In February of 1987, I interviewed for the position of head of the History and Special Collections Division of the Louise M. Darling Biomedical Library. As was (and is) the tradition at the library, the interview process went on all day, and at the end of it, I met with Alison Bunting, the head of the library. It was the beginning of a long and fruitful collaboration.

Although my primary responsibility is building the history of medicine and history of biology collections and programs, as the unofficial keeper of the library's history, I have had an archivist's eye-view of Alison's countless accomplishments. I have also experienced her ineffable style, which has proven so effective in keeping our old friends close and making new friends welcome.

In 1969 Louise Darling, then head of the Biomedical Library, hired a young library school student to work in the cataloging division. That part-time student position was the beginning of Alison's career here.

By the time she became head of the library in 1984, she had worked in, and in many cases headed, several of the library's divisions and had been there for the creation of most other divisions. In the best of traditions, she worked her way to the top, acquiring invaluable experience and knowledge along with increasing responsibility.

In every position Alison made a difference, striving toward innovative, cutting-edge resources and services. She grew up professionally under Louise Darling, one of the true pioneers of innovation in medical libraries, and she expanded on programs begun by Darling and her successor, Gloria Werner.

In 1984 the Biomedical Library was in the forefront of making online indexes such as Medline available through Melvyl, the UC-systemwide catalog. In that same year the library was among the first on campus to acquire microcomputers for staff and instructional use. It was also the first to have its own Web pages, to offer email

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AUCTION TO BENEFIT UCLA ARTS LIBRARY

The UCLA Library is delighted to announce that an auction of artists’ books and works on paper is being planned to benefit the artists’ books collection at the Arts Library. This will be the first such event ever planned for the Arts Library, and it is our hope that the auction will stimulate interest in and bring well-deserved attention to its wonderful artists’ books collection.

The auction offers a unique opportunity for collectors, artists, and supporters of UCLA to participate in an exciting event as well as to make a direct, positive impact on the future of the library’s artists’ books collection. Proceeds will go to the newly established Artist Books Fund for the UCLA Arts Library.

This collection includes works by luminaries in the field as well as contemporary, cutting-edge artists. The library began collecting artists’ books in 1985, when it made the first of two large purchases of books from Los Angeles collector Judith A. Hoffberg. With its core from the Hoffberg purchases, along with a significant number of books from retired UCLA Professor Robert Heinecken, the collection has grown through donations and purchases, making it one of the most significant public collections in the country.

The auction will be held in the spring of 2003. The artists’ books and works on paper in the auction will consist of property donated to the Library for the express purpose of being sold at auction to secure funds for the Artist Books Fund. The fund will support the processing, conservation, and preservation of the renowned collection as well as acquisitions, exhibitions, lecture series, workshops, and panel discussions of and about artists’ books. It will also allow the Arts Library to sponsor real-time and virtual exhibitions, providing international access to artists’ books.

Held in Los Angeles, the auction will be conducted by PBA Galleries, a rare-book auction house. If you are interested in donating material to the auction, please contact Cameron Whiteman of PBA Galleries at 310/428-0849. To make a direct gift to the Artist Books Fund, please contact the office of UCLA Library Development at 310/206-8526.

CHALLENGE GRANT RECEIVES CONSIDERABLE BOOST

The Ahmanson Foundation presented the UCLA Library with a significant gift for library conservation, which will help match the $750,000 challenge grant awarded by the Andrew Mellon Foundation earlier this year. Described in detail in the Spring 2002 newsletter, the Mellon grant provides initial funding for a conservation specialist and lab at the Southern Regional Library Facility on campus, while the challenge portion addresses extremely important conservation and preservation needs of highly used materials in all campus libraries. These include books and journals found in the stacks as well as wonderful special collections holdings. With a staffed conservation lab, the fraying and worn cloth bindings of these volumes will be able to be repaired on campus, preserving the basic integrity of the books and allowing them to be used by students, faculty, and other patrons into perpetuity.

Through the generosity of the Ahmanson Foundation and individual donors, the Library is moving ever closer to the challenge grant’s $750,000 objective. We are enthusiastic about our conservation and preservation campaign and look forward to its continued success. To learn more about how you can help preserve holdings critical to the UCLA Library collections, please contact Library Development by phone at 310/206-8526 or by email at <lrashid@library.ucla.edu>.
reference assistance, and to have a local area network that connected computers in all its divisions. In the realm of books and journals, the library surpassed 500,000 volumes in 1992, making it one of the top three biomedical libraries in the country.

Alison has also made equally significant contributions to the Library system, the School of Medicine, and the community of medical libraries and has been rewarded with increased responsibilities as well as various honors. On campus her reward might be considered her present position of interim university librarian; in the medical library community she was recognized with the Marcia Noyes Award in 2001, the most prestigious honor given by the Medical Library Association. Her appointment to the Board of Regents of the National Library of Medicine is certainly in recognition of her contributions and stature; she now chairs the board, a position held by only two other librarians.

Amongst all this technology and management, Alison always has time for people. The Biomedical Library has long been a training ground for new medical librarians, who are now working at major medical libraries across the country but remain connected to us through a network maintained by Alison.

Interestingly, she is just as comfortable in the work of rare books and history as with technology. Donors and friends often find their way to the Biomedical Library through their interest in history, and it is here that Alison and I collaborated to enrich our historical collections. Donors recognized in her, and her staff in this department, a responsible steward for their donations, whether of rare books or endowments or funds for special projects.

One of the first events I was involved with after joining the library staff was what we generally call the “renaming” – the renaming of the Biomedical Library after Louise Darling in recognition of her lifetime of work in founding and building the institution. Alison led this effort, which required the approval of the University of California Board of Regents. Today, our only difficulty is what to name after Alison.

Happily, however, Alison has resolved that difficulty for us, as she has so many others. Recently she and her husband, Wade, established the Alison and Wade Bunting Endowed Discretionary Fund to address the highest priorities of the Biomedical Library – priorities that would otherwise be difficult to tackle due to ongoing budgetary constraints. Anyone wishing to pay tribute to Alison upon her retirement and to thank her for her commitment to the Library could find no better way than to make a contribution to this fund.

Donations can be sent in the enclosed envelope with the words “Bunting Retirement” noted in the memo field on the check or next to the signature line on the envelope if the gift is made by credit card. In addition, if you would like further information on honoring Alison and the Biomedical Library, please contact Marjorie Shaw, Associate Director of UCLA Library Development, at 310/206-9234.
FROM THE UNIVERSITY LIBRARIAN

Dear Friends and Supporters of the UCLA Library,

November marks the one-year anniversary of this publication, and I’m pleased to report that the year has been filled with achievements in many important areas.

The Library has added new collection endowments in Jewish studies, complementary and alternative medicine, reference materials, and general collections. We have secured a challenge grant for conservation and preservation activities and are currently outfitting a state-of-the-art laboratory in the Southern Regional Library Facility. We added the Susan Sontag archive to our holdings, and we have welcomed new discretionary support that will enable the UCLA Library to build upon its status as one of the top-ranked research libraries in North America.

This has also been a year of transition at the Library. As you know, in June we said farewell to University Librarian (now Emerita) Gloria Werner and I became the interim university librarian. Now I too shall conclude my career at UCLA at the end of December.

Little did I know when I became a student assistant at the Louise M. Darling Biomedical Library in 1969 that I would become director of that library and assistant dean for library services in the UCLA School of Medicine, then later associate university librarian for sciences! I feel especially fortunate to have had the opportunity to work with many of you to turn your philanthropic visions for the Biomedical Library, and the UCLA Library, into a reality. It makes me so proud to review the annual honor roll of donors to see the names of those with whom I have worked these many years. Thank you for helping to make my career so memorable.

The future is a great one for the UCLA Library. We look forward to welcoming a new university librarian who will lead this fine institution and continue to build upon its strong foundation. With the immediate goals of renovating library facilities, completing the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation challenge grant for conservation and preservation, and securing the future of our collections through endowed funds, the new librarian will certainly be busy. I know I can count on your continued dedication and support in this brief period of transition as well as once the new university librarian arrives.

Your participation has been vital to the strength and success of the UCLA Library, and it is through you that the Library will continue to grow, flourish, and expand.

Critical Needs
The Fund for the UCLA Library ensures that critical needs, from special-opportunity acquisitions to comfortable studying spaces, are addressed. Discretionary funds available to the University Librarian will make a significant impact on the types of innovative services that the UCLA Library is able to offer.

Preservation & Conservation Challenge
Join the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation in supporting the preservation of our most precious and well-used resources. Your contribution to the Preservation and Conservation Endowment Fund will be matched 1:1 by a grant from the Mellon Foundation.

Collection Endowment Initiative
The Collection Endowment Initiative provides critically needed funds to acquire, preserve, and make accessible library materials in a particular subject area of interest. Collection endowments begin at $25,000, and the Library invites donors to make a single gift or to build an endowed fund over several years. Special bookplates reflecting the interests of the philanthropist are designed in consultation with the donor and affixed to each item added to our collections that was made possible by his or her generosity.

Making a Bequest
In writing a will or living trust, donors can specify that they would like their estate to benefit the UCLA Library. In recognition of alumni, friends, faculty, and staff who have chosen to benefit the university through planned giving, they are welcomed as members of the prestigious First Century Society. Planned gifts include gifts through wills, living trusts, charitable trusts, charitable gift annuities, retirement plans, or other estate planning arrangements.

If you would like to receive more information about these or other options to support the UCLA Library, please contact Laila Rashid, Director of UCLA Library Development, by phone at 310/206-8551 or by email at <lrashid@library.ucla.edu>. To make a gift online, visit the Web site at <http://www.library.ucla.edu/development>. 
“I think scientists talk in prose, and a lot of people don’t respond well to prose,” says Dr. Irwin Ziment, outlining reasons for the appeal of complementary and alternative medicine. “Whereas alternative medicine talks in poetry, and people can feel its rhyme and rhythm and resonance.”

Trained as a pulmonologist, and chief of medicine at Olive View-UCLA Medical Center from 1975 until last year, Dr. Ziment’s interest in complementary and alternative medicine (also known as “CAM”) was piqued in the late 1970s when he was working on a book on pulmonary pharmacology and therapeutics.

“When looking into the pharmacology of drugs used in pulmonary disease, I found that most of them originated from botanical predecessors,” he recalls. “I realized that a lot of medicine that I was looking at was based upon the history of medicine and on herbal medicine. Moreover, it’s rather curious to see how some drugs started off as botanical remedies, became active drugs, declined as active drugs, and resurrected themselves as over-the-counter botanical remedies.”

Dr. Ziment’s continuing interest in CAM has manifested itself in a variety of recent projects. Together with collaborator Dr. Michael Rotblatt, he wrote Evidence-Based Herbal Medicine (2002), which combines the scientist’s analytical approach to evidence with text geared toward a general readership.

Working with the staff of the History and Special Collections Division in the Louise M. Darling Biomedical Library, Dr. Ziment has created “Spices: Exotic Flavors and Medicines,” a Web exhibit that describes a variety of common spices and lists their medical properties along with illustrations and other useful information. The site can be viewed at <http://unitproj.library.ucla.edu/biomed/spice/index.cfm>.

And Dr. Ziment and his wife, Yda, recently established the Endowed Collection for Complementary and Alternative Medicine in the Biomedical Library. He envisions that the endowment will support acquisitions ranging from relevant books carried by mass-market bookstores to journals and magazines on alternative medical practices to specialized texts used in alternative studies programs such as Chinese traditional medicine, chiropractic, and holistic medicine. It could also provide for an annual lectureship or general symposium as well as a newsletter aimed at a general readership.

“I think university medical schools should become the vehicle for ensuring that information about quality alternative practices is communicated, both with their professionals and with the lay public,” concludes Dr. Ziment. “I see this poetic aspect of medicine in the broad sense as a valuable way of restoring health by mobilizing patients’ total capacity for healing themselves.”

For more on establishing an endowment for collections support, please contact Laila Rashid, Director of UCLA Library Development, by phone at 310/206-8551 or by email at lrashid@library.ucla.edu. Information is also available on the Web site at <http://www.library.ucla.edu/development>.
LIBRARY calendar

UCLA LIBRARY EVENTS

A Conversation with Yxta Maya Murray
Thursday, December 5, 4 p.m.
Charles E. Young Research Library
Department of Special Collections

Powell Library Music Series
Historical Performance Workshop with Elisabeth Le Guin
Friday, February 28, 7:30 p.m.
Powell Library Rotunda

Private View of the UCLA Library Ornithology Collections
Date to be announced
Louise M. Darling Biomedical Library History and Special Collections

UCLA LIBRARY EXHIBITS

“Keys to the Labyrinth: Jorge Luis Borges in the UCLA Library”
November 25 - December 31
Charles E. Young Research Library
Items from Library collections connected with this renowned Argentinian author.

“Calendar Reform During the Renaissance”
January - March
Charles E. Young Research Library
Scheduled in conjunction with a conference organized by the Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies.

UCLA LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT: 310 / 206-8526
HTTP://WWW.LIBRARY.UCLA.EDU/DEVELOPMENT

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