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BENE LEGERE  
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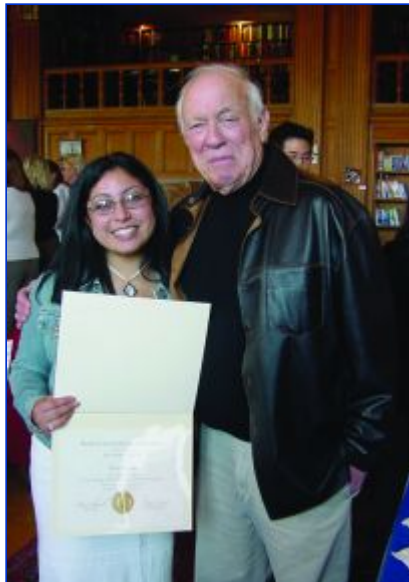
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## The Library Associates

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

# Library Prize for Undergraduate Research



Honorable Mention Evita Rodriguez accepts congratulations from Professor Leon Litwack.

and the extraordinary level of library research skills evidenced within these projects.

### *2004 Undergraduate Library Research Prize Winners*

Susan Basu, *The Politics of Foreign Student Exchange: U.S. and Eastern Europe, 1952-1962*. Political Economy of Industrial Societies H195, Lecturer Patricia Y.C.E Lin

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 me about her recent find, the connections she had

The Library Prize for Undergraduate Research ([www.lib.berkeley.edu/researchprize](http://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

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made, and where she intended to search next.... Thanks to her thesis, Susan has become an individual with an unending thirst for research. To put it bluntly, she has caught the 'research bug.'"

Andrew Braver, *Wilson's Words: The Rhetoric of Progressive Ideology*. History 7B, Professor Leon Litwack/GSI Kevin Adams

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."

Gary Ku, *The People and Purpose of Trajan's Markets*. Architecture 170A, Professor Stephen Tobriner/GSI Vimalin Rujivacharakul

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



Elizabeth Honig, Assistant Professor in the

answers from primary sources      History of Art with Sarah Ryu.  
myself... 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 Webley, *The Politics of Reconciliation in Post-Genocide Rwanda*. Peace  
& Conflict Studies H195, Lecturer Patricia Y.C.E Lin

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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