

- [Greater Community of Scholars Through Time](#)
- [Where is the Library?](#)
- [Our Library as a Metaphor](#)
- [Collections and Programs Highlights](#)
- [A Day in Bancroft's Heller Reading Room](#)
- [Library Advisory Board](#)
- [Calendar of Exhibits](#)

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

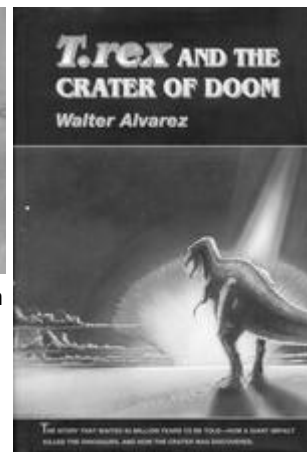
THE GREATER COMMUNITY OF SCHOLARS EXTENDED IN TIME

Professor Walter Alvarez

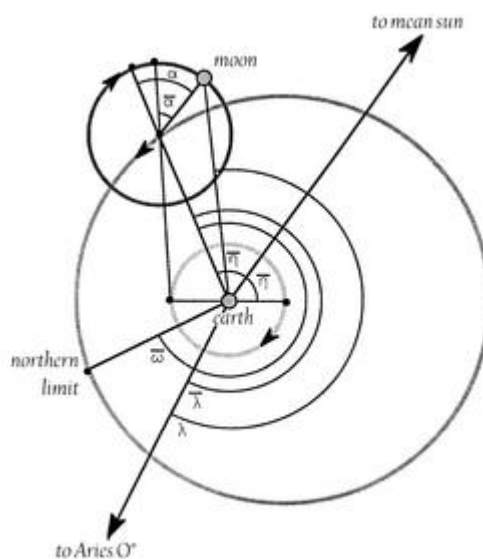
As a geologist who studies the Earth's past, recorded in sedimentary rocks, I consider myself a historian, and in any question I can't help thinking about the dimension of time.



Professor Walter Alvarez on a field trip in Utah.
Photograph by Professor Steve Dutch.



As a community of scholars, those of us here at Berkeley today will be thought of in future times as contemporaries, which means we have the possibility of talking to each other--whether or not we choose to do so. But the community of scholars is broader than just us here and our other contemporaries around the world. Our community extends back into the past and forward into the future as well. We can think of ourselves as colleagues of Plato and Aristotle, and as friends of Dante and Francis Bacon. And in addition to the great generalists, we each have long-gone colleagues in our own particular fields as well. If only we could talk with our colleagues of the past, as we can with our contemporaries....



Ptolemy's model for lunar motion as presented in his *Almagest*, finished between 147 and 161 A.D.

As a geologist, my colleagues include Claudius Ptolemy, who worked at the Library of Alexandria, probably the greatest community of scholars in the classical world. Ptolemy's research on the Earth and the planets set the standard for over a thousand years. He is best known for the *Almagest*, his great book on astronomy, but his other book, the *Geography*, was a long listing of the latitudes and longitudes of cities and harbors and headlands, as well as could be determined in the second century A.D. It was the first digital atlas, and I would love to be able to show Ptolemy the digital atlases we have available now, like the one that produces the beautiful colored relief maps of Italy I am

studying now with my students, as we try to understand the evolution of the Italian landscape through time.

My community of scholars also includes Leonardo da Vinci in the sixteenth century and Nicholas Steno in the seventeenth. The two of them made sophisticated observations on the rocks of Italy, long before anyone else cared, but to me their observations are wonderful. Looking at Leonardo's drawings of deformed rock outcrops or Steno's diagrams of the Arno Valley sediments, I can almost recognize places where I have worked myself. If only we could go on a field trip together--how much we three would have to say to each other!



The principles of Nicholas Steno (1638-1686) continue to be used today by geologists and paleontologists.

Perhaps you have read the recent book, *The Map that Changed the World*, by Simon Winchester. It tells the story of my colleague, William Smith, who invented stratigraphy as a science in late eighteenth-century England. As a surveyor in coal mines and then as a canal builder, William Smith was the first to understand that rock layers occur in regular sequences recording the passage of time. He then realized that fossils could be used to determine the relative ages of sedimentary rocks, and finally he made the first geologic map--a large, beautiful work of science and art that showed how the bedrock of England was put together. My work as an Earth historian has all been built on the principles that William Smith discovered, and I would love to be able to tell him about what I have found.

Sometimes I imagine I am having lunch at the Faculty Club with Harry Hess, who discovered sea-floor spreading, paved the way for plate tectonics, and planned the Apollo science on the Moon. Uncle Harry, as we called him, was my thesis supervisor at Princeton. It has always been a sadness for me that he died before I really got on track as a scientist, and I never had the chance to tell him about any of the exciting things I've worked on. I wish I could talk to Uncle Harry just once more. We would have so much to say.

This is just a pleasant fantasy, of course. They are all dead and gone, and the remoteness of time past limits all such conversations to the imagination. I will never really talk with Uncle Harry again, much less with William Smith or Claudius Ptolemy. We are isolated in time, and the isolation is frightening to think about.

Once, while I was reading about special relativity, it came home to me that at the speed of light--a fundamental constant of the universe--one second is equivalent to 186,000 miles. And I realized that in this sense, something that happened a second ago is as remote as something 186,000 miles away. For a geologist used to thinking about hundreds of millions of years, the realization came with a sense of loss, and a wave of sadness, that even the very recent past is receding at that appalling rate, and is truly unrecoverable.

So my happy fantasy about talking with colleagues long gone is utterly hopeless.

Except...

Except that there really is a way to do it! Here on this campus we have an amazing portal that uses a phenomenal technology to overcome the apparently hopeless abyss of time that separates us from so many of our colleagues in the greater community of scholars. I can reach that portal by walking down three

flights of stairs, across a grassy meadow, through a great granite doorway... and into the Library.

There, in the Library, that phenomenal technology is waiting for me to use--a technology called "written language." How often do we stop and think about how amazing it is? A human invention that allows us to overcome that horrifying isolation in time, imposed by the speed of light. Imagine how miraculous all those books, bearing voices from the past, would have seemed to someone who lived before the invention of writing! In those books we can untangle the intellectual threads that have woven the particular tapestry of thought that underlies each of our academic fields. In the library we can open intellectual gifts from long-departed members of the community of scholars--gifts that may be just what we need to make a new advance.

As scholars, each of us must have our own personal story of a gift from the past that came to us through the portal of the library. One day in 1990, while browsing in the Earth Science branch of the Library, I chanced upon an obscure little book entitled, *Geology of the Tampico Region, Mexico*, by a petroleum geologist named John M. Muir (this was not the famous naturalist). Muir worked in eastern Mexico in the days before Mexico nationalized its petroleum industry and stopped publishing geologic information. Muir's little book of 1936 was the last detailed publication on the geology of that part of Mexico, but in it I found a description of an intriguing rock outcrop at a place called El Mimbral. And when a little group of us went and hunted it down, it turned out to be the most amazing outcrop I've ever seen in 40 years as a geologist. In deep-water sediments, it recorded a rain of fiery debris from a nearby impact, a great tsunami, and the collapse of the nearby continental margin of Mexico. It provided the conclusive proof that the huge buried impact crater in the nearby Yucatán Peninsula was responsible for the great mass extinction 65 million years ago that finished off the dinosaurs. What a debt of gratitude I owe to John Muir for his transtemporal conversation with me!



Galileo Galilei (1564-1642) uses a telescope, one of the central instruments of the scientific revolution of the seventeenth century to study the heavens.

Like any technology, written language as a way of shrinking time has its limitations. Most prominently, it allows only one-way communication. Uncle Harry and Galileo and Ptolemy can talk to me, but I cannot talk to them. But of course I can talk to geologists not yet born. Maybe, if librarians are successful in their sacred trust of preservation, I will be able to talk with members of the community of scholars thousands of years in the future.

For of course it is our librarians who keep those portals open, and make possible that miraculous communication with our lost colleagues in the greater community of scholars. Librarians are my link to Nicholas Steno and Harry Hess and John Muir. They are my bridge across time to colleagues in the community of scholars who would otherwise be lost. In the

collections which are in their trust, I have learned the most wonderful things about the Earth, in the words of friends I never knew, who are no longer alive to tell me themselves.

As I comb through our library's map collections in my quest to understand the Italian landscape, I find the Apennine Mountains as mapped by generations of

my cartographer colleagues--from ground surveys around 1900 to the first maps made from air photos in the 1930s, to copies made by both German and American military cartographers during the Second World War, to modern satellite images.

So for me the community of scholars is arranged in three concentric circles. First and closest are my friends and colleagues at Berkeley--those I can meet by arrangement or by accident for an interesting lunch at the Faculty Club. Then there are my contemporaries all over the world--friends I might see at a meeting once a year, or talk with from time to time by phone or e-mail. And finally there is that greater community of scholars, past and future, with whom I can talk--alas, in one direction only--in the Library.

Recently I had a particularly satisfying one-way conversation with my Italian colleague, Niccolò Macchiavelli, who shares with me an appreciation of the greater community of scholars, extended in time. In 1513, in a letter to a friend, Macchiavelli wrote:

"I go into the library, and as I cross the threshold I cast off my everyday clothing, covered with filth and mud, and put on the costume of the royal court.... Thus honorably clad, I enter the classical court of the Ancients. They welcome me warmly, and I feast on the nourishment for which I was born."

And thus in the Library can we, who are today's community of scholars, feast on the connections that bind us into the greater community of scholars. Some of those connections--the books already on the shelves--fade back into an ever dimmer and more remote past. Other connections--the books and articles that we and our students are writing now--point ahead toward a distant future, when scholars not yet born will savor their one-way conversations... with us.

(This article is adapted from a talk given at the Faculty Club on the Berkeley Campus, March 15, 2002, at a symposium on "Communities of Scholars.")

Professor Alvarez was raised in Berkeley, received his B.S. from Carleton College (Minnesota), and Ph.D. in geology from Princeton University, with a thesis on the structure of the northernmost Andes in Colombia and Venezuela. In 1977, he joined the faculty at Berkeley, and served as chairman of the Department of Geology and Geophysics from 1994-97. In 1991, he was elected to the National Academy of Sciences, and in 1993 to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. His well-known book, *T. rex and the Crater of Doom*, was published by Princeton University Press in 1997.



The tyrannosaurs were a group of large carnivorous dinosaurs that roamed North America and Asia during the last part of the Cretaceous, 85 to 65 million years ago. A cast of a tyrannosaur skeleton is on display at UC Berkeley's Museum of Paleontology.

- [Greater Community of Scholars Through Time](#)
- [Where is the Library?](#)
- [Our Library as a Metaphor](#)
- [Collections and Programs Highlights](#)
- [A Day in Bancroft's Heller Reading Room](#)
- [Library Advisory Board](#)
- [Calendar of Exhibits](#)

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

VISITORS TO THE CAMPUS FREQUENTLY ASK, "WHERE IS THE LIBRARY?" AND THEN ARE SURPRISED BY THE RESPONSE, "WHICH ONE?"

UC Berkeley is home to one of the finest research libraries in the country, and includes the Doe Library, Moffitt Library, The Bancroft Library, and more than twenty subject specialty libraries serving a variety of academic disciplines. The UC Berkeley Library's holdings include over nine million print volumes, and a significant number of maps, manuscripts, photographs, video and sound recordings, as well as a growing collection of materials in electronic formats.

The Doe Library houses most of the humanities and social sciences collections. The Bancroft Library, a rare books, manuscripts, and special collections library, includes a collection of Western Americana and Latin Americana, the History of Science Collection, the University Archives, the Mark Twain Papers, and the Regional Oral History Office. Moffitt Library houses a core collection of high-use materials of particular interest to undergraduates and non-specialists, the Media Resource Center, and the Teaching Library.

Among the subject libraries, each with its own unique and rich collection of materials, the East Asian Library is particularly distinguished by its rare editions of early manuscripts, scrolls, woodblock and engraved maps, stone rubbings, and bronze inscriptions. The Music Library also houses rare books and manuscripts, and the Bioscience and Natural Resources Library has a fine collection of old and rare cookbooks.

In addition, there are a number of "affiliated libraries," which contain specialized research collections of unique and often difficult to find materials associated with research units, institutes, academic departments, and professional schools on the Berkeley campus.

Campus Visitor Services, which can be reached at (510) 642-5215, regularly leads campus tours that include a guided walk through the Doe Library and the Gardner Stacks, where the Doe collections are housed. The Library's own tour program offers tours of the Doe Library, Gardner Stacks, and Moffitt on Tuesdays. Tours meet in the north lobby of Doe Library, and begin at 10 a.m. on the first Tuesday of each month, and at 2 p.m. on the remaining Tuesdays.

Library hours vary by location, and during academic semesters, semester breaks, and summer sessions. For an up-to-date listing of all Library hours, pick up a leaflet at any library, or click on Library Hours on the Library Web home page. For a recording of Doe Library hours, call (510) 642-6657 and choose option 1.

The UC Berkeley Library

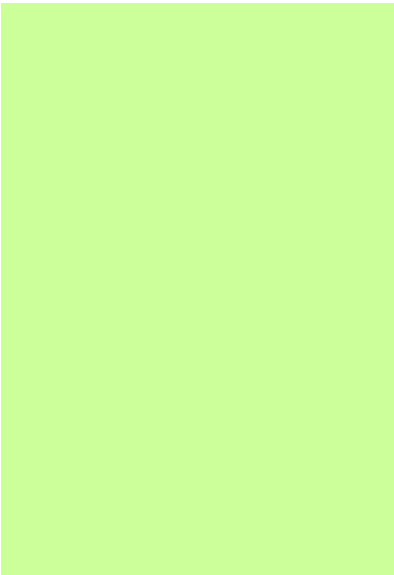
1. George and Mary Foster Anthropology Library

2. Astronomy/Mathematics/Statistics Library
3. The Bancroft Library
4. Marian Koshland Bioscience and Natural Resources Library
5. Thomas J. Long Business and Economics Library
6. Chemistry Library
7. Doe Library
 - Art History/Classics Library
 - A.F. Morrison Memorial Library
 - Periodicals/Newspapers/Microforms
 - South/Southeast Asia Library
8. Earth Sciences and Map Library
9. East Asian Library
10. East Asian Library Annex
11. Education/Psychology Library
12. Kresge Engineering Library
13. Environmental Design Library
14. James K. Moffitt Library
 - Media Resources Center
15. Jean Gray Hargrove Music Library
16. Pamela and Kenneth Fong Optometry and Health Sciences Library
17. Physics Library
18. Public Health Library
19. Social Welfare Library

Affiliated Libraries

20. Chinese Studies Library
21. Environmental Design Archives
- 22.



- 
23. Ethnic Studies Library
 24. Giannini Foundation Library
 25. Institute of Governmental Studies Library
 26. Institute of Industrial Relations Library
 27. Garret W. McEnerney Law Library
 28. Harmer E. Davis Transportation Library
 - Water Resources Center Archives
-

- [Greater Community of Scholars Through Time](#)
- [Where is the Library?](#)
- [Our Library as a Metaphor](#)
- [Collections and Programs Highlights](#)
- [A Day in Bancroft's Heller Reading Room](#)
- [Library Advisory Board](#)
- [Calendar of Exhibits](#)

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

FIRST PERSON

THE LEARNING NETWORK--OUR LIBRARY AS A METAPHOR

Monica L. Morrill '02

All universities are by definition totalities: they house learning, research and service that never cease. Extending this concept, all *public* universities encompass the individuals that benefit from the whole university: faculty, students and the public at large. No other institution on campus illustrates these connective elements better than the University Library.

Over the past year, I have kept a major concern in the mode of observation--it is that of the representation of books in our library throughout the transition to information technology. How has the learning process changed in the library for patrons? Do we feel connected to books or because they lack an electronic button have they become burdensome? My overall assumption is not that research has changed in quality since the introduction of the Internet so much as it has changed its focus. These foci are a distinct signal that the learning process in libraries is now shifting, especially over the past several years.

In 1984, a man from Cleveland by the name of Grundner envisaged a free library for computer networking. He asserted that "in the last century, as more and more Americans became literate and the cost of book publishing dropped, public libraries came along to give citizens free access to books." What he did not accurately speculate was the demand and market for books, magazines and newspapers. The system has become more fluid, but more expensive. The access to a magazine is lost in cyberspace, but the subscription to maintain this right of entry can cost double or triple the paper copy. The demand for more information has been paralleled with an increase in access, available hours and faculty in the library. The dominance of some traditions are gone: no more DOS screen, no more postcards in the mail that our books are overdue, and no scrambling to find a century-old magazine before 5:00 p.m. (except on Fridays and Saturdays). Technology and the aligned desire for more information have certainly revolutionized the way we think about gathering more details, but it also changes the method in which we identify with them. Will all books become completely impersonal vis-à-vis microfilm or books on the Web? I doubt this will occur, and if there is an attempt, here are some reasons why it should not take place.

In the library exists a culture. It is a surviving community of contact, a collection of stories, and encapsulated learning experiences. The library is a vigorous metaphor that evokes images of organization, thoroughness, freedom of access, skill at unearthing answers, and learning. The *process* of finding the information is equally as helpful as discovering the book, magazine or newspaper itself.

Unity in diversity. This is the statement that best describes the *Uni-versity* Library. It represents the people, the books, and the unprejudiced cultural activity. Every resonating bleep of the computer represents the exchange of

information. Whether it is being returned, checked out, or put on hold, *someone* in the library shares a part of the university and a slice of themselves to make a tapestry of communion. It is the intersection of data.

The cycle of my own book reading and collecting began when I was five and sixteen, respectively. Yet the process of learning will never end. I would like to thank the Library faculty and members of the Library Advisory Board for their earnest efforts in preserving this cherished monument and for the inspiration they have given to the younger generation--the students. It is by their example that we can continue to defend the true integrity of the University Library, thereby making it available to the whole of society. Throughout these technology transformations and extensive road map construction of information, we must continue to uphold the sense of community in our library. There are some things that cannot and must not change. As I know it, there is still nothing that replaces having George Orwell's short stories at your bedside before you go to sleep.

Monica is the first student member of the Library Advisory Board. She has finished her first year on the Board and will continue through the fall semester, when she will graduate with a simultaneous degree in Environmental Economics and Policy and Geography.

- [Greater Community of Scholars Through Time](#)
- [Where is the Library?](#)
- [Our Library as a Metaphor](#)
- [Collections and Programs Highlights](#)
- [A Day in Bancroft's Heller Reading Room](#)
- [Library Advisory Board](#)
- [Calendar of Exhibits](#)

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

COLLECTIONS AND PROGRAMS HIGHLIGHTS

- The **Mark Twain Luncheon Club** featured Hal Holbrook at its third meeting on March 27th at the Berkeley City Club. CBS-TV was also there to interview Holbrook for a Sunday morning program about the Bancroft's Mark Twain Project that will be aired in the coming months. Holbrook's involvement with Mark Twain's work began with a college honors project that evolved into a one-man show, *Mark Twain Tonight!*



Hal Holbrook talks with attendees at the March luncheon.

- Holbrook opened this show off-Broadway to critical acclaim in the 1950s, and continues to polish and perform it today. At the March luncheon, Holbrook wove recitations from Twain's work into his presentation, which included stories about performing his one-man show in the politically charged atmosphere of the 1950s and 1960s. The Mark Twain Luncheon Club was recently established in 2001 for annual donors of \$1500 to the Mark Twain Project, with three distinguished co-chairs: Chancellor and Professor Emeritus Ira Michael Heyman, Vice Chancellor and Professor Emeritus M. Watson Laetsch, and Professor Robert L. Middlekauff (former director of the Huntington Library).
- The **Bancroft Library** unveiled two new digital Websites in April: the Meiklejohn Civil Liberties Institute Archives, which include the best legal "briefs," transcripts, and motions in cases reported in the Civil Liberties Docket since 1955; and the Cased Photographs Project of The Bancroft Library, including digital images and detailed descriptions of daguerreotypes, ambrotypes, tintypes, and related photographs in the Bancroft collections. To access these collections go to: <http://bancroft.berkeley.edu/collections/meiklejohn.html> and <http://bancroft.berkeley.edu/collections/casedphotos.html>.
 - After more than 18 months of work, the **UC Berkeley's Strategic Planning Committee** (SPC) has issued a draft plan intended to guide the future growth and development of the Berkeley campus. Library Advisory Board members who sit on this committee are Vice Chancellor Don McQuade and University Librarian Tom Leonard. Major themes in the draft plan include the need to foster greater academic and social interaction on campus, and the need to improve institutional support of undergraduate students. The Library, as a physical space and as an academic support program, has a major role to play in both of these areas. The Free Speech Movement Café is named in the draft plan as an existing successful enterprise that has taken the campus in the right direction. The importance of The Teaching Library to the undergraduate program is

emphasized, and a closer relationship between the faculty and this program is encouraged. It is also suggested that the Library pursue demonstration projects in team-based learning that can be used to inform the direction of future capital projects. To read the draft plan and to learn more about the SPC, please go to <http://spc.vcbf.berkeley.edu/> and select the tab "About Us."

- Berkeley's **Faculty Club** celebrated its 100th birthday on Friday, March 15, in the Faculty Club Library. The celebration included an academic colloquium, "The Idea of a Community of Scholars," chaired by Martin Trow, professor emeritus of public policy, and a faculty panel consisting of Ann Kilmer, former chair of Near Eastern Studies; Walter Alvarez, professor of earth and planetary sciences; and Richard Muller, professor of physics. Professor Alvarez is our featured author in this edition, presenting excerpts from his talk.
- March 15th was **Charter Day**, which celebrated the University's 134th birthday. U.S. Secretary of Transportation Norman Mineta '53 was named the CAA 2001 Alumnus of the Year. President of Costa Rica Miguel Angel Rodriguez Echeverria '66 received the 2001 Elise and Walter A. Haas International Award, in recognition of his lifetime of service to Costa Rica. Maxine Hong Kingston received the 2002 California State Library Gold Medal for Excellence in the Humanities and Science. Kingston is an award-winning author and a senior lecturer in the UC Berkeley English department. Joanna Lennon received the 2001 Peter E. Haas Public Service Award for founding the East Bay Conservation Corps, a nonprofit organization in Oakland that encourages youth to participate in community service.
- **e-Berkeley services** (www.givetocal.berkeley.edu/) are gaining in variety and popularity. Since its launch in May 2000, this gateway has brought in \$335,000 in gifts from alumni and friends to more than 100 campus units, including the Library. This site is in second place, behind Princeton, for number of dollars raised in the first year. All online donations via credit card are processed instantaneously through a secure site.
- A **free evening course**, "Issues in U.S. Foreign Policy Since 9/11," featuring distinguished campus faculty and visitors, is available for viewing online. To see these International and Area Studies lectures, go to webcast.berkeley.edu/ and select "IAS 180." Student Library Advisory Board member Monica Morrill is on the student panel participating in the lecture with Noam Chomsky on March 18.
- The **Campanile will be closed** temporarily until the fall for tower elevator modernization.

NO.60 SPRING 2002

BENE LEGERE

**NEWSLETTER OF THE
LIBRARY ASSOCIATES**

- [Greater Community of Scholars Through Time](#)
- [Where is the Library?](#)
- [Our Library as a Metaphor](#)
- [Collections and Programs Highlights](#)
- [A Day in Bancroft's Heller Reading Room](#)
- [Library Advisory Board](#)
- [Calendar of Exhibits](#)

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

NEWS FROM THE BANCROFT LIBRARY

SEA SERPENTS, CIVIL RIGHTS, SPANISH PALEOGRAPHY AND OTHER TOPICS OF INTEREST

A Day in the Life of Bancroft's Heller Reading Room

Hard to imagine the reading room of an archival and special collections repository standing at the nexus of our modern information age? At The Bancroft Library on the UC Berkeley Campus, these worlds truly collide. Poised next to researchers viewing leaves of Tebtunis papyri, manuscripts of Mark Twain, and letters of Gold Rush pioneers are the latest versions of laptop computers and the rampant but silent scurry of mice--the computer kind--across mousepads. While an occasional researcher approaches printed catalog cards, far more enjoy the powerful search engines of online catalogs and databases to "discover" and view centuries old treasures. *Welcome to A Day in the Life of Bancroft's Reading Room.*

A typical day begins at 7:00 a.m., with staff members opening the building for employees anxious to get a jump-start on the day, and who also prepare the Reading Room for our regular 9:00 a.m. opening. The Reading Room closes to the public at 5:00 p.m., but staff members often remain at work to complete important projects and secure the building for another day.

Archives and special collections repositories have now embraced the distinct advantages provided by information technologies, opening new doors for researchers to our voluminous collections of letters, diaries, manuscripts, and photographs. A fourth grade class in Fresno and a graduate seminar at North Carolina may now both enjoy a new-found access to the images and words of Japanese-American internment victims during World War II; to student protesters of the Free Speech Movement in the 1960s; or pioneers in bioscience and biotechnology during the 1970s.

Access to digital information on rare and unique materials certainly seems to breed increased scholarly inquiry. The once popular telephone number for the Bancroft Reference Desk is now outdone by our email reference address: bancref@library.berkeley.edu

Scholars and graduate students are delighted to identify our extensive holdings on a particular topic--but sometimes disheartened to learn that the entire collection of the Panama-Pacific International Exposition of 1915 (196 cartons, 146 volumes, etc.) or the records of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People--Western Region (56 cartons) are not completely digitized and indexed for



their online review. The result is often a combination of telephone and email exchanges with various Bancroft staff, and, more often than not, a personal research visit to thoroughly examine historical collections.

The Los Angeles Chapter of WIGS (Women in Government Service) gathered books for the 1964 Freedom Drive.

The Reference Desk remains a portal for inquiry, as scholars and students focus, refine, and reconfigure their research projects through conversations with Bancroft staff. Fear of locating no relevant information in our holdings sometimes gives way to dismay at finding long lists of publications, manuscript collections, oral histories, and pictorial materials. For undergraduates--such as the hundreds who visit Bancroft in a given semester through their introductory History 7B course--the journey is as important as the result. Increasingly, faculty members wish to have undergraduates experience the full spectrum of academic research, and Bancroft works with librarians in the Main Library to coordinate this effort.

The Edward H. Heller Reading Room is a place where time may stand still, but scholarly inquiry never stops. As our typical day continues after the 9:00 a.m. opening, some forty to sixty researchers, including undergraduate and graduate students, faculty of all ranks, visiting scholars from around the globe, and a variety of local and regional visitors, may appear. One such day--February 11, 2002--offers a window into the *raison d'être* for The Bancroft Library.



Illustration from "A Report of a Committee of the Linnaean Society of New England, Relative to a Large Marine Animal, Supposed to Be a Serpent, seen near Cape Ann, Massachusetts, in August 1817."

For one researcher, that day is frozen in nineteenth century New England, as he reads the scientific and popular literature of the day to determine contemporary knowledge of large sea creatures. For another, time rests in post-World War II California, and involves an exploration of the blossoming Civil Rights Movement. For yet another researcher, the world focuses on sixteenth century European religious and political discourse.

All this activity keeps the Public Services staff quite busy, including staff members who help register patrons. Staff services include: retrieving and shelving the many books, cartons, and materials requested by researchers; reference desk help for researchers navigating our online catalogs and printed resources; photocopying documents and reproducing photographs and images; and maintaining security and comfort for those who work and study in the Reading Room.

The basic statistics for this sunny Monday in February tell a portion of the story--54 researchers visited the Reading Room and consulted 61 books, 29 cartons of manuscripts, 20 reels of microfilm, 2 pictorial items, and 32 items from the University Archives. Public Services staff produced 350 photocopies of documents, accepted 2 orders for photographic reproductions

for 36 items, approved 5 permissions for publishers to use and cite materials from our collections, requested 23 books and 11 cartons from our off-site storage facility, answered 6 formal written and electronic email inquiries, and responded to continuous reference and research questions throughout the day at the Reference and Registration desks, and via individual emails and phone calls--all the while coordinating the invisible delivery and return of materials from our vaults and shelves to the Reading Room.

On this day The Bancroft Library proudly displayed a new banner. Some eight feet long and three feet high, it proclaimed the opening of a new exhibit celebrating the centennial of Anthropology in California. Bancroft is home to the papers of several preeminent anthropologists including Joseph Grinnell and C. Hart Merriam. Bancroft Director Charles B. Faulhaber also taught his class, Spanish 246 (Spanish Paleography), in one of our seminar rooms, making extensive use of printed and manuscript collections.

It is appropriate that the last individuals in Bancroft this day were a faculty member and his students. The educational value of all that The Bancroft Library collects, preserves, and provides access to --either in manuscript, print, or digital format--supercedes all others. Although Bancroft remained dark and secure until the first staff arrived the next morning, the digital collections and online resources remained "open and ready for business" throughout the night. Statistics for the week of February 10-16 indicate that the Bancroft Website received 10,111 "hits," and that 5,915 of those Web visitors proceeded to explore online information for an extended time period. Bancroft is now a "24/7" online information resource, because the scholarly research process literally never ceases!

One can only wonder what changes the next decade, the next year, or even the next week will bring. But this day, Monday, February 11, has come and gone--and was quite a typical day for The Bancroft Library.

Bancroft staff members on duty February 11, 2002 include: Misato Araki, Emily Balmages, Tony Bliss, Bill Brown, Iris Donovan, Franz Enciso, Matt Gleeson, Laura Gonzales, Amy Hellam, David Kessler, Marisa Libbon, Erica Nordmeier, Dean Smith, Susan Snyder, and Baiba Strads.



Examples of advertising cards produced during 1881-1900. Collecting these souvenir trade cards was quite popular during the 1880s. They were distributed at fairs and expositions, given to customers with a purchase, or were often wrapped in coffee or tea packages. Some trade cards were sold by book stores to collectors so eager to acquire cards that they were willing to pay for them.

NO.60 SPRING 2002
BENE LEGERE
NEWSLETTER OF THE
LIBRARY ASSOCIATES

- [Greater Community of Scholars Through Time](#)
- [Where is the Library?](#)
- [Our Library as a Metaphor](#)
- [Collections and Programs Highlights](#)
- [A Day in Bancroft's Heller Reading Room](#)
- [Library Advisory Board](#)
- [Calendar of Exhibits](#)

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

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY
UNIVERSITY LIBRARY ADVISORY
BOARD, 2001-2002

CHAIRMAN

Robert M. Berdahl *Chancellor of the University*

VICE CHAIRMAN

Thomas C. Leonard '73 *Kenneth and Dorothy Hill University Librarian*

PRESIDENT

Sheryl Wong '67

VICE PRESIDENT

Robert G. O'Donnell '65, '66

Albert H. Bowker *Chancellor Emeritus*

Mollie P. Collins '65

Kathleen G. Correia '76

Marilyn J. Drew '53

Shannon M. Drew '50

Charles B. Faulhaber *Director, Bancroft Library*

Victoria Fong *Chair of the Friends of The Bancroft Library*

Jane H. Galante '49

Paul R. Gray *Executive Vice Chancellor and Provost*

S. Allan Johnson '62, '69

Clark Kerr '39 *President Emeritus*

Daniel E. Koshland '41 *Professor Emeritus*

Charlene C. Liebau '60

William R. Lyman '65, '69

Iona R. Main '49

Marie L. Matthews '52

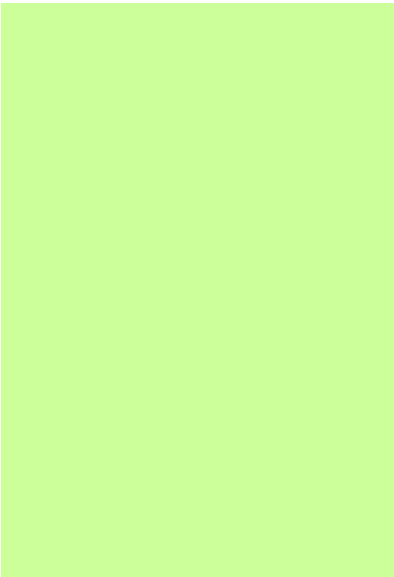
Donald A. McQuade *Vice Chancellor, University Relations*

George A. Miller '61

Monica Morrill '02 *Student Representative*

F. Brian Rapp '61, '64

Lila S. Rich '55



John W. Rosston '42 *Past President*

Richard L. Russell, Jr. '78

Harry N. Scheiber *Professor of Law*

Stephen M. Silberstein '64, '77

Katharine W. Thompson '48

Chang-Lin Tien *Chancellor Emeritus*

HONORARY ADVISORY BOARD

Marion S. Goodin '38, '40

Ira M. Heyman *Chancellor Emeritus*

Esther G. Heyns

NO. 60 SPRING 2002

BENELEGERE

NEWSLETTER OF THE LIBRARY ASSOCIATES

- [The Greater Community of Scholars Extended in Time](#)
- [Where is the Library?](#)
- [First Person](#)
[The Learning Network--Our Library as a Metaphor](#)
- [Collections and Programs Highlights](#)
- News from the Bancroft Library
[Sea Serpents, Civil Rights, Spanish Paleography and Other Topics of Interest : A Day in the Life of Bancroft's Heller Reading Room](#)
- [University Library Advisory Board, 2001-2002](#)
- [Calendar of Exhibits](#)

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

CALENDAR OF EXHIBITS

"There Shall Be Sung Another Golden Age...": The Art, Literature, and History of the Berkeley Campus

**Bernice Layne Brown Gallery
Doe Library
Through mid-July 2002**

The history of the Berkeley campus is rich in both literary and visual arts depicting the University itself. The University and the campus have been the subject of creative artists both famous and

Sites of Discovery: Art and Archaeology in 19th-Century Photography of the American Southwest

**Bancroft Exhibition Gallery
Bancroft Library
May 7 through July 31, 2002**

After the Civil War, the federal government authorized military surveys to quantify the exploitation of mineral and other resources, water usage and transportation to the West Coast.

The Creation of People's Park Free Speech Movement Café
Moffitt Library
Through August 2002

Photographs taken by Bay Area photographers chronicling the creation and ensuing conflict between students and the University administration.

Peace Corps: Celebrating 41 Years of Service and Global Understanding
Moffitt Exhibition Gallery

obscure, including novelists, painters, poets, and photographers. Displays showcase the varied ways creative artists have chosen to depict and incorporate the University into their works.



Drawing primarily upon photographs, stereographs, and publications, the exhibit considers the historic and budding archaeological ramifications of the surveys and their photos in the history of American landscape art.

**Moffitt Library
Through mid-August 2002**

Celebrating UC Berkeley's record 3,080 volunteers who have served in 123 different countries since the Peace Corps' inception in 1961.

