Message from the University Librarian

Since we celebrated the 75th anniversary of UC Santa Barbara last year I have been reflecting on how the UCSB Library has always been a community hub, supporting our faculty and students to be successful in everything they do and engaging the Santa Barbara community in the intellectual and cultural life of UC Santa Barbara.

The last few decades have shown how the internet and the web have transformed libraries. Having been a librarian throughout this transition, I can assure you that libraries are—and I believe will remain—adaptive and durable institutions in the digital age. Libraries have embraced new technologies, leveraging them to make many of our unique collections available to the world and to bring the world of scholarship to the desktops of our researchers and students.

But the digital library revolution is also complex and brings with it unintended consequences. Since journals began to move online in the 1990s, scholarly journal publishing has grown to become a $10 billion industry, largely funded by research libraries, and one in which most content sits behind increasingly expensive paywalls.

Over the last year, the University of California has found itself on the world stage showing unprecedented leadership in standing up to publishing giant, Elsevier, by terminating our contract with them until we can negotiate both a more sustainable price and open access publishing for all UC-authored articles. As a public institution whose research is funded largely by public money, it is core to the UC mission to make that research openly available to be used by the residents of California, and beyond.

On the Cover

Jane Gottlieb is a Southern California artist, known for her use of vibrant color and her remarkable imagination. Forty large pieces of her work are installed across UCSB, and this recent piece will be on display in the Library. "For me," Gottlieb says, "art is an expression of one’s imagination and creativity. Being able to share this UCSB Library artwork is a great joy."
As you’ll read in this report, the UCSB Library is broadly committed to advancing open scholarship. We are partnering with the open access publisher, Punctum Books, as part of an international coalition of scholar-led publishers working together to develop tools and business models to support open access book publishing.

At the same time, we are constantly working to improve the physical library, which is used more than ever. It is the only building on campus open 24 hours and serves as an inclusive “third place” for students. This year we added more seating, electrical outlets, whiteboards, and even nap pods to better support student success.

Our undergraduates are developing as budding researchers not just in the labs across campus but also in the Library. Last year, we inaugurated a new Library Award for Undergraduate Research to showcase some of the outstanding scholarship produced by these talented undergraduates.

Crossing departmental boundaries and bringing knowledge to bear to solve problems and learn about the world are what libraries are all about and why we are so perfectly aligned with the mission and purpose of UCSB.

Thank you all for being ambassadors for the Library and supporting our efforts. I invite you to join us in helping the Library continue to be such a strong pillar of faculty and student success.

KRISTIN ANTELMAN
FREEING KNOWLEDGE
Open Access: Negotiations with Elsevier

In 2019, the University of California (UC) took a firm stand on open access to publicly funded research by deciding not to renew its journal subscriptions with Elsevier, the world’s largest scientific publisher.

This move was part of UC’s larger goal to accelerate the pace of scientific discovery by ensuring that research produced by UC’s ten public universities will be available, free of charge and immediately upon publication, to readers and researchers around the world.

“The research published in these journals is publicly funded and is conducted by researchers at a public institution, and yet currently no California resident outside the university can read it without paying,” said Kristin Antelman, University Librarian at UC Santa Barbara.

In the current publishing environment, when authors sign publication agreements, they typically are required to transfer their copyright and future rights to the publisher. The content then goes behind a paywall. This creates a system where universities have to pay to read articles written by their own faculty. Scholarly journal publishing is now a $10 billion industry, largely funded by research libraries.

“We’re at the point where the time for action has come, the time to speak with our dollars and our powerful faculty voices and the weight of the UC,” said Antelman. “Enabling our research to be available to others around the world is deeply embedded in our mission as a public institution.”

What is Open Access?

Open access (OA) refers to freely available, online information. Open access scholarly literature is free of charge to the reader and carries less restrictive copyright and licensing barriers than traditionally published works, for both readers and authors.
Partnership with Punctum Books

The UCSB Library is expanding its leadership role as an advocate for transformative open access publishing through its two-year pilot project testing a no-fees open access book publishing model with partner Punctum Books.

Dissatisfied with the current system of scholarly publishing based on expensive author-facing charges and skyrocketing subscription fees, many research institutions, like UCSB, are looking for ways to transform the business by moving the model to one in which publishers are paid a fair price for their open access publishing services.

“UCSB Library recognizes that there is something fundamentally wrong with how scholarship is published,” said Vincent W.J. van Gerven Oei, co-director at Punctum Books. “They are now a pioneer in the field of finding a way of publishing open access monographs by investing in a possible model for the future.”

The hope is that the partnership will provide a viable alternative to the traditional scholarly publishing model. So far, about 50 authors from the UC system have published through Punctum Books.

The partnership leverages Punctum’s strengths in publishing scholarship and the UCSB Library’s knowledge of best practices for the curation, discovery, dissemination, and preservation of open access books.

“The collaboration with UCSB has opened our minds about how we can be better at getting what we produce to scholars and other readers,” said van Gerven Oei.

Punctum Books

Punctum Books is a scholar-led, peer-reviewed, open access book publisher registered as a nonprofit public benefit corporation in California. Founded in 2011 by Eileen A. Joy, Punctum now has editorial and production offices in Santa Barbara, CA and The Hague, Netherlands.

Visit

www.library.ucsb.edu/punctum-books-ucsb-library-partnership
TRANSFORMING PUBLISHING
DEVELOPING THE DIGITAL LIBRARY
Project Surfliner Partnership

UCSB Library is working together with UC San Diego Library to build a suite of open-source digital library applications that will eventually replace each campus’s current digital library platform and provide public access and greater visibility to UC collections and scholarly research.

Dubbed “Project Surfliner” after the Amtrak route that links the campuses together, the collaboration kicked off in November 2018 with the goal of leveraging each campus’s strengths and resources to develop products meeting common needs in a sustainable way.

The team is creating a shared codebase using Samvera software, which is used by an international community of professionals working for libraries, archives, museums, and other cultural heritage institutions.

The Surfliner tools are designed to be ready-for-use across UC campuses, while giving each institution control over its content and how it is organized and displayed. The software is free and open source so it can be easily adopted by outside collaborators and extended to support a wide range of content types.

For UCSB Library, this content includes digitized rare and unique materials from the Library’s collections, including photographs, posters, manuscript material, maps, newspapers, and audio recordings as well as other digital assets such as electronic theses and dissertations and datasets.

The first result of Project Surfliner has been the launch of UCSB Library’s digital exhibitions platform, Spotlight. This allows UCSB Library to make its physical exhibitions more broadly available by putting them online and enabling online visitors to see digital images and documents paired with curatorial information and additional resources. The team is now working on a platform that facilitates direct access to geospatial data, enabling students and researchers to preview and download data for analysis and display on digital maps.

Visit spotlight.library.ucsb.edu

Project Surfliner
The Santa Barbara History Collection

The Santa Barbara History Collection has been a major part of the UCSB Library’s Department of Special Research Collections since the 1970s and documents the social, political, cultural, architectural, and environmental history of Santa Barbara. The collection began with a donation of the personal and organizational records of Santa Barbara’s unofficial ombudswoman in matters of natural beauty and public welfare, Pearl Chase (1888–1979). The records, now called the Community Development and Conservation Collection, include the 1969 oil spill, local authors, events such as "Fiesta," and topics like Isla Vista, Chumash culture and history, water resource management, housing, land use and planning, and women's issues. The collection is designed to record the diverse and vibrant history of events, people, and organizations that have shaped our community over the decades.

The UCSB Library is the primary archive in our community that exists to preserve, protect and make local history available to scholars and researchers all over the world. It covers many facets of community life and history, including:

- Santa Barbara County Vintners Association
- Music Academy of the West
- La Casa de La Raza
- Pacific Pride Foundation
- Community Environmental Council
- Lobero Theatre
- League of Women Voters
- Environmental Defense Center
- Santa Barbara Jazz Society
- Old Spanish Days / Fiesta
- Ensemble Theatre Company

Preserving Local Politics: The Papers of Rep. Lois Capps

The Lois Capps papers—some 130 boxes in total from her House of Representatives offices in Washington, D.C., San Luis Obispo, and Santa Barbara—reside in the UCSB Library’s Department of Special Research Collections with her husband's faculty papers and materials from his own brief time in the House of Representatives.

Visit
www.library.ucsb.edu/special-collections
PRESERVING OUR COMMUNITY'S HERITAGE
DIGITIZING EARLY SOUND RECORDINGS
Student Spotlight: Stewart Engart

Stewart Engart is a third-year Ph.D. Candidate in Musical Composition at UCSB who works as a Cylinder Audio Engineer in the Henri Temianka Audio Preservation Lab, housed in UCSB Library Special Research Collections.

He has been working in the Library audio preservation lab since starting his doctorate in 2017. In that time he has digitized thousands of sound recordings from the Library’s collection of 19,000 audio cylinders. First invented by Thomas Edison in 1877 and made of tinfoil, then commercialized as hollow wax or plastic cylinders about the size of a soda can, cylinders were the earliest recording medium.

Though cylinders went out of production long before Engart was born, they have been familiar to him since childhood. Growing up in the Blue Ridge Mountains of North Carolina, he and his siblings would listen to his grandmother’s cylinder collection of old-time mountain music when they went to visit her.

Now, Engart spends up to 20 hours a week listening to the cylinders. All that time spent in the Henri Temianka Audio Preservation Lab cleaning, restoring, digitizing, transferring, cataloging, and creating metadata for the files has made Engart an expert in the digitization process of audio cylinder recordings.

“It’s fascinating to see what people 100 years ago thought was important enough to memorialize in wax because it was quite a difficult process,” Engart said. “We really haven’t changed that much in deciding what is worthy of being passed on.”

UCSB Cylinder Audio Archive

Donations to the Library have resulted in the robust UCSB Cylinder Audio Archive, a searchable database that features all types of recordings—popular songs, classical music, speeches, and more—made from the late 1800s to the early 1900s. The archive has grown to become the largest online collection of downloadable historic sound recordings.

Visit cylinders.library.ucsb.edu
New Award Recognizes Outstanding Students

The first-ever UCSB Library Award for Undergraduate Research (LAUR) was established in 2019 as a means of celebrating and honoring students who engaged with the Library and made expert use of our vast collections and services.

Faculty members and subject librarians served as judges for the awards, selecting first- and second-place winners in each of the three broad categories: humanities and fine arts, social sciences, and science and engineering.

Taking first place in the science and engineering category, Jake Eisaguirre (UCSB ’19), earned the $750 cash prize for his research on food web dynamics in kelp forest ecosystems in the Santa Barbara Channel.

“I’m genuinely curious about nature, and to see the entire research process was very rewarding for me,” said Jake. “In the future, I want to stay in research as much as possible and a job where I can continue to ask questions.”

Jake said the Library’s electronic database access and physical study space was integral to the success of his research, in addition to the help of his co-authors and mentors. The paper ended up being accepted into their first-choice journal—Ecology.

With his sights set on the National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship Program, Jake said the LAUR application prepared him for his next steps.

“The research was a great launching point for graduate school and my future job and I really couldn’t have done it without the help of Library resources,” Jake said.

Visit www.library.ucsb.edu/2019-winners
SUPPORTING INNOVATIVE RESEARCH

New Award Recognizes Outstanding Students
TELLING OUR COLLECTIVE STORIES
Library Exhibitions Reflect our Shared History

The Library engages the larger community through its public programs, including rotating exhibitions that bring archival objects out of the stacks and into the view of curious visitors.

Campus by the Sea: Celebrating the 75th Anniversary of UCSB
Since UC Santa Barbara officially joined the UC system in 1944, the campus by the sea that began as a humble manual arts training school has grown into an international academic leader. Showcasing documents and photos from the University Archives and the recently digitized Daily Nexus papers, the exhibit highlights the University’s evolution during those 75 years.

Anguish, Anger, and Activism: Legacies of the 1969 Santa Barbara Oil Spill
The 1969 Santa Barbara oil spill—the largest oil spill in the waters off California—had a dramatic impact on Santa Barbara, serving as a catalyst for the birth of the modern environmental movement. As the oil spill was happening, the Library founded an information center as a public service to collect information about the disaster and its aftermath, which later became part of the archives.

We Remember Them: Acts of Love and Compassion in Isla Vista
An outpouring of love and compassion emerged in Isla Vista and on the UCSB campus after the 2014 massacre. Through photographs of planned and unplanned memorials, artifacts and messages left at spontaneous memorial sites, the exhibition remembered those who died and were injured and told the story of a community empowered by its own humanity in reacting to a collective loss. This exhibition became available online in 2019 through the “UCLA/Community Archives Internship Project” funded by the Andrew Mellon Foundation.

Visit
www.library.ucsb.edu/events-exhibitions
14 Years of UCSB Reads

The Library continues to engage both the campus and the Santa Barbara community in conversations around important topics through its award-winning one book program, UCSB Reads.

The UCSB Reads program kicks off at the beginning of the winter quarter with a book giveaway, and culminates in a public lecture with the author in the spring. A variety of free events, including book clubs, film screenings, exhibitions, and panel discussions are held both on- and off-campus along the way to engage UCSB and the community at large around the book’s themes.

With the goal of bringing people together and generating valuable discussion in mind, each year a committee of faculty, staff, students, and community partners convene to select an intellectually stimulating, interdisciplinary book by a living author that appeals to a wide range of readers and can be incorporated into UCSB curriculum.

Their pick for UCSB Reads 2020, Rising: Dispatches from the New American Shore by Elizabeth Rush explores the impact of sea level rise in the United States and demonstrates how race, class, national origin, and income levels further exacerbate vulnerability to rising seas.

2021 will be an exciting year for UCSB Reads as the program hits its milestone 15th year, cementing its role as a mainstay program at UCSB that extends the Library’s reach across campus and to the Santa Barbara community.

Visit
www.library.ucsb.edu/ucsbreads2020
CONNECTING THROUGH A COMMON BOOK
Thank you to our donors

Thanks to the generosity of our donors, we are able to provide programs that support UCSB’s talented students, faculty research, and innovative teaching. We are grateful to our donors and friends for joining with the Library in supporting the UCSB community.

For more information on supporting the UCSB Library, contact Heather Silva, Senior Director of Development, at 805-893-5732.

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A Mentorship That Lasted A Lifetime

In her 31 years as a UC Santa Barbara Library employee, Margaret Morez mentored generations of students like UC Santa Barbara Foundation Trustee Rafael Costas ’86. To express his gratitude, Rafael made a gift to the UCSB Library in her honor. ‘The Margaret Becker Morez and the Gordon Morez Music Listening Room’ celebrates the colorful lives of Margaret and her late husband.

A physics-turned-economics student who arrived on campus unsure of his future, Rafael discovered a lifelong mentor in Margaret, with whom he visits whenever he returns to Santa Barbara. He credits her with shaping his UC Santa Barbara experience.

After serving in the U.S. Navy, Margaret briefly attended UC Santa Barbara and joined the UCSB Library in 1960 as a staff member. In her 31-year career, Margaret reorganized the stacks after an earthquake, joined a librarian choir called the Hollybush Singers, and worked everywhere from the reserve book room to the acquisitions and circulation departments. Margaret hired Rafael in 1982.

Margaret saw unusual leadership potential in Rafael. He soon earned a promotion to half-time supervisor of the stacks.

“My job at the library taught me about professional responsibility, living within one’s means and working with people who are different from yourself,” Rafael said. That experience introduced him to the world of ideas and the creation of knowledge.

Rafael believes a university education is a “social vaccine” against ignorance and intolerance. His legacy to the UCSB Library will empower students to venture into the world as compassionate and inquisitive individuals.

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continued on next page
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* in memoriam
The Transformational Power of Annual Giving

When Jackie and Bob Laskoff held a rare 15th-century illustrated Bible—no white gloves needed!—on their first-ever tour of UCSB Library Special Research Collections, it forever changed the way they thought about the Library.

Originally from Maine, the Laskoffs were attracted to Santa Barbara because of its rich cultural offerings and population of fellow travelers and lifelong learners. Their curiosity about the world and interest in extending their education is a daily pursuit that drives their innate connection to the Library.

And while the Laskoffs are voracious readers, travelers, and art collectors, their real passion is music, which led them to support the Library’s Music Collection project to build an innovative new space for musical scholarship in the main UCSB Library.

“We love music and the potential of the Music Library enhances the whole feel of the larger Library,” says Jackie. “We believe in the value of what the Music Collection can do for students.”

Realizing the Music Collection project also means that all of the Library’s resources can be accessed under the same roof, allowing students across disciplines easier access to information.

It is this commitment to increasing student resources at the Library that makes the Laskoff’s annual giving so significant—through their support, they are able to share in the vision of making the Library a dynamic space for learning for generations to come.

Music Collection project
Plans are underway to bring the Music Collection to the main UCSB Library. Currently housed on the second floor of the former Arts Library, the Music Collection supports academic and performance programs in Music at the undergraduate and graduate levels, encompassing both Western and non-Western music.

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Three Reasons to Support the UCSB Library

1. **It is the foundation of a successful research university**
   The UCSB Library is the driving force that fuels research and innovation, serving students and faculty across disciplines with valuable resources and instruction.

2. **It is a home away from home for students**
   Students visit the Library more than any other space on campus and spend an average of six hours per week accessing research materials, study spaces and other Library support services.

3. **It preserves the past to inform the future**
   The Library’s Special Research Collections holds unique and rare materials—from rare books to music cylinders—that are preserved and made available to researchers and scholars worldwide.

Every gift makes a difference
Help ignite the power of ideas with your tax-deductible gift today! Contact Heather Silva, Senior Director of Development, at heathersilva@ucsb.edu or 805-893-5732 for more information about how to support the UCSB Library.