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Worcester Conference Hosts Record Turnout, Creates Fund to Aid Graduate Students

A total of 280 participants registered for SHARP’s fourth annual conference, which met 18-21 July at the American Antiquarian Society in Worcester, Massachusetts. That turnout well surpassed our old record of 200 attendees at the Library of Congress in 1994. Credit and applause for this unprecedented success go to the conference organizers, John B. Hench and Caroline F. Sloat, who ringmastered the proceedings with unflappable grace and flawless efficiency.

As many of the participants noted, the program featured a gratifyingly large number of graduate students and mint-condition Ph.D.s from first-rank institutions, including Harvard, Yale, Columbia, Duke, the University of Texas, and the University of South Carolina. That should allay anxieties, recently expressed in print and on the SHARP-L listserv, that book history has been slow to establish itself in the academic community. In fact, an impressive cadre of young scholars, with the encouragement of their mentors, is entering the field. Book historians are not on the cutting edge: we are a couple of steps ahead of it.

SHARP is determined to encourage this trend. Accordingly, our Board of Directors, meeting at the close of the Worcester conference, voted to create a SHARP Endowment Fund to promote the work of book historians. It will begin by offering four travel assistance grants of $250 each to graduate students who are presenting papers at SHARP conferences. The very simple application procedure is outlined below in our 1997 call for papers.

Bill Bell launched the fund by contributing the surplus (£121) from last year’s Edinburgh conference. All SHARP members are encouraged to aid this worthy cause with individual donations, which are tax-deductible in the United States. Please send checks made out to SHARP, in American or British currency, to Dr. Linda Connors, Drew University Library, Madison, NJ 07940, USA. If the fund is a success, it will be extended to underwrite a broader range of projects, such as research grants and scholarly prizes.

The Worcester conference was fairly launched with a provocative keynote address by Robert A. Gross, “Reading Culture, Reading Books.” Later, the attendees enjoyed a microbrewery beer-tasting session at the Main Street Brewing Company.

The general business meeting featured some discussion of our plans to meet at Cambridge University in 1997 and Vancouver in 1998. Anyone who wishes to help with the planning for the Vancouver conference should contact Ann Cowan, Associate Director, Canadian Centre for Studies in Publishing, Simon Fraser University, 515 West Hastings Street, Vancouver, British Columbia V6B 5K3, Canada, telephone 604-291-5074, fax 604-291-5098, Ann_Cowan@sfu.ca.

SHARP is not yet committed to any conference sites beyond 1998, but we have received serious inquiries from Vienna and from the Center for the History of Print Culture in Modern America (Madison, Wisconsin). Doris Lösch, a representative of the Institut für Buchwesen at the University of Mainz, came to Worcester with an offer to host SHARP in the year 2000, when Mainz will celebrate the 600th anniversary of the birth of Johannes Gutenberg. The SHARP Executive Council will consider and vote on all these proposals within the next year.

Following up a first meeting at the Library of Congress last September, nineteen representatives of book history centers throughout the English-speaking world met at Worcester just before the opening of the SHARP conference. Convened by John Y. Cole, they explored prospects for fundraising, creating lectureships, launching new graduate and undergraduate courses in print culture, a projected multivolume history of libraries in the United States, and publishing a concise introduction to book history aimed at students and general readers. These centers hope to coordinate and publicize their work under the umbrella of the Center for the Book of the Library of Congress. Their representatives will meet again at the SHARP conference in Cambridge, and possibly in New York City in January 1997.

Call for Papers and Registration Information: 1997 Conference at Cambridge University

The fifth annual conference of the Society for the History of Authorship, Reading and Publishing will meet 4-7 July 1997 at the University of Cambridge. SHARP welcomes proposals for papers dealing with the creation, diffusion, or reception of script or print in any historical period. There are no limitations on topics. Proposals for either individual papers (20 minutes in length) or full panels...
(comprising a chair and three papers) may be submitted. We may also sponsor workshops devoted to shorter, more informal presentations of works in progress.

Proposals (one page maximum per paper) and inquiries about the conference itself should be sent to James Raven, SHARP Conference Programme Committee, 51 Sherlock Close, Cambridge CB3 0HP, United Kingdom. The absolute deadline for receipt of proposals is 20 November 1996. Following a new policy just approved by the SHARP Board of Directors, all presenters must be or become members of SHARP.

Graduate students who present papers at the conference may apply for one of four travel assistance grants of $250 each. Simply mention in your cover letter that you are a student and that you wish to be considered for this award. All other participants, including presenters, will be expected to pay their own expenses, including the registration fee; so please submit proposals only if you can arrange for your own funding.

Any SHARP member who is not submitting a proposal may serve on the Programme Committee, provided you notify the Acting Secretary in writing of your intention to serve before 20 November. The Programme Committee will meet 2:00 p.m., 30 November at Magdalene College Cambridge to consider the proposals.

Complete program and registration information will be mailed out to all SHARP members early in 1997, but those who wish to register before then can obtain the forms from Dr. Raven at the above address. The registration fee will be £45, or £35 for graduate students. Full board at Magdalene College — including dinner, overnight room, and breakfast and lunch the following day — will cost £60 per day if booked before 1 April 1997, £66 per day thereafter. You will have the option of beginning your stay on 3 July, one day before the conference starts, and staying on until 8 July, one day after it ends. Those staying elsewhere in Cambridge may book in advance individual lunches (£14 each) and dinners (£21). There will be a vegetarian option at meals. Dinner will be candlelit in hall — electricity has not yet reached that part of the college — but elsewhere rooms are fully equipped.

New SHARP Scholarly Journal
Now Soliciting Contributions

SHARP’s new annual scholarly journal, *Book History*, is now accepting articles. Like SHARP itself, *Book History* will be devoted to all aspects of the history of the creation, dissemination, and reception of script and print. It will publish research on the social, economic, and cultural history of authorship, editing, printing, the book arts, publishing, the book trade, periodicals, newspapers, ephemera, copyright, censorship, literary agents, libraries, literary criticism, canon formation, literacy, literary education, reading habits, and reader response.

*Book History* will be published in English, but it welcomes articles dealing with any national literature. Articles dealing with any part of the American hemisphere or the Middle East should be submitted to Ezra Greenspan, Department of English, University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC 29208, ezra.greenspan@scarolina.edu. Articles dealing with other parts of the world should be submitted to Jonathan Rose, Department of History, Drew University, Madison, NJ 07940, jerose@drew.edu. Send one hard copy and a WordPerfect diskette for each article.

The journal will not feature reviews of individual monographs: those will remain the province of SHARP News. Each issue of *Book History* will, however, include a long review essay surveying work in the field, under the running title "The State of the Discipline."

Greenspan and Rose have also announced the board of Advisory Editors for *Book History*: Carol Armbruster (Library of Congress), Bill Bell (University of Edinburgh), Roger Chartier (Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales), Marianna Tax Choldin (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign), Robert Darnton (Princeton University), Elizabeth L. Eisenstein (University of Michigan, emerita), David Finkelstein (Napier University), Patricia Fleming (University of Toronto), Peter R. Frank (Stanford University Libraries, emeritus), Juliet Gardiner (Middlesex University), Philip Gura (University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill), Wallace Kirspol (Monash University), Beth Luey (Arizona State University), Joel Myerson (University of South Carolina), Gordon B. Neavill (Wayne State University), Madison Sowell (Brigham Young University), Larry Sullivan (John Jay College Library), G. Thomas Tanselle (John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation), Cheryl Boettcher Tarsala (University of California at Los Angeles), James L. W. West III (Pennsylvania State University), and Ian Willison (British Library). At the recent SHARP conference, Greenspan and Rose held the first annual planning meeting with their advisory board.

Publication of the first issue is scheduled for August 1998. All SHARP members will receive a copy as part of their membership benefits. To cover the cost, individual dues will be raised by about $20 in mid-1997; institutional dues will be somewhat higher. Students will have the option of a special low membership rate which will not

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. Address editorial correspondence to the Editor, Jonathan Rose, History Department, Drew University, Madison, NJ 07940, USA, jerose@drew.drew.edu, fax 201-408-3768. Send membership dues and changes of address to the Associate Editor, Linda Connors, Drew University Library, Madison, NJ 07940, USA. 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.
include a subscription to *Book History*.

Meanwhile, the Early Book Society is making plans for its own annual journal, to be launched in fall 1997. The contact person is EBS President Martha Driver, English Department, Pace University, 41 Park Row, New York, NY 10038, driver@pacevm.dac.pace.edu.

**Nominations Sought for 1997 Elections of SHARP Officers and Directors**

In early 1997 there will be a new round of elections for the three governing bodies of SHARP. All seven officers on the Executive Council, five seats on the Board of Directors, and one seat on the Nominating Committee are up for election.

This will mark a watershed in the history of the society. Until now, SHARP was governed by the people who volunteered to launch the society back in 1991, and those who coopted into the leadership. Elections were scheduled for 1995, but only the incumbents were willing to stand as candidates. That kind of arrangement may be inevitable in the infancy of any organization, when all energies are focused on building a membership base. But SHARP now has a large pool of enthusiastic members who can bring fresh talent and energy to the society. This year, term limits and voluntary retirements will open up plenty of room for them at the top.

All SHARP members are urged to consider and suggest possible candidates — themselves or others. The following describes the duties and powers of SHARP officers, as well as the nomination and election process.

The daily business of managing SHARP is conducted by the seven members of the Executive Council: the President, Vice President, Treasurer, Membership Secretary, Recording Secretary, Publications Coordinator, and Public Affairs Director. As a body, the Executive Council makes all major policy decisions, such as selecting a site for the annual conference. (Before voting on particularly important issues, the Council may choose to consult the general membership.) The Executive Council meets face-to-face once a year at the annual conference, but it communicates and transacts business throughout the year via e-mail.

The President chairs all SHARP meetings, approves expenditures, and oversees arrangements for our annual conferences. Strictly speaking, the only constitutional duty of the Vice President is to stand in for the President in his or her absence; but in practice, presidential responsibilities have been largely shared between these two officers, and that arrangement could continue under the next chief executives.

Bookkeeping is only a minor responsibility of the Treasurer, who will be more concerned with fundraising and approaching foundations. Collecting and depositing membership checks is the job of the Membership Secretary, who also keeps our mailing list up-to-date with the help of a paid student assistant. The Recording Secretary takes minutes of all SHARP business meetings and (what is much more time-consuming) manages the SHARP-L listserv and the SHARP Web Page. The Publications Coordinator oversees all SHARP publications, including *SHARP News*, *Book History*, and any books or pamphlets we may choose to produce in the future. The Public Affairs Director is a kind of public relations officer, whose mission is to build our membership and promote SHARP in the academic and lay media.

All seven posts on the Executive Council involve a large commitment of time and labor. The Board of Directors is considerably less demanding. As trustees of SHARP, the Directors broadly oversee the governance of the society and can remove any officer for malfeasance. Normally, however, the twenty-member Board is an advisory body meeting once a year at the annual conference.

The Nominating Committee has only one responsibility: every two years, its three members must select candidates for election to the Executive Council, the Board of Directors, and the Nominating Committee itself.

All SHARP members (and only SHARP members) may be nominated for any office, with one exception: candidates for President must have served at least one term on the Executive Council. Officers on the Executive Council must stand for election every two years and may serve an unlimited number of terms, except for the President, who is limited to two terms. (Hence, SHARP President Jonathan Rose must retire in 1997.)

Members of the Board of Directors serve a single eight-year term and may not be reelected. Every two years, five of the twenty Directors retire and five new Directors are elected. In 1997, Martin Antonetti, Stephen Green, David D. Hall, E. Jennifer Monaghan, and John Sutherland will complete their terms.

The current members of the Nominating Committee are Frances Halpenny (chair), Ian Willison, and John Y. Cole. They each serve a single six-year term and may not be reelected. After chairing the committee this year, Frances Halpenny is due to retire and must be replaced.

SHARP members may propose themselves or other SHARP members as candidates to the Nominating Committee. Proposals should be sent by 1 November 1996 to Frances Halpenny, 32 Glenbrae Avenue, Toronto, Ont. M4G 3R5, Canada. Alternatively, a candidate may be nominated by a petition signed by 10 percent of SHARP members and sent to Dr. Halpenny by 1 January 1997. The Nominating Committee will deliberate by mail or e-mail and submit a complete roster of candidates by 15 January. All nominations must be accompanied by the candidate’s resume. A postal ballot will be mailed to all SHARP members in early February. The results will be announced in April or May, and the winners will take office at the conclusion of the fifth SHARP conference in July 1997.

If you have any questions about nominations, elections, or officers’ duties, feel free to contact Jonathan Rose here at SHARP News.
Scholars Honor D. F. McKenzie with Annual Lecture and Teaching Award

A McKenzie Trust has been founded to honor D. F. McKenzie on his retirement as Professor of Bibliography and Textual Criticism at Oxford University. The Trust Committee — an international group of book historians, librarians, and literary scholars from the United Kingdom, Australia, Germany, France, Ireland, the United States, and McKenzie’s own New Zealand — is seeking funds to endow a twofold legacy recognizing Prof. McKenzie’s signal contributions to scholarship and teaching. McKenzie knew nothing of these plans until a surprise announcement on 5 June 1996, at a celebration of his 65th birthday.

The D. F. McKenzie Lecture is an annual public address delivered at Oxford University by a distinguished scholar on the history of the book, scholarly editing, or bibliography and the sociology of texts. The inaugural McKenzie Lecture was delivered at the 5 June celebration by David McKitterick, who spoke on "Printers in the Marketplace," dealing with the Cambridge University Press in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries.

The D. F. McKenzie Prize for Excellence in Teaching is an annual award given in recognition of distinction in the teaching of English Literature at Oxford University. The honorand is chosen by a committee of students and faculty. The McKenzie Prize will undoubtedly encourage others to follow a remarkable educator whose energy and expertise, generosity and creative engagement have revolutionized the teaching of bibliography and book history at Oxford University.

SHARP members are urged to contribute to the McKenzie Trust. As of 5 June, £11,000 was raised, and the sponsors are aiming for £25,000 by the end of 1996.

In the United States, tax-deductible donations from individuals or corporations should be made by credit card (with full details) or check payable to Americans for Oxford, Inc., 198 Madison Avenue, 13th Floor, New York, NY 10016, telephone 212-726-6400, fax 212-889-4052. Please specify that you prefer your gift to be directed to the McKenzie Trust; for tax purposes, any preference for a specific recipient must be expressed in non-binding terms.

In Germany, tax-deductible donations should be sent to Herr Volker Triebel, German Friends of Oxford University, Berliner Allee 48, D-40212 Düsseldorf, telephone 211-1368-404.

In the United Kingdom and other countries, donations by credit card (with full details) or check should be payable to the University of Oxford Development Trust Fund with a cover letter specifying that your contribution is for The McKenzie Trust. Please send donations to M. F. Suarez, Secretary, The McKenzie Trust, Campion Hall, Oxford OX1 1QS, telephone 01865-286139. In Britain, gifts may be made tax efficient by donating through deed of covenant or utilizing the gift-aid scheme. In Canada, donations are tax-deductible. To save conversion charges, Sterling, Eurocheques, or donations by major credit card are preferred.

A Donald McKenzie Home Page has been set up at http://users.ox.ac.uk/~pemb0049/dfmhome.html by two of his former students, Iad Gadd of Pembroke College (ian.gadd@pmb.ox.ac.uk) and Martin Moonie of Somerville College (martin.moonie@some.ox.ac.uk). It features biographical and bibliographical information on Prof. McKenzie. The managers plan to expand it into an Oxford University bibliography/history of the book site.

The History of the Book in Australia: A Report from the Field

The History of the Book in Australia (HOBA), though organized as recently as 1992, has already acquired impressive momentum. This working group has begun soliciting contributors to a three-volume History of the Book in Australia, to be published by the University of Queensland Press by 2001: Wallace Kirsop is General Editor, and Martyn Lyons is Executive Editor. A companion Dictionary of the Book in Australia is planned for 2004. Late last year the Australian Research Council awarded a HOBA team headed by Martyn Lyons a grant of $204,000.

HOBA now has four part-time research assistants, a twice-yearly newsletter, and regional chapters in Canberra and Melbourne. A panel on "The History of the Book in Australia" was included in the July 1996 conference of the Australian Historical Association in Melbourne. HOBA will host its own conference from 10-11 August 1996 at the State Library of New South Wales, Macquarie Street, Sydney 2000, telephone 02-230-1500. And on 2 October, at the University of Melbourne, HOBA is co-sponsoring the first conference on the history of scientific bookselling and publishing in Australia: contact the organizer, Wallace Kirsop, Department of Romance Languages, Monash University, Clayton, 3168 Victoria, fax 03-9905-2137.

A HOBA site on the World Wide Web is now under construction. The Australian Scholarly Editions Centre at University College ADFA in Canberra recently set up its own homepage devoted to Australasian bibliography at http://www.adfa.oz.au/ASEC/.

On another front, Australian book historians founded a journal of their own in Spring 1995. Issued twice yearly, Publishing Studies is devoted to the history (and future) of the book trade, with a primary (but not exclusive) focus on Australia. The editor is John Curtin, Department of Communication Studies, RMIT, 124 LaTrobe Street, Melbourne, Victoria 3000 Australia, telephone +61 (0) 3-9660-2912, fax +61 (0) 3-9639-1685, johnc@rmit.edu.au. For subscriptions contact D. W. Thorpe, 18 Salmon Street, Port Melbourne, Victoria 3182 Australia, dwthorpe@slim.sinsw.gov.au.

In the concluding essay of this collection of Armando Petrucci’s papers, the eminent paleographer observes, “I have decided to limit my discourse to a series of arguments mainly relating to written documentation in the early and later Middle Ages, which I will address essentially by examples and citation” (236). Don’t believe a word of it. All of the contributions assembled here are centered in just such technical expertise, and all are as modestly presented, but taken together they constitute an inquiry into the general history of the book which not only medievalists, but modernists and historians of material textuality in non-European cultures can take as a model. Though the essay in question, “The Illusion of Authentic History: Documentary Evidence,” will shock naive positivists, Petrucci himself shows the way to cope with such illusions by always beginning not with the “factually demonstrable,” but with something much more subtle: the concrete, in all its ramifications. He considers the text of the document, the material it was written on, the hand of the writer (especially when it demonstrates a cultural choice), the social needs the document was designed to answer, the complex history of its conservation in study and library, and particularly the modulations of its status — from charter into legal instrument, from notarial memorandum into book — as the categories of knowledge changed and transformed themselves.

Except among paleographers and Italianists, Petrucci is less well known in North America than his contemporaries who are transforming the history of the book, figures like Robert Darnton, Roger Chartier, D. F. McKenzie, and Gordon Brotherston. That changed with the publication in English of his *Public Lettering: Script, Power, and Culture* (University of Chicago Press, 1993), which takes the discipline of epigraphy and traces its possible applications from Roman times through early modern inscriptions, to Fascist letter-forms (and Resistance ones), to modern graffiti. Petrucci began his scholarly work in the late 1950s with the close study of notarial practice, and of the hands of figures like Coluccio Salutati and Francesco Petrarch. He then moved steadily towards consideration of the social context of writing, and in particular the urban, professional world in which the handwritten book of the medieval period became the printed book of the early modern era. His most widely-noted early work is *La scrittura di Francesco Petrarca* (1967), in which he traced not only the transformation in Petrarch’s handwriting from its early to its later forms, but the creative and cultural implications of that transformation. Out of such work has emerged a concept of “written culture” which is technically grounded and rigorous in application, but at the same time susceptible to modulation in the face of the broadening historical problems — such as the vexed distinction between “orality” and “literacy” — presented by the evolution of the book since the 1470s.

The studies collected here were originally published in Italian (and in one case in French) between 1972 and 1986. They are arranged, however, not in chronological order but in a sequence which firmly refashions the idea of “literacy” into the complex and subtle historical concept of “written culture.” The opening essay, “From the Unitary Book to the Miscellany” (1986), studies the movement from the elegant single-work roll of the late antique period to the confusing but culturally fertile miscellaneous codex of the sixth century. Later papers consider the alleged “illiteracy” of the Lombards, the graphic culture of the scribes of Italy in the early middle ages, the symbolic role of Imperial letter-types in the period between Charlemagne and Charles the Bald (this essay gently revising Stanley Morison), the ways in which medieval readers actually read, and, drawing most closely on his knowledge of notarial writing practices, a magisterial essay on the development of the authorial autograph as a culturally sanctioned genre of book production.

“The Christian Conception of the Book in the Sixth and Seventh Centuries” (1973) provides a stunning historical companion-piece to Ernst Robert Curtius’s “The Book as Symbol” in his *European Literature and the Latin Middle Ages* (1948; English translation 1953), a chapter which Petrucci does not, however, mention. Petrucci’s concern is not only “the forces that in the course of the sixth century successfully kept alive the ancient book and the ancient conception of writing,” but the physical destruction of that culture by the fall of the Gothic kingdom, which “gave a free hand to those groups forging a different culture in which the sacral conception of the book and writing were organic parts” (33). In tracing this transformation he moves lucidly between the artisanal scene of book production and its intellectual motive force, tracing the development of the recognizable medieval modes of book production and usage which divided the world of St. Benedict from that of Cassiodorus. Whereas before the Church had appropriated the cultural tools of a confidently elitist pagan society, it now had to devise new ones which addressed the needs of a spiritual community in which every soul participated, but in which reading was restricted to a few. With these tools emerged the sacral image of the book as we know it from Curtius.

The book’s longest essay is also its most exciting: “Reading and Writing *Volgare* in Medieval Italy” is conflated from two entries in A. Asor Rosa, ed., *Letteratura italiana*, vol. 2 (1983), one on “the manuscript book,” the other on “early libraries.” Bringing the two together under a single title makes it possible for Petrucci
to trace, on a large scale and through many aspects of book production, a topic which has been thoroughly deformed by the modern literary canon's stress on the centrality of vernacular literature and by its relegation to the historical margins the Latin writings that only scholars any longer read. What concerns Petrucci here, however, is the fact that during the period in which the instruments of book production we now use were developed, it was vernacular writing which was marginal. His point is not to reduce writing in the volgare to its place, but rather to trace the emergence of the reader of today, the "free reader" of a modern language (a vernacular, after all) who was created in the transformation of book types, book production, and library organization during the fifteenth century. As he had early contrasted Cassiodorus and St. Benedict, here he places in juxtaposition Pico and Poliziano. The former was a noble collector with a nostalgic idealized concept of what his treasured library ought to be; the latter, although Pico's colleague, was a poorer man with fewer books, taking notes among the collections of his friends, and reading in this library and that just as a scholar does today. It is in Poliziano, Petrucci concludes, that we have the first truly modern reader, one for whom the verbal text is finally privileged over the physical connection of the text with the book, as it has prevalingly been ever since. This is an essay which should be read by everyone considering problems of textuality, cultural literacy, and the history of the book, in this period or any other.

Petrucci's scholarship is based on an intimate knowledge of Italian sources and an unequalled acquaintance with secondary scholarship in his chosen field. His powers of synthesis make it possible for him to model upon the long history of textuality in Italy, from epigraphy to the most contemporary graphic styling, a complete concept of "written culture" which can be applied to other times and places. This structure is, of course, a model, and when applied to specific cases, may leave interesting gaps or invite amendment: for example, his study of writing in the volgare in Italy begins with the observation that everywhere else people were writing in the vernacular much earlier, but it is the Italian development he is bent on tracing. His unmatched scholarship on Petrarch does not prevent him from citing E. H. Wilkins's work on Petrarch's autograph lyrics as "the best technical treatment" (162n15), even though it appears probable that Wilkins based his important but now outdated work entirely on anecdotal and photographic evidence.

Charles Radding's introduction to the volume is an excellent guide to Petrucci's thinking and its implications, and his translation has few irritating flaws. I spotted only two or three typographical errors in the book overall. This is a volume which, despite the specialization its title implies, merits a central place on any book historian's shelf.

—Germaine Warkentin, University of Toronto

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**Calls for Contributors**

The newly-appointed American Editor of the *Annual Bibliography of English Language and Literature* seeks new contributors. Each bibliographer will be assigned to scan and index items from 10-15 periodicals and submit 150-350 citations per annum. Contact James R. Kelly, Collection Development Division, W. E. B. Du Bois Library, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA 01003, telephone 413-545-0058, fax 413-545-6873, jrkelly@library.umass.edu.

For its Summer 1997 issue, *Convergence* seeks papers relating to research projects or case studies on media technology and theory. Papers addressing the work of such people as Deleuze and Guattari, Paul Virilio, Donna Haraway, and Pierre Levy in the context of developments in new media/digital technologies would be welcome. The submission deadline is 30 October 1996. Contact Julia Knight or Alexis Weedon, Editors, Convergence, School of Media Arts, University of Luton, 75 Castle Street, Luton LU1 3AJ, Britain, telephone +44-(0)1582-489031, fax +44-(0)1582-489014, convergence@luton.ac.uk.

The September 1999 issue of the *Bulletin of the John Rylands Library* will be devoted to the theme "Word and Image: Studies in the French Illustrated Book from the Middle Ages to the Present Day." Papers must be in English and 8,000 to 10,000 words in length. Contact David Adams, French Department, University of Manchester, Oxford Road, Manchester M13 9PL, Britain, david.adams@man.ac.uk.

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**Calls for Papers**

A conference on "Scholarly Communication in the Next Millennium" will meet at Simon Fraser University in Vancouver 6-8 March 1997. Suggested paper topics include: The design, control, and focus of the scholarly communication system; the creation and ownership of knowledge; technological possibilities; maintaining quality without sacrifice; Canada in the world of scholarship; the economics of scholarly communication; the division of responsibilities for production, dissemination, and consumption. To obtain further information and submit paper proposals access http://www.sfu.ca/scom/index.html or contact Deborah Kirby at dkirby@sfu.ca.

"Women and Scribal Publication, 1660-1800: Alternatives to Print" will be the theme of the American Society for
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Eighteenth-Century Studies conference, meeting 9-12 April 1997 in Nashville. Send proposals or completed papers before 15 September to Nathan Tinker, 8 Washington Court, #204, Stamford, CT 06902, tinker@murray.fordham.edu.

The Early Book Society will sponsor six sessions at the 32nd International Congress on Medieval Studies, meeting 7-11 May 1997 at Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo. The topics will be: (1) Text and Image: New Discoveries; (2) Text and Image: Beginnings and Endings; (3) Clever Scribes: Correctors, Creators, Forgers; (4) Late Medieval Multimedia: Print in MS/MS in Print; (5) Lesser-Known Collections in Public Institutions: A Round-Table Discussion; (6) Facsimiles and Their Uses. Send abstracts and a-v requirements by 15 September to Martha Driver, English Department, Pace University, 41 Park Row, New York, NY 10038.

The Center for the History of Print Culture in Modern America seeks papers for its conference on "Defining Print Culture for Youth: Children and Reading since 1876," to be held 9-10 May 1997. Selected papers will be published in a volume of conference proceedings. Submit a 250-word abstract and one-page curriculum vitae by 1 December 1996. Contact James P. Danky, Conference Coordinator, Center for the History of Print Culture in Modern America, State Historical Society of Wisconsin, 816 State Street, Madison, WI 53706, telephone 608-264-6532, james.danky@ccmail.adp.wisc.edu.

The Rare Books and Manuscripts Section of the Association of College Research Libraries (American Library Association) seeks papers on the history of manuscript and print culture for its 38th annual preconference, to be held at the Claremont Colleges in southern California, 24-27 June 1997. The preconference theme will be "Rereading the Past: New Methodologies and Approaches to the History of the Book." Submit four copies of each proposal by 1 September to Nora J. Quinlan, c/o Archives and Special Collections, Richter Library, University of Miami, Coral Gables, FL 33124-0320. Proposals (maximum one page, 250 words) should include a cover sheet with title, author’s name and affiliation, mailing address, telephone, and e-mail address. Please indicate if the paper has been submitted to another conference, and if you are an RBMS member. Papers may not exceed 3000 words and should not have been submitted for publication or published.

Conferences

"Print for Free: Non-Commercial Publishing in Commercial Societies" is the theme of the third biennial conference of the Cambridge Project for the Book Trust, meeting at Magdalene College, Cambridge 20-22 September 1996. Contact Elsa Meyland-Smith, the Malting House, Newnham Road, Cambridge CB3 9EY, Britain, emeylandsmithe@compulink.co.uk.

The Textbook Colloquium will hold its first meeting outside Britain at the Newberry Library, 26-28 September 1996. Contact Paul Gehl, Newberry Library, 60 W. Walton Street, Chicago, IL 60610, telephone 312-255-3645, gehlp@newberry.org.


The Bibliographical Society of Australia and New Zealand will meet 4-5 October 1996 at the State Library of New South Wales. For information see the BSANZ web page at http://www.curtin.edu.au/curtin/dept/sils/bsanz.

A conference on "Communicating with the Indians: Aspects of the Language Encounter with the Indigenous Peoples of the Americas, 1493 to 1800" will be held at the John Carter Brown Library 18-20 October 1996. Write to Indian Conference, John Carter Brown Library, Box 1894, Providence, RI 02912.

Roger Chartier will deliver the second annual Saintsbury Lecture at the University of Edinburgh on 25 October 1996. The lecture will be followed on 26 October by a day-long symposium on "The Culture and Commerce of the Book," with presentations by Alan Bell, Lisa Jardine, James Raven, and Ian Willison. Contact Bill Bell, English Department, 5 Buccleuch Place, Edinburgh University, Edinburgh EH8 9JX, Scotland, wb@tatto.ed.ac.uk.

The Center for Holocaust Study and the Center for the History of the Book at Drew University will co-sponsor a conference on "The Holocaust and the Book: Destruction and Preservation," 14 November 1996. The keynote speaker will be Dina Abramowicz of YIVO. For registration information contact the Center for Holocaust Study, Rose Memorial Library/301, Drew University, Madison, NJ 07940, telephone 201-408-3000, ctholst@drew.edu.

Courses & Seminars

Robert Darnton, Milton M. Gatch, Daniel Purdy, and Roger Bagnall are scheduled to speak at the Columbia University Seminar on the Book in History this fall. The Seminar meets eight times a year on Tuesday evenings. It is open by invitation to faculty members from area institutions and others interested in book history and its impact on culture. Contact Jean Ashton, Director, Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Columbia University, 535 W. 114th St., New York, NY 10027, ashton@columbia.edu.

The Folger Institute will sponsor fall semester seminars on "Researching the Renaissance" (taught by Leeds Barroll), "The London Book Trade in the Age of Shakespeare" (Peter W. M. Blayney), "Forms and Formats of Tudor History Writing" (David Scott Kastan), and "Motivating History" (Keith Moxey). Contact the Folger Institute, 201 East Capitol Street SE, Washington, DC 20003, telephone 202-544-4600, institute@folger.edu.

Lectures

On 8 October 1996 at 6:00 p.m., Robert A. Caro, John Darnton, and Robert Darnton will conduct a panel discussion on "History and Journalism" at the New York Public Library, to accompany the library's exhibition "Headlines, Deadline, Bylines: The New York Times Morgue, 1896-1996." Tickets ($7) may be ordered from the Public Education Program, Room M-6, New York Public Library, Fifth Avenue and 42nd Street, New York, NY 10018.


Fellowships & Awards

Visiting Research Fellowships of from one to twelve months' duration will be available for tenure from 1 June 1997 to 31 May 1998 at the American Antiquarian Society in Worcester, Massachusetts. These awards are for research and writing in American history and culture through 1876, including the history of the book and historical prints, in which fields the Society holds preeminent collections. Applications are due 15 January 1997. For more information contact the Department of Research and Publication, American Antiquarian Society, 185 Salisbury Street, Worcester, MA 01609, telephone 508-752-5813, fax 508-754-9069, cfs@mwa.org.

Nominations are invited for the 1997 Fredson Bowers Memorial Prize for a distinguished essay in textual scholarship. To qualify, essays must have been published in 1995 or 1996. Nominations (with three copies of the nominated article) should be sent by 1 September 1996 to D. C. Greetham, Program in English, CUNY Graduate Center, 33 W. 42nd Street, New York, NY 10036-8099.

The International League of Antiquarian Booksellers solicits entries for its twelfth Prize for Bibliography. Given every four years, the prize awards $10,000 to the author of the best published or unpublished scholarly bibliography or work pertaining to book history, typography, or works of general interest relating to these subjects. Each entry must be in a universally used language, and must be either unpublished or published between 1993 and 1996 inclusive. Sale catalogues, public library catalogue, and periodicals are not allowed; catalogues of private libraries are permitted. Two copies of each entry must be submitted by 31 December 1996. Direct inquiries and submissions to Roland Folter, H. P. Kraus Inc., 16 E. 46th Street, New York, NY 10017, telephone 212-687-4808, fax 212-983-4790.

The Library Company of Philadelphia offers one-month fellowships of $1,400 (plus a travel allowance for one foreign scholar) for research in residence in its collections. Candidates must apply by 1 February 1997. To apply please send four copies each of a curriculum vitae, a two- to four-page project description (which shows that the Library Company has primary resources central to the proposed project), and a single letter of reference to: James Green, Library Company of Philadelphia, 1314 Locust Street, Philadelphia, PA 19107, telephone 215-546-3181, fax 215-546-5167, jg24@libertynet.org.

Resources

The Centre for the Study of Early English Women's Writing is building a library of titles by women writing in English between 1600 and 1830. Currently located in California, the center will eventually move to Jane Austen's home at Chawton House in Hampshire. Please
send inquiries, donations of books, suggestions for acquisitions, and requests for the Female Spectator (the center's newsletter) to Susan Maher, Chawton House Library, 599A Fairchild, Mountain View, CA 94043, fax 415-968-4842, chawton@aol.com.

A group of scholars are planning to create an institute for research in French-language publishing and book history in Switzerland. Contact François Vallotton, Institut Benjamins Constant, Bâtiment Central, Université de Lausanne, 1015 Lausanne, Switzerland, telephone (41) 21-692-3028/3029.

New Publications

General


Colin Franklin, Book Collecting as One of the Fine Arts and Other Essays. Aldershot: Scolar, 1996.


The Ancient World


Britain


France


Germany


Judaica


The Low Countries


Spain


United States


Ron Robin, The Barbed-Wire College: Reeducating German

Begin your membership in SHARP, and you will receive SHARP News as well as the SHARP Membership and Periodicals Directory, which is published each summer. We accept Visa, MasterCard, or checks in American or British currency, made out to SHARP. Send this form to Linda Connors, Drew University Library, Madison, NJ 07940, USA.

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Institution: ____________________________

E-mail: ____________________________

Research interests: ____________________________

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3/96


How We Are Doing

The annual SHARP business meeting, held in Worcester on 21 July, approved our financial report for the year ended 31 December 1995. The activity for our account in the United States was as follows:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Newsletter and Directory</td>
<td>$4,366.63</td>
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<td>332.08</td>
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<td>Postage</td>
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<td>Office supplies</td>
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<td>Purchase of mailing lists</td>
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<td>500.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Student assistant wages</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total expenses</strong></td>
<td><strong>$9,009.56</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Membership Secretary Linda Connors reported that SHARP had a total of 909 members, a gain of 168 over the same time last year. We are now within striking distance of our goal of 1000 members by July 1997.

Congratulations to SHARP member Wayne A. Wiegand for winning the 1996 Justin Winsor Award, given annually by the Library History Round Table of the American Library Association for an "outstanding essay embodying original historical research." Wiegand presented his paper, "The Amherst Method: The Origins of the Dewey Decimal Classification Scheme," at the ALA's July conference in New York City.

Dr. Linda Connors
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Madison, NJ 07940, USA

James R. Kelly
Collection Development Div.
W.E.B. DuBois Library
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Amherst, MA 01003