

# fiat lux

WINTER 2012 • NO. 22

## Everyday Dogs

A NEW BOOK FROM THE LIBRARY

### 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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[www.lib.berkeley.edu/give](http://www.lib.berkeley.edu/give)



Family at home, San Francisco "Tent City" after the 1906 earthquake and fire. Charles Baker photo collection. Reprinted in *Everyday Dogs*, by Mary Scott and Susan Snyder (Heyday Books, 2011).

Two University Library staff members published *Everyday Dogs: A Perpetual Calendar for Birthdays and Other Notable Dates* in fall 2011. This fascinating and useful keepsake pairs literary quotes about canines with historical images from the Bancroft Library.

Five years in the making, the book required many hours of research in the Bancroft's extensive pictorial collection. Scott said, "We were searching for photos that convey the bond of friendship shared by people and their animal companions. A picture may be over 100 years old, but you can still feel the connection between a dog and his person."

Out of 250 photos, they selected 75 for the book, including some famous individuals — John Muir with Stickeen, his "horizontal brother"; Gertrude Stein with

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# University Librarian's Letter

A GREAT PLACE TO STUDY?



Few companies have been launched with a library break-in, but Apple Computer has this distinction. Forty years ago, Steve Jobs and Steve Wozniak snuck into a Stanford library that was closed on Sunday in search of intriguing data in a technical journal. Wozniak, who moved in at Cal the next day, found the right article. With this library research, the high school senior and the new Cal student built their first product.

Anthropologists call such stories “founding myths,” whatever the facts of the case. The adventuresome use of libraries has a secure place in the stories of today’s high-tech empires. In the narrative of Facebook, for example, the Harvard students who hatched the plan for the web site devise hi-jinx and dream, “lost in the stacks.” (Ben Mezrich, *The Accidental Billionaires*).

As we listen to Berkeley students who are not yet famous we learn how wonderful it can feel today to be in our libraries. Hart Research Associates (led by Cal citizen extraordinaire Peter Hart) are our anthropologists, taking down stories from undergraduates with detachment. Students are not being asked about our most inspiring libraries—the classic Morrison Library or the ultra-modern spaces we have for the Music, East Asian and Engineering Libraries, for example. We know how much students love these places. If you visit the campus you can come in and look around, but you may not find a seat. Instead, the Hart group is asking about the Moffitt Undergraduate Library, a special place that few members of the public have visited.

**As we listen to Berkeley students who are not yet famous we learn how wonderful it can feel today to be in our libraries.**

This generation at Cal appreciates Moffitt the way all of us might love an old dingy sweatshirt. Moffitt may lack comfortable seating, power for computers, and signs that Richard Nixon has left the White House. But undergraduates tell interviewers emphatically that this is their library. When it is time to study “seriously,” Moffitt is “emotionally welcoming.”

There is a literal social network in Moffitt, part of the rhythm of review periods, exams, and final projects. Young people prize the face-to-face contact with fellow students under the same pressure. They adapt to Moffitt’s many limitations, even stringing power cords high and low to cope with the inadequate number of power outlets. The urge to break in is held in check by the fact that Moffitt is open 24 hours during review periods and final exams; but we hear over and over again that we need a 24-hour facility all through the semester, an impossibility with the current state of the building. We also hear that we must have space for collaboration and work on team presentations, a common requirement in Cal classes that was much rarer back when Moffitt was designed in the 1960s.

Thinking about a building that opened when Steve Jobs and Steve Wozniak had their first big idea brings to mind one of the best associations of the 1970s: the garage where Apple Computer began and the coinage “garage band” for music. Moffitt is loved just as much today as is humanely possible for what “garage” suggests. But with your help, Moffitt will become what Cal students deserve: a 21st century library that supports and inspires all the hard work entailed by a Berkeley education.

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

Thomas C. Leonard  
Kenneth and Dorothy Hill University Librarian

# Elaine Tennant named new Bancroft Library director

ADAPTED FROM A STORY BY KATHLEEN MACLAY, UC MEDIA RELATIONS

Elaine Tennant, a medieval and early modern specialist in the German and Scandinavian departments at the University of California, Berkeley, became the James D. Hart Director of UC Berkeley's Bancroft Library in September 2011.

Tennant said she hopes to help integrate The Bancroft more fully into the campus's teaching and research missions and wants the library to take an active role in the ongoing discussion of the nature of information and the future of libraries in the 21st century.

"Collections of material artifacts like those held by The Bancroft present special challenges and have a particular contribution to make to our thinking about information in an increasingly virtual environment," Tennant said. "Figuring out what the relationship is between old and new technologies, and among multiple forms of knowing, is the kind of thing that Berkeley's great at."

The Bancroft is home to the world's finest collection of primary sources on the history of California and the American West, as well as to the Mark Twain Papers and Project, the Center for the Tebtunis Papyri, wide-ranging contemporary literary collections, the Free Speech Movement Archive, Regional Oral History Office, rare books and manuscripts and more. Most recently, the Magnes Collection of Jewish Art and Life also became a part of the collections.

In 2009, The Bancroft reopened on campus following a three-year, \$64 million seismic retrofit and reconstruction financed jointly by the state and more than 700 private donors.

"Scholars such as professor Tennant send their students to the Bancroft because the collections illuminate the big questions on campus today, especially the role of new people and new technology changing California," said Tom Leonard, UC Berkeley's University Librarian.



Tennant said she aims to forge new alliances with the School of Information and other campus units in order to expand the discourse that "sometimes bogs down when the students and scholars who need to touch their books (or crocodile mummies) don't find much common (library) ground with those who need their information 'born digital.' There's a lot to talk about, and I hope The Bancroft will have a regular seat at the table."

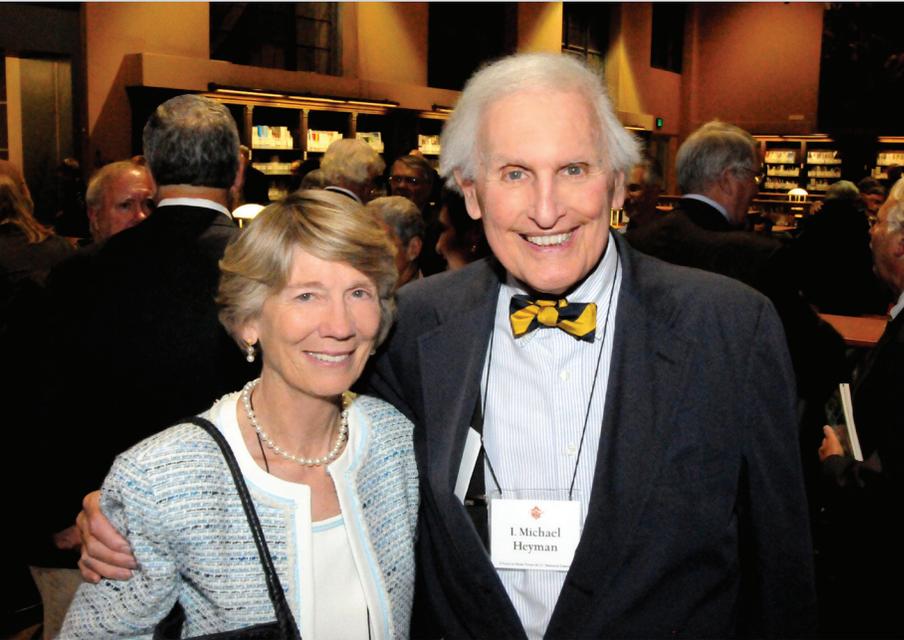
Because The Bancroft contains rare documents and fragile manuscripts, it has been a leader in providing virtual access to such materials. And that access, said Tennant, has actually increased the foot traffic to the

**"It's a point of pride with me not to let the classes I teach leave Berkeley without having had a chance to learn something about the Bancroft collections."**

**—Elaine Tennant**

*continued on page 4*

# IN MEMORIAM



Elizabeth and Ira Michael Heyman at a 2010 University Library event.

Former Chancellor of UC Berkeley and longtime Library friend Ira Michael Heyman passed away November 19, 2011. Professor emeritus of law and of city and regional planning, he was noted as a champion of diversity and civil rights.

As chancellor from 1980 to 1990, he staunchly supported affirmative action, and achieved a sweeping reorganization of the biological sciences which aided Berkeley in reasserting its leadership in those fields. He also modernized the campus's development program.

Roderic Park, vice chancellor under Heyman, described his transformative effect. "I can think of no one who has generated more enduring positive changes for this campus than Michael Heyman," said Park. "He envisioned Berkeley as second to none and open to all."

As a longtime friend to the University Library, Heyman served on the Library Advisory Board and enthusiastically supported the Mark Twain Papers and Project.

His public service culminated in leadership of the Smithsonian from 1994 to 2000. He also worked on national issues related to protecting our environment and treasured spaces. Recipient of numerous awards and honors throughout his distinguished career, Heyman was recently awarded the UC President's Medal. The University community joined together in appreciation for his many contributions to the campus and to the nation. 🌿

*Tennant, continued from page 3*

library's reading room. Visitors to the Bancroft website often come to examine in person the artifacts whose images on the computer screen have piqued their curiosity. "People see things online, and they immediately want to come and *really* see them," she said.

William B. Taylor, a UC Berkeley professor emeritus of history, said he knows of no one on the faculty who has worked as closely and thoughtfully with The Bancroft.

"She knows its treasures and has a generous sense of how they can be made available to the campus community and the public for instructional use, research, professional development and exhibition," Taylor said. "She has the leadership skills, welcoming presence, ingenuity, and love for this great library that will keep the collections alive and well in the years to come."

Leonard noted that Tennant throughout her career has brought her students to The Bancroft. She said she envisions creating new courses with a "Bancroft-value-added" dimension, as well as internships to expose students not only to the special collections and archives available nowhere else in the world, but also to The Bancroft's "superb team of curators and archivists."

"It's a point of pride with me not to let the classes I teach leave Berkeley without having had a chance to learn something about The Bancroft collections," Tennant has said. "The Bancroft Library is one of the most dynamic teaching centers on the Berkeley campus."

She fills the post vacated earlier this summer by Charles Faulhaber, a UC Berkeley emeritus professor of Spanish and Portuguese, who had held the post since 1995. She will be the first woman to direct The Bancroft in its 151-year history.

Tennant, who did her graduate work at Harvard University and the University of Vienna, joined the UC Berkeley faculty in 1977. She served several times as chair of the Scandinavian Department and for nearly a decade on the UC Berkeley Academic Senate Library Committee. 🌿

# Visual Culture in the Classroom

ENERGETIC LIBRARIAN HAS BUILT DIVERSE COLLECTION, VAST WEBSITE

Over his 25-plus years directing the Media Resources Center (MRC) in Moffitt Library, Gary Handman has built one of the largest and most respected media collections in the U.S.

In an era dominated by visual images, Handman says, “TV and the movies have given us our social, political, and ethical cues, our basic ways of understanding and interacting with the world.”

Everyone expects a great research library to possess vast and deep collections in multiple formats: books and journals, databases, maps, archival materials and so on. However, the importance of moving images—documentary films, commercials and speeches, feature films, popular television programs, news broadcasts and the like—in the university curriculum isn’t always as well recognized.

The collections in MRC serve as classroom texts in many disciplines. While subjects like mass communication and literature (as well as film studies itself) offer natural ties with film, these days almost every humanities and social sciences discipline is interested in MRC’s collections. Handman mentions political science, ethnic studies, women and gender studies, social welfare, history, public health, and environmental science, policy, and management. He notes that film is studied through several lenses—as an art form, a cultural text, or as a cultural artifact.

“Faculty today no longer look at media resources as odd or supplemental,” Handman says. “It’s part of the toolkit of teaching, part of reaching a generation that has been soaked in this medium.”

When asked which titles in the collection are most heavily used, Handman pauses. “It’s difficult to say, because use of the collection tends to shift, depending on what’s being taught in any one semester, or what’s new and interesting.” A handful of classic feature films, ranging from Chaplin’s *Modern Times*



Photo: Deborah Staiford

Gary Handman, director of the Media Resources Center (MRC) in Moffitt Library. Handman is currently engaged in a Mellon Foundation-funded project for video preservation, focusing on items at risk of disintegration that aren’t available in another format. One-quarter of the MRC’s videos are no longer commercially available, making preservation a key long-range issue.

to Fritz Lang’s groundbreaking silent film *Metropolis*, are used consistently in various courses. More recent films such as Michael Haneke’s *Caché* are often used because they provide windows into the zeitgeist—the fears, fantasies, and hot-button issues of the present day.

Similarly, the use of documentary films tends to reflect current issues, events, and concerns. One often-used documentary is *Race: The Power of an Illusion*, a three-part series that explores the history of race perceptions and behaviors towards races in the United States. Another heavily used documentary is *Darwin’s Nightmare*. This Oscar-nominated work exposes the dark side of economic globalization by portraying a fish-for-arms trade that has developed in Tanzania.

Because both fiction and non-fiction films have become the focus of academic study and teaching across curricula, the movies

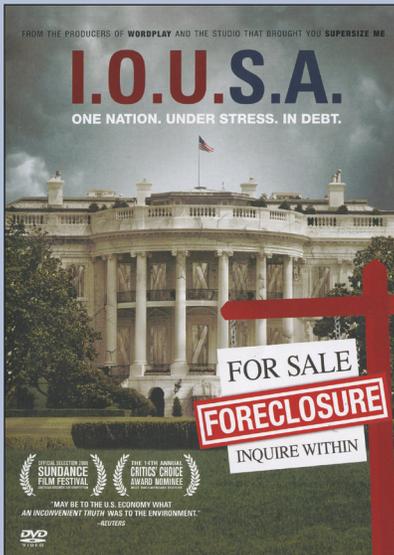
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**“TV and the movies have given us our social, political, and ethical cues, our basic ways of understanding and interacting with the world.”**

**—Gary Handman**

Media Resources Center, continued from page 6

increasingly turn up in traditionally unlikely places on campus. For example, mathematics in film and fiction is the subject of an unusual fall 2011 course taught by Olga Holtz, a much-lauded Russian mathematician who joined the faculty in 2007. In this course, students



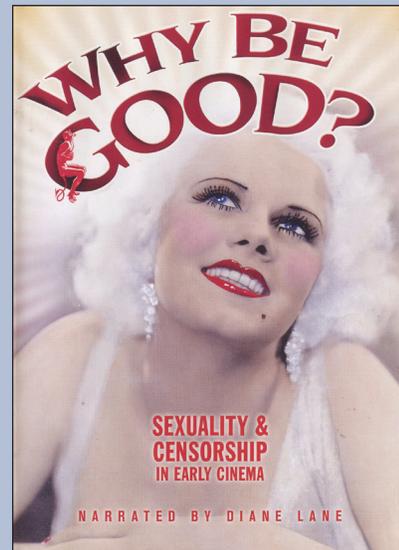
investigate narrative conventions, stereotypes, and societal beliefs and misconceptions about mathematicians through works such as *A Beautiful Mind*, *Good Will Hunting*, and *Inside Job*. Similarly Professor Matt Kondolf has devoted an entire landscape architecture course to the representation of rivers in movies, from Pare Lorentz's Depression-era documentary, *The River*, about the Tennessee River Valley Authority, to Jean Vigo's poetic 1934 French film about river life, *L'Atalante*.

To support the increasing use of film in Berkeley classrooms, the Media Resources Center has made selected titles available through streaming. The 100-odd titles in this format include Shakespeare and classical Greek dramas, as well as full-length documentary works that are heavily used by American cultures, ethnic studies, and sociology classes. While the use of streaming video is sure to increase in the future, legal issues around copyright and licensing mean that the bulk of the collection is still accessed through DVDs and videotapes.

## RENOWNED MEDIA MAVEN

When Handman assumed the reins of the MRC in 1985, only about 200 titles were on the shelves. He quickly developed connections with forward-thinking faculty who already recognized the educational value of film—a rarity in those days, when media was still viewed with suspicion—and started building the collection to meet their course needs.

Since then, both the demand and the holdings have expanded exponentially. Today, the MRC holds over 40,000 titles,



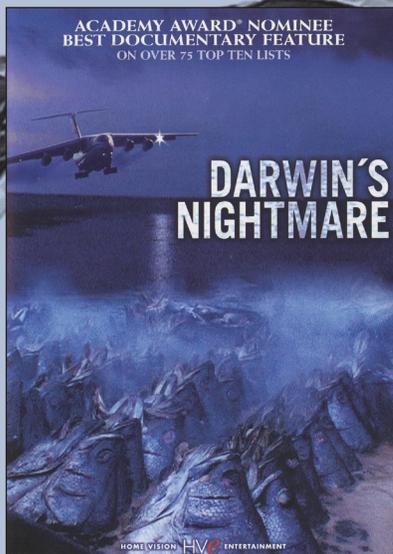
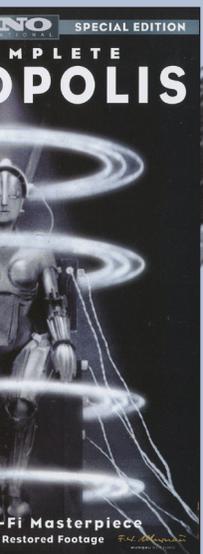
and the annual circulation is 40 to 50 thousand. The catalog contains not only the works of great filmmakers from around the world, but also an abundance of surprising materials that researchers draw upon for cultural, political and societal insights—TV commercials, archival news footage, sex-education primers, Soviet and Nazi propaganda, cooking and quiz shows.

Handman began teaching in 1987, with a course on media librarianship at the former School of Library and Information Studies. He later developed courses on documentary and

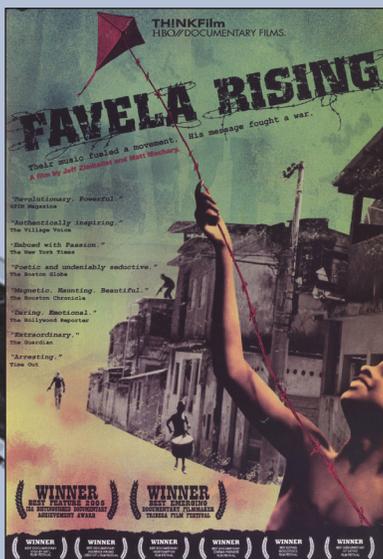
The range of MRC's holdings matches the range of uses for the collection. Recordings of campus events with figures such as Malcolm X, Robert Oppenheimer, and Margaret Mead, and documentation of the Free Speech Movement, are part of MRC's extensive UC Berkeley history collection.

on “technology anxiety in the movies,” using scenes from *The Electric House* (1922), *Things to Come* (1936), and *Brazil* (1985). This semester he is co-teaching a course with Dr. Brian Powers that explores social documentary and its relationship to sociology proper.

MRC’s website is one of Handman’s major professional



gem...one of the most valuable assets within the University of California library system.” Handman’s professional accomplishments were recognized by his peers in 2010, when he was honored with the Distinguished Librarian Award by the Librarians Association of UC Berkeley.



achievements and is consulted several million times per year by people around the world. Filling thousands of pages, it is the largest academic website devoted to nonfiction film.

His comprehensive bibliographies on national cinemas, genres, and actors and directors—among many other topics—are freely available on the site, as are compilations of film criticism resources; browsable databases; extensive research advice; and videographies organized by dozens of themes such as food and film, African music, death and dying, sports, and others. The MRC site ([lib.berkeley.edu/MRC](http://lib.berkeley.edu/MRC)) is a labor of love by someone with both an omnivorous appreciation and a vast knowledge of his subject.

Appreciation for Handman’s energy and devotion is widespread among Berkeley faculty. Jean Retzinger, assistant director and lecturer in mass communications, calls him “a

#### DUE FOR TRANSFORMATION

The revitalization of Moffitt Library, which houses MRC, is the current fundraising priority for the Campaign for the University Library. The project will transform the outdated Moffitt into a 21st century library that will serve the educational needs of students for generations to come. MRC’s cramped and utilitarian quarters on the first floor will benefit immensely from the project.

In the years to come, academic uses of media are expected to expand rapidly. Recognizing the need for flexibility and technological suppleness, the renovation plans incorporate a variety of media uses and user configurations.

In the transformed Media Center, students will have access to state-of-the-art equipment for individual, small group, and class media viewing and discussion spaces. The planned renovation will make this popular center more visible, inviting and accommodating. Visit [moffitt.berkeley.edu](http://moffitt.berkeley.edu) to learn more about the Campaign for the University Library. 🌱

**The planned revitalization of Moffitt Library will transform the Media Center to allow students access to state-of-the-art equipment for individual, small group, and class media viewing and discussion spaces.**

# From Disneyland and People's Park to 11th Century India



"Born in a small town in India and raised in the suburbs of the United States, the issues of place and spatial identity have played a significant part in my life," Preeti Talwai '13 says. "Because I could visit my relatives only rarely, the memories associated with a specific room in my aunt's house or a motorcycle ride down a particular lane became the immediate connections to my cultural roots and an extended family half a world away."

**Preeti was amazed by the depth and breadth of resources that the Library had to offer.**

For Preeti Talwai, "Architecture is the power to create communities and impart lasting social values. It is a celebration of those spaces—at the scale of a bench or a continent—that have meaning for individuals." Her work on places such as Disneyland, People's Park, and an ancient Indian temple exemplify this passionate interest in melding architecture's psychological and aesthetic aspects.

In spring 2011, her paper on the Rajarajeswaram temple from the 11th century earned her a Library Prize for Undergraduate Research. Her professor, Dr. Andrew Shanken, called it "among the most astute, mature, and deeply considered papers I have ever received from an undergraduate in a dozen years of teaching. . . . All of it was beautifully contextualized in an astounding range of readings."

Preeti's talent for research and writing were demonstrated in high school, in an advanced academic program for which she produced a 4,000 word essay on the psychological effects of the architecture of Disneyland. Researching this extensive project gave her a nuanced appreciation for the theme park, which she says was "designed to take people into a different world, like a temple in a way."

Preeti was so intrigued by the social ideals that she discovered behind the creation of Disneyland that when she entered Cal, her career goal was to become a Disney Imagineer. Currently, she aspires to practice as an architect, ideally in her birth country of India, where she sees a greater social need as well as increased scope for creativity.

The architecture major requires four hands-on studio courses, and Preeti took her fourth one this past summer. "All of my studio courses have been great," she says. "I learn constantly from everyone around me." She comments on the amazing transformation from a bare desk at the beginning of the course to one filled with an array of projects at the end. "That's what is so astounding about the creative field in general, how something comes out of nothing!"

This year, Preeti was a finalist for the Berkeley Prize for Architectural Design Excellence. Her essay examined People's Park in Berkeley as a sacred space for the homeless. She was subsequently invited to apply for an Architectural Design Fellowship, and was awarded funds to create a nationwide student design competition.

Titled "The InFORMal: Designing to Celebrate the Places Less Examined," her competition invites students to develop a design strategy for spaces in their communities similar to People's Park—places used informally by disenfranchised social groups. The competition requires students to

grapple with the complex socioeconomic and political issues that typically surround such locations. The winning submissions will be selected by a panel of Berkeley professors.

### THE PRIZE-WINNING PAPER

Professor Andrew Shanken teaches the architecture course for which Preeti wrote her prize-winning paper on the Rajarajeswaram temple. “Even though the enrollment for this survey class is well over 200, Dr. Shanken really cares about each student as an individual,” Preeti says. “Attending his class is like watching a movie in theaters, entertaining in a way that makes all the information really stick in your mind.”

Preeti is grateful for Dr. Shanken’s support in applying for both the Library Prize for Undergraduate Research and the Berkeley Prize. “Talking with Dr. Shanken about my work and my hopes has been pivotal. His encouragement over the past year has meant a lot to me—such as his support for a term paper topic whose scope meant that I would far exceed the required page count!”

Preeti’s topic reflected her desire to take a scholarly, more objective approach to the intensely personal themes of religion and place. “As a Hindu myself,” she comments, “I chose to explore the Rajarajeswaram temple in order to learn more about my origins through an architectural lens, as well as to better understand myself through the biases that I have about my native country and its religion.”

Her use of the Library fully exploited the depth and breadth of the resources. Along with searching across the UC system-wide collections, Preeti used the Avery Index to Architectural Periodicals, JSTOR, and other electronic article databases to gather both Western and Eastern perspectives on the Rajarajeswaram.

The images which embellish her paper were scanned from books from the Environmental Design Library or discovered in the Library’s subscription to the ARTstor Digital Library. She even delved into proceedings from a 1947 South India seminar,



Preeti won a Library Prize for Undergraduate Research for her paper on this 11th century temple. Titled “Praying through Politics, Ruling Through Religion: The Rajarajeswaram as an Instrument of Economic and Political Unification in the Chola Empire,” her paper explored how the temple evolved to serve the imperial political and economic ends of the South Indian ruler of the time.

in Bancroft Library archives, for some hard-to-find information on the ruler of the time.

Preeti was amazed by the depth and breadth of resources that the Library had to offer. “I definitely never expected to find details like the counts of servants or an inventory of ornamentation at this 11th century temple!”

The riches of the UC Berkeley Library collections await talented, intrepid researchers like Preeti Talwai. For her, as for thousands of other researchers, the Library’s vast array of resources respond to passionate interests both scholarly and personal. 🌊

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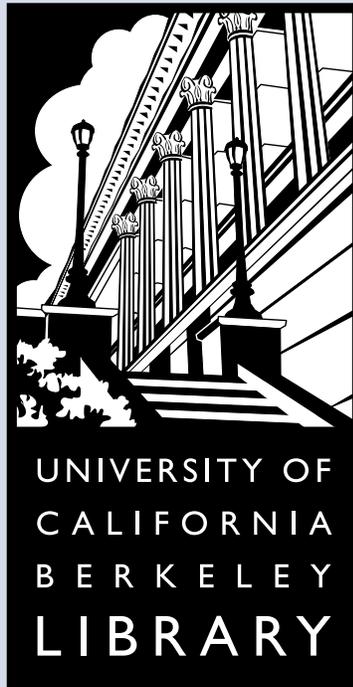
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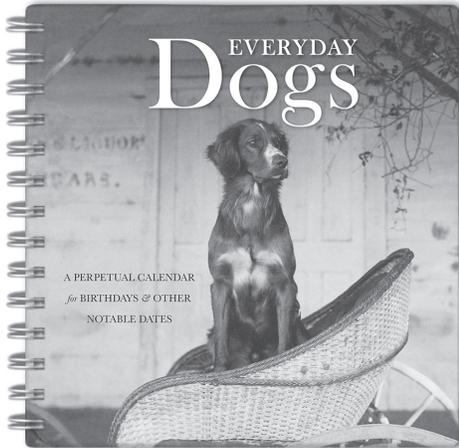
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*Past President*

*Everyday Dogs, continued from page 1*

Basket the white poodle; and Robinson Jeffers with Haig the English bulldog, among others.

With a shared lifelong affection for dogs and a combined forty-plus years of familiarity with the Library's collections, Scott and Snyder were the ideal creative team for *Everyday Dogs*. The two are currently at work on a sequel featuring cats.



Mary Scott is a graphic designer at the Library, where she designs this *Fiat Lux* newsletter, among other publications. Susan Snyder, who serves as head of public service at the Bancroft, has published three other Heyday books drawn from the Library's collections. (For more about her books and others inspired by the Library, visit [lib.berkeley.edu/give/inspiredbythelibrary.html](http://lib.berkeley.edu/give/inspiredbythelibrary.html)). 🐾

*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

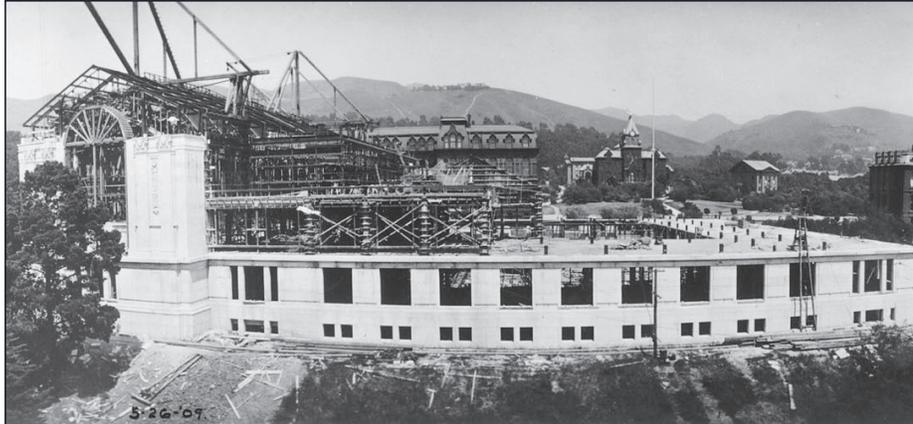
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*Photography*  
Peg Skorpinski p. 3, 4, 8

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# Then & Now



**As University Librarian Tom Leonard has said, it's hard to remember that a place as magnificent as the Charles Franklin Doe Memorial Library was ever built—as with many monuments, it seems as if it has always been here. Of course, Doe went through a lengthy building process, one stage of which is depicted in this 1909 view of the west side. As with all buildings, regular maintenance and repair are needed, most recently on the 100-year-old copper gutters. Last fall, these gutters were replaced, along with the surrounding roofing and waterproofing. Doe's librarians and users look forward to many leak-free years to come!**



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## Exhibits & Events at the Library

### THE MAGNES COLLECTION OPEN HOUSE

2121 Allston Way, Berkeley, CA  
Sunday, January 22, from 12 noon to 4 pm

The Magnes Collection of Jewish Art and Life, one of the preeminent Jewish collections in the world, was established at UC Berkeley in 2010 after the transfer of the Judah L. Magnes Museum to the Bancroft Library. The Magnes's new home in downtown Berkeley will accommodate deep research as well as offer the general public a place to gather for exhibitions, lectures, performances and other events.

On January 22, the Magnes will host an open house and ribbon-cutting ceremony to welcome the campus and the community to its new home. Entertainment will include musical performances by local bands and university groups, treats from local restaurants, and exhibitions and video installations as well as the opportunity to visit with exhibiting artists and Magnes staff.

[www.magnes.org](http://www.magnes.org)

### BULLETS ACROSS THE BAY: THE SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA IN CRIME FICTION

*Bernice Layne Brown Gallery, Doe Library,  
through February 2012*  
*Free; check [www.lib.berkeley.edu](http://www.lib.berkeley.edu) for hours*

Ever since the publication of Dashiell Hammett's *The Maltese Falcon* in 1930, San Francisco has been recognized as the birthplace of modern crime fiction. Using materials from numerous campus libraries, the "Bullets Across the Bay" exhibit examines the Bay Area as a popular setting for mystery and detective novels. During the last 150 years, hundreds of authors have been beguiled and inspired by San Francisco and the East Bay region into creating gripping stories where baffling and horrific human actions of murder and mayhem arise out of, and are explained within, the context of this unique physical, cultural, and historical environment.

[bancroft.berkeley.edu/sfmystery/extras/batb.html](http://bancroft.berkeley.edu/sfmystery/extras/batb.html)

