



**The objects and aims of the Consortium of European Research Libraries (CERL) are to provide services to its members and to the library and scholarly world at large in the form of bibliographical databases, seminars, workshops, publications and co-operation with other library organisations and individual libraries and their staff. CERL concentrates its efforts on printed material from the hand-press period – up to the first half of the 19th century – and on manuscripts, both in analogue or digital format.**

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## CERL Survey

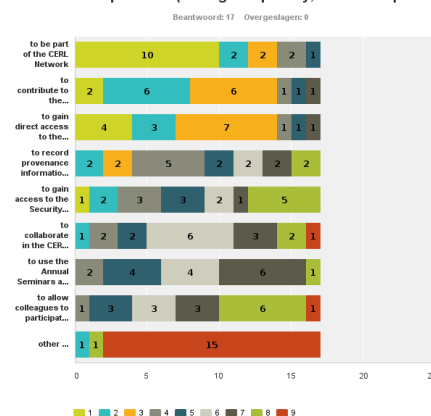
[https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/CERL\\_2013\\_survey](https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/CERL_2013_survey)

In early December, CERL sent out a survey to all its members, partners, users of services and other interested parties. The aim of the survey is to determine how CERL can improve as an organisation, and how it can improve its services. Only one week after the publication of the survey, 17 responses had already been received.

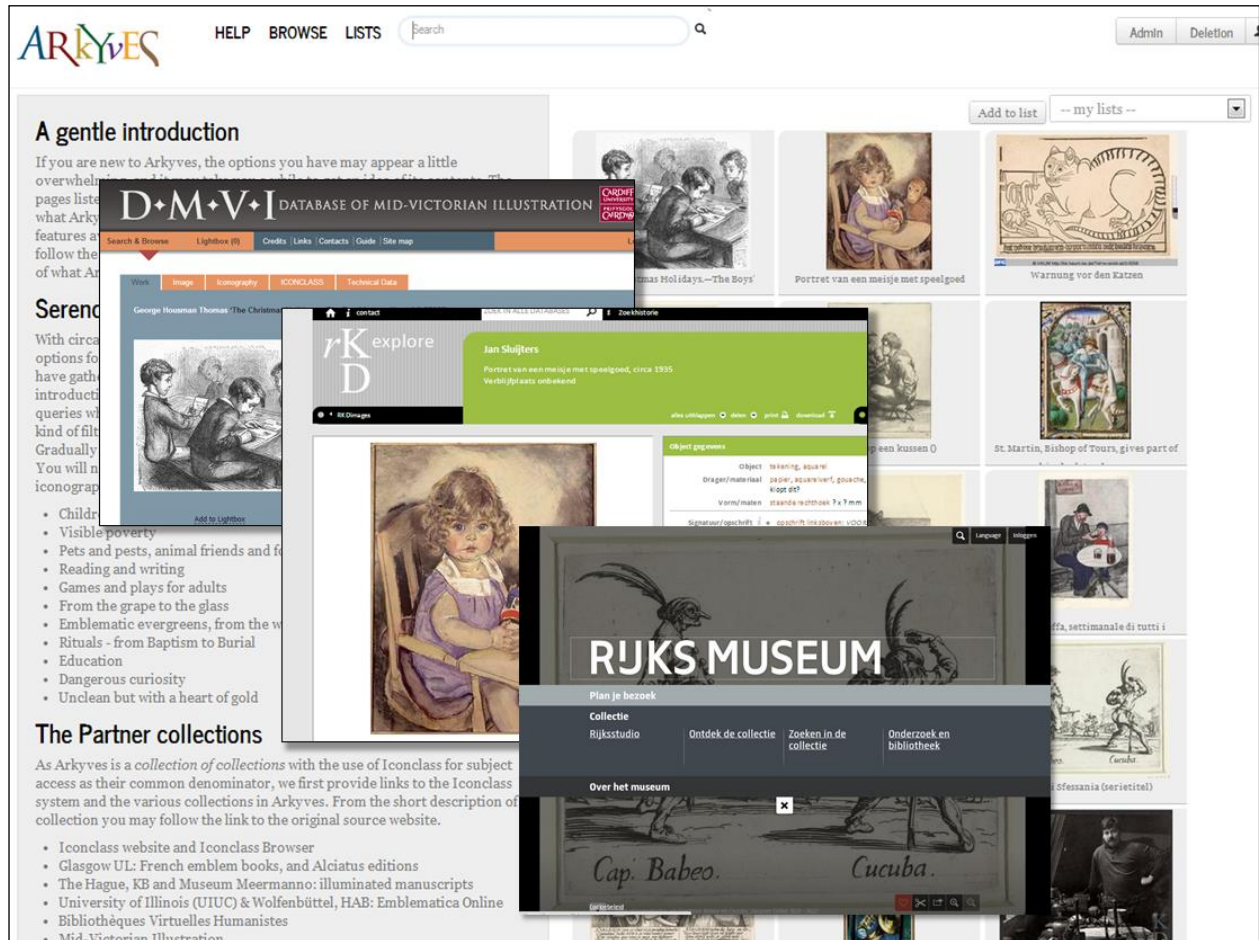
At that point, the top-three reasons to want to be a member of CERL were (1) to be part of the CERL Network, (2) to contribute to the development of CERL services for the early books and manuscripts community and (3) to gain access to the Heritage of the Printed Book Database (with the HPB as the preferred resource for derived cataloguing).

The most valued features of the CERL Thesaurus were the linking to external resources (e.g. printer's devices) and its annotation facility. For the respondents, the CERL website and Newsletter were still the preferred sources of information about CERL, above the CERL offerings via Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn. We warmly invite you to complete the survey, if you have not already done so. A full report on the findings will be presented to the CERL Coordinating Committee (formerly the Executive Committee) in March 2014.

Q1 My organisation is a member of CERL, because... Please rank in order of importance (1 = highest priority, 8 = lowest priority)



**Breaking news:** The CERL Annual General Meeting will be at the National Library of Norway, on 29 October 2014. It will be preceded by the annual seminar on 28 October 2014 – theme to be announced.



## The new version of Arkyves

<http://arkyves.org>

The Arkyves website, of which a new version was quietly launched a few weeks ago, is a bit of a rare bird. Many other sites aggregate primary sources for the study of the history of culture, on a national or international level, but Arkyves' focus on iconographic and thematic access is quite exceptional. It is not the only site that brings together both visual and textual material from a variety of institutions, including museums, documentation institutes, various libraries and research projects. Still, it is unusual that it enriches these collections with its own core collection of early modern texts and images – because for over 25 years it has had its own research interest as well.

The feature that really sets it apart is the way it uses the [ICONCLASS](#) system for the subject access to cultural content. It does so in two ways. Firstly, it acts as an aggregator site for web collections that use ICONCLASS tagging, turning the tags into the glue that thematically holds together widely divergent collections. Secondly, it not only uses a dedicated retrieval version of the ICONCLASS browser as the backbone of the Arkyves site, but it also makes the browser available at no cost to the partners that contribute their collections.

It works as follows: all [partners](#), ranging from the Rijksmuseum to the Herzog August Bibliothek in Wolfenbüttel, from the Netherlands Institute for Art History to the University of Illinois in Urbana-Champaign, use ICONCLASS for the subject access to their collections. As a result their databases all store ICONCLASS notations. It is a well-known problem that the alphanumeric notations typical for classification systems cannot be offered to end users for subject retrieval, so their use tends to be restricted to cataloguing staff themselves.

At the same time it is a normal function of library software to accommodate those alphanumeric notations, so the Pavlov reaction of library software developers is to want to absorb classification schemes into

library database systems. As a result no library – as far as we are aware – is offering subject access to its collections through, for example, a Dewey or UDC “browser”.

By turning the usual procedure around 180 degrees, this is precisely what the Arkyves site is offering: a single access point for subject and thematic querying of distributed collections. In a process which in some respects is comparable to the one underlying Serial Solutions’ [Summon Service](#), it harvests selected metadata values from its partners’ databases, most importantly ICONCLASS metadata and persistent identifiers, and absorbs them into a single unified index, which also contains the complete ICONCLASS system.

The screenshot shows the Arkyves website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with 'HELP', 'BROWSE', 'LISTS', and a search bar. Below the navigation bar, the left sidebar contains a hierarchical list of categories under '46A15 · the poor', including '46A15(+o) · the poor (+ variant)', '46A151 · beggar', '46A152 · 'fahrende Leute', vagrants', '46A153 · 'bambochades', revellers', '46A154 · generally despised professions, 'unehrliche Leute', '46A155 · outcasts, pariahs', '5 · Abstract Ideas and Concepts', '6 · History', '7 · Bible', '8 · Literature', and '9 · Classical Mythology and Ancient History'. The main content area shows 'Filtered on: 46A15 · the poor' with 'Apply Filter' and 'New Search' buttons. Below this, it indicates '1544 available, page: 1 ... 2 · 3 · 4 · 5 · 6 · 7 · 8 · 9 · ... 16'. There are buttons for 'Images Only' and 'Lists'. A grid of six image thumbnails is displayed, each with a caption: 'L'assiette au beurre', 'Simplicissimus, illustrierte', 'Charrette charrie', 'L'assiette au beurre', 'Le rire, journal humoristique', and 'Bedelaars (serietitel)'. A '100 items p' button is visible on the right.

As a result powerful faceted searches are possible, where you can easily switch between or simply combine full text keyword queries with browse actions. It is very easy to broaden or narrow a search by browsing the rich schedules in the multilingual ICONCLASS systems. At the same time the partner institutions are provided with a variant ICONCLASS browser tailored to their own collection and adapted to the style sheet of their website.

The screenshot shows the 'Virtuelles Kupferstichkabinett' website. The header includes the title 'Virtuelles Kupferstichkabinett' and a logo. Below the header, there is a navigation bar with 'SUCHE', 'BILD-BROWSER', 'PROJEKT', 'GLOSSAR', 'KONTAKT', and 'COPYRIGHT'. The main content area is titled 'ICONCLASS Bild-Browser'. It contains a search bar with the text 'durstige trinken' and a list of search results. The results are organized into a grid of six image thumbnails, each with a caption: 'L'assiette au beurre', 'Simplicissimus, illustrierte', 'Charrette charrie', 'L'assiette au beurre', 'Le rire, journal humoristique', and 'Bedelaars (serietitel)'. A '100 items p' button is visible on the right.

The ‘*Bild-Browser*’ supplied to the Virtuelles Kupferstichkabinett created by the Herzog August Bibliothek (Wolfenbüttel) and the Herzog Anton Ulrich Museum (Braunschweig) is a good example of this type of collaboration that seems to be one of the ways forward for the digital humanities.

For an appealing use of the Arkyves environment to show the development of the Amsterdam print trade see <http://new.arkyves.org/help/geocontext>.

Hans Brandhorst, *Arkyves*



## Atlas of Early Printing

<http://atlas.lib.uiowa.edu>

*Atlas of Early Printing with 'Spread of Printing' and 'Trade Routes' layers turned on*

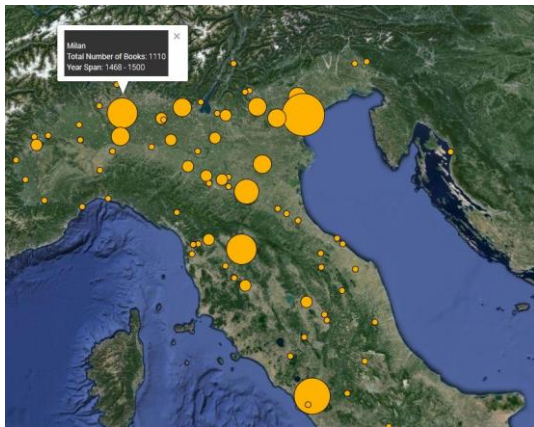
The Atlas of Early Printing is an online digital map resource depicting the spread and development of printing through Europe during the incunabula era, 1450-1500. The site was conceived as an instructional resource to animate the familiar, yet static, depiction of the spread of printing, while placing this spread within the context of related factors from the era – the locations of paper mills, universities, and trade routes, to name a few. The ability to view the interactions between these layers allows for questions to be posed, sparking explorations of early printing in a cultural, economic and social context.



Development of an online atlas began in 2006, and the first version of the site went live in 2008. It was built as structured XML data that was delivered using a Flash application. The site functioned fairly well in this state for a number of years, but as Flash became less-universally adaptable, the site began to show its age. In 2012 a concerted effort was begun to free the site from Flash, restructure it, and launch version 2 of the site. The new version went live in April 2013. The site today is based on the Google Maps API and uses Java as a scripting language, which makes it much more open and compatible with both web and mobile presentations. It is faster and delivers a better presentation of the site's layers of information.

The current version of the Atlas also incorporates some new features, which expand its scope beyond the spread of printing and into a visualisation of other types of data related to the development of printing. This data is contained in the databases representing the great incunabula cataloging projects undertaken during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries that have systematically identified, described and located surviving copies of incunables around the world. The largest of these is the Incunabula Short Title Catalog at the British Library, commonly referred to as the ISTC. The current version of the atlas pulls information from the place of printing and date of printing fields and places it on the map, with expanding circles representing the increasing volume of editions printed as the years progress.

This is also a representation of the spread of printing, but it provides another view of the process, with some significant differences. This visualisation is based not on hand-crafted data culled from a variety of historical sources, but rather it is generated from raw data. There is still a need for a significant clean-up of the data before it can be depicted on the map, as there are discrepancies in dates and locations that are easy to interpret when looking at individual records in the database, but would result in a misleading placement on the map.



*Detail from "Output by Location" layer (data drawn from the ISTC) showing northern Italy*

Now that the site is redesigned and stable, work is ongoing to continue to develop new features. Plans for 2014 include working closely with the ISTC to refine the depiction of data, and to begin a collaboration with the Gesamtkatalog der Wiegendrucke to include data from that database as well. Partnerships are also being explored with some of the other national and institution-level catalogs, as well as the CERL Thesaurus. The goal is to depict streams of data from multiple sources of cataloging information, and allow customised views to be created.

The contextual information aspect of the Atlas is also being expanded, with enhanced coverage of the religious background of the era. Layers are under development to depict cathedrals, ecclesiastical provinces and pilgrimage routes. Along with expanded access to bibliographic data, it is hoped that the Atlas will continue to provide a new way to visualise and understand the history of early-printed books. Please visit at <http://atlas.lib.uiowa.edu> and follow on Twitter @AtlasEarlyPrint.

*Gregory J. Prickman, Head Special Collections & University Archives*

## Job opening at CERL

<http://www.cerl.org>

CERL is seeking to recruit a Project Officer (based in The Hague), to work on the eCloud and CENDARI projects, to help refresh the CERL website and to support the Secretariat in its dissemination activities. The deadline for applications is **19 January 2014**, and the full text advertising the job is available from the home page of the CERL website. We hope to receive many applications and look forward to welcoming a new, enthusiastic colleague to the team in the New Year.

## ECARTICO: Linking cultural industries in the early modern Low Countries, c. 1475 – c. 1725

<http://www.vondel.humanities.uva.nl/ecartico/>

ECARTICO is a prosopographical research database containing structured biographical data on persons involved in the production and distribution books, paintings, prints and other cultural products in the Low Countries during the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. At the moment of writing ECARTICO contains structured data on more than 20,000 persons, while new data are added on a daily base.

The database was constructed at the art history department of the University of Amsterdam (UvA) as part of the research program '*Economic and Artistic Competition in the Amsterdam Art Market, c. 1630-1690*', which was funded by the Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research. Initially the system was intended to gather data on history painters in seventeenth-century Amsterdam, however, its scope has grown much wider due to the course of events. We were able to go much beyond Amsterdam and just history painters thanks to Pieter Groenendijk, who published a lexicon of Netherlandish visual artists, and who was so kind to share his data with us. Within the research program '*The Cultural Industry of Amsterdam in the Golden Age*', sponsored by the Dutch Royal Academy, we were able to set the first steps toward expanding the database to other cultural industries than the visual arts. And although currently the focus is still quite strong on painters and engravers, we are catching up with publishers, book sellers and printers at a steady pace.

Unlike most other resources in the fields of art and book history ECARTICO is not primarily intended as a reference tool, although it might be used as one. It was specifically designed to produce aggregate figures on the whereabouts and backgrounds of populations of painters, printers, engravers, etc. Furthermore, ECARTICO does not only offer structured data on individual persons but also on the relations between those persons. And as such it offers new research opportunities for structural analysis of the vast and often complex social networks in which the production of books, prints and paintings was embedded.

ECARTICO has been available on-line since December 2011. Visitors are able to search in and browse through the data on individuals but they can also use web applications to visualize trends and patterns on an aggregate level. ECARTICO is still under active development. The implementation of RDF functionality is for instance one of the things that are scheduled for 2014. We welcome suggestions for further development and improvement.

*Harm Nijboer and Marten Jan Bok, University of Amsterdam*



## Nearly 5 million records ...

<http://hpb.cerl.org>

At 4,927,572 records the Heritage of the Printed Book Database (HPB) is nearly at the 5 million mark. Most recently, the following were included:

- Bibliothèque municipale de Lyon: 13k descriptions of early-printed books from the pre-1800 collections of the library, starting with incunabula, covering a wide range of material, very rich in provenance findings.
- The French ABES agency (Agence bibliographique de l'enseignement supérieur): relevant excerpt of the Sudoc catalogue (Système Universitaire de Documentation), comprising 552k bibliographic descriptions and holdings from 543 French academic libraries.
- Biblioteka Jagiellońska, Cracow: 15k descriptions of early-printed material with an emphasis on seventeenth-century prints.
- An update to the records contributed by the University Library of Warsaw, now including the Warsaw holdings of nineteenth-century prints up to 1830.

## The New 'Early Book Owners in Britain' Database

<http://ebob.cerl.org>

For her contribution to the 'Cambridge History of the Book', Margaret Lane Ford has gathered evidence of private and institutional ownership of books in fifteenth and early sixteenth century Britain. In 2008, CERL published this data as a publicly accessible database in co-operation with students from the Information Management programme of the University of Applied Sciences and Arts in Hannover (Germany). This year, it proved impossible to migrate the database to the new web server at the library computing centre in Göttingen, as we did for our other services. Now the Data Conversion Group (DCG)

has re-implemented it on a different technical platform and made it available through <http://ebob.cerl.org>.

The screenshot shows the web interface of the 'Early Bookowners in Britain' database. At the top, there's a header for the 'CONSORTIUM of EUROPEAN RESEARCH LIBRARIES' with links for 'Start', 'Language', and 'Help'. Below this is the title 'Early Bookowners in Britain' and a subtitle 'British provenances from 1450 to 1550'. A search bar contains the text 'aristoteles'. To the left of the search results is a 'Toolbox' and a 'Your Clipboard' section. The search results show '51 Records' and a list of entries, each with a number and a description of a book, such as '1) Aristotle: De anima (Comm. Simplicius) [Greek] -- Venice: Aldus Manutius and Andreas Asulanus, June 1527 G.'. On the right side, there are two sections: 'Former Owners' listing names like 'Claymond, John (8)' and 'Rothemann, Thomas (5)', and 'Authors' listing 'Aristoteles (50)' and 'Plotagius, Franciscus (1)'.

The new technical platform consists of a modern, noSQL database server (CouchDB<sup>1</sup>) in combination with ElasticSearch<sup>2</sup>, a Lucene-based search engine. These are components similar to those running in the background of large social networks or messaging services like Twitter and Facebook, ensuring both a high performance as well as a high scalability of the system. This Lucene-based search engine offers a number of search features that

were not available on the previous system, for example left-truncation, fuzzy search (i.e. search for words that are similar to the given search term) and regular expressions – to name the most important ones.<sup>3</sup> This way, it is easier to run sophisticated queries against the data. Creating facets on a search result is fairly straightforward with ElasticSearch. This allows users to start their search with a broad term and narrow down their results step by step; a particularly useful approach when searching in unknown data sources.

Owner names in EBOB have been cross-referenced with the CERL Thesaurus, which means that from a records' full display users can click on an owner's name to see their CERL Thesaurus entry and *vice versa*. Although EBOB is a relatively small database with fewer users than our other databases, it provides an excellent model for other CERL databases such as the CERL Thesaurus or the Material Evidence in Incunabula Database. In the coming year, DCG plans to migrate all CERL databases currently on the old database system to this new setting used for EBOB. In addition to an increase in performance and speed it will also facilitate the mutual integration of CERL's databases, e.g. by making it possible to use variant name forms from the CERL Thesaurus in searches performed in EBOB or MEI, without actually loading CERL Thesaurus records into these databases.

*Alexander Jahnke, Data Conversion Group, Göttingen*

<sup>1</sup> <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/CouchDB>

<sup>2</sup> <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Elasticsearch>

<sup>3</sup> See here for a full documentation: <http://www.cerl.org/help/ebob/main>



## Connecting the CERL Thesaurus to the linked data cloud

In the last years the linked data cloud, a network of links between authority and similar information systems, gained more and more importance. It allows easy access to information about an entity from many sources. The CERL Thesaurus is built on authority files contributed by CERL member libraries and other libraries / projects in the field of the history of the book. So it already contains information from many sources, but there are a lot more which are easily accessible today.

This year the Data Conversion Group analysed potential sources and subsequently linked the CERL Thesaurus to two international authority files.

### VIAF

The Virtual International Authority File (VIAF)<sup>4</sup> is a service that combines authority files from different countries in one database. It is freely available and hosted by OCLC. As the CT already contains the sections relevant to the CT of some of the authority files that are included in VIAF, their identifiers were used to establish links to VIAF. Additional links to other authority files (e.g. DBpedia) were then pulled from VIAF to connect the CT directly to authority files worldwide.

### Geonames

Geonames<sup>5</sup> is a database freely available under a creative commons attribution license. It contains over 10 million geographical names with detailed descriptions. DCG used coordinates and variant names to establish links to Geonames. This assures a high precision on the matching. Links to other sources (e.g. Wikipedia) were also pulled from Geonames.

Goethe, Johann Wolfgang von (1749 - 1832)		Annotations
Record Identifier	cnp01317343	12 related records
Headings	Goethe, Johann Wolfgang von [BNF] [ESTC(AACR2)] [ESTC(GK)] Goethe, Johann Wolfgang von [GND] [GND] [GND] [GND] [GND] [GND] [GND] [GND] [GND] [GND] [GND] [GND]	
Biographical Dates	28.08.1749-22.03.1832 1749-1832 28.08.1749-22.03.1832 1749-1832	
Dates of Activity	1749-1832	More Information
Gender	Male	
General Notes	- No TA record Écrivain	German Biography Portal Biographic Information Wikipedia
		This person in
Forme associée - AuteurTitre: Beethoven, Ludwig van (1770-1827). [Drei Gesänge. Op. 83]		
Forme associée - AuteurTitre: Beethoven, Ludwig van (1770-1827). [Meeresstille und Glückliche Fahrt. Op. 112]		
Forme associée - AuteurTitre: Berlioz, Hector (1803-1869). [Huit scènes de Faust. H. 33]		
Forme associée - AuteurTitre: Mendelssohn Bartholdy, Felix (1809-1847). [Die erste Walpurgisnacht. Op. 60]		
Forme associée - AuteurTitre: Milhaud, Darius (1892-1974). [Deux élégies romaines. Op. 114]		
Forme associée - AuteurTitre: Reichardt, Johann Friedrich (1752-1814). [Claudine von Villa Bella]		
Forme associée - AuteurTitre: Reichardt, Johann Friedrich (1752-1814). [Goethe's Lieder, Oden, Balladen und Romanzen]		
Forme associée - AuteurTitre: Schoeck, Othmar (1886-1957).		

### The CERL Thesaurus in the linked data cloud

Taking part in the linked data cloud has advantages for both users of the CERL Thesaurus and maintainers of other information systems. For the latter the links into it are included in the RDF output<sup>6</sup> of the CERL Thesaurus. This makes it much easier to connect to the CERL Thesaurus and access information in it. For the CERL Thesaurus users the links are displayed in the user interface (see image above: 'More information' and 'This person in') giving them a comfortable way to seek additional information about an entity.

*Timo Schleier, Data Conversion Group, Göttingen*



### Farewell to CERL's Project Officer

In December this year, Thomas Baldwin resigned his position as Project Officer for CERL, in order to take up the position of Executive Manager at the M25 Consortium of Academic Libraries, in the United Kingdom. Thomas has worked for the Consortium since March 2011, representing CERL in the various EU-funded projects we have been involved with. The CERL Secretariat will be seeking to recruit a new Project Officer in early 2014.

Thomas said *'I am excited by this new opportunity of working for the M25 Consortium, but at the same time am naturally very sad to be leaving CERL. In the last two and a half years I have had the privilege of working with excellent colleagues on very fruitful collaborative projects, and I am grateful for that opportunity. I wish CERL every success in the future.'*

<sup>4</sup> <http://viaf.org/>

<sup>5</sup> <http://www.geonames.org/>

<sup>6</sup> for more information see [http://www.cerl.org/resources/cerl\\_thesaurus/linkeddata](http://www.cerl.org/resources/cerl_thesaurus/linkeddata)

## Introducing new staff at Data Conversion Group, Göttingen

Norbert Scheer obtained his MSc in Applied Computer Science from Göttingen University in 2007. From 1998 to 2013 he was at the Department of General Practice at the University Medical Centre Göttingen system administrator for workstations and servers and supported and instructed the researchers in office software suite and database management.. Furthermore he managed the IT-infrastructure and data handling of projects on secondary analysis of routine primary care data. His duty for CERL as the successor of Gerrit Kühle is the analysis and conversion of library metadata in preparation for the import into the Heritage of the Printed Book (HPB) Database. CERL welcomes Norbert to the DCG team in Göttingen.



## Project funding for Material Evidence in Incunabula (MEI)

<http://incunabula.cerl.org>

The Secretary of the Consortium of European Research Libraries (CERL), Cristina Dondi, of the University of Oxford, has been awarded a European Research Council Consolidator Grant for her project: 'The 15th-century Book Trade: An Evidence-based Assessment and Visualisation of the Distribution, Sale, and Reception of Books in the Renaissance'. The Grant was awarded by the ERC under the European Union's Seventh Framework Programme.

The idea that underpins the project is to use the material evidence from thousands of surviving books, as well as unique documentary evidence — the unpublished ledger of a Venetian bookseller in the 1480s which records the sale of 25,000 printed books with their prices — to address four fundamental objectives relating to the introduction of printing in the West which have so far eluded scholarship, partly because of lack of evidence, partly because of the lack of effective tools to deal with existing evidence. The book trade differs from other trades operating in the medieval and early modern periods in that the goods traded survive in considerable numbers. Not only do they survive, but many of them bear stratified evidence of their history in the form of marks of ownership, prices, manuscript annotations, binding and decoration styles. The database Material Evidence in Incunabula, conceived by Cristina Dondi, developed by Alex Jahnke of Data Conversion Group, hosted and maintained by CERL, gathers together this kind of evidence for thousands of surviving fifteenth-century printed books. For the first time, this makes it possible to track the circulation of books, their trade routes and later collecting, across Europe and the USA, and throughout the centuries.

The objectives of the project are to examine (1) the distribution and trade-routes, national and international, of fifteenth-century printed books, along with the identity of the buyers and users (private, institutional, religious, lay, female, male, and by profession) and their reading practices; (2) the books' contemporary market value; (3) the transmission and dissemination of the texts they contain, their survival and their loss (rebalancing potentially skewed scholarship); and (4) the circulation and re-use of the illustrations they contain. Finally, the project will experiment with the application of scientific visualisation techniques to represent, geographically and chronologically, the movement of fifteenth-century printed books and of the texts they contain.

The Grant, of the duration of five years, will therefore enable a significant expansion and enhancement of the database Material Evidence in Incunabula (MEI), the enhancement of the Incunabula Short Title Catalogue (ISTC), the study of the day-book of a fifteenth-century Venetian bookseller recording the sale of 25,000 printed books with their prices (with Prof. Neil Harris), cataloguing the incunabula collection of St Petersburg National Library book in hand, the creation of a new database to research the corpus of texts printed in the fifteenth century (modelled on the Bodleian's Bod-inc), experimenting with the application of image-matching software to fifteenth-century illustration, and of scientific visualisation techniques to MEI data, that is applied to the distribution and use of books. Three post-doctoral research positions and one DPhil will be advertised during the first half of 2014.

*Cristina Dondi, CERL Secretary and University of Oxford*



## Linking from HPB to Source OPACs

Up to now the HPB only offered direct access to the source records in their native system if the contributing institutions offered and supplied permanent linking to their bibliographic descriptions. Where this is not yet in place it should of course remain a foremost goal to achieve. In the meantime, however, the new HPB interface allows dynamic linking, which is created when displaying the records and therefore easier to maintain. In many cases OPAC-URLs can be built from the system control numbers and 'Record in source system' linking is then added. Should the addressing of local records change due to system updates it can now be adapted with minimal effort. The functionality of the links will be monitored and is in place for more than 70 % of the files included.



HPB Identifier: **BE-KBR00.CAT.1\_1405830**   
 Cataloguing Source: Royal Library of Belgium (Bibliothèque royale / Koninklijke Bibliotheek, Brussels)

Title: Den schepenen keuse. Der stad Brussel van den jaere 1745 ...  
 Corporate body: Stad Brussel "Brussel"  
 Published: Tot Brussel : by Franciscus Claudinot, Stadts-drucker op het Cantersteen, [1745]  
 Country: Belgium  
 Language(s): Undetermined  
 Extent: Planodruk (39 x 16 cm)  
 Note: Koptitel  
 Record in source system 

Copies:  
 Holding Institution: Royal Library of Belgium, Brussels  
 Shelfmark: G 658 C 27  
 Location: Stacks - Manuscripts  
 Country: Belgium  
 Remarks: Hs. aant  
 In een convoluut  
 Hs. herkomst: "Daniel Leyniers 1752"  
 Stemmel: Biblinthèque de F V Goethals donnée à l'Etat par Me en 1875

*Jana Hentschke, Data Conversion Group, Göttingen*

## Writing fast in the history: a colloquium in Rovereto

For further information please contact [alessandro.tedesco.it@gmail.com](mailto:alessandro.tedesco.it@gmail.com) or [creleb@unicatt.it](mailto:creleb@unicatt.it)

Last year, the Foundation Francesco and Zaira Giulietti of Florence ended its activities. The library collection, with thousands of volumes dedicated to shorthand writing systems, was deposited in the Public Library of Rovereto (Trento). Now the Accademia Roveretana degli Agiati and the Public Library G. Tartarotti, in collaboration with the CRELEB of Milan, are organising a conference 'Writing fast. Tachograph systems from antiquity to Twitter', taking place in Rovereto 22-24 May 2014. At the same time, an exhibition 'In the letter. The history of writing through the funds of the Public Library of Rovereto' will be organised. Provisional programme for the colloquium:

- ATTILIO BARTOLI LANGELI (Deputazione di storia patria per l'Umbria) *Scrivere (e leggere?) la lingua maternal*
- NICOLETTA GIOVÈ (Università di Padova) *Tirone & C.: l'invenzione della tachigrafia*
- PAOLO POCETTI (Università di Roma 2), *Abbreviare la pietra. Il caso dell'epigrafia*
- MARCO PETOLETTI (Università Cattolica di Milano) *Verbum abbreviatum. Il Medioevo, le abbreviazioni, Petrarca*
- LAURA GAFFURI (Università di Torino) *Registrare la voce: le reportationes tra cattedra e pulpito*
- EDOARDO BARBIERI (Università Cattolica di Brescia) *La concinnitas del piombo. Abbreviazioni e tipografia italiana del Rinascimento*
- FABIO FORNER (Università di Verona) *Scritture segrete e crittografie. Il mestiere del segretario*
- QUINTO ANTONELLI (Museo Storico di Trento) *Scrivere sui muri. Tipologie di scriptae popolari*
- ANDREA CARANTI (Università di Trento) *Tra brevisitas e secretum. Note sui linguaggi cifrati*
- FRANCESCA CHIUSAROLI (Università di Macerata) *I sistemi tachigrafici moderni e la stenografia*
- ANNA MARIA GIULIETTI (Fondazione Giulietti) *La stenografia nella scuola italiana e il contributo della Fondazione Giulietti*
- PAOLO A. PAGANINI (giornalista) *Il sistema Gabelsberger-Noe: alla ricerca del neurone perduto*
- MARCO CALLEGARI (Museo Bottacin di Padova) *Giuseppe Aliprandi e la "Raccolta Aliprandi" presso la Biblioteca Civica di Padova*
- FABRIZIO RASERA (Accademia Roveretana degli Agiati) *Scrivere l'emergenza. I bombardamenti tra diari e appunti*
- PATRIZIA BERTINI MALGARINI (Università LUMSA di Roma) *Abbreviare nel mondo digitale: chat, SMS, Twitter*
- ALESSANDRO MININNO (Gummy Industries), *Writers e abbreviazioni murali tra arte, grafica e scrittura*

## Europeana Cloud (2013-2016): nearing completion of the first year

<http://pro.europeana.eu/web/europeana-cloud>



The *eCloud* project aims to change Europeana's storage of metadata into a cloud computing system capable of also holding digital content, and to provide an interface with that cloud of data specifically designed for researchers, labelled Europeana Research. CERL has particular responsibility for leading the ingestion work package and for developing the content strategy for Europeana Research, as well as contributing to the strategic thinking behind the cloud.

CERL's work on developing content strategy has reached the stage of analysing the current content in Europeana and The European Library. For Europeana, controlled vocabularies were developed to describe the subject and object types and these were piloted with certain of Europeana's content aggregators. In January the main survey will go out to the Europeana Network of aggregators, to gather information on the 1,000+ datasets. For The European Library, collection level descriptions were prepared by TEL officers, which the data providers are now asked to refine. All content analysis is due to be completed by June 2014, after which work will start on matching content to the research communities, leading to a content strategy for Europeana Research.

CERL has also contributed to this Work Package by supporting two recent Expert Forums. In October Thomas Baldwin attended the Expert Forum on Tools and Content in the Social Sciences, in Gothenburg. In November Marian Lefferts represented the Consortium at a similar forum for Humanities scholars, in Amsterdam. Both these forums were well attended by *eCloud* staff and external independent scholars in the academic fields. They discussed new ideas for tools that could helpfully work with data stored in a cloud structure, as well as raising awareness of Europeana's proposed portal service with the scholars. The expert forum for Social Sciences was written up on the blog (accessed via URL above) with an entry on the Humanities forum to follow soon. CERL had a small role in producing a major deliverable in this work package: a state-of-the-art report on research practices, which can be read about on the same blog.

Marian Lefferts leads the ingestion work package in the project, overseeing the ingestion of metadata into Europeana via The European Library aggregator and, later, the ingestion of digital content into the cloud. The European Library has now completed its mapping of library data in a variety of formats (from MODS/METS to MARC21) to the Europeana Data Model (EDM) that is used in Europeana. With a contribution of 700k items in the next quarter, the first key performance indicator stipulating a minimum contribution of 200k items by January 2014 will be comfortably met. Marian Lefferts has represented CERL at a series of high-level workshops which have sought to define the requirements for the cloud structure (also reported on the Europeana Pro blog). In Amsterdam, the social principles for the cloud were discussed. In Edinburgh, the legal and economic requirements of the cloud were considered. Looking ahead to 2014, the second plenary meeting of all partners will be held in March, in Athens. This will be an opportunity to reflect on the work completed since February 2013, and to plan the coming year.

*Thomas Baldwin, CERL*

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## Elections at the Annual General Meeting

All committee members are listed at <http://www.cerl.org/about/organisation>

After the Chairman, Ulf Göranson, had expressed CERL's warmest thanks to the departing Directors Gerald Grünberg and Ewa Kobierska-Maciuszko, the members proceeded to elect four new Directors:

- Prof Pierre Delsaert, Flanders Heritage Libraries Group (VEB)
- Mrs Anne Pasquignon, Bibliothèque nationale de France, Paris
- Mr Edwin Schroeder, Yale University Library
- Prof Jolanta Talbierska, University of Warsaw Library

The Executive Committee was renamed, and is now called the Coordinating Committee. It consists of the CERL officers, the chairs of the Working Groups and some additional members. After the elections, three new members joined the Committee, namely

- Dr Andreas Fingernagel, Österreichische Nationalbibliothek, Vienna
- Ms Katre Kaju, Academic Library of Tallinn University
- Dr Frédéric Lemmers, Koninklijke Bibliotheek/Bibliothèque royale, Brussels

## Five Centuries after Aldo Manuzio: A network of events in Europe

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2015 is the fifth centenary of the death of Aldus Manutius, the unquestioned master of printing and of humanistic culture. In the near past, studies by Carlo Dionisotti, Luigi Balsamo and Martin Lowry helped to improve our knowledge of him, removing his figure from a sacral aura, so indefinite and naïve, by connecting his work to the cultural and religious questions of his time, and thus investigating the economic and technological issues he had to face. In addition, exhibitions and publications carried out twenty years ago all over the world, on the occasion of the fifth centenary of the beginning of his activity, have provided a rich documentation. The European Research Centre Library Book Publishing of the Catholic University of Milan (CRELEB) is working to create a network between different initiatives that can enhance this significant occasion. The name will be 'Aldus Project 1515-2015. A Network for the cultures of the book'. Each event will be organisationally and financially autonomous; however, the network will facilitate the coordination of the different moments, as well as their promotion and publicity.

The first scheduled event is a one-day colloquium organised by Paolo Sachet and Jill Kraye on 6 February 2015 at the Warburg Institute of London. The title *The Afterlife of Aldus: Posthumous Fame, Collectors and the Book Trade* means to focus on the legacy of Aldus Manutius. Rather than examining his own output, which has already received a vast amount of scholarly attention, the focus will be on far less studied topics related to his later fame and reputation. The main theme will be how the notion of 'Aldine books' has changed over 500 years. Nine speakers, divided into three panels, will deliver papers of 25–30 minutes. The first panel will explore the history of the Aldine press after Aldus, under the management of Torresani and afterwards the Manuzio family. The focus will be chiefly on how the myth of Aldus was constructed and then used in the press's marketing strategy. Speakers: Lodovica Braidà (Università degli studi di Milano), Raphaële Mouren (The Warburg Institute, London), and Shanti Graheli (University of St Andrews). The second panel will concentrate on private Aldine collections in the UK and continental Europe (1550–1900). The aim is to reach a better understanding of the large-scale movement of Aldine books throughout Europe. Speakers: François Dupuigrenet Desroussilles (Florida State University), Julianne Simpson (John Rylands Library, Manchester), Alessandro Ledda (Università Cattolica Milan). The third panel will examine the contemporary Aldine book trade (1830–2015), seeking to connect academic scholarship with the world of antiquarian booksellers and collectors. The key issues will be the use of sales catalogues as bibliographical tools and the Aldine market as an historical and cultural phenomenon. Speakers: Kristian Jensen (British Library, London), Nicholas Poole-Wilson (Bernard Quaritch Ltd, London), Paolo Sachet (The Warburg Institute, London). A second international colloquium organized over several days of work is planned for autumn 2015 in Venice: the working title is 'Aldus Manutius and his books, between philology and collecting'.

In addition to the conferences, some exhibitions have been scheduled. In Venice, at the Sala Sansoviniana of the Biblioteca Nazionale Marciana, a didactical exhibition dedicated to hand press typography and the book of Venice, will be mounted in collaboration with the Tipoteca Italiana of Cornuda (Treviso), the most important Italian museum on types and printing. In Poppi (Arezzo), the theme will be the relationship between Aldo and the monastery of Camaldoli, where some intellectuals of the circle of Pietro Bembo became monks. A traveling exhibition in the province of Siena (and more generally in Tuscany and Umbria) on the *Hypnerotomachia Poliphili* will be presented. And then there will be an online exhibition, dedicated to the Aldo Collection in the Trivulziana Library of Milan.

In addition, we are thinking about two series of lectures. One in Venice, at the Biblioteca Marciana, where it will be proclaimed the Aldino-Marciano Year with monthly lessons dedicated to Aldo and his world, and the other some itinerant lectures, traveling in Italy and abroad at libraries, universities and cultural centers. Other initiatives should be held in Lyon with a colloquium on the history of the Aldine counterfeit and the Franco-Italian publishing relations; exhibitions and then again in Venice in the Palazzo Ducale on the historical figure of Aldus Manutius and his intellectual relationships and in Chiari (Brescia) on the representation of the anchor with the dolphin. Publications devoted to the anniversary should be carried out by the aforementioned Italian Tipoteca, by the publisher Olschki in Florence, and by the Scuola Normale Superiore in Pisa.

Several irons in the fire!

Eduard Barbieri, CRELEB



## CENDARI (2012-2016): the research infrastructure begins to take shape

<http://www.cendari.eu/>



**CENDARI**  
COLLABORATIVE EUROPEAN DIGITAL  
ARCHIVE INFRASTRUCTURE

After the success of the first CENDARI summer school in June 2013 and first set of Transnational Access fellowship applications, CERL is looking forward to driving forward the user training programme of work, as the project heads to the end of its second year. The summer school in Florence this year, co-organised by CERL, looked at 'Historical Sources & Transnational Approaches to European History', and featured a variety of lectures, workshops and hands-on sessions. It was attended by 22 career researchers, and taught by a variety of CENDARI project staff, plus three keynote external speakers. The Summer School of July 2014 will take place in Berlin, and applications will be invited in the new year. The Transnational Access programme will be run again in 2014, offering research fellowships, on a competitive basis to scholars of transnational history at five institutions: King's College London; Göttingen University, Stuttgart University; Trinity College Dublin, and National Library of the Czech Republic, Prague. Again, applications are invited from across the continent.

*Thomas Baldwin, CERL*

### Citing of HPB records

In order to reference a particular HPB record the following URL pattern is available:

<http://hpb.cerl.org/record/<HPB Identifier>>.

For example: [http://hpb.cerl.org/record/BE-KBR00.CAT.1\\_1405830](http://hpb.cerl.org/record/BE-KBR00.CAT.1_1405830).

It can be copied from the  label.

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The CERL Secretariat wishes you a good 2014,  
with inspiring partnerships, fruitful collaboration and excellent results.

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