



<http://www.cerl.org>
ISSN 1680-4546 (appears twice a year)

CONSORTIUM *of* EUROPEAN
RESEARCH LIBRARIES

NEWSLETTER

Issue No. 14

December 2006

Adding new bibliographic records to the HPB Database

The Hand Press Book Database now contains over 2 million records.

Towards the end of 2006 a large number of new records were added to the Hand Press Book (HPB) Database. Where the beginning of the year already saw the inclusion of records from the National Libraries of Hungary and Lithuania, in the second half of the year the HPB was expanded with records from the Royal Library in Copenhagen, as well as updates to the records of the National Libraries of Wales and Russia, the Biblioteca nacional de España and the STCN of the Koninklijke Bibliotheek, The Hague. The largest influx of records this year came from Germany, with the inclusion of just under 100,000 VD16 records and over 1 million records derived from the Gemeinsamer Bibliothek Verbund. The latter file contains the holdings of the Niedersächsische Staats- und Universitätsbibliothek Göttingen, the Staatsbibliothek in Berlin Preussischer Kulturbesitz, and several of SUB Göttingen's Cluster Libraries.

In 2007, CERL hopes to add records of the University Library in Szeged; Helsinki University Library, the National Library of Finland; the National Library of Scotland; the Royal Library in Stockholm and updates to the records of the University of Yale and Oxford, which will bring the HPB Database to an estimated 3 million records at the time of the Annual General Meeting in November 2007.

Hosting of Hand Press Book Database by OCLC Online Computer Library Center, Inc

The Consortium of European Research Libraries is pleased to announce that negotiations have recently been satisfactorily concluded with OCLC Online Computer Library Center, Inc. for the hosting of the Consortium's Hand Press Book (HPB) Database with effect from 1 October 2006, following on from the combining of RLG, the previous database host, and OCLC from 1 July 2006. For the time being, the Hand Press Book Database will continue to be hosted in Mountain View, California, and will be migrated to Dublin, Ohio, at a future point to be announced.

More information regarding the transition plans is available at <http://www.oclc.org/community/rlg/transitions/default.htm> and http://www.rlg.org/en/page.php?Page_ID=20965.

During the transition period CERL will liaise with Mr W. Taoka and Mr Glenn Patton. Glenn Patton is Director, WorldCat Quality Management Division at OCLC. He has spent more than 25 years doing support, training, product development, and quality and standards activities for OCLC services and products. He serves as OCLC's liaison to the American Library Association's Committee on Cataloging: Description and Access, and has served as a member of ALA's MARBI (Machine-Readable Bibliographic Information) Committee. He has also served as a member of the IFLA Cataloguing Section and currently chairs the IFLA Working Group on Functional Requirements and Numbering of Authority Records. Prior to joining OCLC, he spent eleven years as Music and Fine Arts Librarian at Illinois Wesleyan University, Bloomington, Illinois. He holds Bachelor of Music and Master of Arts degrees from the University of Kansas and the Master of Science in Library Service degree from Columbia University.

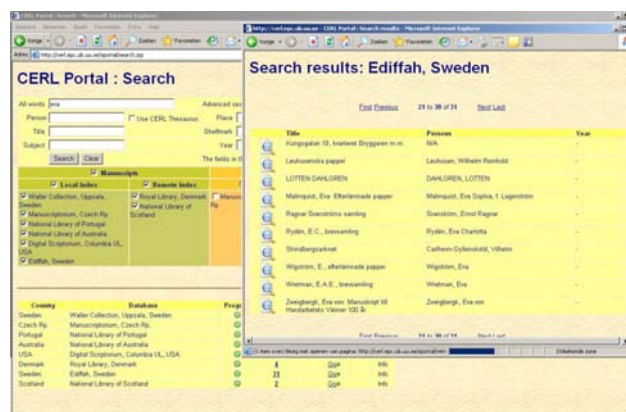


From CERL Manuscripts Portal to CERL Portal

For the past three years, we have always spoken of the CERL Manuscripts Portal. But now, suddenly, we speak of the CERL Portal. What has changed, and why?

During the development of the CERL Manuscripts Portal, we never lost sight of our wish to provide combined access to manuscripts data and printed materials, particularly the Hand Press Book Database (HPB). However, the portal as it had been developed was based on the principle of 'metadata harvesting': a procedure where data is collected from remote databases (by making use of the Open Archive Initiative (OAI)), stored in a local file and searched through a local index. The portal did not allow for searching remote databases on the fly, which was the only available option for including the HPB Database.

The solution was found in the development of a second portal: the CERL Portal. It is a hybrid system which can search harvested data that has been stored locally, as well as data in remote databases. While this solution was specifically chosen in order to facilitate simultaneous searches of manuscripts materials and the HPB, it has the additional benefit of significantly increasing the list of possible participants in the portal, to include other databases that do not (yet) support harvesting by OAI.



<http://cerl.epc.uu.se/sportal/>

Thus, with the creation of the hybrid CERL Portal, the scope of the portal has broadened. However, it must be stressed that for manuscripts databases, harvesting by OAI protocol remains the preferred method of obtaining data. Searching a locally stored index is much faster and more reliable than a remote search, and gives more possibilities for presenting the data in a uniform manner.

MSS, integrated index, locally stored

1. AU National Library of Australia
2. CZ Manuscriptorium/manuscripts
3. PG National Library of Portugal
4. SE Ediffah, the Swedish shared catalogue of personal archives
5. SE Uppsala UL, Waller collection
6. US Columbia University. Digital Scriptorium records

MSS, search by remote access

7. DK Royal Library of Denmark
8. UK National Library of Scotland

Printed, locally stored

9. CZ Manuscriptorium – prints

Printed, search by remote access

10. CERL HPB

For further information see:

http://www.cerl.org/Manuscripts/CERL_Manuscripts_Portal.htm

Content

The portal presently comprises ten separate files from nine institutions (see the box on the left): six are harvested through the OAI-PMH protocol and stored locally in an integrated index; three (including the HPB) are accessed on the fly by Z39.50.

Special features

- Multilingual interface. At this time the interface and help pages are available in English, French, Dutch and Swedish, and can easily be extended to include more languages.
- Assisted searching with the CERL Thesaurus. This option can be used when searching for personal names and place names. Unfortunately, assisted searching in remote databases is still problematic and often causes time-out errors. A solution for this problem is part of the aims for 2007.

Manuscripts Advisory Board

The new Advisory Board, which will advise on the further development of the portal and promotional activities, has now been installed; its members are

- Ivan Boserup (Chair), Det Kongelige Bibliotek, Copenhagen
- Robert Giel, Staatsbibliothek Preussischer Kulturbesitz, Berlin
- Lotte Hellinga, former Secretary of CERL
- Anne Korteweg, Koninklijke Bibliotheek, The Hague
- Fabienne Queyroux, Bibliothèque de l'Institut de France, Paris

Do you know of any institutions that might be interested in participating in the CERL Portal? Please contact the Project Manager at Liesbeth.Oskamp@cerl.org.

CERL Thesaurus and Provenance Information



The CERL Thesaurus has expanded significantly, with the inclusion of McKerrow's *Printers Devices* (412 records), the VD 16 (1960 imprint names), 2215 records derived from the Gemeinsamer Bibliothek Verbund, the weekly *Personamendatei* update (160,677 records) and 506 imprint records derived from Renouard's *Les marques typographiques parisiennes*.

	Nov 2006	Nov 2005	Oct 2004	Oct 2003
Personal names (cnp)	808,613	648,420	573,762	62,438
Imprint names (cni)	17,804	16,023	13,812	12,254
Place names (cni)	3,837	4,046	3,575	3,560
Source of references (caf)	2,105	2,104	568	15
Corporate names (cnc)	4,256	3,724	1	1
<i>Total number of records</i>	836,615	674,317	591,718	78,269

A large number of records is in preparation for inclusion in the CERL Thesaurus in 2007:

- Short Title Catalogue Vlaanderen printers authority records
 - o Printers (451 records)
- GVK authority records
 - o Personal, Corporate names and Printer names (574,769 rec.)
- Edit16 Abbreviations for Reference Works
 - o Reference Works (295 records)
- British Book Trade Index
 - o Printers, booksellers
- Provenance des livres anciens, Lyon
 - o Personal names (Provenance)
- Universidad Complutense de Madrid
 - o Personal names (Provenance)
- GVK authority records
 - o 39,124 corporate names
 - o 10,921 printers
 - o 524,724 personal names (largely overlapping with PND)
- STCN authority records
 - o 697 place names
 - o 8,398 printers
 - o 29,209 personal names
- Edit 16 Abbreviations of reference works
 - o 295 records (caf)

At the Annual General Meeting, A. Jahnke of the Data Conversion Group demonstrated how users can limit their searches to include only those records for which provenance information is available. The CERL Thesaurus records do not contain provenance information, but only link to information held at CERL members' libraries – currently the Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin, the Niedersächsische Staats- und Universitätsbibliothek in Göttingen, the Herzogin-Ann-Amalia-Bibliothek in Weimar and the Herzog-August-Bibliothek in Wolfenbüttel.

Digital Resources – Printers' Devices

One of the Consortium's aims is to develop added-value access for scholars and researchers to web-based digital resources that are important for the study of the early European book, with the final aim of building upon these works to develop a unique portal resource for early European printing. One such initiative is in the area of reference works for printers' devices. One of the indexes available on the CERL Thesaurus is 'Imprint names' (i.e. names of printers and publishers of the hand press period). This index gives access to biographical information and web links for book-trade personnel. CERL is very pleased to announce that after McKerrow's *Printers' & Publishers' Devices* and printers' devices held in the EDIT16 database, the CERL Thesaurus now also links to P. Renouard's *Les marques typographiques parisiennes des 15e et 16e siècles* (Paris, 1926). Again, the team at the Royal Library, Copenhagen, undertook the digitisation.

It should be noted that CERL's aim is to create digitised versions of books that are known scholarly resources. In the case of both McKerrow and Renouard, there are undoubtedly new devices to be added or dates to be modified, but this is not the principal aim of the activity, at least at present. Scholarly input is welcomed, and the CERL Thesaurus annotations facility offers users the opportunity to submit additions and amendments, but the main thrust of CERL's efforts will be focused on adding additional established resources to create an ever increasing corpus of digital images of printers' devices. CERL would like to establish links between the CERL Thesaurus and MAR.T.E (Marche Tipografiche Editoriali, developed by the Biblioteca Nazionale Centrale, Rome, (<http://193.206.215.4/marte/>)) in order to link Thesaurus entries to the images of devices created by this project, and has identified a number of publications for digitisation, e.g. R. Juchhoff, *Drucker- und Verlegerzeichen des XV. Jahrhunderts* (1927).

CERL members elect a new Chairman



At the Annual General Meeting of the Consortium of European Research Libraries held at the National Széchényi Library in Budapest on 11 November 2006, Prof. Dr Elmar Mittler was elected as Chairman of the Consortium for 2006-2009 in succession to Dr Ann Matheson. He was honoured to accept this position and stated: 'Strengthening the awareness of and improving access to the European written heritage are the main aims of my chairmanship of CERL. I am looking forward to close cooperation with researchers, librarians and CERL staff.'

Elmar Mittler is Professor of book and library sciences (em.) and was head of the State and University Library Göttingen, one of the leading German academic libraries. He studied History and German Language and Literature at the Universities of Bonn and Freiburg/Breisgau; he graduated in 1966. In course of his distinguished career he has been Deputy Director of the University Library in Freiburg/Breisgau (1970-1974), Head of the Badische Landesbibliothek in Karlsruhe (1974-1979), the University Library in Heidelberg (1979-1990) and the Göttingen State and University Library (1990-2006). He is Dr. h.c. of the Sorbonne, Paris, Honorary Professor at the Institut fuer Buchwissenschaft (University of Mainz) and has been President of LIBER (Ligue des Bibliothèques Européennes de Recherche). One of his most remarkable activities was the exposition *Bibliotheca Palatina* in Heidelberg 1986 with about 300,000 visitors. He is editor of the journals *Bibliothek und Wissenschaft* and *BIBLIOTHEK, Forschung und Praxis*.

Selected publications

- *Bibliotheca Palatina: Katalog zur Ausstellung.* (Hrsg.) (1986) Textbd.: XVI, 552 S.; Bildbd.: 328 S. (Heidelberger Bibliotheksschriften; 24). (numerous contributions)
- *Bibliotheca Palatina: Druckschriften.* Ed. Leonard Boyle, Elmar Mittler. (Mikrofiche-Ausg.) München, 1989-1995
- *Gutenberg digital. The Goettingen Gutenberg Bible, Model Book and Helmaspergers Notarial Instrument.* Electronic edition: <http://www.gutenbergdigital.de>, 2000
- *Die Digitale Bibliothek - eine Zwischenbilanz.* In: *Gutenberg-Jahrbuch 2000. Festschrift.* Mainz: Gutenberg-Gesellschaft, 2000. pp. 346-355

Ligue des Bibliothèques Européennes de Recherche (LIBER)

LIBER organised a meeting of European organizations, including both service organisations and some European national library organisations, in Groningen in July 2005, at the start of the LIBER 2005 Annual General Conference, which was attended by the Chairman and Executive Manager on behalf of the Consortium. The majority of representatives were broadly in favour of LIBER taking a more proactive co-ordinating role in Europe, and developing services in support of this role. As a result of this meeting and a further meeting of European national library organisations held in Uppsala in the summer of 2006, LIBER is currently developing memoranda of understanding with European organisations as part of the aim of improved networking among European organizations. At CERL's Annual General Meeting held in November 2006, the Chairman, on behalf the Consortium, signed a memorandum of understanding with LIBER. The memorandum sets out the main responsibilities of both organisations, and identifies areas of future co-operation.

CERL has a specific interest in some current LIBER Expert Committees, for example, the LIBER MARC Group; the LIBER Security Network; and the LIBER Expert Group of European Manuscripts Librarians. During the year CERL has been involved at a practical level with the recent LIBER initiative for a European Library Passport; and with the initiative for a global Registry of Digital Masters in which EROMM, LIBER and OCLC PICA are actively participating. CERL also has an interest in co-operating with LIBER's aims of encouraging improved networking among existing European organisations; lobbying on behalf of European research libraries; and developing a 'co-ordinating' role for pan-European activities. CERL much looks forward to closer liaison with LIBER in these areas of interest.

New Members

Full Members

During the past year, the following libraries have joined the Consortium as Full Members: National Library of Luxemburg, National Library of Latvia, Biblioteca del Senato, Rome, the University of Bologna, National Library of Norway, and the Academic Library of Tallinn University, Estonia.

Membership by Special Arrangement

The special arrangements for membership of the Consortium for ABINIA have been successfully negotiated, and a memorandum of agreement was signed by the Chairman, Dr Matheson, at the CERL Annual General Meeting held in November 2006 (see photograph below). A number of National Libraries, e.g. those of Chili and Venezuela, will receive access to the Hand Press Book Database, and will contribute records to the HPB Database.



Dr Matheson signs the ABINIA agreement

The Directors have also approved membership by special arrangement for seven Polish libraries, namely the National Library in Warsaw, the University Libraries of Warsaw, Wrocław and Poznań, the Jagiellonian Library in Cracow, the Ossoliński National Institute Library in Warsaw, and the Gdańsk Library of the Polish Academy of Sciences in Gdańsk.

English Short-Title Catalogue



CERL has decided to discontinue the ESTC subscription it took out for its members through RLG, and has begun to discuss alternative forms of access with the ESTC Office.

The English Short Title Catalogue (ESTC) is now for the first time freely available, free of charge and with no requirement for passwords. It is at the British Library's website <http://estc.bl.uk> and an essential resource for historians, English language and literature scholars, and all those interested in early printed books, periodicals and ephemera. It aims to provide bibliographic records for all known British printed material before 1801, held by the British Library and over 2,000 other institutions worldwide. More information about the file and the project can be found at <http://www.bl.uk/collections/early/holdingenglish.html> and at the website of ESTC/North America <http://estc.ucr.edu>.

Special Membership

The Centre for Publishing Studies at the University of Stirling (Scotland) and the Chester Beatty Library (Dublin) have joined the Consortium as Special Members.

The Chester Beatty Library, Dublin

Sir Alfred Chester Beatty (1875-1968) was a mining engineer of Irish descent who was associated with the Guggenheims and a close friend of Sir Winston Churchill. Islamic collections include mainly Persian, Turkish and Arabic manuscripts – many are highly illuminated



<http://www.cbl.ie>

and beautifully bound. The cultural artistic and religious traditions of China, Japan, India, Nepal, Tibet, Mongolia, Thailand, Burma (Myanmar), and Indonesia are represented by a fine collection of illustrated manuscripts, prints, printed books and decorative arts. The Western collections hold many important early Christian biblical and Manichaean papyri – the Library is one of the foremost sources for scholarship in the Christian Old and New Testament. Armenian, Western European manuscripts from medieval, Renaissance and modern times, prints early and fine books and bindings complete a remarkable conspectus of the arts of manuscript production and printing from many cultures and periods.

Imprints and owners: Recording the Cultural Geography of Europe: CERL Seminar 2006

About 70 members and guests attended CERL's Annual Seminar, which took place in the Conference Hall of the National Széchényi Library, Budapest on 10 November 2006. This year's theme was 'Imprints and owners: Recording the cultural geography of Europe'.

The first speaker was Mr Ádám Hegyi (University of Szeged), who was the project manager of the Hungarian rare books cataloguing project MOKKA-R. He described problems of character encoding involved in processing records with characters from non-standard founts. Adopting Unicode had simplified the storage of the wide range of characters needed, but there were still problems with the non-availability of founts with special characters for 15th-century gothic founts, such as contractions for 'rum' and 'con'. Some participants in the project had files encoded in older character sets such as DOS and other non-standard fount layouts. Converting all data to be stored as Unicode founts gave long-term stability, but still gave rise to great complexity in normalising data for indexing, searching and also for output to non-Unicode users.

Dr István Monok (National Széchényi Library, Budapest) described the background to the creation of the Union Catalogue of Rare Book Collections in the Carpathian-Basin. Hungary had a long tradition of independent libraries, especially in ecclesiastical institutions, which the project would help to document. He introduced *Bibliotheca Eruditionis* (<http://www.eruditio.hu>), which aimed to provide integrated research tools for the study of the history of Hungarian civilisation in the 16th and 17th centuries. Of particular interest was the recording of provenance data: with the cooperation of other countries in the Carpathian Basin it would be possible to provide a tool for provenance history which linked early catalogues and book lists with records of the books themselves, thus offering scholars a tool to understand how European international trends spread throughout the Carpathian basin in the 16th and 17th centuries.

In their paper 'Cataloguing rare books in the Library of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences - problems of incunabula and copy-specific data', Dr Marianne Rozsondai and Dr Béla Rozsondai described the origins of the major collections in the Academy's library, which make it the second largest collection of incunables in Hungary, with many gothic and Renaissance bindings both from medieval monastic libraries and later donations and from collections confiscated after the second world war. Their early-printed books catalogue includes copy-specific fields for recording provenance and other detailed information.

Mrs Gunilla Jonsson (Kungliga Biblioteket, Stockholm) and Tony Curwen (Aberystwyth) in a joint paper on 'Provenance and the Itinerary of the Book: recording provenance data in on-line catalogues' gave a review of types of provenance data and the need to record them in a more structured (and therefore more searchable) way in catalogue databases. It is clear that this is an area of growing importance and CERL intends to develop its interest in this field, particularly through the CERL Thesaurus. Many catalogues do not yet record provenance data and as libraries generally lack the staff resources to undertake major projects in this area, the speakers suggested it will perhaps be necessary to enlist the help of a library's research users, for example by using a web-based template for recording of provenance discoveries.

The CERL Thesaurus was the subject of the next paper, by Mr Alexander Jahnke (Data Conversion Group, SUB Göttingen), who spoke on 'Accessing the record of European printed heritage: the CERL Thesaurus as an international repository of names from the hand-press era'. He showed how the Thesaurus is used for assisted searching with the Hand Press Book Database and demonstrated the new user interface for the CERL Thesaurus, especially the Unicode character set capabilities, the incorporation of provenance information which allows the user to connect to the sources records in the originating databases, and the linking to digitised printers' devices. Finally he demonstrated the new annotations facility which allows users to contribute to the CERL Thesaurus by attaching notes to individual records.

The final speaker was Dr Kristian Jensen (British Library, London) on 'Crossing the continent, crossing disciplines: Old books in new libraries'. He examined attitudes to the collecting of art objects by 18th and 19th-century aristocratic collectors who divorced their purchases from the context in which they were created. Similar comments could be made about the collecting of incunables and early printed books by the same sorts of collectors, often resulting in the loss of the provenance information which we now want to study. Nowadays, there is an interest in studying books not only as vehicles for texts but also as objects from a specific culture which will inform us of aspects of the materiality of that culture. *David Shaw*

Annual General Meeting, Budapest 11 November 2006: Chairman's Note

The Consortium's 2006 Annual General Meeting, hosted by the National Széchényi Library, took place in Budapest on 11 November 2006. Dr Istvan Monok, Director-General, Dr Adam Horvath, Dr Judit Vízkelety-Ecsedy, Ms Barbara Kiss and their colleagues graciously received us in the Library. The hospitality throughout the three days of the meetings and the annual seminar was outstandingly congenial, and everyone was very impressed with the fine Library and the commitment of Library staff. It was a pleasure to welcome Glen Patton of OCLC to our meeting for the first time, and to welcome back Wes Taoka.

Following the decision by RLG and OCLC to combine their organization from 1 July 2006, responsibility for hosting the Hand Press Book (HPB) Database has been assumed by OCLC with effect from 1 October 2006, following the successful completion of contract negotiations. This decision was endorsed by the membership at the Annual General Meeting: both organizations look forward to mutually profitable future co-operation.

Following the decision at the 2005 Annual General Meeting to proceed with a two-year development phase for the CERL Manuscripts Portal (now the CERL Portal) through the Electronic Publishing Centre of Uppsala University Library, members were given a report on progress at the half way mark. Under the leadership of Mr Ivan Boserup, Chairman of the Project Advisory Board, and Drs Liesbeth Oskamp, Project Officer, the initial functionality of the Portal is now in place, and the aim in the next stage will be to add further content and enhance functionality to the Portal to give federated access to online manuscripts catalogues, the Hand Press Book Database and other related resources. The CERL Portal can provide access to online databases using both OAI and Z39.50 protocols, and databases for addition will be very much welcomed. Members endorsed the report on progress, and the second year of the initial operational phase will now be implemented.

Membership has been buoyant during the year, and at the Annual General Meeting members were pleased to welcome as Full Members: the National Library of Luxemburg, the University Library of Bologna, the Biblioteca del Senato, Rome, the National Library of Norway and the Academic Library of Tallin University; and as Special Members; the Chester Beatty Library, Dublin, and the Centre for Publishing Studies, University of Stirling. In addition, membership by special arrangement has recently been granted to the Association of National Libraries in IberoAmerica (ABINIA), many of which have significant early European collections, and the Memorandum covering this agreement was signed at the Annual General Meeting. A similar arrangement has also been made for an important group of research libraries in Poland with rich historical collections.

The members received the Treasurer's report for 2005/2006, which confirmed that the Consortium's finances continue to be in a stable and healthy state, and they approved the forecast budget for 2006/2007. However, service developments require investment if they are to meet members' needs, and a sensible organization seeks means of increasing revenue streams in addition to funding by membership fees. The Finance Committee, which was revived for this purpose at the 2005 AGM, under the chairmanship of the Treasurer, Drs Jan Bos, was very active during the year and produced its first set of recommendations. The members endorsed the report of the Finance Committee, and remitted the recommendations to them for further detailed consideration and implementation.

Reports and demonstrations on other important aspects of the Consortium's current programme were given, including the CERL Thesaurus, added value digital resources and the refurbished CERL website, along with the normal annual reports. Among these, special note is made of the report of the Advisory Task Group (ATG), which guides the Consortium's technical work and development. Three publications were announced at the AGM: the volume of Mike Smethurst's bibliography, compiled by M J Crump, with essays by K G Kaltwasser, John Haeger and Henry Snyder, co-published with RLG/OCLC; the report on Persistent Identifiers co-published with ECPA; and CERL Papers VI.

It is a particular pleasure to welcome Professor Elmar Mittler as my successor as Chairman. We have worked together in various enterprises over the years, and he will guide the Consortium well in its next phase. My warm thanks go to Secretariat members, the ATG, Executive Committee and the Directors for all their assistance and professional companionship during my time in office, and to Consortium members for the privilege of leading the Consortium's work over the last six years.

Ann Matheson

Farewell and welcome



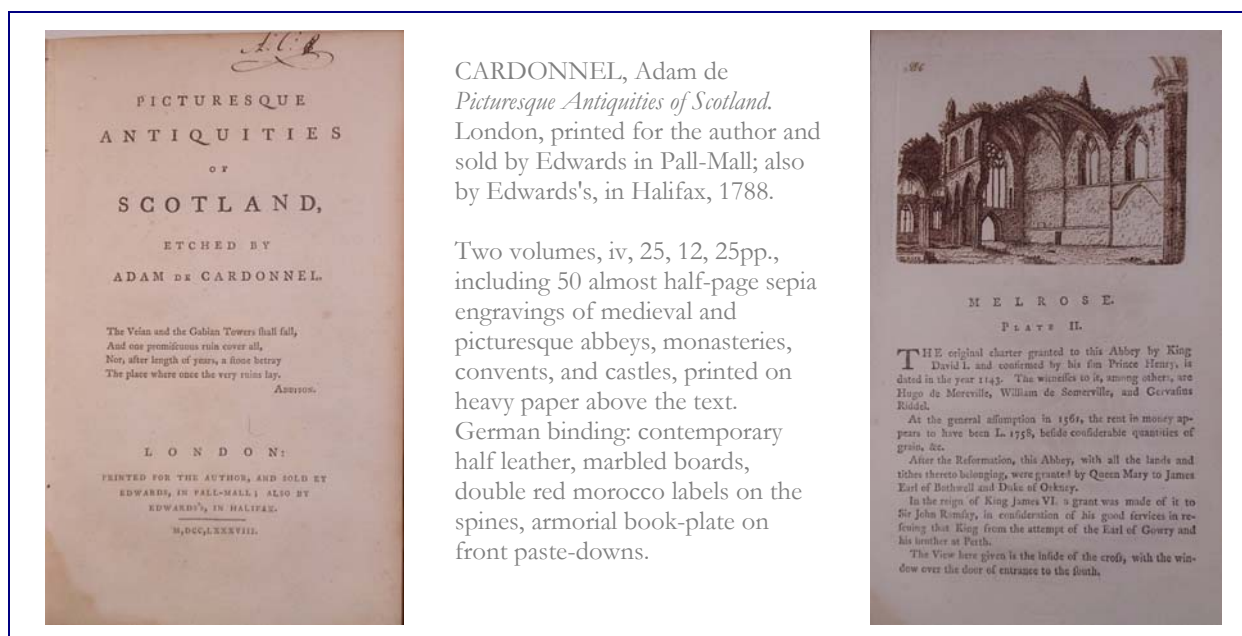
A. Matheson

Dr Ann Matheson completed her second term of office at the 2006 Annual General Meeting and laid down her chairmanship. The Directors and members of the Executive Committee, the Advisory Task Group and the Secretariat presented her with a brooch featuring the CERL logo. Many colleagues offered personal messages in an *album amicorum* that was presented to Dr Matheson during a diner cruise on the Danube. On behalf of all CERL members Dr D.J. Shaw presented her with a farewell gift in the form of an early printed book by Adam de Cardonnel (Edinburgh, 1788) whose works on Scottish

© both portraits G. Jonsson, 2006

antiquities were part of the Picturesque movement and greatly contributed to the revival of interest in the Gothic.

Dr Matheson wishes to thank all members very warmly: 'Thank you, dear colleagues, for these quite undeserved but greatly appreciated gifts and, most of all, for your professional help and warm friendship over the years. I am proud to have been associated with this very important European endeavour: bringing together the early written heritage of Europe is crucial for a clear understanding of our history and culture, both within our own continent and in the wider world. I wish the Consortium every success in the future'.



CARDONNEL, Adam de
Picturesque Antiquities of Scotland.
London, printed for the author and
sold by Edwards in Pall-Mall; also
by Edwards's, in Halifax, 1788.

Two volumes, iv, 25, 12, 25pp.,
including 50 almost half-page sepia
engravings of medieval and
picturesque abbeys, monasteries,
convents, and castles, printed on
heavy paper above the text.
German binding: contemporary
half leather, marbled boards,
double red morocco labels on the
spines, armorial book-plate on
front paste-downs.

Directors

In addition to Dr Matheson, Dr Osvaldo Avallone (Biblioteca Nazionale Centrale, Rome) and Dr Fernanda Campos (Biblioteca Nacional, Portugal) left the board of Directors. CERL wishes to thank them warmly for all their work. At the Annual General Meeting held in November 2006, the CERL members elected three new Directors: Mr David Pearson (University of London Research Library Services), Dr Antonia Ida Fontana (Biblioteca Nazionale Centrale, Firenze), and Prof. Ulf Göransson (University Library, Uppsala). Drs Jan Bos (Koninklijke Bibliotheek, The Hague) was re-elected as the Consortium's Treasurer.

Executive Committee / Advisory Task Group

Members of the Executive Committee and the Advisory Task Group said farewell to Mrs Gunilla Jonsson, who will retire from the Royal Library in Sweden in November 2006.

Mrs Ingrid Svensson of the Royal Library, Stockholm, was elected to take place on the Executive Committee.

Mrs Luisa Buson (Centro di Ateneo per le Biblioteche, Padua) will join the Advisory Task Group.



G. Jonsson

CERL website – a new design and structure

Under supervision of Mr Alex Jahnke, four students of the Fachbereich Informations- und Kommunikationswesen, of the University of Applied Sciences and Arts (Hannover) have undertaken to develop a new CERL website, based on Wiki technology. The website structure was demonstrated at the CERL Annual General Meeting in November 2006.

The employment of a wiki engine – particularly the PHP-based open source engine DokuWiki – for the website facilitates maintenance of the website and its content in several ways. It is based on simple text-files that contain a basic, display-oriented markup. Direct coding of HTML is no longer necessary. The text

files are rendered by a template mechanism to standard compliant XHTML 1.0. Thus the content of the website and its design are strictly separated from each other and a change to the website's design does not require recoding of any of the single pages. Further means of revision control are also provided: by a simple mouse click any earlier version of a page can be retrieved and/or restored. DokuWiki allows granting differentiated access rights to individual users and user groups, in order to conceal parts of the website from the public or other registered users. Thus, next to the public sections of a website, internal sections accessible only for members of a CERL working group or committee can be maintained within the same wiki.

DokuWiki's template mechanism makes the wiki fully customisable and adaptable to CERL's requirements in terms of design and functionality. It was aimed to give the website a clear and elegant appearance and to keep established elements, by which CERL is recognised, such as the olive tree logo and the CERL font. A differentiated user access management allows providing special sections for CERL members that are accessible only after the user has logged in. Further, it is quite simple to provide the content of a website's section or even a single page in different languages with all navigation elements changing to the respective language automatically.

Work on the website, including a members-only password-protected section, will continue until the end of 2006, and the CERL Secretariat will use the first quarter of 2007 to add content. Material on the current website will be updated and expanded, restructured and partly rewritten.



Left to right: Marian Lefferts, Alex Jahnke, David Shaw, Sebastian Keitel, Sebastian Cario, Sandra Golda, Catharina Klaus. © D.J. Shaw, 2006.

Promotion of CERL

Publications

CERL proudly announces the publication of three new publications:

- *CERL Papers VI - Many into one: problems and opportunities in creating shared catalogues of older books*. Papers presented on 11 November 2005 at the CERL Seminar hosted by the Biblioteca Nazionale Centrale, Rome (London, Consortium of European Research Libraries, 2006). ISBN 0-9541535-5-3.
- *John Michael Smethurst, Bibliography & Essays with Postscript* (Ann Matheson, ed). CERL Occasional Publications I (London, Consortium of European Research Libraries, 2006).
- Hilse, Hans-Werner and Jochen Kothe, *Implementing Persistent Identifiers. Overview of concepts, guidelines and recommendations*. ([London, Amsterdam]: Consortium of European Research Libraries and European Commission on Preservation and Access, 2006). ISBN 90-6984-508-3.

Identifier <http://nbn-resolving.de/urn:nbn:de:gbv:7-isbn-90-6984-508-3-8>.

All CERL members will receive copies of these publications. Non-members can order direct from CERL's London office or through your bookseller. See also: <http://www.cerl.org/CERL/CERLPapersOrderForm.pdf> and http://www.cerl.org/CERL/cerl_papers.htm for previous CERL publications.

Presentations in 2007

- Spring 2007 – a workshop for colleagues in Poland
- February 2007 – a workshop for colleagues in Bologna (Italy)
- June 2007 – presentation at the RMBS, Baltimore (US)
- July 2007 – presentation of the CERL Portal at the International Medieval Conference, Leeds (United Kingdom)
- September 2007 – annual workshop in St Petersburg (Russia)
- November – CERL Seminar, Uppsala (Sweden)