

UNITED STATES

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS, UNITED STATES

DR JAMES H. BILLINGTON — LIBRARIAN OF CONGRESS

ANNUAL REPORT TO CDNL 2003 – 2004

REPORT OF INTERNATIONAL AND SIGNIFICANT ACTIVITIES

NEW ACQUISITIONS

The Library acquired the Jay Kislak Collection of some 4,000 objects—maps, manuscripts, rare books and three-dimensional objects—relating to the early contact of Spain with Mexico, the Caribbean and Florida.

The Library obtained over 5,000 1:200,000 scale thematic cartographic items produced by the former Soviet Union. This acquisition is a continuation of the Library's efforts to acquire and preserve global mapping work of the Soviet Union.

The Library now maintains the entire Alan Lomax Collection after acquiring material formerly housed at Hunter College in New York. The Alan Lomax collection is an unparalleled ethnographic documentation of 20th century folk life.

DIGITAL INITIATIVES

New to the Global Gateway (<http://international.loc.gov/intldl/intldlhome.html>)

"The United States and Brazil: Expanding Frontiers, Comparing Cultures/ Brasil e Estados Unidos: Expandindo Fronteiras, Comparando Culturas."

"The Atlantic World: America and the Netherlands/ De Atlantische Wereld: Amerika en Nederland."

OTHER DIGITAL INITIATIVES OF NOTE

The Office of Strategic Initiatives is negotiating with a number of institutions to develop partnerships for the National Digital Information Infrastructure and Preservation Program.

The Library has joined the National Endowment for the Humanities in developing the American Newspaper Project, which will make the historical newspapers that have been microfilmed available in digital form.

BIBLIOGRAPHIC SERVICES

The Cataloging Management Team has endorsed two sets of recommendations to expand bibliographic access to digital content, a major goal in the Cataloging Directorate.

"Recommendations for Modes of Cataloging for Electronic Resources"

(<http://www.loc.gov/catdir/stratplan/goal4wg2report.pdf>).

"Recommended Workflows for Cataloging Electronic Resources"

(<http://www.loc.gov/catdir/stratplan/goal4wg4report.pdf>).

The pre-1900 Chinese manuscript and wood block map collection in the Geography and Map Division was described by Professor Xiacong Li, University of Beijing, and the publication of those records, in Chinese and English, will appear Spring 2004 in China.

PRESERVATION

The Library sent a team to Baghdad, Iraq to help staff at the National Library of Iraq assess damage sustained in the current Iraqi conflict. Library of Congress staff worked with Iraqi librarians to begin immediate preservation of 40,000 items that had been damaged. Staff from the National Library of Iraq will also come to the Library of Congress for additional preservation training.

INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITS AND SPECIAL INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS

"The Russian Book in America." The Russian Book Festival, "BibliObraz," sponsored by Russian First Lady Liudmila Putin. Moscow. September 30-October 2, 2003.

Original manuscript maps from the Geography and Map Division are on display from April-December 2004 at the Inoh Tadataka Map Exhibition in Kobe City Museum, Japan.

"International MAVIS Users Conference." November 2003.

A symposium on issues pertaining to folk life, as they have arisen at UNESCO, the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), and the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS). The symposium was co-hosted by The National Endowment for the Arts and the Library's American Folk life Center.

AWARDS, FELLOWSHIPS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

The first John W. Kluge Prize for lifetime achievement in the humanities or social sciences was awarded to the Polish philosopher and humanist, Leszek Kolakowski. Dr. Kolakowski has written on the history of philosophy, the philosophy of religion, on ethics and metaphysics, as well as having played a major ideological role in freeing Poland from communist rule. Dr. Kolakowski was selected for the million-dollar award after a yearlong process that involved about 2000 nominators and a rigorous screening process.

Five Yukos Junior Leadership Fellows and two Yukos Junior Research Fellows from Russia completed fellowships in the European Division in the period August 2003-January 2004. Yukos Oil funded the fellows through a grant to the Library.

Angela Blake of the University of Toronto is the recipient of the 2004 Library of Congress Coca-Cola Fellowship for the Study of Advertising and World Cultures.

STAFF CHANGES

Mark Roosa, Director of Preservation, has been named Dean of Libraries at Pepperdine University. He will assume his new role in August.

Dennis McGovern has been named chief of the Decimal Classification Division.

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