The Global Resources Network & European Connections: Past & Future
by Heather E. Ward, Humanities Librarian, University of Oregon Libraries

The Global Resources Network was created by a joint effort of the Association of American Universities (AAU) and the Association of Research Libraries (ARL) to “expand access to international resources not currently available to North American students and scholars” and make “dispersed collections more interdependent and complementary through coordinated acquisitions that are combined with powerful systems for access, discovery, presentation, and delivery.” (http://www.arl.org/collect/grp/) Its formation in the early 1990s stemmed from the realization that libraries were collecting fewer international materials due to budget constraints in a time of growing interest in global issues. The 1994 report of the AAU Task Force on Acquisition and Distribution of Foreign Language and Area Studies Materials (http://grp.lib.msu.edu/aautfrep.html), proposed three demonstration projects. Latin American, Japanese and German areas were selected because:

- [their] needs for foreign acquisitions have been identified by the ARL Foreign Acquisitions Project and they each have the personnel necessary to implement the program. These areas were also chosen because external funding is strong and because it will be possible to build on current national interests in foreign acquisitions. They will also illustrate how the program will be impacted by differing levels of network capabilities and electronic information.

In 1997, the German demonstration project got under way with a focus on expanding access to catalog records of the Deutsche Bibliothek and to regional government documents. A 1998 Andrew Mellon Foundation grant led to the formation of what is now called the German-North American Resources Partnership (GNARP). WESS members have undoubtedly read of the successes of GNARP, a partnership built upon many years of collaboration by, among others, members of the WESS Germanists’ Discussion Group and their European counterparts. Tom Kilton nicely summed up the history of the project in his paper presented at the 2003 German Resources Project Meeting in Munich, “Years and Events Leading Up to the Formation of the German Resources Project.” (http://www.lib.duke.edu/ias/WESS/ThomasKilton). GNARP focuses primarily on collection development, bibliographic control, document delivery, and digitization.

In 2005, the Global Resources Network, and its four current projects the Cooperative African Newspapers Project, the Digital South Asia Library, the Latin Americanist Research Resources Project, and GNARP, entered into a strategic partnership with the Center for Research Libraries (CRL). Jeffrey Garrett reported on the exciting potential of this new joint venture in his article, “New Wind in GNARP Sails: An Auspicious Beginning at CRL,” in the Spring 2005 issue of Global Resources: A Newsletter of the Global Resources Network (http://www.crl.edu/grn/newsletter.asp), citing not only the benefits of “infrastructural support from an organization with extensive experience working with area studies projects, but also” the vast resources of CRL’s collections themselves.

In March of this year, Yale University hosted an invitational conference for the GRN entitled, “The Global Record: Understanding Its Use and Ensuring Its Future for Scholarship.” Scholars and librarians who study and collect materials from around the world shared first hand stories and discussed the future of the preservation of and access to global resources. In the Spring 2005 issue of Global Resources, Eudora Loh, GRN Director, reported that conferees emphasized the continued “need for collaboration between librarians, archivists, and scholars…to promote standards for producing, (Continued on page 3)
NOW AVAILABLE!

Migrations in Society, Culture, and the Library
Proceedings of the WESS European Conference
Paris, France, March 22, 2004

Tom Kilton
Ceres Birkhead
editors

These papers address the broad theme of migration from a variety of vantage points, representing not only the changing roles of libraries in a world of migration, but also societal adaptations to immigration, ranging from contrasting patterns of assimilation in various European countries to the impact of the works of artists and authors who have migrated to Europe.

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Editors’ note: The online version of this Newsletter is the copy of record. Due to financial constraints, some parts of the printed copy, including the announcement above, have been shortened. For the complete version, visit WESSWeb http://www.dartmouth.edu/~wessweb/nl/index.html.
collecting, archiving, and providing metadata to resources.” She also reiterated the GRN’s goal of expanding access to currently inaccessible international resources. Ann Okerson, Associate University Librarian, Collections & International Programs, Yale University, discussed the vision of a more comprehensive GRN that came out of the conference, citing suggestions that the network “might tackle not specific and regionally defined resources,” but the “structures that will facilitate creation and access” to them. (“The Global Record: Understanding Its Use and Ensuring Its Future for Scholarship,” ARL: A Bimonthly Report, 240, June 2005, 1-6. (http://www.arl.org/newsltr/240/index.html)

Whatever the future holds, the new developments for GRN are of particular interest to WESS members involved in the recently created Collaborative Initiative for French and North-American Libraries (CIFNAL) or Initiative de collaboration entre les bibliothèques françaises et nord-américaines (ICBFN). We are eager to see the launch of a French-focused cooperative project and are currently considering potential models such as that of German North-American Resources Partnership under the auspices of the Global Resources Network.

For the most complete version of the WESS Newsletter, visit WESSWeb at http://www.dartmouth.edu/~wessweb/nl/index.html

Notes from the Chair
Helene Bauman

Dear Colleagues:

There are so many exciting events and projects happening in WESS, I hardly know where to begin. It is heart-warming to see what a creative, active and collaborative bunch WESS librarians are!

Remember our international Conference in Paris last year? Amazingly, ACRL has already published the proceedings, Migrations in Society, Culture, and the Library: Proceedings of the WESS European Conference! (See the announcement on page 2). Tom Kilton and Ceres Birkhead, the editors, deserve a lot of credit for tirelessly pulling and pushing behind the scenes to get all the papers submitted, edited, organized, and a myriad of small and large details answered and solved. All this at dizzying speed, in my humble opinion. The book contains almost all presentations given in Paris, as well as a substantive introduction by Jeffry Larson, the chair of the Paris Planning Committee. A wonderful legacy of an outstanding event! For personal and immediate impressions of the Paris conference, check out Yvonne Boyer’s “Wings to Paris” (http://www.dartmouth.edu/~wessweb/nl/Fall04/wings.html) and Denis Lacroix’s article in the July/August 2004 issue of College and Research Libraries News (vol. 65, No.7, p. 385-386)

Yet another important result of the WESS Conference in Paris is the project first known as the French North-American Resources Project, but now aptly re-named the Collaborative Initiative for French and North-American Libraries (CIFNAL).

In its first year, the ad hoc committee was chaired by Tom Kilton (I think there must be more than one person behind that name… how else could he accomplish so much?!?) who had written the paper suggesting such a partnership (see the Migrations volume mentioned above for his paper). In early spring 2005 the group produced a report which detailed its goals and plans, which were subsequently endorsed and given legitimacy by AAU/ARL’s Global Resources Network (GRN). GRN and its subgroups like the German North-American Resources Partnership have or will soon move administratively to the Center for Research Libraries. CIFNAL has working groups for goals, fundraising, and identifying suitable partners in France. At ALA Annual in Chicago (June 2005) Tom gave over the CIFNAL chairmanship to Sarah Wenzel. For more on GRN and CIFNAL, see Heather Ward’s article in this Newsletter.

Sarah Wenzel (another one of those who seem to be more than one person, given her prodigious output) is currently undergoing a number of transitions. Most importantly, she is moving to a prestigious position at Columbia University, and she will be stepping down as our Newsletter editor. She deserves a big and special Thank You for having ably served in that position from Fall 2002 to Fall 2005. Never a nag, she had this gentle way of reminding contributors of the upcoming deadlines in plenty of time (and then more urgently, but still kindly, as the date approached), managed to find nifty solutions on how to present things in the Newsletter within very short time-frames, learned the necessary desktop publishing software on the fly, etc. etc. Taking over the responsibility for the WESS newsletter is Paul Vermouth, the English Bibliographer for the Social Sciences in Widener Library at Harvard. I wish him a lot of...
pleasure and success with the task, while thanking him for jumping into the considerable breach. What a great way to get your feet wet with WESS!

Another exciting development is the second study tour to Germany: “Leipzig, Dresden, Weimar: Exploring a Library Landscape” in March 2006. It is sponsored by the Goethe Institute New York, the U.S. Diplomatic Mission to Germany (Public Affairs Section) and the Bibliothek & Information International. See the Tour website at http://ucblibraries.colorado.edu/wess/2006_Study_Tour.htm. The tour is anchored by visits to the Leipzig Book Fair and the Bibliothekartag in Dresden, where three participants will have the opportunity to present papers. Thea Lindquist, a member of the first study tour in 2003, which was open to new Germanist librarians, is the Coordinator of the planning committee. Applications, open to all WESS members with professional appointments whose work has a significant German Studies component, were due in September.

Once again this fall, Beau Case will be shepherding a group visiting the Frankfurt Book Fair and staffing the ACRL booth at the International Librarians Centre. ACRL is again providing $500 stipends to enable four lucky ACRL members experience this mega-event. This year John Barnett, Gettysburg College, Virginia Cole, Cornell University, Heather Moulaison, College of New Jersey, and Joy Pile at Middlebury College are the winners. Look for their report early next year.

As you can see from the above sampling, WESS is a vibrant organization. Now don’t you want to get more involved yourself? Contact me at helene.baumann@duke.edu if you would like to do so.

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PERSONAL & INSTITUTIONAL NEWS
COLUMN EDITOR:
Richard D. Hacken

When catastrophic Katrina blew through the Gulf Coast region recently, Rebecca Malek-Wiley, our WESS colleague at Tulane University, was able to evacuate safely to Houston. Our thoughts and hopes and, yes, even prayers, are with her and with the other people of New Orleans and surrounding areas, who have property and lives and careers to salvage. More on this in the Spring Newsletter, no doubt.

The “Hymn to Osiris” tells us that the Egyptian God-Mother Isis was skilled in the use of phrases that packed plentiful power. But what has Isis done lately? As a matter of WESS Newsletter record, ISiS was recently reborn. In June 2004, during the XLIX SALALM Congress at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, a group of subject specialists for Iberia got together and expressed concern regarding the limited representation of the Iberian Peninsula within SALALM and WESS. Since then, Anne Barnhart from the University of California at Santa Barbara and Patricia Figueroa of Brown University have joined efforts and coordinated a series of initiatives to promote peninsular studies in both groups. During this year’s SALALM@50 Congress in Gainesville, Florida, Iberian Studies in SALALM (ISiS) held a pre-conference meeting. In a fruitful gathering (no fertility-goddess pun intended), ISiS came to life, took on her name, and a mission statement (what-do-you-mean-you-don’t-drive?), she decided to stay in this country and attend college. With a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from Rhode Island School of Design, a Master of Science in Library and Information Sciences from Simmons College, and Master of Arts in International Relations from Boston University, she was hired by Brown University Library in 2001. Patricia is very interested in Romance languages and literature, is still puzzled by peanut butter, could not care less about the Patriots or Red Sox, and hates New England winters. She could also do without summers that produce humid beings. She travels often to Madrid, mostly blaming it on her job.

The above-mentioned Patricia Figueroa is a Scholarly Resources Librarian at Brown University Library. She manages the Iberian, Latin American, Latino, Italian, and Gender Studies collections at both the Rockefeller Library for the Humanities and Social Sciences and the John Hay Library for Special Collections. Raised in Madrid, Spain in a French and Peruvian household during the 1970s and 80s, she acquired early on a flair for multiculturalism in a society that had not yet experienced the cultural changes that the burgeoning immigration of the 1990s would later generate. Eager to learn English, she moved to the United States in her early twenties. Once she was able to overcome culture shock, mainly in terms of food and near total lack of public transportation (what-do-you-mean-you-don’t-drive?), she decided to stay in this country and attend college. With a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from Rhode Island School of Design, a Master of Science in Library and Information Sciences from Simmons College, and Master of Arts in International Relations from Boston University, she was hired by Brown University Library in 2001. Patricia is very interested in Romance languages and literature, is still puzzled by peanut butter, could not care less about the Patriots or Red Sox, and hates New England winters. She could also do without summers that produce humid beings. She travels often to Madrid, mostly blaming it on her job.
Anne Barnhart went from small town Wisconsin to Caracas, Venezuela at age 18 as an AFS student, and, says she, “así me nació la conciencia.” She returned to the U.S. with a passion for Hispanic cultures and a critical eye for U.S. foreign policy and interventionism. During her sophomore year at Indiana University, she spent a semester abroad in Seville, Spain. In an “aha!” moment during the proceeding of Holy Week, she got interested in the ethnographic approach to religious studies and ritual. She finished her B.A. with a double major in Spanish Literature and Religious Studies and a certificate in Latin American & Caribbean Studies. She continued at Indiana as a grad student, completing M.A. degrees in Religious Studies and Latin American & Caribbean Studies and working for the librarian for Latin American Studies, Glenn Read. Deservedly sick of school, she went to Chile for nine months, where she helped a friend with research, traveled, read heaps of Chilean literature and learned to knit. Returning from Chile, she was ready to tackle library school at the University of Illinois. During her second year Anne was awarded a grant through FLAS to study Quechua. She also got a labrador retriever puppy and discovered that books on puppy psychology were much more interesting than assigned articles on the info gathering habits of undergraduates. Her first real job was at Lafayette College in Easton, Pennsylvania as a reference/instruction librarian, where she took advantage of the relative proximity to NYC and discovered a passion for cycling. In the fall of 2002 she hopped coasts and started as the Librarian for Latin American & Iberian Studies at the University of California, Santa Barbara. Soon afterwards the library administration noticed that other M.A. of Anne’s and asked her to take on the responsibilities for Religious Studies as well. She now also works with the Chicana/o Studies Department. Anne enjoys taking her dog to the beaches of Santa Barbara. She still likes to cycle but is currently training for a marathon to raise money for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society. Anne regularly attends Latin American Studies Association conferences and is an active member of SALALM, where she currently serves as a member at large on the Executive Board. She has developed upper-level library research methodology courses for both Latin American & Iberian Studies and Religious Studies at UCSB. She indexes for HAPI (since 1999) and regularly publishes reviews in both Choice and Críticas. She began discussing the possibilities of forming ISiS because she sensed that the Iberian Peninsula was not getting the attention it deserved and that she needed more professional support for this area of her work. Her biggest vice continues to be the “passport + credit card = international travel” mentality.

From the “If the Hsu fits...” Department: Martha Hsu is in the process of retiring after almost 38 years as a librarian at Cornell. How can somebody so young have already accumulated 38 years of library service? In her early years at Olin Library’s Reference Department, there were no computers, but plenty of NUC volumes – so over the years, she developed a pretty sure sense of “we must have this,” vs. “it’s possible we don’t have that.” In 1987, when Louis Pitschmann left Cornell, Martha became the Bibliographer for North European Studies. At first, she recalls, there was only one computer terminal for eight bibliographers. Through the years, she has been fortunate to have a variety of opportunities in the library. Besides being responsible for North European Studies (literature and history), she has also selected for psychology, linguistics, general bibliography, and geography. Martha’s final assignment was as Acting Music Librarian while a search was underway to replace Lenore Coral, who died last March. Music has been Martha’s avocation for a lifetime; it was her minor both in undergraduate and graduate school. Living with a musician for 37 years has helped, too! The final year of her career has seen her, you might say, trading Area Studies for Aria Studies and rounding out her career on a “high note.” She and her husband plan to remain in Ithaca during the summer and fall, and spend winters in North Carolina. Meanwhile, Martha’s job is being distributed among five other librarians at Cornell. Her German literature, history and linguistics successor is Kizer Walker, who has a Ph.D. from Cornell in German Studies. Will Sayers will take on Scandinavian and Dutch in addition to his French and Italian responsibilities. Other subjects have scattered to other selectors. It isn’t easy to replace an institution within an institution.

Martha wants to let us know she has enjoyed the contact with and support from all her capable colleagues around the country over the years.

Kizer Walker assumed selection responsibilities for German Studies at Cornell University Library (CUL) in April of this year. In addition to his German area duties, Kizer (pronounced “Kaiser,” but with no connection to Empire building in the Empire State) is now in his third year as bibliographer for classics, archaeology, and ancient Near Eastern studies. He also serves as Coordinator for Collection Development in a newly-merged Department of Collections, Reference, Instruction, and Outreach in Cornell’s humanities/social sciences cluster of libraries. This is a rich mix, as evidenced by the potential acronym RICO: Reference, Instruction, Collections, Outreach. Kizer completed the M.L.S. at Syracuse University in 2001 and was hired by CUL the same year. He holds a Ph.D. in German Studies from Cornell, completed in 1999 under David Bathrick. His dissertation, Weimar

(Continued on page 6)
Wars of Position: The First World War and Discursive Mobilizations on the Left, addresses relations among warfare, memory, language, and political mobilization in a number of texts — literary, theoretical, and polemical — engaged with the First World War in the late Weimar period. Scholarly interests include critical theory, Marxism, German-Jewish studies, history of technology, and media studies. Kizer is particularly interested in the changing role of the research library and library collections in the transnational university and in issues surrounding scholarly communications in the electronic environment. He served on CUL’s 2004 Task Force on Open Access Publishing. In his previous position as Digital Projects Librarian for Cornell’s Engineering, Mathematics, and Physical Sciences Libraries, Kizer was project manager for two major international scholarly communications and digital preservation projects in mathematics for which CUL was a key collaborator, along with SUB Göttingen and Springer Verlag, among others.

Somewhat new to the ranks of WESS is another Cornell librarian, Virginia Cole. Virginia holds an M.A.T. in teaching social studies and a Ph.D. in medieval history from the State University of New York at Binghamton. The course of her research into topics medieval has moved socioeconomically upward from “The Poor in Anglo-Saxon England” to “Ritual, Religion, and the Royal Teenager: The case of Edward II of England.” With regard to the latter, it occurs that teenagers are generally a Royal Pain regardless of social station. Virginia’s official titles are Reference and Digital Services Librarian and Medieval Studies Bibliographer. From her office at Cornell’s humanities and social sciences library, Olin Library, she spends her time happily bouncing between the high tech and the traditional, between collection development, reference, and instruction. Still fairly fresh in the profession of librarianship and the wacky wonders of WESS, she had a great time at ALA Chicago attending her first WESS meetings, sessions, and, of course, the cruise. Virginia felt immediately welcome and comfortable and is looking forward to becoming more involved. Point of semantic trivia: the noun “cornelian” has nothing to do with “Cornell” per se, lacking the requisite second “l,” but is, rather, an element used in jewelry-making. Virginia is just one of a fresh new batch of WESSies who will help to polish our profession into an even brighter jewel.

Dale Askey made his Yale break on July 1. His wife, Yennifer, or rather, Jennifer, had been offered a tenure-track position in the Modern Languages Department at Kansas State University (yes, she’s a Germanist, and no, this Manhattan is not an island). Soon after, the library at KSU offered Dale the position of Web Development Librarian, which means that he is charged with maintaining and developing the library’s entire Web presence. In order not to forget his past librarian lives completely, he plans to adopt a faux German accent to give everything a German flavor. He’ll also strive to design Web pages that exhibit stellar crypto-minimalist design while offering no obviously useful information. (Warning: previous two sentences contain wit, satire, irony, and deeper significance.) He did a comparative search in the catalogs of both KSU and Yale to get a sense of scale: the keywords man and zauberberg net 130 hits in Yale’s Orbis, and 28 at KSU. Given the relative size of the collections, that’s about right. ILL is a beautiful thing, but he will sorely miss Yale’s collection, no two ways about that. Answering the inevitable question: yes, his position at Yale will be preserved, albeit with some changes. In the future, the position will have broader responsibilities for the humanities beyond German languages and literatures — e.g., philosophy and comparative linguistics. But at its core it is still very much a Germanist job, something actively defended by Dale and by some of his colleagues at Yale despite, shall we say, other voices. If anyone has questions about the position or about working at Yale, Dale says he would be more than happy to answer them. His new e-mail address is daskey @ ksu.edu, but since we’re all librarians we already knew that, right? Despite the loss of a European collection portfolio, Dale plans to remain active in WESS, if only out of personal interest for the time being. He will still read German-e and the WESS list and has no intention of letting that part of his brain atrophy.

Frances Allen announces that a rare German book brought home after World War II by a G.I. has made its way back to Germany. The book’s most recent owner, a Kentucky man, contacted Don Heinrich Tolzmann, curator of the University of Cincinnati German-Americana Collection in University Libraries and director of UC’s German-American Studies Program, to effect the voluntary transfer. The book, Die Andächtige Pilgerfahrt (The Devout Pilgrimage), by Vincentius Briemle, was published in Munich (1727-29), consisting of two volumes of travel descriptions of a pilgrimage to the Holy Land in the early 1700s. The owner’s father, a World War II veteran, had left him the book in the family will. Interested in tracing the book’s history, he learned that there had been two private owners of the book in the late 18th and early 19th centuries, but that it was impossible to establish ownership of the book in the war and postwar years. Further research revealed that the Duchess Anna Amalia Library in Weimar had recently lost the same book after suffering a devastating fire. With this generous donation —
delivered this past summer – that German library now has a copy of both volumes back on its shelves again.

Nancy Boerner retired at the end of August from her position as Bibliographer for Classical Studies, French and Italian Language and Literature, Germanic Studies, Comparative Literature, and West European Studies at Indiana University-Bloomington. She had worked in the IU Libraries since 1984, beginning as Library Associate for West European Studies. Extremely active in WESS, Nancy has served terms on the Executive Committee as secretary and as member-at-large. She is an active and ongoing co-editor of Reference Reviews Europe, which appears annually in print and online. Residing on her German-to-English translation résumé are a number of journal articles and book reviews. Also, she has just finished translating a biography of Goethe, which is scheduled for publication this fall by Haus Publishing of London (ISBN: 1904341640). What she modestly fails to mention is that the German original of the biography is by her husband, Peter, longtime member of the Indiana University German Department, and that any questions regarding auctorial intent were able to be resolved over early-morning omelettes and pomegranate juice. She hopes to keep up her translating activities in retirement and perhaps continue to help with RRE, with some travel to Europe next spring also on the agenda. She leaves WESS even more reluctantly than her job. “WESS colleagues are so knowledgeable and cordial,” says she, “and WESS activities substantive but also fun.” Her first advice to her successor will be to join WESS!

Sue Waterman of the Johns Hopkins Library has written an article just published in Representations by the University of California (Berkeley) Press, volume 90, number 1 (Spring 2005), pp. 98-128. The title is “Collecting the Nineteenth Century.” It’s also available online at http://caliber.ucpress.net/loi/rep (Caliber). The article is based on Sue’s Nijhoff Grant research of 2001, originally entitled “Collecting the Nineteenth Century: The Book, the Specimen, the Photograph as Archive.” It involved research in Parisian and Belgian archives to study three generations of a prominent Belgian family of the 19th century, the Selys Longchamps, and their collecting activities in the fields of geology, natural science, photography and books.

Sebastian Hierl began working as Librarian for Germanic Collections at Harvard University in September. Previously he had been Bibliographer for English and Romance Literatures at the University of Chicago. This did not necessarily involve the acquisition of English “romance novels,” but did include French, Italian, Spanish and Portuguese literatures. As part of his responsibilities for English at the University of Chicago, he was responsible for the Harriet Monroe Modern Poetry Collection, where he worked closely with the Special Collections Research Center to acquire the papers of David Ray, Layle Silbert, Paul Carroll, David Shepherd, as well as the records of the poetry magazines VERSE and LVNG. For further information on Sebastian’s highly interesting and multilingual background, training, and work experience in and out of academia, see the earlier WESS article in the “Personal and Institutional News Column” of Fall, 2000.

Just as Sebastian rolled into Cambridge to set up bibliographic shop at Harvard, Sarah Wenzel’s trusty Toyota was rolling out of town, so now MIT will be OHNE (Only Her Notability Endureth). Sarah has accepted the position of Head of Reference Programs at Columbia University in New York (the Manhattan that is on an island).

At Washington University (the one in St. Louis that is so very well stocked with contemporary German literature holdings), Brian Vetruba has expanded his responsibilities. In addition to foreign language (mostly German) cataloging, he has also taken over as subject librarian for Germanic Languages and Literatures, Comparative Literature, and European Studies. Now when the German cataloger wonders why the subject specialist ordered that particular book, it will be a ripe occasion for personal introspection.

On September the First, longtime WESSie Mike Olson began a job at Clark University (in Worcester, Massachusetts) as the library’s head of collections management. “Both the campus and the library are beautiful,” says he, “and the people have already been incredibly kind and generous. I’m really looking forward to this opportunity to make a difference in the Clark community.” As an added bonus, given his geographic location, Mike should be able to help those of us who have trouble pronouncing “Worcestershire Sauce.” Mike’s new e-mail contact is: molson @ clarku.edu. Be certain to use the correct domain name, since “molson” is also the name of a Canadian beer.

For the most complete version of the WESS Newsletter, visit WESSWeb at
http://www.dartmouth.edu/~wessweb/ nl/index.html
The national book fairs in Lisbon, Porto, and Madrid happily coincide over a two-week period in late May and early June, making it possible to visit them all in one transatlantic trip. The Lisbon book fair (http://www.feiradolivrodelisboa.pt/) took place this year from May 25 to June 13; Porto’s (http://www.feiradolivrodoporto.pt/) was from May 25 to June 12; and Madrid’s (http://www.ferialibromadrid.com/) went from May until June 12. Unfortunately, the sponsors do not announce the exact dates much in advance, so international visitors have to book their travel arrangements based on the confidence that the dates will correspond to previous years’ fairs.

The Feiras do Livro in Lisbon and Porto are sponsored by the Associação Portuguesa de Editores e Livreiros (APEL), the União dos Editores Portugueses, and the respective Câmara Municipais of their host cities. Since Portugal no longer has a unified publishers’ trade list nor a national bibliography published in chronological installments, the Lisbon and Porto book fairs loom larger as opportunities for quickly acquiring large quantities of bibliographic information: my main purpose in attending was to obtain publishers’ catalogs.

**Lisbon**

Usually the Lisbon book fair takes place at the southern tip of the inverted pentagon of the centrally located Parque Eduardo VII, but because of construction of a tunnel under the Praça Marquês de Pombal at its southern apex, the fair has been moved up to the park’s northwestern reaches.

The book fair consisted of outdoor stands along the park’s alleys that stretch southeast to northwest; in them were displayed the wares of the some 123 exhibitors: publishers, book stores (more than a third of which were affiliated with publishers), and antiquarian dealers. The stands were brightly painted in different colors, but apparently at random, so that there was no key to the type of stand. At the top of the park was a large red pavilion containing a snack bar and a semi-enclosed amphitheater where concerts and major panel discussions took place. Other panel discussions were held in tents scattered throughout the fair.

While in Lisbon a Portuguese selector also takes the opportunity to meet with export dealers: Richard Ramer, who covers current imprints as well as rare books; Puvill, which has recently opened an office in the western suburb of Lisbon, Carcavelos. In addition, Armin Ruhland, manager of Iberbook Sánchez Cuesta, came from Madrid to Portugal for the book fairs, as ISC also offers Portuguese approval plans, relying on the bibliographic and logistical support of Puvill’s local office. (Puvill recently acquired Iberbook and merged it with Sánchez Cuesta, another Madrid dealer; the Spanish operations of Puvill and ISC are more separate than are the Portuguese.)

**Porto**

The dates of the Porto Feira do Livro are almost identical with those of the fair in Lisbon. Most publishers are represented at both, but some smaller publishers can afford to attend only one—hence the need to sample the offerings in Porto. There the Feira do Livro takes place in a small sports arena, the Pavilhão Rosa Mota, also called the Palácio de Cristal after a building it replaced, a fifteen- or twenty-minute walk from the hotels in the center of the city. The fair spread out from the arena into a big tent on the grounds of a large walled botanical garden, which also contains the Biblioteca Municipal Almeida Garrett (http://www.cm-porto.pt/pagegen.asp?SYS_PAGE_ID=456348), a modern branch of Porto’s public library system. As in the Lisbon fair, the stands are arranged randomly. The fair had 88 exhibitors, of which 7 publishers were not represented in Lisbon. It was thus less crowded than the fair in Lisbon, and it was easier to engage in conversation with the sponsors. In the passageway between the arena and the tent were the stands of the co-sponsors, APEL and the Câmara Municipal de Porto. The Porto CM offered a sheaf of a hand-out, the Bibliografia Portuense, containing many titles available from the municipal library.

In the epicenter of the sports arena, tables and chairs were arranged in front of a stage to form a “café literário” where discussions sessions were held on recent publishing.

Attendees in Porto were asked to register, and my compliance resulted in winning a drawing for which the prize was 50 books donated by APEL (I never saw the list). In view of the likelihood that the titles would prove to be duplicates or out of scope (children’s literature, translations, etc.), I decided to offer them to the Biblioteca Comunitária of a municipal social service agency fetchingly called the Casa das Glicínias (wisteria). My contact at the Porto office of APEL indicated that another drawing winner had also given away the prize books.

While in Porto the diligent selector also takes the occasion to visit the export dealer Sousa e Almeida and the nearby retail Lello bookshop, with its
baroque or rather flamboyant internal architecture.

Since major university presses were not represented at either the Lisbon or Porto fairs, my intrepid companion from Iberbook prospected catalogs from various faculdades of the Universidade de Porto.

Madrid

Madrid’s Feria del Libro is organized by the Asociación de Empresarios de Comercio de Libro de Madrid (Gremio de Libreros) in collaboration with the Asociación de Editores de Madrid and the Federación de Asociaciones Nacionales de Distribuidores de Editores. Held in the centrally located Parque del Retiro, it is well organized and easy to navigate. It is not as ambitious as the other national book fair, Liber, which takes place in the fall, alternating between the capital and Barcelona (see Adán Griego’s article, “Madrid’s LIBER 99” in our Spring 2000 issue, http://library.ucsc.edu/wess/Spring2000/madrid.html).

In the past, major publishers, especially of encyclopedias, would reserve multiple stands spread throughout the fair, which made for much repetition and crowding out of smaller publishers. This year such concentration was avoided, with just over 400 booths, which were conveniently color-coded, according to the different categories of exhibitors: 36 government agencies (which publish more in most countries— and not just statistical reports), 211 private publishers, 45 distributors, 54 general bookstores, and 55 specialized bookstores (numbers may not be entirely accurate, due to overlap of categories for some exhibitors). One group of small publishers collaborated on a hefty joint catalog and adorned their stands with a discrete sign announcing them as part of the “Calle de la Bibliodiversidad”.

The task in the Feria del Libro is not so much one of covering all the stands or the space of Feria, but in lugging away the catalogs that are freely handed out. One quickly picks up more than one can carry. Hotels are not close by, so it is necessary to interrupt one’s prospecting and take the catalogs in a taxi back to one’s room. Fortunately, the Feria’s schedule has a built-in siesta.

The focus of the 2005 Feria del Libro was Catalan literature, and there were several roundtables held in pavilions and tents in the Retiro, in the Casa de América at the Plaza de la Cibeles, and in the FNAC and El Corte Inglés on Gran Via. Despite the remarkable attention paid to Catalonia in the Spanish capital, there was no collective Catalan presence, aside from the off-site panel discussions— neither the Generalitat nor any publishers’ association had a stand at the Retiro to highlight the focus. Instead, there was a polemic in the press about Catalonia’s presence at the 2007 Frankfurt Buchmesse (whether as the Guest of Honor wasn’t specified), concerning whether or not any writers not writing in Catalan would be featured.

The Asociación de Revistas Culturales de España (http://www.arce.es/news/default.jsp) had a booth of its own; aside from the newspapers’ stands it was the only one devoted to periodicals. Unfortunately, ARCE had no copies of its catalog to offer or to sell.

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Cultures Passing Each Other in the Night

In Lisbon, there was a mammoth concert in the former World Expo venue by some American rock star unknown to me. No surprise: I was, of course, more interested in Portuguese fado, to which Richard Ramer proved a thoughtful guide. The visitor or tourist seeking typical features of Portuguese culture while the locals were hurrying to taste foreign wares was a pattern that reproduced itself in the book fairs: one had to cull meticulously through the translations to find the local authors. My overall impression was of cultures rushing past each other, towards the more popular or more “authentic” manifestations of the other’s production.

I would like to thank Armin Ruhland of Iberbook- Sánchez Cuesta for his guidance and assistance in this Iberian expedition. For more details and whimsical digressions, see the online version of this account.

New Publications of Note

Column Editor:

Robert L. Kusmer

Reviewers:

JKL = Jeffry K. Larson
RLK = Robert L. Kusmer

FRENCH


In a revised and expanded edition of a dictionary that first appeared in 1989, the author presents a 20-page history of the comics, and then covers the field in two main alphabetical sections: heroes (with publishing details and illustrations) and creators (bio-bibliographies). Includes an index of newspapers and magazines, a 2-page bibliography, and a 9-page table of copyrights. [JKL]
After a 150-page history of French erotic verse, the editor provides over 900 poems from the 15th to the 20th centuries, arranged by unsystematic categories, and chronologically within each category. Includes glosses, but no glossary, a 30-page bibliography and indices of authors and titles/first lines. [JKL]

GERMAN


The first comprehensive catalog of all extant Old High German and Old Saxon manuscripts held in libraries throughout Europe, organized by place then library. Based on examination, the manuscripts are described codicologically and for their content, while the Glossen are described according to their number and type, time and place, and linguistic geographical identification; a bibliography pertinent to the manuscript and its annotations completes each entry. Vol. 1-5 contain entries for 1,070 manuscripts held in libraries throughout Europe, organized by place then library. The editors have compiled a bibliography of 3,635 entries that documents in the aggregate the influence and representation of classical antiquity in German literature of the 19th and 20th centuries. Coverage, however, ends with 1991. The citations are arranged in four sections: by literary authors, genres, epochs and a general category. Indexes by key words from classical antiquity and by entry authors provide an additional access mode to the bibliography. [RLK]


Superseding the compilations of Ferdinand Mentz in the 19th century and Robert Stupperich in the 20th, this is the first comprehensive bibliography of the influential Reformation figure, covering primary sources through 2004 and secondary through 2002 in a total of 3,314 entries. Primary source citations include a listing of holding libraries. Includes personal name index. A desirable companion to the modern edition of Bucer, Martini Buceri opera omnia, which began in 1960 and is still in progress. [RLK]


Purports to be the first complete bibliography of Derrida. Comprised of two parts: first edition entries together with German and English translations; and an extraction of the German and English translations from the first section. Arrangement is chronological by first edition, with subsequent iterations and translations subsumed under the first appearance citation. Includes lectures and publications. Section 1 is 1954-2004, section 2 is 1972-2004. [RLK]

To read more reviews for German, Iberian, and Italian materials, please visit the WESS Newsletter online.

More reviews—German, Iberian, and Italian— are available in the WESS Newsletter online.

Visit the WESS Newsletter on WESSWeb at http://www.dartmouth.edu/~wessweb/ nl/index.html
The Beta version of The European Library (TEL) Project has been announced in mid March at http://www.europeanlibrary.org/. The new portal of the European Library provides simple and advanced search interfaces and permits browsing of the collections of 43 member libraries at http://portal.theeuropeanlibrary.org/portal/index.htm. Members are all national libraries in Europe, including non-EU members such as Russia, Turkey, and the Ukraine. The site permits access to digital objects (some are restricted) and features a section containing selected “Treasures of the National Libraries of Europe.” In total, the 150 collections include about 11 million records accessible via OAI, SRU and z39.50 protocols. Visitors are encouraged to send feedback to TEL.

Another Pan-European resource located in the Netherlands is Roquade or http://www.databasewomenwriters.nl. The database aims at including bibliographical information for European women writers and links to basic bibliographic references to translations and the critical reception by both male and female contemporaries. The description of the database indicates that it is limited to women writers before the end of the nineteenth century, though it includes authors born in the 19th Century and who have written well into the 20th Century, such as the Italian Noble Prize winner Grazia Deledda, for example. The database also includes select links to other sites containing information on the authors; as well as a list of pre-determined “Reports” or queries on the data, such as “Works read by a given author,” which shows titles read, possessed, or commented upon by the selected author. These reports can be further limited through filters and are presented in printable format. The database provides a wonderful tool to track the writing of European women and their reception; unfortunately, the information contained can be spotty and the scope of the database may render in-depth treatment difficult.

Already well publicized and discussed, one of the major developments in the European library world over the past months is that 19 National Libraries have decided to join forces to provide an alternative and counterbalance the cultural influence of Google. A somewhat dated announcement, “European Libraries Fight Google-ization,” is available at Deutsche Welle at http://www.dw-world.de/dw/article/0,1564,1566717,00.html. Since then, the European Commission unveiled its plan for a European digital library at http://europa.eu.int/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/05/1202&format=html while Google put on hold its effort to scan the world’s literary works: http://news.yahoo.com/news?tmpl=story&u=/afp/20050812/te_afp/usgooglebooks; and has asked European publishers to submit non-English titles to Google Print: http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20050902/ap_on_hi_te/google_books. The plot is sure to thicken by the time this column goes to print…

PCI Full Text has recently added new titles to its list of Western European journals indexed in the database. Among some of the new titles added are Deutsche Zeitschrift für Philosophie, Rivista d’arte, Studi di letteratura francese, Europe, Arbeiten aus Anglistik und Amerikanistik.

The Digital Library Forum at http://www.dl-forum.de/ includes a new “Arbeitsgruppe zu europäischen Angelegenheiten für Bibliotheken, Archive und Museen” at http://www.eubam.de/. EUBAM is geared toward providing German professionals with information on current European initiatives, funding opportunities for digital projects, conferences and continuing education, and the development of best practices and standards. As the German interlocutor to MINVERVA (Ministerial NETwoRk for Valorising Activities in digitisation), EUBAM aims both at including a German voice in the development of European standards and initiatives and at distributing the latter to German information professionals.

Jeffry Larson has recently enriched WessWeb with QWEER, covering LesBiGay resources in Romance language countries in Western Europe. QWEER is divided into Language and Literature resources at http://www.library.yale.edu/wess/qweerlanglit.html and resources in other disciplines at http://www.library.yale.edu/wess/qweeretc.html. Already announced on the WESS listservs, New York Public Library has launched a new Digital Gallery at http://www.nypl.org/press/digitalgallery.cfm. While the focus of the Digital Gallery is on North American resources, it does contain over 2,000 pages of illuminated medieval and renaissance manuscripts, as well as Russian civil war posters—among other European materials.

Via the netbib newsletter we are
(continued from p. 11)

informed of a collection of digital theological texts at the UB Freiburg at http://www.ub.uni-freiburg.de/portale/theol/50/S10/theologen.html. Though the list was first started in 2003 it is regularly updated and has not been mentioned in this column before.


For coverage of French, Italian, Spanish, German, Benelux, Scandinavian, and English resources, visit the WESS Newsletter online. Please continue to submit notifications and/or reviews for inclusion in upcoming Europe by Bits & Bytes columns, and any comments to Sebastian Hierl.

In an announcement describing its Academic Librarians for Tomorrow’s Academic Researchers (ALSTARS) program, which seeks to develop subject specialist librarians, the University of South Florida School of Library and Information Science referred to the shortage of subject and language specialists in the field. The work of the WESS Committee on Recruitment to the Profession as well as scholarship by WESS member Charlene Kellsey were prominently mentioned, together with that of other groups and individuals.

ALSTARS is supported by the Institute of Museum and Library Services and will provide funding for twenty-four full-time LIS students enrolling in Spring 2006 and graduating no later than Fall 2007. Recipients are required to have an advanced subject degree or special language skills, or to be willing to enter into a dual-degree program to earn both an LIS degree and a subject master’s degree. More information about the program may be found at http://www.cas.usf.edu/lis/alstars/grant.html

--reported by Brian Vetruba