

NO.58 FALL 2001
BENE LEGERE
NEWSLETTER OF
THE
LIBRARY
ASSOCIATES

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

COLEMAN FUNG

One of **Coleman Fung's '87** guiding principles has been to give back to the country and the people who welcomed him at age 16, when he was a young immigrant to New York from Hong Kong. He chooses his charitable commitments carefully, paying special attention to his church, public education on Long Island, New York, and the urban poor.

But this self-made man, founder of OpenLink, a company that provides energy and financial trading and risk management systems, also has a soft spot for Cal. In fact, he chose Cal as a transfer student because he recognized its tradition of academic excellence, student activism and involvement.

When Cal approached him to ask whether he might be interested in supporting the new East Asian Library and Studies Center, he was willing to listen.

After being presented with several opportunities, Coleman Fung made a \$5 million pledge to support the China Research and Information Center, which will be housed in the new East Asian Library and Studies Center. It is anticipated that the new center will be a "wholly new teaching and research environment for the study of China, and will take advantage of up-to-the-minute technology to gather, store, and disseminate electronic data about China." It will also integrate both paper-based and paperless approaches to research.

Coleman Fung's pledge will enable Berkeley to serve as a hub for modern scholarship on China. It is an exciting prospect.



LISBET & HANS RAUSING

On a morning in late December, a nondescript envelope arrived at the University Relations Office in a Federal Express mailer. Inside was a \$2.91 million check from the **Fanny and Leo Koerner Charitable Trust** in support of the Library's conservation programs on the Berkeley campus. This extremely generous gift actually came from alumna **Dr. Lisbet Rausing '84** and her father, **Hans Rausing**. In recognition of their generosity, the University Library has created the Hans Rausing Conservatorship to support conservation efforts in the Library and for special collections on campus needing preservation.

The donors certainly are not strangers to the Library or the University. Hans Rausing attended summer session at Cal in the late 1940s (a long way from his native Sweden), and Lisbet graduated in history with the Class of '84 and went on to earn her M.A. and Ph.D. at Harvard. Over the years, Lisbet has been especially generous to the Library, with one of her gifts supporting the purchase of the Library's nine millionth volume.

With one of the highest circulation rates among university research libraries, the Cal Library will find excellent use for the income from this gift to help preserve materials that are heavily used but often out of print and no longer available for purchase. We are delighted that the Rausing's provided this marvelous gift that will have a real and lasting impact on University collections.

GENENTECH

Genentech, Inc., of South San Francisco, one of the world's leading biotechnology companies engaged in pharmaceutical drug development, has pledged \$500,000 to support the Bancroft Library's Program in the History of Biological Sciences and Biotechnology. The gift is given in recognition of Genentech's 25th anniversary and will be used to fund the collection and processing of archives and oral histories of the company's founders and key personnel. "It's a wonderful birthday present for the Program," stated Bancroft Director Charles B. Faulhaber. "And it's wonderful to see the pioneering biotech company--the first to bring to market a product based on rDNA technology--pioneering a project to preserve and maintain the history of scientific discovery and industrial development, which has had a worldwide impact and deep ties to the Bay Area research universities."

Initiated in 1996, the Program in the History of Biological Sciences and Biotechnology seeks to build a collection of research materials--personal papers, corporate records, oral histories--that document the history of science and industry for the use of scholars and the general public. The Program has collected more than two dozen oral histories and/or archival collections and established a website of historical documentation at <http://bancroft.berkeley.edu/ROHO/projects/biosci/>.

ROHO

The mandate of the Bancroft Library's Regional Oral History Office (ROHO) is to secure and preserve the life stories of the people who have played a significant role in the development of California and the western United States. This year ROHO received gifts to support the following new projects:

Helen and Beau '55 Breck are deeply interested in California agriculture and rural life, one of ROHO's earliest subject areas. Their gift will enable ROHO to document the lives of Carol and Joe Gwerder, farmers in Walnut Grove, on the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. Water and land use, the impact of governmental policies, and rural community and family life will all be part of the conversation.

Charles A. Williams, founder of Williams-Sonoma, purveyors of culinary equipment and other household necessities, is sponsoring a series of oral histories that will address the contemporary history of food in California. ROHO will record the lives of individuals who have had formative roles in redefining how Californians grow, process, cook, and eat their foods. Interviewees will also comment on the evolving role of the social function of the dinner table and the influence of ethnic foods on mainstream cooking.

The **Dean Witter Foundation** has sponsored an oral history that will focus on the lives and contributions of Dean and Helen Witter. He was founder of the Dean Witter and Company investment firm in 1924. The primary interviewee for

the project will be Ann Witter, daughter of Dean and Helen. Ann is a San Franciscan who has been deeply involved in education, health, and environmental issues, and the oral history will be a narration of her own life as well as reminiscences of her parents.

NEW CENTURY CAMPAIGN SUCCESS

The official announcement was made last April of the final total of Cal's recent Campaign for the New Century--a stunning \$1.44 billion. This will go a long way to ensure the excellence of the University's programs and facilities for years to come.

As an important part of the campaign, the Library had some impressive numbers as well. During the campaign period, July 1, 1993 to December 31, 2000, we recorded gifts from 11,403 donors for a total of 27,020 gifts. The gift total for Library purposes was \$55 million and will be used for collection endowments and new facilities for the Music and East Asian Libraries. The Music Library alone raised \$8.16 million, so that construction of a separate, state-of-the-art library facility will begin next year.

We are delighted about this outpouring of generosity and thank every donor for taking the time to consider the significance of the Library and how important it is in supporting the learning process. Thank you.

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