Global Resources

A newsletter of the Global Resources Network

an initiative of

The Association
of American
Universities

The Association
of Research
Libraries

in cooperation with

The Center
for Research
Libraries

Director's Message

The AAU/ARL Global Resources Network (GRN) envisions changing the paradigm for strengthening North American access to international and foreign language resources in support of teaching and learning. One goal supports the efforts of discrete projects that focus on significantly expanding the depth, breadth, quantity, range of formats, and variety of international information resources. The six global projects have worked to achieve this goal and several have created new resources and capabilities to address specific scholarly needs.

The second goal of the Network is to make collections more coordinated and interconnected on a global scale to achieve economies of effort and resources, with the ultimate goal of greatly expanding access to a range of resources.

The framework for the Network concept might well lead to the development of new tools and structures to assist research libraries in addressing future needs. Some ideas that have been proposed for consideration by the research library community are:

- GIS-based maps that graphically represent North American collection overlaps and gaps.

- An expansion of the role and services of Library of Congress field offices in supplying materials from some areas of the world.

- Integrated search capabilities across multiple databases that facilitate the ability for scholars and students to identify materials of interest from any or multiple world areas, and when an item is found to request document delivery or interlibrary loan electronically.

- A clearinghouse to gather and disseminate information about the wide array of international capabilities and initiatives.

- A matrix-based analysis of GRN project activities and other international initiatives to facilitate collaboration and new lines of action, especially in technologically informed efforts.

- An agency to serve as a testbed for new approaches to a particular subset of international information. The agency would recruit participants, devise strategies, deploy technologies, evaluate results, and seek external support for innovative experiments.

Further information on these and other possibilities will be discussed in future issues of this newsletter and on the AAU/ARL Global Resources Network Web page. Comments on these and other GRN proposals may be sent to me at dora@arl.org. ❖

—Eudora Loh
Director, AAU/ARL Global Resources Network

For additional information, see "Scholars, Libraries, and the AAU/ARL Global Resources Program: Conceptual Framework and Options for Action" by Dan Hazen, at http://www.arl.org/arl/proceedings/142/GRPscholarRpt.pdf *and visit the Global Resources Network at:* http://www.arl.org/collect/grp/

Latin Americanist Research Resources Project

Scott Van Jacob
University of Notre Dame
Chair, LARRP Advisory Committee

In the inaugural *Global Resources* newsletter (Fall 2004), I provided an overview of the accomplishments of the Latin Americanist Research Resources Project (LARRP) during its first decade. I want to take this opportunity to report on current Latin Americanist Research Resources Project's (LARRP) current projects, issues under consideration, and upcoming events. It is an exciting and challenging time as we move forward building on our past successes.

Update on LARRP Members

The Latin Americanist Research Resources Project is a cooperative initiative of North American, Latin American, and Caribbean libraries that seek to improve access to the array of research resources published in Latin America. The project currently has 52 North American members and seven Latin American members. We welcome four new North American libraries —Arizona State University, Emory University, Rutgers University, and University of Michigan—as of November 2004. Each institution brings substantial resources to the project through their collections and capable bibliographers.

Rutgers and Michigan will participate in the distributed resources project in which each institution dedicates seven percent of its Latin American Studies (LAS) budget to increase acquisitions within a specific country or on a particular topic. Michigan will focus on Latin American women's activism; an important area of study that will benefit greatly from Michigan's focused collecting efforts. Rutgers has selected urban studies, an emerging area of research in the region as megalopolises, such as Mexico City and São Paulo, raise challenging environmental, governance, and migration issues for Latin America.
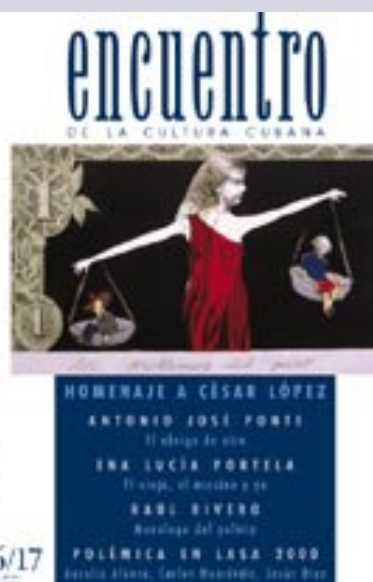
At the LARRP Advisory Committee meeting in December 2004 members contemplated a plan to expand membership by inviting libraries with special collections to join. For instance, there are legal, agricultural, and theological collections that could add important specialized resources if they were to join LARRP. The committee also initiated an ongoing discussion on the benefits of enlisting Spanish and Portuguese institutions. The committee will carefully consider the pros and cons of adding these library types before moving forward.

Project Fees

The most pressing issue facing the project is how to pay for the maintenance of our current databases. The project raised more than $1,000,000 during the past decade through membership fees and grants. With these funds, LARRP created the Latin American Periodicals Tables of Contents (LAPTOC), Presidential Messages, and the Latin American Open Archives Portal (LAOAP) databases. That funding has largely ceased. Now we have to find ways to continue these successful projects. At our June 2004 meeting, the membership agreed to support an annual member fee. This fee, which will be $900 for North American members and $100 for Latin American members, will provide enough funding to support the present databases and advisory committee meetings. The Advisory Committee supported this decision and directed the chair to invoice members in January 2005.

Promoting LARRP Resources

One area that the project must continue to emphasize is the promotion of its resources to scholars. Even after a decade of work, our materials are not familiar to as many scholars as we would like them to be. To this end, a Communications and Outreach Working Group has been created. The group includes Ann Barnhart (University of California in Santa Barbara), Teresa Chapa (University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill), Victor Torres (Universidad de Puerto Rico), Scott Van Jacob (University of Notre Dame), and Gayle Williams (Emory University). So far, the working group has updated the project brochure and circulated it at the Latin American

Studies Association (LASA) Congress last fall. In addition, LARRP will work closely with the Center for Research Libraries in building a new LARRP Web site. Our resources are only useful when they are known to scholars. We hope to greatly increase their awareness of our project within the next two years.

What Do Our Users Want?

Throughout the summer of 2004, the Communications and Outreach Working Group distributed surveys to the LARRP membership and LASA scholars to learn what resources they need to do their work. We continued to survey scholars during the 2004 LASA Congress in Las Vegas, Nevada. The responses provide a wealth of information, but are heavily skewed towards the social sciences, particularly political science. We will sift through these data for patterns of use and need. This survey is a first step towards gathering user information that will help the membership decide which projects to pursue.

Looking Ahead

The working groups have a lot to do prior to our meeting with LARRP members at SALALM in April 2005, including the following:

❖ Identify replacements for three Advisory Committee members—a University Librarian and two academic advisors—whose terms will expire in the fall.

❖ Initiate preparatory activities in anticipation of notice in March that LARRP will be awarded a TICFIA Grant from the Department of Education. Working with the Latin American Network Information Center (LANIC) and the Helen Kellogg Institute for International Studies at Notre Dame, we submitted a grant to digitize Latin American presidential documents and archive documents found on Latin American presidential Web sites.

❖ Work with the Center for Research Libraries to construct a new LARRP Web site.

❖ Prepare to launch the Latin American Open Archives Portal in 2005. The portal will provide Internet access to hard-to-find Latin American research materials.

At this point, I want to thank a number of individuals and libraries for their support of the project. For the past several years, the University of Texas at Austin, University of California, Los Angeles, and the University of Notre Dame have supported significant projects or the participation of librarians in leadership roles. Without this exceptional support, we would not have accomplished as much as we did. Also, this fall 67 member libraries of the Association of Research Libraries contributed funding for the 2005 administration of the Global Resources Network, the umbrella organization of LARRP. This ongoing institutional funding is key to our future endeavors.

The terms will expire this fall for the following three representatives of the LARRP Advisory Committee:

❖ Dale Canelas—Director of the George A. Smathers Libraries at the University of Florida, and LARRP's ARL director representative.

❖ Lars Schoultz—The William Rand Kenan, Jr. Professor of Political Science at the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill, and a LARRP faculty representative

❖ Nicolas Shumway—The Tomas Rivera Regents Professor in Spanish Language and Literature at the University of Texas in Austin, and a LARRP faculty representative.

These three have ably represented their constituencies and provided exemplary service to the committee. On behalf of the LARRP membership I extend a sincere *Thank You* to these individuals for their many contributions to the project.

Finally, our next member meeting will be at the annual Seminar on the Acquisition of Latin American Library Materials (SALALM) conference to be held at the University of Florida, Gainesville, in April 2005. It is a great opportunity for the membership to meet and discuss current events and upcoming issues. ❖

LARRP Membership

The Latin Americanist Research Resources Project welcomes four new institutions this fall. They are Arizona State University, Emory University, Rutgers University, and the University of Michigan. These institutions bring to the project the substantial resources of their Latin American Studies collections and the expertise and energy of their Latin Americanist bibliographers.

The Latin Americanist Research Resources Project now includes 52 North American and seven Latin American libraries.

North American members

Arizona State University
Boston College
Brigham Young University
Center for Research Libraries
Columbia University
Cornell University
Dartmouth College
Duke University
Emory University
Florida International University
Harvard University
Indiana University-Bloomington
Inter-American Development Bank
Library of Congress
Michigan State University
National Agricultural Library
New York Public Library
New York University
Ohio State University
Ohio University
Princeton University
Rice University
Rutgers University
Stanford University
Syracuse University
Tulane University
University of Arizona Library
University of California, Berkeley
University of California, Los Angeles
University of California, San Diego
University of California, Santa Barbara

University of Connecticut
University of Florida
University of Georgia
University of Illinois at Urbana/Champaign
University of Kansas
University of Massachusetts, Amherst
University of Miami
University of Michigan
University of Minnesota
University of New Mexico
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
University of Notre Dame
University of Pennsylvania
University of Pittsburgh
University of South Florida
University of Southern California
University of Texas at Austin
University of Toronto
University of Wisconsin-Madison
Vanderbilt University
Yale University

Latin American members

Biblioteca Inca
Centro de Investigaciones Regionales de Mesoamerica
Universidad de Puerto Rico
Universidad de San Andres
Universidade de São Paulo
Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul
University of the West Indies/St. Augustine

The Latin American Open Archives Portal

Eudora Loh
University of California, Los Angeles, and

Dr. Ning Lin, The University of Texas at Austin

Co-Directors, TICFIA Project on "Mining Hidden Gems: Building a Latin American Open Archives Portal for Scholars"

For more than a decade, the Latin Americanist Research Resources Project (LARRP) has mobilized to address scholarly concerns over the lack of access to Latin American research materials, specifically journal literature and presidential messages. Attempts to improve access to the publications of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) have met with less success. In October 2002, the Technological Innovation and Cooperation for Foreign Information Access (TICFIA) program of the U.S. Department of Education provided an opportunity to explore a new approach. Under a three-year grant to the UCLA Library[1], LARRP is collaborating with the Latin American Network Information Center (LANIC), at The University of Texas at Austin, to develop a Latin American Open Archives Portal (LAOAP) focusing on Latin American grey literature in the social sciences. The portal allows institutions in Latin America to disseminate their research to a larger audience on the Internet and provides scholars with a means to search more effectively for a wealth of research materials currently not widely available. The Open Archives Initiative Protocol for Metadata Harvesting (OAI-PMH) is the technological framework of the portal to support the interoperability and standards that facilitate increased scholarly communication.

Why the focus on grey literature? For the purpose of this project, grey literature is defined as the publications, research reports, working documents, and other materials not controlled by commercial publishers. As a body of research materials, grey literature tends to represent viewpoints and analyses outside the political and intellectual mainstream, often on emerging topics. The AAU Task Force on Acquisition and Distribution of Foreign Language and Area Studies Materials highlighted its significance by designating the collaborative acquisition of working papers and technical reports of research institutes in Latin America as a major objective.[2] While production of these reports has mushroomed, the task of identifying, acquiring, providing rapid access to, and preserving them remains a daunting challenge. Even with increasing Internet access, they often are hidden on fragile institutional Web sites for unpredictable lengths of time, or in the "Deep Web," generally beyond the search capabilities of commercial browsers and search engines.

LARRP's strategy to improve access to grey literature is to develop a model of collaboration working directly with key Latin American research institutions, non-governmental organizations, and peripheral agencies in Latin America who produce high quality social science research materials. These institutions serve as data providers and data repositories. LANIC will directly host digital files, as necessary, for Latin American institutions whose server capacity is limited. The project has tested and developed methodologies for scanning and digitizing content; for creating and converting metadata; and for exposing metadata for harvesting, all geared to the technological environment of the participating institutions. LANIC also offers technical assistance in metadata conversion and has developed a training component to build capacity for ongoing digitization projects in the region.

The initial Latin American partners have been selected for their prominence as social science research centers, for their regional presence, and for their excellent, highly-trained staff. The partners are:

❖ Facultad Latinoamericana de Ciencias Sociales-Chile (FLACSO-Chile), in Santiago, Chile. The FLACSO network in Latin America and the Caribbean was created as an initiative of the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organiza-

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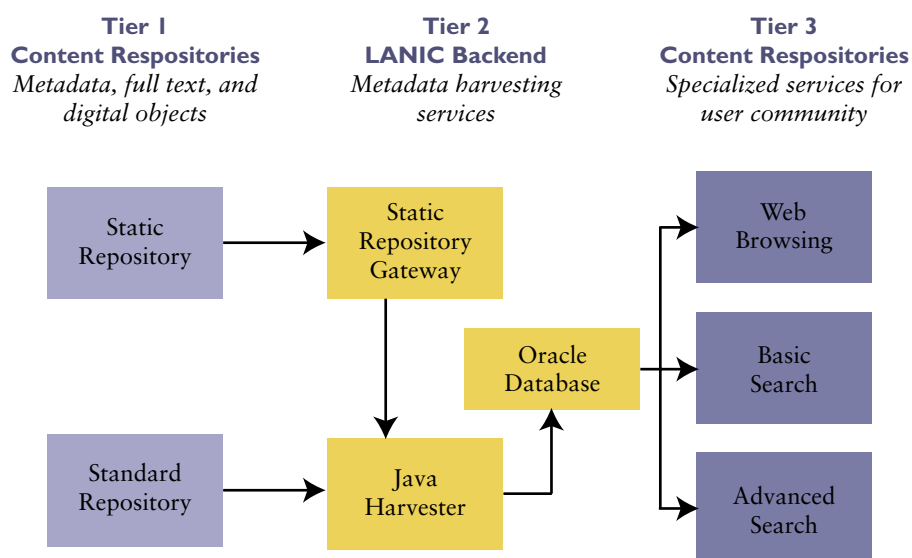
www.crl.edu/content/
GRNmain.htm

tion (UNESCO). FLACSO-Chile's working documents and other research materials cover many highly relevant topics including U.S.-Latin American relations, global questions, gender studies, immigration, democratization, and international relations and strategic studies.

❖ Centro de Investigaciones Regionales de Mesoamérica (CIRMA) in Antigua, Guatemala. CIRMA is a highly-respected research center with a strong regional presence in Central America. Its research reports focus on Guatemalan national identity, interethnic relations, and other topics. Its rich historical archive contains more than 30,000 photographs on the region. CIRMA also has close relations with several institutes that conduct linguistic studies of the indigenous languages spoken in Guatemala.

❖ Universidad Torcuato Di Tella in Buenos Aires, Argentina. A highly-regarded small, private research university with the best social sciences research library in Argentina, it produces working documents on a range of topics including political science, international studies, economics, and business.

LAOAP at LANIC provides access to the digital content of the repositories and specialized searching services aimed at the Latin Americanist social sciences research community. The three-tiered architecture of LAOAP is designed to comply with the OAI-PMH. The OAI, which initially developed a following in the e-print archives community, has taken a lead role in ensuring that digital data content providers use standardized metadata for electronic products to expose materials that otherwise would be hidden on the Web. OAI digital resources may also be "harvested" by other service providers that issue OAI-compliant "requests" as a means of collecting metadata from OAI repositories.

Latin American Open Archives Portal

Content flowchart in three-tiered system architecture.

Tier 1 Content Respositories *Metadata, full text, and digital objects*	Tier 2 LANIC Backend *Metadata harvesting services*	Tier 3 Content Respositories *Specialized services for user community*

Static Repository → Static Repository Gateway → Java Harvester → Oracle Database → Web Browsing / Basic Search / Advanced Search

Standard Repository → Java Harvester

The first tier of LAOAP's architecture includes two types of content repositories: standard and static. A standard repository requires a "full-fledged" OAI-compliant Web server that needs backend application support for processing PMH requests. A static repository does not require any server-side modifications, and it contains XML files with metadata records and repository information, which significantly lowers the barrier to entry into OAI-PMH for our Latin American partners. Most of LAOAP's grey literature is provided through static repositories, though we are open for harvesting any additional standard repositories in the field.

The second tier is the backend metadata harvesting services that consists of three main components: Java Harvester, Oracle database, and Static Repository Gateway (SRG). The Java

Harvester[3] gathers metadata either directly from standard repositories or indirectly from static repositories via our SRG. The LANIC SRG is a gateway between the Harvester and metadata XML files provided by the Latin American partners. The Oracle database receives and processes metadata records from our Harvester, and serves the searching functions via Java applications to the front end users. The backend programming work was completed and tested in 2004.

The third tier is the front end Web user interface (UI) that includes basic search, advanced search, and Web browsing features. Basic search provides keyword search of all the metadata stored in the database, and allows users to select different repositories. The advanced search offers several additional functions that enable users to define the metadata fields such as title, author, subject, abstract and language of the grey literature; to construct Boolean searching relationships among these fields; and to refine the results by limiting year of publication, sorting orders, and number of records per page. The Web browsing UI permits users to browse the metadata database as easily as if they were clicking though a series of systematically organized Web pages. Most of these metadata searching and browsing returns are linked to full-text documents. These interactive UI functions are supported by a series of reusable server-side Java applications, which are in the final stage of development.

Initial alpha release of the LAOAP user interface is scheduled for internal testing by the end of January 2005. Expanding the list of Latin American repository institutions and refining search features and metadata to meet the needs of the Latin Americanist social sciences research community are the next steps to realizing the full potential of the Latin American Open Archives Portal. ❖

For additional information, visit the Latin American Open Archives Portal Web site at: http://www1.lanic.utexas.edu/project/laoap/ *and "Bibliotecas Digitales Latinoamericanas en el Marco de OAI-PMH," by María Inés Bravo, Kent Norsworthy, Paula Pardo Lorca at* http://www1.lanic.utexas.edu/project/laoap/lasa2004_oai.pdf

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[3] LARRP would like to acknowledge the contribution of the UCLA Digital Library Program, which provided the initial source code for the Harvester. UCLA had, in turn, modified University of Illinois Urbana/Champaign code to run on Oracle for its OAI Sheet Music project. The LAOAP Java Harvester was developed by integrating and rewriting the source code.

Preserving Latin American Information and Heritage

Bernard F. Reilly, Jr.
President, Center for Research Libraries

Discussions of the challenges of preserving digital information and resources usually focus on the behaviors of the producers. How persistent are the resources produced? What provisions has the producer made for future accessibility? How do measures taken by producers to solidify their control of materials, such as copyright and encryption, hinder preservation?

The Center recently completed an investigation of how libraries might archive "primary source" digital materials, namely documents mounted on the Web by political groups. The report of the investigation is now available on the Center's Web site (see Political Communications Web Archive). When it comes to preservation the Political Web is a particularly tricky domain. We found it useful to examine the behaviors not only of the producers but of the users. We explored who those users are, how they use digital objects and communications, and what they need to support those uses.

In answer to the "Who?" question we found, predictably, a number of academic historians and social science researchers who are now using Web content as the basis for their research. These included University of Texas Professor of Economics Harry Cleaver, who studied in depth how the Zapatistas in Chiapas, Mexico, used the Web in the late 1990s to broadcast and gain worldwide support for their insurgency. Cleaver assembled on his Web site, *Zapatistas in Cyberspace,* http://www.eco.utexas.edu/Homepages/Faculty/Cleaver/zapsincyber.html, many important electronic texts, such as postings from supporters' listservs and online communiqués from the Ejército Zapatista de Liberación Nacional (EZLN), and links to places where such texts were archived elsewhere. Many of the other documents of the struggle have disappeared. It was interesting to see how Cleaver has taken on the role traditionally played by librarians and archivists, by creating and making available to others his own archive of source materials.

In addition to academic scholars, the public policy community also relies heavily upon Web sites and documents not only as sources of information, but as critical evidence for their work. A look at the studies published by policy research organizations like the Rand Corporation, Brookings Institute, and others reveals an increasing tendency to cite Web-based documents and data. Given the importance of such studies to national and international policy and decision-making, persistent presentation and "sourcing" of their evidence is critical.

A conference on human rights archives in South America's Southern Cone, organized by Deborah L. Jakubs at Duke University in October 2004, called our attention to yet another community of users who will rely on libraries to preserve and make available source materials, many of them in digital form. These are the survivors of those who disappeared or were killed under military dictatorships. The archives assembled by human rights organizations in the region are valuable sources for those identifying lost relatives, and for subsequent governments in prosecuting human rights violations.

For all of these reasons we are endeavoring to learn more about the needs and behaviors of researchers. Two events will help us this year. With support from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, we are working with the Library of Congress to convene a small group of Latin Americanists to discuss new and emerging research needs in five fields: history, public policy, economics, cultural studies, and law. The information obtained will give the Center, the Library of Congress, and the Foundation a better sense of where resources for cataloging, preservation, and digitization might be deployed in the future.

This spring, the Yale Center for International and Area Studies and the Yale University Library will host an invitational conference to explore ways in which scholars and libraries can help shape the scholarly resources that will support global studies in the future. The conference will bring together the AAU/ARL Global Resources Network Advisory Committee (chaired by

> "The Center recently completed an investigation of how libraries might archive "primary source" digital materials …"

Barbara Allen of the Committee on Institutional Cooperation) and faculty members and librarians from Yale and other universities. More information about the conference is available in the Global Resources Fall 2004 newsletter.

Together these events will help inform the agendas of the Center and its partners for preserving and developing resources for Latin American studies. With a keener sense of the needs of scholars and other users, we can ensure a durable foundation for these resources, digital and traditional. ❖

Global Activities Update

❖ A December 2004 "Global Resources Network Progress Report on GRN Goals and Outcomes" is available from the ARL GRN Web site.

❖ The Center for Research Libraries' Winter 2004–2005 issue of FOCUS highlights the Center's Latin American collections and resources.

Upcoming conferences involving GRN projects:

❖ Association for Asian Studies, March 31–April 3, 2005. Chicago, IL. Includes meetings in conjunction with:

Committee on Research Materials on Southeast Asia (CORMOSEA)— March 31, 2005

Committee on South Asian Libraries and Documentation (CONSALD)— March 31, 2005

North American Coordinating Council on Japanese Library Resources— April 1, 2005

❖ Global Resources Conference at Yale University, March 24–25, 2005

❖ Seminar on the Acquisition of Latin American Library Materials (SALALM), April 16–19, 2005. Gainesville, FL.

❖ Technological Innovation and Cooperation for Foreign Information Access (TICFIA) grantee conference, April 21–22, 2005. Charlottesville, VA.

❖ Africana Librarians Council (ALC), May 5–7, 2005. Evanston, IL.

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Global Resources Network

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