Barbara Oberg knows the meaning of fellowship. As the Avery Distinguished Fellow in 2008–09, the professor of history from Princeton University relished meeting other researchers as much as she enjoyed perusing books and manuscripts for her work on “Building a Nation, Letter by Letter: The United States, 1754–1815.” At Princeton, Oberg is also the general editor of the papers of Thomas Jefferson. When Joseph Roach, the Fletcher Jones Distinguished Fellow, heard her describe her project, he said, “Oh, you’re doing Franklin to Jefferson and the words in between.” Roach, the Sterling Professor of Theatre and Professor of English at Yale University, went on to tell Oberg how fascinated he was by what he called “the performative aspects” of Jefferson’s first inaugural address.

Oberg had similar exchanges with the other two distinguished fellows who also kept offices in the Munger Research Center throughout their 10-month residencies. Jan Golinski, who served as the inaugural Dibner Distinguished Fellow in the History of Science and Technology, talked to Oberg with equal enthusiasm about Jefferson and scientist Joseph Priestley. Golinski is professor of history and humanities at the University of New Hampshire. Mary Beth Norton—the Los Angeles Times Distinguished Fellow and the Mary Donlon Alger Professor of American History at Cornell University—visited Oberg’s office on more than one occasion to borrow one of the many Franklin books on her shelves. Norton’s project for the year was “Women and the Public/Private Divide in Anglo-America, 1640–1750,” but she also had a fascination with the essays Franklin famously produced under the pen name of “Mrs. Silence Dogood.”

The four distinguished fellows formed a tight community. “It is a network that you wouldn’t think would exist,” Oberg explained, noting the connections that can be made across seemingly disparate fields. Oberg was humbled to spend a year among such distinguished scholars, a label she extends to the many other researchers—including graduate students, assistant professors, and professors emeriti—who inhabited the Ahmanson Reading Room during the year. Short-term fellows move in and out for one- to five-month stints, creating what scholar Malcolm Rohrbough (professor of history emeritus, University of Iowa) calls a “moveable feast” of engaging conversations with colleagues whose enthusiasm transcends their own disciplines.

Also part of the community this year was National Public Radio’s Joe Palca, who became The Huntington’s inaugural science writer in residence. The six-month stint
allowed the longtime journalist to spend time at The Huntington developing story ideas as well as a book concept. While in residence, he held brown bag talks with staff, met with science writers from across the region, and served as a guest on KPCC’s AirTalk. The fellowship was funded by an anonymous gift.

Each year, The Huntington awards about 130 fellowships, 10 of which are for a full academic year. The feast extends to researchers of art and art history as well as to botanists. Catherine Roach, a doctoral candidate from Columbia University, spent two months researching “The Painted Picture: Images-within-Images in Britain, 1824–1883,” and Leonardo Alvarado, a graduate student in botany from the Universidad Nacional in Mexico City, spent an equal amount of time working with succulent plants in the Desert Garden.

Fellowships serve as the backbone to the Huntington research enterprise. In 2004, The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation issued a challenge to The Huntington: Raise $1 million for fellowship endowment by 2009, and the foundation would match the funds dollar for dollar. The challenge was galvanizing and successful. Donors came forward, and the foundation has now matched their gifts, resulting in $2 million raised to endow two long-term research fellowships. Longtime Huntington supporters Judith and Stanley Farrar provided a generous lead gift of $250,000. A number of Huntington scholars, including several who are former fellowship recipients themselves, made gifts totaling another $250,000. These included lead gifts from John P. Reid, Robert N. Essick, Sarah Barringer Gordon, Robert L. Middlekauff, the Estate of Frank Q. Newton Jr., Cara W. Robertson, and Ronald C. White Jr.

In addition, Dana and David H. Dornsife made a $500,000 gift, and in recognition of their generosity one of the fellowships will be named in the Dornsife’s honor. Also added this year was the Marty and Bruce Coffey Research Fellowship, which supports scholarship in the history of free enterprise, commerce, and maritime trade in the United States and the Americas.

CONFERENCES

For the fourth time in 10 years, The Huntington hosted a conference related to the Civil War. “A Lincoln for the 21st Century” celebrated the bicentennial of the 16th president’s birth, bringing together an esteemed group of scholars, including Pulitzer Prize winners James McPherson and Daniel Walker Howe. The conference coincided with “The Last Full Measure of Devotion: Collecting Abraham Lincoln,” an exhibition that paid tribute to the collectors who had helped preserve the letters, manuscripts, posters, prints, and photographs that otherwise might have been destroyed or relegated to obscurity.

The longevity, depth, and breadth of the series of Civil War conferences are a testament to the foundation that has long existed for scholarship in the history of the antebellum and Civil War eras. The Lincoln collection alone is considered one of the best in the country, established by Henry Huntington between 1914 and 1924 with acquisitions of two of the “Big Five” collections of Lincolniana.

Great collections attract not only top scholars but also create an ideal venue for the rigorous exchange of ideas. The Huntington’s history of science collection inspired the inauguration of a new conference series. “Making Science: Inspiration and Reputation, 1400–1800” highlighted the Dibner History of Science Program, named for the founder of the Burndy Library, Bern Dibner. In its first year, the conference series was co-sponsored by the UCLA Center for 17th- and 18th-century Studies and split into two separate
Long-Term Research Fellows, 2008–09

R. Stanton Avery Distinguished Fellow
Barbara Oberg, Professor and General Editor, The Papers of Thomas Jefferson, Princeton University  |  “Building a Nation, Letter by Letter: The United States, 1754–1815”

Fletcher Jones Foundation Distinguished Fellow
Joseph Roach, Professor, Yale University  |  “A History of Silence: Unspoken Thought in the Drama”

Los Angeles Times Distinguished Fellow
Mary Beth Norton, Professor, Cornell University  |  “Women and the Public/Private Divide in Anglo-America, 1640–1750”

Dibner Distinguished Fellow in the History of Science and Technology
Jan Golinski, Professor, University of New Hampshire  |  “The Making of the Man of Science”

Mellon Fellows
Sharla Fett, Assistant Professor, Occidental College  |  “Recapturing Liberty: Liberation, Race, and Dependence in the U.S. Suppression of the Atlantic Slave Trade, 1858–1862”

Tamar Herzig, Senior Lecturer, Tel Aviv University  |  “The Age of New Heresies: Inquisitors, Mystics, and Witches on the Eve of the Reformation”

NEH Fellows
Nancy Bercaw, Associate Professor, University of Mississippi  |  “Science and Citizenship: African American and Indian Bodies in Post-Emancipation America”

Russell Kazal, Assistant Professor, University of Toronto, Scarborough  |  “Grass-Roots Pluralism: Los Angeles and the Origins of Multiculturalism, 1880–1975”

LeeAnn Whites, Professor, University of Missouri, Columbia  |  “From Home Front to Battlefield: The Role of Gender in the Civil War”

Barbara Thom Postdoctoral Fellows
Julie Kim, Assistant Professor, University of Florida  |  “Matters of Taste: Economies of Food and Race in the Early Atlantic World”
Anca Parvulescu, Assistant Professor, Washington University  |  “Laughter: The History of a Passion”

Fletcher Jones Foundation Fellow
Fredrika Teute, Editor of Publications, OIEAHCH  |  “The Spectacle of Washington: Envisioning a New Nation in Margaret Bayard Smith’s Federal City”

Dibner Research Fellows in the History of Science and Technology
Nicholas Dew, Assistant Professor, McGill University  |  “Networks of Knowledge in the French Atlantic World, ca. 1670–1730”
Craig Martin, Assistant Professor, Oakland University  |  “Renaissance Meteorology: Causation, Meaning, and Utility”
H. Darrel Rutkin, Visiting Scholar, Stanford University  |  “Reframing the Scientific Revolution: Astrology, Natural Philosophy, and the History of Science, ca. 1250–1750”

Occidental/Billington Visiting Professor in U.S. History
Jared Orsi, Associate Professor, Colorado State University  |  “State of Nature: Zebulon Pike and the Ecology of the Early Republic”

ACLS/Burkhardt Fellows
Marsha Weissiger, Associate Professor, New Mexico State University  |  “The River Runs Wild”
Gideon Yaffe, Associate Professor, University of Southern California  |  “Trying and Attempted Crimes”

Eleanore Searle Visiting Professor in the History of Science at CalTech and The Huntington
John Krige, Professor, Georgia Institute of Technology  |  “U.S.-European Collaboration in Astronomy and Space Science”

USC Postdoctoral Fellows
Karoline Cook  |  “Forbidden Crossings: Morisco Emigration to Spanish America, 1492–1650”
Volker Janssen, Assistant Professor, California State University, Fullerton  |  “The California Prison System”
Casey Shoop  |  “Meta-California: Culture, Critical Theory, and the Ends of History in the Golden State”
Peter Westwick, Project Director, The Aerospace History Project
Lindsay O’Neill  |  “Speaking Letters: Epistolary Networks, Communication, and Community in the Wider British World, 1660–1760”

R. Stanton Avery Distinguished Fellow Barbara Oberg in conversation with frequent visiting scholar Malcolm Rohrbough.
events, a February meeting at UCLA’s Clark Library and a May session at The Huntington.

The USC-Huntington Early Modern Studies Institute (EMSI) divided its annual conference into two parts, held in partnership with the Omohundro Institute for Early American History and Culture and with the Omohundro Institute and the Huntington-USC Institute for California and the West (ICW). The fall conference focused on the built environment of the early modern Atlantic world; the second, in the spring, focused on the built environment of the early modern Pacific basin.

Evident in such efforts is the importance of collaboration. EMSI continued its annual workshop with the William and Mary Quarterly, this year hosting a session around the theme “Territorial Crossings: Histories and Historiographies of the Early Americas.” Closer to home, the Institute was co-sponsor of the Research Division’s “The Reign of Charles I, 1625–1649” (funded also by the William French Smith Endowment).

ICW hosted three conferences: “Sunbelt Rising: The Politics of Space, Place, and Region in the American South and Southwest,” “The Fate and Future of the Colorado River,” and “Where Minds and Matters Meet: Technology in California and the West.”

The Art division, too, demonstrated the ways strong collections and enduring traditions merge to form opportunities for intellectual inquiry. Noted art historians and curators gave talks about the architecture and decorative arts of Charles and Henry Greene in “A ‘New and Native’ Beauty: The Art and Craft of Greene & Greene,” held in conjunction with the exhibition of the same name. “Coming of Age: Twenty-Five Years of American Art at the Huntington” celebrated the newly completed reinstallation of the Virginia Steele Scott Galleries and featured talks by leading scholars of American art.

LECTURES

“There are moments in our lives as readers,” said writer Gerald Haslam, “when an author is able to just reach in and grab us.” He was delivering one of the many lectures of the Big Read festival devoted to Jack London’s Call of the Wild. When Haslam was 12 years old, he told his audience in Friends’ Hall, he first read London’s story “The Lost Face.” From that point on, he was hooked on London, and hooked on reading.

Public lectures are critical to the mission of the research and educational program. Where fellowships provide ample time for reflection and conferences a venue for a lively exchange with colleagues, the public lecture gives a scholar the opportunity to engage with a lay audience. Distinguished Fellow Barbara Oberg said she felt a charge of adrenaline when she spoke about Thomas Jefferson at her December lecture. The other Distinguished Fellows—Mary Beth Norton, Jan Golinski, and Joseph Roach—gave talks on, respectively, women’s political activism in early modern England and America, scientists in the British Enlightenment, and William Shakespeare.

The inaugural Paul G. Haaga Jr. Lecture on American Entrepreneurship was given by David Farber, professor of history at Temple University, who spoke about Alfred P. Sloan and General Motors. “What is a Book?” (Zamorano Lecture), an examination of the various material forms that have rivaled the book, was delivered by Peter Stallybrass, the Walter H. and Leonore C. Annenberg Professor in the Humanities and Professor of English and of Comparative...
Abraham Lincoln with his White House secretaries, John G. Nicolay and John M. Hay, ca. 1863.

Literature and Literary Theory, University of Pennsylvania. James Brooks, the president of the School for Advanced Research, in Santa Fe, examined intra-Indian violence in the colonial Southwest (Billington Lecture).

There were two Nevins Lectures: Stanley Katz, the Director of the Center for Arts and Cultural Policy Studies at the Woodrow Wilson School, Princeton University, discussed general education in the United States; a talk by Laurel Thatcher Ulrich, professor of history at Harvard University, was called “The Garrets and Ratholes of Old Houses” and looked at common things that make history. The Haynes Lecture, delivered by ICW director William Deverell, focused on the story of Kathy Fiscus, the San Marino girl who died after falling into a well 60 years ago.

Myra Jehlen, professor of English at Rutgers University, looked at the novels of Henry James and Gustave Flaubert as a means of knowing the real world (Martin Ridge Lecture). Robert C. Ritchie, the W. M. Keck Foundation Director of Research, gave the fourth in his popular “Tales from the Vault” lectures, this one examining, among other things, conquistadors, pirates, and witches. Finally, two lectures, in conjunction with the Samuel Johnson exhibition, explored Johnson’s dictionary (by Overseer Loren Rothschild) and his many portraits (by Richard Wendorf, director and librarian of the Boston Athenaeum).

Other talks coincided with the publication of new books based on research in the collections. Martha A. Sandweiss, professor of American studies and history at Amherst College, spoke on “Passing Strange: A Gilded-Age Tale of Love and Deception across the Color Line.” Biographer Frances Dinkelspiel discussed her new book Towers Of Gold: How One Jewish Immigrant Named Isaias Hellman Created California. Biographer Amina Hassan presented a lecture on Los Angeles attorney and judge Loren Miller (1903–1967), a civil rights activist who corresponded with many prominent African Americans, including Thurgood Marshall and Langston Hughes. Literary scholar James Berg, dean of social sciences and arts at College of the Desert, Palm Desert, Calif., discussed author Christopher Isherwood’s life in Southern California in the 1960s and read selections from his new book, Isherwood on Writing. The book is collected from lectures (in The Huntington’s collections) that Isherwood presented to California colleges about his work and craft.

The annual Robert R. Wark Lecture is given in a subject in art history. This year, Edward Bosley, the James M. Gamble Director of the Gamble House, spoke about Charles and Henry Greene in the context of the exhibition he co-curated, “A ‘New and Native’ Beauty: The Art and Craft of Greene & Greene.” In another lecture related to the exhibition, Rosalind P. Blakesley, of Cambridge, discussed the evolution of the Arts and Crafts movement.

### USE OF THE LIBRARY

The Library was open to scholars, also known as readers, 303 days of the year. Daily scholar visits averaged 73.

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<td>Scholars in Residence</td>
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<td>Total Number of Reader Visits</td>
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Clair Martin, the Ruth B. and E. L. Shannon Curator of the Rose Garden, gave two lectures—one on the centennial of the Rose Garden, and another on his own career, called “Twenty-Six Years of Roses.”

The Chinese garden has become a highlight of the annual lecture offerings, made possible through the support of René Balcer and Carolyn Hsu-Balcer. This year, talks included:

- “The Emperor Views His Garden: Kangxi and the Mountain Hamlet for Escaping the Summer Heat at Chengde,” by Richard Strassberg, professor of Chinese literature at the University of California, Los Angeles
- “Money Talks: Commerce, Classics, and Taste in Late Imperial China, 1600–1800,” by Benjamin A. Elman, professor of Chinese history at Princeton University
- “The Language of Flowers in China,” by Ronald Egan, professor of Chinese literature and aesthetics at the University of California, Santa Barbara
- “The Certainty of Writing,” by Peter Sturman, associate professor of Chinese art history at the University of California, Santa Barbara
- “The Art and Aesthetics of Flora: Traditional Gardens in Shanghai and Periphery,” by Yang Ye, professor of Chinese and comparative literature at the University of California, Riverside

In a related event, Hao Sheng, curator of Chinese art at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, spoke about the life of Weng Tonghe, founder of the renowned collection on view in the exhibition “Treasures through Six Generations: Chinese Painting and Calligraphy from the Weng Collection.” The lecture was funded by the Justin Vajna Memorial Fund for Educational Programs in the Chinese Garden.

**RESEARCH INSTITUTES**

Thanks to continued support from the Mellon Foundation, the USC-Huntington Early Modern Studies Institute (EMSI) has become one of the premier centers in the country for advanced research and scholarship on the Americas, Europe, and Asia between 1450 and 1850. EMSI, launched in 2003, is a partnership between The Huntington and the University of Southern California’s College of Letters, Arts & Sciences.

The Huntington-USC Institute on California and the West (ICW), established in 2004, has evolved into a powerhouse of a research program for scholars pursuing doctorates in this field of study. In partnership with the Bill Lane Center for the Study of the North American West (Stanford University), the Autry National Center’s Institute for the Study of the American West (UCLA), the Howard R. Lamar Center for the Study of Frontiers and Borders (Yale University), and the Hemispheric Institute of the Americas (University of California, Davis), the ICW sponsors an annual thesis-writing workshop on the history of the North American West. For each of the past four years, a small group of doctoral candidates from throughout the country has been invited to a full-day master class. The May 2009 proceedings were held at Yale; workshops will continue to rotate among the sponsors on an annual basis.

EMSI added a seminar on “The Pre-Modern Mediterranean World” to its slate of a dozen. It also co-sponsors two seminars with ICW: “The Pacific Rim” and “Native Peoples and the New World.” It continued its remarkably successful music program, organized in conjunction with the director of the Early Music Program at USC’s Thornton School of Music. ICW conducted its own group of seminars while also hosting an “In Conversation” series in which visiting scholars, writers, and activists spoke informally about their work.

**HUNTINGTON LIBRARY PRESS**

Books released by the Huntington Library Press in fiscal year 2009 included:

- *Another World Lies Beyond: Creating Liu Fang Yuan, the Huntington’s Chinese Garden*
Edited by June Li, the book celebrates the opening of the first phase of the Huntington's Chinese garden. It is one of a series of publications on the Huntington Botanical Gardens made possible by a generous contribution from Peter and Helen Bing.

- **Treasures through Six Generations: Chinese Painting and Calligraphy from the Weng Collection**
  Also edited by June Li, this volume accompanied The Huntington's spring 2009 exhibition of the Wan-go H. C. Weng Collection of Chinese painting and calligraphy. Weng Tonghe (1830–1904), who gathered the greater part of the collection, was a preeminent statesman and scholar of late Qing-dynasty China, and the masterworks he collected represent a millennium of great Chinese art. Weng’s great-great-grandson Wan-go H. C. Weng—the collection's current owner—brought it to the United States for safekeeping in 1948. The catalog was made possible by Peter and Helen Bing, the Sammy Yukuan Lee Family, and Dr. Richard A. Simms. Distribution by University of California Press has broadened the reach of both the exhibition and the catalog, which is now in the collections of about 150 libraries worldwide.

- **The Botanical Gardens at the Huntington**
  Among the Press's best-selling titles and now in its third edition, this book presents a comprehensive look at the botanical gardens and includes a new chapter on Liu Fang Yuan, the Huntington’s Chinese garden.

**HUNTINGTON LIBRARY QUARTERLY**

The Huntington Library Quarterly, now in its 72nd year, received the Award for Scholarly Achievement from the Council of Editors of Learned Journals for a special issue, “Prison Writings in Early Modern England,” published in spring 2009 and edited by William H. Sherman and William J Sheils. CELJ, an Allied Organization of the Modern Language Association, comprises 400 humanities journals.

The award, presented at the national MLA convention in December 2009, recognizes excellence in scholarly journals covering the early modern period. The HLQ published one other special issue this year: “Religion and Cultural Transformation in Early Modern England,” edited by Lorna Clymer. These interdisciplinary collaborations among leading scholars in literature and history touch on genres from graffiti to the novel, and on aspects of life from the quotidian to the holy, giving HLQ readers a feeling for the everyday circumstances of early modern life as well as their broad context.