Consortium of European Research Libraries

Newsletter 7
July 2003

Hand Press Book (HPB) database – files in preparation

VD16 – Verzeichnis der im deutschen Sprachbereich erschienenen Drucke des XVI. Jahrhunderts
This is the German national bibliography for 1501-1600, containing all material in any language printed in historical Germany. The HPB will include c. 28,500 records that are held in the Supplement – corrected records and those that have not appeared in print before.

University of London Libraries (ULL)
At the beginning of 2003 ULL submitted a file update of c. 6,300 records. In June 2003 the second update of c. 900 records for ULL's serials material is expected.

National Széchényi Library (NL Hungary) - Antiqua catalogue
The file contains 16th-century books in the collection of the National Széchényi Library, printed outside Hungary and in languages other than Hungarian. NL Hungary has submitted 13,000 records in XML format for c. 17,000 works.

National Library of Wales (NLW)
A first file load of 5,600 records will be sent to RLG in July 2003. After this there will be annual updates of c. 3,000 records. The total file is estimated at c. 35,000 records.

North American records for the HPB database
Yale University
CERL is delighted to welcome into the HPB database the first contribution from the historical collections of a North American library. The Beinecke Library, Yale University, which is using the HPB database for derived cataloguing, will in return contribute a file of c. 150,000 records, including serials, this autumn. This is an important development, and reflects the common interest of our two continents in the printed heritage of Europe.

Updates
- ICCU, Rome – this update contains 52,600 records
- Early Printed Books Project, Oxford – this update of largely newly catalogued items contains c. 83,800 records.
- NLR , St Petersburg – c. 8,000 records for the Library of the First Cadets Corps are expected in Autumn 2003.
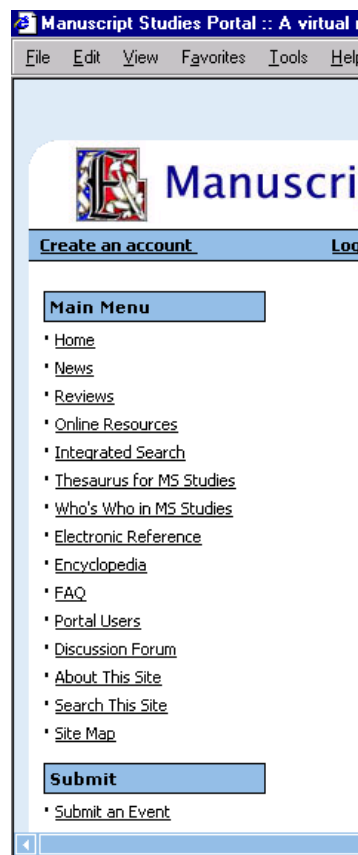
Files that have been offered for inclusion in the HPB
- University of Salamanca – records from the University General Library (c. 4,500 records initially, the total file is estimated at c. 60,000 records)
- Biblioteca Nacional in Lisbon – Spanish, Portuguese 16th and 17th-century material, and the Elsevier collection (c. 4,000 records in total)
- the Scandinavian collection in the British Library
- the Brancacciana collection in the Biblioteca Nazionale in Naples (c. 90,000 records)
- Zeitschriften Datenbank – the München, Göttingen and Berlin holdings in the German national serials catalogue (c. 11,450 records)
- Regione Toscana – Libri Antichi in Toscana (c. 10,000 records)

Manuscripts Working Group

After the Annual General Meeting in November 2002, the Consortium commissioned Radcliffe Interactive (Oxford) to draft a broad-based report to assist CERL to arrive at a decision about what available products to choose in order to achieve its objective of establishing a system for cross-file searching of online databases of manuscript materials. This report was presented to CERL's Executive Committee, its Advisory Task Group and at the Conference on the 'The Changing Role of the Manuscript Librarian' held by the LIBER Expert Group of European manuscript librarians in The Hague on 5-8 March 2003. The report can be downloaded as a PDF file from http://www.cerl.org/Manuscripts/manuscripts_working_group.htm.

The Radcliffe report outlined a number of options, and with the agreement of the Executive Board, the Consortium management has decided to seek further advice from a second adviser. This includes:
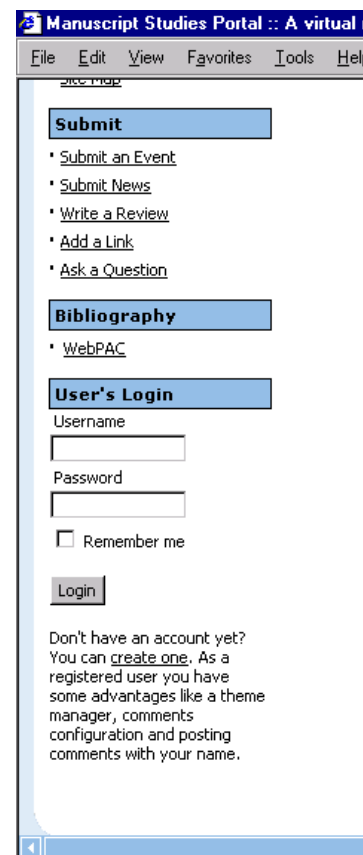
- an assessment of the three optional models (distributed searching, central index, hybrid);
- and the practicalities for each (costs, effectiveness for users, maintenance, hosting);
- an assessment of the employment of portal technology in the context of CERL's requirements; and
- whether there are other technology options that have not been considered so far.

Dr Lotte Hellinga and Drs Marian Lefferts had a meeting with Dr Mura Ghosh and Ms Christine Wise (University of London Library) to discuss the Manuscript Studies Portal being developed there.

In relation to CERL's aims, the discussions made clear that the Manuscript Studies Portal has a number of related functions, but it also clarified that the two aims are not in any sense identical. It was agreed that the most satisfactory outcome was that the two activities should maintain close contacts, create user-friendly links, and work together to avoid any duplication of effort.

CERL should focus on the federated searching of manuscript databases, and should not aim to give direct access to online publication of secondary material, articles etc., as indicated in the Radcliffe report. If at a later stage CERL wishes to make further use of the options portal technology can offer, additional services might perhaps include the provision of access to current bibliographies of secondary literature, or by establishing links if such bibliographies appear online. With these definitions in mind, a number of service providers (Fretwell-Downing, MuseGlobal, Astec and Crossnet) will be invited to suggest how such a service could be provided, with the aim of gaining a clearer idea of what service would be provided, how the product might function, and by what route it might be achieved. In the meantime, CERL is further investigating projects that employ related technologies, such as Kalliope (where the software is developed by Astec, mentioned above), and the HaIRST project (Harvesting Institutional Resources in Scotland Testbed - http://hairst.cdlr.strath.ac.uk/).

The Radcliffe report, the report from the second adviser and the responses from possible service providers will form the basis for discussion at CERL's AGM in November 2003, at which members will be invited to come to a view on how to proceed, and by what means.

CERL Thesaurus file

Colleagues at the Bayerische Staatsbibliothek, München (BSB) are editing the place name records in the CERL Thesaurus (CT). The first process of manual editing has now been completed. The next phase is the electronic merging of CT records with data from the National and University Library, Zagreb; Edit16 (ICCU) and the VD16 file (BSB).

All CERL members are invited to examine the place name records in the CT and send in corrections to klier@bsb-muenchen.de. We would be very grateful if your library would be willing to check all your national place names. Please contact the Executive Manager if you are able to help with the revision of the CERL Thesaurus place names.

Assisted Searching on Personal Names (i.e. names of those creating the work intellectual or artistic content) is scheduled for Autumn 2003. Names from the Short-Title Catalogue Netherlands, the English Short-Title Catalogue and the National and University Library, Zagreb, will be included. Discussions are under way to ensure the inclusion of the German national name authority file, the *Personennamendatei,* referring to names of persons up to ca. 1850.

The CERL Thesaurus is at http://www. cerl.org/Thesaurus/thesaurus.htm.

Provenance description and access

In recent years provenance information has been recognised as an essential part of the history of the book and an important source of documentation for scholars and researchers in the Humanities. Rare book libraries traditionally recorded the provenance of their collections, but mostly only major donors, bequests and famous autographs were documented.

In the last decades, a strong awareness has emerged about the importance of the book as a physical object bearing marks of its history and of its itineraries, both geographical and intellectual. This approach acknowledges the importance of the history of each copy for the history of the book at large.

As well as, copy-specific information such as the description of binding and paper, a record of marks of provenance encountered in rare books, giving whenever feasible the identification of the former owner and the transcription of the marks of ownership, represents a real enhancement of the bibliographical description. It also helps libraries draw a more precise picture of the history of their rare book collections and remove the traditional bibliographical divide between manuscripts and printed books, which will be reassembled through the prism of their collector's passion or interest.

Beyond the marks of ownership themselves, rare book cataloguing nowadays takes increasingly into consideration marks of all sorts which also document provenance, such as marks of censorship, notes of the date and circumstances of the purchase of the book and the price paid for it, manuscript marginal annotations, corrections of errors in the printed text, etc. The desire of appropriation so often expressed in ownership inscriptions or the defacing of books, are elements that reflect the point of view of the end-user. They contribute greatly to our understanding of how the printing, selling, and use of books took place and provide evidence for the history of reading.

It is an immense and challenging task to document the European printed heritage and the travels of the book. CERL has brought together several European libraries interested in exchanging information, and working on common descriptions of marks of ownership. Projects of normalisation of description and access to provenance information are now in progress through networks, bibliographical and digital databases. The creation of a multilingual thesaurus could be another major step in developing access to provenance in the coming years. Increasing international collaboration between libraries to record and communicate provenance information should represent a major evolution in the field of the history of the book.
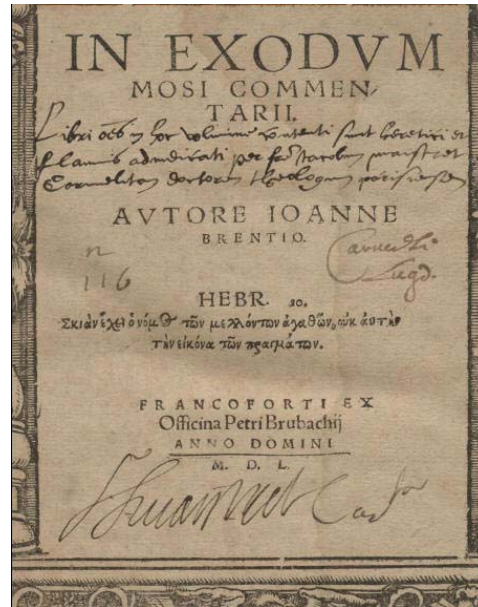
M. Hulvey, BM Lyon

An Example of the treatment of provenance data in the Bibliothèque Municpale, Lyon

BM Lyon 100851

Several works of the reformer Johannes Brenz were purchased by the Convent of the Carmelites in Lyon to be reviewed by Jacques Maistret (1534-1616), a Carmelite particularly active in the Counter-Reformation, who condemns them to be burnt as heretical "Libri omnes in hoc volumine contenti sunt heretici et flammis adiudicati per Fratrem Iacobum Maistret ..."

Brenz, Johannes. *In Exodum Mosi Commentarii.* Francoforti : ex officina Petri Brubachij, 1550.

Lyon - Provenance des livres anciens
http://sgedh.si.bm-lyon.fr/dipweb2/apos/possesseurs.htm
The records are in French but the marks of ownership can also be searched by their English equivalent. For the list of terms in English, see the English version of the "Presentation" in the menu of the search screen. All fields except the reference fields can be searched by keyword and by alphabetical list. To see the list of available terms, click on the heading of the field in the left part of the search screen.

BM Lyon 100851

There are two links at the beginning of the former owner record. One (Description complète de l'ouvrage) opens the bibliographic record of the book in the Online Catalogue. The other one opens the list in the Online Catalogue of the books owned by the Grands Carmes de Lyon (those indexed so far). The first time you click on one of these links, you might have to click twice (the first one opens the Online Catalogue screen only).

FRANAR

The Working Group on Functional Requirements and Numbering of Authority Records (FRANAR) was established in April 1999 by the IFLA Division of Bibliographic Control and the IFLA Universal Bibliographic Control and International MARC Programme (UBCIM). Members originally appointed included were Françoise Bourdon (Bibliothèque nationale de France); Olga Lavrenova (Russian State Library); Andrew McEwan (The British Library); Eeva Murtomaa (Helsinki University Library, Finland); Glenn Patton (OCLC, USA); Reinhard Rinn (Die Deutsche Bibliothek, Germany); Henry Snyder (University of California, Riverside, USA); Barbara Tillett (Library of Congress, USA); Hartmut Walravens (International ISBN Agency, Germany); and, Mirna Willer (National and University Library, Croatia). Mme Bourdon served as the initial chair of the group with Glenn Patton taking over that role in January 2002. Reinhard Rinn was replaced following his retirement by Christina Hengel-Dittrich, also of Die Deutsche Bibliothek. The group was assisted by Marie-France Plassard, UBCIM Programme Director, until her retirement in March 2003. In October 2001, Tom Delsey (retired from the National Library of Canada) agreed to join the Working Group as a consultant.

The working group has three terms of reference: 1) to define functional requirements of authority records, continuing the work that the "Functional requirements of bibliographic records" for bibliographic systems initiated; 2) to study the feasibility of an International Standard Authority Data Number (ISADN), to define possible use and users, to determine for what types of authority records such an ISADN is necessary, to examine the possible structure of the number and the type of management that would be necessary; 3) to serve as the official IFLA liaison to and work with other interested groups concerning authority files : INDECS (Interoperability of Data in E-Commerce Systems), ICA/CDS (International Council on Archives / Committee on Descriptive Standards), ISO/TC46 for international numbering and descriptive standards, CERL (Consortium of European Research Libraries), etc.

The group is nearing completion of the first task and hopes to make a draft of its functional requirements document available for wider review later this year. At various points in its deliberations, the group has benefited from reports by Dr. Willer on the work on the CERL Thesaurus as authority headings from a variety of sources are brought together into a single thesaurus.   *Glenn Patton, Chair, FRANAR Working Group*

Organisational news
Annual General Meeting, St Petersburg, Friday 14 November 2003

CERL was very pleased to be able to accept the offer of the National Library of Russia to be the host for the Annual Meeting (AGM, Seminar, as well as meetings of the Executive Committee and Advisory Task Group) on 12-14 November 2003, coinciding with the 300th Anniversary of the founding of St Petersburg.

CERL Seminar - European cultural heritage in the digital age: creation, access and preservation
The provisional programme for the seminar to be held on 13 November includes papers by

- Jan Bos (Koninklijke Bibliotheek, The Hague *Bibliopolis, the Memory of the Netherlands, and the Dutch and Flemish STC projects*
- Luisa Buson (Centro di Ateneo, Padua) *Digital tools to improve access to the printed cultural heritage: the Italian situation*
- Kai Ekholm (Helsinki University Library) *Digitising the cultural heritage: a strategy for managing the task*
- Ludmila Kiseleva (Manuscript Department, National Library of Russia) *Marginalia in manuscripts and books as resource for historical research*
- Vladimir Mazhuga (Institute of History / Russian Academy of science, St Petersburg) *Study of script of Medieval manuscripts fragments for dating and localisation with use of a database*

Travel arrangements

The National Library of Russia advises that you should book your hotel and travel through Cosmos Travel:

Ms Irina Snedkova
Cosmos Travel Services
35, 2nd Line, Vasillevsky Island
199053 St Petersburg
Russia
Tel   +7 812 327 72 56
Fax   +7 812 327 74 29
E-mail cosmos@dmc.spb.ru
Website http://www.guide.spb.ru/

You will need to book your flight (and in certain countries ensure that your health insurance covers Russia), then make a hotel booking through Cosmos Travel, who will also assist you with your visa application. Please ensure that you make your arrangements in plenty of time, not least because St Petersburg is very busy this year. If you need further information, you may also contact Dr Natalia Verbina at the National Library of Russia – N.Verbina@nlr.ru.

St Petersburg – 300 years – Event on 15 November 2003

Sound Ways
International Contemporary Music Festival

Internationally acclaimed festival of avant-garde composers who experiment with classical music. The festival will feature premiers by St Petersburg composers, Russian premières of major Western avant-garde composers, pieces of music composed for the festival by Russian avant-garde composers. Participants: Chamber Music Philharmonic Hall, St Petersburg State Rimsky-Korsakov Conservatory, Glinka Academic Capella.

CERL Committee Members

Mme Alix Chevalier has retired from the Bibliothèque nationale de France (BnF), and also as a CERL Director. CERL is very sorry that it will not longer be able to benefit from her input at the Directors' and AGM meetings. We wish Mme Chevalier all the best in her retirement.

Executive Committee member Bernard Vouillot (BnF, Paris) has taken up a new position in the management of the economics and business department of the Bibliothèque nationale de France. Until the elections in November 2003, his place on the Executive Committee has been filled by Dr Eve Netchine of the Inventaire général (BnF). CERL wishes to thank Mr Vouillot for his tireless promotion of CERL and the HPB to his colleagues in France, and for his contributions to the work of the Executive Committee.

> **Advance Notification**
>
> *At the Annual General Meeting (November 2003), CERL will need to elect new Directors as a result of existing Directors completing their maximum term of office, or retiring from their libraries.*
>
> *Members are therefore invited to contact the CERL Secretary with suggestions for possible candidates.*

Dr Mura Ghosh of the University of London Libraries (ULL) has joined the Manuscripts Working Group. The Group is very grateful that it will be able to draw upon the experience she has gained in setting up the Manuscript Studies Portal, and welcomes her to the Manuscripts Project.

New CERL Members

Clusters

At the Directors' meeting in April 2003 four new Clusters were approved:

- National Library of Russia, St Petersburg (12 libraries)
- National Library of Scotland, Edinburgh (1 plus a possible further 11)
- National and University Library of Croatia, Zagreb (6 libraries)
- Regione Toscana (13 libraries, modifying the previous list)

This makes a total of 83 cluster libraries approved in a three-year period, with most geographical areas of the Consortium's membership participating in the scheme. The libraries in question are typically municipal, ecclesiastical or smaller university institutions, which would not be able to join CERL as individual members. For a full list of CERL members, see http://www.cerl.org/CERL/cerl.htm.

New RLG Technical Services Infrastructure

RLG has begun creating a Windows-based technical services client that will replace the RLIN Terminal for Windows software currently used for cataloguing, archival processing, NACO authorities work, and record maintenance. At the same time, a new Web search interface will replace telnet RLIN for retrieving, displaying, and exporting MARC bibliographic and authority records. Objectives are to simplify retrieval and creation of authority and bibliographic records, streamline workflows, and make it easier to provide support to users, and to take advantage of the most current technological advances and standards implementations now available.

There are three components to the new infrastructure:
- Underlying RLG Union Catalog structural changes, affecting both RLIN® users and Z39.50 client users and all who import records from the RLG Union Catalog into their local systems.
- A new browser-based search interface to retrieve, display, and export MARC records, replacing RLIN® telnet. RLG will be retiring the telnet RLIN® search interface.
- A new Windows®-based technical services client for creating and updating authority and bibliographic records, replacing RLIN Terminal for Windows® software.

System requirements
- Any RLIN Terminal for Windows® user who creates or updates records but does not require original scripts capability will need to have Windows® NT or higher installed to use the new client software.
- Any RLIN Terminal for Windows® user who does create or update records with original scripts (Arabic, Chinese, Cyrillic, Hebrew, Japanese, Korean) will need to have Windows® 2000 or XP installed to use the new software.

Transition timeframe – *please not this relates to the* RLG Union Catalog
- Early users' release in late 2003. The new client will first access the current RLG Union Catalog; database enhancements will be available only after database migration. The database enhancements will be available only to users of the new technical services client, not RLIN® users.
- RLG will support both RLIN® and the new technical services client for some months of transition.
- RLG is soliciting feedback and questions through regional forums and sessions held in conjunction with conferences (check RLG's Events page).
- Training needs identified by member advisors and early users.
- Users of the RLG technical services client and the new browser-based search interface will start accessing the restructured RLG Union Catalog in mid-2004.
- RLG will announce the expected date of when the technical services client is generally available at least 60 days in advance. Documentation on record export will be available at the time of the "early users" release.
- After the transition period, RLG will retire the current RLIN® interfaces.

For further details, please consult http://www.rlg.org/newtsclient.html.

RLG appoints new Member Services Officer

Ms Robin Dougherty has been appointed by RLG as its new Member Services Officer covering the UK and continental Europe. Ms Dougherty is a Middle East specialist who earned her BA in Oriental Studies at the University of Pennsylvania, her MA in contemporary Arab Studies at Georgetown, and her MILS at the University of Michigan. She has worked in the Middle East divisions of a number of institutions including the University of Michigan, the United Arab Emirates University, University of Pennsylvania, Library of Congress, and the University of Oxford. She also spent several years living in Cairo, where she worked as cultural programs officer for the American University in Cairo.

She takes up her new position on 1 July (based in Oxford), and with Ms Nancy Elkington will be visiting a number of RLG members, and meeting CERL colleagues during the week of 21-25 July. Ms Dougherty and Ms Elkington look forward to their discussions with Dr Ann Matheson (CERL) on 25 July in London. Ms Pamela Wilkes will continue to be CERL's immediate RLG liaison.

Promotion of CERL
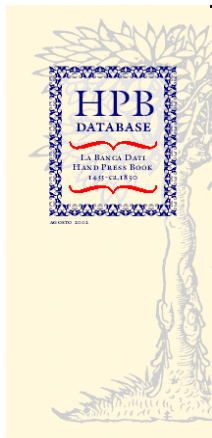
Seminar - Early Printed Books on the Internet

The British Library (British and Early Printed Collections) and CERL organised a one-day seminar on Monday 19 May 2003 for librarians and scholars in the South of England working in the field of the history of the book. There were about 60 participants at the meeting in the British Library Conference Centre from academic libraries (London, Cambridge, Oxford, Bristol, and Reading), from ecclesiastical libraries (Westminster Abbey, Lambeth Palace, St Paul's Cathedral, Canterbury Cathedral) and from museums and the National Trust, as well as many members of British Library staff. Many participants came from libraries that are not CERL members, so the occasion can be counted as an excellent publicity opportunity for CERL and the HPB and CERL Thesaurus. The programme may be found at http://www.cerl.org/CERL/bl_cerl_seminar.htm. The day ended with a final discussion session.

CERL is very grateful to Executive Committee member, Dr Kristian Jensen, and his colleagues at the British Library for their help in making this a very successful day. *David J. Shaw, CERL*

The main portico entrance to the British Library's St Pancras building providing a view of Sir Eduardo Paolozzi's statue of Isaac Newton.
© Irene Rhoden

Future Workshops

- In September 2003 Dr David Shaw will present CERL at a workshop organised at the National Library of Scotland, Edinburgh.
- In September 2003 the National Library of Russia will organise its fifth workshop for librarians in the former Soviet Republic. CERL will be represented at the workshop by Mrs Monique Hulvey, Bibliothèque municipale, Lyon.
- In October 2003 Drs Marian Lefferts will speak at a conference in Sárospatak (Hungary) entitled 'Religious book culture in Hungary and Europe from the end of the 15th century to the late 18th century'.
- In October 2003 Mr F. Dupuigrenet-Desrousilles (ENSSIB, Lyon) and Dr David Shaw are arranging a conference in Chantilly (France) for French rare book librarians.
- In November 2003 CERL and the National Library of Russia will hold a seminar as part of CERL's Annual Meetings in St Petersburg.

CERL Leaflets

The leaflets are now available in English, French, Italian, Russian and Spanish. Please contact secretariat@cerl.org if you wish to receive copies of the leaflets or if you wish to offer a translation in another language.

Security Management of Historical Collections in European Libraries: the LIBER Security Network

The LIBER Security Network is now established in the Royal Library in Copenhagen, and an increasing number of European research libraries are joining the Security Network. Details of how libraries can become members of the Network, including an online Application Form, may be found by accessing the LIBER website at: http://www.kb.dk/liber/news/librarysecurity.htm.