LAST MARCH THE CENTER HELD A CONFERENCE of historians from North American universities and scholarly associations. The purpose of the conference was to help us determine how we could better serve the scholarly community. A report on the conference proceedings follows.

We were gratified, however, by the participating historians' strong affirmation of the importance of the Center's programs and collections. Conferees expressed passionate interest and support for the Center in phrases like “CRL is a lifeline” and “CRL is a unique resource.”

The Center exists to ensure the availability of materials for advanced scholarly research in the humanities, sciences, and social sciences. We promote the development and preservation of a diverse and rich range of materials on which scholarly research depends: microfilm of the colonial archives of French Senegal; the back files of newspapers published by American ethnic communities; dissertations on the Islamic world produced by scholars at European universities; and much more. Today the Center functions as a conservancy, helping to ensure that a rich “biodiversity” of resources necessary for advanced research is preserved.

The staff and managers at the Center work very hard to accomplish this efficiently. This year CRL cataloging and metadata creation were re-engineered by our new head of technical services to optimize workflow efficiency and production. (70,000 foreign dissertations were cataloged since January, while keeping abreast of current receipts and reducing general collections backlogs.) Operations in acquisitions and international resources were also restructured to achieve maximum productivity with minimal overhead.

In addition the resources of the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, National Endowment for the Humanities, Council on Library and Information Resources, and the Gladys Krieble Delmas Foundation were brought to bear on our efforts. Partnerships with these organizations are allowing us to advance a number of CRL initiatives and strengthen our capacity to serve CRL members in the future.

2002 has been a productive year for the Center, and we are very grateful to those institutions that through CRL membership sustain this vital enterprise from year to year. It is to the CRL member libraries and universities that the historians at our conference owe their thanks.

Bernard F. Reilly
President
CRL FY 2002 Financial Results Show Continuing Improvement

With the completion of its annual audit, the final financial results for the Center for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2002 are now available. These results show that CRL realized an increase in unrestricted net assets of $256,000 for the year, well above the budgeted deficit. (CRL budgets a decline in unrestricted net assets to reflect the impact of the depreciations of the building and long-term assets, which are non-cash expenses and not supported by current year revenues.)

Unrestricted revenue for the year reached $4,990,000 and exceeded budget by $167,000 due to the admission of new members and microfilm sales above projections. In addition, CRL realized sizable restricted grant income in FY 2002 of $909,000, earmarked for specific projects in that year and following years.

Unrestricted expenses for the year were $4,734,000, $390,000 below budget. This favorable variance was due to staff positions held open during the presidential transition, and interest and utility costs below budgeted levels.

With the favorable results of the past two years, CRL has managed to restore its core reserves back to a level approximating three months of operating expenses, the absolute minimum level acceptable to sound financial management. It has accomplished this without any extraordinary membership fee increases or service curtailments. However, the current challenging financial environment for academic libraries means that near-term opportunities for continued savings will be greatly diminished.

CRL Annual Meeting Set for April 22, 2003

The 2003 meeting of the CRL Council of Voting Members has been set for Tuesday, April 22 at the Hotel Sofitel in Rosemont, Illinois, near O’Hare Airport. All CRL member directors and non-librarian councilors are invited to vote on the election of new Board members, approve the budget for the coming year, discuss the current state of CRL’s programs and organization, and attend a presentation on a topic of current relevance to scholarly communications. A cocktail reception at the hotel will precede the meeting on the evening of April 21.

The program session will include a discussion of options for the print archiving of Elsevier science journal titles, a subject of increasing concern given the increasing cost of maintaining individual institutional subscriptions. Additional details about the program and reservation procedures will be available in several weeks.

PURPOSE

This two-day invitational “mini-conference” was convened for two purposes: to increase awareness of the wealth of primary source materials held by the Center for Research Libraries; and to guide the Center’s administration and staff in promoting wider use of these materials by historians. The first purpose was to be accomplished by affording a first-hand, in-depth view of the Center’s programs and collections for key historians who were unfamiliar or insufficiently familiar with the organization. Guidance in making the Center’s collections more widely used and on the scholarly importance of the Center’s various collection areas was to be obtained through discussions with the participating historians and scholars.

The conference was funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation and the Gladys Krieble Delmas Foundation.

PARTICIPANTS

The conference was organized by John Boyer, Ryerson Distinguished Professor of History and Dean of the College at the University of Chicago and a member of the CRL Board of Directors; Stanley Chodorow, Professor of History at the University of California at San Diego and Chair of the Center’s Board of Directors; and Beverly Lynch, former interim President of the Center and Professor of Information Studies at UCLA. Participants were selected and invited from the larger academic community and included influential historians and language studies faculty from a wide range of North American universities. Specializations of the participants covered a broad range of modern historical periods and geographic regions. Also participating were representatives of scholarly societies, independent scholars who were users of CRL collections, and the current president and selected managers of the Center. (A complete list of attendees with their affiliations is appended.)

SCHEDULE / FORMAT

The conference began in the early afternoon of Friday, March 8, and ran through early afternoon on Saturday, March 9. The event began with small-group tours of the Center’s collection storage facility and holdings. These were followed by presentations by CRL staff highlighting particular collection strengths, such as foreign newspapers and government documents. Presentations also described various CRL programs such as the area studies microform projects and the Digital South Asia Library. The evening discussion consisted of several attending scholars describing their own research endeavors that had involved substantial use of CRL collections.

The remainder of the conference was devoted to open discussion of the challenges facing historians doing advanced primary source research and ways in which the Center could foster and facilitate greater access to its primary source materials for that research.

SUMMARY OF OUTCOME

The outcome anticipated from the conference was identification of a set of steps that CRL could take to increase the use of its collections by historians and thus strengthen support among the universities for CRL preservation and collection development activities. Conference discussions did in fact identify a number of ways in which CRL can make its collections more visible to historians. These involve working directly with the major scholarly societies such as the American Historical Association and Organization of American Historians to strengthen awareness of the Center’s services and holdings; and providing collection related information to researchers in more discoverable and “discipline-friendly” forms.

The conference also resulted in a better understanding by CRL administration and staff of three factors that impede increased use and visibility of its collections and services.
Those factors are:

- **The Center’s lack of a strong “profile” in the scholarly community.** Unlike many research libraries that have a visibility by virtue of a particular discipline or domain-oriented collections strength, the Center has an indistinct profile that is well defined neither in terms of the content of its collections nor the disciplines that it serves.

- **A change in (perceived by some as a weakening of) the faculty-library relationship that has traditionally provided a supportive framework for the building and use of broad scholarly resources in academic libraries.** This change was ascribed variously to a reduced interest on the part of younger scholars in developing local holdings of primary source materials, a movement by scholars in recent decades away from empirical research with primary source materials, and changes in the staffing and “culture” of academic libraries.

- **The predominance of “market economics” at universities and academic research libraries.** For most university libraries the lion’s share of resources are devoted to acquiring, obtaining, and preserving the most heavily used materials (i.e. English language materials supporting the undergraduate curriculum) rather than the less frequently used materials that support advanced scholarly research.

The conference alsounderscored the fact that those trends are not unique to CRL but also negatively affect scholarly resources management and humanities research in general. Conferees agreed that many of the challenges facing CRL, such as low use of holdings and poor visibility, “come with the territory” of maintaining collections for advanced humanities research. Conferees also believed that the Center’s role in acquiring and preserving these kinds of collections is as important to the health of scholarly research in the humanities and social sciences today as it was in the past. Finally, there was a consensus that the Center, by virtue of its position as a consortium-repository serving the larger community of American academic libraries, had a larger role to play in ensuring the preservation of materials for humanities and social science research in general.

### DISCUSSIONS AND CONCLUSIONS

Discussions ranged across a number of topics. By way of preface, however, it is worth noting that during the tours and staff presentations conference participants were impressed by the sheer amplitude of Center holdings of primary source materials that are not available elsewhere. Center staff was also gratified by the positive reaction of the participants to their overview of the Center’s facilities and operations.

During the discussions participants also confirmed the importance of the Center’s collections and services. The unanimous view of the participants was that the holdings of the Center, though used less frequently than many of the materials held locally by their own libraries and now augmented by electronic resources, remain crucial to historical research.

Among CRL’s varied holdings those considered by attendees to be the most valuable were newspapers, trade journals, U.S. state government publications, foreign dissertations, and foreign state documents and archives, and large microform sets. Moreover it was clear that the value of these holdings to scholars was increased by the terms of access to them provided under CRL lending policies. Participants noted that many of these materials, such as foreign and U.S. newspapers and large microform sets were either unobtainable from other libraries on interlibrary loan or were not available for the lengthy periods that the historians’ projects and graduate seminars required. Some scholars require access to the materials for the duration of major, multi-year research projects, like a study on the history of water management in the Midwest. For others the nature of their research required consultation of long runs of particular journals or newspapers.

One scholar, for instance, spent months combing through journals of the Chicago plumbing and building trades to identify the architects of historically important but...
un-attributed turn of the century buildings. Another scholar used the Center's extensive holdings of nineteenth-century trade journals to carry out a multi-year study of self-regulating industries, such as silk, diamonds, and rice production, mapping patterns of self-government and community-building among those trades. Several conferees gave accounts of dissertations and major monographs to whose production the availability of Center holdings had been indispensable.

Despite its value CRL, conferees agreed, is not well known in the scholarly community. It was noted that even those who use Center resources regularly and heavily are often not aware of the scope of CRL's collections. Throughout the discussions conferees cited three phenomena contributing to this problem: the Center's lack of a distinct profile in the community; a change, even weakening, of the traditionally strong relationship between university libraries and faculty; and the emphasis on cost-benefit analysis and market economics that prevail in libraries and universities. The discussions on these points are summarized as follows.

1) The Center lacks a readily discernable “profile” and hence constituency, in the academic community. Scholarly constituencies form around research libraries that have a visibility by virtue of particular discipline- or domain-oriented strength. Independent research libraries like the Folger Shakespeare Library (Renaissance literature), Newberry Library (Americana and Native American history), and the Huntington Library (Anglo-U.S. art and literature) have distinctive collecting profiles that attract scholars to their resources even though their holdings might not be easily discoverable via the Web or through on-line OPACs.

An anomaly among research libraries, the Center has an indistinct profile that is defined neither in terms of the content of its collections nor the disciplines that it serves. Often characterized as an “omnium gatherum,” the Center’s collections are diverse in the extreme and, when described in CRL literature, are most often characterized in terms of the bibliographic formats represented, such as newspapers, dissertations, and microforms, than by subject or genre.

This stems in part from the historical circumstances of the Center's founding and its traditional role in the research libraries community. CRL was created in 1949 as a regional “fallback” repository, to augment the holdings of its member libraries by holding “infrequently used materials.” As a result of this relativist designation CRL collecting policies have been shaped by member libraries' decisions on what not to hold locally or collect on their own.

It was also noted that the Center also lacks the “thereness” through which other libraries or research centers attain visibility in the scholarly world. Most independent research libraries serve as places for study and scholarly interaction through on-site reading rooms and study facilities. The Center's facility has a small study room in which visitors use materials, but was built primarily as a "back-office" operation. As a result of its focus on utilitarian functions, such as providing security, climate-control, and space for receiving, processing and cataloging operations, the Center is relatively inhospitable to on-site use. One scholar proposed that the facility be modified to expand on-site facilities and accommodations for scholars. It was also suggested that the Center offer grants and fellowships for residencies at the Center, to provide scholars an opportunity for immersive access to Center holdings.

2) CRL suffers from the weakening of the traditionally close relationship between university libraries and faculty. From the historians' standpoint this was manifested in the diminished role of knowledgeable librarians as the link between scholars and scholarly resources. In the past reference librarians routinely directed graduate students and even faculty to resources available outside the university, such as those held by CRL. One senior faculty participant said that such interaction between researchers and interested librarians was an integral part of the research process and critical to the discovery of research materials.

Many participants believed that this interaction was undermined by the “desktop” orientation of today’s researchers. On-line catalogs, databases and finding aids available outside the library enable researchers to locate, identify, and

"The most important scholarly research is done with materials on the fringes."
order their materials remotely, with little or no intervention from a librarian. In fact, a report produced recently for the Digital Library Federation by Outsell, Inc. established that librarians are now only consulted as a last resort by researchers, who tend to rely on electronic resources first, and spend less time actually in the library during the course of their research.

This development adversely affects the accessibility of CRL’s collections to the scholarly community. Because many of the Center’s collections are un-cataloged they are not discoverable via the Web or through catalogs and utilities. When scholars routinely used the bricks and mortar library to get access to most resources, library area specialists, bibliographers, and interlibrary loan staff were able to guide them to CRL and other non-local resources. Now CRL must bridge the gap created by the absence of a mediating librarian.

Some participants saw this problem compounded by a reduced level of research skills and lack of familiarity with primary source materials among graduate students and younger faculty. This was said to be a logical outcome of undergraduates’ reliance upon desktop-based research. Hence, it was thought, many graduate students rely heavily on secondary literature like journals and other materials that are electronically available, and have little acquaintance with primary sources like government documents, newspapers, and archives.

A number of conferees noted that this change in the library-faculty relationship also adversely affects the development of primary source collections in general. Some believed it was the result of a larger change in the administration of university libraries. “Universities are now undergoing a fundamental culture shift. Libraries are now controlled by ‘information scientists,’ whereas thirty years ago those who bought the books were academics, scholars.” Others believed that the ability of university librarians now to ensure strong research collections has been weakened by the changed stature and position of the librarian on campus.

One scholar cited the fact that at the University of Kansas the university librarian now reports to the vice chancellor in charge of information technology, rather than to the provost.

Others noted that scholars, particularly younger ones, no longer provide the constituency for the long-term building resources in libraries that they have traditionally. One participant noted that “It is the era of the boutique scholar” and that “Faculty think increasingly on a narrow horizon of their own academic interests.” There is less interest among junior faculty, he said, in “institution-building,” i.e., in developing library collections that will sustain advanced research across a broad range of topics.

3) CRL is affected by the threat to scholarly research in the humanities in general posed in part by the market economics prevailing in libraries and universities. Contraction in academic library spending brought about by the recent economic downturn has reduced funds for research collections, i.e., materials other than those that support the core undergraduate curriculum. This concentration is at the expense of primary source and other materials that are used for advanced research in humanities and social sciences. Conferees, however, asserted that this was not a recent phenomenon but rather a longstanding trend that has recently intensified. The trend was believed by many at the conference to be part of the marginalization of the humanities in general taking place on many campuses, particularly the graduate humanities. The largest investments made by universities, it was noted, are to attract undergraduates and to support science, technology, and medicine, areas of study that tend to be heavily subsidized by grants for research and development and income from technology transfer.

Moreover, conferees believed that the cost-benefit analyses widely applied in making library spending decisions endangered humanities primary source materials because of their infrequent use compared to core curriculum materials. As one participant noted, “The most important scholarly research is done with materials on the fringes.”

Primary resources for humanities research, particularly...
non-English language materials, are often difficult and costly to acquire and maintain. When evaluated in terms of common library metrics such as cost-per-use, then, such materials tend to rank low among collection managers’ priorities, and therefore are less likely to be acquired, cataloged, and preserved. One conferee observed that such materials are also most likely to be relocated to remote storage locations when space becomes scarce. Participants lamented that library decisions are increasingly driven by such metrics, and that their libraries are apt to question purchase of foreign materials, “When ninety percent of collection use is for English language materials.” This fosters what one historian termed “consumerist scholarship.”

The situation might be viewed as a part of the more general crisis in scholarly communications that affects not only CRL but individual libraries and university presses as well. This is the crisis recently described in a special report in The Chronicle of Higher Education, “The Crumbling Intellectual Foundation,” namely the erosion of the academic infrastructure supporting the liberal arts and scholarship.

Conferees also expressed concern about the other major non-academic libraries upon which the scholarly community has traditionally relied to preserve and make available this kind of material. Many of the scholars observed that institutions like the Library of Congress and New York Public Library, hampered by funding shortfalls for preservation and service, are unable to preserve their holdings of important scholarly materials such as early American or foreign newspapers. This results in greater reliance by the academic community on the Center to maintain and make these kinds of materials available. Hence, it was felt that the role CRL plays in the “ecology” of scholarly resources by preserving lesser used materials is increasingly solitary and therefore critical. One scholar acknowledged the importance of CRL as an institution “that still cultivates the obscure.”

Economic trends in the academic world are in fact enlarging the realm of “the obscure” and creating a need for an even larger portion of the corpus of research materials to be preserved outside the individual universities. Regional repositories created by some libraries and consortia have met some of the increased demand for preservation. But the trend challenges the Center’s ability to continue to serve as an “omnium gatherum,” and suggests that it might more narrowly focus its collecting activities. Conferees believed that CRL could better focus on areas of strength and high value to the scholarly community, notably newspapers, microform collections, dissertations, and government documents, and should favor those of its programs that build in these areas, such as the major subscriptions, Area Microform Programs, and purchase proposal programs.

However, there was a strong consensus among conferees that coordinated action on the national level is necessary to adequately address this challenge and that the Center should catalyze this action.

**CONCLUSIONS AND NEXT STEPS**

The conference discussions made clear that the Center must better facilitate knowledge and discovery of CRL holdings among researchers and make a stronger case for the value of those holdings and services. Progress on these fronts will serve the dual purpose of fostering scholarly research and improving the sustainability of the Center’s preservation and collecting activities. Pursuant to the conference, Center administration and staff will take the following steps:

1. “Push” more and better information about CRL resources out to scholars. This involves cataloging the Center’s important un-cataloged holdings. It also entails making CRL holdings more discoverable directly by researchers by exposing CRL catalog records and finding aids on the Web and, where possible, in member universities’ systems; providing academic librarians tools to enable them to guide researchers to content at CRL in a “discipline-friendly” way; and using the other electronic and traditional, discipline-specific channels of communication, such as the newsletters of the American Historical Association and Organization of American Historians newsletters, and other venues to publicize CRL collections as they are acquired, cataloged and preserved.

2. Enhance channels for feedback about CRL collections from scholars, to better measure the value of CRL resources and improve the focus of collection-related information pushed to the community. The effectiveness of CRL programs and services depends upon the continual and ongoing analysis of scholars’ use of Center holdings. First-hand knowledge of such uses requires expanding CRL participation in meetings and conferences of scholarly societies, interaction with faculty during member univer-
sity site visits; and gathering information on use of CRL holdings through ILL contacts. Profiling of specific scholarly research projects drawing heavily on uses of Center materials can be used to “illustrate” the value of the Center’s collections more accurately than strictly quantitative, transaction-based statistics. These profiles can also be published in the Center’s on-line newsletter to convey the value of CRL resources to other scholars in related fields.

3. Explore creation of greater on-site use of the Center’s holdings. Many conferees agreed that the Center’s profile in the scholarly community would be strengthened by a program of fellowships and scholarly residences. The Center should investigate the possibility of serving as a regional facility for empirical research in modern, international studies with a scholars-in-residence program. Such a program would bring younger scholars, i.e., graduate students and junior faculty on-site to use the collections, and take advantage of the holdings of all of the universities in the area.

In addition the high value placed by the conferees on the continued availability of the kinds of scholarly resources maintained by CRL, and their endorsement of the Center’s continued “cultivation of the obscure,” convinced us that the Center plays a crucial role in the national, academy-wide system of preservation. It is clear also that CRL alone cannot remedy the threats to the survival of these kinds of materials posed by diminishing support for the humanities at individual universities and libraries. Rather the Center must work with the other national-level repositories, scholarly societies, and funding agencies to find ways to compensate for these economics and to help achieve efficient, systematic management of scholarly resources on the national level. Conferees identified a number of appropriate partners in this endeavor: the Library of Congress, National Archives, National Endowment for the Humanities, the larger foundations, American Council of Learned Societies, and the Social Science Research Council.

Achieving coordinated strategy and action on a scale necessary to mitigate the substantial challenges to scholarly resource management, one participant noted, will require an arduous and sustained effort. The Center’s administration and staff will begin to work with the leadership of the aforementioned organizations, and others as appropriate, to move such an effort forward.

– Bernard Reilly

CRL Cooperative Preservation:

American Antiquarian Society Seeks Early North American and Caribbean Newspapers

The American Antiquarian Society (AAS) invites donations from libraries of holdings of newspapers published in the United States, Canada, and the Caribbean Islands prior to 1877. The Society seeks to build upon its role as a principal U.S. repository for hard copy of American newspapers. The Society will bear the costs of shipping, cataloging and preserving the newspapers donated by libraries. The Center for Research Libraries endorses this AAS effort, as part of its role of fostering the cooperative preservation of important materials for scholarly research.

Newspapers have been an integral part of the Society’s collections and mission since its founding in 1812. The AAS newspaper collection is the largest in the world for the period through 1820, and one of the largest in the world for the period 1821-1876. The Society’s newspaper holdings are strongest for the eastern United States, but the AAS is working to aggressively strengthen its newspaper holdings from the southern, midwestern, and western United States. Moreover, AAS has sponsored and supported many of the most important bibliographic surveys of early American newspapers, including Clarence Brigham’s monumental History and Bibliography of American Newspapers, 1690-1820, and Winifred Gregory’s American Newspapers, 1821-1936.

The primary goal for the collection is to acquire, preserve, and make available for research on the AAS premises newspapers published in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries in the United States, Canada, and the Caribbean Islands. The AAS holds over fifteen thousand newspaper titles accounting for more than two million issues on five miles of shelving. The collection is preserved in protective folders and boxes in a climate-controlled environment in a recently constructed wing of the Society’s facility in Worcester, Massachusetts. The AAS is open to anyone needing to use the collections for research.

The American Antiquarian Society solicits newspapers in the following areas:
• American newspapers up to 1876 except for the following states: Arkansas, Kansas, Nebraska, Oklahoma, Oregon and Texas to 1880; Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Washington, and Wyoming to 1890; Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, New Mexico, Nevada, and Utah to 1895; and Alaska to 1900
• West Indies and Canada to 1876
• Great Britain to the end of the Revolutionary War
• Central American countries to 1876 in English

Libraries interested in donating original newspapers that fit the AAS collection criteria should contact Vincent Golden, Curator of Newspapers and Periodicals, American Antiquarian Society, 185 Salisbury St., Worcester, MA 01609-1634 (email: vgolden@mwa.org; phone: 508-471-2148).

For more information about the American Antiquarian Society, its collections and its programs see:
www.americanantiquarian.org.

**Mellon Grant to Test Distributed Print Archive Model**

At the beginning of 2002, the Center received a two-year grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation to model and test a framework for the distributed, long-term retention of artifactual collections, using JSTOR journals as a test bed of materials.

The Mellon grant proposes to look at five critical areas essential to the development of a national print archival system: the economics of distributed, long-term retention of artifactual collections; the framework and logistical support necessary for such collections and CRL’s role in providing this support; the development of access archives in addition to dark archives; the development of specific and formal terms and conditions; and the definition and analysis of risk factors associated with those terms and conditions.

**WHAT WE HAVE DONE TO-DATE**

The project got off to a good start in June 2002 when members of the Center staff met with the three partners from Michigan State University, the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and Yale University. The Center staff used that meeting to clarify the role of the partners in developing the model, to define the role CRL would play in the process and to begin to develop criteria for the terms and conditions that each institution would sign.

In July, the Center hired Barbara DesRosiers as the project coordinator for the grant and began working on the terms and conditions. In September, the Center sent a draft of the terms and conditions to the partners for feedback. The terms and conditions are being revised and will soon be sent to the Center’s legal counsel for guidance in developing them as legally-binding agreements. Once finalized, the terms and conditions will be posted on the Center’s Web site and available to the scholarly community at-large.

During these early months the Center has also pursued the equally critical work of soliciting libraries to donate material for the project. We are locating or acquiring multiple copies of titles to be held in distributed locations as regional access copies. As part of this effort, the Center continues to add to its own collection of JSTOR titles as a “dark” copy, meant for use only in cases of catastrophic loss or other exigent circumstances.
WHAT WE HAVE LEARNED FROM OUR PARTNERS

These critical early steps have provided valuable learning opportunities for the Center. Each one of the partner institutions brings a different set of local conditions to the project. Michigan State has very limited space for their collections and will be working with materials from their own holdings that match the profile of the grant. The University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign has very crowded conditions now but anticipates a state-of-the-art shelving facility to be completed and functional by Summer 2003. They are working with a limited number of locally held titles for the first year, but will take on other materials, possibly from outside donations, in the second year. Yale University has a library shelving facility that is already up and running. They are the primary modeling site for materials that are donated to the Center from other libraries. We are also working with Yale to identify the issues involved with creating an access archive for some of the JSTOR material held in special collections.

In each case, the unique conditions of the institution shaped their response to the draft terms and conditions. Working with them, the Center has revised the documents to reflect the specific local conditions that dictate the shape and degree of each institution’s participation. The Center hopes that a model that has the flexibility to adapt to partners, rather than forcing partners to adapt to a national plan, will result in greater dedication to the project and more participation from the library community.

WHAT WE HAVE LEARNED FROM POTENTIAL DONORS

Potential donors have told us a lot about their use of JSTOR and how the Center’s efforts can help them at their own institutions. Whether they came to the project because their own shelves were overflowing or because the print materials simply are not in demand anymore, these librarians and decision makers have indicated that they can benefit locally by donating their materials to the Center. Informing their colleagues and faculty that they could be part of a larger, community-based preservation effort can tip the scales in favor of the decision to remove JSTOR volumes from their collections. It is gratifying that the timing of this grant creates so much interest in the Center and synergy within the library community.

Some libraries have already begun to make significant changes locally. Many have stopped binding JSTOR titles in print. Some have further resorted to discarding print materials that are available on JSTOR, retaining only those volumes not yet online because of the moving wall. The donating libraries often have limited shelving capacity and do not expect to plan additions or renovations. They have found that their budgets do not allow them keep up with the cost of retaining both print and digital access to resources. For all these reasons, they are relying solely on the stability of JSTOR.

In addition, efforts at local libraries and among regional groups mirror the effort the Center has undertaken. Librarians are joining up with colleagues at neighboring institutions to develop joint collections, to undertake local de-duplication projects, to assign “last copy” responsibilities among themselves and to develop joint storage or shelving facilities. The Center has received a grant from the Council on Library and Information Resources to write a report on some of these efforts. (Look for more on this in a future issue of FOCUS.)

NEXT STEPS

After the terms and conditions are in place, the Center will take up other important activities. A representative of the Center will perform at least one site visit to each partner’s archival site to certify that the conditions of storage are being met. The Center will work to develop a national registry system. Third parties will have the ability to search the registry, locate the corresponding terms and conditions online and decide whether the conditions and number of copies stored are sufficient for them to remove the material from their own shelves. The Center will compile data on the costs associated with these activities and on the experience of the partner institutions.

Donation solicitations are an ongoing activity, both for the archive at the Center as well as additional copies which would be placed in one of the partners’ facilities. More information about the Center’s holdings of JSTOR titles and the project is available at http://www.crl.edu/info/JSTOR/CRLJSTOR.htm. Members who are interested in donating JSTOR titles to the Center should contact the project coordinator, Barbara DesRosiers,
Center Awarded NEH Preservation Grant

In July 2002 the National Endowment for the Humanities awarded CRL a Preservation Assistance Grant. The grant supports the work of a consulting conservator to assess the Center’s 800,000-title foreign doctoral dissertations collection and prescribe and specify recommended preservation measures. The consultant will identify treatment options and preservation measure appropriate to the collection, which includes materials dating from the mid nineteenth century through the present year. Many of these materials are paper-bound and fragile. The consultant will also conduct training sessions for CRL staff on best practices in handling and re-housing the collection.

Although the immediate focus of the grant is on the needs of the dissertations collection, the consultant’s investigations and recommendations will enable CRL to devise handling, re-housing, and simple treatment routines that address the preservation needs of similar, fragile paper based collections while accommodating the requirements for access to these collections.

Sherry Byrne, Preservation Librarian at the University of Chicago Library, is the consultant to the Center for the project. In charge of developing and managing a comprehensive preservation program at the University of Chicago since 1987, Ms. Byrne brings broad experience with planning and managing preservation programs for large libraries to this assessment project as well as knowledge of the Center and its collections. She has managed numerous preservation microfilming projects and is currently developing the University of Chicago Library’s digitization program.

Ms. Byrne began her evaluation of the collection in October and will complete the data-gathering portion of the study in November.

Iraq: Selected Resources in the CRL Collections

With world attention focused on Iraq, we offer here a partial list of materials from or about that country in the Center’s collections. These materials consist mostly of newspapers produced in Iraq or, in one case, in Iran and press reports from the 1930s through the 1980s. In addition we provide a list of dissertations pertaining to politics, military, economics and agriculture in Iraq produced by Arab world and Western scholars during the late 1950s through 1998. Finally we also include references to a small number of U.S. Department of State and Department of Defense records and studies on Iraq, and a large collection of League of Nation documents and publications pertaining to the region.

All of the materials are available on interlibrary loan from the Center. The Center has acquired and preserved substantial additional materials relating to the Middle East through its Middle East Microform Project (MEMP). The URL for the MEMP website is:
http://www.crl.edu/info/memp.htm

Information for this report was compiled by Mary Wilke and James Simon.

THE IRAQI PRESS

Please see also the CRL online collections catalog at http://catalog.crl.edu/ and the CRL online Foreign Newspaper Database at http://www.crl.edu/DBSearch/ForeignNews.asp.

1. *al-Hatif*
   City: Baghdad
   Imprint: al-Najaf : [s.n.], 1935-
   This general interest newspaper is important as a source for the history of the Shiites in Iraq in the middle third of the 20th century.

2. *Baghdad news*
   Frequency: Daily
Language: English
Earlier Title: Iraq times
Later Title: Baghdad observer
OCLC 1: 12417401

3. Baghdad observer
Frequency: Daily
Publication Dates: Dec. 6, 1967 –
Language: English
Earlier Title: Baghdad news
OCLC 1: 31910320
MF-6106 (30 reels) 1982-

4. Iraq times
City: Baghdad
Frequency: Daily
Publication Dates: 1914-May 1964
Language: English
Earlier Title: Baghdad times; Times of Mesopotamia
Later Title: Baghdad news
OCLC 1: 34390483
OCLC 2: 5529284

5. Baghdad press extracts
Imprint: Baghdad : British Embassy Information Dept.,

6. Daily review of the Baghdad press
Imprint: Baghdad, Iraq :Embassy of the U.S.A.,

7. Press summary
Imprint: [Baghdad, Iraq]
Holdings: MF-7755 MEMP (3 reels) Dec. 20-26, 28-29, 1951, Jan. 3-29, Mar. 1, Mar. 4-July 1952 (reels 1-2); Apr. 21, May 17-18, May 21-June 2, 1953; Feb. 2-Mar. 1, 1954 (reel 3)

8. Ahali group newspapers. The Ahali group newspapers represent the ideas, philosophy, and political activities of first, the Ahali group, and later the National Democratic Party of Iraq. The Ahali group was a left-wing political organization founded in 1932 by Hussein Jameel. In 1936, following the first military coup in Iraq (and indeed the Arab world), the Ahali group was brought into power by Gen. Bakr Sidqi under the promise of social reform. The National Democratic Party (founded under a period of political liberalization in 1945 – 46) supported the movement for a restoration of democracy under the re-established monarchy of Iraq. The political publications of the group commence in 1932 and continue their intermittent appearance, under various names, until 1963. A detailed index (in Arabic) is available in print and CD-ROM.

Holdings: CRL Shelf # MF-11962.
Reel no. 1. al Ahali, 2 Jan. 1932-7 Apr. 1932
Reel no. 2. al Ahali, 10 Apr. 1932-30 June 1930
Reel no. 3. al Ahali, 21 Apr. 1933-10 July 1933
Reel no. 4. al Ahali, 15 July 1933-27 Dec. 19
Reel no. 7. Sawt al ahali, 5 July 1943-8 May 1944
Reel no. 8. Sawt al ahali, 9 May 1944-14 Mar. 1945
Reel no. 10. Sawt al ahali, 29 Jan. 1946-19 Feb. 1947
Reel no. 11. Sawt al ahali, 20 Feb. 1947-16 Aug. 1948
Reel no. 15. Sada al ahali, 25 May 1951-21 Mar. 1952
Reel no. 18. al Muatin, 21 Nov. 1962-8 Feb. 1963. al Akhaa al watani
Reel no. 19. al Ahali, 1 Nov. 1958-6 May 1959
Reel no. 20. al Ahali, 6 May 1959-20 Oct. 1959
Reel no. 22. al Ahali, 1 Apr. 1960-13 Sept. 1960
Reel no. 23. al Ahali, 13 Sept. 1960-14 Feb. 1961
Reel no. 27. Sawt al ahali, 6 Apr. 1944-18 Aug. 1944.

See also: Fabrasat majmuat subuf al-Abali

9. Liwa al-sadr
Imprint: Tihran : Liwa al-sadr,
Liwa al-Sadr is an Iraqi exile newspaper published in Iran.

SELECTED FOREIGN DOCTORAL DISSERTATIONS ON IRAQ

Author: Niama, Khadim Hashim
Title: Anglo-Iraqi relations during the mandate.
Diss. Note: University College of Wales, 1974
Subject/Keywords/Notes: Iraq – Foreign relations – Great Britain 1914-1921
CRL Shelf #: P-80000242

Author: Aiubov, Nariman Shabanovich
Title: Vnutripoliticheskaia borba v Irake v 1963-1968 godakh
Diss. Note: Thesis (Kand. ist. nauk.)-MGU im. M.V. Lomonosova, In-t stran Azii i Afriki, 1988
Subject/Keywords/Notes: Iraq--History--Revolution, 1963
CRL Shelf #: FICHE RUSS DISS 90/01 no. 122

Author: Al-Izzi, Khalid
Title: The Shatt Al-Arab River dispute
Diss. Note: Rijksuniversiteit te Groningen, 1971
Subject/Keywords/Notes: Shatt al-Arab (Iraq and Iran)--International status
CRL Shelf #: P-60000558

Author: Henry, Clarence C
Diss. Note: University of Birmingham, 1995
CRL Shelf #: P-80000008

Author: Ashton, Nigel John
Title: British strategy and Anglo-American relations in the Middle East, January 1955-March 1959.
Diss. Note: University of Cambridge, 1992
Subject/Keywords/Notes: Iraq, Baghdad Pact, Oil
CRL Shelf #: P-80000151

Author: Al-Dabbagh, Hashim
Title: Etudes statistiques sur le developpement economique de l'Irak
Diss. Note: Universite de Poitiers, 1959
CRL Shelf #: P-00005190

Author: Holmberg, Bjorn
Title: Passing the open windows: a quantitative and qualitative approach to immediate military balance and escalation of protracted conflicts
Diss. Note: University of Uppsala, 1998
Subject/Keywords/Notes: Iran-Iraq War, 1980-1988; India-Pakistan Conflict, 1971, Peace
CRL Shelf #: P-00070852

Author: Kanafani, Noman
Title: Oil and development: a case study of Iraq
Diss. Note: University of Lund, 1982
CRL Shelf #: P-00065136

Author: Tarbush, Mohammad
Title: The role of the military in politics: a case study of Iraq from 1936-1941
Diss. Note: University of Oxford, Michaelmas Term 1977
CRL Shelf #: P-80000815

Author: Al-Najar, Y. G
Title: Economic development in relation to agriculture in Iraq.
Diss. Note: University of Nottingham, 1974
CRL Shelf #: P-60000017
**Cataloging and Metadata Update**

Four cataloging projects — the Foreign Doctoral Dissertations, Turkish, Russian popular journals and the National Archives and Records Administration microfilm — underscore the eclectic nature of CRL’s holdings and highlight how the Center is processing collections as a whole and responding to members’ feedback and evaluations.

**NON-U.S. DISSERTATIONS**

The Foreign Doctoral Dissertations collection consists of approximately 800,000 titles. Since January 2002 when the Center received a Mellon grant to begin cataloging the dissertations as a collection, over 70,000 have been cataloged. The basic catalog record includes essential bibliographic description — title, author, date of creation or publication, pagination, and institution granting the degree. In OCLC’s WorldCat, all fields can be searched with a keyword search. In the Center’s OPAC, author and title are the access points. For the first 50,000 dissertations cataloged this year, English subject keywords were added as an additional access point.

In August the dissertation staff began reviewing the records for errors, evaluating the quality of the subject headings and evaluating the workflow of the project. Adding English keywords to the records was identified as an important part of the cataloging in the 2001 Collections Assessment Task Force report. Project staff found that providing this type of indexing demands a high level of language expertise and an ability to evaluate the specifics of the subject covered in each dissertation cataloged. If students cataloging assistants have proven language proficiency, they add keywords to the records. We are researching a variety of documents which were not offered for sale by the U.N. Some of the documents filmed have Iraq as their subject. MF-4591

**Special studies series** (University Publications of America, Inc.) CRL has the 18 reel subseries, *The Middle East special studies*, 1970-80. The authors of these special studies were associated with such research facilities as the Army War College’s Strategic Studies Institute, the National Defense University and the Institute for Defense Analysis. Some of the special studies have Iraq as their subject. MF-6701
options for adding keyword access to all records and will develop a workflow for indexing before the next phase of the project begins.

MODERN TURKISH PUBLICATIONS

Given the heightened interest in the Islamic World, Turkish language items were identified in the unprocessed material and organized for cataloging in two groups — modern and Ottoman Turkish. The Center has completed cataloging items in modern Turkish and has begun working on the Ottoman Turkish. The addition of these works brings the total of modern Turkish language holdings at the Center to more than 700 items. The collection includes dictionaries, almanacs, government documents, dissertations and general works covering politics, law, contemporary society, religious thought, and the arts.

According to graduate students from the Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations Department at the University of Chicago, who helped catalog this collection, these materials reflect the evolution from one-party system to multi-party democracy and demonstrate involvement of disparate political ideologies. Social works highlight various aspects of twentieth-century life in Turkey including religious issues, rites and customs, social conditions, and law. Historical and cultural works focus on the development of national identity in the new Turkish Republic and chronicle urban and rural life. The arts include original modern Turkish language plays and novels as well as translations of popular books from Europe and America and Persian, Arabic, Ottoman and European classics published in modern Turkish.

RUSSIAN POPULAR JOURNALS

The Center holds over 600 titles of popular Russian journals. Approximately 300 of those have been cataloged or the holdings of existing records updated since March. The collection covers the 1950s to the early 1980s; the holdings of individual titles vary within that time frame. Topics vary according to the subject scope of the title, but generally cover issues relating to family, health, work, technology, agriculture, women’s social issues, popular science, art, literature and society. Many of these journals, covering the last decades of the Soviet regime, are illustrated with photographs and drawings, many in color. A significant number of journals in the collection frequently deal with Russian politics and political figures in a humorous way with cartoons and jokes.

NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS ADMINISTRATION MICROFILMS

The microfilm sets of the records of the National Archives and Records Administrations were identified as a cataloging priority in response to the recommendations of the participants of the Historian’s Conference held by the Center last spring. The Center holds both complete sets and partial sets. Since July, the cataloging of the Center’s holdings of M series of publications has been completed and catalogers are on schedule to finish the T series of publications by the beginning of 2003. An additional series statement is being added to each of the records to make it possible for patrons to do a title search of the M or T number itself. The series statement will appear, for example, as NARA M300, but patrons will only have to do Words in title search of the series letter and number, for example, M300, to find the record of the set they need.

Amy Wood
New Materials Received by CRL

(August 2002-October 2002)

OCLC record numbers are supplied as reference to more complete bibliographic information. The Center’s holding symbol (CRL) may not yet be attached to the record cited.

1930 CENSUS PURCHASE

Fifteenth Census of the United States (U.S. National Archives, T626). Based on members’ preferences, the following states (and Soundex, when available) were purchased in FY02. (CRL will eventually purchase the remaining states.)

In addition, in response to a request from the New York Public Library, additional finding aids in microfilm were purchased. (1,547 reels total purchased)

- California (rolls 100-228) (OCLC #49857259)
- Florida (rolls 306-335) (OCLC #49794390)
- Georgia (rolls 336-394) (OCLC #49650939)
- Illinois (rolls 405-573) (OCLC #49861459)
- Massachusetts (rolls 883-971) (OCLC #49863175)
- New York (rolls 1401-1670—no reel #1602) (OCLC #49589010)
- Ohio (rolls 1746-1891) (OCLC #50150300)
- Texas (rolls 2287-2413) (OCLC #50933447)
- Virginia (rolls 2433-2483) (OCLC #49605912)

Soundex reels purchased:
- Florida (M2051, rolls 1-98) (OCLC #49794391)
- Georgia (M2052, rolls 1-253) (OCLC #50067963)
- Virginia (M2059 rolls 1-127) (OCLC #49792209)

Because so few of the states have accompanying Soundex reels, CRL has completed its holdings of the following microfilm finding aids:

- Index to Selected City Streets and Enumeration Districts, 1930 Census (M1930) (OCLC #49866945)
- Enumeration District Maps for the Fifteenth Census of the United States. 1930 (M1931) (OCLC #49422087)
- Descriptions of Enumeration Districts, 1830-1950 (T1224) (OCLC #13890618)

DISSERTATIONS

Doctoral Dissertations titles in all formats received as a result of demand purchase, exchange, and deposit: 2,982.

AREA STUDIES MICROFORMS – AFRICANA (THROUGH CAMP)


South Africa. Commission of Inquiry into the press. First portion of the report of the Commission of Inquiry into the Press [Pretoria: s.n., 1964]. Contains First portion of the Report... as well as Annexures I-XXI of the report. 4 reels. (OCLC #50950557)


The Bolshevist (Cape Town: Industrial Socialist League of South Africa), [1919-1921]. [v.1, no. 1 - v. 2, no. 6] : 1 reel. (OCLC #50946236)

GENERAL ARCHIVES IN MICROFORM (THROUGH THE DEMAND PURCHASE PROGRAM)

Compiled service records of Confederate soldiers who served in organizations from the state of Texas. (U.S. National Archives. M323) Reel 165. 1 reel. (OCLC #16703503)

United States. Consulate (Melbourne, Australia). Despatches from United States consuls in Melbourne, 1852-1906 (U.S. National Archives. T102) Reels 1-16. 16 reels. (OCLC #24819123)


Indian census rolls, 1885-1940 (U.S. National
CRL Communications:

CRL Hosts 2nd Aberdeen Woods Conference on Cooperative Collection Development

On November 8 – 10, CRL hosted the second triennial Aberdeen Woods Conference on cooperative collection development, entitled “The New Dynamics & Economics of Cooperative Collection Development.” Ninety-five participants gathered for the three-day event, representing a broad spectrum of universities, consortia, and vendors. The Conference program included:

- A keynote address by Robert Martin, Director of the Institute of Museum and Library Studies (IMLS);
- Invited speeches by Ross Atkinson of Cornell University, Daniel Greenstein, of the California Digital Library, and Dan Hazen of Harvard University;
- A number of paper presentations dealing with the various forms and aspects of cooperative collection projects.
- The reports of the Working Groups formed at the first Aberdeen Woods Conference in 1999. These groups examined topics including the best practices of cooperative library projects, the development of a map and typology of existing projects, the application of quantitative evaluative measures to cooperative collection activities, and the extension of cooperative practices to the development of collections in the physical sciences.

The presented papers and reports of the Working Groups are available in PDF format in the CRL website at: [http://www.crl.edu/awcc2002/papers.htm](http://www.crl.edu/awcc2002/papers.htm).

The Center will produce a formal report on the outcomes of the Conference in coming weeks and post this report to its website. In addition, Haworth Press will devote an issue of the journal Collection Management to publication of the papers, and this issue will be published in 2003.

The Center wishes to thank the Gladys Kreible Delmas Foundation for its support of the Conference and the
CRL to Implement Website Design Upgrades

In early January, CRL will unveil a new design of its website, as it completes the first phase of a larger project aimed at increasing the usefulness of the site while providing simplified user access. This first phase will introduce a new design and some improved navigation pathways for the existing site. Later updates will include new features, such as the installation of collaborative workspaces for CRL initiatives, and expanded content, such as more subject-based finding aids to the collections.

CRL welcomes any feedback or suggestions about its website and these comments can be directed to Jim Green at green@crl.edu
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