

Winter 2003/04



Section on Rare Books and Manuscripts

Newsletter

Section's Homepage: <http://www.ifla.org/VII/s18/srbm.htm>

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There are now 125 members in more than 36 countries of the world in the Section. Here is a list of the *libraries* in alphabetical order of the countries:

Austria: Österreichische Nationalbibliothek Vienna; University libraries Innsbruck and Salzburg
Australia: National Library Canberra; State Library Sydney
Belgium: Stadsbibliotheek Antwerpen; University Library Liège; Museum Plantin-Moretius Antwerpen
Brasilia: Biblioteca Municipal and University Library Sao Paulo
Canada: Bibliothèque Nationale; McGill University Library; University Library; Canadian Centre for Architecture, all Montreal; University Library Toronto
China: National Palace Museum Library, Taipei; Sichuan Provincial Library, Chengdu; Zhejiang Provincial Library, Hangzhou City
Croatia: National and University Library Zagreb
Denmark: Royal Library Copenhagen
Egypt: Biblioteca Alexandria, Alexandria
Ethiopia: National Archives Addis Ababa
Finland: University Library Helsinki
France: Bibliothèque Nationale de France; Observatoire; Bibliothèque Sainte-Geneviève, all Paris
Germany: Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin, Berlin ; Niedersächsische Landesbibliothek Hannover; University Library Leipzig; Bayerische Staatsbibliothek and Deutsches Museum Library Munich; Württembergische Landesbibliothek Stuttgart; Herzog August Bibliothek Wolfenbüttel; Herzogin Anna Amalia Bibliothek Weimar
Iceland: National and University Library Reykjavik
India: National Library Calcutta
Israel: Jewish National and University Library Jerusalem
Italy: Biblioteca Nazionale Rome
Jamaica: University Library Kingstown
Japan: University Library Kyoto

Korea: National Library Seoul
Luxembourg: National Library
Malaysia: National Library Kuala Lumpur; Universiti Kebangsaan Selangor
Mexico: Universidad Nacional
Netherlands: Koninklijke Bibliotheek The Hague; University Libraries Amsterdam, Leiden, Nijmegen; Rijksmuseum and Bibliotheca Philosophica Hermetica, Amsterdam; Stadsbibliotheek Haarlem
Norway: Nasjonalbiblioteket Oslo
Peru: University Library Lima
Philippines: National Library Manila
Portugal: Biblioteca Nacional Lisbon
Russian Federation: State Library Moscow
Saudi Arabia: National Library, Public Library Riyadh
Spain: Biblioteca Nacional Madrid; Biblioteca de Catalun Barcelona; Biblioteca de Andalucia Granada; University Libraries Madrid and Zaragoza
Sweden: Kungliga Biblioteket Stockholm; Royal Academy Stockholm; University Library Uppsala
Turkey: National Library Ankara; University Library Istanbul
United Kingdom: British Library London; National Library of Wales Aberystwyth; Belfast Public Library Belfast; National Library of Scotland and University Library Edinburgh; University Libraries London, Oxford, Nottingham; National Art Library London
United States: Library of Congress Washington; University Libraries Virginia, Yale, North Carolina; The Getty Research Institute Los Angeles
Vatican City: Biblioteca Apostolica Vaticana

Apart from the libraries mentioned, there are some colleagues, library associations and educational institutes who belong to the Section on Rare Books and Manuscripts.

Our New Top Team

SUSAN M. ALLEN

Chair, Rare Books and Manuscripts Section IFLA

Susan was elected chair of the Rare Books and Manuscripts Section for a term of two years at the IFLA meeting in Berlin in August 2003. She has served on the committee of the section as a representative of the Association of College and Research Libraries, a division of the American Library Association, since 1999.

In the same year, she became chief librarian of the Research Library and associate director of the Getty Research Institute. Previously, she was head of the Department of Special Collections, Young Research Library, University of California Los Angeles (UCLA) from January 1997 to 1999; and director of Libraries and Media Services at Kalamazoo College from 1993 to 1997. Prior to 1993, she held several posts in the Libraries of

the Claremont Colleges, including head of Special Collections. Dr. Allen currently serves on the board of directors of the Research Libraries Group; the executive committee and board of the Association of College and Research Libraries; the Bibliographic Society of America council; and the board of the American Printing History Association. She has spoken often and published extensively on rare book theft and library security and undergraduate use of rare books and manuscripts. Allen received her bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of Wisconsin, Madison; a further master's from St. John's College in New Mexico, and her Ph.D. in Library and Information Science from UCLA.

At the Getty she holds primary responsibility for all aspects of the 800,000-volume Research Library, including the following functions and programs: collection development, research services, special collections and visual resources, conservation and preservation, technical services, library information services, research databases including the *Bibliography of the History of Art*, and the Provenance Index, and institutional archives.

During her term of office she hopes to further the mission of the Rare Books and Manuscripts Section, especially as it provides a forum for discussion and exchange of information on matters of particular concern to rare book and manuscript librarians internationally. Plans for 2004 to 2005 include continuing current projects such as publishing a guide to best practices for exhibition loans and collecting samples of policies and standards for the digitization of rare materials. The Section's program for Buenos Aires in 2004 will focus on the migration and reunification of collections. The Oslo meeting in 2005 will focus on the 20th century with a possible satellite meeting to focus on the topic of cultural restitution.

JAN BOS

Secretary and Treasurer, Rare Books and Manuscripts Section IFLA

The most remarkable book in my parents' modest book collection was a copy of Robert Koenig's *Deutsche Literaturgeschichte*. It was a very thick volume with 'golden' binding decorations, which, as I child, I thought were very beautiful and expensive. But what actually fascinated me was a facsimile page inside. It was a purple page with incomprehensible silver and gold characters B equally marvellous and mysterious. Every now and then I would take this book from its shelf and look for that extraordinary page, to assure myself it really existed and was really as beautiful as I remembered. No doubt these were my earliest experiences with rare books and manuscripts. Later I understood the page was a facsimile of the famous *Codex Argenteus* from Uppsala.

However, when after highschool I decided to study Dutch literature and linguistics, it was not because I finally wanted to be able to read the

Codex Argenteus. I just loved reading novels and poetry. But during my studies at Leyden University I was lucky enough to become assistant to the most inspiring bibliographer and book historian Bert van Selm. Thanks to him I also studied book and library science at the University of Amsterdam. I worked for some time as a highschool teacher and then became staff member at the Netherlands Universities Foundation for International Cooperation. Though most of the projects I dealt with were in the field of technical, agricultural and social sciences, they gave me a useful understanding of the differences and similarities between people all over the world. In 1984 I started working at the manuscript department of the Koninklijke Bibliotheek, the National Library of the Netherlands, where I drew up inventories of the personal archives of Dutch scholars, and contributed to the *Catalogus Epistolarum Neerlandicarum*. In 1988 I became staff member and later project leader of the *Short-Title Catalogue, Netherlands (STCN)*, the Dutch retrospective national bibliography 1540-1800, which is produced by the Koninklijke Bibliotheek as well. The 17th and 18th century Dutch Republic has often been called 'The Bookshop of the World'. Many books produced in the Netherlands, found their way through Europe. These were not only the books by controversial authors that were forbidden elsewhere, but also English Bibles, Jewish Thoras, French novels and plays, high quality classical and scholarly texts, and many more. Therefore the STCN, still in progress, is of great international importance. Though traditional in its scope and descriptions, the STCN offers very advanced search options. It is available free of charge at www.kb.nl/stcn. Earlier this year I was also appointed chief editor of *Bibliopolis*, the electronic history of the printed book in the Netherlands. Bibliopolis is characterised by its use of innovative applications of information technology. It offers the researcher integrated access to various information sources: a survey of the Dutch history of the book, an image database, biographical and bibliographical reference material, full text secondary literature, references to online catalogues and a glossary of bookhistoric terms. Bibliopolis can be consulted at www.kb.nl/bibliopolis. My main task is to keep this system up to date and to enhance it with new elements and facilities.

My activities for the STCN and Bibliopolis as well as the discussions within the framework of recent reorganisations in the Koninklijke Bibliotheek confronted me more and more with questions like: Who are our users, and who do we want to be our users? What do they expect from us? Or, broader: what is the role of rare books and manuscripts librarians in the early 21st century? And in extension: what are the tasks and functions of rare books departments and collections, and how do they fit in the library organisation? In general terms our tasks may be clear: to preserve our cultural heritage and make it available to as many people as possible. But in day to day practice we have to deal with

limited funding and fixed structures, and we have to establish priorities and to make choices. I think I'm not the only one with these questions, and the IFLA Section of Rare Books and Manuscripts provides an excellent forum for an exchange of ideas, considerations and experiences on this topic.

IFLA being a worldwide organisation, it is my opinion that the activities of our section and its Standing Committee should be useful to as many librarians as possible. Very good examples of these are the recommendations for loan conditions and the digitization standards which we have been working on already. A new activity I would like to suggest, is to add to our Section's website an inventory, with hyperlinks, of international organisations, projects, and initiatives in the field of rare books and manuscripts. There are so many activities going on that it is hard to tell them apart and to be well informed. I think such an inventory could be useful to many librarians, and many librarians could collaborate and contribute to it.

IFLA 69th Conference in Berlin, 1 - 9 August, 2003

Alice Prochaska remembering the Berlin conference:

The Section on Rare Books and Manuscripts enjoyed a rich program at IFLA in Berlin. In the morning of Wednesday 6 August, we visited the Manuscripts Department of the Staatsbibliothek, where the head of Manuscripts, Dr Eef Overgaauw, treated us to a feast of examples from the collections, and described the shape and policies of the department. The afternoon was dedicated to the section's open session "Political and social upheavals and the early history of printing and books in Eastern and Central Europe - from Gutenberg to the Thirty Years War" in which Monika Linder from Leipzig University Library, Krzysztof Migon from Institute of Library Science, University of Wroclaw, and Inara Klekere from Latvian National Library, Riga, gave impressing papers on the history of early printed books in their countries. The following day, Thursday 7 August, a very fully attended workshop was arranged by Annette Wehmeyer. We spent the morning at the Staatsbibliothek branch in Unter den Linden, hearing from Dr Helmuth Hell about the extraordinary collections of his Music Department, from Prof Christoph Wolff about the digital Bach Archive, from Julia Bispinck about the paper-splitting conservation work that has been done with the Library's Bach manuscripts.

Beethoven, 9. Sinfonie, Chorfinale



Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin - PK
Mus. Ms. autogr. Artaria 204 (3) S. 77

Susanne Hein gave a very informative overview on the collections of music kept in libraries and archives in Germany. An exhibition of some of the most spectacular treasures of the Music collections of the Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin included manuscripts by Mozart, Beethoven, Mendelssohn, Chopin, and Schubert.

The afternoon's visit to Deutsches Musikarchiv was equally fascinating. In addition to all this, Regina Mahlke and Jutta Weber offered tours of the Staatsbibliothek. The hospitality of our colleagues at the Staatsbibliothek was fantastic, and contributed to one of the most rewarding IFLA conferences this section has ever experienced.



Deutsches Musikarchiv

From Wolfgang Undorf we have got the minutes which we publish below. They still have to be approved by the Committee on the meeting in Buenos Aires.

Minutes from IFLA 2003 General Conference in Berlin, Section on Rare Books and Manuscripts, Standing Committee

Meeting I August 2, 2003

Susan Allen, Jan Bos, Luisa Buson, Mark Dimunation, Elisabeth Eide, Rania El-Ayat, Joana Escobedo, Mohammed Gandour, Cristine Guillén, Sirkka Havu, Graham Jefcoate, Kristian Jensen, Fariborz Khosravi, Marie Korey, Richard Landon, Heather Lane, Fabienne Le Bars, David Martol, Kourosh Moradi, Francesca Niotta, Alice Prochaska, Marcia Reed, Norbert Schnetzer, Andrey Serkov, Michael Simon, Henry Snyder, Wolfgang Undorf, Bettina Wagner, Jutta Weber, Stefanie Witz

The meeting opened with a welcome and short introductions.

Wolfgang presented the minutes from Glasgow which were approved as circulated.

Alice reported from the *Division Board Meeting* which included among others information on conference statistics, on a review of IFLA sections in 2007 and on a few other minor topics.

Wolfgang, together with Jutta Weber, had an update of speakers and topics as well as of the practical arrangements for open session and workshop.

The treasurer's report showed that this year, we have hardly used anything of the section's administrative fund.

Election of new officers: Susan Allen was unanimously elected as new chair of the section for the term 2003-2005. Jan Bos was unanimously elected as new secretary and treasurer of the section for the term 2003-2005. Mark Dimunation was unanimously elected as new information coordinator of the section for the term 2003-2005.

Due to a change in the membership of the Standing Committee of the section, we informed *the committee* about the duties of an SC member and about the remaining and the new members 2003-2005 or 2003-2007 respectively.

Then the committee went on discussing the programme for the IFLA 2004 conference in Buenos Aires. During the meeting, we collected a number of probable topics for the programme, from a focus on Latin America or Latin American collections in foreign countries to interesting places to visit. The meeting considered more precisely the history of science, history of colonisation, immigration, and non-book materials as well as original Latin American collections.

With regard to the IFLA conference 2005 in Oslo, the meeting considered as topics cooperation between Archives, Libraries and Museums (ALM)(as discussed in Glasgow 2002) and the 20th century. As material from the last century is fast approaching rare collection status (with Marcia Reed's words, fast becomes past, the meeting thought it would be interesting to provide an overview of topics such as the border between historic collections and 20th century collections, non-book materials and change of perspective on manuscript collections. Collaboration with the Section on Preservation seemed to be appropriate, as well as with the Section on Audiovisual Media.

Following this discussion, there was information on an *American Library Association, Rare Books and Manuscripts* pre-conference at Yale in June 2004 on migrations of manuscripts. Susan, Alice and Mark are involved in a hidden collections task force and conference which touches the stewardship theme which we discussed in Glasgow. Members of the standing committee were invited to participate in the conference.

We still hope to be able to carry out a pre- or postconference in 2005 on cultural restitution. Collaboration with the Section of Art Libraries would be appropriate.

Following this line, we received some information on international collaboration among American libraries in digitising rare books and collections.

Wolfgang presented the draft of a leaflet on guidelines on exhibition loans. Forms of publication, translation and links to the original documents were part of the discussion. In the future, this topic calls for more collaboration with the Section on Preservation, but also Art Libraries should be interested.

Jan Bos' report on structures of provision for special collections in libraries was adjourned until the second SC meeting.

Discussion of developments in digitisation was adjourned until the second SC meeting.

Jutta Weber will be the new editor of the Newsletter. Regina Mahlke will though continue to see to its publication. The section is very grateful for the Staatsbibliothek's generous contribution.

With a reminder of a possibility to visit the Geheimes Staatsarchiv, the meeting was closed.

Meeting II August 8, 2003

Susan Allen, Jan Bos, Luisa Buson, Mark Dimunation, Elisabeth Eide, Joana Escobedo, Cristina Guillén, Sirkka Havu, Kristian Jensen, Inara Klekere, Marie Korey, Richard Landon, Fabienne Le Bars, Monika Linder, Francesca Niutta, Alice Prochaska, Marcia Reed, Norbert Schnetzer, Andrey Serkov, Henry Snyder, Wolfgang Undorf, Bettina Wagner, Jutta Weber

The second meeting started with a reminder of the *ALA RBM* pre-conference in 2004 on the migration of manuscripts.

The meeting recapitulated the suggestions for the programme at the Buenos Aires conference in 2004. President-Elect Kay Raseroka's brainstorming session on advocacy, partnerships and alliances, and continuing professional development was acknowledged as important framework of the work of the section. A summary of what was especially important for Division V *Collection and Services* and our own section was distributed.

Four topics emerged as fields of special interest for the programme in Buenos Aires: (1) Print and publishing in Latin America as examples for early printing in small languages not often printed in. (2) The heritage of indigenous cultures, to include a paper on Aztec manuscripts. (3) Migration / immigration of collections. (4) The history of science and digitisation.

This statement was followed by an intensive discussion of digitisation, migration and the Aztec manuscript whereby the concept of a virtual reunification emerged as a probable topic for Buenos Aires. Standards for

digitisation could be a topic closely related to this theme as well as cataloguing.

Then followed a discussion of whom the section might collaborate with. Inside IFLA, the Section on Library History was regarded a good partner. Henry Snyder provided the meeting with a list of institutions and contact persons from or with close relations to Latin America. Simultaneous translation should be applied for.

Jan Bos then gave a short report of structures and organisation of special collections with consideration of the situation at the Royal Library at The Hague where the department for special collections has disappeared as a result of the reorganisation of the library.

The discussion that followed showed that the positioning of special collections within a library depends heavily on the type of library and on its history. At The Hague, the leading idea behind the disappearance of the special collections department is the user perspective. A user does not need to know where the information he needs does come from as long as he gets what he needs. Further examples presented came from Oslo and Berlin, Paris and Stockholm.

The meeting then agreed that the field of digitisation of special collections would need a treatment similar to that of exhibition loans. An analysis of best practices, problems, and solutions seems to be an international desideratum. The goal should be a bibliography of articles on best practices in digitisation.

Alice put to the committee a draft resolution proposing support for the rebuilding of libraries and collections, and the library profession, in Iraq, that was to be put to the second council meeting of IFLA that afternoon. Members of the committee signed up to indicate their support of the resolution.

As we summarised this year's conference, we could mention very positive reactions to the programmes of the open session as well as of the workshop.

For future conferences it should be our intention to inform IFLA Headquarters of the fact that our programme should not conflict with the programmes of a number of closely related sections, especially with Preservation, Library History and Art Libraries. There are a few sections more which Headquarters should be aware of in connection with our programme.

Future discussions and programmes should include topics like forgeries and fakes, which was the theme of a RBMS pre-conference in Toronto in June this year. Last year, there was a conference in Copenhagen on the topic of thefts in libraries.

The meeting agreed to delegate to Marcia Reed and Wolfgang Undorf further work with the guidelines for exhibition loans.

With thanks from the section to the out-going chair and secretary/treasurer, the meeting was closed.

We will not leave Berlin and the 2003 IFLA conference without giving our warmest thanks and regards to Alice Prochaska the section's chair from 1999 to 2003, our secretary Wolfgang Undorf and our information officer Henry Snyder. Susan Allen and team, please take over!

Kudos!!!

Much praise must be given for the achievement of Alice Prochaska, University Librarian at Yale University, who has competently chaired the IFLA Rare Books and Manuscripts Section for the past four years. Alice has shepherded the section through four IFLA conferences in four corners of the world: Bangkok, Jerusalem, Boston, and Berlin. She has presided over as many successful and informative programs and additional workshops and library visits. Her leadership to the section in both committee meetings and program sessions has been invaluable. Thank you, Alice, for all of your efforts on our behalf!

We must also praise Wolfgang Undorf, Kungl. Biblioteket, Stockholm, Sweden, who has been Secretary to the section for the past four years. He provided support to the chair in many ways. His detailed minutes of section meetings have helped to keep program planning and projects on track from year to year. His initiative led to the production of an attractive section brochure translated into official IFLA languages. Thank you, Wolfgang, for all of your efforts on our behalf!

Last but not least, we must sing the praises of Henry Snyder, University of California Riverside, who has continued to contribute positively to the section by providing guidance to its leadership and assisting with programs and tours in his role as Past Chair. Thank you, Henry, for all of your efforts on our behalf!

IFLA 70th Conference in Buenos Aires, August 22nd to 27th, 2004

As the next conference will be in Latin America, we thought it might be good to begin with a short introduction on libraries there early. Here are some libraries with their web-addresses, so that you can have a look for special collections:

Argentina: Buenos Aires <http://www.bibnal.edu.ar/>

Brazil: Rio de Janeiro <http://www.bn.br/Script/index.asp>

Columbia: Biblioteca Nacional de Colombia

<http://www.presidencia.gov.co/>

Chile: Santiago http://www.dibam.cl/biblioteca_nacional/index_bn.html

Guatemala: Guatemala City <http://www.biblionet.edu.gt/>

Mexico: <http://biblional.bibliog.unam.mx/bib/biblioteca.html>

Panama: <http://www.binal.ac.pa/>

Peru: <http://www.binape.gob.pe/>

Instituto Riva Agüero (Lima) <http://www.pucp.edu.pe/ira/>

Venezuela: Caracas <http://www.bnv.bib.ve/>

Another interesting address where you can find information on Latin American special collections is

<http://www.library.umass.edu/spcoll/manuscripts/lam.html>

We thank Dr. Manuel Ramos Medina for an article on this interesting institution:

Centro de Estudios de Historia de México

The *Centro de Estudios de Historia de México* (Center for the Study of Mexican History) was created by Condumex, to address the social and cultural interests envisioned by the company's founders and director. This important collection of Mexican books and documents was put in order by the renown Mexican bibliographer, Luis Gutiérrez Cañedo, and acquired by Condumex in November of 1964. Although not yet formed, this date marks the beginning of the Center's activities.

During the course of the following year, Condumex took advantage of new and exciting offers and by August of 1965, it formally established a dependent area to which it immediately entrusted the recently acquired collection with the charge that it carry out cultural objectives.

Apart from endowing the Center with a location and sufficient resources to meet its objectives, the directors of Condumex invited a group of distinguished Mexican intellectuals to form with them the Center's Consulting Council which has been known since then as *Centro de Estudios de Historia de México Condumex*.

Once the Council was constituted, the Center continued its program of acquisitions until the volume of printed material and manuscripts outgrew the original installations' capacity. Consequently, Condumex designated and adapted a property in the vicinity of its plant to be used by the Center. This gave the Center, not only the space to house its growing collection, but also the ability to start the classification of its books and archives.

In March 1968, the Center was installed in a new building, located at No. 739 Avenida Poniente 140, Colonia Industrial Vallejo. Moving the Center to this location marked a decisive moment in the Center's consolidation. It must be said however, that this was not merely another stage in the Center's development. At that time, the importance of locating the Center in an area accessible for students and researchers had already been foreseen. The Center needed to be where its services were most useful.

Grupo Condumex, was consolidated in 1977, and the Center formed part of the Corporation. Both advisors and directors of the consortium succeeded in relocating the Center to a site closer to the city's academic institutions and which had ample cultural activity. It was hoped that this move would provide better access to the Center to a greater number of students interested in Mexican history.

The current site is located at No. 1, Plaza Federico Gamboa, in the ancient neighbourhood of Chimalistac in Villa Alvaro Obregón, México City, giving the documents of our past a worthy frame. More than a depository for its now more than 800,000 pieces, the new location has five rooms to house its select holdings.

The site that safeguards the *Centro de Estudios de Historia de México Condumex* is a large, old house, a villa dating from the Viceregal period, known then as *Quinta de la Purísima Concepción*.

The ancient plaza outside the Center is a small, secluded quadrangle where peace, quietude and silence seem to echo the romance of its past. The old Chapel of St. Sebastian sits on this small plaza. It was originally built in the XVI Century by doña María de Chilapa, wife of don Felipe Guzmán de Ixtolinque, who was the son of the cacique of Chimalistac and resident of Coyoacan. Initially, the chapel depended on the Franciscan convent of San Juan Bautista in Coyoacan and later passed to the care of the Dominican convent of San Jacinto. The original chapel was rebuilt and what we see today dates most probably from the XVII Century with later architectural additions. Still in the Plaza is a quiet testimony of the past: the stone cross.

The current site was once owned by Eduardo Viñas in the last century. After the promulgation of the Laws of Reform in the second half of the XIX Century, the house was adapted to be used as a novitiate and school run by the Discalced Carmelites. Afterwards, the property was acquired by the jurist Jacinto Pallares and, by 1913, it was owned by Demetrio Sodi, a former Minister of Justice. Years later, in 1937, the house passed to the hands of the Tamm family, who sold it to the Condumex Group in 1978. Since then, this historic property has been home to a Center that stimulates the investigation and diffusion of our history.

The central aim of the *Centro de Estudios de Historia de México Condumex* is the acquisition and cataloguing of books and archives related to Mexican history. Its main objective is to make its collections available to researchers interested in studying and diffusing national history.

Diffusion of Mexican history is carried out by means of lectures imparted by experts in each theme and by the presentation of specialized books. The Center's editorial effort is best seen in the publication of facsimile editions. It is through these books that some of the rarest pieces in the Center's library have been made public. Similarly, archive guides have been edited in order to help researchers identify the contents of

documents.

The Center's archives are richly varied. Outstanding among the oldest documents is one signed by Isabel la Católica (Isabel I of Spain) dated in Valladolid in 1491, and a 1493 Christopher Columbus ordinance. These documents are the only ones of their kind in the American continent.

The collection is divided in two areas: the Library and the Archive.

The library is made up of over seventy-two thousand volumes on the history of Mexico. The Center is particularly proud of its Viceregal collection which is one of the most extensive of its type. It includes, for example, some of the first printed books in the Americas, and religious as well as civil chronicles, diverse legislation, judicial proceedings, sermons, novenas, indulgences and biographies.

The library also has extended holdings for Nineteenth Century Mexico. Volumes range from the first printed publications of the National period to those dealing with the Porfirio Díaz era. The Twentieth Century collection covers largely the first half of the century. However, the main body of the library consists of rare books over fifty years old.

The Center also has a newspaper library which contains newspapers, periodicals, gazettes and magazines mostly from the Eighteenth and Nineteenth centuries. These range from the first Mexican newspaper to the most recent publications.

The archival holdings are very diverse. Two of the oldest documents are one signed by Queen Isabella in Valladolid in 1491 and another, a unique ordinance, signed by Christopher Columbus in 1493.

The documents are divided into different collections identified by Roman numerals. Each collection contains a particular group of manuscripts, printed documents, photographs and copy-books. The collections follow a chronological sequence beginning in 1491 and ending in 1997 and include documents from the Viceregal period and the wars of Independence, like the proclamation declaring Agustín de Iturbide as the first Emperor of Mexico. There is also widespread documentation from the Porfiriato and the era of the Mexican Revolution.

Other collections dealing with a variety of topics are located in the Diverse Acquisitions Collection. Moreover, there are other collections which deal specifically with prominent historical characters like Lucas Alamán, Enrique C. Creel, Porfirio Parra, Francisco León de la Barra, Venustiano Carranza, Pablo González, Manuel W. González, Félix Díaz, Federico González Garza, Luis Montes de Oca, Antonio Carrillo Flores and Luis Chávez Orozco.

In 1997, the Center acquired the important archive of José Yves Limantour who was the Minister of Finance under Porfirio Díaz.

Additionally, the Center has a photographic archive containing the following collections: Hancock, Venustiano Carranza/José Mendoza, Federico González Garza, Pablo González, the Cristero Movement, and Antonio Rius Facius. There is also the Dolores del Río collection which

reflects the cultural and artistic life of Mexico as seen through the life of one of its most famous actresses.

The library holdings and some of the archival collections are available on the electronic catalogue. There are also published archival guides which allow for easy access of the documents. The Center also offers a photocopy and photographic reproduction service and there are three microfilm readers with photocopy capabilities located in a comfortable and well lit reading room.

Manuel Ramos Medina,

Director of the Centro de Estudios de Historia de México Condumex

(N.B. from the editors): The Center issued a beautiful book on some of its collections recently. It is *Tesoros mexicanos : manuscritos e impresos conservados en el Centro de Estudios de Historia de México Codumex : siglos XVI a XX / Grupo Condumex.- México : Grupo Codumex, c1999.*

The website for the Bibliotheca Centro de Estudios de Historia (Condumex) is at: <http://www.condumex.com.mx/cehm/index.html>

From Henry Snyder we got the latest news on the Latin American Imprints Project:

CCILA (Catálogo colectivo de impresos latinoamericanos hasta 1851): A Progress Report.

Two years ago in these pages I reported on CCILA, a new project for the Center for Bibliographical Studies and Research, to develop a union catalogue of Latin American imprints to 1851. Our model was the ESTC a project we have shared with the British Library for a quarter of century. Moreover, there were other similar projects in Europe with which we are familiar. Most of them are now combined in the Hand Press Books File of the Consortium for European Research Libraries. We had, therefore, the models, the experience, and recognized that Latin America was the only part of the Western World, linguistically speaking, that lacked such a scholarly research tool devoted to chronicling the output of its press in the hand press era.

With encouragement from ABINIA, the Association of Directors of National Libraries in Latin America, and SALALM, we obtained two successive grants from the National Science Foundation and initiated the project. To create the base file we keyed all the major bibliographies for the colonial period for each country. Thanks to the pioneering work of Jose Toribia Medina the coverage at least for monographs is quite comprehensive. Except for Cuba there is nothing comparable for the post colonial period. We did key several library catalogues, principally for Mexico, that would at least give us a start for the early independence

era. Altogether we keyed 87,000 records. 10,000 were out of scope but that left us with a healthy 77,000. Some files, the library catalogues, overlapped they keyed bibliographies, so all the overlapping files have been set aside until the base file is edited and mounted in RLIN for public access.

Because of the central position of Mexico, the single most important centre of publishing, and a long and close relation with the California State Library, we focussed for a time on creating a complete record of the Mexican Collection at the Sutro Library in San Francisco. This involved a systematic review of the microfilm set created of the pamphlets some thirty years ago and matching them to the records we had keyed from a late 1930s typescript catalogue. To this file we added over 8,000 machine-readable records created several decades ago for the monographs in the collection. In the process we created over a 1,000 records for items neither in the machine-readable records or the typescript catalogue. The resulting file contains over 17,000 records. We are now back to editing what will constitute the base file, currently some 50,000 records. They may be viewed by consulting our web page, <http://www.cbsr.ucr.edu> and clicking on the CCILA icon.

The editing of the base file is in itself a major project, which involves a number of tasks. We have had to create a standard and uniform set of acronyms for holding libraries based upon Library of Congress rules. For the majority encountered in our sources we found no LC form. We are also building a directory, extending the acronyms with full names and addresses. That in itself is no mean feat for some have gone out of existence, been absorbed or been renamed. There are hundreds of private libraries cited which present a special challenge.

We have also had to create a thesaurus for place names as spelling is inconsistent and names have changed over time. When the bibliographies and catalogued were keyed, instructions were given to the retro-conversion service to key them into a rough MARC format. But given the varying levels of completeness and accuracy of data encountered and formats which often defied simple conversion, an extensive amount of editing has been taking place over the months to create records which conform to MARC21. Two bibliographies, Trelles for Cuba and Drenikoff for Venezuela, include later editions under the first entry, many extending beyond the scope of CCILA. These must be searched out and either deleted or converted into separate, new entries for each printing. Some bibliographies list issues of newspapers individually. They must be consolidated into a single, serials record. All these processes are well along.

The major challenge which now confronts us is to standardize the authorities. Sometimes the name is entered as it appears on the title page. But multiple works and editions often employ different forms, even when all printed in the same country. Joint or multiple authors have to be separated as only one name can appear in the 100 field. The common

practice in Latin American Spanish speaking countries for a man to employ his mother's name after his father's name, or a women to employ her maiden name after her husband's name has created no end of confusion, even in Latin American catalogues, and much more in North America. A brief sampling revealed that no more than twenty per cent of the names encountered are in NACO. As a first step we are adopting a standard form and linking variants to it so that the files can be mounted and searched. Ultimately we will seek funding to enter all the new names into NACO. The file we are working with, the 50,000 records in the base file plus the Suro file and records received from the John Carter Brown Library, results in 65,000 headings, a formidable number. These reduce down to about 22,000 unique entries. Some can be sorted by machine, but some 6,000+ will require individual examination to match up to an established heading.

If all proceeds on schedule we hope to deliver the base file to RLIN sometime this Spring for loading. Then we will begin the matching of the more than 50,000 records we have acquired from a multitude of sources to begin the process of adding locations and new records to the file. Even now the file is searchable and can yield interesting results. Within the year the edited and enhanced file will yield still greater benefits to scholars and librarians. We have visited over sixty libraries in ten countries in Latin America and are in touch with all the principal collections in North America as well as libraries in Europe. As libraries contribute records of their holdings to us, as they do on an ongoing basis, they too will be matched to the, and the file will grow in size and richness of data. We are proud to be the manager for this valuable new international, cooperative bibliographical project.

Henry L. Snyder

Professor and director

Center for Bibliographical Studies and Research

University of California, Riverside

From the Libraries

New York: The *Library of the Grolier Club* launched its online catalogue in October. The catalogue includes records for monographs published after 1800; serials; archival and manuscript collections; rare books and examples of fine printing acquired since 1983; French book auction catalogues from 1643 to date; and all American, English, and other European book auction catalogues published prior to 1900, all in all some 41,000 records. This is said to be about one third of the holdings. Records for the remainder of the Library's collection will be added over the next few years. For questions, contact Curator J. Fernando Peña at the Club: 212.838-6690, ext. 3, or mail to: fpena@grolierclub.org.

Oslo: Elisabeth Eide sent us a very impressive report on the move of the *National Library* and Special Collections - a comfort for all colleagues who suffer from construction work! We do hope that all the trouble for Elisabeth will end soon and that the renovated building will be what colleagues in Oslo have been dreaming of when they started in 2002.

Temporariness and tribulations: A Temporary site for the National Library of Norway, Oslo

The National Library of Norway was established in 1999 with one division situated in Oslo and one at Rana, in the north of Norway. Formerly the national collections of legal deposit and special collections had been part of the University of Oslo Library, established 1811. When the National Library (NB) was established, the University Library moved out and NB Oslo took over the old library building from 1914.

The old building was monumental, solid and rather unpractical. The heating system and ventilation from 1914 was still in use. Something clearly had to be done. Finally in 2002 plans for new underground stacks plus a total renovation of the library building were accepted by the Ministry of church and culture. The NB Oslo could start planning for a temporary move of both books and people out of the building. But where? Where could the library find rooms for approx. 35 km with books, 7000 shelf metres with specialized material and 150 offices for up to two years? What about book-shelves? The original stacks were part of the construction of the old building (in 1914 a saving device, in 2002 a hindrance), thus the library had to find a building with 35 km. of empty book-shelves B and don't forget, at a low cost. The Ministry has a parsimonious approach to most problems.

Several solutions thus had to be discarded because they became too expensive. Finally the library found two buildings, one a large, imposing apartment block from around 1880 for offices and a large warehouse with floors solid enough to carry all the books.

To take our new temporary office building first. Ibsen at one time had a flat in the building and wrote both *The Master Builder* and *Little Eyolf* here. His dining room is now one of our meeting rooms. The rooms are nice and lofty where the master and mistress dwelt, and rather more Spartan for the maids. Even so, the rooms for the maids is a distinct improvement to the open space in the old library that was called the cataloguing hall. The front entrances to the flats are rather commodious, whereas the back corridors meant for servants are narrow and with stairs up and down. For the moving of offices and 7000 shelf metres of special collections that was to go to the basement, this proved a challenge. Just before the moving process began it was discovered that the basement

and cellars were too humid and mouldy to be used. The consequence was to place as much of the special collections as possible in the office space.

The warehouse for the books had previously been used by the Norwegian wine & spirits monopoly to store wine. The Library therefore felt fairly certain that the construction could carry the weight of the books. But shelves? A mixture of dictate and careful saving gave us three different solutions that were supposed to give us the shelf metre needed. One solution was to reuse all the usable old shelves around the walls of the old building where the books had to be removed before the shelves could be dismantled and put up at our new site. Another solution was formed by reusing discarded shelves from the northern branch in Rana. The problem there was that those shelves also had to be emptied before they could be dismantled, sent in instalments from Rana to Oslo and put up again. The third solution consisted of new shelves, to be reused when the new stocks underground are completed in 2004.

Around April 2003 all details fell into place, plans were finalized in a hurry and the removal of all books started in May - June of the same year. This proved a tricky business, to say the least. Amongst our problems were: the plans drawn up for the shelves at the new site did not conform with reality when we started moving; not all shelves were ready when they should; books and periodicals in the old building were previously stored where one had found place and should now be merged; the lifts which always were shaky played up to their reputation; the renovation of the old building started before we got out, which meant not only a lot of dust and dirt but also that our most reliable lift was torn down. The list of problems could be made much longer. Still we managed to get all our material out of the building before August 6th this year and some of us could take a break in Berlin.

I am now sitting in a beautiful room with a bay-window that faces the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. In my office I have approx. 30 shelf metres of library books that may be lent out, and 15 shelf metres of library books not to be lent out. There still is a lot to redo, books have not always been put in the right order, too many boxes blocks for some of the shelves, we have not really found a space for the daily papers that we keep until the microfilming has been done etc., but, we have managed to get through this first moving exercise. Admittedly we had a deficit in our finances, but since the budget that we proposed had to be sent to the Ministry one year before the moving took place, we at least feel this to be very understandable.

Now we only have two more removals to make, all the books from the ware-house to our new underground stocks in the summer of 2004, and all the special collections and offices to a renovated building in 2005. Let

us pray for a renovation that has made all this worth while.

Sofia: Elisaveta Musakova wrote: This year *SS. Cyril and Methodius National Library* is celebrating its 125th Anniversary. Among its activities was the presentation on 24 May, the Day of Slavonic Literacy, of the oldest Cyrillic manuscript kept in Bulgaria, the *Enina Apostolos* (a fragment of 39 leaves, dated 11th century), which is also the oldest known Slavonic copy of the translation of the *Apostolos*. Due to the initiative of the Director, Prof. Dr. Borjana Xristova, it was the first opening to the public of the manuscript in the last thirty years, a real event, considering the fragile condition of the fragment. The President of Bulgaria, accompanied by members of the Parliament and the Government visited the exhibition, and also a great number of people. Another part of our program for celebrating the Anniversary is a national conference to be held on 11th and 12th December, in two parallel sessions - the first one focussed on the perspectives of the librarianship in the National Library, and the second one on the special collections, that is Slavonic and foreign manuscripts, Oriental manuscripts & documents, and Bulgarian historical archives. For more details ask E. Musakova at e-mail: musakova@NATIONALLIBRARY.BG.

Washington, D.C.: The *Library of Congress* announced the release of the online collection *The Atlantic World: America and the Netherlands*, in November. The collection is available at the Library's Global Gateway Web site: <http://international.loc.gov/intldl/awkbhtml/awkbhome.html>.

Exhibitions

Düsseldorf: The Universitäts- und Landesbibliothek Düsseldorf owns a large amount of fragments of medieval manuscripts. About 1500 sheets - or rather parts of sheets - dating from the 8th to the 16th century are in this collection. As this was not much known even to scholars working on the subject, the library started a project to catalogue the fragments. First results can be seen in an exhibition *Early Medieval Manuscript Fragments of the 8th and 9th century* from October 22nd to November 28th, 2003. There is an illustrated catalogue giving details on this rare collection, and describing fragments from the early centuries for the first time ever. Details can be found on the homepage of Düsseldorf ULB under <http://www.ub.uni-duesseldorf.de/ausstellungen/> or under *Projekte* at the same address.

Mexico-City: Till February 6th, 2004 the Antiguo Colegio de San Ildefonso

in Mexico City is housing the exhibition *Alejandro de Humboldt - una nueva visión del mundo*. The exhibition shows books, manuscripts, paintings and photographs, going back to an original exhibit in 1999 in Bonn and Berlin *Alexander von Humboldt - Netzwerke des Wissens*, curated by Frank Holl who has been responsible for a number of Humboldt exhibitions over the past four years in Bogota, Quito, and Lima. Details on the exhibition are searchable under <http://www.sanildefonso.org.mx/>.

Munich: Bettina Wagner sent us a press release on an exhibition at Bayerische Staatsbibliothek by the beginning of October.

Living heritage: Early books from the Bayerische Staatsbibliothek

On the occasion of the anniversary of the secularization, the Bayerische Staatsbibliothek presents the exhibition *Lebendiges Büchererbe. Säkularisation, Mediatisierung und die Bayerische Staatsbibliothek* from 7 November 2003 to 30 January 2004. The exhibition focuses on the consequences of the upheavals of the year 1803 for the Bavarian libraries. Choice treasures from the dissolved Bavarian monasteries and cathedrals are on show, among them the Codex aureus, the Gutenberg Bible, the Serbian Psalter, the Qur'an of Père Lachaise, the Gospel Book of Otto III and the Old Church Slavonic texts from Freising. In the late 18th century the Munich court library held c. 70.000 volumes. In contrast, 450.000 volumes entered the library as a result of the secularization. Almost at the same time, yet for different reasons, 80.000 volumes were transferred from the Palatine court library of the Elector Karl Theodor at Mannheim to Munich. Thus, the Munich court library, later renamed State Library, rose to become one of the most important libraries in Europe, both in respect of the size of its holdings and their quality.

The dissolution of monasteries and cathedral chapters amounted to a cultural revolution. 200 years later, the appropriation of church libraries by the state and the instrumental role played in this process by the Electoral court library in Munich are still deeply rooted in the collective memory. To a lesser extent, this is true for the subordination of the secular territories, which had previously been immediately subject to the Emperor, under state governance. This applied mainly to the imperial cities of Augsburg, Regensburg, Ulm and Schweinfurt, whose holdings of books were also transferred to Munich during those years. In order to shed light on these historical events, the exhibition presents c. 180 items within a thematic framework: it focuses on the procedure of the secularization, the cataloguing of the newly acquired manuscripts and printed books and the flourishing of research in the humanities in the nineteenth century, for which the secularization was an important factor. In addition, aspects like the erection of new library buildings and the

preservation and restoration of precious historical objects are also presented.

Today, the Bayerische Staatsbibliothek acts as the guardian of a book heritage from a broad cultural landscape. The precious holdings are accessible at a central place, have been catalogued according to the needs of modern scholarship and are preserved for posterity under the best possible storage conditions.

The exhibition is accompanied by a catalogue comprising c. 240 pages and 50 colour illustrations for the price of c. 15 €.

Contact for enquiries regarding content: Dr. Dieter Kudorfer, Tel.: 089/28638-2265, Fax: -2266, E-Mail: kudorfer@bsb-muenchen.de

San Francisco: Bonhams and Butterfields, the San Francisco auctioneers, hosted a gala for the 400th anniversary celebrations of the *Bodleian Library* of the University of Oxford at their galleries on November 13th, 2003. The gala was part of the library's campaign 'Building on Excellence', and the library had brought over for display over forty treasures from the archives, including the library's copy of the Magna Carta [1217], a complete manuscript book in Queen Elizabeth I's own handstitched binding, Mary Shelley's manuscript of *Frankenstein*, Kenneth Grahame's manuscript of *The Wind in the Willows*, Jane Austen manuscript volume of *Juvenalia* [1793], John Locke's manuscript of the *Essay Concerning Human Understanding*, William Caxton's earliest known printed advertisement [1477], Handel's manuscript score of *The Messiah*, *The Codex Mendoza*, a 1613 Sino-British trade agreement, signed by Emperor Shogun, and the earliest known illuminated manuscript of Geoffrey Chaucer's works.

The *Hand Bookbinders of California* 31st Members' exhibit is on display from November 4th through December 27th, 2003 at Thomas A. Goldwasser Rare Books. A fully illustrated catalogue is on the web under <http://www.philobiblon.com/hbc31st>.

Toronto: Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library, University of Toronto opened its current exhibition *From Aquinas to Atwood* on September 29th, 2003. According to the Library's homepage the exhibition celebrates gifts in Italian studies to the University of Toronto Library from 1890 to the present day. Most of the books were printed between the fifteenth and the eighteenth centuries, and are shown with some modern books, manuscripts, prints, and broadsides. The themes covered include books printed before 1501, church and politics in Venice, the wars against the Turks, science and technology, poetry, music and librettos, and courtesy books. The great range of the material, and the exceptional rarity of many of the editions, give testimony to the broad interests and acute collecting skills of the donors.

The exhibition and accompanying catalogue were prepared by Robin

Healey, of the Collection Development Department, Robarts Research Library. The catalogue was designed by Veronica Fisher, and printed by Derek Fisher at Fisher Litho Arts, with digital photography provided by Jim Ingram and Bogda Mickiewicz of the Collection Digitization Department of the University of Toronto Library. More details can be found under <http://www.library.utoronto.ca/fisher/current.htm>.

Events

ALA: The 2004 Annual Conference will be held in Orlando, FL from June 24-30, 2004. The programme will be out by May 2004.

American Antiquarian Society: The *Annual Wiggins Lecture in the History of the Book in American Culture* was held on November 6th, 2003, at Antiquarian Hall in Worcester, Massachusetts, by Gregory H. Nobles, Professor of History, Technology, and Society at Georgia Institute of Technology. The 2003 lecture was entitled "A Book in the Hand is Worth Two in the Press: Making and Marketing John James Audubon's 'Birds of America'". As all Wiggins Lectures, the text will be published in the *Proceedings of the American Antiquarian Society*. The AAS also recently announced a call for papers for a conference on "Histories of Print, Manuscript, and Performance in America" from June 10-12, 2005 at the site of the American Antiquarian Society in Worcester, Massachusetts. They invite paper proposals of 250-500 words on subjects related to print, manuscript, and performance in British North America and the United States before the 20th century. The deadline for receiving the proposals is February 1st, 2004. More details on <http://www.americanantiquarian.org/PHBACcall.htm>.

Bibliography Week, New York City: A preliminary list of bookish events happening in New York City during Bibliography Week, January 19-24, 2004, was launched recently on *Exlibris List* by Eric Holzenberg, director & librarian of The Grolier Club. Apart from other things, on *Monday, 19 January*, Isabelle de Conihout (associate curator, Bibliothèque Mazarine, Paris) and Pascal Ract-Madoux (antiquarian bookseller, Paris) will speak on "Neither Grolier nor Mahieu: Laubespine," concerning their discovery of the books and bindings of the hitherto unknown French 16th-century book-collector Claude III de Laubespine (1545-1570), a contemporary and emulator of Jean Grolier at the Grolier Club. On *Tuesday, 20 January*, the Tenth Annual Book Arts Lecture will be held at Butler Library, Columbia University by Peter Stallybrass, Professor of English, University of Pennsylvania, on "Thrift and Recycling: Why First Editions Don't Count." There will be also "Columbia's Cornerstone," an exhibition of rare books and manuscripts relating to Columbia's Core Curriculum. On *Wednesday, 21 January*, again at the Grolier Club,

Nicolas Barker will speak on "The Pleasures of Bibliophily: Fifty Years of the Book Collector", and the opening reception of the Members' Exhibition, *Charles Darwin: The Evolution of the Man, from the collection of Garrett Herman* will take place. The reception is open to Grolier Club members only, but beginning Thursday, January 22, the exhibition will be open to all by appointment. On *Friday, 23 January* a special Bibliography Week Book Fair will be opened at the 69th Regiment Armory, 68 Lexington Avenue at 25th Street.

British Library: Sir Hans Sloane (1660-1753) and his library was the subject of a Study Day and Commemoration held on 24th November 2003 at the Conference Centre of The British Library. Janet Backhouse, Françoise Bléchet, Antony Griffiths, Peter Jones, Arthur MacGregor, Giles Mandelbrote, Margaret Nickson, Stefan Siemer, and Alison Walker spoke on various aspects of the some 4,000 manuscripts and 45,000 printed books in the library of Sir Hans Sloane.

Center for the History of Print Culture in Modern America at Madison, Wisconsin: There will be a conference on *Religion and the Culture of Print in America : Authors, publishers, readers and more since 1876* from September 10th -11th , 2004. For more information on the Center and its programs consult: <http://slisweb.lis.wisc.edu/~printcul/>. The deadline for submission of papers is January 30, 2004.

Every year the *EVA Berlin conference* (http://www.gfai.de/pinboard/eva/e_index.htm) takes place at the Kunstgewerbemuseum Preußischer Kulturbesitz in Berlin. The aim of the EVA series of conferences is to bring together scientists and interested people from museums, galleries, libraries and public administration. Users, suppliers and scientific research communities exchange experiences, ideas and plans.

Germany since three years offers another rare books and manuscripts sales fair: *LIBER Berlin* (<http://www.liberberlin.de/>) this year took place in the first days of November and attracted a number of dealers of international reputation and an interested public from Berlin and abroad.

The Printing Historical Society: Together with the Cambridge Bibliographical Society and the Textbook Colloquium the Printing Historical Society will open a conference on *Printing & the worlds of learning* at Downing College, Cambridge on 5th - 6th January, 2004. Speakers will include Paul Luna, Jonquil Bevan, Pierre Delsaerd, Eva Hanebutt-Benz, Paul Hoftijzer, Leslie Howsam, Karen M. Johnson-Weiner, Judy Ivy, Lucy Lewis, Lisa Maruca, Henry Notaker, Martyn Ould, Robert Ritter, Nicola Robson, Jan Roegiers, Fred Schurink, Chris Stray, Patricia Ann Thomas, Daniel Wakelin, Sue Walker, and Richard Zauft. Details of

the speakers and programme are on the website:
<http://www.printinghistoricalsociety.org.uk/phs.html>.

RBMS: The 45th annual RBMS Preconference will be held from Monday, June 21 to Thursday, June 24, 2004, and will take place on the campus of Yale University in New Haven, Connecticut, prior to the ALA Annual Conference in Orlando, Florida. Entitled "Ebb and Flow: The Migration of Collections to American Libraries," the Preconference will focus on the history and current issues surrounding the movement of collections from the four corners of the earth into American repositories. Programme details will be made available via the Preconference website at: <http://beinecke.library.yale.edu/rbms2004/> in late 2003. Yale University Library has published a beautiful leaflet on Special Collections on the occasion.

SHARP: The twelfth annual SHARP conference will be held in Lyons, from Tuesday 20 July through Saturday 24 July, at the Ecole normale supérieure lettres et sciences humaines, one of the members of Institut d'Histoire du Livre, with Ecole nationale des chartes, Ecole nationale supérieure des sciences de l'information et des bibliothèques (enssib), Lyons City Library, and Lyons Printing Museum. The main topic of the conference will be "*Crossing Borders*" : *cultural transfers between the old and the new worlds, on both sides of the Atlantic and Pacific*. There will be presentations of European archival sources for the history of the book. Deadline for papers has been November 30th, 2003, so a detailed programme will be out next year.

Projects

Augsburg: The Institut für Europäische Kulturgeschichte of Augsburg University has just published the first volume of the library of Konrad Peutinger. The institute has been reconstructing the library of the famous renaissance scholar over the past eight years. The project has been sponsored by Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft. Konrad Peutinger (1465-1547) had lived in Augsburg, the place of his birth, from 1497 to 1534. His library consisted of more than 6000 titles in 2200 volumes. Most of his books are now in Staats- und Stadtbibliothek Augsburg, some others in Bayerische Staatsbibliothek Munich and Studienbibliothek Dillingen. There are even single copies in other European and American libraries. About 40% of the original library have been found and catalogued. The other titles have been reconstructed with help of several old catalogues of the library. More details on the library can be found on the web under http://www.uni-augsburg.de/institute/iek/iek/peutinger/peut_start.htm

In Germany the *Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft* has published on its web site (http://www.dfg.de/forschungsfoerderung/wissenschaftliche_infrastruktur/lis/gefoerderte_projekte/) all projects actually funded. In the sector of rare books and manuscripts there are many interesting and promising activities, mostly concerning the cataloguing of the personal papers of a famous person or the digitisation of a special collection.

The board of the *commission mixte* of RISM *Répertoire International des Sources Musicales* (http://rism.stub.uni-frankfurt.de/frames/emain_fr.htm) has decided to change the communication structure and software of the central system: The Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin will be hosting the data which are to be kept in the same system - Kalliope - as are modern textual manuscripts in Germany (<http://kalliope-portal.de>).

The *University of Venice* gathered colleagues from libraries in Berlin, Prague, Sofia, Stockholm and Venice to elaborate a common project to be proposed to the Culture 2000 programme of the European Commission concerning a highly attractive presentation of modern manuscripts in a virtual exhibition. *TRIP Travels into the past* shall be a measure to give a broader access to our hidden treasures to the public. The project is bound to start in October 2004.

Publications

Hortensia Calvo, "The Politics of Print. The Historiography of the Book in Early Spanish America" in Book History 6 (2003), pp. 277 - 305. The Librarian from Latin American Library at Tulane University has written this article for the volume of *Book History* recently published.

In the German library journal *Bibliotheksdienst* (issue 11, 2003) Franz Obermeier, librarian at the University Library Kiel, has published an interesting article on *Important Latin American private collections* (<http://bibliotheksdienst.zlb.de/>). For further information Dr. Obermeier may also be contacted directly: obermeier@ub.uni-kiel.de

Hünersdorff, Richard von: Coffee : a bibliography ; a guide to the literature on coffee / produced by Richard von Hünersdorff and Holger G. Hasenkamp. - London : Hünersdorff, 2002. - 2 vols The London Antiquarian Book Seller R. v. Hünersdorff published a two volume bibliography of literature on coffee last year. The main compiler of that work is Holger Hasenkamp, founding director of Johann Jacobs Museum Zürich. He visited numerous libraries in all parts of Europe to find monographs or articles on the drink, so that now the bibliography is as

comprehensive as possible, giving hints to libraries owning the works mentioned. If you are interested in learning more about the Coffee Museum, go to <http://www.johann-jacobs-museum.ch/>.

The *Leipzig Machsor*, an anthology of Hebrew Prayers, has been digitised. Details can be found under <http://www.uni-leipzig.de/presse2003/machsor.html>

Schochow, Werner: Bücherschicksale : die Verlagerungsgeschichte der Preußischen Staatsbibliothek ; Auslagerung, Zerstörung, Entfremdung, Rückführung ; dargestellt aus den Quellen / Werner Schochow. Mit einem Geleitw. von Werner Knopp. - Berlin [u.a.] : de Gruyter, 2003. - XV, 328 S. : Ill., graph. Darst., Kt.

(*Veröffentlichungen der Historischen Kommission zu Berlin ; 102*) After many years of work on the subject, Werner Schochow, former librarian at Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin, published his findings on the fate of the former Prussian State Library's holdings that had been evacuated to 30 different places during the Second World War.

Web News

Susan Allen sent us this note on LSOList:

The *LSOList* is a listserv for library security officers and other appropriate library staff appointed by their library directors. The aim of the list is to assist libraries in the recovery of stolen materials. It was established about fifteen years ago to help academic and research librarians spread the word about incidents of theft of rare library materials. The LSOList is not a discussion list. Rather, it is a moderated listserv, and only notifications and details of actual thefts are posted to list members. The information contained in the postings is to be used to recover stolen materials and to increase the awareness of the need for security for all rare library materials.

Today, the LSOList continues to serve the entire international library community. Library directors from any type of library counting rare materials among their holdings may submit the name and email address of a staff member for membership in the LSOList. They may do this by sending an email to the list owner, Susan M. Allen, at sallen@getty.edu. Notifications of thefts should be sent to the same email address.

The *Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL)*, a division of the *American Library Association*, has approved a new *Code of Ethics for Special Collections Librarians*, developed by its Rare Books and Manuscripts Section (RBMS). It supersedes the former Standards, and is now accessible on the ACRL and RBMS Web sites (http://www.rbms.nd.edu/standards/code_of_ethics.shtml).

American Antiquarian Society's *Catalogue of American Engravings*, CAEP, is now on the web. CAEP includes more than 16,800 entries describing engravings issued as separate publications or as illustrations in books and periodicals from the early eighteenth century through the year 1820. More than 80 percent of the items catalogued are in the AAS collections. Scholars have depended on CAEP since it first appeared on the Internet as a gopher site in 1992. The new web catalogue can be sought by engraver, illustrator, place of publication, year of publication, printer, publisher, host item author, host item title, and genre. To connect to CAEP, select "Search the Catalog" from the AAS homepage, www.americanantiquarian.org.

Deutsches Schiffahrtsmuseum, Bremerhafen, has acquired the archives of the most famous photographer of the Norddeutscher Lloyd, Hanns Tschiras, with many photographs dating back to the 1930s. More on this valuable resource for the history of ships can be found on <http://www.deutsches-schiffahrtsmuseum.de/>.

The digital journal *FirstMonday* recently published an analysis on 'Studying special collections and the Web' by Lorriane Normore, the project leader for the Special Collections Project. She was also a Consulting Research Scientist in the OCLC Office of Research. The URL for the text is http://firstmonday.org/issues/issue8_10/normore/.

Institut für Stadtgeschichte, Frankfurt am Main has acquired the archives of Frankfurter Künstlergesellschaft, dating back to the middle of the 19th century. More details on the institute and the archive on <http://www.stadtgeschichte-ffm.de/>.

The *Iron Library* in Schaffhausen has recently made available its catalogue online. The library was founded in the early Fifties and is now one of the most comprehensive collections on the subject. For more details try <http://www.eisenbibliothek.ch/>.

Georg Wenker's *Sprachatlas des deutschen Reichs*, one of the oldest (dating back to 1876-1887) and most complete books on the subject, is on the net now. To use it, go to www.diwa.info.

From the Editors

The 2003 IFLA conference in Berlin witnessed the farewell from Alice Prochaska and her team, as well as the welcoming to the new Chairperson Susan Allen and her secretary Jan Bos. Our best wishes to them and to all those who left the section!

The standing committee, who has also accepted some new members for the next four years, has decided on the matters which need to be addressed: loan policies, digitisation strategies and security of our collections; all highly relevant themes to which special issues of the newsletter will be dedicated. Another interesting topic will be the comparison between the organisational structures of special collections in our different institutions. Furthermore we hope to establish an "information market place" for actual information on these and other relevant themes on the Section's website.

In this issue we are very delighted to introduce you all the members of the standing committee and to look back on the activities during the Berlin conference. We would also like to draw your attention to the IFLA conference taking place next summer in beautiful Argentina. The editorial board is also now made up of 50% new members as Annette Wehmeyer left the section after her second term. The new editors have been acquainted for many years having both begun working in the Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin in October 1980: Regina was born and resident in Berlin, Jutta was born in Wuppertal and studied in Freiburg im Breisgau. Regina has worked in the Department of Early Printed Books of the Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin since 1994 and is responsible for books of the 17th and 18th century. Since 1998 she has also taken care of this newsletter. Jutta recently became a member of the standing committee and has been working in the Department of Manuscripts in the Staatsbibliothek since 1985. Her area of responsibility is post mediaeval manuscripts. We are thus by chance, covering both types of material relevant in our section and as we are accustomed to working together we are very much looking forward to providing you with informative newsletters over the up- and-coming years.

We hope that you will enjoy the texts and information and express our thank to all those who contributed to this issue. And before you now put this newsletter aside, please take a moment to think about the next issue due to appear in June 2004; and consider how you might contribute to the theme we shall be dealing with: **digitisation strategies!** All ideas are welcome before 15th May.

Have a good time and a very happy new year!



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