat Lux, or Let there be light, is the motto of the University of California.

The *Fiat Lux* newsletter of the Library at the University of California, Berkeley is published quarterly by the Library Development Office, University of California, Berkeley, Room 131 Doe Library, Berkeley CA 94720-6000. Telephone: (510) 642-9377. Email: give@library.berkeley.edu. Your feedback and suggestions are warmly invited.

Kenneth and Dorothy Hill University Librarian
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Then & Now

CAMPUS POSTERS: 1899 AND NOW

The UC Berkeley campus scene has evolved throughout the University's history, taking different forms as political and cultural concerns change. The 1899 poster shown here promotes the UC Circus, while the present-day billboard depicted below



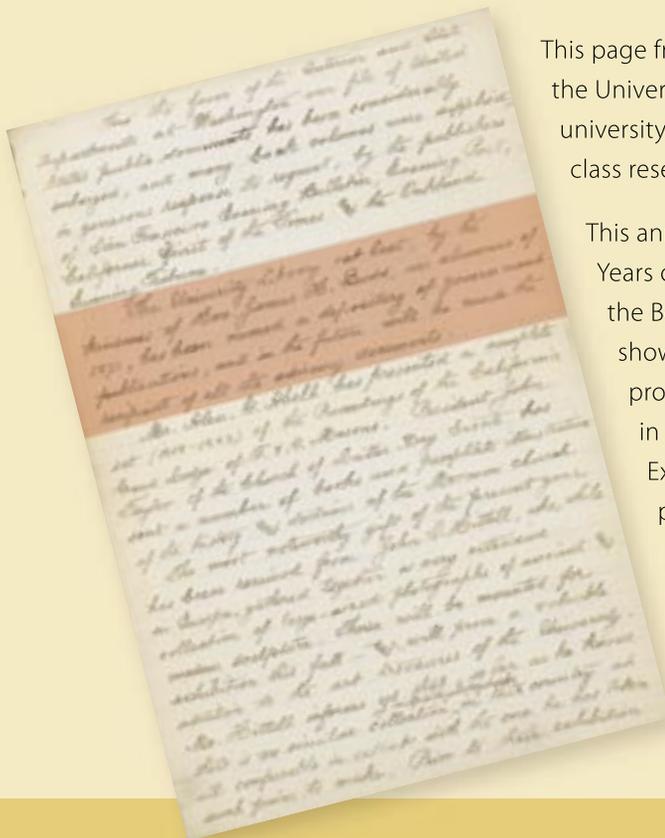
advertises a "Freakfest," a performance of Oscar Wilde's play "The Importance of Being Earnest," a concert benefiting Ugandan refugees, and a "Pop Culture Trivia Night." On any given day, student, staff and faculty on the Berkeley campus are faced with a panoply of happenings—a three-ring circus, some would say—that offers something for almost every taste and interest.



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125 Years of Discovery



This page from the 1883-1884 Annual Report of the Library describes how the University Library became a Federal Depository Library. For a new university, this designation provided part of the foundation for the world-class research institution UC Berkeley is today.

This annual report is on display in Doe Library's current exhibit, "125 Years of Discovery: The Federal Depository Library Program at Cal," in the Bernice Layne Brown Gallery through August 2009. The exhibit showcases some of the historic, interesting, strange, and thought-provoking government publications the Cal libraries have received in our 125 years as a Federal Depository Library. From Presidential Executive Orders to reports on UFOs, the United States has published something of interest to everyone.

The UC Berkeley Library's collection of United States government documents is one of the most comprehensive in the United States, dating back to the founding of the nation, and is used by researchers in many fields.