



Newsletter

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

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People

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IFLA 70th General Conference and Council - Buenos Aires 2004 - Rare Books and Manuscripts Section

Minutes of the Standing Committee's meetings

From the Secretary, we have got the minutes of the two meetings.
Though they are published here, they still have to be approved in Oslo.

Meeting I, 22 August

Members and Corresponding Members present:

Susan Allan (chair), Jan Bos (secretary/treasurer), Luisa Buson, Mark Dimunation, Elisabeth Eide, Joana Escobedo, Cristina Guillén, Viveca Halldin-Norberg, Sirkka Havu, Kristian Jensen, Barbara Jones, Marie Korey, Richard Langdon, Monika Linder, Alice Prochaska, Marcia Reed, Andrej Sezkov, Henry Snyder, Bettina Wagner, Jutta Weber.

Observers:

Dalia Ibrahim (Egypt), J. Plassard (France), Youssef Ziedan (Egypt).

Susan opened the meeting and welcomed the members of the Standing Committee as well as the observers. Apologies for absence were received from Fabienne Le Bars, Francesca Niutta and Lin Zuzao. All present introduced themselves shortly. The agenda was approved.

The minutes from the SC meetings in Berlin 2003 were approved as circulated, with acknowledgments to former secretary Wolfgang Undorf.

Jan presented the Financial Report. The remaining budget of 2003 was € 130. The administrative fund for 2004 was € 477. Total: € 607. The Section spent € 296 on translations, € 141 on printing costs and € 27 on bank costs. Total: € 464. So there is a credit of € 143.

Susan reported from the Division Board meeting, starting with an explanation and demonstration of the raffle. The theme for the 72th IFLA General Conference and Council in Seoul 2006 will be "Libraries, Dynamic Engines for the Knowledge and Information Society". The Section's Newsletter is one of the three finalists for the "Best Newsletter of the Year" award, which will be presented in the Closing Session. For the time

being it is an IFLA obligation that all Newsletters should be printed. Our preconference in Copenhagen next year is one of 17 approved satellite meetings. Our Strategic Plan has to be revised in 2005; this will be on next year's Agenda. It was advised to use the Poster Sessions to promote projects. Cooperation with other Sections was strongly encouraged. Some Sections in our Division have midterm sessions.

The Professional Board has decided to review all the Sections in the coming years. When it will be our turn is still unknown, but it is important to show that we are active and that our activities are relevant for the greater library community. It is also important that the Standing Committee members represent many different countries. At present our Standing Committee has 20 members and 4 corresponding members from 14 different countries. Henry Snyder urged outgoing members to come up with suggestions for successors.

The brochure *Guidelines for Exhibition Loans* was published in November 2003 and was appreciated very much. It has already been translated into Spanish, Italian and Chinese. The Section expressed its gratitude to the translators: Cristina Guillén, Louisa Buson and Lin Zuzao.

The Section's general information brochure has been updated and is available in English, Spanish and Russian, in printed form and on the IFLAnet.

The 2004 Buenos Aires World Congress program was announced.

The Section's web pages on International Organizations and Projects related to Rare Books and Manuscripts were lively discussed. The criteria that they should be of international importance were accepted. It was thought useful to add short characteristics. The *Newsletter* will be used to ask for more contributions, in particular less known projects from smaller countries. It was decided not to link directly to commercial sites. An editorial committee was established, consisting of Jutta Weber, Henry Snyder, Mark Dimunation and Jan Bos. It will draw up guidelines and review proposed additions. Next year the web pages will be evaluated.

A working group was established to prepare the programme for next year's preconference. Members: Ivan Boserup (representing the Danish Royal Library), Alice Prochaska, Elisabeth Eide, Kristian Jensen, Mark Dimunation, Viveva Halldin Norberg, Susan Allen and Jan Bos. The general theme was defined as: "*Responsible stewardship towards cultural heritage materials*". The group members received suggestions on topics, speakers and other events. The group was asked to meet in the course of the week and give a report at the second SC meeting. Jan was asked to find out details about registration fees, sponsorship and other financial matters.

The same procedure was followed regarding the Section's programme at Oslo 2005. "*Managing the 20th century as the past*" will be the theme.

This working group consists of: Elisabeth Eide, Jutta Weber, Kristian Jensen, Marcia Reed, Viveca Halldin Norberg, Susan Allen and Jan Bos.

Jan reported shortly on ABHB / BHO, which is published under the Section's auspices. The last printed volume of the ABHB, covering the year 2000, will appear in December 2004. BHO, the online database, contains more than 28.000 records and has been visited over 67.000 times up to July 2004.

The first part of a Round Robin concluded the first SC meeting, leaving the second part of the Round Robin and the rest of the agenda for the second meeting.

Standing Committee Meeting II, 28 August

Members and Corresponding Members present:

Susan Allan (chair), Jan Bos (secretary/treasurer), Luisa Buson, Mark Dimunation, Elisabeth Eide, Joana Escobedo, Cristina Guillén, Viveca Halldin-Norberg, Kristian Jensen, Marie Korey, Richard Langdon, Marcia Reed, Andrej Sezkov, Bettina Wagner.

Observers:

Ivan Boserup (Denmark), Nancy Digiácomo (Argentina), J. Plassard (France).

Susan opened the meeting, recapitulating the first meeting. Jan distributed the Chinese translation of the *Guidelines for Exhibition Loans*, and copies of an Iranian periodical on manuscripts.

The Section's Programme had been attended by about 200 attendees. Very few people left and there have been many positive reactions on the quality of the papers and the presentation. Susan thanked all speakers again for their excellent contributions.

On behalf of the working group Susan reported on the Preconference in Copenhagen next year. The title had been modified to "*Responsible curatorship of cultural heritage materials*". A more 'sexy' title is still being looked for.

The preconference will take place in the Royal Library on Thursday August 11 (all day; 4 sessions) and Friday August 12 (morning; 2 sessions). On Friday afternoon people can take the ferryboat to Oslo, arriving there on Saturday morning (highly recommended by Elisabeth!).

There will be sessions on different topics: Bringing collections together via digitization, Legal matters, Security, Conservation, Economics, Users. For most topics names of several speakers have been suggested already.

They will be approached by Susan.

Additional activities could include a guided tour in the library with special attention to security.

The maximum number of participants is 100. They may or may not be attending the IFLA Congress as well. Not only librarians but also museums and archives staff, and even politicians will be welcome. People in Denmark will be invited by mailings and press releases. Mark will inform relevant international web lists.

Ivan will present information about hotels and (together with Elisabeth) about the ferry to Oslo.

Jan reported that we can arrange income (registration fees, sponsors) and expenditures (travel expenses for speakers, lunch, coffee) as we think proper. We will have to render a financial account to IFLA Headquarters after the event.

Susan reported on the programme for Oslo as well. Our theme, "*Managing the 20th century as the past*", has also been adopted by the Art Libraries Section. The measure of cooperation will be determined in the course of the year. We will at least refer to each other's programmes. Maybe we will have consecutive sessions. We will ask IFLA Headquarters to avoid having these sessions coincide with the Library History programme.

"*Embracing the flood*" was the brilliant title Richard Landon came up with. Subthemes will be: Collection building and collection management, New forms and materials (audio-visual, digital, film, websites), Legal concerns, Pro-active library policy. Again, the working party had already provided Susan with a lot of potential speakers from around the globe.

Elisabeth offered to plan a visit to the Norwegian Antiquarian Association, which could organize a small exhibition. She also offered a meal at her home, which was applauded with great enthusiasm.

In the Section's 'Projects and Plans' it is stated that the exchange of experiences and expertise in digitization projects should result in an international set of criteria. This could be done by making a brochure "Guidelines for Digitization Activities", based on a survey on actual criteria, rules, standards and best practices in major libraries. Questions such as to use or not to use microfilms, the ways to protect the originals etcetera should also be covered. Cooperation with the Preservation & Conservation Section is recommendable. A subcommittee, consisting of Louisa Buson, Mark Dimunation, Bettina Wagner and Ivan Boserup, was established to work on this brochure.

Another Project of our Section is the database of collections of manuscript fragments. In her letter of apology for absence Francesca Niutta had written that the idea of planning this database seemed very important to her. The implications of such a database were widely discussed. The importance was not questioned, but it was noticed that it would be very hard to accomplish, that the definition of 'fragment' is not easy and that some inventories already exist and could be added to our inventory of international activities. On the other hand it was noted that in almost all the papers in our Programme global virtual catalogues were pleaded, internationally available for everyone and based on digitization of

manuscripts. Jutta Weber, who could not be present at this meeting, had offered to chair a working group on international virtual manuscript catalogues. It was decided to ask Jutta Weber and Francesca Niutta to form a small working party to do a survey on existing projects of digital cataloguing of manuscripts and manuscript fragments and to report on that in Oslo in 2005.

Jan proposed to do a survey on the state of affairs of all retrospective national bibliographies, the results of which could be published on our website. It was noticed that this might overlap in some degree the web pages on international organizations and projects; however, this should be the concern of the editorial committee. It was agreed that an appeal for this survey could be done via the List and the Newsletter.

Louisa Buson proposed to organize a midterm meeting of the Section in Padua, Italy, in early spring. This could be combined with a conference on the cataloguing of manuscripts (fragments). Susan wondered how many people would be able to participate, due to lack of time and money. It was suggested to have a midterm programme in Europe in years in which the IFLA Congress was held outside Europe. Finally it was decided that Louisa would hold an opinion poll on her proposal via the List.

By secret voting it was decided that the papers by Jutta Weber and Ivan Boserup were to be recommended for publication in *IFLA Journal*.

Susan gave information about the upcoming elections for new Standing Committee Members and Officers.

Louisa announced that she would send information about the upcoming ISBD(A) revision via the Listserv and ask the members for any comments.

The second part of the Round Robin concluded the meeting. Jan asked the members to send all their announcements of the Round Robin to the Newsletter. Susan thanked all present for their contributions.

From the Libraries

Berlin: The Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin announces

The archives of two of the world's most famous antiquarian booksellers, Martin und Bernard H. Breslauer are now, after the death of Bernard Breslauer, completely held in the Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin. Having received the first part of the papers in 1997 from Bernard Breslauer, the second part of the Breslauer estate had been bequeathed to the Staatsbibliothek. The papers comprise family and personal archives, business papers, relating to the Berlin, London and New York periods, correspondence, diaries, manuscripts, annotated catalogues, card catalogues, photos and portrait paintings.

London: The British Library announces

1. The Jerwood Project

In a three-year project the Library's photographic collections will progressively be made available through an integrated catalogue. The project will also incorporate a Library-wide conservation initiative for the future preservation of these visual resources.

2. The Lisbet Rausing Charitable Fund sponsor a Programme focusing on the preservation and copying of important but vulnerable archives throughout the world. The Programme will be open as to theme and regional interest, although it will normally be concerned with non-western societies. Materials valid for inclusion in the programme must have relevance as source materials for the pre-industrial stage of a society's history. The Programme is administered by the British Library and applications will be considered by an International Panel of historians and archivists. Details on this project can be found at URL

<http://www.bl.uk/about/policies/endangeredarch/abouteap.html>

Digital collections of Medieval and Renaissance Studies owned by *Warburg Institute Library* are online now. For details go to

<http://www.sas.ac.uk/Warburg/default.htm>

Minneapolis: The Bakken Library and Museum announces the availability of a new online database of its collection of artefacts relating to the history of electricity and magnetism and their uses in medicine and the life sciences. The Bakken was founded in 1975 by Earl E. Bakken, inventor of the first transistorized cardiac pacemaker, and holds 11,000 rare books and 2,500 scientific instruments relating to the role of electricity in life. It is located in 3537 Zenith Ave. South, Minneapolis, Minnesota. The URL of the library is:

<http://www.thebakken.org/library/library.htm#BooksAndManuscripts>

Munich: The Bayerische Staatsbibliothek announces

1. Retroconversion of catalogue 1841-1952 completed

The Bayerische Staatsbibliothek Munich has completed the retroconversion of its catalogue of books printed between 1841 and 1952. The catalogue is now online under <http://www.bsb-muenchen.de/opac/qk.htm>

The catalogue has been converted as images of the old, frequently handwritten, catalogue cards. It can be browsed alphabetically; an improved search facility is under development. Instructions on the sorting order used in the catalogue are available under "Hinweise zur Recherche". With the completion of this retroconversion, the entire holdings of the Bayerische Staatsbibliothek since 1501 are now searchable electronically.

2. Online Bibliography of Secondary Literature on Manuscripts, Modern Papers and Rare Printed Books

For more than 50 years, secondary literature on the holdings of the

department of manuscripts and rare printed books of the Bayerische Staatsbibliothek München has been recorded in a card index only available for consultation locally in the reading room. Recently, this important tool has been converted into electronic form and is now available free via the internet. For the project, 109.000 index cards with more than 113.000 bibliographical references dating back as far as the 19th century were scanned, enhanced with search terms and integrated into a database, which will in future serve as the platform for a continual update of the bibliography. The conventional card catalogue will be discontinued. The project was funded by the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (www.dfg.de). The database is accessible via the homepage of the Bayerische Staatsbibliothek:

<http://www.bsb-muenchen.de/handruck/hsslit.htm>

3. Catalogue of incunables online

The catalogue of incunables of the Bayerische Staatsbibliothek München (BSB-Ink) has been made available online under:

<http://mdz1.bib-bvb.de/cocoon/bsbink/start.html>

The Bayerische Staatsbibliothek München has the richest holdings of incunables world-wide. About a third of all books printed in the 15th-century which are known today are in the library's collections - the total holdings amount to 19900 copies of c. 9660 editions. During the years 1971-2003, the incunable collection was catalogued with financial support from the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft. The five-volume print edition of the catalogue was published from 1988 to 2000 in the Dr. Ludwig Reichert Verlag, Wiesbaden. Two index volumes are under preparation. The online-catalogue contains descriptions of

- 9574 incunable editions
- 17401 copies of these editions

The electronic version allows searching the complete text of the printed catalogue as well as digitized images of incunables. The descriptions of incunable editions contain bibliographical descriptions including complete lists of all texts contained in an edition. The descriptions of incunable copies contain information about their provenance and bindings as well as about their artistic illumination and manuscript additions. At the moment, digitized images are available for 76 editions of mostly German texts: 6377 pages with printed illustrations (mainly black and white, but also coloured woodcuts). The illustrations can be searched for iconographic motives.

4. UNESCO Memory of the world: Reichenau manuscripts

The 'Memory of the World' programme was launched by UNESCO in 1992. Its purpose is to make documents of great historical and cultural importance accessible worldwide, to preserve their memory and to protect them against destruction. The Register of world documentary heritage currently comprises 91 documents from 45 countries.

Included since the end of 2003 are the ten illuminated manuscripts from the monastery on the island of Reichenau in Lake Constance, which itself

had been added to the list of UNESCO World Heritage already in 2000. The manuscripts are outstanding specimens of Ottonian book illustration in Germany. They have been selected as examples of the development of the monastic scriptorium, and of artistic innovation in book decoration. They are distinctive for the iconographic themes in their miniatures, and for the way in which they relate to the religious, political and cultural history of their time. The manuscripts are thus representative of the entire group of surviving manuscripts with Ottonian illumination from the Reichenau. In the 10th and 11th centuries, the Benedictine Abbey of Reichenau housed an artists' workshop, which was probably the largest and most influential in Europe. During its main period of activity, between c. 970 and 1010-20, a series of mainly liturgical manuscripts with precious decoration was produced there, commissioned by the most prominent members of contemporary society - Bishops of the Empire, Kings and Emperors. With vivid artistic imagination and remarkable innovation, the monks created great works of art whose beauty and perfection continue to fascinate us. Their design was inspired by Carolingian book illumination from the workshop at the court of Charlemagne, as well as by early Christian and Byzantine models.

Modern research classifies the manuscripts in groups named after scribes, artists or sponsors.

The Gero Codex (Darmstadt), the oldest of the ten manuscripts, is assigned to the Eburnant group. According to the dedication, the manuscript was painted for Archbishop Gero of Cologne; its floral decoration shows similarities to book illumination from St Gall.

The Egbert Psalter (Cividale) and the Gospel Book from the Abbey of Poussay (Paris) are the most important manuscripts in the Ruodprecht group.

Like the Egbert Psalter, the Egbert Codex (Trier) was commissioned by Archbishop Egbert of Trier. The manuscript contains 51 miniatures, which accompany the Gospels, and is probably the first complete illustrative cycle for the New Testament.

The earliest works of the Liuthar group were created at almost the same time. This group comprises the highly decorated manuscripts of the zenith of Reichenau painting.

The Gospel Book of Otto III (Aachen) presents all the images on a gold background - a seminal innovation in Western book illumination. The Commentary on Daniel and The Bamberg Apocalypse (Bamberg) contain images of remarkable creative power. Amongst the most precious books donated by Emperor Henry II to the Cathedral at Bamberg were probably the three manuscripts from the Bayerische Staatsbibliothek. The Gospel Book of Otto III - with its precious binding and sumptuous decoration - was commissioned by the Emperor. In addition to the double-page miniature showing the provinces rendering homage to the enthroned Emperor, it contains a chronological cycle of illustrations of the life of Christ (29 full-page miniatures on a gold background). The depictions of the four Evangelists as visionaries are regarded as the artistic high point of Reichenau painting.

The Gospel Book from the Cathedral of Bamberg is exceptional because of its unusual iconography, e.g., the image of Christ in the Tree of Life surrounded by symbols of the Evangelists and the Rivers of Paradise. In the canon tables, the signs of the zodiac appear - an unusual combination that does not occur anywhere else in Reichenau painting. The Book of Pericopes of Henry II contains an illuminated dedication showing the Coronation of Henry and his wife Kunigunde by Christ, as well as a cycle of 23 miniatures from the New Testament. The monumental, expressive figures are especially prominent in the double-page illustrations.

Today, the ten manuscripts are preserved in - Aachen (Domkapitel): Gospel Book of Otto III Bamberg (Staatsbibliothek): Commentary on Daniel (and Canticles), Bamberg Apocalypse (and Evangelistary) Cividale del Friuli (Museo Archeologico Nazionale): Egbert Psalter Darmstadt (Universitäts- und Landesbibliothek): Gero Codex München (Bayerische Staatsbibliothek): Gospel Book of Otto III, Books of Pericopes of Henry II, Gospel Book from the Cathedral of Bamberg Paris (Bibliothèque nationale de France): Evangelistary from the Abbey of Poussay Trier (Stadtbibliothek): Egbert Codex

On the occasion of their inclusion in the UNESCO Register of world documentary heritage, the Bayerische Staatsbibliothek has prepared an exhibition of facsimiles and photographs of the ten manuscripts. As a central attraction, the three original manuscripts preserved in the Bayerische Staatsbibliothek, with their splendid bindings of gold, precious stones and ivory, will be displayed in the Treasury. The exhibition of facsimiles and photographs will also be shown on the island of Reichenau in 2005.

http://www.bsb-muenchen.de/english/reichenau_e.htm

We have got this information from Dr. Bettina Wagner

Oslo: Norwegian National Library, *Nasjonalbiblioteket Oslo*, has catalogued material got from Per Bronken in 1985 and after his death in 2002 from his daughter. It is now available for research in the Bronken Archive.

Bronken, who lived from 1935 to 2002, was a renown television producer in Norway. He staged films based on books and plays by Undset, Holberg, Shakespeare, Schiller and many others. More on

http://www.nb.no/html/per_bronken.html

Paris: A new Paris institution has taken up residence in the former premises of the Bibliothèque Nationale, at the rue Richelieu: The *INHA / Institut National d'Histoire de l'Art*. There will be accommodation for 440 readers in the library of the institute. Renovation work will proceed through 2007, with a final opening scheduled for 2008. The collections of the library consist of the following four libraries:

la Bibliothèque d'art et d'archéologie Jacques Doucet
(807,580 documents)

la Bibliothèque centrale des musées nationaux
(252,160 documents)

la bibliothèque de l'Ecole nationale supérieure des

Beaux-Arts
(128,000 imprimés)
la bibliothèque de l'Ecole nationale des Chartes
(149,000 documents)

There is a catalogue uniting the holdings of these libraries.
More detailed information can be found on <http://www.inha.fr/>

Princeton: Princeton's *Cotsen Children's Library* has been presented an extensive collection of books, letters, manuscripts and artwork by Beatrix Potter. The University writes in the Bulletin: "The collection of close to 600 items has been placed on deposit as an intended gift to the University from Lloyd Cotsen, a member of Princeton's class of 1950 and a long-time collector of children's literature. Cotsen donated the funds to create the children's library, which opened in Firestone in 1997. ... Included in the collection are first editions of what are known as Potter's "little books," letters to friends and family, and photographs taken by Potter as well as an album of family photos. ... One of the most remarkable elements of the Potter collection are 30 illustrated letters the author wrote to children of her acquaintance. ... To celebrate the arrival of the collection in Princeton and the publication of the catalogue, the library has mounted an exhibition titled "Don't Go Into Mr. McGregor's Garden: The Dangerous World of Beatrix Potter". More details can be found at <http://www.princeton.edu/pr/home/hmcap.html>

Further news from Princeton is on the Davies Project, researching the history of University libraries. Since September, a database on about 10,000 American libraries before 1876 can be searched online. The database is available via the Project's homepage: www.princeton.edu/~davpro

The Hague: *The Koninklijke Bibliotheek* has launched a new project in last year: "Parchment to Portal". The aim is to make uniform descriptions of all 8,000 medieval manuscripts held by libraries in the Netherlands. As can be read on the library's website (<http://www.kb.nl/hrd/samenwerking/parchment/index-en.html>) "The project is focussed on creating possibilities for progressive research with respect to and based on medieval manuscripts, by building a Central Catalogue of Medieval Manuscripts (CCMM) with uniform short-titles and digital images of all medieval manuscripts in Dutch collections. To give the CCMM a maximum of output, this portal will be connected to the information of two other databases, the *Bibliotheca Neerlandica Manuscripta*, that collects data of Middle Dutch manuscripts, wherever in the world and the *Alexander Willem Byvanck* database, which gives an overview of the illuminated manuscripts in the Netherlands. All disseminated information about medieval manuscripts in the Netherlands will be brought together and will be searchable through one database. This interface will be developed specifically with a view to new applications within the field of research to the humanities. In the portal all available knowledge and expertise on the field of codicology and palaeography will

be combined with the short-titles to realise a national basic infrastructure for research and education."

Vienna: Österreichische Nationalbibliothek:

1. The autographs catalogue 1955 – 1997 has been digitized now (138,600 cards, over 40,000 persons). The address is <http://aleph.onb.ac.at/ALEPH/-/start/onb06>

2. An important new acquisition are 346 vintage photographs by Austrian photographer Elfriede Mejchar belonging to a series entitled "Artists at work", and the Josef Matthias Hauer archive. Hauer (1883 – 1959) was a distinguished composer.

Wilmington, DE: The Hagley Museum and Library has loaded over 150,000 catalog records of its library holdings into the RLG Union Catalog. There will be quarterly updates. Hagley Museum and Library is dedicated to the preservation and understanding of America's economic and technological heritage, and houses an important collection of manuscripts, photographs, books, and pamphlets documenting the history of American business and technology. It is located: 298 Buck Road East, Wilmington, DE 19807-0630.

Exhibitions

Berlin: "Robert Capa connu et inconnu", the exhibition of Bibliothèque Nationale, was to be seen at Martin-Gropius-Bau. The vintage prints and other material are owned by Bibliothèque Nationale, Archives nationales, Bibliothèque historique de la Ville de Paris et Musée Picasso, as well as by private owners.

Los Angeles: The Getty presents "All the Mighty World: The Photographs of Roger Fenton, 1852–1860" at the Getty Center, February 1–April 24, 2005. The 94 prints in the exhibit are drawn from 17 collections, including Getty's own. After being shown at the Getty Center, the exhibition will go on to the Metropolitan Museum and the Tate Britain. Details at <http://www.getty.edu/news/>

Munich: Buddha in the Bayerische Staatsbibliothek

From 27th January to 20 March 2005, the Bayerische Staatsbibliothek displays precious and rare items from the rich holdings of its Oriental and Eastern Asian collections in the exhibition "The words of the Buddha in the languages of the world" ("Die Worte des Buddha in den Sprachen der Welt"). The sacred writings of Buddhism, the so-called Tripitaka, are placed in the centre of the exhibition. Never before have these works been shown in comparable scope and in so many diverse Asian languages and scripts.

Among the highlights of the exhibition are a Tibetan cloth leporello with

the text embroidered in silk, a magnificent Japanese scroll of the 12th century written in gold on paper dyed with indigo, a "Secret Autobiography" of the 5th Dalai Lama, a Burmese manuscript with ivory covers and texts inscribed on silver and gold leaves also from Burma. One of the oldest printed items world-wide comes from Japan. In the 8th century, empress Shotoku had a short text printed onto a million paper scrolls and had each of them inserted in a wooden pagoda. Only a few of them have survived. The Bayerische Staatsbibliothek owns one of these pagodas; it is on show in the exhibition.

Some editions of the Tripitaka entered the library on adventurous routes. In 1982, copies of the Tibetan version of the sacred writings and commentaries were made in the Derge monastery in Eastern Tibet and from there transported by lorry to Kathmandu, where they stayed for several years before they could finally be sent to Munich. Many items could only be obtained through personal contacts among the local population - the normal book trade could not procure them.

The importance of the Buddhist collection as part of the Oriental and Eastern Asian department of the Bayerische Staatsbibliothek is partly the result of nineteenth-century acquisitions. Today, c. 16.000 manuscripts and nearly 500.000 printed items from all regions of Asia form part of the library's Oriental and Eastern Asian holdings.

http://www.bsb-muenchen.de/english/buddha_e.htm

Place of exhibition: Bayerische Staatsbibliothek, Fürstensaal Ludwigstr. 16, D-80539 München, Germany

The exhibition is accompanied by a catalogue in German and English comprising c. 190 pages and numerous colour illustrations for the price of 15,00 EUR. Catalogues can be ordered from zotz@bsb-muenchen.de or via <https://www.bsb-muenchen.de/verwaltg/publbest.htm>

New York: New York Public Library, Fifth Avenue and 42nd Street, (212)869-8089, through Jan. 30th, shows "James Gillray", an exhibition curated by Roberta Waddell. Most of the 160 pieces shown come from the Tilden collection of the library. There is a related online exhibition:

<http://www.nypl.org/research/chss/spe/art/print/exhibits/gillray/>

Deborah Wye, the museum's chief curator of prints and illustrated books, has chosen 71 prints and illustrated books for the opening installation of *MoMa's* new galleries. Toulouse-Lautrec, Bosch, Hogarth, Goya, Munch, Damien Hirst, Nolde, Picasso, and Miro are only some of the artists shown at the new exhibition.

Exhibitions at the Grolier Club:

1. 8th December to 5th February: "A heavenly Craft: The Woodcut in Early Printed Books", from the LoC, curated by Daniel De Simone, curator of the Rosenwald collection, i.e. 84 rare illustrated books from Rosenwald Collection. The exhibition went to Dallas, too, a catalogue is available.
2. February 22 – April 23, 2005: "Past Presence: The Objects of Study at the Getty Research Institute", curated by David Brafman. The exhibit is from the special collections of the Research Library, rare books,

photographs, sketches, architectural drawings, engravings, woodcuts, optical devices, shows how artists, writers, and architects "responded to notions of time and the urge to capture a moment, recreate the past, record the present, or imagine the future." according to the Grolier Club's website.

Vienna: The exhibition "Geraubte Bücher - Die Österreichische Nationalbibliothek stellt sich ihrer NS-Vergangenheit" ended February 27th, 2005. Details on <http://www.onb.ac.at/>

Events

January:

New York: Bibliography week 2005, New York, 25th January to 29th January. 1. Butler Library, Columbia University, Lecture on "Architects and Books: a Special Relationship" by Gerald Beasley (Avery Architectural Library) and exhibition "Jewels in Her Crown: Treasures from the Special Collections of Columbia's Libraries." Details from

http://www.columbia.edu/cu/lweb/news/exhibitions/2004/2004-09-29.cul_treasures.html

2. Grolier Club, lecture by David Vander Meulen on Warren Chappell (illustrator)

3. Center for Book Arts, current exhibition "View from Venice: Selection from the Collection of Matilde Dolcetti at the Scuola Internazionale di Grafica, Venezia," featuring fifty artists books created by artists from Europe, Asia, and America during their residency at this very important Italian atelier.

Annual Meeting of the Bibliographical Society of America has been held on Friday, January 28, 2005 in Ames Auditorium at The New York Lighthouse, 111 East 59th Street, New York City. The annual address this year , entitled "Researching The Book Nobody Read: Copernicus's *De revolutionibus*," has been delivered by Owen Gingerich, Research Professor of Astronomy and of the History of Science at the Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics. Katherine D. Harris (The Graduate Center CUNY) has lectured on "Feminizing the Textual Body: Women and Their Literary Annuals in Nineteenth- Century Britain", Earle Havens (Boston Public Library) on "Notes from the Literary Underground: Recusant Catholics, Jesuit Priests, and Manuscript Culture in Elizabethan England", and Catherine M. Rodriguez (University of Virginia) on "The History of a Novel's Travels Abroad: Foreign Editions of Frances Burney's *Cecilia*".

February:

Chicago: Exhibition and Symposion

"Paper Museums: The Reproductive Print in Europe, 1500-1800"

February 3 – May 15, 2005 | [Richard and Mary L. Gray Special Exhibition](#)

Gallery Details from the museum's website: "As relatively inexpensive, transportable, and storable objects, prints had an important place in the culture of Renaissance and Baroque Europe. Well before the era of photography and digital images, a variety of print techniques revolutionized the ways in which images could be reproduced and circulated. Reproductive prints – prints that reproduce other works of art – allowed a much broader public to become familiar with paintings, sculptures, and other works that had previously been available only to wealthy travellers or collectors. This exhibition looks at the impact of this expanding visual culture in helping printmakers earn reputations for truthfulness, promoting certain artists and collectors, and increasing familiarity with original works of art. Including prints by or after Dürer, Claude Lorrain, Raphael, Watteau, and J.M.W. Turner, among many other artists, the exhibition also highlights recent Smart acquisitions, such as an engraving of Michelangelo's Last Judgment and two versions of Rubens' Supper at Emmaus. Far from being "merely" reproductive, these prints are themselves objects of exquisite beauty." Curators are Rebecca Zorach, University of Chicago Assistant Professor of Art History, and Elizabeth Rodini, Johns Hopkins University Lecturer in the History of Art and former Smart Museum Mellon Projects Curator. The Smart Museum installation is overseen by Anne Leonard, Smart Museum Mellon Projects Curator. The exhibit will tour in September to Grey Art Gallery, New York University, New York, September 13 – December 3, 2005.

There is also a two-day scholarly symposium co-hosted by THE ART INSTITUTE OF CHICAGO and the SMART MUSEUM OF ART, which will further explore the issues set forth in the exhibition. Details of the programme are:

Keynote Address Friday April 1, 2005 at THE ART INSTITUTE OF CHICAGO PETER PARSHALL, National Gallery of Art 5:30 pm, FULLERTON HALL
Saturday April 2, 2005 at the SMART MUSEUM OF ART, UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO 8:30 am-6:30 pm, Slide talks and exhibition viewing
Speakers will include: Suzanne Boorsch, Yale University Art Gallery Meg Grasselli, National Gallery of Art Luke Herrmann, emeritus Leicester University Graham Larkin, Stanford University Evelyn Lincoln, Brown University Lisa Pon, Southern Methodist University Sue Reed, Museum of Fine Arts, Boston Elizabeth Rodini, Johns Hopkins University Larry Silver, University of Pennsylvania Kristel Smentek, Hobart and William Smith Colleges Martha Tedeschi, The Art Institute of Chicago Madeleine Viljoen, La Salle University Art Museum Rebecca Zorach, The University of Chicago
The symposium requires advance registration due to limited space. For further information contact Anne Leonard at aleonard@uchicago.edu"

June:

Worcester, Mass.: American Antiquarian Society will held its conference: "Histories of Print, Manuscript, and Performance in America," June 10th – 12th and Seminar: "Publishing God: Printing, Preaching, and Reading in Eighteenth-Century America," June 12th – 17th . Details from <http://www.americanantiquarian.org./index.htm>

July:

Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada: The thirteenth annual conference of the Society for the History of Authorship, Reading and Publishing (SHARP) will be held at Dalhousie University, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada on 14th-17th July 2005, theme "Navigating Texts and Contexts". Details from SHARP's homepage.

August:

Oslo: The calls for papers of several sections for the 71st IFLA General Conference and council in Oslo are out on the IFLAnet . The motto of this year's congress is "Libraries – A voyage of discovery".

September:

San Francisco Bay Area: APHA announced 2005 conference:

"The American Printing History Association is pleased to announce that its 2005 annual conference, hosted by Mills College, will take place in the San Francisco Bay Area on September 22nd & 23rd, 2005. The conference, titled [r]Evolution in Print: New Work in Printing History & Practice, will combine academic papers with hands-on workshops and demonstrations that focus on the history, current status, and future of print. Topics of interest include the current letterpress revival; the history of typography and graphic design; printing along the Pacific Rim; histories of comics, zines, graphic novels and street literature; contemporary commercial print technologies; the end of ink on paper; radical printing and the counterculture; and of course any new work in printing history. Workshop possibilities include alternative printing methods on the Vandercook, contemporary handpress use, techniques for photopolymer, digital applications for use with paper and cuts, traditional tooling for bookbinding, and other traditional and experimental studio techniques."

October:

Urbana, Illinois: "Libraries in Times of War, Revolution & Social Change" Library History Seminar XI, sponsored by the Library History Round Table of the American Library Association, will be held at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, October 27th – 30th, 2005. Details on <http://www.lis.uiuc.edu/conferences/LHS.XI/sponsors.html>

November:

Paris: From our colleague Sara Yontan Musnik we have got the following notice:

Conference announcement and call for papers

The first symposium on "The History of Printing and Publishing in the Languages and Countries of the Middle East" was successfully held as a three days special session of the First World Congress of Middle Eastern Studies (WoCMES) in Mainz, in September 2002.

We are glad to announce a second international meeting devoted to the same themes and hosted by the Bibliothèque nationale de France, Paris, November 2nd and 3rd, 2005. The convenors are Dr. Geoffrey J. Roper (gjr2@cam.ac.uk), as the scientific consultant and myself (sara.yontan@bnf.fr) as the local organiser. Further information about the programme will follow shortly.

Some of the specific themes which may be discussed and developed in the Conference papers are again the following; however, other suggestions are mostly welcome:

The origins and developments of European typography in Middle Eastern scripts

The arrival and developments of typography in the Middle East

The aesthetic and practical dimensions of Middle Eastern typography (design, cognitive effects, etc.)

Lithography in the Middle East

Birth and development of newspapers and magazines

Aspects of descriptive and analytical bibliography of early and rare

Middle Eastern printed material

The history of Middle Eastern publishing, and the social, economic, and literary consequences

The history of publishing Middle Eastern languages elsewhere outside the Middle East

The art and techniques of illustrations in books and periodicals

At this early stage, we need to have enough indication as to the number of people who plan to attend and better still who plan to present a paper. An indication of the subject matter will suffice.

Thank you for responding to our invitation as soon as you can.

If you have any queries or comments, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Sara Yontan Musnik

Bibliothèque nationale de France

sara.yontan@bnf.fr

Co-operation

In the Buenos Aires minutes published in this issue of the Newsletter two activities have been announced on which we ask your co-operation:

1. Jan Bos is the chair of a working group on *International Organizations and Projects with Regard to Rare Books and Manuscripts*. On our website are some examples which clearly are only the top of the iceberg of all the activities which should be mentioned there. Please feel free to come up with names of relevant organizations and projects working or established in your countries.

Contact: jan.bos@kb.nl

2. Jutta Weber is the chair of a working group on a survey on *Existing Projects of Digital Cataloguing of Manuscripts and Manuscript Fragments*. You might know about activities concerning online cataloguing of mediaeval and/or modern manuscripts in your countries' libraries and archives. Please let us know the details and those projects and send information on their content, extent and goal.

Contact: jutta.weber@sbb.spk-berlin.de

Publications

LIBER-MS, the discussion list of European manuscript libraries, recently sent a note by Dr. Bouman, Keeper of Manuscripts, Leiden University about a new publication:

“Legatum Stolpianum. History and Archives of the Leiden Prize Competitions in Natural Theology and Moral Philosophy, 1754-2004. Compiled by James Jakob Fehr, in collaboration with André Bouwman. Leiden: Leiden University Library, 2004. (Codices manuscripti, 38) ISBN 90-74204-12-0. – EUR 30.=

The Legatum Stolpianum in Leiden is quite possibly the longest-living corporate body in Europe dealing with questions of the philosophy of religion (specifically with natural theology and Christian ethics). Its remarkable 250-year tradition testifies to the possibility of maintaining an institution of learning in the humanities throughout centuries of change. In spite of the disruptions caused by numerous wars and economic disasters, in spite of altering customs and forms of public education, the prize essay competitions that are the chief legacy of its founder, Jan Stolp, flourished for centuries and have persisted up to today.

Equally fortunate for modern scholars is the preservation of an archive of prize essay manuscripts dating from 1754 to 1960 in the Department of Western Manuscripts of the University Library in Leiden. The collection that is documented in this volume includes approximately 420 manuscripts, of which over 380 date from 1754 to 1787, along with numerous other contemporaries letters, attests, financial records and other papers. This collection affords researchers the opportunity to make empirically-founded investigations of philosophical and theological interest, especially with respect to the transcultural dissemination of ideas in diachronic or synchronic perspective, as these were apprehended by the educated public in the Age of Enlightenment and beyond. They also offer the possibility of examining the differing traditions in various parts of Europe concerning manuscript production (analyses of the physical format and shape of papers, the development of handwriting) and transmission (dating of envelopes, travel routes and the speed of postal services). Various exemplary manuscripts, envelopes, sealing marks, motto slips and related materials are included in the illustrations of this volume.

Through the efforts of James Jakob Fehr – who worked as a Scaliger Fellow in the rich collections in the rich collections of Leiden University Library – and the present curator of the library, André Bouwman, these papers have now been analysed and inventorised for the first time. *Legatum Stolpianum* is published as volume 38 in *Codices Manuscripti* (ISSN 0169-8672), a series of manuscript catalogues published on behalf of Leiden University Library. *Legatum Stolpianum* and other volumes in the series (see attachment) can be purchased at Leiden University Library. You can place an order by mail (Universiteitsbibliotheek Leiden, Financial Department, Postbus 9501, 2300 RA Leiden), or on the internet using an e-form (see <http://ub.leidenuniv.nl/gids/index.html>, then choose options 'Publicaties' and 'Codices manuscripti').

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Good news:

A new journal has started publication last year. The title is "Collections. A Journal for Museum and Archives Professionals", and it discusses questions interesting for archives, museums, and libraries. The first issue in August 2004 combined articles on the future of natural history collections with texts on presidential libraries, Peggy Guggenheim as collector, and collecting theories of the Mexican American archives at Texas University. Volume 2 in November has articles on The Willa Cather Collections, The Society of American Taxidermists, and reviews on books by Jean Tétrault (Airborne Pollutants in Museums, Galleries, and Archives) and Lynne S. Sullivan and S. Terry Childs (Curating Archaeological Collections) apart from other texts. "Collections" is published by Altamira Press, Walnut Creek, California.

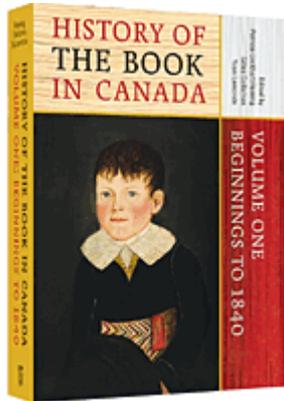
The Special Collections Research Center at Syracuse University Library also published a first issue of its new semiannual news bulletin, the "Courant", available in print and electronic formats. The "Courant" features articles about acquisitions, donations, exhibitions, researcher publications, and more. The journal's predecessor, the "Syracuse University Library Associates Courier", ceased publication following its last issue in 2001. Have a look at <http://libwww.syr.edu/information/spcollections/> for further details.

Bad news:

Bibliographie der Buch- und Bibliotheksgeschichte : BBB / bearb. von Horst Meyer. - Bad Iburg was finished with volume 22/23 (2002/03) in December last year, and will not be published any longer.

Calls for help with an intended publication:

William S. Peterson and Sylvia Holton Peterson are compiling a census on the *Kelmscott Chaucer*; we have got the following note:



This composite narrative of print culture in Canada is imaginative, well researched and scrupulously chronicled. It can be read by both scholars and the educated public alike.

"We are compiling a census of copies of the Kelmscott Chaucer in both public and private collections -- a census that will eventually be published in book form. We are interested primarily in bindings, provenance, bookplates, inscriptions, and exhibition history. While we have been able to locate many copies in libraries with online catalogues, we are concerned about getting in touch with

small museums and libraries throughout the world that lack electronic access; furthermore, in some libraries (even very large ones) the holdings in Special Collections are not yet fully reflected in their online catalogues. We believe that there are also private collectors who will wish to be included in our census.

We are therefore making an appeal to readers of IFLA Rare Books and Manuscripts Newsletter to contact us if they know of a library or museum or private collector that may own a copy of the Kelmscott Chaucer. (We are prepared, incidentally, to conceal the identity of private collectors if they prefer anonymity.)

Thank you very much for any help you can give us.

William S. Peterson and Sylvia Holton Peterson
(Please reply to Sylvia Peterson: swholton2@cs.com)"

The University of Toronto Press has published the first volume of "The History of the Book in Canada". It covers the period from the beginnings to 1840. Two other volumes are still to come.

The book is edited by Patricia Lockhart Fleming, Gilles Gallichan, and Yvan Lamonde, and has 540 pages. ISBN: 0802089437

Publications from Grolier: *North, Michael: Printed catalogues of French book auctions and sales by private treaty 1643 - 1850 in the Library of the Grolier Club / [comp. by Michael North]. - New York: Grolier Club, 2004. - 256 S.: Ill. ISBN 0-910672-50-4*

Documents the earliest and most interesting portion of the Grolier Club's collection of French book auction catalogues.

Bound to be the Best – The Club Bindery/ By Thomas G. Boss. – Boston: Thomas G. Boss Fine Books, 2004. – 140 pp, ill.

Catalogue of the exhibition in September, shows the history of the "Club Bindery" and its followers, The Rowfant Bindery (1909-1913), The Booklover's Shop (1914-1917) and the French Binders (1918-192?).

Web News

Scholarly Electronic publishing bibliography has been updated recently (14-12-2004). It is now in its 56 issue, for details go to <http://info.lib.uh.edu/sepb/sepb.html> or visit BL's homepage.

The Library of Congress's Rare Book & Special Collections Division in January 2005 announced the release of The *Kraus Collection of Sir Francis Drake* on the Library's Global Gateway Web site at: <http://international.loc.gov/intldl/drakehtml/>.

The Kraus Collection comprises materials about Drake's voyages throughout the then Spanish territory of the Americas and consists of 60 items--16 manuscripts, 29 books, 8 maps and views, and 7 medals and portraits ranging in date from 1579 to 1765. Texts are in English, Latin, German, Dutch, Italian, Spanish and French. It has been donated to the Rare Book and Special Collections Division of the Library of Congress in 1980 by the antiquarian booksellers Hans and Hanni Kraus.

The Library of Congress also announced the release of "*Freedom's Fortress: The Library of Congress, 1939-1953*", a new American Memory collection available at http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/collections/freedoms_fortress/
The online presentation on the Library's history consists of 209 items drawn from the Archives and the Manuscript division of the Library.

RBMS Newsletter 41 (Fall 2004) is on the website of RBMS (<http://www.rbms.nd.edu/>) since early December with reports looking back on the 2004 conferences and forward to 2005 pre-conference (Midwinter in Boston in January). The roster of committees and members has been revised in December, too.

The *Analytic Bibliography of On-Line Neo-Latin Titles* by Professor Dana F. Sutton from University of California, Irvine, has been updated recently. At the moment, there are 13,727 records. Go to <http://www.philological.bham.ac.uk/bibliography/index.htm> for details.

New at *Princeton* is an online exhibition of bookbindings. Robert J. Milevski, preservation librarian, wrote in Exlibris list recently: "PRINCETON, N.J. -- A new online exhibition will allow viewers to closely examine historic bookbindings from the Department of Rare Books and Special Collections at Firestone Library. "*Hand Bookbindings From Special Collections in the Princeton University Library: Plain and Simple to Grand and Glorious*" includes more than 200 books. Two major themes are illustrated. First, many of the books offer examples of the elements that make up a book's binding, such as sewing,

endleaves, cover attachment, clasps and tooling. Readers learn not only what these elements are but also see specimens dating from different eras and locales. Second, numerous examples highlight historic national technical styles and "bespoke" bindings for famous collectors, as well as specialty styles such as those with fully silk-embroidered covers.

Examples date from as early as the 12th century and come down to the end of the 20th. The entire show is arranged in virtual cases, represented by 26 thumbnail images on the Web site's opening page.

Clicking on a thumbnail leads the reader to a page showing vivid, colorful images of each book, together with descriptive notes. Another click on an image leads to a full-page enlargement of the binding that can be examined in greater detail, thanks to a digital close-up magnifier. The reader can move the magnifier as well as change the size of the area under magnification. With magnification, details otherwise little noticed, such as a binder's name stamped into the leather or the stitching of silver thread, become visible.

Scott Husby, Firestone Library's chief rare book conservator, organized the show for two reasons. When he came to Princeton in 1997, he was astonished not only by the size of the library's collections, which had been built over two centuries, but also the amazing range of historic bindings from Europe, the Americas, the Middle East and ancient China. Every book posed questions not only about how to restore it but also about its place in the long history of bookbinding. The show records what Husby learned and demonstrates for the first time in many years the extraordinary scope of Princeton's holdings.

The online show follows an exhibition of hand bookbindings that ran in Firestone Library's main gallery from November 2002 through April 2003.

To view the online exhibition, visit

<http://www.princeton.edu/rbsc/exhibitions/online.html> and click on the entry for "Hand Bookbindings from Special Collections."

For further information, contact the Department of Rare Books and Special Collections at (609) 258 3184 or e-mail rbsc@princeton.edu."

Peter D. Verheyen, Bookbinder and Conservator at Syracuse University Library, announced the publication of a new e-journal. It is called *Bonefolder*, and articles will include the following topics: hand bookbinding, teaching, business practice, the history of the book, general tips & tricks, exhibitions, how-to technical articles, and reviews. More information can be found at <http://www.philobiblon.com/bonefolder>.

From the Editors

Buenos Aires! What a warm hospitality and great kindness of our colleagues accompanied the congress in beautiful Argentina. The exchange of ideas, the communication and last, but not least, the evening events took place in wonderful accommodations; all those who came from far away (as most members of our section) enjoyed unforgettable days

under the Southern Cross. And those who have been able to visit the Iguazu Waterfalls have definitely seen one of the most exiting sites on earth.

With pleasure we have heard that our newsletter had been placed second on the list of "Best newsletter" last year. Congratulations to the winner!

This new issue comes out later than expected. We hope that you will enjoy it nonetheless. Please read the minutes to get an idea of what is the ongoing work in our section and please do contribute to our working groups mentioned under "Co-operation".

Thanks to all those who contributed to this newsletter,
all the best,

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