Ulster Colloquium to Plan a History of the Irish Book

A one-day colloquium will meet on 27 March 1996 at the University of Ulster, Coleraine to launch a projected five-volume History of the Irish Book. This survey will trace the history of Irish authorship and publication in the printed media both in English and in Irish. It will also document a manuscript tradition which prevailed before the introduction of the printing press, and which has survived down to modern times independently of printed books. It shall deal as well with histories of the Irish book in Ireland, Britain, continental Europe, and America, giving evidence of the complex patterns of authorship, publication, and readership which have contributed to the making of Irish literature in all periods.

The five volumes will be devoted to (I) The Gaelic Manuscript Tradition, (II) Publishing in Irish, (III) Printing in Ireland, The Early Period, (IV) Printing in Ireland, The Nineteenth Century, and (V) The Literary Revival and After. Given the intrinsic diversity of the materials, their bilingual character, and the degree of specialism required in each period (Gaelic, Norman, Anglo-Irish, and modern Irish literature in English and in Irish), each volume will be edited by a distinguished scholar, working under the general guidance of the Director of the Coleraine Centre for Irish Literature and Bibliography, with the assistance of researchers appointed to the Centre.

The Coleraine Centre is the recently established successor to the editorial project that produced The Oxford Companion to Irish Literature, edited by Robert Welch. It will use the accumulated dataset from that project as a basis for further bibliographic ventures. These may include the compilation of a full-scale Bibliography of Anglo-Irish Literature, with printed and electronic versions, as well as several specialized bibliographies relating to various periods, genres, and topics (e.g., Fiction of the Land War, Irish Theatrical Literature 1620-1820).

Those interested in participating in the colloquium should notify Prof. Robert Welch, Director, Coleraine Center for Irish Literature and Bibliography, University of Ulster, Coleraine, Co. Derry, Northern Ireland BT52; or contact bsg.stewart@ulst.ac.uk. A typed report on the colloquium can also be supplied on request.

SHARP Will Sponsor Sessions at AHA, ASECS, and MLA Conferences

SHARP is now engaged in a concerted effort to enhance the visibility of book history in major scholarly organizations. Last 6 January, the first SHARP panel session was held at the American Historical Association convention in Atlanta. With C. John Sommerville acting as chair, the session was devoted to "North Atlantic Print Culture, 1750-1850," featuring presentations by Barbara Lacey, James Raven, and Leslie Howsam. It was an encouraging start, attracting an audience of about twenty. At the same conference, Patrick Leary spoke for SHARP at a meeting of AHA affiliate organizations.

For the next AHA convention, which will meet from 2-5 January 1997 in New York City, SHARP is proposing four sessions embracing a broad range of topics and geographical areas. The panel themes will be "The Printing Press as an Agent of Change Outside Europe," "The American Common Reader: From Little Eva to Miss September," "Censorship on Three Continents," and "The Politics of Intellectual Authority."

On another front, Eleanor Shevlin has organized the first SHARP panel for the American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies conference, which is meeting in Austin, Texas from 27 to 31 March 1996. The session, titled "The Coming of the Book to Eighteenth-Century Studies: Current Projects on Authorship, Reading and Publishing," is scheduled for 29 March from 1:00 to 2:30 p.m. It will feature Nancy A. Mace (United States Naval Academy) on "Relations between Composers and British Musicsellers in the Debate over Music Copyright in the Late Eighteenth Century," Raymond Birn (University of Oregon) on "Forging Rousseau: An Author and His Publishers," Patricia Howell Michaelson (University of Texas, Dallas) on "The Accomplished Reader," and Richard Sher (New Jersey Institute of Technology, Newark) on "Toward a Book History of the Scottish Enlightenment."

At that meeting, a handout will be distributed listing research projects in book history that ASECS members are engaged in. To be included in this roster, please send a one-paragraph description of your project, with a title and your name and affiliation, to Eleanor Shevlin, 2006 Columbia Road NW, Apt. 42, Washington, DC 20009.

Meanwhile, Michael Winship is spearheading efforts to make SHARP an associate allied organization of the...
Modern Language Association. He is seeking papers for two SHARP panels at the next MLA convention, to be held in Washington from 27-30 December 1996.

One of these panels, "Reaching Out to Readers: Book Distribution in 19th-Century America," will explore how marketing and promotion shaped the production, distribution, and reception of books in this period. Topics might include book peddling and subscription publishing; periodicals and serialization; newsstands, department, and general stores; advertising and book promotion.

A second panel, "In Search of the Historical Reader," will focus on the recovery of "real" readers in history over ideal or implied audiences, and individuals and small groups over aggregates. Papers can deal with any period or country, and may address such issues as the historical application of reader response theories; evidence of reading (e.g., marginalia, letters, reviews) and its value; reading practices (private or public, intensive or extensive, silent or aloud) and their meanings; or the identification of actual interpretive reading communities.

Send abstracts (1-2 pages) no later than 1 March to Michael Winship, Department of English, University of Texas, Austin, TX 78712. Formal proposals must be submitted for review by the MLA program committee by 6 April. All panelists must be members of both SHARP and MLA.

For the same conference, the Advisory Committee on the MLA International Bibliography is organizing three panels of its own, which SHARP may co-sponsor. Abstracts (250 words) should be submitted by 15 March to the following contact persons. For a panel on "Canonicity and the Construction of Bibliography," write to David William Foster, Department of Languages and Literatures, Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ 85287-0202, adwf@asuvm.inreasu.edu. For a session on "Electronic Publishing and Scholarly Integrity," contact Jennifer Crewe, Columbia University Press, 562 W. 113th Street, New York, NY 10027, jc373@columbia.edu. And for a panel titled "We Don't Get No Respect! Bibliographers in the Academy," contact Bruce Southard, English Department, East Carolina University, Greenville, NC 27858-4353, ensoutha@ecuvm.cis.ecu.edu.

Columbia Begins University Seminar on "The Book in History"

A new University Seminar, "The Book in History," was founded at Columbia University in the fall of 1995. Following the traditional format of Columbia's program of University Seminars, scholars from throughout the New York area were invited to participate in a series of six programs designed to explore book history from an interdisciplinary perspective.


The seminar has drawn its members from Columbia University and other institutions and from a wide range of disciplines, including classics, history, art history, East Asian and Near Eastern studies, literature, Romance languages, librarianship, and bibliography. For further information, contact the seminar organizer: Jean Ashton, Director, Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Columbia University, 535 W. 114th Street, New York, NY 10027, ashton@columbia.edu.

Book and Library History Program at Lund University, Sweden

A Chair in Book and Library History was inaugurated at Lund University in 1990. It was the first of its kind in Scandinavia and was made possible by a donation by the late Dr. Einar Hansen, publisher and book collector.

Studies in Book and Library History at Lund University are directed toward script and print documents and the processes by which they are produced, distributed, and used, with a historical perspective. Special attention is given to the history, economy, and sociology of print, including materials, graphic technology, and book market history. An important subfield of study are libraries, public as well as private, and their roles in society.

The Division for Book and Library History (established in 1991) is primarily a research unit, whose academic mission is the training of doctoral students. Ongoing studies focus on various aspects of book production: the role of the printing house in local commerce and culture, the printing press as a vehicle for national identity, the industry of handcolored plates for books, the makers and owners of textile bindings, to name a few.

The division also gives undergraduate courses. A regularly offered class on "Bokhistoria" addresses students who need an elementary knowledge of books and other

SHARP NEWS is the quarterly newsletter of the Society for the History of Authorship, Reading and Publishing, Inc. Annual membership in SHARP, which includes a subscription to SHARP NEWS, is $15 in the United States and Canada, £10 in Britain, $20 elsewhere. Send membership dues to Linda Connors, Drew University Library, Madison, NJ 07940, USA. Address editorial correspondence to the Editor, Jonathan Rose, History Department, Drew University, Madison, NJ 07940, USA, jerose@drew.drew.edu, fax 201-408-3768. The Book Review Editor is Philip A. Metzger, Special Collections Curator, Lehigh University Library, 30 Library Drive, Bethlehem, PA 18015-3067, USA, pam5@lehigh.edu.

https://scholarworks.umass.edu/sharp_news/vols/iss1/1
documents as physical objects, focusing on codicology, the history of printing, and bibliography. All undergraduate and graduate teaching is in Swedish.

Attached to the division is the editorial office of the biannual Nordisk Tidskrift för Bok- och Biblioteksväsen (Scandinavian Journal of Books and Libraries), founded in 1914 by Dr. Isak Collijn.

A program for postgraduate studies can be had on application. Contact the Division Head, Prof. Per S. Ridderstad, Bok- och Bibliotekshistoria, Allhelgona Kyrkogata 14 hus V, S-223 62 Lund, Sweden, telephone 46-46-222-4020. Information is also available through the SHARP Web Page or directly at http://www.ub2.lu.se/~steingri/BBHtop_eng.html.

—Steingrimur Jonsson, Lund University

**Book History for Undergraduates: A Course Syllabus**

This course—English 298/301: History of Books and Printing, 1800-1950—is designed to introduce undergraduates to the history of printing, book production, and the dissemination and reception of print culture. Book history can be a challenge even for graduate students: this syllabus therefore tries to make the subject accessible by assigning not only historical studies, but also literary works that suggest the various ways in which authors responded to the literary production conditions of their times. We use this mix of literary and scholarly readings to explore (1) how changes in the physical conditions of production altered or reflected the changing role of print within society; (2) how authors, printers, publishers, and reading publics redefined the ways in which they interacted with one another; (3) how the rise of mass literacy influenced the kind of materials produced for mass audiences; (4) how various economic and intellectual interests converged and diverged in the "republic of letters"/"marketplace of ideas"; and (5) how new conditions enabled writers and publishers to target printed products at selected market segments (by gender, class interests, reading levels, and so forth) in ways not always possible at earlier times.

Students are required to submit two response papers, each no more than two pages in length. All members of the class must write a response to the question posed for Week 2; they can choose among the topics suggested for other weeks for their second paper. These responses are not graded: I use them to indicate writing problems, if any. In Week 7 students must choose a nineteenth-century book from the university library and write a detailed description of 4 to 5 pages. A final paper of 10 to 15 pages is also mandatory.

I am now preparing a companion course to cover the earlier period, from the late Middle Ages to 1800, and I would welcome suggestions for readings or instructional tools. Please send your ideas to Daniel Traister, Special Collections, Van Pelt Library, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA 19104-6206, telephone 215-898-7088, traister@pobox.upenn.edu.

**Week 1: Introduction to the Course**


**Weeks 2 and 3: Looking at Books**


General response topic: Find a pre-1820 book published in France, Germany, England, or the United States, in the University Library general stacks. Write 1-2 pages about what you can see of its means of production and history. Submit the book along with your paper.

**Week 4: Early Bestsellers**

Susannah Rowson, *Charlotte Temple* (Oxford), including the introduction by Cathy N. Davidson.

Response topic: What qualities give this melodrama its apparent vitality and significance to so many readers? and what qualities lost its readership as the nineteenth century drew to its end?

**Weeks 5 and 6: The Republic of Letters/The Literary Marketplace, Part 1**


Response topic: The most important product of the printing office Balzac describes is [fill in the blank].

**Week 7: Paper Due**

Using a book from either the University Library general collections or the Department of Special Collections, repeat—with much fuller detail—the exercise you first undertook in the response of Week 2. DESCRIBE the book you have chosen: its physical makeup, as best you can; its mode of illustration, if any, its typography; its casing or binding; its provenance; and other distinguishing characteristics. What can you say about the audience, the market, for which this book was intended? What can you say about its history, and how—or whether—it was read?

**Weeks 8 and 9: Impacts of Literacy**


Response topic: Comment on the relationships among literacy, class, and status in the world Hardy portrays, and the nature of the problems they cause Jude.

**Weeks 10 and 11: The Republic of Letters/The Literary Marketplace, Part 2**
Response topic: Gissing’s hero is not unrelievably pleasant. To what degree are you prepared to ascribe his difficulties (or yours with him) to his response to intractable market forces rather than to innate flaws in his character? Describe those forces.

**WEEKS 12 AND 13: MASS MARKETS**


Response topic: “Torgovnick may be right that Puzo’s novel is ‘typical’; but its typicality serves only to explain its rise to bestsellerdom and does not ‘justify’ it as a work of literary merit.” Agree/disagree (your choice).

**WEEK 14: TARGETED/SEGMENTED MARKETS**

Danielle Steele, *Message from Nam* (Delacorte).
—Daniel Traister, Van Pelt Library, University of Pennsylvania

### Print, Literacy, and Power in America:
**A Course Syllabus**

This Library and Information Studies course—entitled Print, Literacy, Power in America: To 1900—focuses on European Americans, Native Americans, African Americans and, in the Western United States, Asian Americans and Chicano/Latinos. It explores the nature of oral and print societies as found in the focus cultures and uses contemporary print material to assess the impact of a controlling print culture on oral cultures.

Image in woodcut and engraving is assessed as information and as propaganda. The role of education in achieving literacy for the focus groups is studied in the colonial period and in the era of compulsory education in the nineteenth century. The emergence of an African American press in the nineteenth century, tied to growing political support from the abolitionist press, is in striking contrast to the nearly invisible Native American voice confined to the reservation. San Francisco is a case study of the early emergence of a multicultural print and education environment, followed by restrictive laws, propaganda, and an educational system that enforced cultural standardization and the use of English. The very technology of printing is shown to tend toward centralization, standardization, and narrowing the range of participants—an environment that inhibits the emergence and survival of fragile alternative voices of a multicultural, multilingual population.

Class sessions in the middle and at the end of the semester are reserved for two student presentations and discussions—the first concentrating on early America through the eighteenth century, the second on the nineteenth century. For each assignment, students are asked to use early printed materials (books, pamphlets, newspapers, broadsheets, advertisements) together with recorded oral materials to develop a comparison of cultural presences in early America, focusing on such factors as citizenship, education, slavery, war, the Spanish presence in the West, European national communities, or religious communities. A list of suggested resources is supplied.

**WEEK 1: THE NATURE OF ORAL AND PRINT SOCIETIES**


**WEEK 2: PRINT IN AN ORAL CULTURE: THE FRAMEWORK OF LITERACY IN THE SEVENTEENTH CENTURY**


**WEEK 3: NATIVE AMERICANS, AFRICAN AMERICANS, CHICANOS/LATINOS: INTERACTION WITH EMPIRE**


**WEEK 4: EDUCATION IN AFRICAN-AMERICAN SLAVE CULTURE, INDIAN CULTURE, AND EIGHTEENTH-CENTURY WORKING-CLASS CULTURE**


**WEEK 5: PRINTING FOR AND BY THE OTHER IN COLONIAL AMERICA**


**WEEK 6: CLASS PRESENTATIONS AND DISCUSSION**

**WEEK 7: THE BESTSELLER AND THE CAPTIVITY NARRATIVE**


**WEEK 8: PRINT AT THE TIME OF THE CIVIL WAR**


**WEEK 9: THE WESTWARD MOVEMENT**


**WEEK 10: BLACK AND SPANISH-LANGUAGE PERIODICALS AND BOOK PUBLISHING**


**WEEK 11: THE IMAGE IN PRINT**


**WEEK 12: THE ETHNOGRAPHY OF READING**


Published by ScholarWorks@UMass Amherst, 1995

WEEK 15: CLASS PRESENTATIONS AND DISCUSSION

—Mary Kay Duggan, University of California, Berkeley

Book Reviews


Harry Y. Gamble, professor of Religious Studies at the University of Virginia, has written an extraordinary book. As its title indicates, he is interested in both books and readers, and he excels in describing the dynamic relationship of the object (the book), the text embodied in that object, and the communication of that text to the reader. Though this process is clearly important for all historical periods, it is particularly so for the first centuries of the Christian era, because the codex was invented during the first century AD by Christians.

Gamble sheds new light on that momentous invention. Books and Readers in the Early Church is a wide-ranging survey that covers the issues of literacy and literary culture among the Christians, the nature of early Christian books, modes of publication and circulation, early Christian libraries, and finally the usage of books in Christian communities. Gamble gives us a comprehensive and synthetic view, not only of the community of the book in the early Church: he places this within the context of the larger community of the book in the ancient Western world.

This is a survey deeply informed by Gamble’s learned scrutiny of difficult issues. For example, scholars have long puzzled and argued over the reason for the adoption of the codex by the early Christians. We have been able to trace the Christian use of the codex, almost exclusively for biblical and other Christian texts, through the early centuries up to the final triumph of the codex over the roll in the fourth and fifth centuries; but we have been unable to ascertain just how the codex was invented. C. H. Roberts (“The Codex,” Proceedings of the British Academy 40 [1954]: 169-204) understood that the Christian adoption of the codex must have been stimulated by some external factor and could not be explained by any intrinsic superiority over the roll. In his British Academy lecture he posited that it was the Gospel of Mark, written in codex form (in a typical Roman parchment notebook) and transported to Egypt where the format was venerated and continued, that stimulated the adoption of the codex by the Church. Later Roberts abandoned this theory, and together with T. C. Skeat (The Birth of the Codex, 1983) proposed a new one. They suggested that the model for the codex was not the Roman parchment notebook, but the wax tablet, common across the entire ancient Western world. They concluded that as wax tablets were used by the Jews for taking down the oral Torah, so too might the early Christians have committed sacred texts to writing in the same way and thus developed the codex in imitation of the wax tablet.

Gamble, like many others, has found this hypothesis difficult to accept, and in response he has proposed another, far more plausible theory. Gamble suggests that in searching for a Gospel document, we have missed the most likely source for the first codex—the letters of Paul. This is not the place to rehearse the details of Gamble’s Pauline theory, but to this reviewer, at least, his case seems very strong. Here is a major contribution, and perhaps even the answer, to the question of the origin of the codex. This volume shows what a well-grounded scholar can accomplish by taking a new and different approach to his subject. Books and Readers in the Early Church is a necessary addition for anyone interested in the history of books, reading, and libraries in the first centuries AD, and at $32.50 it is a real bargain.

—Richard W. Clement, University of Kansas

Calls for Contributors

For its fourth issue, Convergence: The Journal of Research into New Media Technologies seeks papers relating to research projects or case studies on the cable and telecommunications industry. Papers in any of the following areas are welcome: control and censorship, copyright, media policy, new media products, gender and technology. The submission deadline is 30 March 1996. Proposals for articles or completed papers should be sent to Julia Knight or Alexis Weedon, Editors, Convergence,
School of Media Arts, University of Luton, 75 Castle Street, Luton LU1 3AJ, Britain, telephone 44-1582-34111, fax 44-1582-489014, convergence@vax2.luton.ac.uk.

Contributors are sought for a proposed volume of approximately fifteen essays on various aspects of bibliography. The volume will address questions of bibliographic literacy. It is intended for use in entry-level graduate courses as a means of developing a professional competence in bibliography and an understanding of its role in contemporary research in linguistics, language, folklore, and literature. For a fuller description of the project and a list of available topics, please contact either of the editors: David William Foster, Graduate Director, Interdisciplinary Program in the Humanities, Department of Languages and Literature, Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ 85287-0202, telephone 602-965-3752, fax 602-965-0135, atdfw@asuvm.inre.asu.edu; or James R. Kelly, W. E. B. Du Bois Library, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA 01003, telephone 413-545-0058, fax 413-545-6873, jrkelly@library.umass.edu.


**Calls for Papers**

The Bibliographical Society of Canada seeks papers for its 50th anniversary conference, to be held in conjunction with the Canadian Library Association annual meeting in Halifax, Nova Scotia, 6-8 June 1996. The meeting will have the broad theme of the history of the book in Canada and North America, along with general studies in bibliography and publishing history. Proposals should be submitted to Anne Yandle, 3450 West 20th Avenue, Vancouver, BC V6S 1E4, Canada, yandle@unixg.ubc.ca; or to Jeannine Green, Bruce Peel Special Collections Division, University of Alberta Library, Edmonton, Alberta T6G 2J4, Canada, jgreen@vm.ucs.ualberta.ca.

The History of the Book in Australia (HOBA) conference will meet from 9 to 11 August 1996 at the State Library of New South Wales, Sydney. The meeting will be devoted to print culture in Australia from 1891 to 1945, as well as to papers on general questions of research and methodology not necessarily confined to a particular period. Abstracts (no more than 300 words) of 25-minute papers should be sent by 12 February to Elizabeth Webby, Department of English, University of Sydney, NSW 2006, Australia, telephone 02-351-6835, fax 02-351-2434, elizabeth.webby@english.su.edu.au.

"Setting the Margins: Conceptions of Print Culture in a NZ Context" will be the theme of the second annual Conference on the History of Print Culture in New Zealand, meeting 26-29 August 1996 at the University of Otago. Abstracts (one page single-spaced) on any aspect of New Zealand print culture should be sent by 15 March to Shef Rogers, English Department, University of Otago, Dunedin, New Zealand, telephone 64-3-479-8892, fax 64-3-479-8558, shef.rogers@stonebow.otago.ac.nz.

The American Journalism Historians Association invites submissions on any aspect of media history for its annual convention, which will meet 3-5 October 1996 in London, Ontario. For complete research papers (25 pages maximum) send four copies and a self-addressed stamped postcard to Elizabeth V. Burt, School of Communication, University of Hartford, West Hartford, CT 06117. For panel proposals, send abstracts to Jan Whitt, School of Journalism, University of Colorado, Boulder, CO 80309. For brief presentations of research in progress, send abstracts (two copies, 350 words maximum) to James D. Staritt, History Department, Valparaiso University, Valparaiso, IN 46383. All presentations should represent original material, and must be postmarked by 1 May.

The first national Library Research Seminar will meet 1-2 November at Florida State University in Tallahassee. Papers and panels are solicited in the following areas: new methodologies and data collection techniques; basic and applied quantitative and qualitative research; research and policy analysis; research and strategic directions for libraries; practitioners and the academy; defining linkages and collaborative research; education for research; doctoral student research; and the future of library research. Abstracts should be sent by 15 February 1996, and full papers by 15 June, to Arthur P. Young, Director of University Libraries, Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, IL 60115-2868, telephone 815-753-9801, fax 815-573-9803, ayoung@niu.edu.

The William Morris Society will sponsor two sessions of papers at the Modern Language Association convention, to be held 27-30 December 1996 in Washington, DC. Proposals are invited on two themes: "100 Years On: Morris's Literary Reputation" and "William Morris the Critic." Presenters need not be members of the Society. Send a short abstract by 15 March to Mark Samuels Lasner, 1870 Wyoming Avenue NW, Apt. 101, Washington, DC 20009, biblio@aol.com.
Conferences

"From Medieval Manuscript to CD-ROM: Reexamining Image, Text, and Performance" will be the theme of a conference meeting at the University of California at Santa Barbara from 16-17 February 1996. Contact the Graduate Conference Committee, Department of French and Italian, University of California, Santa Barbara, CA 93106-4140, or rachel@humanitas.ucsb.edu.

"Books Illustrated: A Symposium Celebrating the Work of Ruth Mortimer," will be held at Smith College 12-13 April 1996. The symposium will highlight subjects that reflect the work and interests of the late Ruth Mortimer, including book collecting, scholarship and teaching, rare books and the college library, and the relationship of the artist and the curator. Contact Mary Irwin, Neilson Library, Smith College, Northampton, MA 01063, telephone 413-583-2903, mirwin@library.smith.edu.

The Hofstra Cultural Center will hold a conference on "Inscription as Art in the World of Islam" from 25-27 April 1996. It will cover, among other matters, the religious and decorative function of Arabic script, the development of calligraphic styles, the use of Arabic script for other languages, and the future of Arabic script in the computer era. Contact Alexej Ugrinsky and Kerry Hasselman, Hofstra Cultural Center, 109 Hofstra University, Hempstead, NY 11550-1090, telephone 516-463-5669/5670, fax 516-463-4793.

"Information and Entropy: A Victorian Dilemma" is the theme of the annual conference of the Midwest Victorian Studies Association, meeting 25-28 April 1996 at Indiana University in Bloomington. Contact D. J. Trela, Box 288, Roosevelt University, 430 S. Michigan Avenue, Chicago, IL 60605-1394, telephone 312-241-3710.


The Center for the Book in the Library of Congress and the Rare Book and Manuscript Library at Columbia University will sponsor a symposium from 3-5 October 1996 on the topic of publishing archives. Subjects to be discussed will include the effect of the changing marketplace and new technologies on the collection, retention, and use of publishing archives; intellectual property issues; understanding and documenting the publishing process; and publishing archives as primary sources. There will also be a presentation concerning a survey of twentieth-century American publishers' archives being conducted by the Scholarly Publishing Program at Arizona State University on behalf of the Book Industry Study Group. To reserve a place and obtain further information, write to Publishing Archives Symposium, Center for the Book, Library of Congress, Washington, DC 20540-4920. Reservations by telephone will not be accepted.

Courses & Seminars


Applications from college teachers are invited for an NEH Summer Seminar on the history of print culture in America, which will be held at the University of Chicago from 1 July to 8 August 1996. Carl Kaestle will direct the seminar. For further information and applications contact him at the Department of Education, University of Chicago, 5835 S. Kimbark, Chicago, IL 60637, kaes@cicero.spc.uchicago.edu. Applications will be due around 1 March.

Exhibitions & Lectures

The Sociology of Texts Seminar at the Centre for English Studies, University of London, announces its spring program of lectures. It will feature Paul Korshin on "The ESTC and Eighteenth-Century Literary Scholarship" (17 January), Max Saunders on "Text and Sociology in Ford Madox Ford's Trilogy England and the English" (7 February), David Daniell on "John Buchan, Polymath Publisher" (6 March), and Simon Eliot on "John Camden Hotten: Publisher, Pirate, and Pornographer" (27 March). These seminars will meet from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. in Room 362, Senate House, Malet Street, London. For information call 0171-636-8000 ext. 3052/54.

New College Oxford will sponsor a seminar series "From
Text to Book: New Studies in Literature and History." The program will include Maureen Bell on "The Feminine Part: Women in the Book Trade, 1557-1700" (19 January), Antonia Foster on "Enclosing a Common Field: Reviewing and Publishing in the Eighteenth Century" (26 January), Michael Treadwell on "The World of Print in the English-Speaking World at the Lapsing of the Printing Act in 1695" (2 February), Simon Elliot on "Mapping the History of Reading: The Evolution of the Reading Experience Database" (9 February), Warwick Gould on "The Poet, the Publisher and the Book: Yeats as an Example" (16 February), Bill Bell on "Will There Be Books in Heaven? Rethinking the Future of the Text" (23 February), Robert Darnton on "Imperial Control of Native Literatures in India, 1860-1910" (1 March), and Juliet Gardiner on "The Politics of the Classics in the 1990s" (8 March). All seminars will meet at 5:00 p.m. in the Salter Room, New College.

The Napier University Centre for Print Culture will hold its second Edward Clark Seminar Series on 31 January 1996, from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m., in Room B4, Merchiston Campus, 10 Colinton Road, Edinburgh, Scotland. The seminar theme is "Literary Reviews and Small Magazines in Scotland." The program will include David Finkelstein on "Periodicals, Propaganda and the First World War: A Case Study," Margery Palmer-McCulloch on "Literary Reviews and Small Magazines of the Scottish Renaissance," and Duncan Glen on "Literary Magazines in the Postwar Period."

To celebrate the bicentennial of the invention of lithography, the Grolier Club (47 E. 60th Street, New York) will mount an exhibition on "Lithography's Faces: The First Generation," from 5 March to 14 May 1996. For information call 212-838-6690.

**Fellowships & Awards**

Applications are invited for a research studentship for three years full-time or the equivalent part-time leading to an M.Phil. or Ph.D. at the University of Luton. The student will research changing reading practices in Britain 1860-1914 using the Reading Experience Database (run by the Centre for the Book at the British Library and the Open University). Graduates with a good degree in a relevant area should apply for an application form and further details from Mrs. Sandeep Bachra, Recruitment Administrator, University of Luton, Park Square, Luton LU1 3JU, Britain, telephone 44-1582-743395 or 44-1582-34111.

The Western Reserve Historical Society announces the third Virginia P. and Richard F. Morgan Research Fellowship. This $500 stipend is available to researchers who use pre-Civil War literature—books, pamphlets, or broadsides—printed in Ohio. The focus may be, but is not limited to, bibliography, history of the book, publishing, or book illustration. The application deadline is 1 March 1996; awards will be made by 15 April. Contact Kermit Pike, Library Director, Western Reserve Historical Society, 10825 East Boulevard, Cleveland, OH 44106-1777.

The William Morris Society in the United States offers fellowships of up to $1000 per year to United States citizens or permanent residents to support research on the life and work of William Morris. Applicants are asked to submit a resume and a one-page proposal; two letters of recommendation should be sent separately. The application deadline for the next grant is 1 June 1996. To apply or request further information contact Mark Samuels Lasner, President, William Morris Society, 1870 Wyoming Avenue NW, Apt. 101, Washington, DC 20009, telephone 202-745-1927, biblioaol.com.

**On the Internet**

Anyone who has worked extensively in publishing history knows how difficult it can be to locate the relevant surviving records of book and journal publishers and literary agents. Fortunately for students of modern Anglo-American publishing, this first step has recently become easier, thanks to the hard work of scholars and archivists who have compiled location registers and collection descriptions. Several of these are now available in electronic form, and can be found on SHARP Web at http://www.indiana.edu/~sharp.

Two location registers are particularly helpful to researchers. A few years ago, Alexis Weeldon of the University of Luton put together a listing of nineteenth-century British publishers' records and their locations that she shared with her colleagues on SHARP-L and in the Book Trade History Newsletter. This register is now easily accessible on the Web page. She is currently working to expand, revise, and update these listings, but in the meantime the earlier version is an indispensable tool for students of the Victorian book trade. Nan Bowman Albinski of Pennsylvania State University has likewise compiled a guide to the location of records of American publishers, journals, and literary agents. Also available as an appendix to the 1993 Yearbook of the Dictionary of Literary Biography, this guide can save scholars an enormous amount of time in tracking records that are frequently spread across many far-flung archives. One of the great advantages to having these lengthy documents in electronic form on the Web is that the searching capability...
built into Web browsers (in Lynx, for example, one merely presses the "/" key) allows one to find any string of characters almost instantly anywhere in the list.

A great step forward in Canadian book history is represented by the Canadian Publishers’ Records Database, created by Carol Gerson and Ann Cowan, which allows even greater flexibility in locating records. Integrated with the library website at Simon Fraser University (http://www.lib.sfu.ca), to which SHARP Web provides a link, the CPRD contains detailed descriptions of more than 1100 archival collections relating to English-language publishing in Canada from the beginnings to 1980. You will need to have "telnet" capability, available on most systems, to access this resource.

Library specialists are increasingly making guides to archival holdings available on the Web. Sidney Huttner of the University of Tulsa Library has made available listings of the library’s holdings of twentieth-century book and journal publishers’ records on SHARP Web, to which we’ve added links to the larger listings of literary manuscripts on the University of Tulsa Gopher. The Manuscripts Department at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill has mounted a short guide to its publishing archives—including the A. P. Watt, J. M. Dent, and Smith, Elder collections—on the Web at http://www.unc.edu/lib/mssinv/pub.html. A fuller description of the manuscript collection inventories can be found through the main page at http://www.unc.edu/lib/mssinv.

A detailed roadmap of the universe of book studies resources on the Web has recently been created by the School of Library and Information Science and the Libraries of the Catholic University of America. "A Guide to the Book Arts and Book History on the World Wide Web" is an annotated web page listing links to more than 175 sites. It includes pointers to Academic and Special Collections, Book Arts Courses and Exhibits, Booksellers, Discussion Lists, Electronic Journals and Publications, Finding Aids and WWW Guides, Government Organizations, Professional and Scholarly Organizations, and Special Topics (Bookbinding, Classics, Copyright, Iconography, Language, Papyrology, Preservation, and Typography). This page is still under construction, and comments and suggestions are welcome. The URL is: http://www.cua.edu/www/mullen/bookarts.html.

Making these helpful guides accessible from SHARP Web depends on the generosity of curators, historians, and other researchers in notifying us of their existence. SHARP members who know of other location registers or collection descriptions available in electronic form are encouraged to drop a note to me at pleary@indiana.edu. I will be very glad to add them to the Web page so that many scholars can benefit from them.

—Patrick Leary, Indiana University

**Notes & Queries**

At the request of the Book Industry Study Group, three of Beth Luey’s graduate students are compiling a guide to the archives of United States publishers (large and small) active during the twentieth century. BISG has mailed a survey to 3000 publishers, and both the standard printed guides to collections and Internet sources have been thoroughly combed. Whenever a collection is identified, a questionnaire is sent to the depository to elicit descriptive information. While the researchers expect to locate collections listed under publishers’ names, they are afraid of missing those listed under an editor’s name, or the name of a publisher or owner different from the company’s name. If you know of any such hard-to-find collections, kindly contact Beth Luey, History Department, Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ 85287-2501, aabel@asuvm.inre.asu.edu.

**New Publications**

**General**


Cathy Lynn Preston and Michael J. Preston, eds., *The Other..."
Winter 1995-96


The Ancient World


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How We Are Doing

The legendary Blizzard of ’96 forced the SHARP Program Committee to postpone its meeting until 17 January. When the committee finally did convene at the American Antiquarian Society, it confronted another towering snowdrift: nearly 200 proposals submitted for our July 1996 conference in Worcester. Fortunately, John Hench (chairman) and Caroline Sloat organized the proceedings with exceptional efficiency. The committee—which included John Y. Cole, Ruth Copans, Richard Fine, Melissa Homestead, Jim Kelly, and Jonathan Rose—completed its business in a single day, selecting about half the abstracts for inclusion in the conference program.

Applicants will soon be notified of the committee’s decisions. Program and registration information will be mailed out to all SHARP members around 15 April, but as an experiment, the committee may also post a preliminary version of the program on the SHARP Web Page. Direct any questions or requests concerning the conference to John Hench, American Antiquarian Society, 185 Salisbury Street, Worcester, MA 01609-1634, cfs@mwa.org.

Meanwhile, the SHARP Executive Council has voted to hold our sixth annual conference at Simon Fraser University in Vancouver, British Columbia, from 16 to 20 July 1998. Ann Cowan will chair the local arrangements committee, which will also include Rowland Lorimer, Carole Gerson, Shelia Delany, Mary Anne Gilles, Yusuf Wosk, Ralph Stanton (all at Simon Fraser University), Nancy Barta Levesque (British Columbia Library Association), Ted Bishop (University of Alberta), Kathleen Walkup (Mills College), Leslie Howsam (University of Windsor), Bertram MacDonald (Dalhousie University), and John Curtain (Royal Malvern Institute of Technology). Meanwhile, SHARP is already discussing possible conference sites for 1999 and 2000. The millennium does have a way of sneaking up on you.