



CONSORTIUM *of* EUROPEAN
RESEARCH LIBRARIES

NEWSLETTER

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RLG membership approves move to combine with OCLC

RLG member institutions have approved a proposal to combine operations with OCLC. The organisations became one on 1 July 2006. RLG's online products and services are being integrated with OCLC's, and RLG's program initiatives are being continued as RLG-Programs, a membership-based organisation that operates as a new division of OCLC Programs and Research to support architecture, standards development and best practices. A FAQ that includes information on the combined organisation as well as updates on some specific products and services is at <http://www.oclc.org/news/releases/oclcrlgfaq.htm>. It is updated as information becomes available.

About OCLC



OCLC Online Computer Library Center (founded in 1967, and with its headquarter in Dublin, Ohio) is a non profit organisation that provides computer based cataloguing, reference, resource sharing, eContent and preservation services to 54,000 libraries in 109 countries and territories. OCLC and its member libraries worldwide have created and maintain WorldCat, the world's richest online resource for finding library materials.

RLG and OCLC Combining of Organisations: Hand Press Book (HPB) Database

Since May 2006, when the first announcement of the proposed combination was made, CERL has been in active contact with the two organizations in connexion with the future hosting of the Hand Press Book (HPB) Database. Throughout this process, the Consortium's Directors and Executive Committee have been involved, and Consortium Members have been kept informed of progress. It is hoped that a further announcement will be made in August 2006.

Adding new bibliographic records to the HPB Database

Last year, RLG's server migration to the Sun and IBM open server environment caused delays in the HPB file-loading programme. In order to ensure that outstanding files from 2005 as well as new file loads were loaded, CERL and RLG agreed a co-ordinated plan ensuring that the full complement of file loads will be achieved by 2009.

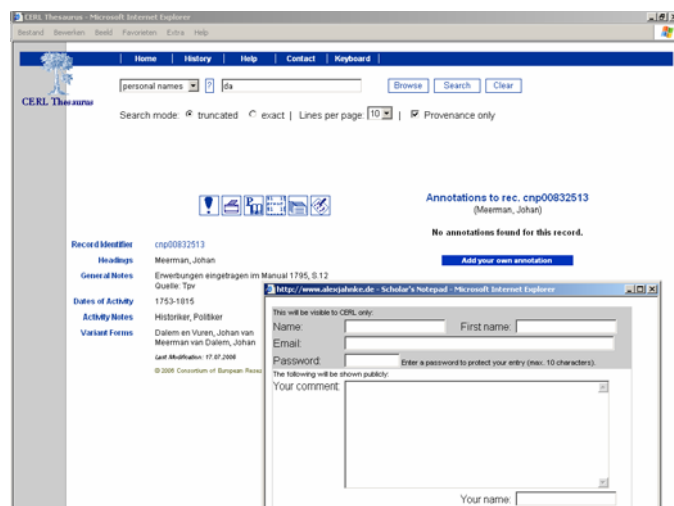
Since the HPB file-loading schedule was agreed, a total of just over 98,700 new records have been added to the HPB Database. These include records from the National Libraries of Hungary, Lithuania, Russia and Wales and the Biblioteca Nacional de España. The National Library of Hungary sent 11,789 records derived from the *Catalogus librorum sedecimo saeculo impressorum, qui in Bibliotheca Nationali Hungariae Széchenyiana asservantur. Editiones non Hungarice et extra Hungariam impressae*, E. Soltész, C. Velenczei and A.W. Salgó (comp.) (Budapest – Szeged: Országos Széchényi Könyvtár / Scriptum Kft., 1990). The National Library of Russia contributed records for atlases, incunabula and documents relating to Peter the Great. The National Library of Wales and the Biblioteca Nacional de España contributed records from their collections, and the National Library of Lithuania sent records covering 18th-century Polish books issued in Lithuania, Hebrew books issued in Lithuania between 1799 and 1830, and Lithuanian books from the period 1547 to 1830.

Records from the Royal Libraries in Denmark and the Netherlands, the Gemeinsamer Verbundkatalog, the Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin, the VD16 (Bayerische Staatsbibliothek, München), Regione Toscana, the Complutense University in Madrid, the Brancacciana collection of the Biblioteca Nazionale in Naples, and the Russian State Library (Moscow) are all in preparation or ready for dispatch.

CERL Thesaurus and Provenance Information



The number of records on the CERL Thesaurus increases steadily. With the addition of the weekly *Personennamendatei* updates, 420 McKerrow records and 1,525 records derived from the *Verzeichnis der im deutschen Sprachraum erschienenen Drucke des 16. Jahrhunderts* (VD16), the CERL Thesaurus now contains a total of 810,782 records for personal names, imprint names, corporate names, imprint places and bibliographical resources. Having completed her work on editing the imprint place records, Mrs Klier has started editing the personal name records. Her work is made less cumbersome by the Data Conversion Group (DCG), who regularly run an automated de-duplication process on the CERL Thesaurus.



From August 2006 the CERL Thesaurus will have a new web interface, offering a number of new features which will expand the potential of the CERL Thesaurus:

- Character encoding in Unicode (UTF-8) makes it possible to store and display all the characters and scripts from the extensive scope of the Unicode character set.
- Users can discuss and amend the content of the CERL Thesaurus by adding annotations to individual records.
- Searches can be limited to records providing access to provenance information in the online catalogues of CERL member libraries.
- The Virtual Keyboard makes it easy to enter search terms in non-Latin scripts.
- Previous searches can be re-examined by using the Search History.

RLIN21 Activity Summary: session statistics with a click

Although institutional access to detailed activity reports is available, RLIN21 users rarely, if ever, see these reports. In response to user feedback, RLG staff had prepared RLIN21 session statistics so users could monitor productivity during a session and, in addition, view the total activity summary when exiting. This has now been implemented. New in RLIN21 is the ability to view the number of records created or updated as well as search activity during a session. A click on the new Activity Summary link (to the right of the search box) will open a separate window, giving users the current session statistics in table format. The display shows activities, including searching (clicking Browse display entries) and exporting (total number of records), and breaks the numbers down by database. In addition, 'X' marks will appear in the CHARGED column to indicate a chargeable activity. For activities across bibliographic and authority files, users will see separate tables, and scrolling may be necessary. It is important to note that the Activity Summary appears *only* when the user clicks on the Exit link. Simply closing the browser window will result in the loss of the session statistics.

Karen Smith-Yoshimura (kss@rlg.org)

CERL web site archived

CERL's web site is now being archived by the UK Web Archiving Consortium <http://www.webarchive.org.uk/> as part of its project to record scholarly, cultural and scientific web sites so they will be available for study in the future. The first archive of the CERL web site was taken on 2 May 2006 (<http://www.webarchive.org.uk/tep/13938.html>). New copies will be added to the archive at periodic intervals.

Digital Resources – Printers' Devices

CERL has undertaken a programme of digitisation of repertoires of printers' and publishers' devices, with the intention of creating links to the individual images from the appropriate entries in the 'Imprint Names' section of the CERL Thesaurus.

The following collection has been digitised and linked to the CERL Thesaurus:

- Ronald B. McKerrow, *Printers' & Publishers' Devices in England & Scotland 1485-1640* (London, 1913) – http://www.kb.dk/elib/bhs/mckerrow_files/index.htm and *CERL Newsletter* 9 (June 2004).

Work on the following collection is in progress:

- Philippe Renouard, *Les marques typographiques parisiennes des 15e et 16e siècles* (Paris, 1926).


The CERL Thesaurus also links to printers' devices made available through:

- EDIT 16: *Censimento delle edizioni italiane del XVI secolo*
<http://www.edit16.iccu.sbn.it>.

The following publication is currently under consideration

- H. L. Baudrier, *Bibliographie lyonnaise: recherches sur les imprimeurs, libraires, relieurs et fondeurs de lettres de Lyon au XVIe siècle* (1895–1952)

Imprint Name	Standard Forms
Hertford, John	
Found in: [McKerrow]	
Dates of Activity 1534-1539	
Activities Printer	
Places of Activity St. Albans	
Sign / Arms / Mark / Device "A device with the initials R. S. and the motto, Dominus d dominus abstulit sicut domino placuit ita factum est. (a) With the initials R. S. Probably passed to Nicholas Bourman in 1539. (b) The initials R. S. cut out and N. B. inserted in type." [McKerrow Device No. 84]	
Online Resources	
McKerrow	(note: Display an image of device no. 84 (84a))
McKerrow	(note: Display an image of device no. 84 (84b))
McKerrow	(note: Click here to see the original description of device no. 84)
McKerrow	(note: Click here to display McKerrow's remark on the transfer of this printer's devices)



Printing in England: the first 25 years

Launch of volume XI of the *Catalogue of Books Printed in the XVth Century Now in the British Library* (BMC)

The British Library announces the forthcoming publication (by Hes & De Graaf Publishers of the Netherlands) of the latest volume, describing the output of the first English printing-houses, in a series of catalogues of the Library's incunabula that began in 1908. The catalogue was compiled by Dr Lotte Hellinga who until her retirement worked at the British Library and was CERL Secretary from its inception until July 2002; it also contains contributions from Paul Needham, Margaret Nickson and John Goldfinch. Full descriptions of the Library's collection of English incunabula are complemented by an extensive Introduction describing in detail the arrival of printing in England and its early development, with sections on the printers, their technique, the texts and their readers, typography, paper, early owners and the development of the Library's collection.

On Monday 11 December 2006 the British Library will hold a conference to celebrate the new catalogue. The conference will aim to define the ways in which the new catalogue can be used as a starting block for new explorations into the history of printing in England, and speakers will include Maureen Bell, Julia Boffey, Cristina Dondi, A.S.G. Edwards, Mary Erler, Margaret Ford, William Kuskin, James Mosley, Paul Needham, David Pearson and Susan Powell.

Participation is free, but registration is required. To register please contact Teresa Harrington, British and Early Printed Collections, The British Library, 96 Euston Road, London NW1 2DB, United Kingdom (+44 (0)20 7412 7785 or teresa.harrington@bl.uk). For further information, please contact John Goldfinch, john.goldfinch@bl.uk.

Annual conference of the Arbeitskreis Einbandforschung (AEB)

Conference to be held at the Bayerische Staatsbibliothek, München, 19-20 October 2006

The programme and registration details (deadline 31 July 2006) may be found on <http://aeb.sbb.spk-berlin.de/programm.html>. The conference will be accompanied by an exhibition: Bindings from 1000 years from the collections of the Bayerische Staatsbibliothek. A catalogue is in preparation.

CERL Manuscripts Portal

<http://cerl.epc.uu.se/portal/>

After the AGM (in November 2005) agreed to continue the work on the CERL Manuscripts Portal (CMP) developed by the Electronic Publishing Centre of Uppsala University Library (EPC), effort has been put into finding new databases to add, improving functionality and adding help functionality. At the time of writing, work is being done on implementing context-sensitive help and a multilingual interface. Help screens will be provided on three levels: pop-up boxes with very short explanatory remarks about search options; in some cases further information, to be reached by clicking on a pop-up box or on the clickable field names in the search screen; and finally, general help on formulating a query (syntax, truncation, the use of Boolean operators etc.).

Relatively easy to implement, the multilingual interface will be an important feature of the CMP, stressing the international scope of the Portal. At this time, the main interface is available in English, Swedish, French and Dutch. In the coming months, the help texts will also be translated into these languages.

Page d'accueil du CERL : CERL Portail des manuscrits : Recherche experte

CERL Portail des manuscrits

This portal is under construction and will offer an increasing number of databases.

Recherche experte

Bases de données: Manuscriptorium, National Library of the Czech Republic, National Library of Australia, Waller Collection, Uppsala University

Tous les mots:

Titre:

Personne: Th

Lieu: Th

Langue:

Sujet:

Année:

Cote:

Type:

Recherche exacte:

Trier par:

Afficher:

résultats par page R

CERL-handscrida : CERL-handskriftsportal : Avancerad sökning

CERL handskriftsportal

This portal is under construction and will offer an increasing number of databases.

Avancerad sökning

Databaser: Manuscriptorium, National Library of the Czech Republic, National Library of Australia, Waller Collection, Uppsala University

Alla ord:

Titel:

Person: CE

Plats: CE

Språk:

Ämne:

År:

Hyllsignum:

Typ:

Exakt sökning:

Sortera:

Visa: per sida Sök Åt

Adding more databases

At this time, the CMP offers access to manuscripts collections in Sweden, Czech Republic and Australia. 10,000 records from the National Library of Scotland will become available shortly, and the National Library of Portugal has also expressed an interest in making manuscripts records held in its National Digital Library available through the CMP. In the meantime, the possibility of participating in the CMP is being discussed with libraries in the United States, the United Kingdom and the Netherlands.

Advisory Board takes over from the Manuscripts Working Group

Since November 2001 the CERL Manuscripts Working Group has played an important role in the development of the CMP. It undertook preliminary research, advised CERL during the development of the pilot and assisted in testing the pilot. With the finalisation of the project, the Working Group was dissolved. CERL wishes to express its gratitude to the members who have contributed their time and effort to the work of the Manuscripts Working Group. Its work will be continued by a smaller Advisory Board chaired by Mr Ivan Boserup, Head of Manuscripts of Det Kongelige Bibliotek Copenhagen. It will monitor the further development of the CMP and will help promote the portal in the appropriate circles.

Cross searching Manuscripts and Early Printed Material

From the start, CERL has stressed the importance of implementing simultaneous searching of both manuscripts and early printed materials (brought together in the HPB Database) through the CMP. The HPB does not currently support OAI, and is only Z39.50 compliant. Therefore, in order to offer this functionality, the portal must be extended to include a Z39.50 facility. EPC, Uppsala, has been asked to develop such a portal, and the result of this development will be demonstrated at the AGM in November 2006. At a later date, EPC may also investigate the inclusion of the SRU protocol in the CMP. In the development phase, the CMP and the databases it provides access to, will be freely available. It is envisaged that only a limited display of the HPB records will be offered. To see the full records users will be referred to the HPB itself, for which CERL membership is required. At a later stage an authorisation and authentication tool will be developed, allowing the system to differentiate between CERL members and non-members and to offer a level of service accordingly.

User evaluations of the Hand Press Book Database

Dr G. Möncke of the Bayerische Staatsbibliothek helped Dr H. Claus (Gotha) in his work on preparing a Melanchthon bibliography of all pre-1561 editions. She concentrated on collating a list of editions printed outside Germany. In her work she found the EDIT16 database exhaustive, but only for items currently held in Italian libraries. She has also used COPAC, which was useful for imprints currently in the United Kingdom, and the Karlsruher Virtueller Katalog and the ABES database which proved useful for items currently held in France. However, in her investigations she found that the Hand Press Book Database was more convenient to use, particularly because of the extensive possibilities for combining search terms, including the imprint year. She added: 'The fact that HPB records can easily be printed, and that both holding library and shelfmark are automatically included in the information eased my task substantially'. She was very pleased to find so many results from Yale University Library, and wished that more American libraries with large collections of early printed material (e.g. the Humanities Research Center, Austin, Texas or the University of Illinois in Urbana) would include their holdings in the HPB.

Recently, the Centre for Publishing Studies at the University of Stirling (Scotland) joined the Consortium a CERL Special Member. The Centre was set up in 1982 to teach the M.Phil in Publishing Studies and to carry out research into the publishing process. A central element is the examination of continuities in publishing practice between the past and the present. In January 2006, the Centre launched a project *Imaging Orientalism*, which aims to create a systematically researched virtual archive of western printed images of the Ottoman domain. It is hoped that by bringing together images from within a text, and by offering standardised descriptions that are useful to the scholar, researchers will be given the opportunity to make comparative judgments of a much wider range of material than ever before. After a period of trial access to the HPB, the project team concluded that it would be a key resource. The Director of the Centre, Dr Wheatcroft, commented that 'the HPB enables us to identify variants in major institutions, and makes possible a well structured programme of research. We can, by using the HPB, map availability of editions/variants relatively efficiently and make the best of our research time.' He suggested that the project might make a contribution to the future developments of the HPB, in terms of developing solutions to a number of problems relating to the identification and comparative analysis of images in books.



*Woodcut depicting the Turkish Ambassador, sent to Vienna in 1537, brandishing his offer of truce. Attributed to Erhard Schoen
© Imaging Orientalism*

The Biblioteca Comunale Passerini-Landi in Piacenza occasionally organises exhibitions that focus on subjects closely connected to the library's holdings. The most recent exhibitions concentrated on Anatomy and on the study of Perspective; an exhibition on Botany is currently being prepared. When preparing such an exhibition, Massimo Baucia, the curator of the Rare Books Department, finds that the comparison of the copies owned by Passerini-Landi with those located elsewhere is very important for establishing the completeness of the iconographical elements, the physical structure of the volume and of other copy specific features. The HPB proves to be very useful for this purpose. He said: 'While the HPB is searched along with other on-line resources such as the Karlsruher Virtueller Katalog and other national OPACs to provide lists of multiple copies, I find that the HPB supports accurate searching through the possibility of narrowing searches by date and date range limit; the CERL Thesaurus is greatly appreciated for the articulated view of variant forms of the names of authors, printers, printing places, not only in the Assisted Search option but also as a scientific resource to broaden searches in this and other databases.' In addition, he finds the CERL Thesaurus very useful for discovering bibliographic sources, particularly those printed abroad, with an easy and varied access to professional literature and a quick find of the relevant source for a given search. Library staff working in the Reference Service use the HPB Database on a regular basis, as well.

The Centre for the Study of the Book at the Bodleian Library

The Bodleian Library has been an institution devoted to the study of the book as a physical object and cultural and intellectual phenomenon since the 17th century. In 2006, this tradition of scholarly engagement is being reinforced by the establishment of a Centre for the Study of the Book in the Library designed to enable scholars and staff of the library to engage in collaborative projects and activities designed to increase our knowledge and understanding of the book.

The Bodleian Library has established a strong track record in this area in undertaking research and making the results of that research available to the wider



Bodleian Library
UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

community of scholars. Thomas James, the first Librarian, established the trend in 1605 in publishing the Bodleian's first catalogue, but by the end of the same century new collaborative projects, involving scholars in the University and the Library working together with a network of scholars around the country, were established. Chief among these was the first national catalogue of manuscripts, a project spearheaded by Edward Bernard, the Savilian Professor of Astronomy, but based on original research undertaken by Humfrey Wanley, at the time a member of the Library's staff. The results were published as *Catalogi librorum manuscriptorum Angliae et Hiberniae in unum collecti cum indice alphabetico.*, (Oxoniae: E Theatro Sheldoniano ..., 1697) a work that has never really been superseded. The subsequent centuries have seen a variety of these projects based in the Library help to move our knowledge of the book and its role in shaping modern society forward.

The Bodleian Library's latest initiative is a conscious attempt to build on this tradition. The most recent example of collaborative working of this kind has been the Bodleian's Catalogue of Books printed in the 15th century in the Bodleian Library, Oxford which was published in six volumes by Oxford University Press in 2005. This catalogue, which describes in great scholarly detail some 7,000 of the earliest printed books in the West was a collaborative effort between an international network of scholars and the Bodleian Library's own specialist curators working in the Department of Special Collections.

The Centre for the Study of the Book will provide the resources and organisational focus for creating more projects and collaborative ventures like the catalogue of 15th century books, and has been made possible through the generosity of a number of individuals, most notably George Mallinkrodt. Initial projects will be focussed around three main areas: cataloguing, conservation and digitization, but the approach will be to incorporate scholarly research into each activity. The Centre has already received funding to catalogue its collections of western medieval manuscripts, and will be working on a major project to describe the medieval psalters in the collections, and a colloquium on psalters is planned for Spring 2007. A large project to catalogue 16th century printed books is being scoped, and other projects are also being planned.

A small network of libraries have agreed to be associated with the Bodleian's initiative, including the Bayerische Staatsbibliothek, Leiden University Library, and the British Library in London, and a launch conference will be held in Oxford in the autumn of 2007.

Further information is available from Richard Ovenden, Keeper of Special Collections and Western Manuscripts, Bodleian Library, Oxford, OX1 3BG. Email: richard.ovenden@ouls.ox.ac.uk.

Richard Ovenden, Oxford

Controlled vocabularies for rare books cataloguing

[http://library.osu.edu/sites/users/russell.363/RBMS Thesauri/index.htm](http://library.osu.edu/sites/users/russell.363/RBMS%20Thesauri/index.htm)

The Bibliographic Standards Committee of the Rare Books and Manuscripts Section (ALA/ACRL) announced the availability of electronic versions of their controlled vocabularies for use in rare books and special collections cataloguing. The new interface provides both standard and hierarchical views of all terms found in the six print volumes, (Binding Terms, Genre Terms, Paper Terms, Printing & Publishing Evidence, and Type Evidence) as well as changes and additions. Relator terms for use in special collections cataloguing are also available.

Stolen items

<http://www.tsl.state.tx.us/arc/markings.html>

The Texas State Library and Archives Commission (TSLAC) has created a website outlining evidence of ownership markings for its collections. It shows images of its seal, ways thieves have attempted to remove the seal, and typical methods of numbering and labelling documents. This site demonstrates the ongoing efforts of libraries to help people identify materials that are of suspect or dubious provenance. An announcement posted by Everett Wilkie, on the ExLibris list (29 May 2006), drew attention to this Texas site, and noted that a list of similar sites may be found at the RBMS web site under the Security Committee page at <http://www.rbms.info>.

Imprints and owners: Recording the Cultural Geography of Europe

CERL Seminar 2006

CERL's annual seminar will take place on 10 November 2006, at the National Széchényi Library, Budapest, and its theme is 'Imprints and owners: Recording the cultural geography of Europe'. Speakers include:

- Mr Ádám Hegyi (University of Szeged), MOKKA-R (Hungarian Shared Cataloguing – early printed books).
- Dr István Monok (National Széchényi Library, Budapest), The Union Catalogue of Rare Book Collections in the Carpathian-Basin :Shared Cataloguing and the use of provenance data.
- Dr Marianne Rozsondai and Dr Béla Rozsondai (Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Budapest), Cataloguing rare books in the Library of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences - problems of incunabula and copy-specific data.
- Mrs Gunilla Jonsson (Kungliga Biblioteket, Stockholm) and Mr Tony Curwen (Aberystwyth), Provenance and the Itinerary of the Book: recording provenance data in on-line catalogues.
- Dr Alexander Jahnke (Data Conversion Group, SUB Göttingen), Accessing the record of European printed heritage: the CERL Thesaurus as an international repository of names from the hand-press era.
- Dr Kristian Jensen (British Library), Crossing the continent, crossing disciplines: Old books in new libraries.

If you would like to attend the Seminar, please inform the CERL Secretariat at 40 Bowling Green Lane, London EC1R 0NE, Secretariat@cerl.org or fax +44 (0)20 7970 5643. There is no charge for attending the Seminar. CERL intends to publish the papers from this Seminar as CERL Papers VII.

Process for Election of Chairman in November 2006

Dr Ann Matheson, CERL Chairman, will complete her second term of office at the 2006 Annual General Meeting. A Search Committee, established by the Directors and the Executive Committee, has drawn up a job description and profile for a new Chairman. These were sent out to all members, together with an invitation to send suggestions of names. The Search Committee is to put forward a nomination to the Executive Committee and Directors in September 2006 This nomination will be circulated to all CERL members in October 2006 when members may also, if they wish, put forward nominations. The new Chairman will be elected at the 2006 Annual General Meeting in Budapest in November 2006.

Promotion of CERL

Presentations in 2006

- June 2006 – seminar in Lyon
- July 2006 – SHARP conference, The Hague
- November 2006 – CERL Seminar, Budapest



SHARP 2006