

## Adding new bibliographic records to the HPB Database

Work on various data contributions is in progress. In the previous months, records from the Regione Toscana, the National Library of Russia, the University Library in Tallinn, and the Royal Library in Stockholm, as well as records for the Mendham Collection in Canterbury were all added to the Heritage of the Printed Book Database (HPB). With these file loads, a total of 50,000 new records was added.

An SBN(A) update, which will bring more than 555,000 new records to the HPB, has been dispatched to OCLC, who are now preparing the records for loading. They are also working on records for Polish microfilm material, an update from Yale, and further records from the Royal Library in The Hague., which will bring another 630,500 records to the HPB. At the time of the Annual General Meeting in November, we should be able to celebrate a total of just over 3.5 million records.

The Data Conversion Group in Göttingen are eagerly anticipating their analysis of large contributions from the Bibliothèque nationale de France, the Bibliothèque municipale de Lyon, the Gemeinsamer Bibliotheksverbund, the National Library in Warsaw, and the Bayerische Staatsbibliothek, which are all scheduled to start after the summer. The Royal Library in Brussels and the Biblioteca Nacional in Spain have also offered sizeable contributions which will be welcome additions to the HPB.

## CERL Portal: Manuscripts and Early Printed Material

<http://cerl.epc.ub.uu.se/sportal/>

CERL is pleased to announce the full inclusion of the Censimento di manoscritti delle biblioteche italiane (MANUS - <http://manus.iccu.sbn.it/>) in the CERL Portal, as well as datasets from the University Library in Gent and the Bayerische Staatsbibliothek in München. The CERL Portal provides deep linking for many of the datasets, allowing users access to detailed records and comprehensive digital material. The Europeana Regia Project has offered to contribute its materials to the CERL Portal, and it is currently being investigated whether the CERL Portal could offer a view on the 9 MALVINE files (<http://www.malvine.org/>).

The interface for the CERL Portal was refreshed, and now distinguishes between databases for medieval manuscripts, databases that concentrate on modern materials, and those with a combination of materials.

<input type="checkbox"/> Manuscripts			<input type="checkbox"/> Early printed material
<input type="checkbox"/> Manuscripts (all periods)	<input type="checkbox"/> Medieval manuscripts only	<input type="checkbox"/> Modern manuscripts only	Union catalogues & national libraries
<input type="checkbox"/> National Library of Portugal ⓘ	<input type="checkbox"/> Digital Scriptorium, Columbia UL, USA ⓘ	<input type="checkbox"/> National Library of Australia ⓘ	<input type="checkbox"/> Manuscriptorium (prints), Czech Rp. ⓘ
<input type="checkbox"/> Italian Libraries (Manus/CCU) ⓘ	<input type="checkbox"/> Manuscriptorium (mss.), Czech Rp. ⓘ	<input type="checkbox"/> Waller Collection, Uppsala UL, Sweden ⓘ	<input type="checkbox"/> * VD17 (Germany) ⓘ
<input type="checkbox"/> Ghent UL, Belgium (Test) ⓘ	<input type="checkbox"/> Mediaeval latin mss. in Lund UL, Sweden ⓘ	<input type="checkbox"/> Ediffah, Sweden ⓘ	<input type="checkbox"/> * English Short Title Catalogue ⓘ
<input type="checkbox"/> * Royal Library, Denmark ⓘ	<input type="checkbox"/> Medieval Manuscripts in Dutch Collections ⓘ	<input type="checkbox"/> * Kalliope, Germany ⓘ	<input type="checkbox"/> * EROMM ⓘ
<input type="checkbox"/> * GVK, Germany ⓘ		<input type="checkbox"/> * DLA, Germany (Test) ⓘ	<input type="checkbox"/> * Heritage of the Printed Book ⓘ
<input type="checkbox"/> * National Library of Scotland ⓘ			<input type="checkbox"/> * CCPB, Spanish Union Catalogue ⓘ

## CERL Thesaurus

<http://cerl.sub.uni-goettingen.de/ct/>



At the end of March 2010, the CERL Thesaurus contained 730,917 records. The average search count in March-May 2010 was 11,372 (2008/2009: 10,425; 2007/2008: 9,857; 2006/2007: 6,465), and the top three countries in terms of search activity continued to be Hungary, Italy and Germany. Further statistics are available from [http://www.cerl.org/web/intern/atg/cerl\\_thesaurus/webstat](http://www.cerl.org/web/intern/atg/cerl_thesaurus/webstat).

On 1 June 2010, a new web interface for the CERL Thesaurus was launched. It follows a new search approach by searching several segments of the database simultaneously and grouping the search results according to the types of records they represent.

The record's full display has a new layout where information which in the old interface had to be retrieved in separate windows (e.g. related records, provenance information, and annotations) is now visible at first glance. A higher visibility of this information should lead to a better use of these hitherto under-used functions of the CERL Thesaurus. The new modular structure of the CERL Thesaurus web interface allows for the easy integration of additional functionality, which, over time, should allow the CERL Thesaurus to evolve into the planned CERL Research Portal for Book History.

The screenshot shows the CERL Thesaurus web interface. At the top, there is a header for the Consortium of European Research Libraries with a tree logo. Below the header, the title 'CERL Thesaurus' is displayed with the tagline 'accessing the record of Europe's printed heritage'. The main content area shows search results for 'Berlin', including a 'Toolbox' with various search and display options, a 'Your Clipboard' section, a 'Map' showing the location of Berlin, and a list of 'Annotations' and '264 related records'.

## Joint LIBER CERL Working Group for Heritage Collections

The Steering Committee for Heritage Collections and Preservation organised a session 'Building a community in European libraries for heritage collections and preservation' at the LIBER Annual General Assembly in Århus, Denmark. The session brought together members of SC working groups and other stakeholders in the topics attending the LIBER conference to set out the priorities and plans of the SC and its groups for 2010, to get feedback on plans for 2011-2012, and to involve LIBER members actively in shaping discussion and debate. The Steering Committee is now drawing up its Work Plan for 2011-2012, which will be published this autumn.

## Europeana Libraries (a CIP Objective 2.2 proposal)

CERL participated in a bid which LIBER submitted in partnership with Europeana and LIBER partner libraries for the construction of a pan-European library aggregator for European research libraries. The proposal has been invited to the negotiating stage. CERL will be involved in Work Packages that concentrate on:

- Modelling the library landscape in Europe in order to recommend a sustainable, domain-wide framework for aggregating library content into Europeana, building on the mechanisms and apparatus developed in the Europeana Libraries project, in an efficient, scalable and cost-effective way.
- Coordination of all the Europeana Libraries aggregation activity.
- Building on the existing business processes currently available in The European Library aggregation infrastructure to extend it to enable aggregation of digital content of all libraries in Europe for Europeana. The outcome of this process will be a set of functional requirements for the library-domain aggregation infrastructure. CERL will also be involved in validating the library-domain aggregation infrastructure.
- Aligning national library metadata with the Europeana Data Model. CERL wishes to ensure that the metadata recorded for the contributions to The European Library (and thereby to Europeana) is favourable to the CERL strategic aim of providing integrated access to a great variety of resources.
- CERL will play in a part in the work packages on dissemination and the drawing up of business models.

## Provenance Working Group

<http://www.cerl.org/web/en/resources/provenance/main>

Following a discussion with the ATG on encoding provenance information and mapping that information from UNIMARC to MARC 21, OCLC staff have worked with the Library of Congress Network Development and MARC Standards Office to develop a proposal to add \$u to MARC 21 field 561 (<http://www.loc.gov/marc/marbi/2010/2010-09.html>). This proposal was accepted. In addition, discussions have started about how to best represent UNIMARC field 621 in MARC21.

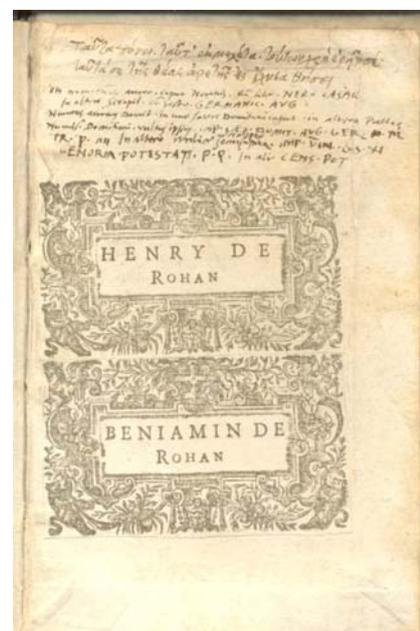
The Can-you-help?-pages remain very popular (20 queries in June/July alone), and we continue to refine the new look and functionality of the pages. Recently, the introductory text for the pages was updated; the title of the solved queries was modified to also display the identification; and the access to the page was moved to the left-hand menu on the CERL Home page.

## Provenance research in Leiden

### Towards a project proposal

According to Giles Mandelbrote, co-editor of *Libraries Within the Library: The Origins of the British Library's Printed Collections* 'Provenance research is one of the main growth areas in the history of the book, shedding light on how books were used and regarded in the past.' Certainly in the Netherlands this field of research is comparatively speaking a new kind of research.

Prof. dr. Paul Hoftijzer (Department of Book and Digital Media Studies, Leiden University) and Kasper van Ommen MA (Scaliger Institute, Leiden University Library) are preparing an application for a grant at the NWO (Dutch Scientific Organization) for a project on Provenance research. In this project, focusing on book bindings, provenance, annotations and other physical aspects of the book, co-operation with several partners in Europe is projected. Partners will include The Bodleian Library in Oxford, The Bayerische Staatsbibliothek in München, Uppsala University in Sweden (see their provenance and bookbinding database ProBok <http://www.ub.uu.se/sv/Aktuellt/Projekt/Pagaende-projekt/ProBok/>) and Szeged University Library in Hungary. Other partners in the project are CERL and BookNet, a Network for the Technological Study of the Book and Manuscript as Artefact (<http://booknet.wikispaces.com/>).



One of the main concerns of the project will be building a database and a digital infrastructure for collecting data on provenance in a system, with field descriptions that is universal.

Moreover adding small pictures to the descriptions will enhance the use of the database for users all over the world. CERL's database on provenance (<http://www.cerl.org/web/en/resources/provenance/main>) could possibly play an important role in this development. Clues and information on earlier owners of particular copies are waiting to be found in the books themselves, if you know where to look. This project aims to unlock this information for a wider audience. The project will include several smaller projects, of which one will focus on the Humanist book culture in Leiden. It should also include several PhD and post-doc projects.

On 19 November 2010 a kick-off conference is being organized in Leiden University library on the subject. Speakers include David Pearson (Guildhall Library and author of *The Book as History*), Bettina Wagner (Bayerische Staatsbibliothek), Per Cullhed (Uppsala) and Cristina Dondi (CERL/Oxford).

Kasper van Ommen ([k.van\\_ommen@library.leidenuniv.nl](mailto:k.van_ommen@library.leidenuniv.nl))

## Circulation of Knowledge and Learned Practices in the 17th-century Dutch Republic

### A Web-based Humanities' Collaboratory on Correspondences

The 17th-century scientific revolution was driven by numerous discoveries made in laboratories, at sea, in observatories, in society and in libraries. The resulting increase in information formed the basis of new views, knowledge, and theories. The Dutch Republic played a key part in this 'information society' *avant la lettre*. Its worldwide trade network, its wealth, and its tolerance (when compared with other nations) made the republic a safe haven for intellectuals from all parts of Europe.

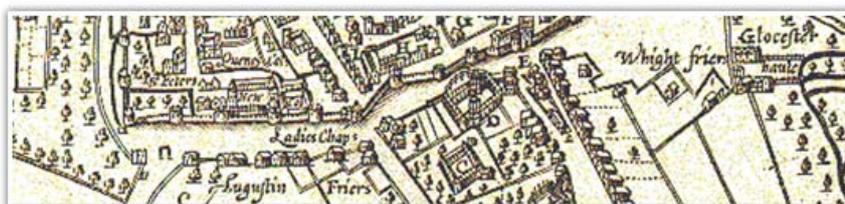
All this makes one wonder how the 17th-century scholarly information network functioned. How were new elements of knowledge picked up, processed, disseminated and – ultimately – accepted in the wider circle of the educated community? In short: how did knowledge spread? The Republic in the 17th century is the ideal backdrop, and the correspondence between its scholars the ideal research material, to attempt to answer this question. Especially since, until the publication of the first scholarly journals in the 1760s, letters were the most important and direct means of communication between intellectuals.

In order to answer the research question, large quantities of correspondence will need to be analysed systematically. For this reason a consortium of research institutions, universities, and heritage organisations decided to build a 'collaboratory' capable of analysing a growing, machine-readable corpus, initially consisting of c. 20,000 letters by scholars living and working in the 17th century Dutch Republic. The IT tools will be developed, built and implemented by the Huygens Institute in The Hague. CERL is collaborating with the project: it contributes data held in the CERL Thesaurus that is relevant for the project, and it is being investigated whether we can link from the CERL Thesaurus directly to information about scholars held by the project. The project runs until October 2012.

### Cultures of Knowledge

<http://www.history.ox.ac.uk/cofk/>

Based at the University of Oxford's Humanities' Division, and funded by a research grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, Cultures of Knowledge is an interdisciplinary group of



scholars working with partners in Britain and abroad to reconstruct the correspondence networks central to the revolutionary intellectual developments of the seventeenth century. The Project consists of four main strands.

- One group works to catalogue, edit, and preserve the rich archives of correspondence deposited in the Bodleian Library by leading Oxford men of science in the seventeenth century.
- Another group is collaborating with partner institutions in Sheffield, Prague, Cracow, and Budapest to catalogue, link, and explore letter collections internationally.
- A third group, based in Bodleian Libraries, is developing digital systems capable of organising these resources into an online catalogue and archive of intellectual correspondence.
- Finally, an international series of academic meetings will forge new intellectual frameworks and create a scholarly community coextensive with the seventeenth-century networks under study.

The ultimate objective of Cultures of Knowledge is to use the intellectual networks of the seventeenth century as a means of interconnecting international, interdisciplinary research in the broad and still poorly mapped-out field of seventeenth-century intellectual history.

The project's first of three annual conferences will take place at St Anne's College, University of Oxford, 21-23 September 2010, and its theme is 'Universal Reformation: Intellectual Networks in Central and Western Europe: 1560-1670'. Registration closes Friday 10 September 2010.

## Reconnecting the Forster legacy

### The virtual construction – and reconstruction – of a key Enlightenment collection

Johann Reinhold Forster (1729-1798) and his son Georg (George) Forster (1754-1794) are major figures in the European Enlightenment, their reputation being largely based on their participation as scientists in James Cook's second navigation of the globe on the *Resolution*, 1772-1775. During the voyage, the Forsters collected a great quantity of anthropological objects and natural history specimens. In addition, Georg Forster created original natural history art works. Both during and after the voyage, each Forster wrote descriptions of what he had seen and experienced, some of which contain the first known scientific accounts of aspects of Pacific cultures and the region's flora and fauna. Surviving Forster collections therefore encompass not only museum objects and specimens but also drawings and paintings, autograph letters and manuscript papers, printed books and other items.

#### The challenge

This material is widely scattered across holding institutions (libraries, museums, archives, historic houses) in Britain, Germany, France, Russia, other European countries, Australia, the United States and elsewhere overseas. Its intrinsic and research importance is beyond question, but at the present time it is often difficult to locate, let alone to search or use. Previous work has focused on identifying and describing aspects of the collections (for example, botanical materials). But much material has never been located nor adequately described. No comprehensive survey has so far been attempted.

#### Towards a solution

Modern information technology (networking and digitisation) now makes a 'virtual joining up' of the Forsters' collections possible. Under the auspices of the Georg Forster Gesellschaft (George Forster Society), a workshop was held in Kassel, Germany, in May 2009 to discuss the wide dispersal of material created by or collected by the Forsters. The workshop saw the creation of a small, informal work group to take the matter forward on behalf of the Society. It was decided that as a first step we should try to collect some preliminary information on Forster collections and materials in order to get some idea of their distribution, scope, level of documentation and accessibility. An international survey is currently in progress. The results of this survey should provide the basis for a further step: the virtual connection of related material long since dispersed across geographical, linguistic, institutional and disciplinary boundaries. The ultimate aim is to enable access for scholars and the general public to the full range of Forster material world-wide through a single point.

#### Paper

At the CERL Annual Seminar in November 2010, Graham Jefcoate and Jutta Weber, members of the informal working group working with the University of Kassel, will present the project in more detail.

*Graham Jefcoate, UB Nijmegen (jefcoate@ubn.ru.nl)*

## Vlaamse Erfgoedbibliotheek



The Vlaamse Erfgoedbibliotheek (Flemish Heritage Library) is a network organisation which was established by six heritage libraries in Flanders (Belgium) at the end of 2008: Heritage Library Hendrik Conscience in Antwerp, University Library Antwerp, Public Library Bruges, University Library Ghent, Provincial Library Limburg in Hasselt, and University Library Louvain. It is geared towards anyone with an interest in written, printed and digital heritage collections held in libraries. Through projects and research, it aims to develop competence and spread knowledge about preserving heritage library collections and making them accessible. Additionally, it wishes to raise public awareness about the riches of heritage library collections in Flanders and Brussels.

On 11 June 2010, the Vlaamse Erfgoedbibliotheek held a festive presentation of its organisation and its new website ([www.vlaamse-erfgoedbibliotheek.be](http://www.vlaamse-erfgoedbibliotheek.be)) which among a wealth of information also gives access to the Short Title Catalogus Vlaanderen and Abraham-online (Belgian newspapers in Flemish heritage institutions). For further information contact Eva Wuyts ([eva@vlaamse-erfgoedbibliotheek.be](mailto:eva@vlaamse-erfgoedbibliotheek.be)).

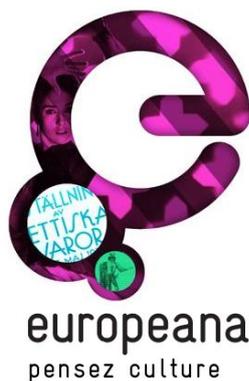
## Treasures of Bavarian State Library on iPod/iPad

<http://www.bsb-muenchen.de/Mobiler-OPACplus.2771.0.html>

The Bayerische Staatsbibliothek, München, now offers a selection of its medieval and early modern treasures on a dedicated iPod/iPad app. The selection comprises manuscripts like the Nibelungenlied, Parzival and Ottheinrich Bible, incunabula like the Gutenberg Bible and Schedel Chronicle as well as numerous others. You can find it under the title "Famous Books" or "Treasures of the Bavarian State Library" on iTunes. The OPAC of the library and the Bavarian Union Catalogue are also available in a customized version for smartphones, see <http://opacplus.bsb-muenchen.de>.

## Europeana

<http://version1.europeana.eu/web/europeana-project/>



Recently, Europeana reported that the Europeana v1.0 project passed its formal mid-term review. The Commission's specialists commented on how much had been achieved across such a complex set of tasks in a short time. The 32 members of staff at Europeana were delighted to receive these encouraging comments from the Commissioner, the European Parliament and the Council of Europe. Europeana is entering a new phase in the project now, planning virtual exhibitions and roadshows in a number of countries as part of its Rhine release programme. Europeana announced that the priorities for the second half of the project will be explored in a plenary conference, 'Europeana Open Culture 2010', on 14 and 15 October at the Westergasfabriek, Amsterdam. On the 13 October there will be ancillary meetings, including the Workgroups and the Council of Content Providers and Aggregators.

## Public Domain Charter

The Europeana Foundation published a policy statement, the Public Domain Charter (<http://version1.europeana.eu/web/europeana-project/publications>), to highlight the value of public domain content in the knowledge economy. It alerts Europe's museums, libraries, archives and audiovisual collections to the fact that digitisation of Public Domain content does not create new rights in it. The Charter is published in French, German, English, Polish, Spanish and Italian.

## Europeana Data Model (EDM)

The Europeana Data Model (EDM) – a new way of structuring data that will bring the benefits of Semantic Web technology to Europeana.eu – has just been published. The EDM Primer and the Definition of the EDM Elements are in the Technical documents section of the v1.0 website: <http://group.europeana.eu/web/europeana-project/technicaldocuments/>.

The EDM will allow a digital object from one provider to be shown alongside a relevant article about the object or a thesaurus offered by other institutions, offering more context and information for users. Once Europeana starts receiving content formatted using the EDM next year, it will also enable the use of linked data, which allows connections to be made between search terms. With linked data, a search for the "Virgin Mary" could lead to results not just for that single term, but also to objects labelled as "Mary, Mother Of Christ", "the Blessed Virgin" or "Heilige Maria".

## ProQuest and the CERL Thesaurus

<http://eeb.chadwyck.com/marketing/about.jsp>

ProQuest has partnered with CERL to use the Thesaurus data to enhance the search functionality in their new project, Early European Books. They are currently processing the CERL Thesaurus data in order to build it into the XML for Early European Books, and the new functionality is scheduled to become available towards the end of 2010. At that point CERL and ProQuest plan a joint press release to announce their collaboration.

## Early European Books

printed sources to 1700



## Vatican Library scheduled to reopen on 20 September

Even though the Governatorato of the Vatican City State has approved the beginning of work on the reconstruction of the roof of the Salone Sistino, and work continues on the cleaning of the façades on the Cortile del Belvedere (among which, the façade of the Library), the Vatican Library will open its doors again on 20 September.



The photograph shows the Manuscript Reading Room as it is now finally refurbished after the building works which affected also this part of the Library.

All readers will need to obtain new reader's tickets. These will contain RFID microchips and will replace the key which was previously used to open the lockers and to identify readers at the distribution desks in the reading rooms. In addition, in the reading rooms, a Wi-Fi connection to the Library's internal network will be offered so that readers may use their own personal computer to consult the catalogues and other available databases. In the Manuscript Reading Room, this connection will, on an experimental basis, direct ordering of items for consultation.

### Incunabolistica digitale: Edizioni, esemplari, banche dati

Thursday 30 September 2010, Venice, Patriarcale alla Salute

The day will begin with a round table discussion on 'Cataloguing incunabula and their material evidence' with Cristina Dondi (Bodleian Library Oxford / CERL), Laura Nuvoloni (Cambridge University Library), Alessandro Ledda (CRELEB Università Cattolica), and Giancarlo Petrella (CRELEB Università Cattolica); chair: Piero Lucchi.



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In the afternoon, the theme of the roundtable discussion is 'Some recent experiences of incunabula cataloguing' with Mauro Hausberger, author of the catalogue of incunabula in the Chapter Library of Trento; Simona Periti, author of the catalogue of incunabula of the Moreniana Library of Florence; and Piero Scapecechi, co-author of the catalogue of incunabula of the Seminary of Padua; chair: Edoardo Barbieri.

The gathering will close with a presentation of Giancarlo Petrella's *Gli incunaboli della Biblioteca del Seminario Patriarcale di Venezia. Catalogo* (Venice: Marcianum Press, 2010) by Marino Zorzi (Ateneo Veneto) and Ugo Rozzo (Istituto Storico per il Libro Antico).

### 15th ILAB Breslauer Prize for Bibliography

[http://www.ilab.org/eng/ilab/15th\\_Prize.html](http://www.ilab.org/eng/ilab/15th_Prize.html)

Former CERL Secretary, Lotte Hellinga was awarded the ILAB Breslauer Prize for Bibliography, for her Catalogue of Books printed in the XVth Century now in the British Library (BMC XI). The new endowment of the ILAB Bibliography Prize, mostly realized from a grant by the B.H. Breslauer Foundation of New York, enabled the jury to award two first prizes. The second 1st prize was awarded to Jan Storm van Leeuwen, for his Dutch Decorated Bookbinding in the Eighteenth Century.

#### 4th Conference of LIBER Manuscript Librarians Group

The 4th Conference of the LIBER Manuscript Librarians Expert Group (LMLEG) took place at the National Library of Rome, 26-28 May 2010. Under the title "Meeting with manuscripts, today and tomorrow" more than 80 colleagues from all over Europe presented and discussed experiences and projects of common interest, while outlining future perspectives.

The purpose of the LIBER Manuscript Librarians Expert Group, established in Stockholm in 2000, is to give European manuscripts curators a space where to exchange knowledge and experiences and promote mutual understanding and cooperation. The Group "recognises the unique significance of manuscript and archive collections, not only for the world of research and learning, but also for a wider audience of people interested in history and cultural heritage".

The dissemination of digital technologies is strongly affecting manuscript culture, as well as any other field of information and knowledge. The 4th Conference of the Group therefore focussed on the evolution we are facing and on how we expect the world of manuscripts – the nature of the manuscripts themselves, their public, their curators - will be like in a short time. Starting with information and news from ten European countries about their libraries' collections and activities, the Conference included sessions on born-digital materials, networks of digitized manuscripts, old and new readers and users, and training of curators. The colleagues highlighted the best ways to manage and preserve for future generations born-digital literary and historical documents and to profit from the technological sceneries to enhance and expand access to and knowledge of the manuscript sources.

After the welcome by Osvaldo Avallone, Director of the Biblioteca Nazionale Centrale di Roma and a short presentation of the library's history by Francesca Niutta, head of the manuscript department and member of the LMLEG, there were contributions from all parts of Europe and all of them invited to further discussions: especially the papers concerning the acquisition and conservation of born digital material showed quite plainly how the curation of manuscripts must fit with a new understanding of the manuscript librarians' profession. Not only new cooperation models (shown by the examples of the Europeana Regia project and a planned network of Alexander von Humboldts correspondences) but also the training models for manuscript librarians have to be developed in closer cooperation than before. The new audiences, which not only come personally to our reading rooms but expect to use the materials online have to be served in the same professional way.

As all themes asked for further deliberations, Jutta Weber (SBB Berlin) who followed André Bouwman as new chair of the Expert Group in the closing session built a nucleus of experts which together with the national contact persons will strengthen communication for the following themes between the institutions in Europe under which the advocacy of this material, expressed by more visible promotion and outreach will play a major role:

- Promotion and outreach
- Legal issues
- Information technologies
- Research and teaching
- Cataloguing
- Acquisition and communication of born digital material

The new secretary of the Expert Group Ivan Boserup (KB Copenhagen) and Jutta Weber are both involved in the establishing of good communication with the new LIBER Working Group on Heritage Collections (WGHC) and the Steering Committee on Heritage Collections and Preservation (SCHCP). Their other goal is to widen the possibilities for cooperation with CERL (Consortium of European Research Libraries) to enhance access to data about manuscripts, both modern and medieval in Europe. Thus the LIBER Manuscript Librarians Expert Group will try to become a forum where new developments, standard discussions and every-day questions will be dealt with on a European level, by experts and all those who want to learn from them. The website and the discussion list are prepared for new input.

It was decided that next conferences of the Expert Group will be held in a time interval of two years instead of three years. The Bibliothèque nationale de France very kindly will host the conference in 2012.

*Jutta Weber, SBB Berlin*



## CERL Annual Meetings and Seminars in 2010

The 2010 Annual General Meeting will take place at the Royal Library in Copenhagen on Saturday 6 November 2010, preceded by meetings of the CERL Advisory Task Group and the Executive Committee on Thursday 4 November, and a seminar on reconstruction collections on Friday 5 November 2010.

### Seminar

The title of the annual CERL Seminar, which this year is organised in collaboration with the LIBER Steering Committee for Heritage Collections and Preservation, is 'Virtual Visits to Lost Libraries: reconstruction of and access to dispersed collections'. Speakers include

- Elmar Mittler (CERL Chairman) and Karin Zimmermann (Biblioteca Palatina, Heidelberg), *Biblioteca Palatina: a scattered library reconstructed*.
- Jutta Weber (Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin) and Graham Jefcoate (Radboud University, Nijmegen), *Reconnecting the Forster legacy: the virtual construction – and reconstruction – of a key Enlightenment collection*.
- Monique Hulvey (Bibliothèque municipale, Lyon), *From Rome to Lyon: Reconstructing the libraries of two Renaissance Hebraists*.
- István Monok (University of Szeged, Hungary), *Scholar's libraries in Hungary in the 16th and 17th centuries (reconstructions based research of owners' marks)*.
- Johan Oosterman (Radboud University, Nijmegen), *Archaeology of the book collection: Living with books in the nunnery of Soeterbeeck*
- Matthew Driscoll (Arnarnagnæan collection of Old Norse Manuscripts, Copenhagen), <http://bandrit.is/> and the virtual reunification of Árni Magnússon's collection of Icelandic manuscripts.
- Marina Venier (Biblioteca Nazionale Centrale, Rome), *I fondi delle biblioteche delle Corporazioni religiose a Roma: dall'Inchiesta della Congregazione dell'Indice, alla soppressione del 1873*.
- Isabelle de Conihout (Bibliothèque Mazarine, Paris), *Identifying libraries and patrons of bookbindings by numbers*.
- Karen Skovgaard-Petersen and Ivan Boserup (Royal Library, Copenhagen), *Towards a Reconstruction of the Ducal Library of Gottorp Castle (c. 1575-1713)*.

The Seminar will take place in the prestigious Harsdorff Hall in the old Royal Library building, now part of the National Archives of Denmark. Participation is free, but we would like to ask you to register your attendance by sending a message to K. Hart ([secretariat@cerl.org](mailto:secretariat@cerl.org)).