



Latin Americanist
Research Resources
Project
ISSUE

3

LARRP Coordinator's
Report

6

Latin American Open
Archives Portal

7

LAOAP Partner Profile:
Instituto de Estudios
Peruanos

9

Developing Vanderbilt's
Mesoamerican Collection:
The Benefits of Travel

11

Harvard-Yale Library
Collaboration: Latin
American Acquisitions and
Collections

12

Upcoming Meetings of
Interest

Global Resources

A newsletter of the Global Resources Network
an initiative of



The Center
for Research
Libraries

AAU

The Association
of American
Universities



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of Research
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Director's Message

The Global Resources Network (GRN) recently celebrated its one-year anniversary as part of the Center for Research Libraries' (CRL) portfolio of projects. We are grateful to the Association of Research Libraries (ARL) and CRL institutions that have contributed support to the program. A [recent report](#) to ARL directors highlights the important GRN activities of the past year.

The GRN Advisory Committee met at the end of November 2006 to evaluate progress of the Global Resources Network and its projects. The committee discussed required characteristics of new projects; reviewed and approved next steps for the GRN under CRL; and provided guidance on the proposed governance, member participation, and financing strategy for the GRN. At the meeting there was widespread support and approval for the program's direction, some of the details of which are reported below.

The issue of human rights is emerging as a new cross-regional focus of GRN interest. CRL libraries have done much in the past to ensure the survival and integrity of evidence and documentation of human rights violations. A few years ago Yale University Libraries, with support from CRL's Southeast Asia Microform Project and Cornell, preserved the files of the notorious Khmer Rouge S-21 prison in Cambodia. In 2004 Duke University convened the conference *History, Memory, and Democracy: Collaborative Digital Access to Research Resources on the Southern Cone*, which brought together representatives of key human rights archives in Latin America, librarians, faculty, and others with expertise and an interest in the future of access to these unique records. And more recently, the Center for Human Rights Documentation and Research, part of the University Libraries at Columbia University, was selected to be the repository of the archives of five major human rights organizations: Human Rights Watch, Amnesty International-USA, Committee of Concerned Scientists, Committee for Health in Southern Africa, and Human Rights First.

CRL initiated discussions with the John and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation to determine what future role libraries might play in protecting human rights-related documentation, especially as evidence is increasingly produced in electronic form. The MacArthur Foundation recently brought together representatives of a range of stakeholder communities—human rights monitoring and advocacy groups, jurists, archivists, and librarians—to explore this issue. We will report on the MacArthur discussions in the next Global Resources Newsletter.

Meanwhile, Columbia's Center for Human Rights Documentation and Research is jointly sponsoring a conference on the subject with the Global Resources Network. Scheduled for early October 2007 at Columbia, the conference will bring together representatives from GRN libraries, human rights lawyers, jurists, advocates, and researchers to explore the new challenges of

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protecting, preserving, and making appropriately accessible evidence for teaching, scholarship, advocacy, and social justice. The conference will provide an opportunity to identify solutions that serve all interests. More information about this GRN-Columbia event will be forthcoming.

Another cross-regional activity the GRN will promote is the identification and survey of endangered collections worldwide. This is the current focus of a new initiative of the Center for South Asia Libraries (CSAL) and the Council of American Overseas Research Centers (CAORC). The two organizations are creating and implementing online tools and methodologies for scholars, librarians, archivists, and others to identify and describe collections of important primary source materials held by local libraries and nonlibrary organizations in countries where American overseas centers are established. Collaborating overseas centers and their local project partners are located in the Mediterranean basin; West Africa; the Middle East and North Africa; South, Southeast, and Inner Asia; and Latin America. The surveys are the first step in preserving and providing access to critical and unique heritage materials.

Peter Lange, provost of Duke University, has agreed to chair the CRL committee that will govern the Global Resources Network program. The CRL board-level Global Resources Committee will consist of individuals active in international studies, with representation from CRL libraries, ARL, and the Association of American Universities. Peter will work with GRN staff to assemble the committee during the next few months.

CRL will continue to bring its resources to bear on the GRN through improved communication mechanisms, fostering common activities across projects, providing avenues for collaboration, and capitalizing on CRL strategic initiatives, such as its plans for electronic acquisition, licensing, and archiving and certification activities. We will be providing more information to interested participants in the coming month, and look forward to your ongoing support of the Global Resources Network in 2007 and beyond.

—James Simon
Director, Global Resources Network

Changing Global Book Collection Patterns in ARL Libraries

“[Changing Global Book Collection Patterns in ARL Libraries](#),” a report analyzing ARL member library cataloging data in the OCLC WorldCat database, presents evidence of changing patterns of collecting books with foreign imprints. This analysis finds that the overlap of global book collections among ARL libraries is not as extensive as expected.

When the data are examined by world regions, excluding North America, the overlap in holdings ranges on average from three to six copies of any foreign-imprint book at ARL libraries.

The study examined more closely books published in the countries most represented in ARL library collections (excluding North America). On average, holdings from these countries decreased in each five-year increment between 1980 and 2004, with the exception of books published in the UK, which showed a slight increase.

The report also introduces the [OCLC WorldMap](#), an interactive prototype that provides visual tools for managing and representing geographically based library collections and library data.

The report was prepared for the GRN by Mary E. Jackson, Auto-Graphics, Inc. (formerly of ARL); Lynn Silipigni Connaway, OCLC Online Computer Library Center, Inc.; Edward T. O’Neill, OCLC Online Computer Library Center, Inc.; and Eudora Loh, University of California, Los Angeles.



Map from *Royal Atlas*, 1861, courtesy David Rumsey maps at www.davidrumsey.org.

LARRP Coordinator's Report

Scott Van Jacob

Project Coordinator, LARRP

Iberian and Latin American Studies Subject Librarian, University of Notre Dame

The Latin Americanist Research Resources Project (LARRP) Advisory Committee held its annual meeting at the Library of Congress on December 8, 2006, to review the current work and provide direction for the coming year. Below are some of the significant issues that we addressed.

To assess and develop our collecting activities related to emerging areas of scholarship, we have updated our list of collection needs identified by scholars, and this list will be circulated to LARRP members. Next we will assess our current collection strategies within these areas. We may actually have better collections than expected.

The results of the 2006 [Distributed Resources Project Participants Survey](#) demonstrate the power of members' focused collecting by country or topic. Several recent core acquisitions deserve to be highlighted:

- ❖ Arizona State University, the newest member, has begun collecting literature, cinema, theater, and performance in Mexico and Argentina.
- ❖ Cornell University acquired fifteen years of the *Informe de opinion*, the political and consumer polling data in Peru compiled by the APOYO Asociacion para la Conservacion del Patrimonio Cultural de las Americas group.
- ❖ The University of Notre Dame acquired about 1,000 items (ranging from official documents to underground pamphlets) related to the Uruguayan dictatorship of the 1970s.
- ❖ Princeton University acquired political propaganda and ephemera dealing with the 2006 Chilean presidential election.
- ❖ Yale has added to their microfilm run of the newspaper the *San Juan Star* as part of their focus on Puerto Rico.

I am pleased to report that Catherine Marsicek, University of New Mexico, and Lynn Shirey, Harvard University, will serve on the Distributed Resources Project Working Group. They replace Karen Lindvall-Larson, University of California, San Diego, and Irene Münster, Inter-American Development Bank.

The advisory committee supported the proposal of the Latin American Open Archives Project (LAOAP) to add the content of two academic centers at the University of Texas, Austin. As the content grows within the database, we plan on advertising this rich resource through a number of venues. One venue will be the Latin American Studies Association Congress (Montreal, Canada, September 2007) where LARRP will again have an exhibit booth.

Mary Jo Zeter, chair of the Serials Working Group, reported that the Latin American Periodicals Table of Contents (LAPTOC) database is now OpenURL compliant. This standard allows users to seamlessly request articles found in the database through their local Inter-Library Loan (ILL) department. The original ILL agreement requires that all members expedite these requests free of charge. This agreement is not currently implemented by all members equally, and we hope to find a strategy to help libraries comply.

Carolyn Palaima, Latin American Network Information Center (LANIC) reported on the [Latin American Government Documents Archive \(LAGDA\)](#). The database contains digital content harvested from Latin American federal ministries, and the advisory committee was very interested in supporting this project. The Official Publications Working Group will work directly with this project over the next year, to collect feedback on the value of the site from faculty.

LARRP spent considerable time this past year negotiating price discounts from microfilm and database vendors. A few member libraries took advantage of the discounts, but not enough considering the work involved. At this point, LARRP will not pursue price discounts unless

asked by member libraries. There was considerable interest in pursuing consortial prices with Latinobarometro and other centers that hold polling data. The working group on consortial price discounts will investigate this.

Our members meeting will take place in Albuquerque, New Mexico, on April 27, 2007. Several of the issues discussed above will receive a broader hearing among the membership. ❖

Emerging Areas of Interest in Latin American Studies

Cultural Production

1. Music (recordings or sheet music)
2. Film
3. Cartoons (including caricatures, editorial cartoons in a portfolio of images cross-referenced by time, subject, country, etc.)
4. Travel literature (especially Latin American travel to the U.S. and Europe)
5. Popular cultural items (e.g., Cuban cigar boxes for their labels)

Economics

1. Access to quantitative data sets at both the macro and micro levels
2. Availability to data through the Internet
3. Availability to data through commercial aggregators

Environmental Sciences

1. Health statistics, particularly on disease and illness

Law and Society

1. Intra-regional trade organizations
2. Latin American criminal, civil, and commercial codes
3. Historical legal documents
4. State and subnational legal sources
5. Court decisions
6. Citizenship in Latin America
7. Latin American police

Migration

1. Studies of Latin American migrants in the U.S.
2. Intra-Caribbean migration

Gender Studies

1. Access to materials on masculinity

History

1. Difficulty accessing statistical information
2. Access to collections of Latin American radio and TV broadcasts
3. Identification of digital collections

History of Science

1. Technology
2. Industrialization

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Policy Studies

1. Secondary literature published in Latin America and not widely distributed
2. Growth of subnational governmental publications as a result of decentralization.

Race Relations

1. Indigenous movements
2. Marginal communities
3. Afro-Latin short run newspapers
4. Union publications
5. Working class publications

Rural education

Tourism in Latin America

1. Architectural
2. Ecological
3. Sexual, which intersects with child exploitation research
4. Heritage tourism, for Latinos and African Americans who return to the land of their ancestors, is also growing rapidly

Media Content

1. Television and radio advertising (e.g., commercial, religious, etc.)
2. Television and radio broadcasts
3. Internet content

Urban Studies

1. Data on urban crime related to violence, gangs, corruption, and police brutality
2. Government documents issued by city governments
3. City planning documentation
4. Media produced in metropolitan areas
5. Gambling

—updated February 16, 2007
Scott Van Jacob



Latin American Open Archives Portal

David Block

Curator of Native American and Latin American Collections; Acting Director, Latin American Studies Program, Cornell University

The Latin American Open Archives Portal (LAOAP) is part of the second phase of cooperative activities sponsored by the LARRP. Early LARRP projects were designed to acquire additional printed materials by North American research libraries and improve access to Latin American serials through tables-of-contents in a shared database with connections to the interlibrary loan network. LAOAP targets digital collections of Latin Americana. It appeared at a time when the full texts of Latin American research materials began to appear on the Internet, and was designed to aggregate them at a single site, or portal.

LAOAP focused first on social science reports, called grey literature for their short press runs and limited distribution, which kept them largely inaccessible to researchers. Once approached, several well-known Latin American research bureaus were willing to share all but their most recent publications. Facultad Latinoamericana de Ciencias Sociales-Chile (FLACSO-Chile), Cirma Guatemala, Universidad Torcuato di Tella, Consejo Latinoamericano de Ciencias Sociales (CLACSO), the Instituto de Estudios Peruanos, the Inter-American Development Bank and the Centro Interamericano de Formacion in Guatemala became LAOAP's foundational partners. The collection currently includes more than 1,600 items and is scheduled to grow to nearly 14,000 before the end of 2007. It will grow further as new partners, several of whom have already been identified, contribute their publications.

LAOAP provides its participants with a wider distribution of their publications and, if they desire, a digital archiving facility. For readers, the portal insures quality resources because holdings have been selected by subject specialists and copyright clearance has been obtained through agreements with the participating publishers. The entire LAOAP archive is free and open to the public. ❖

Latin American Open Archives Portal - LAOAP: Home - Mozilla Firefox

File Edit View Go Bookmarks Tools Help

http://lanic.utexas.edu/project/laoop/

English | Español

Home | Partners | Resources | Search | Browse | Advanced Search

LAOAP: Providing Access to Latin American Grey Literature

Search the Archives:

search clear

The Latin American Open Archives Portal is a project of the Latin Americanist Research Resources Project - LARRP, in collaboration with the Latin American Network Information Center - LANIC, to improve access to social sciences grey literature produced in Latin America. The portal provides access to working documents, pre-prints, research papers, statistical documents, and other difficult-to-access materials from the "deep Web." Typically, this content is published by research institutes, non-governmental organizations, and peripheral agencies that are not controlled by commercial publishers.

Utilizing the Open Archives Initiative Protocol for Metadata Harvesting (OAI-PMH) as a low-barrier solution to disseminate and share digital resources, the portal provides access to digital content from participating data providers and specialized searching services for the Latin Americanist social sciences research community.

LAOAP's content reflects five primary components:

1. identification of appropriate resources
2. vetting their authenticity and authority, as measured by the institutions that publish them
3. gaining permission from publishing institutions to post their materials
4. providing access to digital manifestations of content
5. offering a trusted repository to institutions that desire it

LAOAP encourages interested parties to suggest additional resources to its portal subcommittee; contact **David Block**.

Note: Collaboration has been an essential ingredient in the accomplishments of the LAOAP project to date; numerous individuals and institutions have provided assistance in building the Portal infrastructure. LARRP would particularly like to acknowledge the



LAOAP Partner Profile: Instituto de Estudios Peruanos

Virginia García

Library Director, Instituto de Estudios Peruanos, and

Kent Norsworthy

Content Director, Latin American Network Information Center

Founded in 1964, the Instituto de Estudios Peruanos (IEP) is one of the leading social science research centers in Perú. Since its inception, IEP has supported a vigorous publication program to support its mission: to contribute to the process of equitable economic development, to the strengthening of the country's democratic institutions, and to the recognition and acceptance of cultural diversity in Perú.

Measured in terms of the quantity and quality of its publications, the IEP is the leading specialized publisher in the social sciences in the Andean region. In addition to its own imprint, the IEP co-publishes works with several Peruvian and international organizations.

Under LAOAP, the IEP has digitized numerous classics from the Peruvian social sciences, including this out of print title from 1976.

Table 1. Access to IEP *Documentos de Trabajo* via Library, Sales, and the Web, 2006

Working paper title	Number of OCLC World-Cat libraries holding title	Copies sold through IEP bookstore	Average number of downloads of LAOAP digitized paper (6 mo.)
“Último mapa político: análisis de los resultados de las elecciones regionales de noviembre del 2002”	4	18	708
“Educación, ciudadanía y violencia en el Perú: una lectura del informe de la CVR”	4	37	587
“Población y etnicidad en el Perú republicano: algunas revisiones”	17	Out of print	581
“Valores democráticos y participación ciudadana en el Perú 1998–2001”	1	Out of print	566
“Teatro popular en Bolivia: la afirmación de la identidad chola a través de la metáfora de la hija pródiga”	0	15	478
“Discriminación y exclusión: políticas públicas de salud y poblaciones indígenas”	0	19	442
“El centralismo peruano en su perspectiva histórica”	0	40	391
“La batalla por la carretera interoceánica en el sur peruano: ¿localismo o descentralismo?”	2	21	314
“El mercado de medicamentos en el Perú: ¿libre o regulado?”	0	61	266
“La dinámica de los actores regionales y el proceso de descentralización: ¿el despertar del letargo?”	0	21	257
Total	28	232	4,590

The IEP Library joined the LAOAP as a content partner in August 2006. Under terms of the LARRP grant from the Department of Education's Technical Innovation and Cooperation for Foreign Information Access (TICFIA) program, the IEP received a scanner, workstation, software, and technical support for digitization. Our experience digitizing titles under the IEP imprint has created the opportunity to provide broad access through the Web to a large number of out-of-print "classics" in the Peruvian social sciences. Table 1 shows the large number of downloads of these titles.

The first titles we began digitizing were from the *Working Papers* series, as most of these titles are out of print. Issuing reprints of out-of-print works, even in limited print runs, is generally not economically feasible for us. In September, we began with digitization of the first titles from our initial monograph series, *Perú Problema*. Most of the titles from this series are out of print, yet they continue to be highly sought after by our users.

To date, under the LAOAP project, we have digitized and put online over 8,500 pages of full text from over one hundred IEP working papers, plus eleven book-length titles from *Perú Problema*. We plan to continue adding digitized titles from these and other series over the coming months. We were extremely pleased to learn that between the time we put our first digital texts online in July 2006 and the beginning of 2007, the IEP digitized publications have been downloaded over 20,000 times.

At the IEP, we believe initiatives such as the LAOAP can contribute to a significant cost savings in terms of education and the publishing of research results by increasing the visibility of, and access to, these materials. ❖



Developing Vanderbilt's Mesoamerican Collection: The Benefits of Travel

Paula Covington

Latin American and Iberian Bibliographer and Senior Lecturer in Latin American Studies, Vanderbilt University

"They're just a lot of dirty books," I inadvertently told the customs inspector as he peered into the dusty crates full of Chilean books I had purchased on a book-buying trip. Wrong thing to say! It led to mind-numbing hours of scrutiny while they searched for porn. While I find great resources on book-purchase trips, I seem to have trouble when it comes to getting books home. My colleagues from the Seminar on the Acquisition of Latin American Library Materials (SALALM) once accused me of feigning sickness in the Managua airport to avoid the equally intensive scrutiny of my cartons by Sandinista officials during a turbulent era. It worked but, trust me, it was not feigned.

But with Guatemala, transport is easy. At least once a year I go to Honduras with a local group to a home for girls we help support. We bring large duffel bags loaded with supplies for the home, and afterward, I travel to Guatemala with the empty bags and fill them with books. Piece of cake. The airport scales are often broken and I've never paid more than \$25 extra compared to the potential charge of \$800 I have been quoted by a standard freight company. That saving can go a long way in Guatemala toward more books.

Why am I tripping over cobblestones in Antigua? Stretching dollars is part of the mission of the LARRP Distributed Resources Project, both by reallocating local funds for national level collaboration and by finding cost-saving measures to help create an in-depth collection in a focused area. The book-buying trips are dictated by the research interests and needs of Vanderbilt scholars and our long-term ongoing collection strengths. Our commitment to the LARRP Project to collect in the areas of Mesoamerican anthropology and archaeology—especially Guatemala, with emphasis on the Maya—dovetails nicely with our subject strengths.

Vanderbilt has had a longstanding relationship with Latin America, and established the first Institute of Brazilian Studies in the United States in 1947, which soon became a Center for Latin American Studies. It is now designated a National Resource Center and next year we will celebrate its sixtieth anniversary. Traditionally, the Heard Library collection has been especially strong in Brazilian and Colombian history, holding a large number of primary sources, such as nineteenth-century newspapers, broadsides, and other materials unique to the United States.

When Vanderbilt decided to develop a Ph.D. program in anthropology with the idea that *all* of its faculty would be Latin Americanists, a goodly number of them focusing on the Maya, the collection was a concern. We were fortunate to have purchased Robert Wauchope's private library in the 1970s (Wauchope was an archaeologist at Tulane and the editor of the *Handbook of Middle American Indians*), so we had a deep core of retrospective Mesoamerican materials, and a number of unique or rare resources. We then did an in-depth collection evaluation, received a new annual allocation for this field, and applied for additional grant funds.

Soon after that, a group of Latin American bibliographers first met in Washington, D.C. under the auspices of the ARL and decided to collaborate on a national level cooperative collection development project. We could not have predicted that our group was on the "cutting edge." We were responding to a concern by the Association of American Universities (AAU) that the level of foreign publication collecting was declining in the United States and that this would prove extremely damaging to the quality of research: we were also beginning to understand that no U.S. research library could truly "have it all" anymore. Vanderbilt's commitment to reallocate a percentage of its acquisition budget to Mesoamerican anthropology and archaeology was a pragmatic response to a major new research need, though it was a difficult trade-off since it would mean reduced collecting in other areas. The national-level commitment also led to local-level recognition that we had a responsibility to collect in-depth in this area as

continued



Paula Covington, Vanderbilt University

part of the ARL Global Resources Project, and that helped fuel support for book-purchase trips and the purchase of additional private collections with special funds.

Since that meeting, I have gone to Guatemala each of the past ten years: my first trip immediately followed the signing of the peace treaty in December 1996, and just preceded the entry of the UN peacekeeping troops. Traveling there regularly has helped significantly in developing the collection. On an early trip, Vanderbilt was able to purchase most of a significant private library of an important archaeologist—a collection a number of libraries wished to purchase.

Over time, Vanderbilt faculty members have directed archaeological investigations and, with their students, made significant finds that have helped reshape the understanding of the Maya collapse, the pre-classic and classic Maya, and epigraphy. The National Geographic Society has filmed a number of these discoveries and has collaborated in explorations, as well as in new ecotourism projects in Guatemala. Exciting discoveries at Vanderbilt sites such as Dos Pilas, Cancuen, and Holmul have included hieroglyphic stairways, palaces, altars, and immense Maya stone deities. Other cultural anthropologists in the department have worked on indigenous rights, export crops, globalization, community development, ecotourism, and Mayan languages.

It has been a both a challenge and a delight to help provide and predict the needed research resources for helping to explain these archaeological discoveries and to assist also in projects having to do with the contemporary Maya. In addition to the invaluable help of the *libreros* in the United States and Guatemala, there are many places one can visit in Guatemala to collect materials, establish exchanges, and begin collaborations. The publishing output in Guatemala is not large, but the poor distribution network hinders collection efforts.

There are also many NGOs, institutes, and academies (e.g., FLACSO, ASIES, Academia de Geografía e Historia de Guatemala, Museo Ixchel, CIRMA). There are a number of used bookstores and a handful of very nice bookstores for new publications (e.g., Sophos). Nawal Wuj, the Academia de Lenguas Mayas de Guatemala, and the Instituto de Lingüística at the Universidad Rafael Landívar publish or distribute most of the Mayan language publications, grammars, dictionaries and the like. The Instituto Geográfico Militar has provided us with sets of detailed maps useful for archaeologists and students. Vanderbilt now has a number of graduates from Guatemala who are curators and chairs of departments of archaeology in Guatemala who have been very helpful to us in building the collection, and we hope to begin to collaborate with them and our faculty to make available research reports and theses with valuable raw archaeological data in a digitized format.

All of this emanated from a now seemingly insignificant reallocation of funds for the purpose of increasing the range of shared resources in the United States. I look forward to using the WorldCat collection analysis tool this year to begin to assess statistically the quantity and uniqueness of the resources we have collected. In the meantime, anecdotal assessments have been satisfying. Last year in meeting with interviewees for two new Mayanist positions, the candidates were visibly impressed with our collection, and the department considers our resources a selling point. One faculty member wrote, “it is particularly commendable that we have so many books published by Maya scholars from small, independent Maya presses. These are the kind of materials that are invaluable for researchers and yet so hard to find.” And, when I asked graduate students what they needed me to look out for on this most recent trip, one responded, “the collection is awesome, I always find that what I need is already here.” I just returned last week from the latest trip, and my student assistant has begun to go through the duffel bags and reported that a number of items are not in WorldCat. A few broader keyword searches indicate a number of titles have U.S. library holdings of five or less. As always, I see a great deal more to do but, in the meantime, targeting collection development in this way has been an excellent strategy for us, and much of it has been thanks to this project. It’s certainly opened up my world . . . and a visit to sunny climes in February isn’t bad, either! ❖



Harvard-Yale Library Collaboration: Latin American Acquisitions and Collections

Cesar Rodriguez

Curator, Latin American Collection, Yale University Library, and

Lynn Shirey

Librarian for Latin America, Spain, & Portugal, Widener Library, Harvard University

In 2005, librarians responsible for the Latin American collections at Harvard and Yale began a pilot program in the area of collection development. The goal of this program is to provide better service to our joint constituents by reducing the duplication of certain categories of library materials, while at the same time offering substantially broader coverage of second-tier monographs and journals, video resources, regional newspapers, and grey literature. This brief article will explain the rationale and mechanics of the project.

Harvard and Yale both have strong historical and contemporary Latin American collections, which are comparable in size and scope. The two libraries have similar resources and capacity; each attempts to collect intensively and to support active academic and teaching programs that expect a relatively large body of “core” resources be available on site.

Like other research libraries, Harvard and Yale are challenged by increasingly limited acquisitions budgets, expanding academic programs, and growing user demand. Traditional expectations of comprehensive, self-sufficient holdings are no longer realistic.

While high-use, core resources are appropriately held at both libraries, we found that the use of similar approval plans was resulting in significant duplication of low-use, non-core materials. These heavily duplicative collections of little-used publications coexist with substantial gaps for other kinds of resources. With this in mind, we began to realize that imaginative cooperation could not only sustain collection strength, but could expand our combined access to research resources. Careful efforts and coordination of approval plans could reduce non-core duplication and allow for broader coverage by the two libraries.

Before embarking on this experiment, we consulted with our respective faculties and library administrations and obtained their support. We also enlisted the help of two vendors who would be willing to participate in the project: Books from Mexico, and Herta Berenguer (Chile). Mexico has a large, decentralized publishing industry, so we decided to coordinate our collecting by region: Yale will be responsible for collecting intensively from the northern Mexican states and Mexico City, while Harvard will focus on the southern states. Chilean publishing is more centralized, so we chose to focus on specific subject areas: Yale is acquiring most materials in the areas of literature, history, anthropology, archaeology, and government documents; Harvard is responsible for biography, communications, philology and linguistics, philosophy, religion, and social sciences. For both countries, Harvard and Yale continue to collect broadly defined core materials, while sharing responsibility for the more unusual ones. There are no ironclad criteria with which to distinguish between core and non-core resources. The typical considerations of author, publisher, topic, level of scholarship, and timeliness that characterize any selection decision will help to determine an acquisition’s category.

Evaluation Methods

To evaluate the materials received as part of this project, we directed our vendors to separate shipments of non-core from core materials, marking them as such. Since we hope to receive unusual materials that are not always included in vendors’ catalogs, we want the opportunity to examine them and to order additional copies if so desired; thus, we are having the non-core materials sent to the library that is not responsible for them. The receiving library examines the shipment and then sends it on to the destination library. Other essential methods for evaluating coverage are the review of materials appearing in our designated vendors’ lists, other vendor catalogs, bibliographies, and informational sources. This effort requires constant communica-

tion between the two librarians to coordinate responsibility for specific categories of materials and to clarify collecting intentions.

An important aspect of our collaboration will be the ability to ensure efficient bibliographic access and document delivery for the materials held by only one library. We are in the process of exploring several promising new technologies to strengthen our collaborative efforts. ❖

Upcoming Meetings of Interest

- ❖ LARRP Annual Members' Meeting
8:30–11:30 A.M. Thursday, April 26, 2007
Hotel Albuquerque, Albuquerque, New Mexico

- ❖ Latin American Microform Project (LAMP) Annual Meeting
7:15–9:30 P.M. Friday, April 27, 2007
Hotel Albuquerque, Albuquerque, New Mexico

- ❖ Global Resources Network Breakfast for ARL Library Directors at the
ARL Directors meeting in St. Louis
8:00 A.M. Friday, May 25

- ❖ Latin American Studies Association (LASA) Conference
September 6–8, 2007
Montreal, Canada
LARRP will have Booth #15 in the Exhibit Hall.



Global Resources Network

Advisory Committee

Barbara Allen

Director
Committee on Institutional Cooperation

Jean-Pierre Côté

Directeur général des bibliothèques
Université de Montréal

Richard J. Herring

Director, Lauder Institute of Management
and International Studies
The Wharton School of Arts and Sciences
University of Pennsylvania

John Hudzik

Dean of International Studies and Programs
Michigan State University

Stanley Katz

Lecturer with Rank of Professor of Public
and International Affairs
Woodrow Wilson School
Princeton University

Paula T. Kaufman

University Librarian
University of Illinois–Urbana/Champaign
Library

Peter Lange

Provost
Duke University

Eudora Loh

Librarian for Latin American and Iberian
Studies
University of California, Los Angeles Library

James Nye

Bibliographer for Southern Asia
The University of Chicago Library

Louis A. Pitschmann

Dean
University of Alabama Libraries

Alice Prochaska

University Librarian
Yale University Library

Bernard F. Reilly, Jr.

President
The Center for Research Libraries

James Simon

Director
Global Resources Network

John Vaughn

Executive Vice President
Association of American Universities

Duane Webster

Executive Director
Association of Research Libraries

Lizabeth A. Wilson

Director of University Libraries
University of Washington Libraries

Pauline Yu

President
American Council of Learned Societies