Personnel Changes

Promoted
- Marcia Adams, Director’s Office (acting)
- Angel Aguirre, STRI Library
- Ninete Axelson-Dean, Cataloging
- John Dick, Acquisitions
- Ronald Brashear, Dibner Library
- Regina Green, Cataloging
- Michael Hardy, SIL Annex
- Sharon Layne, Preservation Services
- Michael Hardy, SIL Annex
- Jody Mussoff, Cataloging
- Martha Rosen, NMNH Library
- Jane Sanchez, NMAH Library
- Joyce Swayne, Acquisitions
- Keri Thompson, Systems Office
- Kirsten Van Der Veen, Dibner Library
- Amy Watson, HMSG Library
- Maryann Wilson, NMAH Library
- Conrad Ziyad, New Media Office

Moved
- Barbara Insidioso from AA/PG to Preservation Services
- Susan Frampton from Preservation Services to Program Coordinator, Director’s Office
- Michael Hardy from NMAH to SIL Annex

Retired
- Gladys Tutt, Preservation Services
- Larry Baukin, MSC Library
- Nick Schliapin, Cataloging

Joined
- Jennifer Cohlman, CHM Library
- Karen Sosa, Preservation Services
- Kathleen Hill, Administrative Services

Departed
- Rachael Penniman, Preservation Services
- Dale Miller, Director’s Office


Page 2: Photos by Gwen Leighty.


editor: Robert Kearns
design: Elizabeth Periale
In 2004 I celebrated my 20th year with the Smithsonian Institution Libraries, a cause for reflection on the transformation that has taken place in the way that we do business and serve our multiple constituencies. In 1984 we had just begun to implement an automated cataloging system; now our records are on the Internet. Then we served mostly Smithsonian staff; now we reach millions of others with a diverse selection of digital books and collections, online exhibitions, webcasts of lectures, and other offerings. In a spring survey to determine if SIL was meeting its users’ expectations, Smithsonian staff gave the Libraries high marks for service. We must be doing something right.

Streamlining was also a cornerstone of 2004. SIL completed the two-year study of work efficiency in acquisitions, cataloging, preservation, and interlibrary loan and began actions that promise to move library materials to the shelves more quickly. The “checking-in” of journal issues for over 3,000 current subscriptions is now completely automated, so that any user can see whether a specific issue has been received. This is a great achievement and time-saver.

Educational programming expanded greatly with the help of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, which funded six lectures to accompany SIL’s exhibition about the transits of Venus. SIL also hosted/gave another twelve lectures, produced a teacher’s guide on the transits of Venus, led 117 tours, and hosted a School Librarians and Media Specialists Night.

The generosity of donor/collectors is crucial to our ability to provide Smithsonian scientists and curators with necessary items. One of these is Dr. Frederick M. Bayer, a zoologist emeritus with the National Museum of Natural History and a shy bibliophile (see page 7.) Dr. Bayer’s donation of more than 100 rare natural history volumes ensures that these beautifully illustrated folios and vital scientific works will be used for generations. Printed works on paper and digital offerings now co-exist side-by-side: one offers global access, the other assures endurance, and both feed our hearts and intellects.

Our family of donors and supporters enlarges year-by-year, for which we remain truly grateful. Your confidence in our programs and activities—and our staff—inspire us to persevere to provide trustworthy, credible information and resources to our many users.

We thank you.

Nancy E. Gwinn

On February 13-18, the Libraries escorted six members of the SIL Board and their spouses to the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute (STRI) for an overview of the Smithsonian’s tropical biology research and the support it receives from the STRI Library. Participants engaged in exciting experiences, including visits with STRI scientists in the Gamboa, Barro Colorado Island, Panama City and Bocas del Toro research stations. The opportunity to ascend to the top of the forest canopy in Panama City’s Parque Metropolitano in STRI’s research-oriented construction crane was a special treat. Board members were impressed with STRI and pledged additional support to the STRI Library as a result of the trip.

SI Libraries Board Journeys to STRI

From top: Hope Furth, Rosemary Ripley & Baxter Ripley enjoy the view; Diane Oksanen-Gooden & C. Michael Gooden
Largest Digital Edition Produced: Electronic Biologia Centrali-Americana

On June 7, SIL launched its largest digital edition, the Electronic Biologia Centrali-Americana (EBCA), the first step in a major collaborative project with the National Museum of Natural History (NMNH) and the Natural History Museum, (London).

*Biologia Centrali-Americana*, issued between 1879 and 1915, is a fundamental work for the study of neotropical flora and fauna and includes nearly everything known about the biological diversity of Mexico and Central America at the time of publication. Funding for the project, which involved scanning, designing, and mounting 58 volumes, came from the Smithsonian’s Atherton Seidell Endowment in 2002. The text was rekeyed into a newly developed record format so that its important contents could be linked to major bioinformatics databases in use by biologists and conservationists throughout the world.

The Electronic Biologia Centrali-Americana may be viewed at: [http://www.sil.si.edu/digitalcollections/bca/](http://www.sil.si.edu/digitalcollections/bca/)

Notable Acquisitions

Retired Natural History Museum zoologist Dr. Frederick M. Bayer donated to the Smithsonian Libraries an extraordinary collection of rare natural history books dating from the 1500s. The collection is housed in the Joseph F. Cullman 3rd Library of Natural History. Volumes include James D. Dana’s *Zoophytes* (Philadelphia, 1846-1849), one of the scientific reports of the U.S. Exploring Expedition, 1838-1842, led by Lieutenant Charles Wilkes. Wilkes’ personal copy was purchased by Dr. Bayer from Wilkes’ descendants. Other titles of note include: the magnificent natural-history atlases of Napoleon’s expedition into Egypt; and the *Natural Historie* of C. Plinius Secundus, translated into English by Philemon Holland, London (1634-1635.)

Serial Check-in Project

In 2004 the Libraries replaced its manual check-in procedures for journals with an automated system. Now, library staff can show directly in the Libraries online catalog that a journal issue has arrived, so any user, no matter where located, can see it immediately. Before this, every branch library kept a written record locally. By the end of the year the Libraries had created over 4,000 automated serial check-in records in SIRIS.

The Libraries in 2004

20 . . . . . . . . Branch Libraries
111 . . . . . . . Number of staff
19,824 . . . . Volumes added to collection
1,530,810 . . . . Total volumes held
190,214 . . . . Microfilm & -fiche items
6,692 . . . . . . . Journal subscriptions (3,438 gifts)
1,510 . . . . . . . E (electronic) Titles
4,482 . . . . . . . Monograph orders prepared
12,908 . . . . . . Gift volumes selected for collection
1,254 . . . . . . Volumes bound or boxed
707,052 . . . . Catalog records in SIRIS

Galaxy of Knowledge

42,366 . . . . . . Images of collections added to website
72,525 . . . . . . Total collection images

Information Service

73,214 . . . . . . Reference questions answered (up 62%)
31,616 . . . . . . Library materials consulted on-site
261,255 . . . . . . Circulation transactions (items checked in or out or renewed)
35,511 . . . . . . First-time borrows of items
7,124 . . . . . . . Non-Smithsonian Library researchers
3,621 . . . . . . . Interlibrary loans of books and articles
3,646 . . . . . . . Books and articles borrowed for SI
SIL’s Resident Scholar Program gives new and established scholars the opportunity to use the Libraries’ unique rare and special collections to further their research. This year’s scholars pursued a variety of interests.

Dibner Library Resident Scholars 2004

**Daniele Cozzoli**, Ph.D. candidate, Department of Philosophical and Epistemological Studies of the University of Rome “La Sapienza” - “Optics and Scientific Method in Britain from Hobbes to Newton.”

**Dr. Cibelle Celestino Silva**, postdoctoral fellow, Group of History and Theory of Science of the Gleb Wataghin Physics Institute of the State University of Campinas, Brazil - “Unraveling the Hidden Electrical Fluids: The Debate Between Nollet, Dutour, and Franklin.”

**Michael E. Chauvin**, director of the Hawaiian Skies program “Before Mauna Kea: Astronomy in Hawaii in the 19th-century.” He received an M.Phil. from the Department of the History and Philosophy of Science at Cambridge University in 1988.

http://www.sil.si.edu/Libraries/Dibner/dibnerscholars.htm

Baird Society Resident Scholars 2004

**Matthew T. Sneddon**, Ph.D. candidate in the Department of History at the University of Washington - “Exhibiting Real America: History and Heritage in Museums of Science, Technology, and Industry.”

**Shirley Teresa Wajda**, Assistant Professor of History and American Studies at Kent State University - “The Fennells Build Their Dream House: Furnishing Family in 1930s America.”

http://www.sil.si.edu/ResearchIntern/BairdScholars.htm

U.S. Exploring Expedition Featured

With approximately 300 people in attendance on January 21, SIL celebrated the launch of a website featuring digital versions of all 32 volumes resulting from the U.S. Exploring Expedition. The U.S.ExEx, as it is popularly known, sailed from 1838 to 1842 under the command of Lt. Charles Wilkes. The expedition ships carried back more than 4,000 zoological specimens, thousands of ethnographical artifacts, and quantities of gems, fossils, corals, and botanical specimens, most of which were transferred to the new Smithsonian Institution in the 1850s and form the core of the Institution’s natural history collections.

The main event of the evening, which was co-sponsored by the National Museum of Natural History, was an illustrated lecture by Nathaniel Philbrick, author of *Sea of Glory: America’s Voyage of Discovery; the United States Exploring Expedition 1838-1842* (Viking, 2003.) Philbrick captured the essence of the voyage and personality of its mercurial leader and argued that the expedition had more impact on the shaping of American science than the more celebrated Lewis and Clark Expedition.

The U.S.ExEx website contains nearly 15,000 page and plate images, which required over 32,000 image files and 14.7 gigabytes of storage. It is possible to start with the title page and read all the way to the end. SIL has also created several searchable databases from the text that include databases of the plates and other illustrations, a database of all the officers and men who served on the expedition, and a database of over 2100 cultural artifacts collected during the Expedition.

Libraries Introduces Program Webcast

Nathaniel Philbrick’s 2004 lecture was the Libraries’ first live webcast. Now there are many more interesting and informative lectures to enjoy from our growing archive of streaming videos:

- Michael Chauvin. *Between Captain Cook and Mauna Kea: The 1874 Transit of Venus Expedition to Hawaii.*

These lectures can be found at the following internet address: http://smithsonian.tv/programs/sil/
Chasing Venus: Observing the Transits of Venus 1631 - 2004

On March 23, 2004, SIL opened an exhibition celebrating the history of scientific interest in observing the transit of Venus. World-wide interest focused on June 8, 2004, when a transit of Venus was to occur, the first since 1882. Measuring the transits of Venus from different observation points was initially important to help astronomers measure the distance from the earth to the sun.

At 6:00 a.m. on June 8, 2004, SIL hosted a small group of 35 people on the roof of the National Museum of American History (NMAH) to view the phenomenon. The company included Smithsonian Institution Undersecretary for Science David Evans, Libraries Board members, NMAH staff and guests. Staff of the National Air & Space Museum brought telescopes for the viewing, which received excellent press coverage, with stories in the Washington Post and New York Times and a broadcast on CNN.

Dodos, Drafts & Designs: Industrial Drawings from the Smithsonian

The Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service organized a traveling exhibition developed by the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History, Behring Center, from the collections of the National Museum of American History and the Smithsonian Institution Libraries. It appeared in two venues in 2004 and was at The Octagon, Washington, D.C., from December 2004 through May 2005.
collections

Endowments

- Jean Axelrod Endowment (acquisitions)**
- Bailey Family Endowment (unrestricted)**
- Frederick M. Bayer Endowment for Natural History Acquisitions*
- Bruce Collette Fishes Acquisitions Fund*
- Cooper Hewitt, National Design Museum Acquisitions Fund (Margery & Edgar Masinter)
- Joseph F. Cullman 3rd Endowment for the Natural History Rare Book Library
- Joseph F. Cullman 3rd Endowment for the Preservation of Natural History Rare Books
- C. Michael Gooden & Diane Oksanen Gooden Endowment (unrestricted)**
- Nancy E. Gwinn & John Y. Cole Endowment (intern program)**
- Brian J. and Darlene Heidtke Preservation Endowment**
- Alice Kennington Rare Book Fund
- The Margery and Edgar Masinter Fund for the Acquisition and Preservation of Illustrated Books**

- Frank J. and Betty M. Quirk Libraries Endowment (technology)**
- S. Dillon Ripley Library Endowment (acquisitions)**
- Smithsonian Institution Libraries Endowment Fund for Serials Acquisition and Preservation**
- Smithsonian Institution Libraries General Support Endowment
- Smithsonian Institution Libraries Special Collections Endowment
- Lloyd and Charlotte Wineland Library Endowment for Native American and Western Exploration Literature

*New endowments for 2004
**Additions made in 2004

Donors (October 1, 2003 - September 30, 2004)

$50,000 or more
- Brian J. & Darlene Heidtke
- Emmett E. Stobbs & M.J. Hall

$25,000 - $49,999
- Frederick M. Bayer
- The Dibner Fund
- Peter Gruber Foundation
- Margery & Edgar M. Masinter
- National Aeronautics & Space Administration

$10,000 - $24,999
- Jay W. & Linda Freedman
- Hope L. & John L. Furth
- Frank J. & Betty Quirk

$5,000 - $9,999
- Apex CoVantage
- Cambridge Information Group
- C. Michael Gooden & Diane Oksanen-Gooden
- Nancy E. Gwinn & John Y. Cole
- George Gwynn & Christine Cox Hill
- Innodata-Isogen Inc
- James M. Kemper, Jr.
- Harold F. Lenfest
- MCG Capital
- ProQuest Information & Learning
- Shelby Shapiro
- F. Christian & Betty Thompson
- Frederick M. Young, Jr.

$2,500 - $4,999
- Juliane K. & Robert D. Bailey
- Jere & Bonnie Broh-Kahn
- Rosemary Livingston Ripley
- Janet L. Stanley

$1,000 - $2,499
- Porter G. Dawson
- E. DeRosa
- David & Frances Dibner
- Eric & Harriet Fraunfelter
- Elizabeth W. Gwinn
- John F. Jameson
- Alan R. Kabat
- William K. & Alice Konze
- Abraham Krasnoff
- Richard Levy & Lorraine Gallard
- James F. Mrazek
- Howard Phipps, Jr.
- James E. & Faye Preston
- Patrick M. Raher
- Joseph R. Salcetti
- Ruth O. Selig
- Albert H. Small
- Allan J. & Kim Stypeck
- Harold G. Walsh

$500 - $999
- Elizabeth Carlson Dahlen
- Richard M. & Peggy Danziger
- Marilyn Friedman
- Michelle Kahn
- Shana Kaplan
- Marian S. MacIntyre
- Brian H. Mason
- William A. Oliver
- Cynthia Van Allen Schaffner
- V. R. Thiessen
- Mary Augusta & George D. Thomas
- Richard & Suzanne Willett

$100 - $499
- D. Albrecht
- J. and C. Berghoffen
- Brenda Carlile
- Jeannine S. Clark
- C. Cortegiano
- Mary Lou Cowden
- H. Rebecca Cutting
- Scott DeFerin
- Florence Duhl
- Cary J. Friese
- Vicki A. Funk
- Heather H. Georges
- Susan Hermanos
- M. A. Hunting
- R. Hyman
- Barbara Laux
- Margaret B. LeFever
- Edith MacGuire
- Betty Jane Miller
- James A. Painter
- Elizabeth Pitts
- M. Piznar
- D. Powell
- Erle J. Rappaport
- Benjamin T. Richards
- Russell Shank
- Stanwyn G. Shetler
- Barbara J. Smith
- Frances Smyth
- Leslie O. Sykes
- J. G. Taylor

$100 - $499
New Content Appears on Galaxy Website in 2004

SIL’s public website, Galaxy of Knowledge, added rare books, exhibitions, and many images from its collections during 2004. Chief among them were 58 volumes of the *Biologia Centrali Americana*, which is already helping biologists in Central America and elsewhere.

**Digital Collections**
- Incunabula in the Dibner Library of the History of Science and Technology
  http://www.sil.si.edu/digitalcollections/incunabula
- United States Exploring Expedition
  http://www.sil.si.edu/digitalcollections/usexex

**Digital Editions**
- Walter Rothchild.
  *Avifauna of Laysan and the neighbouring islands with a complete history to date of the birds of the Hawaiian possession.*
  http://www.sil.si.edu/digitalcollections/nhrarebooks/rothschild
- Frederick D. Godman and Osbert Salvin (eds.).
  *Biologia Centrali-Americana.*
  http://www.sil.si.edu/DigitalCollections/bca
- Grace Rogers Cooper.
  *Sewing Machine: Its Invention and Development.*
  http://www.sil.si.edu/digitalcollections/hst/cooper

**Digital Publication**
- Paul K. McCutcheon and Herbert A. Trenchard.
  *Grinnell Hawaiian Missionary Stamps.*
  http://www.sil.si.edu/silpublications/grinnell

**Online Exhibitions**
  http://www.sil.si.edu/exhibitions/chasing-venus
- Doodles, Drafts & Designs: Industrial Drawings from the Smithsonian.
  http://www.sil.si.edu/exhibitions/doodles

**SIL On Display**
- Stephen H. Van Dyk.
  *Czech Book Covers of the 1920’s and 1930’s in the Cooper-Hewitt National Design Museum Library.*
  http://www.sil.si.edu/ondisplay/czechbooks
- Joy Kiser.
  *Illustrations of the Nests and Eggs of Birds of Ohio.*
  http://www.sil.si.edu/ondisplay/nestsandeggs
- Martin R. Kalfatovic.
  *Nile Notes of a Howadji: American Travelers in Egypt, 1837-1903.*
  http://www.sil.si.edu/ondisplay/nile-notes
- Ronald Brashear.
  *Ramelli’s Machines: Original drawings of 16th century machines.*
  http://www.sil.si.edu/ondisplay/ramelli
- Paul K. McCutcheon.
  *Parcel Post: Delivery of Dreams.*
  http://www.sil.si.edu/ondisplay/parcelpost
- Paul K. McCutcheon and William E. Baxter.
  *Taking to the Skies: The Wright Brothers & the Birth of Aviation.*
  http://www.sil.si.edu/ondisplay/flight