NO.65 SUMMER 2004
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.
Changes at the Top

Thank you, Chancellor Berdahl
Welcome to the Library, Chancellor Birgeneau

Following seven years of service, UC Berkeley Chancellor Robert Berdahl retires this summer.

As Chairman of the Library Advisory Board, it is fitting that in the April 2004 issue of the California Monthly, Chancellor Berdahl is photographed in the Doe Library as he sits on the bronze bench alongside Mark Twain. "He's kind of a library creature," notes University Librarian Tom Leonard, referring to Berdahl's delight in books and scholarship. "He responded to faculty and students who were aware of the terrible deterioration of the Library following the budget crisis of the early 1990s, and he made the library his top priority when he came in." Such behind-the-scenes actions mirror this chancellor's style-quiet, steady, and resolved.

The San Francisco Chronicle has acknowledged that the Library "blossomed under Berdahl after being universally acknowledged to be teetering on a budgetary precipice when he arrived." Under his leadership, the University invested substantial resources in the Library, resulting in the Library climbing back into third place among university libraries, behind only Harvard and Yale.

Retirement for Chancellor Berdahl, however, is a relative term, and following a sabbatical he will return to the History Department and, more importantly, rejoin the Library Advisory Board, where he will continue an impressive record of support and work on behalf of the Library.

It would be hard to find a better or more fitting place to announce the appointment of Cal's ninth chancellor, Robert J. Birgeneau, than the Morrison Library. The UC Board of Regents made their decision public on July 27th in the beautifully appointed and well-loved Morrison Library to a huge crowd of students, faculty, staff and members of the media.

Birgeneau, currently the president of the University of Toronto, was described by UC President Robert C. Dynes, as someone "who cares deeply about students, is courageous, compassionate, and will work tirelessly to sustain this university." After his introduction by Chancellor Berdahl, Birgeneau addressed the larger UC Berkeley community outside on the steps of Doe Library and...
Memorial Glade. He said that he has been a fan of UC Berkeley, both for its academic achievements and its commitment to improving society.

"It is a tremendous honor to accept this appointment, and I am truly excited to be joining the UC Berkeley community," Birgeneau said. "Berkeley is a remarkably innovative institution that continually sets new standards of excellence. I am eager to begin working with everyone in the Berkeley community- faculty, staff, students, alumni, and the broader community. Together, we will continue this university's world-renowned tradition of producing cutting-edge research, creating new knowledge, and teaching and developing tomorrow's leaders."

We could tell that Chancellor Birgeneau is a "library creature" too, as right after his appointment as incoming chancellor, he took a moment to sit on that same bronze bench alongside Mark Twain.
Library Prize for Undergraduate Research

The Library Prize for Undergraduate Research (www.lib.berkeley.edu/researchprize), established by the University Library in 2003, recognizes excellence in undergraduate research projects demonstrating sophisticated use of the library, its resources, and collections. Prize winners for 2004 exemplify the high quality research that undergraduates accomplish on this campus. Whether through the use of archival manuscripts, electronic journals, declassified government documents, electronic databases or well-worn books-each student emphasizes the critical role that the library plays in developing their appreciation for research and the thrill of discovery.

Some 50 undergraduates submitted applications this year. Research projects came from courses taught in departments across campus—from history to molecular & cell biology, from peace & conflict studies to landscape architecture, from French to women's studies. The judges were truly impressed by the quality of research and the extraordinary level of library research skills evidenced within these projects.

2004 Undergraduate Library Research Prize Winners


Starting with archival research in The Bancroft Library, Susan expanded her research to several other archival collections through site visits, use of digital collections, interlibrary loans, and Freedom of Information Act requests. She found this research to be inspiring and wrote: "Beginning this project, I had not known the thrill of historical research; originally, history had only entailed the memorization of names and dates…. My experience has inspired me to do more archival research after I graduate…"

In support of this "highly original and ground-breaking" thesis, Lecturer Patricia Lin adds "…Susan was hooked on research. Each week she would come to my office hours excitedly telling my about her recent find, the connections she had
Susan's thesis had provided her with the tools to analyze and interpret Wilson's rhetoric. Susan had been captivated by the process of research and had become an individual with an unending thirst for knowledge. The written result of her research speaks eloquently to her ability to synthesize a wide array of sources.


In support of Andrew's application, Graduate Student Instructor Kevin Adams observed: "Andrew imaginatively employs traditional printed sources—the kind many undergraduates skim or ignore entirely—to convincingly argue for a reinterpretation of Wilson's rhetoric.... The written result speaks eloquently to his ability to synthesize a wide array of sources."

Michael Jacob, Endogenous Psychoactive Tryptamines Reconsidered. Molecular & Cell Biology H196B, Lecturer David Presti

Michael characterized his library research from a scientific perspective, noting: "As an enzyme for catalyzing these connections, library resources served as my scientific laboratory where experiments were played out in journal collections and hundreds of PubMed searches."

His advisor, Lecturer David Presti supported this interesting approach: "Michael's paper is a novel scientific theory developed solely through the use of library materials, suggesting that future scientific research can benefit from this type of approach.... Michael's new ideas will form the basis for a variety of future scientific experimental work."


Graduate Student Instructor Vimalin Rujivacharakul praised Gary Ku's research effort: "Mr. Ku's unusual depth of library research allowed him to discuss the historiographical context of Trajan's Market from several disciplinary perspectives.... With such insightful discussion and comprehensive analyses, Mr. Ku's paper sheds new light on the field."

Sara Ryu, Pieter de Hooch and Johannes Vermeer: Modes of Beholding and Experiencing the Domestic Boundary. History of Art H195, Professor Elizabeth Honig

Sara found that her research provided important information but also raised serious questions: "After reading the opinions of other modern scholars, I was unsatisfied by their findings and I realized that I needed to find the
answers from primary sources  History of Art with Sarah Ryu.

Successful research entails striking a delicate balance between strict methodology and random discovery, between critical analysis and individual argumentation, and finally between detailed inquiries and overarching frameworks."

Her advisor, Professor Elizabeth Honig, remarked on Sara's self-sufficiency: "I have never had a student who seemed so naturally to possess the logic of research. Sara always seems to know what direction her inquiries need to go in and what materials will help her get to where she wants to go."


Radha applied her library research skills to reach beyond the expected results: "...My previous library research gave me the tools to effectively conduct fieldwork on the topic of reconciliation in Rwanda, and also gave me the means to evaluate my primary research findings... I quickly learned which authors I could trust and why. I learned to look for biases in academic writing, in my interviews, and in other primary sources."

Her advisor, Lecturer Patricia Lin, observed: "It was through this primary and secondary literature that she was first able to discern the existence of the problem that the monopoly of Rwandan-government discourse had on the process of reconciliation... At the highest level, she has shown how the strengths of the UC Berkeley library resources, print and electronic, can be partnered with original field research to produce a top notch product."

The ability to navigate the physical and digital labyrinth of Berkeley's many libraries and collections is a daunting task for the experienced academic scholar. Cal undergraduates proved themselves ready, willing, and able to meet this challenge. In addition to certificates, winners received cash prizes, of $750 awards in the lower division competition and $1,000 in the upper division.
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Changing Learning…Changing Roles

"…I could never imagine teaching in any other way, than what I have doing now [at the Mellon Institute]…It is so satisfying. It's just the most incredible, creative process I have ever been in…"
Ruth Tringham, Mellon Library/Faculty Fellow, Anthropology

In one of the most exciting and far-reaching programs taking place today, Cal's librarians are working with faculty and staff campuswide to redefine the way undergraduate courses are taught and how undergraduates conduct scholarly research. The Mellon Library/Faculty Fellowship for Undergraduate Research is made possible through a $749,000 grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. The goal of this four-year project is to develop faculty that believe information competence, research skills, and the effective use of library resources are critically important tools for undergraduates to acquire.

To reach that goal, Fellows work to redesign undergraduate courses and curricula to emphasize undergraduate research as a critical component of independent and self-directed learning.

The project strengthens the connections between undergraduate research, information literacy, and library collections with particular emphasis on lower division, large enrollment, and high impact courses where students can develop foundation skills that will serve them throughout their academic careers.

The ever-expanding information universe holds enormous potential for undergraduate learning and personal growth. But the size and complexity of this universe presents serious challenges to librarians, faculty, and undergraduates alike. Studies here at Berkeley and elsewhere have found that students often do not possess the practical and critical thinking skills necessary to effectively navigate this information-rich environment or to evaluate what information they do uncover. And, while independent inquiry and research have become increasingly more important in the undergraduate curriculum, teaching students just how to go about doing that research-how to find, analyze, and evaluate information-has generally not been integrated into teaching or coursework.

"The library has evolved from being a repository of material to an educational partner," says Patricia Iannuzzi, associate university librarian and chair of the
Mellon steering committee. Last year the library taught 22,000 students how to use library databases to find information. Those technical skills, Iannuzzi says, need to be complemented by "a more complex set of skills that relate to critical thinking, synthesizing, and evaluation. Addressing those complex skills is an important faculty challenge in teaching the next generation of students."

"I had no idea that I could discover so much about one subject…and be able to actually make my own opinion about it and be able to have an argument that is not the same as the secondary sources that I always believed in. It was a great experience."

*Mollie Caselli, UC Berkeley Undergraduate*

"Instructional innovation has often been the result of [efforts by] individual faculty entrepreneurs," says Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education Christina Maslach. "The Mellon project allows us to expand that strength by linking faculty with librarians, instructional technologists, assessment experts, graduate student instructors—all of the partners who together can have a greater impact on student learning than each can alone."

At the conclusion of this project, faculty and librarians will have redesigned and/or created some 50 undergraduate courses with a total enrollment of some 10,000 undergraduates. Restructured syllabi will incorporate library collections—print, electronic, manuscript, pictorial—all components of the library collections. As faculty members continue to teach and revise these courses, and as their colleagues adopt the same innovative teaching and research components in their courses, this figure will continue to increase exponentially. The Berkeley model is already attracting national attention from peer institutions across the country. Faculty and library colleagues are anxious to observe this work first-hand.

"…[the project] highlighted for me the importance, particularly for young scholars, of grounding their thinking and their work in the resources of the library and using the tools the library has…one of the things that really changed in my mind was expanding my conception of research to realize it is critical thinking and building all sorts of mechanisms into my teaching to develop critical thinking skills…"

*Ingrid Seyer Ochi, Mellon Library/Faculty Fellow, Education*

The UC Berkeley Library is playing a fundamental role in teaching and research—the lifeblood of the university—as it thrives and evolves across campus today.
John Howland Rowe

1918-2001

Professor Emeritus in Anthropology

John Howland Rowe, a leading authority on Peruvian archaeology and a staunch advocate for an anthropology library at Berkeley died Saturday, May 1 in Berkeley. With his passing the Library lost a longtime friend.

The classically trained Rowe is well recognized for his interdisciplinary approach to anthropology—borrowing from the fields of archaeology, history, ethnography, art, linguistics, and intellectual history—in his empirical investigations of the Peruvian Andes and his development of new archaeological theory. Most of Rowe's work carries an historical cast. Along with artifacts from archaeological excavations, Rowe relied heavily on documents found in libraries and archives around the world to inform his research findings.

For more than half century at Berkeley Rowe played a central role in shaping library collections and services in anthropology. When Rowe came to Berkeley in 1948, it was the custom for faculty to order titles for the library. Rowe assumed this responsibility for anthropology formerly held by Alfred Kroeber. He played a major role in establishing and nurturing the branch library in Kroeber Hall, and was recognized nationally as an expert on matters related to libraries and the teaching of anthropology.

In 1998 the Library recognized Rowe's half century of support for the Anthropology Library at Berkeley with the creation of the John H. Rowe endowed chair, awarded to anthropology librarian, Suzanne Calpestri.

"John Rowe was a cultural historian of the highest order. When he died, so too died a wealth of knowledge about the history of the department of anthropology (including the library) at UC Berkeley," recalls Professor Stanley Brandes.
The highlight of the UC Berkeley's Library Advisory Board June meeting was the presentation of several very special awards. Completing a 5-year term as Library Advisory Board president, Sheryl Wong '67 was acknowledged by University Librarian Tom Leonard for her immeasurable and unselfish commitment to Cal's Library. During Sheryl's tenure, the University Library reestablished itself as the top public university library in North America. Chancellor Robert Berdahl acknowledged Sheryl's service by noting that, "She has been one of the most dedicated and extraordinary individuals in the Cal family whom I have come to know in my seven years as Chancellor."

Also presented during the evening was the Robert M. Berdahl Library Award, established by the Library Advisory Board in honor of the outgoing Chancellor, to recognize exceptional dedication and service in support of the University of California, Berkeley Library. Appropriately enough, the first Berdahl Award was presented "to the man who has become known as the Library Chancellor…and one of the truest friends of the Library." That would be Chancellor Berdahl himself.

The Library Advisory Board has benefited tremendously under the leadership of its three presidents: (left to right) Sheryl Wong, outgoing president; Al Johnson, incoming president; and Jack Rosston, immediate past president.

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Continuing the recognition of the spirit of dedication and commitment to the Library, the second Berdahl Award then was presented to Jack Rosston, '42, founder and mentor of the Library Advisory Board. University Librarian Tom Leonard noted that, "Jack's appreciation of and advocacy for the Library in the life of the Berkeley campus has been an inspiration to all. As is the Library often considered the Heart of the University, so too is Jack the Heart of the Board and of the alumni and volunteer Spirit that dwells in all the Cal libraries."
The Bancroft Library and the 37th California International Antiquarian Book Fair

A clear southern California sun greeted the many eager book collectors and dealers who gathered for the 37th Annual California International Antiquarian Book Fair at the crowded Los Angeles Airport Marriott Hotel from February 6-8, 2004. Among the throng were several members of The Bancroft Library staff who descended upon a bevy of book dealers ready to entice, inform, cajole, and persuade potential customers to buy their rare and unique materials. This Book Fair, one of the largest in North America, provides an opportunity to meet an international set of book and manuscript dealers, including many old and valued friends who have helped The Bancroft Library build one of the world's great collections of rare books, manuscripts, and pictorial materials.

Maréchal, Sylvain, 1750-1803. Dictionnaire d'Amour, par le Berger Sylvain. A Guide, et se Trouve a Paris, Chez Briand, 1788. 2 volumes published in 1. Dictionaries are cultural works that define languages and linguistic authority, and express a broad range of views about history, literature, religion, and a host of other topics. Lexicographers are both reflections of and commentators upon the society represented by the languages of their texts. They are a rich source both of our fascination language and history.

Dealers often reserve some of their most valuable-historically and fiscally-materials for prominent fairs and this was no exception. The Bancroft Library collections have many diverse strengths, and the challenge of acquiring the most needed materials for the best prices-with limited resources—is one that Bancroft staff take most seriously. Many an item is declined because its intellectual value, while noteworthy, is not central to Bancroft's holdings. Others are left on the shelf for the price is simply too dear, the physical condition suspect, or the scholarly value circumspect.

There are, however, many important acquisitions to celebrate. Curators, armed
with endowed funds established by donors whose foresight allows The Bancroft Library to spend a percentage of the annual interest produced by these accounts, scoured the exhibition hall in search of rare and unique materials. The items recently acquired and presented on these pages reflect the diversity and quality of Bancroft collections.

The China Punch, May 28, 1867-January 9, 1868, Volume 1-16. Hongkong: The China Mail Office. This volume contains the first 16 issues of a very rare periodical that may have existed for six years. Modeled after the famous Victorian magazine of British humor, Punch, The China Punch and its comic tone was likely aimed at English colonists living in Hong Kong. The satirical tone of this short-lived publication is expressed by articles and columns that skewer the native population as well as British magistrates and councilors.