

January — December 2010

No. 19

ISSN: 0969-4625



# ACLAIIR

## Newsletter



*ACLAIIR Newsletter*

Newsletter of the Advisory Council on Latin American and Iberian Information Resources

**ACLAIR Newsletter:**

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**January—December 2010**

**No. 19**

**ISSN: 0969-4625**

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The ACLAIR Newsletter is an annual publication, produced for the members of the Advisory Council. The aim of the Council is to advance education in its two fields of interest, by:

- Acting as a focus for Latin American and Iberian Studies in libraries of all kinds
- Providing information on libraries' holdings in the Council's fields of interest
- Acting as a forum for discussion between librarians and users of Latin American and Iberian materials
- Examining possibilities of co-operation between libraries and individuals or bodies concerned with such materials

Annual membership of the Council costs 15 pounds sterling, and includes a free copy of the Newsletter.

**Notes for contributors**

Contributions to future issues of the Newsletter from Council members are always welcome.

Submissions should be preferably in electronic form, but we will accept typewritten or (even!) handwritten contributions. They may be sent to any of the editors (contact details above).

ACLAIR on the web: <http://aclair.wordpress.com/>

Join ACLAIR on FACEBOOK

ACLAIR does not have its own mailing list, but two which have useful material are:

Iberia ([www.jiscmail.ac.uk/lists/IBERIA.html](http://www.jiscmail.ac.uk/lists/IBERIA.html))

LATAM-INFO ([www.jiscmail.ac.uk/lists/LATAM-INFO.html](http://www.jiscmail.ac.uk/lists/LATAM-INFO.html))

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## SECTION ONE: ACLAIIR news

### 1. Chair's report to the Annual General Meeting 2010

ACLAIR continues with mixed results to reach out to the community of Spanish, Portuguese and Latin American specialists, be they librarians, researchers, academics, publishers or booksellers. We wish to create our own 'big society', or better maybe, broad community. Contact has been maintained with the Tate Library, although contact looks to have been lost again with the National Art Library. We are delighted that there is a new Hispanic specialist at Oxford: Joanne Edwards, based at the Taylorian, and even more pleased that she readily agreed to be co-opted on to the Committee. However, we have said farewell to Sarah Brain who stepped down following the University of the West of England's decision to cease the teaching of modern foreign languages, including Spanish, at degree level. On a positive note, mutual observer status with the committee of the Association of Hispanists of Great Britain and Ireland is now operating and hopefully will develop. I regret that the proposed ACLAIR network on Facebook (or similar, e.g. NING) has not materialised, due to our members' other work commitments. The aim of the network is to reach out to postgraduates in particular and to improve our communication channels with PiLAS (Postgraduates in Latin American Studies). This communication has been improved by Aquiles Alencar Brayner's attendance at the recent PiLAS conference and his invitation to the new co-Presidents to attend the AGM and Seminar. We also hope that, by revamping our ACLAIR webpage, we will be better able to attract a broader audience, especially young researchers, inviting them to take a more participatory role and offer feedback for the activities developed by ACLAIR. Joanne Edwards has agreed to take the lead on this project.

The 2009 WESLINE conference was held at the University of Durham and was attended by ACLAIR Secretary, Christine Anderson, and by Committee member, Sarah Brain. In difficult economic circumstances it is not easy for Hispanic specialists to justify attendance at meetings with wide-ranging programmes. The 2010 meeting will be in Manchester and the topics are relevant to all. No new proposals for the reorganization of WESLINE have been put forward. The 2009 meeting of REDIAL (Red Europea de Información y Documentación sobre América Latina) took place at the Ibero-Amerikanisches Institut in Berlin (3-8 July) after last year's AGM. Both Aquiles Alencar Brayner and Geoff West attended the meeting of national representatives. The meeting coincided with SALALM (Seminar on the Acquisition of Latin American Library Materials) and it was resolved that the two organizations would seek to work together more. The 2010 meeting took place in St Petersburg (27-29 May). No-one from UK was able to attend, largely on grounds of cost. The 2011 meeting however will be in London (20-21 June). There will be much to discuss and plan before then. Sonia Morcillo and Chris Anderton, as well as Aquiles and Geoff, attended the SALALM Conference which as ever combined information provision, library resources, scholarly research and Latin American sociability.

Thanks to the generosity of the Federación de Gremios de Editores de España, four members of ACLAIIR were able to attend LIBER 2009 in Madrid. We once again had the opportunity of looking at new publications and spotting titles that we should have bought earlier. We attract most interest from the smaller, specialized publishers, but rather less from both the big conglomerates (understandably). We need to emphasise to institutional publishers, such as universality presses and local and regional governments, how important their publications are to us. We are grateful to ICEX for arranging the trip.

Our projects have advanced substantially this year. Sonia Morcillo has completed the Directory of Latin American & Iberian Audiovisual Resources which is now available on the ACLAIIR web page. Donald Munro has sent out his questionnaire on Latin American and Iberian microform holdings in UK libraries and has already received more than 30 replies. Thanks are due to both for this work beyond their regular duties. Progress is also being made on the on-line version of the *Directory*, funded by JISLAC: [http://handbook.americas.sas.ac.uk/search\\_library.php](http://handbook.americas.sas.ac.uk/search_library.php). Our AHGBI observer, Kirsty Hooper (University of Liverpool) has suggested that a project could usefully be developed to describe, or link to, 'hidden' collections of Latin American and Iberian material in UK libraries. The Committee has not yet had time to consider the feasibility.

ACLAIR collectively and member institutions individually obviously face the future with much trepidation. We need to focus our minds on the running of the organization after 2010/11 when some of us could well face retirement, whether willingly or unwillingly. This latter notion leads automatically to the inevitable prospect of further cuts to library budgets. Is there anything we can do? WESLINE 2010 is aiming to 'keep calm and carry on', so attendance in Manchester would be a positive. Should we also look to increasing dialogue, even informal collaboration, on acquisitions? Do we have an alternative? Outside of the public sector, the situation for the Canning House Library looks bleak as the economic recession prompts cutbacks in private sector support.

All members of the Committee have contributed in some way to the work of ACLAIIR this year. Singling out individuals is generally seen as invidious, but I cannot but thank Christine Anderson on ACLAIIR's behalf for continuing to work unstintingly as our Secretary even as the responsibilities of her 'day job' increase. Without her, ACLAIIR would have ceased to function long ago. I should also like to thank David Carrión for his support and also the hospitality he has extended to us during his period at the Instituto Cervantes.

Geoff West

24 June 2010

## 2. ACLAIR: meetings and events

ACLAIR AGM 29th June 2010

The 2010 Annual General Meeting of ACLAIR was held in Meeting Room 4, Conference Centre, The British Library, 96 Euston Road, London NW1 2DB.

The AGM was followed by an afternoon seminar devoted to projects and current research on nineteenth-century Latin America.

Speakers, in order of appearance, were:

Natalia Sobrevilla Perea: "Looking at Independence from the Andean Region"; Catherine Davies: "Women's Portraits and Latin American Independence: Past and Present"; and Will Fowler: "The Pronunciamiento in Independent Mexico, 1821-1876".

[The web page of the AHRC-funded research project: Gendering Latin American Independence: Women's Political Culture and the Textual Construction of Gender 1790-1850 can be viewed here: <http://www.genderlatam.org.uk/genderlatam/index.aspx>

and

the web page of the AHRC-funded research project: The Pronunciamiento in Independent Mexico, 1821-1876 can be viewed here:

<http://arts.st-andrews.ac.uk/pronunciamientos/> ]

In addition, Aquiles Alencar Brayner gave guided tours of his exhibition '¡Viva la Libertad! Spanish American Independence Movements, 1810-1860' in the British Library's Folio Society Gallery.

There then followed an evening event, held in the British Library Conference Centre: "The Legacy of Latin American Liberation"

Most Spanish American countries have experienced political upheavals over the last century. The revolutions in Mexico, Cuba and Nicaragua, military coups in Argentina and Chile, and guerrilla conflicts in Colombia and Peru are just some examples of the unstable political climate in the region. Our panel asked if the seeds for such regular turmoil were sown at the end of colonial rule and as many countries now appeared to be settling into democratic balance - was the continent set for a less turbulent future?

The panel comprised: historian and journalist Richard Gott; US based writer Nikolas Kozloff; Nicola Miller, UCL and Oscar Guardiola, Birkbeck College University of London.



### 3. ACLAIR Projects

ACLAIR members have completed a number of information resource-based projects in the field of Iberian and Latin American studies. If you have an idea for a project, or would like to get involved with ACLAIR's work, please get in touch! Email [Geoff.West@bl.uk](mailto:Geoff.West@bl.uk)

Projects include:

- Latin American and Iberian Audiovisual Collections by Sonia Morcillo-García
- Latin American Newspaper Census by Geoff West
- Spanish Civil War online resources presentation by David Carrión
- Spanish Civil War links by David Carrión

ACLAIR has also published a number of titles relating to research and resource collections for Iberian and Latin American Studies.

Please see our LibraryThing page for a list of publications:

<http://www.librarything.com/catalog/ACLAIR>

An Introduction to the Audiovisual Project by Sonia Morcillo

The ACLAIR's Directory of Latin American and Iberian Audiovisual Collections was originally conceived to bring to light and publicize audiovisual resources currently available in the United Kingdom for the study and research of Latin America and Iberia.

The Directory includes entries to 24 organizations and academic institutions with audiovisual holdings relating to these regions. Although not comprehensive, the listings provide an indication of the variety and breadth of these resources within the country. The directory will be updated on an annual basis to ensure that information is kept up-to-date.

Each entry in the directory contains a brief description of the nature and scope of the collections, information about access, and a contact name and email address. Amongst the holdings represented are feature films, documentaries, music and radio broadcasts in a variety of formats. The vast majority of the collections can be accessed online via the institution's or organisation's library catalogues. In most cases, material can be consulted on-site, but you are advised to call before visiting to avoid disappointment.

We hope that you will find the Directory useful and we thank all organisations and institutions which have provided information to make it possible.



#### 4. ACLAIR Webpage

<http://aclair.wordpress.com/>

##### ACLAIR web page

From 1 January 2009 to 31 December 2009 the site had 38,926 page views of which the most popular pages were:

Rank	Popular pages	No. of page views	..%..
1	Main page <a href="http://aclair.wordpress.com/">http://aclair.wordpress.com/</a>	6831	17.55
2	Latin American Newspaper Census <a href="http://aclair.files.wordpress.com/2011/05/latin-american-newspaper-census.pdf">http://aclair.files.wordpress.com/2011/05/latin-american-newspaper-census.pdf</a>	3369	8.65
3	Newsletter <a href="http://aclair.wordpress.com/newsletter/">http://aclair.wordpress.com/newsletter/</a>	1753	4.50
4	Home page <a href="http://aclair.wordpress.com/">http://aclair.wordpress.com/</a>	1290	3.31
5	Events page <a href="http://aclair.wordpress.com/events/">http://aclair.wordpress.com/events/</a>	1160	2.98
6	David Carrión's Civil War presentation <a href="http://aclair.files.wordpress.com/2011/04/civil_war_1ondres_jul07.pdf">http://aclair.files.wordpress.com/2011/04/civil_war_1ondres_jul07.pdf</a>	1139	2.93
7	AGM <a href="http://aclair.files.wordpress.com/2011/06/agmmn020797.pdf">http://aclair.files.wordpress.com/2011/06/agmmn020797.pdf</a>	1066	2.74
8	Links to Latin American sources <a href="http://aclair.wordpress.com/">http://aclair.wordpress.com/</a>	1027	2.64
9	Newsletter no. 15 <a href="http://aclair.wordpress.com/newsletter/">http://aclair.wordpress.com/newsletter/</a>	914	2.35
10	Newsletter no. 10 <a href="http://aclair.wordpress.com/newsletter/">http://aclair.wordpress.com/newsletter/</a>	871	2.24



## 5. ACLAIR Committee membership

Results of the committee elections held at the 2010 AGM:

Chair: Geoff West would remain in post until 2011, having been re-elected at the 2009 AGM.

Treasurer: John Laidlar, with approval that he work remotely;

Secretary: Christine Anderson, with the recommendation that, with succession planning in mind, a volunteer to act as 'shadow' secretary was advisable, plus help with the Newsletter was needed.

Of the five elected committee members, Sonia Morcillo and Aquiles Alencar Brayner had been elected at the 2009 AGM and would therefore remain in post until 2011.

Chris Anderton was, after due process, re-elected, with a caveat, as he might stand down in 2011. He has been a committee member for twenty five years.

David Carrión was moving to take up post at the Instituto Cervantes in Dublin, which left one vacancy, and Donald Munro wished to become a co-opted member, which left a second vacancy. Two co-opted members, Emer Stubbs and Joanne Edwards were nominated to stand to fill these two vacancies, and were, after due process, elected.

Co-opted members:

This left Alan Biggins, Robert Howes and Donald Munro as co-opted members, Sarah Brain having expressed a wish to stand down. The librarian of the Instituto Cervantes normally held co-opted membership, and David Carrión's successor, Mayte Azorín, was approached and agreed to become a co-opted member after the AGM.



## SECTION TWO: National Round-up: News from Universities and Libraries

### 6. Staff activities, staff changes and other news

ACLAIIR members attended and participated in a variety of seminars and events including WESLINE, REDIAL, SLAS, SALALM and LIBER.

Instituto Cervantes:

David Carrión moved to take up post at the Instituto Cervantes in Dublin and was replaced by Mayte Azorín.

Manchester: there is a VR scheme in operation;

Leeds: loss of 15% of library staff and a 40% cut for the modern languages fund.

ULRLS: the refurbishment of Senate House continues;

UCL: the compulsory redundancies plan has been scrapped.

### 7. Projects and publications, reports

During 2009-2010, Prof. Cathy McIlwaine of the Department of Geography, Queen Mary, University of London, conducted a large-scale research project entitled 'The Latin American community in London', based on a questionnaire survey and a range of in-depth interviews and focus group discussions

This project was funded by the Trust for London and the Latin American Women's Rights Service, and its aim was to explore the nature, needs and problems of the Latin American community in London. Another of its objectives was to provide an estimate of the size of the Latin American population in London.

.The web page for the project can be viewed at:

<http://www.geog.qmul.ac.uk/latinamericansinlondon/index.html>

For details of ISA's publications see:

<http://americas.sas.ac.uk/publications/>

The British Academy's 2010 report 'Language Matters More and More' can be viewed at:

[http://www.britac.ac.uk/news/bulletin/Language\\_matters11.pdf](http://www.britac.ac.uk/news/bulletin/Language_matters11.pdf)

This position statement by the British Academy Policy Centre, highlights the increasing severity of the languages deficit, a situation which has worsened since the Academy's 2009 report 'Language Matters' which can be viewed at:

<http://www.britac.ac.uk/policy/language-matters/position-paper.cfm>

## 8. Purchasing policy and purchasing funds

BL: cuts to monographs and serials budgets and a reorganization of collection areas; Cambridge: money has been given to Cambridge to create a platform to store digital material;

Oxford: 1% budget increase;

Bristol: the book fund has been ringfenced for next year;

Leeds: loss of 15% of library staff and a 40% cut for the modern languages fund; London Library: the budget is not affected.

## SECTION THREE: Events

### 9. Conferences and seminars

#### **ACTAS DE LAS JORNADAS ANUALES DE REDIAL San Petersburgo, 27-29 de mayo 2010**

El evento se desarrolló en San Petersburgo (Rusia) en la sede de la Universidad de San Petersburgo organizado por el Instituto de Latinoamérica de la Academia de Ciencias de Rusia.

A continuación se presentan los principales puntos del evento y decisiones tomadas:

**Día 27 de mayo:** Reunión de la Ejecutiva (actas redactadas en documento aparte).

**Día 28 de mayo:**

**Sesión de la mañana:** "Latinoamérica en Rusia: interés de los científicos y de la sociedad" durante la cual presentaron su labor académica y de investigación representantes de los principales centros de estudios latinoamericanos en Rusia.

- Prof. Vladimir Davidov, Director del Instituto de Latinoamérica, Academia de Ciencias de Rusia.
- Prof. Victor Jeifets, Jefe científico del Centro de Estudios Iberoamericanos, Facultad de Relaciones Internacionales, Universidad Estatal de San Petersburgo.
- Prof. Alexey Naumov, investigador de la Facultad de Geografía, Lomonosov Moscow State University.
- Dmitry Belyaev, investigador del Centro de Estudios Mesoamericanos.
- Josep Maria de Sagarra, Director del Instituto Cervantes en Moscú.
- Eugenio Astakhov.
- Alexandr Slinko.
- Elena Soboleva.

**Sesión de la tarde:** "El Bicentenario Latinoamericano en Europa"

Se presentó el "Observatorio europeo del Bicentenario" por Cécile Tardy, la cual durante el año pasado coordinó la realización de este proyecto en el marco del portal Redial.

Se presentó información sobre las conmemoraciones del Bicentenario en los centros europeos

Propuestas:

- No ingresar las noticias de América Latina relacionadas con el Bicentenario, excepto las que estén relacionadas con Europa, por ejemplo si participan ponentes europeos en un evento americano.
- Proponer la membresía en Redial al Real Instituto Elcano.

- Incluir en el "Observatorio" una exposición virtual sobre los europeos que participaron a favor de las independencias en América Latina (se sugirió el título "Malditos y Rebeldes").

Recepción en el Ayuntamiento de San Petersburgo

**Día 29 de mayo:**

**Sesión de la mañana:** dedicada a labores en el marco del Portal y la red

1. El nuevo diseño gráfico del Portal: Luis Rodríguez Yunta presentó el proyecto del nuevo portal ya que Olivier Bertoncello no pudo asistir a este evento.

Algunos cambios aún siguen pendientes, como la ampliación de los ámbitos temáticos y la reforma de la base de datos de bibliotecas-archivos-museos.

Se abrirá un plazo de consultas para debatir la nueva propuesta del portal y enviar sugerencias de cambio a Luis y Olivier.

Se incluirá en zócalo un listado más completo de los miembros de REDIAL con su dirección postal.

2. Revista Anuario Americanista: Anna Svensson habló de la versión electrónica de la revista, y los números futuros. El nº 8 se dedicará probablemente al Latinoamericanismo europeo, coordinado por Bodemer. En él se propone que la sección de Documentación sea un homenaje a Mona Huerta, para lo cual se pedirán contribuciones. El nº 9 estará dedicado a las "Migraciones latinoamericanas" y será preparado por Isabel Yepes y Ch. Daem

3. Metabuscadores: estado del proyecto y planes para el futuro - Daniel Pouyllau habló sobre los avances y obstáculos. Uno de ellos es el vocabulario de palabras claves a realizar en 5 idiomas. Los participantes de las jornadas se ofrecieron para avanzar en el trabajo relacionado con el vocabulario y el metabuscador. Los planes para 2010 son:

- junio 2010 - diseño de la página web del metabuscador en la web de Redial
- julio 2010: prueba del metabuscador
- octubre 2010 - integración de la página web del metabuscador en la página web de Redial.

Sobre este punto se propone que el metabuscador no sustituya al buscador del portal, sino que vaya en página aparte, al menos hasta comprobar su efectividad.

3. Colaboraciones externas de Redial: Se habló sobre los vínculos de Redial con otras instituciones - avances y planes para el futuro:

CEISAL - se presentó a los participantes las decisiones tomadas durante la ejecutiva.

LATINDEX - En nombre de Françoise Gouzi, Veronique Fabré presentó los avances de cooperación con Latindex.

REDALYC – Se recordó el interés de esta cooperación

SALALM – Se anunció la asistencia de Luis Rodríguez Yunta al próximo congreso de Salalm y la necesidad de revitalizar el boletín Puentes para hacer efectivo el acuerdo de colaboración.

IFLA - Representación de Redial por medio de Anna Svensson, quien presentará un póster durante el congreso

4. Puentes - se tomó la decisión de revitalizar Puentes haciendo una edición en las próximas semanas sobre los hechos relacionados con el Bicentenario de las Independencias.

5. Digitalización de Fondos - Daniel Pouyllau habló sobre los avances del programa de digitalización de más de 500 mapas sobre Brasil y lanzó la oferta de crear un banco de imágenes sobre América Latina en el repositorio Medial.

Redactado por: Katarzyna Dembicz, 11 de julio de 2010

## **WESLINE 2010 Conference 1st - 3rd September 2010**

The fifth annual WESLINE conference was held in Manchester with the theme: "Keeping calm and carrying on - level-headed librarians in a time of financial trouble Forza! Prenez courage! ¡No te desanimas! Halt die Ohren steif!"

The conference was hosted by the John Rylands University Library, Manchester. There was a packed and practical programme which was of interest to librarians and academics across French, German, Italian and Spanish studies. The conference included presentations by academic staff of Manchester University's School of Languages, Literatures and Cultures, and by professional colleagues from Liverpool and Portsmouth.

Here follows an account of WESLINE 2010:-

### **WESLINE 2010 Conference, Manchester 1-3 September**

#### ***Keeping calm and carrying on: level-headed librarians in a time of financial trouble***

The theme of the 2010 WESLINE Conference held in Manchester 1-3 September was one of great relevance to all concerned.

The first day covered practical/professional issues.

Phil Sykes (Librarian, University of Liverpool and Chair of RLUK – Research Libraries UK) gave the first session, *The Art of Persuasion*, in which he explained how to craft a persuasive argument for convincing stakeholders of the value of a proposed project and into providing financial or other support for it.

He was followed by Anne Worden (Faculty Librarian, Humanities and Social Sciences at the University of Portsmouth) whose session entitled *Building Alliances with Faculties to get best value for money* covered the gathering of usage data for material in a variety of formats so that decisions could be made, in conjunction with academics, on how to deliver the best possible research provision with reduced budgets.

The first day's sessions were followed by the AGMs of WESLINE, the FSLG (French Studies Library Group) and the GSLG (German Studies Library Group).

The WESLINE AGM covered the relationship between WESLINE and the individual language groups, especially as this was a time of reduced circumstances, and colleagues were increasingly responsible for a range of languages, rather than just one.

Day two of WESLINE covered a range of research in different language areas.

Dr Joe McGonagle (Department of French Studies, University of Manchester) spoke on *France and Algeria: visualising a (post)colonial relationship since 1954*.

This session was based around the photographic images taken of the forceful confrontation of a protest march in Paris that took place during the Algerian War of Independence and which resulted in the deaths of many Algerians. We were shown how these self-same images had been interpreted to convey a variety of meanings over time, ranging from 'reassurance' to the French public to a symbolisation of state terror.

In her talk, *What's love got to do with it? Science and friendship in nineteenth century Chile*, Dr Patience Schell (Department of Spanish, Portuguese and Latin American Studies, University of Manchester) addressed the importance of friendship networks on the development of scientific disciplines in Chile in the nineteenth century, before the establishment of universities there.

The next session, session 5, *The BL newspaper strategy – the way ahead*, was delivered by Ed King of the British Library. This session dealt with conservation and storage problems, the necessity of retaining heavily used journals at St Pancras while relegating lesser-used periodicals to Boston Spa, and the ensuing need to provide digital or microfilm access to these lesser-used materials at St Pancras.

Dr Matthew Philpotts (Department of German Studies, University of Manchester) followed with a talk entitled *Periodical Studies: beyond the discipline*. He stressed the amount of material that was available in periodical format but was as yet uncharted, and the resulting need for new methodologies to be developed to enhance the study of such material. Together with Samuel Parker, he had co-authored a detailed history and analysis of the legendary literary periodical *Sinn und Form*, placing it in historical, literary, social and political context.

*“Sinn und Form”: the Anatomy of a Literary Journal* by Stephen Parker and Matthew Philpotts, is published by De Gruyter (2009).

Session 7 consisted of a talk by Rachel Beckett (Head of Special Collections at the John Rylands University Library, University of Manchester), Dr Guyda Armstrong on the Manchester Dante Project, and Carol Burrows, (Project Manager, Special Collections) on the Centre of Digital Excellence Project

Manchester’s Special Collections include 750,000 printed items and 1 million archival mss items in over 50 languages.

Current projects include the JISC-funded CHICC (Centre for Heritage Imaging & Collection Care) Project which was set up to investigate the feasibility of establishing a Centre of Digital Excellence covering the North of the country and based at the John Rylands University Library of Manchester. The aim of the Centre was to establish partnerships with libraries, archive repositories and museums within the region to develop collaborative digitisation models and then test them.

Other projects include the Mary Hamilton Papers Project (a cataloguing project) and the Aldines Project (John Rylands has the largest collection of Aldines in the world, holding 120 out of the 127 authenticated editions produced by Aldus Manutius’s Aldine Press in Venice from 1495 to 1515 as well as an almost complete collection of all the publications of the Aldine Press from 1515 to 1598).

The aims are to promote the Library’s collections eg via workshops, to increase access eg via cataloguing and digitisation projects, and to make funding applications in conjunction with academic colleagues (a great deal of the work currently being done is the result of such collaboration and is externally funded).

Within the Special Collections team, the curators have subject responsibility and curate by format, and the support provided as part of the team’s ‘Academic Engagement’ includes:

- research and information skills support;
- curatorial support for programmes such as the Dante Project and the History of the Book;
- individual/project support.

There are different levels of support, from school-level (online tutorials, generic inductions) upwards to research level.

Research support is enabled by various communication channels:

- the Special Collections Academic Support Group;
- the JRUL Research and Learning Support Group;
- the Research and Information Skills Group;

- school committees eg the SAHC (School of Arts, Histories and Cultures) Research Committee;
- 'academic champions' within departments eg Italian;
- outreach.

Dr Guyda Armstrong, Lecturer in Italian and Principal Investigator on the British-Academy funded Manchester Digital Dante Project, spoke on *The use of e-books and other digital texts in teaching*.

Dante Studies are one of the strengths at Manchester. The JRULM holds 14 of the 15 editions of the *Divine Comedy* printed before 1500, and in all, 39 of the 44 editions printed in Italy before 1629. In addition, it holds editions of other works by Dante of this period.

Digital texts are used in 2 particular courses:

- Love Poetry for Beginners: Dante, Petrarch and the Medieval Italian Lyric;
- Beyond the Text: the Book and its Body.

Students on the *Love Poetry* course have been provided with SONY e-book readers which have been loaded with the course key text and key readings from the course reading list.

In *Beyond the Text*, the textual and technological history of a single text ie the *Divine Comedy* is traced from its origins to the present in its new digital forms.

The Manchester Digital Dante Project is a collaborative project between JRULM and the Italian Department and is funded by the British Academy.

Complete digital facsimiles of 3 editions of Dante's *Divine Comedy*, all held by JRULM, are to be digitised and a dedicated project website launched by the end of November 2010. The 3 editions are the 1477 Venice, 1478 Milan and 1481 Florence editions. There is a project blog which includes images and technical information at

<http://manchesterdante.wordpress.com/>

Carol Burrows then spoke on the Centre of Digital Excellence Project.

Current special projects include:

- The Genizah Project: an AHRC-sponsored project to digitise and catalogue the John Rylands Genizah (the original Genizah collection was divided up, some going to the U.S., some to the Bodleian and Cambridge). Nearly 15,000 fragments are to be photographed recto and verso, and catalogue descriptions created and to be made available as an online collection

<http://www.library.manchester.ac.uk/specialcollections/collections/specialprojects/genizah/>

- The Manchester Middle English Digital Library: *In the bigynnyng* – a JISC-sponsored project

<http://www.library.manchester.ac.uk/inthebigynnyng/>

Smaller projects include:

- Shahnama Project – sponsored by TIMA, the Islamic Manuscript Association

<http://www.library.manchester.ac.uk/shahnama/>

- *Roman de la Rose* Project – JRULM is collaborating with Johns Hopkins University over the digitising of an important *Roman de la Rose* manuscript.

All digitisation projects begin with 2 major questions:

- what to digitise ? (rare books, mss, archives)
- how to fund the project?

Manchester has 2 workshop areas and a specialised, expert team to work on such projects. From the outset there was a decision to collaborate and seek project partners

eg Chetham's Library, Brotherton Library, National Trust Historic House Libraries, Manchester Museum etc.

The Centre of Digital Excellence Project has an MBA intern whose job it is to analyse test models, survey potential customers and user requirements, conduct feasibility studies and put together a business plan.

Members of the Collection Care team work to assess if material is suitable for photography and provide a condition report for a whole collection or an individual item. They can provide collaborators with advice, expertise in handling material, address environmental concerns etc.

They engage in interventive conservation

eg a collection of maps digitised for Manchester Central Library needed minor repair work to enable street-level detail to be picked up when digitised

and in preventative conservation

eg minimising the risk of damage to an item throughout the digitisation process.

Digitisation can take place within JRULM, but also offsite eg in the case of the first external job undertaken with Chetham's Library, of the 12 mss involved, 5 were 'shot' on site, the rest brought back to JRULM to digitise.

Material for digitisation is not limited to type, as in the case of the Manchester Museum Project digitised images of a large and extremely varied collection of stuffed animals, from polar bear to shrew, were produced.

At the end of this highly informative and enjoyable session, the group was divided into 2 groups for session 8.

Session 8 consisted of a close-up session in Special Collections and a tour of John Rylands. At the end of session 7, the group was divided into 2, the first being taken by Carol Burrows to visit one of the workshops to see at first hand some of the equipment and techniques used for the digitisation projects and to speak with some of the staff involved and watch them at work, and the second being taken on a guided tour of the historic John Rylands building by Glynis Platt.

The second group began with a tour of John Rylands before 'swapping' places with the first group.

The John Rylands Library was founded in memory of John Rylands (1801 -1888), a textile millionaire, by his second wife, the Cuban-born Enriqueta Augustina Rylands *née* Tennant (1843 – 1908).

After his death, she commissioned the architect Basil Champneys to design the gothic John Rylands Library building, and it was built according to the highest standards.

Mrs Rylands used her inheritance to acquire books, collections and mss for the library, and intended the library to be open to the general public.

As the Lancashire cotton industry declined, so did the value of the investments left by John Rylands, and in 1972 the library merged with the Manchester University Library.

The John Rylands Library was refurbished between 2003 and 2007, with the addition of a newly built entrance wing to house facilities such as a café, shop, toilets etc for visitors, as well as a new Special Materials Reading Room.

Major conservation work was undertaken in the historic building eg a new pitched roof was constructed over the Historic Reading Room and 8,000 glass roundels in the windows were replaced.

On the ground floor of the historic building, new exhibition galleries were created.



Funding for the project was provided by the Heritage Lottery Fund, the European Regional Development Fund, and many other donors.

Thanks to Carol and Glynis for this fascinating glimpse into the John Rylands Library and its work.

The third day of the conference on Friday 3 September began with a talk by Stefanie Hundsberger (John Rylands University Library, University of Manchester) on online language learning facilities, entitled *Language Learning in Second Life*.

Second Life is such an online learning facility. Individuals set up an avatar, a virtual identity, when they first register and use this to 'live' and learn in the virtual world of Second Life.

Users can attend virtual language classes (some of which are free and some of which are not) and interact with a world-wide community of native speakers.

There are both advantages and disadvantages to this learning method. Advantages include a reduction in 'performance anxiety', low cost and that it is a good distance learning tool.

Disadvantages include the need of a certain amount of technical knowledge to handle the software involved, the need to multi-task, and the lack of 'body-language' cues.

Session 10: *Reports from JRUL Manchester* was delivered by the Deputy Librarian of JRUL, Dr Stella Butler, and her colleague Martin Snelling (E-Learning Support Manager).

Dr Butler, as well as being Deputy Librarian was also Associate Director, Research and Learning and Teaching Support. She had both initiated and led the £17 million project to rebuild and refurbish the John Rylands Library, having secured substantial external funding to do so.

Her talk centred on the Library and the challenges it faced in the light of government spending cuts, and the need for staff to develop the necessary skills to cope with new learning and information environments. Library staff also faced the challenge of trying to be better than Google, making sure we provide the information users require in such a way that it is easier for them to find and more accessible to them than information found through Google.

Martin Snelling followed with a talk on how Manchester had used Talis to manage its reading lists, but that this was now out-of-date and had no web 2.0 functionality. Manchester now used a new product, Talis Aspire, which made it easier to add a variety of electronic content eg podcasts to its VLE and which gave the academics much more control as to what they put on there.

Both talks provided examples of issues we all face, and a lively discussion ensued.

The final session, session 11, was delivered by Professor Stephen Milner (Italian Studies, University of Manchester): *Library liaison – an academic perspective*.

With enquiry-based learning, the distinction between the roles of academics and librarians was starting to blur in certain areas, as academics became more library orientated and librarians became more academically orientated. The most important thing was to ensure that there was a good working relationship and plenty of dialogue between the two.

In an increasingly virtual environment, it was important for academics to enhance their skills eg in their provision of material for the VLE, and for librarians to offer research skills training eg 'how to' workshops on resources and how to access them.

At Manchester both academics and librarians worked on the content of e-learning packs.

Material in high demand was being digitized and feedback was sought from students on the availability and accessibility of the information they required.

An example of academic/librarian collaboration was the creation of Manchester's online institutional repository. The library was described as the 'laboratory' of the institution.

It was good to have the academic perspective on library liaison and the session highlighted the need and benefits of having a good collaborative working relationship between academics and librarians.

This WESLINE Conference illustrated strategic ways in which colleagues could find ways to cope with increasing demands for information provision in difficult times, and gave us plenty of food for thought. WESLINE and the language library groups are an ideal vehicle to promote ideas and collaboration.

## 10. Exhibitions

This year's exhibitions included Essex University's Brazilian Art Exhibition which took place between 21 May 2010 - 23 May 2010. This was an exhibition of Brazilian artworks from the University of Essex Collection of Latin American Art (UECLAA) curated by Adriano Adewale, the Lakeside Theatre Artist in Residence. This exhibition was part of the Festival Brasileiro, directed him to mark the culmination of his year as artist in residence at the University of Essex, and consisting of a mixture of events and performances celebrating Brazilian culture.

Aquiles Alencar Brayner's exhibition "Viva la Libertad" ran from the 24th of May to the 20th of August at the British Library.

See: <http://www.bl.uk/onlinegallery/features/spanishamericanind/homepage.html>

A number of events (not organised by Aquiles) were held in connection with the exhibition.

Cambridge University Library arranged an exhibition of Mexican revolutionary printing from the early twentieth century. The exhibition included items held by the Library, as well as items owned by the curator, Ms. Erica Segre, who is a lecturer in visual culture at the University of Cambridge.



## 11. LIBER 2010

### Visit to Liber 2010 by UK Librarians by Emer Stubbs

In 2010, Liber, the Spanish Book Fair, was held in Barcelona from 29th September-1st October and I was among a group of UK Librarians who attended at the generous invitation of the Spanish Publishers' Association and the Institute for Foreign Trade (ICEX). The UK delegation included Geoff West from the British Library, Colin Homiski from Senate House Library, Sonia Morcillo-García from Cambridge University Library, Joanne Edwards from the University of Oxford Library and me as a representative of Bristol University Library.

On the evening of Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> September, after checking into our comfortable hotel close to the Recinto Gran Vía, we attended the Official Opening of Liber 2010. After the opening speeches we had an opportunity to have a preliminary look around the exhibition area and to enjoy some tapas.

After an early start the next day, we attended a welcome meeting for the British and American librarians at which many of the delegates briefly introduced themselves. It was interesting to learn of the variety of library backgrounds from which we all came and, in particular, to note the differences, and some similarities, between American and British public and academic library systems. After this we were free to spend the next couple of days browsing around the publishers' exhibition stands and attending our individual meetings with publishers. These meetings proved very useful both in reinforcing existing contacts and "putting faces to names" and in establishing contacts where none had existed before.


In addition to these meetings with publishers, there was a daily programme of very interesting and topical presentations and workshops which we could attend.

We all found our visit to Liber a thoroughly enjoyable and informative experience. The wonderful hospitality of ICEX and beautiful city of Barcelona provided an excellent backdrop to what was a very useful educational trip which allowed us to make direct contact with publishers and distributors from Spain and which also gave an opportunity for informal meetings with other librarians from Britain and America.



## SECTION FOUR: Associations and Groups

### 12. ARCE: Revistas Culturales en formato electrónico



Ya puedes descargar las Revistas Culturales en tu ordenador o lector de e-books!

La cultura, la creación y la crítica al alcance de todos.

[www.quioscocultural.com](http://www.quioscocultural.com)

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Revistas Culturales  
EN FORMATO ELECTRÓNICO

[www.quioscocultural.com](http://www.quioscocultural.com)

## 13. JISLAC

### **JISLAC Project**

#### **Latin American and Caribbean Studies Research Portal (the Handbook) - call for updates and contributions.**

“ The British Academy-funded JISLAC project is currently updating the contents of ‘The Handbook’, an online database of UK expertise on Latin America and the Caribbean focusing on the humanities and social sciences, hosted by the Institute for the Study of the Americas. The Handbook has been in print for more than forty years, and online for the past five.

For further information on the JISLAC project see:

<http://americas.sas.ac.uk/networks/jislac.html>

### **JISLAC Seminars 2010**

JISLAC Seminars 2010

These included:

- Caribbean Research Seminar Series in the North Held at the University of Liverpool 22 January 2010, 13:00 - 17:30

- Latin American Bicentennials: Gender, Ethnic Communities and the Nation Held at the University of Swansea 19 February 2010, 09:00 - 17:00

- Contemporary Argentina - Reading of the last decade Held at the University of Edinburgh 26 March 2010, 09:00 - 17:00

- Old rebellions to serve the present: Construction of collective memories on slave rebellions in the Caribbean Held at the University of Bordeaux 08 April 2010, 09:00 - 17:00

## 14. UK Languages Studies Library Groups

### **The Italian Studies Library Group AGM and Annual Lecture 29th June 2010**

The ISLG AGM took place on Tuesday 29 June 2010 at the British Library and was followed by the Annual Lecture which took place at 6.00 pm that evening. This year's lecture was by Professor Brian Richardson on “Transformations of a Text: Boccaccio's Decameron from Manuscript to Print and Beyond”.

French Studies Library Group

The FSLG Annual Review 2009-2010 can be viewed here:

<http://fslg.libr.port.ac.uk/AnnualReview-Issue6.pdf>

and its 2010-2011 Annual Review here:

<http://fslg.libr.port.ac.uk/AnnualReview-Issue7.pdf>

The FSLG AGM for 2010 took place during the WESLINE conference in Manchester on 1-3 September.

FSLG and AGM Study Day 2011

The FSLG AGM and Study Day for 2011 will take place at the British Library in London on Monday 5 September 2011. Following the AGM in the morning, the afternoon will feature presentations on issues facing Modern Foreign Languages Departments in the UK, and of

Culturethèque (free online multimedia library). Professor Philip Ford (Department of French, University of Cambridge) and Ophélie Ramonatxo and Léonore Schick ((Institut français) have agreed to speak. There will be a tour of the BL's major exhibition Out of this World: Science Fiction but not as you know it led by the co-curator, Katya Rogatchevskaia.

The GSLG - German Studies Library Group

The GSLG's AGM in 2010 was also held in Manchester during the WESLINE conference.

In 2011 the group plans to make a special trip to Germany, to the the Universitäts- und Landesbibliothek in Halle. The event will include presentations on current issues such as digitisation activities and webscale discovery, and several library visits are planned, including one to the the Deutsche Nationalbibliothek, Leipzig.

## **15. WESLINE**

<http://www.ulrls.lon.ac.uk/wesline/>

### **The WESLINE Mailing list**

The new WESLINE mailing list is up and running with over 60 subscribers. Please use the list to relay messages about items of mutual interest to people who work in (or have an interest in) the field of resources for West European languages or area studies. To join the list go to <http://www.jiscmail.ac.uk/WESLINE>

### **The WESLINE Directory**

This is a directory of library staff and their areas of interest. Please send us your contact details if you wish to be included.

For an account of the 2010 WESLINE conference see item 9.

## **SECTION FIVE: Creative and new media**

### **16. Donations, Acquisitions, book-related events**

#### **Donations:**

In July 2010 Prof James Dunkerley of Queen Mary (former Director of ISA) donated a selection of Latin American and US books he received as a judge on the Bryce Wood Prize which is run by the Latin American Studies Association (LASA). This donation is very much appreciated.

Donation by Embassy of the Dominican Republic

The official donation by Embassy of the Dominican Republic of a collection of the works of Juan Bosch to ISA took place at a reception held in the Jessel Room, Senate House, on 29 July 2010

[Juan Emilio Bosch Gaviño

b. 30 June 1909, La Vega, Dominican Republic – d. 1 November 2001, Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic President of the Dominican Republic in 1963 Founder of the Dominican Revolutionary Party (PRD) in 1939 Founder of the Dominican Liberation Party (PLD) in 1973]





[photo: left to right: Dr. Kate Quinn (ISA), Dr. Adrian Pearce (ISA), Prof. Iwan Morgan (ISA), Aníbal de Castro, Ambassador for the Dominican Republic in London, Prof. Maxine Molyneux (ISA), Olga Jiménez (ISA), Christine Anderson and Julio Cazzasa (Latin American collections, ULRSL)]

The Ambassador for the Dominican Republic in London, Aníbal de Castro, and the Minister for Cultural Affairs, Marlen Vásquez, made an official donation of a collection of the works of Juan Bosch.

The donation was received by Prof. Maxine Molyneux of the Institute for the Study of the Americas at an official reception held in the Jessel Room in Senate House on 29 July 2010.

In his speech, the Ambassador described Bosch as a man of great honesty and integrity, a fighter for democracy in Latin America, a historian, essayist and short-story writer.

This donation, which donation was sponsored by the Ministry of Culture and is part of the commemoration of the centenary of the birth of Bosch, will constitute a valuable and much appreciated addition to the newly co-located Latin American collections of ISA and Senate House Library.

## Acquisitions

The Instituto Cervantes has spent 8,000 euros on its new travel collection.

BL: acquisitions included:

- Enrique Gaspar y Rimbau's *El Anacronópete* (Barcelona, 1887);
- *Los inventarios de Carlos V y la familia imperial* (dirigido por Fernando Checa Cremades).

Oxford: acquisitions included

- La angelologia de Eugenio d'Ors, por Paul Henri Michel Jerarquia, 1937 (stamp on front cover shows eagle emblem, text around the outside reads 'Falange espanola, Tradicionalista y de las I.O.N.S., Prensa y propaganda, Delegacion Nacional)

- Colombian MS from 1869

'Sumario instruido en averiguacion de los delitos que hayan podido cometerse conta la tranquilidad y contra el orden politico de la nacion. Sindicato Carlos Holguin'.

(Donation from Dr Alvaro Holguin, grandson of Carlos Holguin, President of Colombia 1888-1892)

Book related events included:

Instituto Cervantes:

Giles Tremlett presented his new book 'Catherine of Aragon: Henry's Spanish Queen' at a book launch at the Instituto Cervantes on 8 December.

Canning House:

Canning House hosted a launch party on 3 December to mark the launch of Granta magazine's next issue 'Best of Young Spanish-Language Novelists'.

Foyles:

Foyles in Charing Cross Road hosted the 2nd Festival of Ibero-American Literature 8-12 November 2010.

## **17. Online, electronic mailing lists, CD-ROMs, microforms**

**Online resources:**

### **Electronic mailing lists**

#### **IBERIA**

[IBERIA@JISCMAIL.AC.UK](mailto:IBERIA@JISCMAIL.AC.UK)

This mailing list "provides a forum for the dissemination of information and discussion of matters of common concern among subject specialists, librarians, academic staff, postgraduate students and others in the field of Spanish and Portuguese studies."

#### **LATAM-INFO**

[LATAM-INFO@JISCMAIL.AC.UK](mailto:LATAM-INFO@JISCMAIL.AC.UK)

"LATAM-INFO provides a forum for the dissemination of information and discussion of matters of common concern amongst subject-specialists, librarians, academic staff, postgraduate students and others in the field of Latin American studies."

During 2009 a total of 709 messages were posted, the average number of posts per month being 59. The month with the most messages was October (93) and the month with the least was February (21).

### **Institute for the Study of the Americas, University of London**

<http://americas.sas.ac.uk/index.html>

ISA has a variety of mailing lists that you can subscribe to:

See [http://americas.sas.ac.uk/mailling\\_list.php](http://americas.sas.ac.uk/mailling_list.php) for details

### **Portals**

#### **Institute for the Study of the Americas, University of London**

Latin American and Caribbean Studies Research Portal

[http://handbook.americas.sas.ac.uk/search\\_index.php](http://handbook.americas.sas.ac.uk/search_index.php)



## **Institute of Germanic and Romance Studies (IGRS), University of London**

PORT: Postgraduate Online Research Training

<http://port.igrs.sas.ac.uk/>

“This site has been built for academic researchers in the various disciplines that comprise the study of Romance and Germanic languages and cultures, offering online research training and resources in French, Spanish, Portuguese, German and Italian studies. It will be of particular use to Masters and PhD students, and to those running postgraduate training programmes.”

## **Portuguese Literature Online**

<http://www.portugueseliteratureonline.com/about.htm>

Aquiles Alencar Brayner reports:

This website is one of the 'Babel Countries' websites presenting world literature available in English. It is sponsored by the Gulbenkian Foundation UK and produced by the publishers of the Babel Guides working with the educational charity organisation Babel Cultural Heritage Limited.

This website is a new way to get to know Portuguese writers available in English translation. Click on a region of the interactive map and you will discover writers associated with it through their own lives or their subject matter. The writers have links to bio pages, book reviews and English versions of their books. (Everything you discover through this site is in English). The books are illustrated by specially chosen keyworded extracts which may be useful for studying Portuguese culture and reality through the medium of its writers' works. All extracts used on this site are copyright and presented here on a fair use basis as part of a presentation and discussion of the original authors' works.

**REDIAL (Red Europea de Información y Documentación sobre América Latina)**, the European Network of Information and Documentation on Latin America.

A partnership between REDIAL and CEISAL (Consejo Europeo de Investigaciones Sociales de América Latina) has resulted in the creation of the **Portal Europeo de América Latina**, a key online gateway to research in the field of Latin American studies across Europe. Access to the portal is via the web page

<http://www.red-redial.net/>

## **18. Websites of libraries and subject-related organizations**

### **Instituto Cervantes:**

<http://londres.cervantes.es>

Find us on:

Twitter: <http://www.twitter.com/biblondon>

Delicious: <http://delicious.com/biblon>

Facebook:

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/London-United-Kingdom/Instituto-Cervantes-London/221546688427>

Our BLOGS:

Biblioteca transparente: News about Spain and Latin America in London

<http://btransparente.wordpress.com>

Spanish and Latin American Films in our library <http://icervantes.wordpress.com>

Check out our e-resources:

[http://www.cervantes.es/bibliotecas\\_documentacion\\_espanol/recursos\\_en\\_linea/recursos\\_electronicos.htm](http://www.cervantes.es/bibliotecas_documentacion_espanol/recursos_en_linea/recursos_electronicos.htm)

### **Latin America Bureau**

The Latin America Bureau launched its new multimedia website on 18 November 2009.

<http://www.lab.org.uk/> ..... “your gateway to the exciting politics and vibrant culture of Latin America.”

### **London Library**

<http://www.londonlibrary.co.uk/>

Facebook:

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/London-United-Kingdom/The-London-Library/198017356050?ref=mf>

### **University of London, Institute for the Study of the Americas:**

<http://americas.sas.ac.uk/index.html>

ISA has a variety of mailing lists that you can subscribe to:

See [http://americas.sas.ac.uk/mailling\\_list.php](http://americas.sas.ac.uk/mailling_list.php) for details

For News: <http://americas.sas.ac.uk/news/index.html>

For the *Americas Plural* newsletter: <http://americas.sas.ac.uk/newsletter/index.htm>

For the SAS (School of Advanced Study, University of London) newsletter:

[http://americas.sas.ac.uk/SAS\\_newsletter/index.htm](http://americas.sas.ac.uk/SAS_newsletter/index.htm)

### **University of London Research Library Services, Senate House Library**

<http://www.shl.lon.ac.uk/>

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Senate-House-Library/30807819864>

BLOG: <http://senatehouselibrary.blogspot.com/>

Twitter: <http://twitter.com/SenateHouseLib>

### **School of Advanced Study (SAS), University of London**

<http://www.sas.ac.uk/>

SAS news: <http://www.sas.ac.uk/news.html>

SAS-Space: the digital repository for the School of Advanced Study

<http://sas-space.sas.ac.uk/dspace/>

SAS events: [http://www.sas.ac.uk/events/list/sas\\_events](http://www.sas.ac.uk/events/list/sas_events)

SAS videos and podcasts: <http://www.sas.ac.uk/video.html>

Twitter: <http://twitter.com/SASNews>

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/London-United-Kingdom/University-of-London-School-of-Advanced-Study/173933270921>

## **19. SAS-Space is the institutional repository for the School of Advanced**

Study (University of London). It provides a permanent archive for scholarly resources produced by or in association with the Institutes that form the School. These include the Institute for the Study of the Americas, the Institute of Germanic and Romance Studies, and the Institute of Commonwealth Studies. It may be found at: <http://sas-space.sas.ac.uk>  
SAS-Space includes formal scholarly research outputs, but also reports, discussion papers, seminar and conference papers, and outstanding theses and dissertations. View holdings from the Institute for the Study of the Americas at: <http://sas-space.sas.ac.uk/view/divisions/isa.html>

## 20. Readex/Thompson Henry



### **Latin American Newspapers, 1805-1922**

This new online collection provides more than 35 fully searchable Latin American newspapers published in the 19th and 20th centuries. Featuring titles from Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Cuba, Guatemala, Mexico, Peru, Venezuela and elsewhere, *Latin American Newspapers* offers coverage of the people, issues and events that shaped this vital region between 1805 and 1922. Through eyewitness reporting, editorials, legislative information, letters, poetry, advertisements and more, this collection chronicles the evolution of Latin American culture and daily life over two centuries. Created in partnership with the Center for Research Libraries—one of the world's largest and most important newspaper repositories—*Latin American Newspapers* is the inaugural series in the *World Newspaper Archive*.

### **Hispanic American Newspapers, 1808-1980**

*Hispanic American Newspapers, 1808-1980* represents the single largest compilation of Spanish-language newspapers printed in the U.S. during the 19th and 20th centuries. The distinctive collection features hundreds of Hispanic American newspapers, including many long scattered and forgotten titles published in the 19th century. Including many newspapers published bilingually in Spanish and English, *Hispanic American Newspapers* offers a diversity of unabridged voices, ranging from intellectuals and literary notables to politicians, union organizers and grassroots figures. Based on the "Recovering the U.S. Hispanic Literary Heritage Project," a national research effort directed by Professor Nicolás Kanellos, this digital resource is the first in a new *American Ethnic Newspapers* series.

Please contact Judith Vera for a free trial, pricing and further information.

Judith Vera  
Thompson Henry (Representing Readex in Europe)

Email: [j.vera@thompsonhenry.co.uk](mailto:j.vera@thompsonhenry.co.uk)

Tel: +44 (0)1344 624 615

[www.thompsonhenry.co.uk](http://www.thompsonhenry.co.uk)

## SECTION SIX: In Memoriam

### 21. Obituaries 2010

#### **Solano, Wilebaldo**

Member of the Partido Obrero Unificación Marxista (POUM) during the Spanish civil war.

m. Maria Teresa Carbonell

b. Burgos, Spain 7 July 1916

d. Barcelona, Spain 7 September 2010

#### **Katz, Friedrich**

Austrian-born anthropologist and historian. Latin American and Mexican revolution expert.

m. Jana Katz

b. Vienna, Austria 13 June 1927

d. Philadelphia, U SA 16 October 2010

#### **Russell-Wood, Anthony John**

Welsh born Historian. One of his generation's most influential historians of colonial Brazil and the Portuguese world

m. Hannelore Russell-Wood 1973

b. Corbridge-On-Tyne, Wales 1940

d. Lutherville, USA 13 August 2010

#### **Gatti de Islas, Maria Esther**

A Uruguayan Human-rights activist who sought justice for the victims of South America's 'Dirty War'.

b. Montevideo, Uruguay, 13 January 1918

d. Montevideo, Uruguay, 24 December 2010

#### **Pérez, Carlos Andrés**

Former Venezuelan president imprisoned for the misuse of government funds and accused by Hugo Chávez of a plot to assassinate him.

m. Blanca Rodriguez

b. Rubio, Venezuela 27 October 1922 –

d. Miami, United States 25 December 2010

#### **Fogwill, Rodolfo Enrique**

Argentine Sociologist. Best noted for his short novel '*Los pichiciegos*', one of the earliest narratives on the Falklands war.

b. Buenos Aires, Argentina 15 July 1941

d. Buenos Aires, Argentina 21 August 2010

#### **Corvalan, Luis**

Chilean Politician. Headed the Communist Party of Chile whilst a political refugee in USSR.

m. Lily Castillo Riquelme

b. Pelluco, Chile 14 September 1916

d. Santiago, Chile 21 July 2010

#### **Lebron, Lolita**

Puerto Rican Political Activist. Attacked the United States House of Representatives in 1954 with three other armed assailants.

b. Lares, Puerto Rico 19 November 1919

d. San Juan, Puerto Rico 1 November 2010

**Coronel, Nacho**

Drug Baron. Known as the "King of Crystal" for his domination of crystal methamphetamine production and trafficking.

- b. Canelas, Mexico 1 February 1954
- d. Zapopan, Mexico 29 July 2010

**Moura, Paulo**

Brazilian musician. Became the first Brazilian instrumentalist to win the Latin Grammy.

- m. Halina Grynberg
- b. São José do Rio Preto, Brazil 15 July 1932
- d. Rio de Janeiro, Brazil 12 July 2010

**Cantu, Rodolfo Torre**

Mexican Politician. Assassinated PRI candidate for the governorship of Tamaulipas.

- m. Laura Graciela de la Garza Montoto
- b. Ciudad Victoria, Mexico 14 February 1964
- d. Ciudad Victoria, Mexico 28 June 2010

**Monsivias, Carlos**

Mexican Writer, Intellectual & Political activist.

- b. Mexico City, Mexico 4 May 1938
- d. Mexico City, Mexico 19 June 2010

**Perez-Gutierrez, Graciela**

Cuban-American singer. Known as *The First Lady of Latin Jazz*.

- b. Havana, Cuba 23 August 1915
- d. New York 7 April 2010

**Lopez Arellano, Oswaldo**

Twice President of Honduras. 3 October 1963–7 June 1971 & 4 December 1972–22 April 1975.

- m. Gloria Figueroa
- b. Danlí, Honduras 30 June 1921
- d. Tegucigalpa, Honduras 16 May 2010

**Martinez, Tomas Eloy**

Argentinian Journalist. Help launch a magazine, *Primera Plana* (Front Page) and wrote a series of articles on the Trelew massacre.

- b. San Miguel de Tucumán, Argentina 16 July 1934
- d. Buenos Aires, Argentina 31 January 2010

**Massera, Emilio**

Argentinian Naval Officer.

- b. Paraná, Argentina 19 October 1925
  - d. Buenos Aires, Argentina November 8 2010
- Was part the military junta in Argentina (1976-1983) and *de facto* during the National Reorganisation process.

**Kirchner, Nestor**

Argentinian Politician. President of Argentina 25 May 2003–10 December 2007

- m. 1975 Cristina Fernández
- b. Río Gallegos, Argentina 25 February 1950
- d. El Calafate, Argentina 27 October 2010

## **Robert McNeil**

Robert McNeil, former Chair of ACLAIR, died aged 64 on 7th November 2010 after a long illness. Donald Munro of ACLAIR attended the memorial service held at Oriel College Chapel in Oxford on Friday 19th November. Donald has compiled tributes to Robert McNeil from Paula Covington, Barbara Valk and Gayle Williams, among others, and these can be read below:

Robert McNeil: tributes sent by friends and colleagues

Paula Covington:

My memories of Robert are so many they could fill at least a short book. To pick and choose among them is a formidable task.

I met Robert because we were both members of SALALM, the Seminar on the Acquisition of Latin American Library Materials. SALALM is the principal international association of Latin Americanist librarians, and though we never suspected it would happen to either of us, we both would serve as president of this highly specialized, remarkably dedicated association. That was not at all in our minds in our early years, when we would engage in spirited discussions about book dealers and Latin American writers over strawberry milk shakes in New Mexico.

Many of my memories of Robert center around his amazing memory. He could quote English poetry - from 16th century Cowper to Housman's A Shropshire Lad - at amazing length, and then switch seamlessly to beat out the charms of Lydia the Tattooed Lady or the more suggestive of Noel Coward lyrics. His Spanish was inventive, and like all his languages, tinged with a hint of Oxbridge. (He liked to mention a "JAG-oo-ah" from "Muh-NAG-oo-ah" "Nick-uh-RAG-oo-ah.") His familiarity with other languages was stunning; when he claimed a "smattering," you sensed he wasn't far from a native speaker. He reveled in the challenge of unraveling the nuances of other languages, from medieval Spanish and French to modern German. He knew Trollope as well as any English literature scholar, and wasn't far behind on Pope. It's little wonder he was a terror on his pub's Trivial Pursuit team, or that the Manchester Guardian crossword offered only a momentary challenge to Robert. But all this erudition never got in the way of good conversation and fun times.

He was marvelously generous in introducing me and others - Barbara Valk comes instantly to mind - to the joys of Oxford and the English countryside. He would vet our bed and breakfast choices, point us toward the pubs with the best food, join us on weekend excursions as the most knowledgeable and helpful tour guide one could hope to have. He even took us out onto the rooftop of the Radcliffe Camera to view the Oxford spires, happily and nimbly leaping about as he pointed to particularly interesting structures. He also took great delight in pointing out to us once that we had asked driving directions from a stranger whom Robert recognized as Jack Straw, a leading Cabinet minister at the time.

He enjoyed traveling in our country as well. We took him to horse farms in Kentucky, a distillery in Tennessee, even to lectures about the Wars of American Independence at Colonial Williamsburg, where he cheerfully asserted his continuing allegiance to the British crown. He never seemed to tire of adding trips to the beginning and end of SALALM conferences. He saw more of the United States than many an American. He enjoyed a huge laugh once when I tried to convince him that our country too has a significant history, and stopped at the side of the highway to inspect an "Historic Marker." It turned out that this particular marker celebrated the beginning of erecting historic markers in the US and Robert wouldn't leave the spot until I had taken his photograph there.

Robert was equally keen on travel in Latin America. He hiked with some of us in Costa Rica - perhaps a bit reluctantly. Four of us managed to stuff ourselves into a car that took us to the mining regions of Brazil, and then on to some of the coast. En route, we stopped at an inn that turned out to be the enterprise of another graduate of Clare College who had suffered at the hands of the same tutor, so that we found ourselves being treated to a proper English tea in the middle of Minas Gerais - complete with mango.

As a colleague, he was equally generous and supportive. He was active not only in SALALM, but in the equivalent UK group, and even took me to some of their meetings as a guest. He spent innumerable hours on committees, helped host one of the conferences, did much of the organizing of speakers and panels for the conference when he was president. His published work was impressive too. He edited a seventeenth-century version of Francisco Núñez Pineda y Bascuñan's *Cautiverio feliz* that was discovered in the Bodleian. In 1990 Robert and Barbara Valk edited the 2d edition of *Latin American Studies: A Basic Guide to Sources*, long considered the basic resource for librarians, students, and researchers in the field. In 1992, they received the Jose Toribio Medina award for this outstanding contribution to research and scholarship in Latin American Studies. Robert served as President of SALALM in 1994-95 and edited the proceedings of the conference he planned: *Societies under Constraint: Economic and Social Pressures in Latin America* (1997).

Before his retirement and illness, he began work on a book *Latin American travellers with me*; I much hope to continue work on it with another SALALM colleague.

What will I miss about Robert most? His charm? His wit? His amazing depth of knowledge of music and literature? All the shared pleasures of traveling in places familiar to only one or sometimes to neither of us? There is no way to say that anyone part of Robert was more important than another. It is the total human being, the sense of a kindred spirit, that I will miss, and continue to miss for years to come.

Barbara Valk:

Robert was one of the most intelligent, witty, and widely knowledgeable people I've ever known. I would add that he was also my best friend (after Peter) for thirty years, despite the geographic distance. We travelled together every year somewhere after the SALALM conference, usually with you, often with Covington, and sometimes with Larry Lauerhass, and we always had a wonderful time.

I also flew to the UK several times to see Robert, embarking on road trips during which he introduced me (via personal knowledge and his always-ready 1900s original editions of his Baedeker guides) to the many treasures of England, the Scottish Borders, south Wales, and abroad to Bruges, and via Luxembourg to the beautifully preserved towns of Strasbourg, and Baden Baden in the Black Forest of Germany. He always said it was a shame that Germany took over most of the Alsace region because the food would have been so much better otherwise, although he loved the Alsatian wine on both sides. He did, however, appreciate the cleanliness and efficiency of the Germans. Other than those adventures, Peter and I met up with Robert in France for a tour of Paris, Versailles, and the Loire Valley and on another occasion in Spain.

Robert also visited us here on many occasions. Together we took trips to San Francisco, the Santa Ynez Valley and the Central Coast wine growing districts. (Robert certainly did appreciate good wine!) But we also visited a lot of historical sites so I could show him that we had some history here in the US, too. I won't go into all the trips or details, but on one occasion Robert, Ian, Andrew, Paula and I spent several days following a Latin American Studies Association meeting in Boston to visit Salem (of witchcraft fame) and Nathaniel Hawthorne's House of Seven Gables as well as the historic Mayflower. I also remember from that trip introducing the Brits to whole boiled Maine lobster, which you have to tear apart, rip up, extract the bad parts, and eat the good parts with your hands - not a very British thing to do! I think, however, in the end they enjoyed the reward of the fabulous taste, if not the experience.

Robert lived a very full and fulfilling life in the comparatively few years he had with us. I am tremendously saddened by his loss but happy to know that after his many years of struggle with an incurable, debilitating disease that he is now relieved of the burden' of his body and looking down upon all of us with hope and love.

Gayle Williams:

Robert was a friend from the first SALALM I attended in 1979 and it was always a pleasure to see him. Just to add to his bibliography, remember that as President for the 1995 meeting, Robert edited the conference papers,

Societies under constraint, economic and social pressures in Latin America: papers of the Fortieth Annual Meeting of the Seminar on the Acquisition of Latin American Library Materials, University of Georgia, Athens, Georgia, April 29-May 5, 1995. Robert A. McNeil, editor. Austin: Salalm, Secretariat, Benson Latin

American Collection, The General Libraries, The University of Texas at Austin, c1997. xi, 369 p.

The 1995 meeting was hosted by the University of Georgia Libraries and I had the happy duty of working with Robert as Chair of Local Arrangements. He was so easy going to work with. We managed all of our planning via e-mail and never had to resort to an international phone call though the UGA Libraries powers that be had given me permission to do so. He arrived a day ahead of the meeting with presents for Laura Shedehelm (my right hand person, especially for exhibits!) and me to express his appreciation of all our hard work.

Robert was one of the funniest, smartest individuals I've had the pleasure to know. I've missed him since his last SALALM appearance in 2005 and knew this day would come all too soon.

Gayle Williams

Latin American & Caribbean Information Services Librarian

Green Library 225

Florida International University

Miami

Nelly S. Gonzalez

It is with great sadness that I write this message. I was fortunate to know Robert and to call him my friend. Barbara's words describe him very well. A great gentleman, very knowledgeable y con mucha, mucha chispa!

We love you Robert!

Nelly S. Gonzalez, Professor Emerita and Honorary Member of SALALM

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

United States of America

Klaus D. Vervuert:

Indeed, Robert is missed since several years, and we will miss him for a very long time. I knew him since this SALALM in London which was my first one. He was a great friend and a great person. .

Walter Brem:

I cannot add anything more to the feelings for and experiences with Robert, as I agree with all of them. I don't need to remind the old-timers (sorry, new members!) that Robert had a great wit, as has been mentioned, and renaissance knowledge to go with it. But Robert needed someone to truly bring that rapier wit out in full bloom. None other than our own Peter Johnson was the perfect foil for Robert's oral talents, and visa versa, of course. In a SALALM universe far away and long ago, when the whole Acquisitions Committee met together, either Peter or Robert was the chair, and we met around a big, big square table in a big room. In this setting, the two had the longest, wittiest, plain hilarious, knowledgeable and irrelevant (to the business) repartee that I have ever experienced, ever! People had their heads on the tables, pounding the tables with their hands, and with tears in their eyes from laughing so hard. And it was all in fun. An absolutely joyous exchange between Robert and Peter, and a once-in-a-life-time experience for the rest of us. That is just one thing I wanted



to remind the membership about, besides all the fine things of Robert's character that we remember.

RIP, Robert.

Laurence Hallewell:

I probably knew Robert at least as long as anyone in SALALM, enjoyed a personal friendship with him, and was often indebted to him for his professional help and advice. Our relationship even survived what I would categorize as the ultimate test of fellowship: we collaborated successfully in writing for joint publication, and in one instance my contribution was most fulsomely acknowledged in Robert's generous preface. We last met just before his enforced retirement from the Bodleian, when he not only did his utmost to further my research there but stood me an excellent lunch that I somehow never had the opportunity to reciprocate. I miss him so much.

## **SECTION SEVEN: ACLAIR members and Newsletter contributors**

### **22. List of members of ACLAIR**

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