# CONSORTIUM *of* EUROPEAN RESEARCH LIBRARIES

# NEWSLETTER

## Heritage of the Printed Book (HPB) Database

### HPB migration

The migration of the HPB Database to VZG Göttingen in the GBV environment is well on track. A first extraction of all records in the HPB was made available to the Data Conversion Group in Göttingen in mid-June and was then converted from MARC21 to Pica+, which is the format in use at VZG/GBV. A first test conversion and interface were made available in October, in time for the CERL Annual General Meeting. Members of the HPB working group were given the opportunity to explore the interface and their impressions and feedback were discussed at the Executive Committee meeting preceding the Annual General Meeting.

OCLC will continue to make the HPB available via FirstSearch and Connexion until April 2013. New records were added to the HPB at OCLC until October 2012. File loading will resume at VGZ/GBV from February. In early November 2012, OCLC provided the final extraction of all HPB records, which DCG is currently converting to Pica+.

| Time table | |
|---|---|
| October 2012 | • First test implementation of HPB at VZG |
| | • End of file loading at OCLC |
| November 2012 | • Final copy of HPB handed over to DCG |
| January 2013 | • OCLC to provide CERL with IP addresses of CERL members accessing the HPB – for implementation in VZG authorisation set-up |
| February 2013 | • Start of file loading (i.e. new files and an extensive programme of file updates) at VZG |
| | • Access details of new HPB interface circulated to CERL members |
| | • HPB interface at VZG to go public |
| April 2013 | • End of HPB access at OCLC |

### CERL Thesaurus is a well-used resource

http://thesaurus.cerl.org

The CERL Thesaurus (CT) currently comprises $c$.918,500 records, and remains a well-used resource. The average number of searches per month by individual users over the last year has been $c$.20,500 (in 2011 it was $c$.17,500 searches per month), and searches peaked in April at $c$.24,000 searches. As of 24 October 2012, 773,194 records from the CT are indexed in Google, this amounted to 99.25% of the records we highlighted to Google in our sitemap file. In the three-month period from mid-July to mid-October 2012 a record from the CT or the CT start page showed up in a Google search result $c$.450,000 times (438,000 thereof were impressions of a single record). A single record was clicked on 34,100 times, which is a turnaround of 7.82%. This is an average of 11,700 additional record full displays per month in the CT, not generated by a search in the CT interface but in Google.

The CT in 2012 was enhanced with authority records from the Bibliothèque nationale de France, the Bibliothèque municipale de Lyon, the Bayerische Staatsbibliothek, the University Libraries in Glasgow and Barcelona, and the National Library of Scotland. Editors continued to de-duplicate records, and the team was strengthened by Valentina Piccinin and Susanna de Schepper.

## LIBER Security Network becomes CERL Security Network

http://www.cerl.org/collaboration/security

**Members**
**(1 November 2012)**

**National Libraries:**
- Austria
- Denmark
- France
- Ireland
- Netherlands
- Norway
- Scotland
- Spain
- Sweden
- Switzerland
- United Kingdom

**National Archives:**
- Netherlands
- United Kingdom

**Other libraries:**
- Senate House Library, University of London
- State and University Library, Aarhus
- University Library, Basel
- University Library, Cambridge
- University Library, Ghent
- University Library, Göttingen
- University Library, Gothenburg
- University Library, Leuven
- University Library, Uppsala
- University Library, Zürich
- Zentral- und Hochschulebibliothek, Luzern

The Security Network held a closed meeting on 22 November 2012 and its 4th LIBER Collection Security Conference the day after.

Representatives of twelve European archives and libraries participated in the closed meeting to discuss issues of collection security. The aim of the meeting was to share experience in a secure and confidential environment and to explore how collaboration in future can be extended and intensified, not only between libraries, but also between libraries and archives.

The meeting started with a formal announcement from LIBER and CERL. From 1 January 2013 LIBER will no longer support the Library Security Network. LIBER and CERL proposed that CERL take over responsibility for the network, which was endorsed by the representatives of the Security Network. It was agreed that the network will be renamed the CERL Security Network. CERL has created a website and will endeavour to increase the visibility of the Security Network. Administration of the Network will remain at the Kongeliga Bibliotek, Copenhagen, which will set up a new electronic system for this purpose.

CERL will take the lead in new initiatives for collaboration. A CERL Security Working Group was formed, chaired by Kristian Jensen of the British Library, which is in the process of drawing up a plan for collaboration. Various elements from that plan will be taken up by action groups, chaired by members of the Security Network. Possible themes were suggested:
-   an international database for collection of security incidents,
-   a review of staff training, e.g. an exchange programme for security staff, integrity training, scripts for role play,
-   recommendations for co-operation with the book trade and police, perhaps even private investigators,
-   recommendations for crisis management and communication,
-   an exploration of DNA marking, and other new technologies,
-   prevention or early recognition of staff theft,
-   an overview of international and national legislation on divulging information about suspected thieves/mutilators.
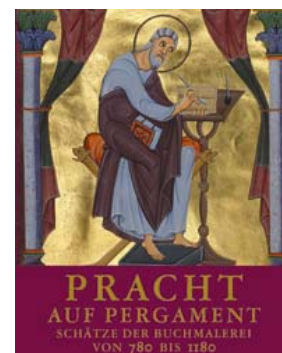
The next conference will be held at the Vatican Library no later than Spring 2015.

## Pracht auf Pergament (Bayerische Staatsbibliothek until 13 January 2013)

http://www.bsb-muenchen.de/Einzeldarstellung.403+M5cf54b68f20.0.html

The exhibition is dedicated to manuscript illumination from the Carolingian Ottonian age up to the early Romanesque period in the region that is today Southern Germany. The exhibition offers the unique opportunity to view around 75 of the library's most valuable manuscripts, which otherwise rarely leave their vault. The illuminated codices from the BSB were part of a digitisation campaign launched by the Europeana Regia project (Bibliotheca Carolina). Further fully digitised manuscripts can be found on the website of the Münchener Digitalisierungszentrum.

This exhibition has met with wide acclaim, see it while you still can or buy the catalogue published by Hirmer (ISBN: 978-3-7774-5391-0 – 44 colour plates).

### MEI 2.0 (Milan, 14 December 2012)
http://incunabula.cerl.org/cgi-bin/search.pl

Despite the heavy snow fall, a well-attended second MEI Seminar, organised by Università Cattolica (together with the institutions involved in a project concerning incunabula in Lombardy) was held in Milan on Friday 14 December (see also http://centridiricerca.unicatt.it/creleb_2025.html). After the first seminar, which was held last February with the aim of introducing scholars to the MEI Database, the second Seminar had the purpose of offering a review of what has been done so far and to define new perspectives.

The programme saw a report on cataloguing the incunabula of Lombardy, and other experiences with cataloguing incunabula, either in MEI (the British Library) or other systems (the Vatican Library). The comparison between different experiences and different situations was one of the stimulating aspects of the Seminar, where a further presentation of the MEI Database was given by Alessandro Ledda at the end of the day. A discussion, led by Prof. Edoardo Barbieri, explored the best possible use of the database, notably whether the many possibilities that the system offers to properly describe a copy should be used in order to prepare the 'perfect' description of each item or rather to consider the database as a good tool for the history of the book and of libraries and therefore to register data while always keeping in mind the bigger picture. Giancarlo Petrella, who presented a final report on the incunabula of the province of Brescia (all of which are now described in MEI), put in a request to be able to count copies instead of only editions, when a search by holding institutions is launched.

The use of MEI as a tool for a new census of collections was mentioned more than once: the opportunity to enlarge the traditional target of the cataloguing campaigns by reaching private collections and antiquarian booksellers. Even without the involvement of private collectors, however, the work in progress has already produced the need to add copies to the ISTC (e.g. the Biblioteca Queriniana in Brescia or the Old Library of the University of Perugia). Cataloguing in MEI even made new copies of editions which were not in the ISTC reappear, such as one found in the Biblioteca Trivulziana (Vacalebre). Here the copy of a brief text printed in Speyer was found whilst the only other known copy (registered in GW: M48875) has meanwhile disappeared.

One of the goals pursued by the institutions that joined MEI is to achieve good management of their collections. Some also found a way to value existing tools, such as catalogues and indexes, more generally the results of previous censuses. The work at the BL started with the aim of using an index of owners of Italian incunabula, still unpublished - together with one of the owners of incunabula printed in Germany (Panzanelli). The description of the BL incunabula in MEI is based on the record that one can read in the printed catalogue (BMC). In this way both the catalogue of the BL, and the related index, are given a second life through MEI: here the index is being published for the first time, whilst the BMC (together with the additions made throughout the years) can be further appreciated.

Neil Harris argued that some catalogues are research works in themselves and deserve to be printed, for example the *Catalogo degli Incunaboli della Biblioteca Provinciale dei Frati Minori di Firenze*, since they are "cataloghi d'autore", not just a collection of records. Besides, once printed, catalogues can work as a deterrent towards thieves. The cataloguing of incunabula belonging to the Franciscans of Tuscany has been described as a rearguard action, since many convents were abandoned and their books were gathered in Florence (Razzolini). The catalogue, rich in copy-specific details (e.g. detailed descriptions of the bindings), contains information which can be used for a virtual re-building of the original libraries. Its descriptions perfectly fit MEI record fields, where that same data is going to be structured. The same will be done possibly with the incunabula of the Biblioteca Braidense of Milan, where a census was prepared by Aldo Coletto within the project "Et amicorum", promoted in 2008 by the National Committee on Rare Books of AIB (Italian Library Association).

The cataloguing campaigns on incunabula, made both through MEI or other systems, have already produced some results: original collections are reappearing after decades, sometimes even centuries, of hidden life; this is the case for the libraries of religious houses which are now in the Biblioteca Universitaria in Padua as well as the private collections which ended up in the Vatican Library. The meeting ended with the perspective of a new Seminar, to be held by the end of next year for a new update of the works in progress.                                    *Alessandra Panzanelli, Perugia, MEI Editor*

## CERL Seminar (British Library, 30 October 2012)
Presentations available at: http://www.cerl.org/services/seminars/powerpoint_presentations

The 2012 CERL Annual Seminar was held on Tuesday 30 October 2012 at the British Library in London. Under the title *Accessing heritage research collections through digitisation: models and use*, the seminar aimed to review the wide range of digitisation initiatives taking place in Europe and to highlight the partnership and licensing models behind them. Issues such as funding, content selection, product design, and sustainability were covered by librarians, and a small panel considered the issues from the point of view of researchers and educators working with digital resources.

As the host institution, staff at the British Library led by Adrian Edwards worked with the CERL Secretariat to organise the seminar, shape the programme, and seek sponsorship. In order to reach the largest audience in the host country, the Rare Books and Special Collection Group of the Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals (CILIP) was also brought in as a co-organiser. This group is the UK professional association for librarians working with heritage materials, and works in the areas of advocacy and training.

One-hundred and seventy-nine people pre-registered for the seminar, and a small number of additional delegates turned up on the day. At least half of those in attendance represented CERL member organisations, with the remainder coming mainly from libraries and academic institutions in Britain. The seminar was opened by Kristian Jensen (Head of Arts and Humanities, British Library) and the CERL Chair, Ulf Göranson, provided a welcome and placed the seminar into its wider context of CERL conferences and workshops. The day's papers were grouped into four themed sessions.

Session 1 was chaired by Marian Lefferts on behalf of CERL. The two papers in this session addressed issues that need to be considered before starting to digitise.
- Aly Conteh (British Library) spoke about planning a digitisation project end to end.
- Rachel Marshall (British Library) outlined the principles behind licensing models.

Session 2 was chaired by Adrian Edwards on behalf of the British Library. The central part of the day comprised case studies selected to demonstrate the full range of digitisation initiatives taking place in Europe. These began with examples of a global mass digitisation partnership and a collaborative project using money from the European Commission.
- José A. Magán Wals (Complutense University of Madrid) described collaboration with Google Books and the various ways in which images are made available to researchers.
- Rachel Heuberger (Goethe University Library, Frankfurt) spoke about 'Judaica Europeana', a Europeana project largely funded by the European Commission.



Session 3 was chaired by Sarah Mahurter on behalf of the CILIP Rare Books and Special Collections Group. The first two papers were further case studies, this time considering a national government-funded programme, followed by an assessment of working with commercial companies. The third paper gave an example of how researchers and academics can contribute towards the ongoing development of a digital resource.
- Eric Dussert (Bibliothèque nationale de France, Paris) spoke about 'Gallica', the French national digital library containing facsimiles, electronic publications, sound recordings, etc.
- Marieke van Delft (Koninklijke Bibliotheek, The Hague) compared public-private partnerships with Google Books and ProQuest.
- Gabriel Egan (De Montfort University, Leicester) outlined the work of an advisory board set up to shape enhancements to the 'JISC Historic Books Platform' in the UK.

Session 4 was handed over to scholars who use the digital resources created by librarians and their digitisation partners. It comprised a panel discussion chaired by Andrew Prescott (King's College, London), with contributions from Tim Hitchcock (University of Hertfordshire, Hatfield) and James Mussell (University of Birmingham). The panel shared their experiences and discussed priorities for digitisation projects.

Amanda Saville (Chair, CILIP Rare Books and Special Collections Group) concluded the seminar with a summary of the issues raised during the day, and the event was formally closed by Ulf Göranson (Chair, CERL).

All of the speakers' presentations are currently available on the public area of the CERL website (see URL above). This was the first CERL annual seminar to take advantage of Twitter, and #cerlsem12 was busy throughout the day. The organisers would like to acknowledge the financial support of the British Library and the commercial sponsors (Adam Matthew Digital, Brill, Brepols, Harvey Miller and Cengage Learning), and to thank all of the speakers, panellists and session chairs. Thanks also go to the organising committee (Adrian Edwards, Cristina Dondi, Janet Zmroczek, Rachel Marshall, Aly Conteh and Amanda Saville) and finally to the volunteers from CERL, the British Library and CILIP, all of whom contributed to what proved to be a well attended and well received event.

*Adrian Edwards, British Library*

## Virtual exhibition: *Leaving Europe*
http://exhibitions.europeana.eu/

Europeana is pleased to announce the launch of *Leaving Europe: A new life in America*. The exhibition is their first joint venture with the Digital Public Library of America, and features several of Europeana's partners as contributors, alongside major U.S. institutions. Bruno Racine, the Chair of the Europeana Executive Committee, said in the press statement that he was delighted by the first joint initiative between the DPLA and Europeana. 'We share common goals - the free circulation of ideas and knowledge, dedication to the public good - and we believe that the digital revolution opens up unprecedented possibilities for exchanges like this one.'



**Russian Jews being examined by a doctor**

Description: Russian Jews being examined by a doctor before emigration from Liverpool. Wood engraving, 1891.

Source: The Wellcome Library, Europeana
Provider: The European Library
License: Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-NoDerivs 3.0 Unported

## CERL Papers
*CERL Papers I-III* (which are out of print) and *CERL Papers V-X* are now available on the web (for CERL members only at present) at: http://www.cerl.org/intern/main. Printed copies of *CERL Papers V-XI* may also be ordered from the CERL Secretariat (secretariat@cerl.org).

The papers given at the 2011 Annual CERL Seminar at the Vatican Library, on the theme *The Roman Press in the Papal City and in Europe*, will be published within the Vatican Library series *Studi e Testi* as *CERL Papers XII* and sent out to CERL members in the course of 2013.

## CERL Annual General Meeting (British Library, 31 October 2012)

Thirty representatives of 23 CERL member institutions attended the CERL Annual General Meeting held in the British Library on 31 October 2012. CERL members were welcomed by Caroline Brazier, Director of Scholarship and Collections, who underlined the importance of CERL to the British Library in its aim of becoming a trusted hub in the international information network. The CERL Chairman, Ulf Göranson, in turn thanked the British Library for its hospitality and for co-organising and hosting the very successful CERL Seminar the previous day.



The meeting heard reports from the CERL Treasurer, Raymond Bérard, on CERL Finances 2011-2012 and the budget forecast for 2012-2013; for the tenth year running, the membership fee for Full Members remained stable at €8,000 per annum. The Company Secretary, Cristina Dondi, reported on membership issues, promotion and dissemination, scholarly communications, CERL support for recording provenance information and the Material Evidence in Incunabula Database. Alexander Jahnke and Jana Hentschke of the Data Conversion Group, Göttingen, presented progress reports on the Heritage of the Printed Book Database and the CERL Thesaurus, and Ivan Boserup gave a presentation on the CERL Portal. Marian Lefferts highlighted CERL European collaboration (for example, with LIBER) and CERL's involvement in EU-funded projects, such as Europeana Libraries, CENDARI and the Europeana Cloud project.



As a result of the Europeana Libraries project, CERL was invited to represent the research library community on the Management Committee of The European Library. CERL was asked to offer two nominations. The members agreed that Ulf Göranson and Raymond Bérard would be the first CERL representatives on the TEL Management Committee.

Two CERL Directors, Richard Ovenden of the Bodleian Library and Raymond Bérard of ABES, had come to the end of their first three-year term and CERL members unanimously endorsed a second term for both. There were two vacancies on the Executive Committee, and the members elected Annette Hagen (National Library of Scotland, Edinburgh) and Lucia Negrini (ICCU, Rome) as new members of the Executive Committee. At the end of the meeting, Ewa Kobierska-Maciuszko of the University Library in Warsaw issued a very warm invitation for the CERL 2013 AGM to take place in Warsaw on 28-30 October 2013.

After lunch, the members were offered presentations by Alastair Dunning (The European Library, The Hague) 'Future Directions for The European Library'; Zdeněk Uhlíř (National Library of the Czech Republic, Prague) presenting Manuscriptorium and Matthew McLean (University of St Andrews, Scotland) presenting Book History Online. In the course of the afternoon, the CERL Directors withdrew to have an additional meeting.

## Joint LIBER / CERL Working Group for Heritage Collections
LinkedIn Group: http://linkd.in/c4VqeU

The LIBER Steering Committee for Heritage Collections and Preservation is happy to present CERL Members with an early announcement of the 3rd LIBER Workshop on Digital Curation. The workshop, with the provisional title *Approaches to Preserving Born-Digital Materials* will take place in the Kleiner Festsaal of the University of Vienna on 19-20 May 2014. The organising committee consists of representatives from LIBER, CERL, the Koninklijke Bibliotheek/National Library of the Netherlands, The Hague, the University of Leiden, and the University of Vienna.

## Europeana Libraries project ends and Europeana Cloud begins
http://www.europeana-libraries.eu/

CERL, The European Library, the Europeana Foundation, LIBER and 19 European research libraries, collaborated in the Europeana Libraries project. The project brought in over 1,200 film and video clips, 850,000 images and 4.3 million texts (books, journal articles, theses and letters) to Europeana and The European Library. The two-year Europeana Libraries project celebrated its many successes at the final conference held in Madrid on 3 and 4 December 2012. All PowerPoints presented at *The Researcher of Tomorrow* conference are available at http://www.theeuropeanlibrary.org/confluence/pages/viewpage.action?pageId=12910596.

For CERL, one of the project's successes has been the closer working relationship that has developed between the networks of CERL, CENL and LIBER. This collaboration is going to be continued through the Europeana Cloud project, coordinated by the Europeana Foundation.

The Europeana Cloud project is seeking to 'unlock Europe's research via the cloud,' and aims to ingest 2.4 million new metadata records and 5 million research-focused digital items. The principal aim of the project is to develop a cloud-based infrastructure for the network of Europeana, its content providers and its aggregators in which to store data, with a clear understanding of the legal, strategic and economic issues involved. It also seeks to build on the successes of the infrastructure and web presence of The European Library by developing a set of tools and services within Europeana specifically for the academic researcher. CERL will lead the work package labelled 'Ingestion of content and metadata development'. CERL has the additional task of mapping user requirements to existing content within Europeana and The European Library, and the formulation of a content strategy, based on the results of this research.

## Collaborative EuropeaN Digital Archive Infrastructure (CENDARI)
http://www.cendari.eu/

The EU-funded project CENDARI began in February 2012, with a kick-off meeting held in Brussels in March of that year. Coordinated by Trinity College Dublin, the project seeks, over four years, to integrate digital archives and resources for research on medieval and modern European history. Through the development of a so-called 'enquiry environment' these selected resources – including those from hitherto isolated archives and data silos – will be made available to researchers of medieval Europe and the First World War period.

CERL's role in the project is to support a trans-national education programme, consisting of funded research fellowships at five of the project partners, annual summer schools and expert seminars. The programme for the 2013 summer school is around the theme of 'data presentation is not neutral' and is currently being further refined. The first call inviting applications for 12 funded places on the summer school will be distributed through both the CERL and other networks at the end of January 2013.

## Conference and School on Records, Archives and Memory Studies (Zadar, 6-10 May 2013)
http://ozk.unizd.hr/rams/

The Conference and School on Records, Archives and Memory Studies is organised by the University of Zadar (Croatia), co-organised with UCLA, Los Angeles, Karl-Franzens University, Graz, and ICARUS in Vienna. The Conference and School is targeted primarily at doctoral students in library and information sciences and cultural heritage studies in general, and archival studies, preservation and conservation studies in particular. It is also targeted at those students in the final years of their graduate studies, as well as young practitioners in the fields. Post-doctoral students and faculty members are also encouraged to take part in the school. Register with Marijana Tomić via rams.zadar@gmail.com (deadline 22 April 2013).