



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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## A new look for CERL

Last year, the new CERL logo was presented to the members. Since then it has been incorporated in new leaflets, letterhead, compliment slips and business cards for CERL staff, and, as you see here, in the CERL Newsletter. We have also created small product logos for each of the CERL services – the colour used in the logo will also be used as the support colour for the leaflets. The next elements to be refreshed in this manner are the CERL template for PowerPoint presentations, the sign-off on e-mails and the CERL website.



## CERL website

Over the last year several changes have been made to the CERL website under the supervision of the Working Group for Promotion of CERL's Activities and Services. The website was migrated to a new and more powerful server at the Gemeinsamer Bibliothekverbund (GBV), Göttingen, which enabled a faster and more reliable service. A large scale review of the website's contents was undertaken with information updated where needed. This was supported by a survey of CERL members about their institutional information. Orphans and dead links were tracked down and eliminated. There was also some restructuring to the hierarchy in places, to enable a more logical order in navigation. Review and update of website contents is ongoing.

## HPB Database has a new host and a new interface

Search | Results | Advanced | Help | Home Copyright © OCLC

search [and] [ALL] all words  ? sort by year of publication all Libraries

fuzzy search

digital copy available



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About the database Content of the HPB Database

CERL - Heritage of the Printed Book Database

The HPB Database (previously called the Hand Press Book Database) is a steadily growing collection of files of catalogue records from major European and North American research libraries covering items of European printing of the hand-press period (c. 1455-c. 1830) integrated into one file. This makes it possible for information to be retrieved in one single search across all files. As the digitisation of collections in contributing libraries progresses, more and more catalogue records point to digital presentations of the early printed books.

On 1 March 2013, the new HPB Database (HPB) at VZG was made available to all CERL members. Previous features such as simple search, advanced search, command line search and Z39.50 are still available. In addition new features were introduced including SRU access, MARC record view, immediate filtering on Language, Country and Form of publication, limiting searching to records pointing to digital copies, and improved presentation of record information, as more details are displayed, all fully supported by UNICODE. Navigation is further improved through better linking (both internal to support navigation through hierarchical record

sets, and external to records in their native environments, thus increasing the visibility and promotion of libraries contributing to the HPB).

Together, the interface and indexing are specifically tailored to the specialist nature of the bibliographical records held in the HPB. In this new environment we are able to offer more specific indexes, optimised to retrieve old prints (e.g. indexes for provenance information, imprint names, fingerprints and bibliographic citations). Existing indexes can easily be adapted or refined, and new indexes can be added.

### HPB Special Indexes explained

#### [IPN] Imprint Name

Keyword index for persons and institutions related to the physical production and distribution of the book, consisting of name forms in access point form if accompanied by a relevant relator code (this part is a keyword indexed subset of the general person / corporate body indexes [PER] and [COR]) and additionally the original imprint phrasing as on the item. This index will interact with the CERL Thesaurus by offering Assisted Searching in due course. Search for example

ipn elsevier d?

#### [FPK] fingerprint (keyword) and [FPS] fingerprint (string)

Fingerprints or fingerprint fragments are retrievable from these two indexes. Search for example

fps 4.n- ledi?

#### [FMO] Former Owner (Person)

#### [FOC] Former Owner (Corporate Body)

#### [PRN] Provenance Names

[FMO] and [FOC] are subsets of the regular person and corporate body indexes [PER] and [COR] with the same indexing (i.e. persons are searched by *surname, first name*), but limited to persons and corporate bodies identified to have a provenance role to the described work. Only entities catalogued in access point form will be found. The [PRN] index is a keyword index, combining the provenance-related free text note elements and the access point name forms with relevant relator codes. Search for example

foc bayerische staatsbibliothek  
fmo Magyary-Kossa, Sámuel  
prn motto nisi dominus frustra  
prn (exlibris or "ex libris") and Esterhazy

#### [CID] HPB ID

This index is used to retrieve records by their HPB ID, e.g.



HPB Identifier: DE-604.VK.BV001645308 [Cite](#)

Cataloguing Source: Bavarian State Library (Bayerische)

cid de-604.vk.bv001645308

HPB IDs can also be truncated by appending “?”

#### [CSO] Cataloguing Source

This index can be used to select all records from one source. The ISIL/MARC21/CERL defined code needs to be known. Search for example

cso czprnk

to retrieve all records of the National Library of the Czech Republic. To perform the same search without having to know the code, look at the second tab of the HPB start page.

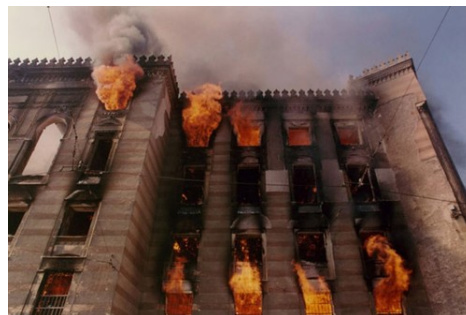
#### [HLD] Holdings

Information specifying the location of an item can be searched here, for example shelfmarks or sublocations: hld 2011?

hld magdalen and cso GB-UkOxU (retrieves all books from Magdalen College, Oxford University)

## Safe-guarding Bosnian Cultural Heritage

The culture and cultural heritage of a people represents its identity, the hallmark of one country. The cultural history created throughout centuries has been stored in the institutions of culture, libraries, archives and museums. The National and University Library of Bosnia and Herzegovina (NUBBiH) was established by the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH) 68 years ago with the aim of being the collector and keeper of the culture heritage in the form of the written word, books, monographs, periodicals, music and all different materials inherited by national libraries around the world. At the beginning of the war in Bosnia in 1992, NUBBiH had approximately 2 million bibliographic items. In August 1992 the library was shelled by the Serbian army from positions around Sarajevo. The story about the 'three-day-inferno' befalling Bosnian culture and science heritage was broadcast all around world.



Today seven cultural institutions established by the Republic of BiH struggle to survive because their basic finance is not covered by the state. There is no operational finance, and at times the choice is between paying salaries or turning on the heating, which may lead to users sitting in a cold reading room wearing gloves and coats. Between the Government ignoring demands for appropriate funding, corruption at management level and a severe imbalance between administrative staff and well-trained professional staff, Bosnian cultural heritage in peace-time seems to be under threat as much as it was during the war.

The NUBBiH wishes to work towards progress and prosperity for BiH libraries. As it proves difficult to influence the political process, an informal group of professionals and enthusiasts has taken shape, and is ready to give its contribution to the preservation and conservation of our cultural heritage. In collaboration with regional partners we are trying to establish a project proposal that would foster cooperation among libraries to preserve Bosnian cultural heritage. The Director of NUBBiH promises to give necessary support for the project implementation. The project was conceived as a regional centre to deal with digitisation, education and professional exchanges. For now, the project is in its infancy and we hope that we will, in cooperation with the European institutions, succeed in preserving our heritage as part of a rich European legacy.

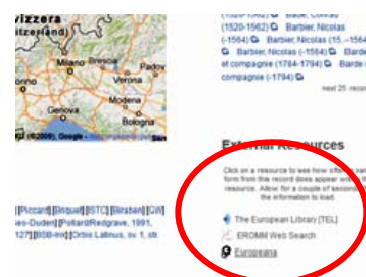
*Ms. Maunagic Hatidza (BA in Comparative Literature and Librarianship)*

## CERL Thesaurus is a well-used resource

<http://thesaurus.cerl.org>

The CERL Thesaurus (CT) currently comprises *c.* 916,000 records, and remains a well-used resource. The average number of searches per month by individual users in the first six months of the year was *c.* 23,000 (in 2012 it was *c.* 20,500 searches per month).

A new module for the CT web interface that allows performing bulk searches in external resources, using the headings and variant name forms from a CERL Thesaurus record, has been implemented. A user can choose an external resource which they want to examine by clicking on the resource name and will then get an indication of the frequency of occurrence of each CT name form in that resource. Currently this feature covers Europeana, the TEL portal and EROMM web search.



## New data sets in the HPB

Since the migration of the HPB to VZG in Göttingen, over 1 million new records have been added. These data sets were contributed by the Bibliothèque nationale de France, the Bibliothèque municipale de Lyon and the Bibliothèque royale/Koninklijke Bibliotheek, Brussels. The total number of records in the HPB now stands at 4,348,388. Next to be loaded are records from L'agence bibliographique de l'enseignement supérieur (ABES), Senate House Library in London, the Jagiellonian University in Krakow and libraries in Warsaw and Wrocław. If you want to track the growth of the HPB yourself, please type *ppn 0?* in the search box on <http://hpb.cerl.org>.

## California Rare Book School

<http://www.calrbs.org/>

California Rare Book School is a continuing education programme dedicated to providing the knowledge and skills required by professionals working in all aspects of the rare book community, and for students interested in entering the field. This year the programme addresses born-digital materials, Renaissance books and manuscripts, collection books, descriptive bibliography and the history of the book, among other topics. The California Rare Book School is offering scholarships that include a tuition waiver and \$1,000 for travel expenses for students who live outside of Southern California. Most courses are offered in August and applications are now being accepted.

A reminder of some of the other Rare Book Schools in the US and Europe: Virginia (<http://www.rarebookschool.org/>), Institut d'histoire du livre, Lyon (<http://ihl.cnssib.fr/>), Zadar, Croatia (<http://ozk.unizd.hr/ssob/> taking place from 28 September to 2 October 2013), the LIGATUS Summerschool (<http://www.ligatus.org.uk/summerschool/>) in Uppsala at the end of August/beginning of September, the London Rare Books School (<http://www.ies.sas.ac.uk/london-rare-books-school/>) in June, and the Italian Montefiascone Conservation project (<http://www.monteproject.com/>).

## CERL Security Network and the CERL Seminar (Warsaw, 29 October 2013)

<http://www.cerl.org/collaboration/security> and <http://www.cerl.org/services/seminars/main>

This year's seminar is co-organised with the University Library in Warsaw, Poland and the CERL Security Network. The title is 'Stop Thief! Preventing and Investigating Theft from Collections in the Digital Age'.

Our physical collections exist in a digital age, as do their users, the librarians who help users to gain access to them, and the thieves who want to steal and, perhaps, hope to sell their ill-gotten gains. Our seminar seeks through case studies to address how this affects the way in which we may detect, investigate or prevent theft from our collections. The

seminar will address high-profile thefts, such as those committed by Mr Farhad Kakimzadeh and Mr Edward Forbes Smiley, the importance of both book owners' marks and the Provenio database in preventing theft, politically-motivated thefts in Denmark, the perspective of the Italian carabinieri, and how lessons learned may impact on security, cataloguing and digitisation programmes. There is no charge to attend, but we do ask that you register your attendance with [secretariat@cerl.org](mailto:secretariat@cerl.org).

The illustration above is of Royal Identification Marks published by the KB Copenhagen (<http://tinyurl.com/pheqk64>). In the context of this general topic, a website published by the Rare Books and Manuscripts division of the American Library Association may be of interest. Their Security Committee publishes a list of incidents reported in the public media and on open listservs, such as Exlibris. The 'Incidents of Theft' list was begun in 1987 and is available on [http://www.rbms.info/committees/security/theft\\_reports/theft\\_reports\\_2012.shtml](http://www.rbms.info/committees/security/theft_reports/theft_reports_2012.shtml). You may also wish to explore the Security Toolkit developed by the Collections Trust in the United Kingdom. Even though it was prepared for the Museums' sector, much is also of relevance to the library community (<http://www.collectionslink.org.uk/discover/security>).

Shelf marks and ownership marks of the Royal Library		
<a href="#">Back to front page of Royal Identification Marks</a>		
Below are shown a number of the shelf marks and ownership marks that are or have been in use in the Royal Library.		
Shelf mark	Description	Notes
	The shelf mark consists of two numbers, normally separated by comma and dash, sometimes followed by an indication of format (fol., 4 <sup>o</sup> , or 8 <sup>o</sup> ). The first is any number between 1 and 192 (sometimes followed by a raised roman numeral), the second usually lower than 900.	Standard shelf mark used for non-Danish books up to the middle of the 20th century. Normally placed in the top left corner of the front pastedown or fly leaf. Written in pencil.  Giovanni Boccaccio: <i>Il Decamerone</i> (1527).
	The shelf mark consists of two numbers, normally separated by comma and dash, sometimes followed by an indication of format (fol., 4 <sup>o</sup> , or 8 <sup>o</sup> ). The first is any number between 1 and 49 (sometimes followed by a raised roman numeral), the second usually lower than 900.	Standard shelf mark used for Danish books up to the middle of the 20th century. Normally placed in the top left corner of the front pastedown or fly leaf. Written in pencil.  John Ericsson: <i>Thomad Torfaens Levnetsbeskrivelse</i> (1788).
	The shelf mark consists of an abbreviation and a number, sometimes followed by an indication of	Standard shelf mark used for non-Danish books up to the middle of the 20th

## www.e-manuscripta.ch – The Digital Platform for Manuscript Resources from Swiss Libraries and Archives

<http://www.e-manuscripta.ch>

The spectrum ranges from texts, correspondence and archive material, through music manuscripts to pictures, maps and plans: *e-manuscripta.ch*, the digital platform for manuscript resources from Swiss libraries and archives, provides access to all manner of material spanning several centuries. There are documents by Erasmus of Rotterdam, Richard Wagner and Albert Einstein, the literary and artistic estate of the Swiss geologist Arnold Escher von der Linth is here, as is Johann Jakob Wick's collection of news reports ('Wickiana'), the correspondence pertaining to the medical doctor Felix Platter of Basel and the archives of the Allgemeine Musik-Gesellschaft Zürich (General Music Society of Zürich). More than 13,000 documents are currently available.

The welcome page of *e-manuscripta.ch* (picture taken from the "Vogelbuch" by Jodocus Oesenbry, 1575, Zentralbibliothek Zürich, Ms C 22)

*e-manuscripta.ch* represents an important contribution to the range on offer by the Swiss Electronic Library, *e-lib.ch*: following on from *e-rara.ch* for historical prints, *retro.seals.ch* for scholarly journals and *e-codices* for medieval manuscripts, we now have a presentation platform for those resources which to date were unavailable online. Building on the expertise acquired during the aforementioned sister projects, the Zentralbibliothek, Zürich (Zürich Central Library), the Universitätsbibliothek, Basel (University Library of Basel) and the ETH-Bibliothek, Zürich (Library of the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology, Zürich) set about filling this gap in digital availability, both in their own individual institutions and at national level.



The presentation platform supplements the range of search tools already on offer in the respective libraries and archives and facilitates document retrieval across these institutions, thereby enabling virtual combinations of resources which may be dispersed throughout many collections. The user has easy access to documents, often including material hitherto restricted, irrespective of time and place. The original objects are selected from the various collections for *e-manuscripta.ch*, provided with a set of metadata, carefully scanned and finally uploaded on a regular basis. The resulting high-quality digitised files may be used online free of charge or downloaded as PDFs.

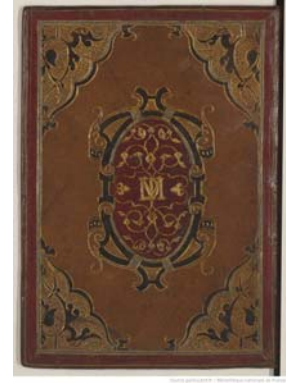
*e-manuscripta.ch* has been realised as a collaborative venture by the three university libraries named above; it utilises the software *Visual Library* produced by the companies semantics GmbH and Walter Nagel GmbH & Co. KG. *e-manuscripta.ch* is managed by the Zentralbibliothek, Zürich; the ETH-Bibliothek Zürich provides the hosting and IT services for the platform. The Universitätsbibliothek, Basel, in its capacity as coordinator for the union catalogue of Manuscripts, Archives and Bequests (HAN), is actively engaged in further developing bibliographic standards. The range of material available on *e-manuscripta.ch* is continually being updated and expanded. For all enquiries, please contact [service@e-manuscripta.ch](mailto:service@e-manuscripta.ch).

Dr. Eva Martina Hanke([eva.hanke@zb.uzh.ch](mailto:eva.hanke@zb.uzh.ch))

## Bindings at the BnF – a new database

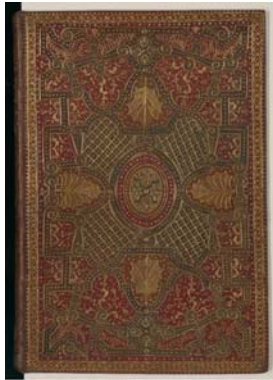
<http://reliures.bnf.fr>

Last April, the Bibliothèque nationale de France (BnF) launched a new database which provides unprecedented access to its binding collection, one of the most important in the world and the richest to be found for French material (see URL above). The database offers in this first version a selection of about 200 digitised French bindings, from the beginning of the 16th to the beginning of the 19th century, among them iconic treasures such as bindings commissioned for the Royal Fontainebleau Library during the reign of King Henri II (1547-1559), bindings commissioned for the 16th century French bibliophiles Jean Grolier and Thomas Mahieu, or the 18th century mosaic bindings, all of them held in the Rare Book Department. The database supports research on characteristics of bookbinding, bookbinding workshops and binders, and provenances. A bibliography, a glossary and a documentation page (currently dedicated to major online resources available in the field of bookbinding) have been added.



Mosaic binding commissioned for Thomas Mahieu, attributed to Claude Picques, Paris, c. 1560-1565 (Paris, BnF, RLR, A-2442 BIS; second board)

The main purpose of the database is to provide an extensive panel of bindings illustrating the history of French binding as well as to provide an online tool for identifying them, thus allowing specific searches on their main characteristic elements: typology, ornamentation and structure. The Rare Books Department, in close collaboration with the IBN Department (Bibliographic and Digital Information department, BnF) and the École nationale des Chartes (Paris), has been working for a number of years on preparing this database, which is connected to other website applications currently in use at the BnF, through interactive links leading to the General Catalogue (bibliographical references and authority records), to *data.bnf.fr* (general resources service based on semantic web technologies) and to *gallica.bnf.fr* (digitised images of the bindings are included in the main digital gallery).



Mosaic binding attributed to Antoine-Michel Padeloup, Paris, c. 1725-1730 (Paris, BnF, RLR, VELINS-602 ; first board)

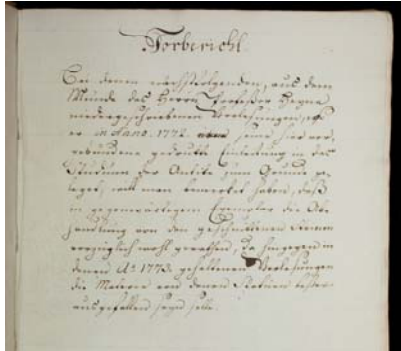
For the underlying data model, among the various XML solutions available, the BnF has chosen the TEI (Text Encoding Initiative). The schema defined was enriched with the components needed for an accurate description of the bindings. Each binding is thus described in a TEI XML document, each with its own unique, persistent ID-number. The schema is divided into four main sections: identification of the document, description of the binding, description of the document's history and bibliographic references. The description of the binding is the core of the schema. It comprises a short description of the binding as a header, completed by six controlled-vocabulary terms defining the type and the typology of the binding along with the type and the typology of the ornamentation (terms available on the website to assist searching). The detailed description of each binding is composed of a set of pre-defined components regarding both the binding ornamentation and its structure. Within those components, the description is given in free text. The description of the document's history is divided into three parts: origin (commissioning of the binding), provenances (successive owners) and acquisition (means of entry into the institution).

To avoid duplication of information in the TEI binding's description files and to facilitate the updates of the information in the complete corpus, three other distinctive TEI schemas were created, so that data regarding persons, corporate bodies and bibliography is recorded in three separate files. In the binding's files, these are encoded as simple names or titles in the text, with a link to the relevant description in the appropriate TEI file. This richly illustrated database is to become a truly helpful tool for the discovery of the BnF's collection of book bindings, and, more widely, by offering an extensive panel of models of bindings' descriptions, with a controlled vocabulary. Aside from this primary purpose, the BnF database also takes into account all the pertinent information needed to retrace the history of component volumes. The database, which stands as a virtual exhibition as well, is expected to contain about 1,000 volumes by the end of the year. As the project stands today, the final coverage is expected to be of 3,000 to 4,000 volumes from the BnF, with the perspective of developing into a future gateway associating other libraries in France.

*Fabienne Le Bars, Bibliothèque nationale de France, Paris*

## CERL Thesaurus used in an electronic edition of 18th-century university lectures

The Project ‘ARCHAEO 18 – The Lectures in Archeology by Christian Gottlob Heyne’ aim to reconstruct the historic development of archaeology into a scholarly discipline during the second half of the 18th century. From 1767 until 1806 Christian Gottlob Heyne regularly gave lectures about ancient art and craftsmanship at the then just founded University of Göttingen. These lectures are of pivotal importance to the establishment of archaeology as a subject of academic study. However, during his lifetime Heyne never published any of his findings and thoughts in this area. The lectures survived solely through notes and transcripts made by his students, which, due to the impact they had on the emergence of this new discipline, have been kept by many academic libraries and archives throughout Europe. These transcripts of Heyne’s lectures set the textual basis and starting point for this project.



Manuscript notes of one of Heyne’s lectures and its TEI transcription

```
<body>
<div>
<head>Vorbericht.</head>
<p>Bei denen nächstfolgenden, aus dem <lb/>
Munde des <persName ref="#CerlID:cmp01259384">Herrn Professor Heyne</persName>
niedergeschriebenen Vorlesungen, wo <lb/>
er <emph>in <date>Anno. 1773</date></emph>. ueber seine hier vor- <lb/>
gegebundene gedruckte Einleitung in das <lb/>
Studium der Antike zum Grunde ge- <lb/>
leget, will man bemerket haben, daß <lb/>
in gegenwärtigem Exemplar die Ab- <lb/>
handlung von den geschnittenen Steinen <lb/>
vorzüglich wohl gerathen, da hingegen in <lb/>
denen <emph><date>A<expand>nn</expand> 1773</date></emph>. gehaltenen Vorlesun-
gen die Materie von denen Statuen beßer <lb/>
ausgefallen seyn solle. </p>
</div>
</body>
```

Within this project, the manuscripts are collocated, transcribed and made available online as a digital facsimile as well as an edited text for the first time ever. Further, persons, antique artifacts and scholarly publications mentioned by Heyne in his lectures have been identified throughout the entire text corpus. These identified entities are linked to external biographic or scholarly databases as well as to digitised editions of the cited literature. This allows the user to access further information on or a depiction of a discussed subject, artifact, or person, etc. To facilitate access to the literature used by Heyne, all works used – unless they already have been made available online elsewhere - have been digitised and published on the website of the Göttingen Centre for Retrospective Digitization. The aim of this project is to show the outstanding, but yet uncharted position and role of Heyne’s lectures within the 18th-century structures of knowledge production in the field of archaeology; and – at the same time - make them available to future research.

For the edition, the CERL Thesaurus has been employed for identification, normalisation and linking of personal names mentioned in Heyne’s text. Due to its pan-European scope and specific time coverage, the CERL Thesaurus contains far more names relevant to the field of Archaeology than any similar biographical database. In addition to this, it had been made possible to add further relevant names under the guidance and supervision of the Data Conversion Group in Göttingen. Within in the four so far edited manuscripts, approximately 1,700 persons have been identified. It was possible to enrich about 1,000 records with further biographical information in this context, while only a small number of new records needed to be created.

The text of the lecture transcripts is encoded in TEI/XML; personal names occurring in the text bear a specific markup that contains a reference to the CERL Thesaurus ID. When the TEI encoded full text is imported into the eXist database underlying the presentation system, the variant name forms are collected from the CERL Thesaurus record using an XSLT stylesheet. These variants are included in an enriched version of the full text with is then indexed by a Lucene indexer. This allows the user to search for any given name variant in order to retrieve all occurrences of a specific personal name in the text. On another level the CERL Thesaurus is also integrated within the edition’s web interface, where a user can click on a personal name in order to retrieve the corresponding CT record.

*Christian Fieseler and Christian Mahnke, SUB Göttingen*

Archeo 18 Project: The electronic edition of Heyne's lectures with access to the CERL Thesaurus from within the edited text

The screenshot displays the CERL Thesaurus interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with tabs for 'Start', 'Edition', 'Indices', and 'Handschriften'. Below this, a window titled 'Lucius Verus' is open, showing a search result for 'Verus, Lucius Aurelius Augustus (0169)'. The search result includes a 'Toolbox' with options like 'Print this record' and 'Change Font'. The main content area shows a list of records, with the first one highlighted: 'bern-mss-muel-507'. The record details include a description: 'Einem Trunk Gift, und da dieser nicht wirken wollte, so, erstekte man ihm im Bette.' and a list of related records: 'Eine Münze von der Julia Tochter des Severus, auf dieser findet sich auch diese Figur. Von dem Kayser AntheniusA<sup>4</sup>, 463, auch so eine Figur. Descempus Numismata Majoris Moduli. Numismata Albani tab: 118. Dieses zeigt uns es müße eine alte Geschichte seyn, und nicht dieser Knabe des Commodus. Nemlich Hercules hatte einen guten Freund Telemon der Vater des Ajax, wie Hercules nach Troja gehen wollte, nahm er den Ajax auf die Hand, und sprach eine Patriarchelischen Segen über ihn. Diese Statue ist nicht von der besten Arbeit vide Winkel. Gesch. d: Kunst in Tractate prælimiare.' and 'Eine Statue im Palast Farnese, Perrier 13.'

## Join a CERL Working Group

<http://www.cerl.org/collaboration/main>

In the last few years decisions were taken by the AGM to formalise the more intense and specialised work of CERL by creating a number of Working Groups (WG). The Working Groups fall into two categories: those with special attention to the services developed and handled by CERL and those directed to special fields of cultural heritage management. Always considering the constant development of the library environment, new Working Groups can be created as needed. Each of the Working Groups has formulated key areas it wishes to focus on, and these remits are available through the CERL website (see URL above). We would like to invite you to sign up to a Working Group of your choice and to help shape the future development of CERL's services, to participate in creating standards for describing provenance and book bindings, and to foster further collaboration with the Manuscript community.

### Current CERL Working Groups

- Heritage of the Printed Book (HPB)
- CERL Thesaurus (CT)
- CERL Portal (CP)
- Material Evidence in Incunabula (MEI)
- The promotion of CERL Activities and Services, incl. Web development
- Provenance and Standards for the Description of Provenance Evidence
- Book Binding
- Manuscripts

## Material Evidence in Incunabula (MEI)

<http://incunabula.cerl.org>

In February 2013, CERL's Cristina Dondi, submitted a request for an ERC Consolidator Grant to substantially expand MEI. This includes developing new features for ISTC, work on the CERL Thesaurus, IPI, Bod-inc (Bodleian Library catalogue of incunabula), online and book-in-hand cataloguing of some collections (British Library and St Petersburg's National Library), and means to visualise the circulation of books. She has now been called for an interview in Brussels in October and will receive final notification of the outcome in December 2013.

The uptake of MEI in terms of institutions which wish to add their provenance information continues to grow. There are now over 40 MEI editors in some 40 libraries in Europe and the USA; a full list is available here <http://www.cerl.org/resources/mei/main>.



## Europeana Libraries: project closed

<http://www.europeana-libraries.eu/>



Since 2011 CERL members, through this Newsletter, have been kept informed about CERL's commitment to the EU-funded Europeana Libraries project, in partnership with The European Library, Europeana, LIBER and 21 other institutions. The project officially ended on 31 December 2012, and received its final review in February 2013. The reviewers gave an overall grade of "Excellent" meaning that "the project has fully achieved its objectives and goals for the period. And it has even exceeded expectations".

In the review report special praise was made of the development and validation of the library domain ingestion infrastructure, making full-text content available to Europeana – a development in which CERL's Stephanie Rühle played an important part. The development and validation of the alignment of library metadata with EDM (again, greatly benefiting from the input of Stephanie) was another highlight for the reviewers, as was the production of the *European Library Standards Handbook* and of the IPR requirements for the delivery of full-text content to The European Library and Europeana.

CERL was heavily involved in the business planning work package, and it is pleasing then that the reviewers also highlighted the adoption of a new governance structure and agreement for The European Library, which includes representatives from LIBER and CERL at executive board level. The CERL office itself received very positive comments on its input into the work packages from other project partners. We feel that the close of this project marks the beginning of a continuing fruitful collaboration in Europe, enhancing the visibility and reputation of CERL.

## Europeana Cloud: project started

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



The eCloud project involves many of the same partners as the Europeana Libraries project. Europeana Cloud officially began on 1 February 2013, with a kick-off meeting held in The Hague in March. It will run for three years, ending on 31 January 2016. CERL has particular responsibility for the ingestion work package and for developing Europeana's content strategy.

Within the work package 'Assessing Researcher Needs in the Cloud and Ensuring Community Engagement' a web-based survey has been formulated, examining digital research practices, tools and content, focusing in particular on potential use of content from Europeana and The European Library. It is aimed at both Humanities and Social Science scholars. We would encourage CERL members (and their readers) to take part in the survey, which will contribute to our understanding of how content in Europeana and The European Library is sought, accessed and used. This furthers the work package's overall aim of understanding researcher needs, and how they can be applied in Europeana's planned cloud environment. The survey is accessible at <http://surveys.dcu.gr/index.php/423471/lang-en> and will close in September.

Understanding researchers' practices and their potential use of content is also the focus of a series of expert forums, attended by project partners and external scholars and professionals. The first of these was held in Dublin in June this year, which sought to produce some case studies for the use of content to answer various (imagined) research questions. Some interesting scenarios were developed focussing, for example, on geographical representation of data, and presenting such changes over time with a map. Trinity College Dublin, the organisers of the forum, will prepare a report in due course. Further forums, focusing on tools and content for Humanities and Social Science researchers will take place later this year.

## Project: Collaborative European Digital Archive Infrastructure (CENDARI)

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



**CENDARI**  
COLLABORATIVE EUROPEAN DIGITAL  
ARCHIVE INFRASTRUCTURE

The CENDARI project is well into its second year, and has begun its engagement and training programme with the user community. This takes two principal forms: the Transnational Access programme and the Summer Schools, both running for three years, starting in 2013. The Transnational Access programme offers 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 the National Library of the Czech Republic.

The first summer school will take place in July 2013 in Florence, under the theme 'Historical Sources & Transnational Approaches to European History'. An exciting programme of lectures, seminars and hands-on workshops (see <http://www.cendari.eu/news-events/summer-school-2013/#programme>) has been planned for the 25 students attending, and includes high-profile guest lectures by Dr Graham Jefcoate, Dr Hugh Denard and Professor Jay Winter. Other speakers are drawn from across the CENDARI project partners.

The CENDARI project focuses on two areas of history: the medieval period and the Great War. Care has been taken in selecting candidates for both these programmes that a fair representation is given to scholars of both these fields. It is envisaged that the summer schools in 2014 and 2015 will each have a theme more specific to one of the two fields.

### CERL Papers

*CERL Papers I-III* (which are out of print) and *CERL Papers V-X* are 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](mailto: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 distributed to CERL members in the course of 2013. It is being debated whether the papers of the seminar held in London in October 2012 will be published as a separate volume, or perhaps together with the papers of this year's seminar (see elsewhere in the Newsletter).

### Joint LIBER / CERL Working Group for Heritage Collections

LinkedIn Group: <http://linkd.in/c4VqeU>

At the recent LIBER Annual General Conference, the LIBER Steering Committee for Heritage Collections and Preservation was officially re-launched as the LIBER Forum for Digital Cultural Heritage, chaired by Dr Claudia Fabian of the Bayerische Staatsbibliothek with CERL's Marian Lefferts functioning as the Secretary. It is under the auspices of this Forum that the 3rd LIBER Workshop on Digital Curation will be organised. The workshop, titled '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/Royal Library of the Netherlands, The Hague, the University of Leiden, and the University of Vienna. Speakers include Herbert van der Sompel (Los Alamos), Mariella Guercio (Sapienza, Rome), David Giaretta (Alliance for Permanent Access), Carlos Morais Pires (European Commission), Erik-Jan Van-Kleef (Vice President of Sales, Thomson Reuters, Scientific & Scholarly Research), Marco de Niet (DEN, The Hague) and Norbert Lossau (SUB, Göttingen).




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