

fiat lux

WINTER 2011 • NO. 18

Island Investigations

LIBRARY'S DIGITAL RESOURCES GALVANIZE PRIZE-WINNING RESEARCH

IT STARTS HERE.

Berkeley's excellence is founded on its library. Opened in 1868 with one thousand books, the University Library now holds eleven 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.

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A Mystery Pie Chart

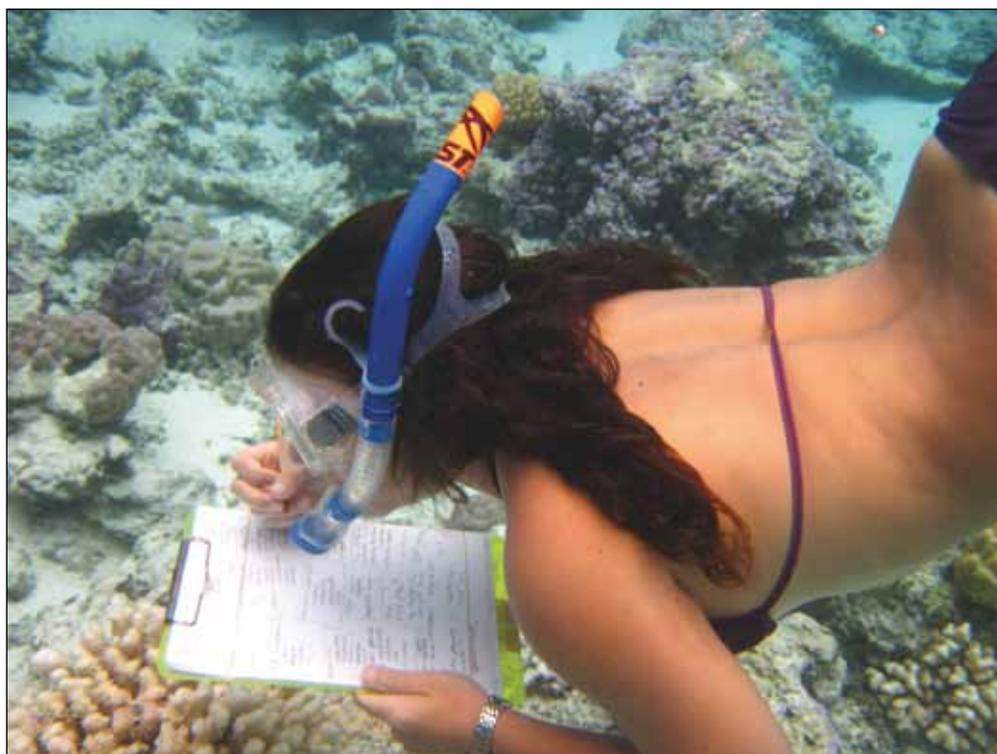
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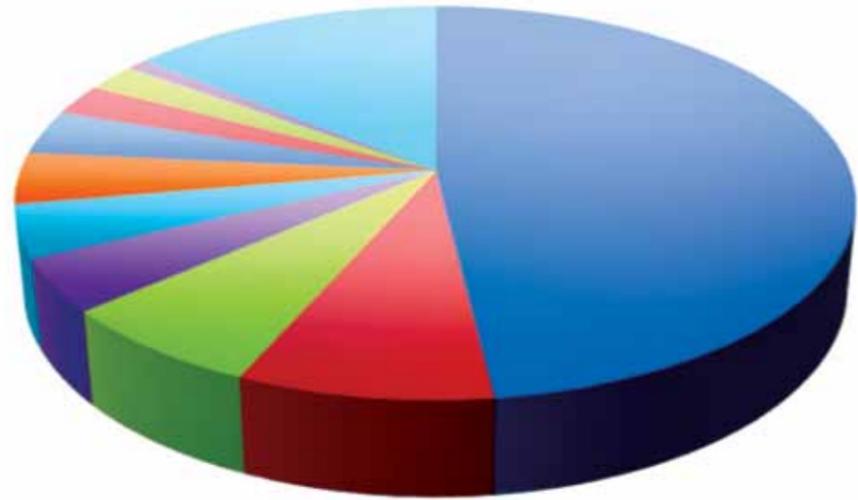


Alexandra Title conducts studies of coral dispersal on the island of Mo'orea. "Amazingly, I was able to remotely access all of UC Berkeley's electronic resources from this tiny, isolated island thousands of miles away thanks to a simple Internet connection... The Library's databases and e-journals made all the difference."

Alexandra Title '10 came to Cal interested in comparative literature, but soon found herself comparing corals instead. As happens for many Cal undergraduates, taking introductory courses in various fields inspired new interests, and Alexandra soon selected Molecular and Environmental Biology as her major. In her senior year, she won a coveted place in a course that shipped her out to an island in French Polynesia, where she conducted a research project on coral diversity. Her excellent research—much of it conducted remotely from the island—earned her an honorable mention in the Library Prize for Undergraduate Research contest for 2010.

University Librarian's Letter

MYSTERY PIE CHART FOR 2010



PICK ONE: DO THE ELEVEN COLORS STAND FOR:

- A. Cal students in the Library during finals who were: Asleep, drowsy, listening to music, stretched out, talking on a cell phone, consulting a librarian, actually reading a book, furiously typing on their laptop, away from their seat, standing up and not moving, seated and quietly studying.
- B. Number of donations to the Library grouped by decades since 1900.
- C. The amount of assigned reading for Berkeley students in departments ranging from the humanities to the physical sciences.
- D. The language breakdown of 7 million volumes digitized and available today by libraries such as UC Berkeley's.
- E. Reference questions the Library gets, ranging from the pure search for knowledge to the need for help on a paper that is due in 24 hours.

THE ANSWER (NOT TO SPOIL THIS) IS UPSIDE DOWN

Pie charts can be amusing, but this one shows real progress in 2010 towards the goal of sharing knowledge.

Thomas C. Leonard
Kenneth and Dorothy Hill University Librarian

We wish we had data to follow all of this, the pie charts would certainly be interesting. But the only thing we are sure about at the moment is the breakdown by languages of the books (D) we have digitized with partners. In a line of books that would stretch from Berkeley to Sacramento (should the California Highway Patrol allow) the obvious winner is English (blue). German (red) and French (green) are the next major languages. Working left, Spanish, Chinese, Russian and Japanese are the next, equal slices. The somewhat larger light blue slice at the top is an array of more than 200 different languages.

The Library as Place: Creating Community

BY CHARLENE CONRAD LIEBAU '60, PRESIDENT OF THE LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD



There's no denying it — UC Berkeley is big. It's big in all the good ways: academic resources and offerings, faculty and student talent with a diversity of viewpoints and perspectives.

As much as "bigness" is an advantage it also presents challenges, especially for undergraduate students. How does one find a sense of place? How does one make discoveries about oneself in the midst of all the activity?

The size and complexity of UC Berkeley present other challenges — how do we define community when there are so many? What is the common experience for students — or, can there be one?

Perhaps the one shared experience for all students is the Library. Regardless of major, interests, activities, organizations, or whether one lives on or off-campus, all students spend some amount of time in the Library.

I fondly remember spending time in the North Reading Room at the same table and on most days, in the same chair. It was where I learned to take short "power naps," waking up ready to forge on. Studying in that magnificent room with its soaring windows did impress upon me that I was part of something important, and that I must do well and take advantage of everything before me.

Today much has changed, most importantly the way students use the library. While what goes into defining a library has not changed — books, special collections, journals, librarians, and scholars — how the library is used has changed dramatically.

Today, undergraduates undertake challenging research across the disciplines, from the arts and humanities to the social sciences to the physical and life sciences. Students learn to access original sources, to think critically about what they find, and to present the results of their research. In the process librarians have become active partners along with faculty in guiding students. No longer are librarians seen only on the other side of the circulation desk. I've learned that librarians now actively participate with faculty in instructing students on how to conduct research, how to find resources.

Research — across the curriculum — is only one of the recent developments in the undergraduate experience. Collaborative, cooperative learning is frequently the new norm. Today students work together on projects, write reports, and make presentations as a community of learners. Academic study across the disciplines encourages students to work together using different teaching and learning styles.

To facilitate active, participatory learning Moffitt Library is slated for major changes: open spaces, individual and group spaces, study and presentation rooms (*see p. 6-7*). In many ways a reconfigured Moffitt will be at the center of a newfound sense of community at UC Berkeley.

Our campus will always seem big — and with a revitalized Moffitt Library our community of scholars can continue to do big things, as they teach and learn in innovative ways.

"...with a revitalized Moffitt Library our community of scholars can continue to do big things, as they teach and learn in innovative ways."

Island Investigations, continued from page 1

After graduating from Berkeley, Alexandra did fieldwork for a University of Pennsylvania project aimed at developing a vaccine against Lyme disease. At present she is working in a Swiss lab with a team that is exploring the genetic basis for various disorders. Her future plans involve either medical school or graduate school in biology.

THE RISE OF “BORN DIGITAL” ACQUISITIONS

The print and digital collections at the University of California, Berkeley represent the bedrock of the Library’s support to faculty and students. In a time of spiraling costs and diminishing state support, the Campaign for the University Library aims to strengthen the research collections in order to maintain its 140-year tradition of excellence.

Alexandra’s story in these pages highlights a significant change in the last several years: over half of annual acquisitions are now “born digital,” with the majority of those expenditures supporting science and engineering collections. The full range of digital materials encompasses every format—journals, books, datasets, sound and video recordings, and more.

A significant percentage of the funding for acquiring print and digital collections comes from the contributions of Library friends and alumni. We are grateful for your continued support of our collections, which are the foundation of Cal’s global reputation for groundbreaking scholarship and research.

www.lib.berkeley.edu/give/researchcollections.html

The course for which she wrote the prize-winning paper was Biology and Geomorphology of Tropical Islands, a 13-unit course that occupies the student’s entire semester. Students spend a month

at Berkeley for lectures and labs five days a week, then two months on Mo’orea in French Polynesia, at UC Berkeley’s Richard B. Gump South Pacific Research Station, for intensive research projects.

According to Dr. Brent Mishler, one of her professors, “Alex showed unusual creativity and perseverance. She was one of the very top students in this class, and that is saying a lot because it is a very select group.” Alexandra hopes that her work on coral diversity might assist with conservation efforts to protect coral reefs from adverse human impact.

She did most of her research from the field, using proxy connections on the remote island to access online databases licensed by the University Library. Being able to access the Library online was a tremendous advantage, she says. “People used to have to print out and drag all the papers to the island. The Library’s databases and e-journals made all the difference.”

When not using the Library remotely from an island in the Pacific, Alexandra enjoyed using the physical Library on campus. As far as favorite places to study—a matter on which Berkeley students have decided opinions—she selected the Marian Koshland Bioscience and Natural Resources Library, a natural fit for her major. She also loved the North Reading Room in Doe Library. “It is so open and beautiful, with lots of room and natural light—and very quiet, so I could really focus on my work and be productive,” she says.

ON CAMPUS AND ABROAD

Although science became Alexandra’s focus at Berkeley, she also found time to pursue her interest in comparative literature, studying both German and Spanish. Illustrating the appeal of other cultures and times, her favorite contemporary novels include *Memoirs of a Geisha* by Arthur Golden, set in 20th century Kyoto, and *Girl with a Pearl Earring* by Tracy Chevalier, set in the Netherlands in the 1600s.

Outside of the lab and the classroom, Alexandra competed on the crew team, and sang as a member of a South Asian *a cappella* group.

Along with her senior year fieldwork in Mo’orea, Alexandra spent a junior semester abroad in Australia. Reflecting on the challenges and rewards of her studies outside of the country, she comments that the most important lesson she learned at Cal is to “always push yourself to try new things.”

Excerpts from Alexandra Title’s research process essay for the 2010 Library Prize in Undergraduate Research
LIBRARY RESEARCH... WITHOUT THE PHYSICAL LIBRARY?

“The ability to do library research from a remote island in the middle of the Pacific seems quite unlikely, but thanks to a sometimes reliable Internet connection and the UC Berkeley Library’s remote access system, this was in fact not only doable, but necessary.

Research can be thought of as the path from idea to evidence: starting with the basic concept that there are fewer coral species in Mo’orea than in the Great Barrier Reef, I had to find a way to show that this was true in a completely unbiased and scientific manner. This turned out to be a daunting task for which library resources were a necessity.

The first step in my project was to find a good study performed in a comparable region of the Great Barrier Reef that I could replicate. Amazingly, I was able to remotely access all of UC Berkeley’s electronic

resources from this tiny, isolated island thousands of miles away thanks to a simple Internet connection. I mostly utilized the Biosis and Web of Science databases, which I found to be good sources for scientific papers.

When it came to coral identification, however, electronic resources were not sufficient. I thus reserved a few books on coral species identification, including the multi-volume *Corals of the World* identification guide by J.E.N. Veron, and had these waiting for me at the library when I returned to Berkeley two weeks before the end of the semester.

I learned a lot from this research experience. I ended up not only with some interesting conclusions that might be useful in future work in conservation, but just as important, with a new perspective and respect for scientific research. ”



Alexandra Title on Mo’orea. “Long gone are the days of thumbing through hundreds of scientific journals, skimming their contents in search of a relevant paper; with a few clicks, I was able to access an enormous collection of years’ worth of research in a location surrounded on all sides by interminable water.”

“People used to have to print out and drag all the papers to the island. The Library’s databases and e-journals made all the difference.”

REVITALIZING MOFFITT LIBRARY

Moffitt Library is one of the true intellectual commons on campus, supporting students across all majors. One of the most frequented spaces of learning outside the classroom, Moffitt boasts the longest hours and the most highly used print collection among campus libraries.

Yet Moffitt is a magnet *despite* the facility itself. Decades of high use have brought heavy wear and tear on its physical structure, mechanical systems, and furnishings. Most importantly, today's collaborative, technology-enhanced modes of study require new kinds of support.

Our goal is to renovate Moffitt to create a flexible, dynamic learning center for the 21st century, one that can fully meet our students' needs for community, inquiry, and engagement.

MOFFITT LIBRARY REVITALIZATION GOALS

DESIGN

flexible, state-of-the-art spaces that better support diverse modes of learning, and equip them with the best resources for students to accomplish their goals — such as practicing oral presentation skills and creating group presentations or projects

EXPAND

comfortable, informal spaces for individual and group study, allowing people to easily use personal portable devices to conduct work throughout the library

ADHERE

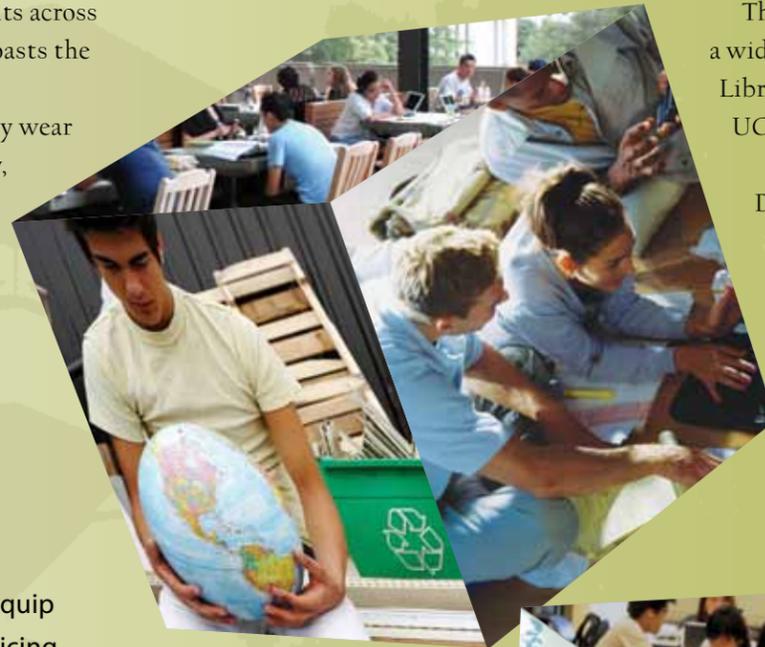
to sustainability principles throughout the renovation, incorporating new systems that are energy-efficient and environmentally-friendly

CREATE

an enhanced computer commons that provides tools for the development of sophisticated multimedia projects, and the manipulation and analysis of data

UPGRADE

the aging mechanical and ventilation systems and infrastructure — for instance, provide enough electrical outlets on each floor to meet the demand from students who need to power their laptops



A LEARNING CENTER for the 21ST CENTURY

The new Moffitt will respond to today's educational opportunities and needs by delivering a wide array of traditional and innovative library services. As a new campus hub, Moffitt Library will foster a vibrant community of scholarship and inquiry, representing the best of UC Berkeley.

For information on specific funding needs and naming opportunities, please contact Deborah Maxon in Library Development at 510/643-4714, or dmaxon@library.berkeley.edu.

YOUR GIFT TO MOFFITT—TIMES TWO!

Thanks to a challenge grant from the Skirball Foundation, now is a great opportunity to help us reach our \$50 million dollar goal for Moffitt.

Your gift will be matched dollar for dollar, doubling in value.

The Skirball Foundation's grant calls for the Library to match the \$1.5 million dollar gift in private support by July 2012. Thanks to enthusiastic support from our alumni and friends, the Library is over a third of the way towards the goal for the required match.

Recognizing that the Moffitt Library revitalization will benefit thousands of Berkeley students over the next decades, many donors find that investing in these extraordinarily talented students is one of the most satisfying gifts they can make.

Gifts may be mailed to The University Library, Room 131 Doe Library, Berkeley CA 94720-6000. Online donations can be made to the University Library Campaign Fund at givetocal.berkeley.edu. Please note that your gift is intended for the Skirball matching grant for Moffitt Library.

For more information, visit www.lib.berkeley.edu/give, or phone 510/642-9377.

What do you love about the library?



Judith Taylor

As an independent scholar, none of my four books or many articles would have been possible without the UC Berkeley Library system. Every time I go there I bless the foresight and wisdom of earlier librarians who built the collections with depth and complexity. Being able to go through a complete run of an old journal is an exquisite experience. I am also in the debt of today's library staff, every one of whom treats me with grace and courtesy.



Cecelia Hurwicz '42

When I was a student at Cal, the library was not only a place to study individually, but it was where we liked to study with a date! We felt virtuous walking to the library together, setting out our books for a few hours of concentration, and perhaps on our walk home, stopping off for coffee or a snack. What a treat it was in those days to spend an evening studying at the library with a date!

What do you love about the University Library?

Send your thoughts and memories to give@library.berkeley.edu, and we may publish them online or in a future newsletter.

GET YOUR EMAIL UPDATES!

You can keep in touch with the UC Berkeley Library online! By signing up, you will receive timely updates on Library programs, invitations to special events, notifications on available web casts, and more. If you'd like to receive occasional email updates from the Library, please send your email directly to stesch@library.berkeley.edu

We want you to know that we respect your privacy rights and will never share your information with any other organization. Thank you for your interest in the University Library!

William Loughman '69, J.D. '72

Two things come immediately to mind in response to your inquiry of what do I love about the library at UC Berkeley. The first is purely mundane and practical: I love the ease with which the borrowed status of a book may be renewed via the Internet. The second object of my love and appreciation is more celestial: I love the fact that at the University Library I am able to come across relatively rare books that contain some of the most extraordinary thoughts and sentiments ever recorded, such as your three volume set containing all of the correspondence between James Madison and Thomas Jefferson. Such works as these would cost a small fortune to own and are simply not to be found in any ordinary library.



Frank Lew '60

My fondest memories of the library are associated with the Morrison. It provided moments of tranquility and escape from the rigors and pressures of student life. When I frequented the Morrison in the late 1950s, I would don headphones to listen to the large collection of LPs played on turntables. I visited again last year, and was startled and pleased to see that in this digital age it continues to have an LP collection and turntable. That's great, since most students today grew up listening to compressed MP3 files through earbuds, and many have little awareness of how good-sounding LPs can be. May the Morrison help increase their awareness.



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IN HONOR OF THE CLASS OF 1955



The Class of 1955 has been one of the most loyal and generous supporters of the Library. Their 45th reunion campaign provided support for Library collections, and their 50th supported a major renovation and seismic retrofit of the Bancroft Library. Shown above are Library Advisory Board member Lila Rich '55, with classmate Jack Lockhart, at the unveiling of the Class of 1955 Plaque in the Bancroft Library last fall. Among those who facilitated this key contribution were Warren Hellman, Rose Mein and Bob Leslie.

For their 2010 reunion, the Class of 1955 contributed to the Campaign for the Revitalization of Moffitt Library, one of our current fundraising priorities (*more about Moffitt on pages 6 and 7*).

Susan Morris '63

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Then & Now

ROGER W. HEYNS READING ROOM • 1961 AND 2010



Constructed in 1914-17, the Heyns Reading Room in Doe Library was designed by John Galen Howard and modeled after an Italian Renaissance palace. In the current photo, the exquisite plaster cast ceiling can be seen, with its impressively ornate panels and carvings. This architectural treasure was covered by a modern hung fluorescent ceiling in the 1950s, and only discovered by chance in 1974 by workers installing a sprinkler system. At the south end of the room is one of the University's artistic treasures, a rousing painting of "Washington Rallying the Troops at Monmouth," by Emanuel Gottlieb Leutze.

Named for Chancellor Roger W. Heyns in 2006, the room testifies to the powerful role the chancellors have played in shaping Berkeley's culture and dynamism. The Heyns Reading Room honors this renowned leader's commitment to academic freedom and integrity, two values at the heart of the University's, and the Library's, enterprise.



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

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Kenneth and Dorothy Hill University Librarian
Thomas C. Leonard

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A Toast to Mark Twain

This fall, the University Library celebrated the publication of volume one of the *Autobiography of Mark Twain*. This momentous publication—the first-ever complete and accurate edition—was celebrated in grand style on November 17, with a benefit reception in the Heyns Reading Room and the Bancroft Library. Favorite passages from Twain’s work were read by actress Rita Moreno (to right); authors

Michael Chabon, Eric Karpeles, Mary Roach and Ayelet Waldman; UC Berkeley professor-authors Robert Hass and Maxine Hong Kingston; film editor Walter Murch; library advisory board member Bob Haas and UC Berkeley Chancellor Emeritus I. Michael Heyman.

“Mark Twain continues to delight, illuminate, infuriate, and provoke readers around the world,” Charles Faulhaber, director of the Bancroft Library, told the crowd of 250 who gathered for the evening. *Autobiography of Mark Twain* spent three weeks on the New York Times bestseller list, and UC Press is already on its sixth printing.

