

# fiat lux

S U M M E R 2 0 1 2 • N O . 2 4

## “You Look Great for 100!”

DOE LIBRARY CELEBRATES ITS CENTENNIAL

### 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.



The Cal Band offered a spirited performance on the North Terrace of Doe, in honor of the 100th anniversary of the Library's dedication.

On a fine March day, Doe Library welcomed a happy crowd of friends and well-wishers who joined the celebrations of its 100th birthday. The Charles Franklin Doe Memorial Library was dedicated on March 23, Charter Day 1912.

The day was marked by music performed in the Library by campus favorites the Golden Overtones, the University Chamber Chorus, and the Men's Octet. Librarian talks and behind-the-scenes tours were offered, as well as a popular book giveaway and a new exhibit on the Library's history (*see back cover*). Free cupcakes were a big hit—almost 2000 were distributed.

At the event, senior Amanda Minafo, a history of art major, commented that she has come to look at books as a form of art—and at library books as a connection to the university's past. “People have used the books in Doe for 100 years, and by being in there, you're a part of Berkeley's history.”

“Without a doubt, Doe Library is the best place to study in the Bay Area,” one visitor wrote on a message board scrawled with tributes. “You look great for 100!” wrote another. See more at [blogs.lib.berkeley.edu/doe100.php](http://blogs.lib.berkeley.edu/doe100.php)

See pages 4-6 for images from the event. 🍷

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

No Foolish Questions

What I “Love Less” About Moffitt

Superb Student Research

In Memoriam: Joe Rosenthal

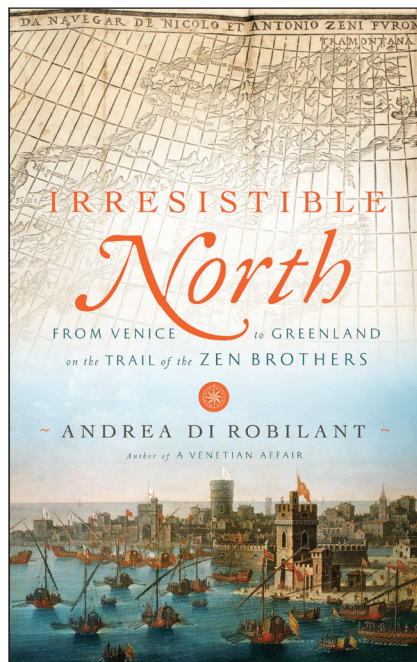
2012-13 Library Advisory Board

Hearst Mining: Then & Now

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

# University Librarian's Letter

THERE ARE NO FOOLISH QUESTIONS IN A LIBRARY



Last year Berkeley libraries answered 83,000 reference questions. My estimate of how many of these were foolish is: zero. On this the historical record is instructive.

A few years ago, a scholar looked up from his reading in a Venetian archive and saw an impatient American tourist. Dressed lightly for a brisk walk, in a T-shirt and shorts, the American wanted directions to the palazzo of the Zen family. The visitor was convinced that this medieval family had beaten Columbus by a century in sailing to the New World. A snapshot in front of the home would make a great souvenir.

The picture was taken in front of the wrong palace. Though there is a very old Zen family map of such a trip, it pictured lands that never existed. This voyage of discovery had been laughed out of the scholarly literature in the 19th century. We might group this use of a library with the sleuths who enter to prove that Shakespeare was not the author of the plays that bear his name, or of Biblical literalists who comb our scientific literature to find overlooked evidence of the Great Flood.

But there are no foolish questions in a library. Anyone who wants to see the world in a different way, and who is willing to sort through evidence, has a decent chance of making discoveries that are worth the attention of us all. What a great year we are having for the least conventional uses of libraries and their collections.

Andrea di Robilant's *Irresistible North: From Venice to Greenland on the Trail of the Zen Brothers* (2011) is the graceful reconstruction of the story that came, half-baked, from the American tourist. The story had a core of truth. The film *Anonymous* may be, as the *New York Times* said, a "cold-blooded murder of the truth" about Shakespeare, but few would deny it makes a good thriller. This spring, Creationists celebrated the fifth anniversary of their mega-museum in Kentucky, boasting in part about what geologists consider useful observations from these non-scientists about the explosion of Mount St. Helens.

We do not know, and should not judge, what our visitors will wonder about. Thousands of them are using a great library for the first time and will have no idea of what they can discover. Students never hear that a question is out of bounds, or misguided. The oddest questions can uncover a truth or lead to art. We are here to help.

Thomas C. Leonard

Kenneth and Dorothy Hill University Librarian



# What I “love less” about Moffitt

A RECENT GRADUATE COMMENTS ON MOFFITT’S PROMISE AND PERILS



Tara Phillips ’11 (Comparative Literature) will travel to Spain this fall to participate in a program through the Spanish Ministry of Education, working as an assistant teacher in an English classroom.

“This is what I love less about Moffitt: the fact that it is dark in there, with tinted windows and no fresh air; the lack of group study rooms and of enough seating in the café; the interminable, winding passage to the stacks; the outdated computers; the small collection of books inconveniently located on two floors; the lack of electrical outlets for laptops, and of rooms to meet and prepare for presentations. . . .

But the library isn’t all bad. So far I’ve viewed five film adaptations of *Richard III*, the play I’m writing about. I used the interlibrary loan services to order several books from other campuses, and had access to the computer lab to conduct Internet research, thus expanding the material from which I could work on my paper.

This is a great part of what it means to

## *The Campaign for the University Library*

### TRANSFORM MOFFITT LIBRARY for 21ST CENTURY LEARNING

The Berkeley libraries are the heart and soul of the Cal experience, the preeminent place where students gather to connect with knowledge and with each other.

But currently, students don’t have a library that is designed for how they learn and study today. Berkeley doesn’t offer a 24-hour library where they can:

- collaborate with a study group in a wired environment;
- practice a presentation;
- connect fully to digital resources;
- recharge with food and drink; and
- browse new books and mingle with other students and faculty.

The new Moffitt will be that place—a transformative learning center, where students exercise their minds as well as their social and team-building skills. Help us realize the vision for a 21st century library at Berkeley.

### NOW, DOUBLE THE IMPACT OF YOUR GIFT!

All donations to Moffitt are currently being matched dollar-for-dollar, through a challenge grant from the Skirball Foundation. Gifts for Moffitt through a class campaign will also be doubled!

[givetocal.berkeley.edu](http://givetocal.berkeley.edu)

510/642- 9604

[give@library.berkeley.edu](mailto:give@library.berkeley.edu)

be at a distinguished research university—that the collections provide the raw materials for the study and the creation of new knowledge, an asset that is just as indispensable to undergraduates as it is to the scholars, professors, and scientists who use our libraries.”

*Support the new generation of libraries at Cal—support Moffitt. Learn more at [moffitt.berkeley.edu](http://moffitt.berkeley.edu) 🍀*



# DOE LIBRARY CELEBRATES



Doe Library Centennial Celebration guests, including Robert D. Haas '64, co-chair of the Campaign for the University Library, fourth from the left. To the right of Haas, Michael Trevino '89 and Garry Parton '86, Library Advisory Board member.



A Sundanese dance was performed in the South/Southeast Asia Library in Doe, by UC Berkeley graduate student Wilis Rengganiasih.



Visitors thronged to a book giveaway on the third floor, where duplicate titles on virtually every subject collected by the Library lined the shelves. About two thousand books found happy new owners.



At the end of the afternoon, campus speakers shared their reflections on the history and future of the Library. At right, Maxine Hong Kingston '62. One of the first Asian-American writers in the United States to achieve wide recognition for her work, Kingston is emerita faculty in the Department of English. Other speakers included Chancellor Birgeneau, Professor Geoffrey Nunberg, Cal alum and actor Earl I Kingston, and bestselling author Annie Barrows.



## WANT MORE?

Enjoy the slideshow on [flickr.com/photos/ucblibrary](http://flickr.com/photos/ucblibrary) and feel free to add your comments! And see [doe100.berkeley.edu](http://doe100.berkeley.edu) for stories, pictures, a Library timeline, and a column by University Library Tom Leonard.

Above, Vishalli Loomba '12, with Sukhpreet Sembhi '13. Loomba, who majored in molecular and cell biology with a minor in global poverty and practice, served as ASUC President in 2011-12. She joined other speakers at the event in expressing her appreciation for the Library, and said that "Doe has become a second home to me. As a graduating senior, I have to admit I'm a little sad that I won't be able to come back to my favorite cubicle on Level B of the Main Stacks next semester!"



The Men's Octet delivered a rousing performance on the steps of the Bernice Layne Brown Gallery.



Chocolate and vanilla cupcakes were a welcome afternoon treat for attendees, following the symbolic slicing of a birthday cake by University Librarian Tom Leonard. During the cupcake giveaway, the Men's Octet serenaded the crowd with multiple renditions of "Happy Birthday."



Library Advisory Board members Theo Zaninovich '64, Lila Rich '55, and Sheryl Wong '67, '68. Board members staffed the welcome tables, greeting and directing visitors. Sheryl Wong commented that "the joy expressed by the crowd at this event reminded us all of why the Library is often called the heart of the campus."

Germanic Collections librarian Jim Spohrer gave one of the day's talks, describing the history of Doe's construction and its collections. He noted that more than 50% of Doe Library's holdings are in languages other than English, testifying to the global reach of the Library.





# In Memoriam Joseph A. Rosenthal

1929-2012



Joseph A. Rosenthal, who served as the University Librarian from 1979 to 1991, died on April 7, 2012. His leadership has been long remembered for initiating major programs in conservation, automation, and private funding.

When Mr. Rosenthal was appointed University Librarian in September 1979, libraries were just beginning the transformations entailed in becoming modern computerized information centers. Long before other research libraries believed that automated catalogs were feasible, Mr. Rosenthal set a ten year goal for converting 6 million card catalog records into computerized form. This aggressive program set the stage for significant improvements in services that today are taken for granted.

Mr. Rosenthal was one of the first to recognize the need to save the great Berkeley collections from ravages of time, use, and environmental deterioration, spearheading one of the first conservation departments in a major university library. Today the Berkeley Preservation Department is rated one of the best in the nation.

Mr. Rosenthal's establishment of the Library Development Office in the early

eighties has enabled the Library to maintain a margin of excellence not possible through state and campus allocations. In the past two decades, the Library has received an average of over \$8 million in gifts each year. Among its endowment funds is the Joseph A. Rosenthal Librarian's Discretionary Fund, which is currently supporting the transformation of Moffitt Library (*see p. 3*).

Prior to becoming University Librarian in 1979, Mr. Rosenthal served for eight years in technical services here, and for twelve years at New York Public Library. Throughout his career he published numerous articles and participated in the activities of many professional organizations, including ALA.

Following his retirement, Mr. Rosenthal served on the San Francisco Library Commission and volunteered as chief librarian at the American Conservatory Theatre. His interests included education, music, opera, literature, theatre, and art. He leaves behind many friends and former colleagues. His life was celebrated at a memorial event in June in the Morrison Library. 🍷

*Adapted from an essay in the library staff newsletter (1992) by Rita Kane*

**"Joe's example was one of the reasons that I decided to take a shift at the Bancroft Reference Desk. I can still remember seeing him in the old circulation hall, dispensing advice to all comers."**

**— Charles Faulhaber,  
former Bancroft  
director**

# The 2012 LIBRARY PRIZE for UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH

This year was the tenth anniversary of the Library Prize for Undergraduate Research, a program which was a “Berkeley original” when it was founded. Over the years, dozens of outstanding students have been awarded the prize, in fields ranging from architecture, music and legal studies to biology, history and political science. Winning projects are exhibited in Doe Library throughout the year, allowing the work to influence a large audience of their peers.

We salute this year’s winners for their discovery—ignited by the University Library’s rich resources—of the excitement and power of original research.

## KRISTINA BORRMAN

*The Paradoxical Persistence of James Earle Fraser’s End of the Trail: Nostalgia, Souvenirs, and the Politics of Pictorial Representation*

ART HISTORY • DR. MARGARETTA LOVELL



This honors thesis examines the history of a famous sculpture, James Earle Fraser’s *End of the Trail*, which depicts a tired, slumped Native American warrior on horseback.

Kristina’s energetic

research included explorations of the music, ethnic studies, art history, and education-psychology libraries, as well as delving into archival documents from the Bancroft Library such as advertisements and ephemera from the 1915 San Francisco World’s Fair. Dr. Lovell wrote that Kristina “has excelled at synthesizing ideas from disparate sources to emerge with a singularly original, well-written argument.”

## KASHI GOMEZ

*Where Upside Down is Right Side Up: A Study of Ksemendra’s Narmamālā and His Theory of Aucitya*

HISTORY • DR. JESSE KNUTSON



This honors thesis explores the work of an 11th century Sanskrit author as both a form of social value judgment and a source of humor. Dr. Knutson praised Kashi for accomplishing “something

exceedingly rare for an undergraduate. She has produced a thesis . . . which constitutes an original work of scholarship in the field. It would have been impossible to do this using a lesser institution’s collection. The library has thus directly facilitated her precocity.”

## PATRICIA E. KIM

*The Materiality and ‘Enchantment’ of the Gebel el-Arak Knife and the Gerzean Flint Blade Production*

NEAR EASTERN STUDIES • DR. MARIAN FELDMAN



In writing her honors thesis on knife and flint blade production in Predynastic Egypt, Patricia drew on the practical knowledge of stone knapping gained by actually learning how to make stone tools herself.

Dr. Feldman said

that Patricia’s “intellectually creative and imaginative” work relied on “the incredible breadth and depth of the Berkeley library holdings. Indeed, Patricia made use of almost every possible library resource during the nearly two years that she spent researching and writing her thesis.”



## MATTHEW KINTZ

*Smoke and Mirrors? Examining the Relationship Between Medical Cannabis Dispensaries and Crime*

HONORS SEMINAR IN POLITICAL SCIENCE

DR. TERRI BIMES



Matthew's honors thesis demonstrates a weak relationship between medical cannabis dispensaries and crime in San Francisco neighborhoods. Using copious demographic data as well as specialized

GIS mapping software at the Earth Sciences & Map Library, Matthew's study undermines the common claim that dispensaries are "magnets for criminal activity."

## NEW NAMING OPPORTUNITY

Are you interested in creating a lasting legacy of your—or a loved one's—personal connection to the University Library and the undergraduate students it serves? If so, a unique opportunity is being offered for the first time to a donor who would like to support the Library Prize for Undergraduate Research for generations to come. A \$250,000 pledge (payable over up to a 5 year period) would provide the funding necessary to endow and name a program that, as one student prize winner commented, was "the most formative learning experience" he had at UC Berkeley.

For more information, please contact Deborah Maxon in Library Development at [dmaxon@library.berkeley.edu](mailto:dmaxon@library.berkeley.edu) or 510/643-4714.

## MORGAN SHAHAN

*Caged Revolutionaries: An Examination of Inmate Unity During the Attica Prison Riot of 1971*

AMERICAN HISTORY AND INSTITUTIONS

DR. EDYTH BIELENBERG



This senior thesis is based on vigorous research in primary and secondary sources discovered through the Media Resource Center, the Emma Goldman Papers, the Bancroft Library, and Moffitt and Doe—as well

as off-campus resources at Glide Memorial Church in San Francisco and dissertations from other universities. Dr. Bielenberg said that "Morgan is a committed, creative and resourceful researcher with an absolute love of books and scholarship. Her dynamic scholarship places her in the upper ranks of Berkeley's students. .... She left no stone unturned!"

## RYAN LANDON SWANSON

*The Political Economy of Wind Power in China*

INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES

DR. RAKESH BHANDARI



Drawing on a huge array of sources, this senior thesis explores the explosive growth of wind power in China. Having spent a year in China, Ryan's fluency in Mandarin enabled him to translate his own sources for the paper.

Dr. Bhandari called it "simply the best thesis that I have read in Interdisciplinary Studies." Librarians in the Starr East Asian Library introduced Ryan to Chinese language databases and source materials; less traditionally, he also gleaned valuable data by following energy and policy analysts on Twitter. 🌿

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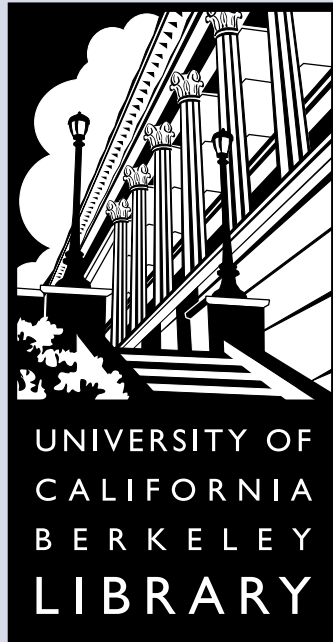
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# Then & Now

Hearst Memorial Mining Building opened in August 1907 with great fanfare, representing the promise of the fledgling university. "The spirit of the new University, instinct with life, was in the air," as Jack London had reported of the cornerstone ceremony five years earlier. Designed by campus architect John Galen Howard, the building cost \$1,065,000, which was covered by campus benefactor Phoebe Apperson Hearst. A massive 1998-2003 renovation project added an innovative shock-absorption system—designed at Cal—to protect the building during an earthquake. Also shown in the recent photo is part of the Mining Circle. Obscured during almost a decade of construction in the area, the reflecting pool was recently restored to its tranquil glory, and has again become a favorite campus gathering spot. 🌿



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*  
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Peg Skorpinski p 1, 4-6, 8-9

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# Exhibits at the Library

## HEART OF THE CAMPUS: DOE LIBRARY 1912-2012

*Bernice Layne Brown Gallery, Doe Library  
through August 31  
check [lib.berkeley.edu](http://lib.berkeley.edu) for hours  
online at [doe100.berkeley.edu/exhibit](http://doe100.berkeley.edu/exhibit)*

One hundred years ago, Doe Library became the main campus library, and John Galen Howard, the architect, made it a key component of his design for the Berkeley campus. Ground was broken for the library in 1905, the cornerstone laid in 1908, and the University of California dedicated the building on Charter Day of 1912. Funding for the library came from the estate of Charles Franklin Doe. After 100 years, our students, faculty, and visitors still depend on the library for what they discover and create. We look forward to our next century as we celebrate the first.

This exhibit is part of the 2011-12 celebration of Doe's Centennial.

## TOOLS OF THE TRADE

*Environmental Design Library, 210 Wurster Hall  
Raymond Lifchez and Judith Lee Stronach Exhibition Cases  
June 25th through September 5  
check [lib.berkeley.edu](http://lib.berkeley.edu) for hours*

We often see the results of design, the buildings and landscapes that inform our everyday world. Rarely do we get to see the tools that make the design of this world possible. This exhibition features tangible items used in daily practice as an architect, landscape architect, or planner. The exhibit also provides a detailed glimpse into the practice of a father-daughter architecture office of the early 20th century, in order to see the application of these tools. Curated by Waverly Lowell, this exhibit features items from the collections of the Environmental Design Archives and the Environmental Design Library.



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