



**International Federation of Library Associations
and Institutions**

**Preservation and Conservation
Section**

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NEWSLETTER

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everyone to see. This process of evaluating risks with the ultimate goal of mitigation, is a powerful tool in the often delicate process of decision-making in preservation. The Gatineau Preservation Centre building seemed to have undergone such a risk evaluation, as every detail in that building seemed designed to avoid risk, be it humidity, fire or even earthquake. Nothing was left to chance. The Canadian Conservation Institute also is a state-of-the-art institution where the many questions posed by conservators are researched and documented as the foundation for further action in objects treatment.

The level of cooperation between libraries, archives and museums is high and in my opinion, to the benefit of all parties. A special thanks to meeting coordinator Johanna Wellheiser, and Jeanne Drewes and Lars Björk for organizing this event; Library and Archives Canada and the Canadian Conservation Institute for their generous sponsorship and hosting, and the onsite vendors for their support, especially Preservation Technologies for providing funds for the participation grant, which was awarded to Guillermo Gonzales from Cuba.

In Quebec City, the Preservation and Conservation Section had a joint session with the Information Technology, and Law Libraries Sections, and ICABS on the topic of Digital Preservation. It may now be practically impossible, or at the very least, difficult, to deal with digital information produced in earlier generations of hardware and software. Yet how old is a generation in this field? Two years, three years? Especially libraries with a mission to preserve information for an indefinite period of time, such as national libraries, it is a great challenge to preserve digital information. Media carriers are vulnerable within themselves as we learned from Rory McLeod from the British Library and his risk assessments carried out at the BL showed that up to 3% of the discs within the collection fail when trying to read them. Here, again, risk assessment proved to be a powerful tool to understand the specific risks. Preservation departments have to join in teamwork



Message from the Chair

Dear Colleagues, the IFLA conference in Quebec is now past and I reflect on my impressions from Canada. As many of you know, this year's conference started with a satellite meeting at the Library

and Archives Canada in Ottawa. The topics for the satellite were broad and the audience enjoyed a wide variety of papers including a day of presentations devoted to risk assessment, a strength of the Canadian cultural heritage sector. The audience actively participated in a risk evaluation based on questions presented to everyone in a slide presentation. The answers were documented and presented to the audience using wireless keypads and the voting results were instantly displayed for

with media specialists to find strategies and techniques to solve the challenge.

The section meetings gave a green light for next year's planning for the Milan programme, which will be jointly planned with the Rare Books and Manuscripts Section on the topic: "Dispersed Cultural Heritage Collections, Preservation, Reconstruction and Access". In addition, a satellite meeting is being planned for August 31 and September 1, which will take place at the ICPL-the Istituto centrale per il restauro e la conservazione del patrimonio archivistico e librario in Rome. The topic will be "Conservation and Preservation of Library Materials in a Cultural Heritage Oriented Context" and, as the name implies, will concentrate on the preservation of traditional materials.

Per Cullhed
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**IFLA World and
Information
Congress 2009**

75th IFLA General Conference and Council

**"Libraries create futures: Building on
Cultural heritage"**

August 23-27, 2009, Milan, Italy

<http://www.ifla.org/IV/ifla75/index.htm>

A Selection from the Satellite Meetings

***Conservation and preservation of library material
in a cultural-heritage context***

August 31 - Sept 1, 2009

**Istituto centrale per il restauro e la conservazione
del patrimonio archivistico e librario, Rome, Italy**

Contact person: Per Cullhed, per.cullhed@ub.uu.se
Sponsors: IFLA Preservation and Conservation
Section

Co-sponsor: IFLA Preservation and Conservation
Programme (PAC)

***The present becomes the past: harvesting,
archiving and presenting today's digitally
produced newspapers***

August 19-20, 2009

Royal Library, Stockholm Sweden

Contact person: Ed King, ed.king@bl.uk

Audience: newspaper publishers, libraries/librarians,
archivists, software providers

Sponsors: IFLA Newspapers Section

Co-sponsors: IFLA Preservation and Conservation
Programme (PAC)

Early printed books as material objects

August 19-21, 2009

Bayerische Staatsbibliothek, Munich, Germany

Contact person: Bettina Wagner,

bettina.wagner@bsb-muenchen.de

Sponsors: IFLA Rare Books and Manuscripts Section

Co-sponsors: Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft
Bonn, Consortium of European Research Libraries,
IFLA Preservation and Conservation Programme
(PAC)

IFLA Standing Committee on Preservation and Conservation

Report on Satellite Meeting

From August 6 to 8, Library and Archives Canada hosted the jointly organized Satellite Meeting "Preserving Cultural Heritage into the 21st Century: Current perspectives and new directions" sponsored by IFLA Preservation and Conservation Section, Newspapers Section and IFLA-PAC Core Activity with Library and Archives Canada and the Canadian Conservation Institute. <http://www.ifla.org/IV/ifla74/satellite-12-en.htm>

Ian Wilson, Librarian and Archivist of Canada, presented the opening remarks welcoming the participants to the meeting and stressing the importance of collaboration in research and sharing information. Per Cullhed, Chair IFLA Standing Committee, IFLA Preservation and Conservation Section welcomed the participants and encouraged everyone to become more involved in the section. Christiane Barylka, Director, IFLA Core Activity for Preservation and Conservation briefly reviewed the upcoming activities and welcomed all to IFLA. Johanna Wellheiser, Secretary, Standing Committee, IFLA Preservation and Conservation Section and Satellite Meeting Coordinator provided logistics for the day and thanked the vendors for their support.

**Pierre Gamache, Care of Collection Branch,
Library and Archives Canada** opened the session

on "Models for Preservation on a National Level" by describing how Library and Archives Canada has changed since its creation.

Library and Archives Canada (LAC) was created in June 2004 by the merger of the National Library of Canada and the National Archives of Canada. This merger was also accompanied by a change agenda focusing on integration and transformation of existing functions. The Care of Collection branch was created to preserve LAC's collection as part of this integration process.

As a result, the collection to be preserved is much larger and much more varied, encompassing a multitude of media, and including works of art and many technology-dependent formats, e.g., AV and film. This change in collection scope has created a need for policy development and management tools that can be used for the entire collection whether published or archival.

The rapid developments in digital technology have precipitated not only the creation of on-line documents, but also of tools available for preservation. The technological obsolescence intrinsic to many formats in the collection has accelerated the inclusion of digital technology as part of preservation strategies.

LAC's national role is currently centered on making more collection content available to Canadians, and the Care of Collection branch is involved in this process, notably through digitization. The diversity of LAC's collection has also created links with a larger community, libraries, archives, and museums, and it is LAC's current challenge to connect with these stakeholders at appropriate levels.

Phillipe Vallas, Conservation Département, Bibliothèque nationale de France described the French experience with a conservation charter. Preserving collections is one of the institution's primary missions, to which it has devoted considerable resources in the last 30 years via a range of structures (i.e., conservation department, collections department, technology and IT departments).

The Conservation Department and the Collections Branch jointly prepared a draft charter outlining strategic directions and objectives for BnF's conservation policy. The charter allows the development of scientific, technical, organizational and physical procedures for implementing policy, which may change over time depending on the state of research and existing legislation. The charter is a

basis for developing a hierarchical program of conservation activities that takes the condition, use and value of collections into account. It consists of six principles, stated in the form of strategic directions:

1. Conservation is one of the institution's long-term core missions;
2. Conservation is the shared responsibility of everyone;
3. Conservation requires preventive and comprehensive measures;
4. Conservation is preventive and restorative, and applies to both physical formats and their intellectual content;
5. Research and cooperation are the centrepins of conservation;
6. Evaluation is the key to a conservation policy's success.

The charter is based on a more comprehensive document which outlines the institution's history and provides a detailed account of its circumstances and conservation practices over the last decade. The institution has extensively discussed and amended the draft charter in advance of the enactment in 2008.

Staying on the European continent, **Dennis Schouten, National Library of the Netherlands**, spoke on The digital challenge: New perspectives for the Metamorfoze programme, the Dutch national preservation programme, which has been operational since 1997. Financed by the Ministry of Culture and Education and coordinated by the Koninklijke Bibliotheek (KB), the National Library of The Netherlands, in collaboration with the National Archives, the programme aims at safeguarding Dutch national paper heritage that is being threatened by autonomous decay through acidification and ink- and copper-corrosion. The programme deals with all types of documents: books, periodicals, newspapers, mixed collections and archives through subsidized preservation projects in Dutch heritage institutions. The core business of Metamorfoze is reformatting. But it also involves minor repairs, deacidification, conservation (mainly of archival material) and acid-free wrapping and boxing of the originals.

In 2007, Metamorfoze received additional funding to move forward on a much larger scale. Selection and setting priorities are at the heart of the programme. According to the policy plan set out in 1997, and with recent calculations, Metamorfoze should be finished by 2016. By then, all important Dutch paper heritage material, threatened by continuous decay will be preserved. <http://www.metamorfoze.nl/>

*The second session "Preservation research: models and developments" began with **Charlie Costain, Canadian Conservation Institute (CCI)**.

The Canadian Conservation Institute provides support to the heritage community to assist them in making Canada's heritage collections accessible for current and future generations. This is accomplished through research, services and knowledge dissemination. CCI's research and development activities are undertaken by conservation scientists and conservators; the results of this research contribute to treatment and advisory services, publications and training activities.

CCI does not have a collection, but has a broad community to serve, and provides formal and informal consultation processes to ensure that research is relevant. Examples of formal consultation process include brainstorming sessions at meetings of the Canadian Association for Conservation and meetings with the Preservation Committee of the Canadian Council of Archives. Less structured approaches include attending national conferences such as the Canadian Museums Association and the Canadian Council of Archives, and international conferences such as the meeting of ICOM Committee for Conservation. Conservators and conservation scientists have regular contacts with their colleagues in the heritage community through training, advisory or peer-related activities, which also generates research ideas.

CCI's research programme is reviewed on an annual basis. New proposals must include the objectives of the research project, a justification and rationale for the research, the proposed research team and partners, estimated duration and plans for the coming year. Researchers with projects that are continuing submit updates of the progress made in the previous year, along with the planned activities for the coming year. The information on all of the CCI research projects is published annually on the CCI website.

Staying on the North American continent **Eric Hansen, Library of Congress** spoke to the multi-faceted preservation research initiative of the Library of Congress.

The Library of Congress (LC), recognizing the critical importance of material science to ensure the actual preservation of all media in library collections, has recently increased the research capabilities of the Preservation Research and Testing Division of the Preservation Directorate, and refined and enhanced the scope of its research programs. A \$2.5 million

laboratory remodel and expansion was coupled with an increase in the number of permanent staff.

The research program serves librarians through development of quality assurance specifications for housing materials and conducting lines of research with national and international collaborators; serves the LC collections by conducting analyses to support the appropriate choice of treatments, housing and exhibit conditions; and, serves the preservation community at large through activities such as developing and maintaining an extensive historical materials reference collection (made available for scientific study), and hosting the recent "Summit of Research Scientists in Preservation" to discuss a national preservation strategy. Both on-going and new research programs have been developed in three broad categories based upon type of media: 1) traditional (e.g., books, paper, parchment); 2) analog audio-visual (e.g., magnetic tapes, film, grooved audio recordings); and 3) digital materials in a physical form (e.g., the many types of compact discs or CDs and digital versatile discs or DVDs). Active lines of research also include environmental studies (e.g., anoxic encasements for visual storage) and the transfer of important and emerging technologies to preservation.

A model based on fee for services and grant funds was presented by **Jana Kolar from the National and University Library of Slovenia**.

Jana set the stage by describing how the memory of civilisation is inherently linked to the written word which, recorded on durable materials, has withstood the test of time. For more than five centuries, paper has been the predominant carrier of information and numerous medieval manuscripts bear witness to its durability. Changes in the quality of paper production introduced in the 19th century, however, have dramatically reduced its lifetime. Due to the extreme dimensions of the problem, the European Commission has recently co-funded four collaborative research projects, which aim at the preservation of modern acid paper or paper, degraded by iron gall ink, or have focused on the development of analytical techniques, which enable characterisation of endangered paper-based heritage. Jana described the projects and preliminary results.

Paul Bégin, Canadian Conservation Institute presented findings on fifteen years of paper permanence research. The goal has been to gain a better understanding of the effects of aging on the physical and chemical properties of paper in order to develop standards or recommendations that would

benefit the archive and library community. These studies included an evaluation of the properties of contemporary and naturally aged papers, evaluations of various deacidification methods, the development of accelerated aging methods; the development of a Canadian Permanent Paper Standard for the Canadian General Standards Board (CGSB) and an Accelerated Aging Test Method for the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM).

John de Lucy, The British Library, showed a practical application of research efforts in low oxygen storage in conjunction with automation in retrieving collections in a new repository. This new repository will be fully automated, delivering and receiving totes from a conveyor belt which connects to the smaller ancillary staff area where books are selected, then loaded for dispatch or received for storage.

The repository will store irreplaceable documents, and the British Library requires that the repository comply as fully as possible with BS (British Standard) 5454 "Recommendation for the storage and exhibition of archival documents". This Code of Practice lays out the environmental conditions that must be achieved, and the measures that should be taken to limit risk to the collection. Fire is identified as a key risk, and Section 6 of the British Standard details the measures that should be taken to mitigate against it.

Applying Section 6 of the British Standard to this repository is not simple, in that the repository is significantly larger than the typical archive building for which the Code of Practice was written. In addition, with the exception of the ancillary staff area, it is a stand-alone building rather than being part of a larger building, as is more typical. The British Library requested that possible approaches to fire prevention, detection and suppression be identified, the links between them explained, and their costs set out. The Library also requested that the role of providing fire compartments be considered. Given the unusual nature of the repository, the approach adopted in the United States - as outlined in NFPA 909 "Fire Protection of Cultural Resources" - was reviewed, there is no equivalent European standard.

The risk of a serious fire occurring in the archive building - given its high level of protection against arson, and the fact that it is a modern building - remains low. As such, the fire protection strategy will guard against a low-risk event that has high-potential consequences. The British Library chose the fire prevention route of a low oxygen environment.

David Grattan of the Canadian Conservation Institute spoke on their research in Modern information carriers. Although it has been said that "Preservation no longer depends on the reliability of carriers, but on reliable systems that can ensure permanence through continual migration", when the budget is low, "continual migration" cannot be assumed. All digital or electronic information is held on one kind of carrier or another and the preservation is compromised if the carrier deteriorates.

Grattan discussed research on various carriers and the logic model developed to determine where intervention is required in collections of digital information held on media and what steps can be taken to ensure the best conditions for preservation of the media.

Léon-Bavi Vilmont, Le Centre de recherche sur la conservation des collections presented a research project studying magnetic tapes at the Le Centre de recherche sur la conservation des collections, the joint research laboratory of the French Ministry of Culture, the National Science Research Council and the National Museum of Natural History supporting a variety of cultural preservation research activities including that for audiovisual materials and new media.

In order to understand the degradation mechanisms of videotape and their subsequent impact on playback, different potential degradation markers were reviewed and evaluated by implementing analytical studies on a selection of ¾ inch U-Matic tapes. A video recording system was set up and allowed to visualize the head clogging. A device for friction measurement was devised and constructed for friction testing. Different degradation patterns by size exclusion chromatography analysis were observed and were found to be related to tape serial number/year of production/tape composition. SPME/GC/MS showed that odours emitted by tapes may be caused by specific volatile compounds generated by degradation and given off by both the upper magnetic coating and the back coating. It was also shown that tape binders made of adipate ester polyurethane have a low hydrolytic stability unlike other ester polyurethanes. All the information obtained from the research results have been collected in a "Tape Knowledge Database" that will be useful for tape condition assessment in the future.

The second day of the session was devoted to "Risk management: Models and tools."

Jeanne Inch, Director General and Chief Operating Officer, Canadian Conservation

Institute, introduced the issue of risk management and how best to use this process to reduce and mitigate damage to collections by providing an overview of the day-long session that focused on the principles of risk management, the evaluation and mitigation of risk, and a review of current interpretations and applications.

Risk is uncertainty of outcome - whether positive opportunity or negative threat- of actions and events. It is a combination of likelihood and impact, including perceived importance. Risk management was developed initially for applications in the fields of health and environment.

A risk management (RM) approach has now been adopted as a core management function by organizations of all types: businesses, governments, non-profit public institutions. Also referred to as risk-based decision making, it provides a conceptual framework to deal with uncertainty, capitalize on opportunities and make strategic decisions that contribute to the achievement of an organization's overall objectives. The RM approach can also help heritage institutions, like libraries, address difficult questions of use and preservation.

Making decisions about use and preservation of heritage collections requires balancing many different risks, from too much humidity to too little security. It requires balancing both immediate risks such as disasters and emergencies, and long-term risks such as imperceptible deterioration of documents and other artifacts. Risk means everything that reduces the value of a collection over time, not just disasters and continual slow damage, but also the loss of access and meaning.

The Canadian Conservation Institute, with its partners, has been moving beyond a preventive conservation approach to a risk management approach, an approach which predicts and quantifies the risks that the future holds. It uses imagination and intuition, combined with scientific and technical knowledge. In this evolving field, there are many different approaches, models and tools for assessing and managing risks to collections.

Barclay Ogden, University of California Berkeley Library explained how library preservation is about ensuring access now and in the future to information held in library collections, from print to film to digital. The primary strategy is to engage in activities to minimize the likelihood of damage and loss from a wide variety of hazards - from routine wear to disasters - that is, to reduce the risk of bad things happening.

However, studies show that human beings are not well equipped to accurately identify and assess risks; people tend to ignore some risks and underestimate or overestimate others. A set of tools to assist with risk identification and assessment could improve dramatically the ability to identify and accurately assess risks, and to deploy preservation resources to reduce them.

Stefan Michalski, Canadian Conservation Institute and Rob Waller, Canadian Museum of Nature introduced an interactive session where participants provided information using a handheld voting responder. This allowed the entire participant group to see how the full room was voting. Risk scenarios were presented and then the group was asked to provide their individual judgments on the frequency or rate of the risk, and on its impact on the collection. The judgements of impact were separated into two steps: first, the objective description of the likely damage; and second, the subjective judgement of the consequent loss of value to the collection.

The Canadian Museum of Nature has been using the Cultural Property Risk Analysis Model (CPRAM) for guiding collection preservation management and research for nearly twenty years. Risk assessment provides thorough documentation of the nature of risks to collections and quantification of the expected impact of these risks expressed as a magnitude of risk. Risk data can be explored from different perspectives to inform different decision makers. For senior management, risk data can be summarized in broad groupings by type of risk (e.g., progressive versus sporadic versus rare/catastrophic), insurability, use or non-use related.

Barclay Ogden, University of California Berkeley Library concluded the day speaking on the politics of addressing risk. Who makes the decisions and how are they arrived at? What role could a systematic approach to identifying and assessing risks play in addressing them? What are the obstacles to using systematic risk assessment to allocate resources?

Library preservation programmes are beginning to develop systematic approaches to identify, assess, and address risks. Survey forms guide assessment of library buildings; disaster scenario planning with "first responders" (fire and police personnel) clarifies response roles and helps to set priorities for salvage of collections. Work is in progress on the development of library "needs assessment" tools and models with which to compare and set priorities for addressing risks.

Session 4: "Preservation and access: Opportunities and challenges" opened with **Irmhild Schaefer, Bayerische Staatsbibliothek, Munchen**. Irmhild spoke on the standardization project "Conservation of cultural property" of the European Committee for Standardization (CEN, Technical Committee or TC 346) which represents the first initiative to cover all areas of conservation and preservation. The standard is relevant for all types of immobile as well as mobile artifacts and will be generated by specialists all over Europe from cultural institutions, universities, representatives from global firms, e.g., transport and insurance companies. This norm is intended to become an ISO standard.

The new standard is expected to unify and improve the quality of conservation/preservation throughout Europe. Five Working Groups with about sixty experts address the following issues: 1. Terminology and Guidance (Glossaries, Condition report); 2. Materials constituting cultural property; 3. Evaluation of methods and products for conservation works; 4. Environment; and 5. Transportation and packaging methods. The CEN/TC 346 is closely interacting with other international professional organizations such as the ICOM-CC, International Council of Museums Conservation Committee.

Brian Bell, Canadiana.org explained the origin of this group which is an alliance of Canadian partners with a vision to present cultural and scientific heritage online to Canadian citizens and to the world. Canadiana.org is pan-Canadian in outlook and governance, representing the interests of many key constituencies that include content creators, content holders (memory, education, science, government agencies and the private sector), and content end-users of cultural heritage and scientific resources. Canadiana.org's long-range goal is to carry out a comprehensive plan to provide enduring access to that heritage.

Jan Merrill-Oldham, Harvard University and Harvard College Library spoke "On the complicated business of copying to preserve and distribute cultural heritage resources: Can we have it all?"

This presentation carried the audience through the history of filming, standards to support the quality required for production and storage of film and then proceeded to develop the issues still nascent in the digital reformatting era. Based on the past practice of filming much can be learned to address the digital issues of today.

The closing keynote presentation "Two cheers for entropy: Winding the clock" by **Colin Webb, National Library of Australia** offered an idiosyncratic view of

preservation in libraries – why we "do" it, and a few of the major challenges and opportunities facing library preservation professionals and managers in the present and the foreseeable future.

The principles of a model of entropy provide a relevant thread. The tendency of things to fall apart is an obvious driver for the wide array of activities we call 'preservation' and 'conservation', although it is not the only driver.

The presentation considered the contributions of science, craft, philosophy, management, imagination, commitment, personality, blind faith, tradition, innovation, and international tourism. Interactions between the challenges of preserving paper, print, and parchment on the one hand, and those of preserving ephemerally encoded information in digital and other electronic formats on the other, have been surprisingly instructive. However, it has remained surprisingly difficult to bring them into a coherent body of common principles and understandings. Are they destined to move closer to each other, or to drift further apart?

Competition for resources in a resource-hungry world; the imperatives of responding to global warming; and disappearing training programs are just some of the significant challenges that are already having an impact on preservation expectations and ambitions. The entropy of digital information and the kind of effort required to maintain order and access ("winding the entropy clock") are challenges still racing towards us down the tunnel of time, headlight shining brightly – although perhaps somewhat slower than had been expected.

Two tours were provided during the meeting. The first was of Library and Archive Canada's Preservation Centre. Opening in 1997, the Centre is dedicated to preserving Canada's heritage. The facility provides optimum storage environments for documents and advanced laboratory installations for preservation treatment, copying and related activities. http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/preservation/1302_e.html

The second was of the Canadian Conservation Institute, an agency within the federal Department of Canadian Heritage. The institute was created in 1972 to promote the proper care and preservation of Canada's moveable cultural heritage and to advance the practice, science, and technology of conservation.

<http://www.cci-icc.gc.ca/>

Overall, this two and a half day meeting provided participants with new perspectives and tools with which to effectively plan and manage preservation and access to their collections, both traditional and contemporary, as well as a broader understanding of the conservation research challenges and work going on now in laboratories around the world.

Following the Friday morning session a post satellite tour of the Library of Parliament was given. The Library of Parliament is a beautiful example of the Victorian Gothic style whose collection and services support the activities and decisions of Canada's democratic Parliament.
<http://www.parliamenthill.gc.ca/text/cmplbr/lbrprle.html>

Special thanks to the vendors who supported the meeting:

Archival Products
custserv@archival.com
<http://archival.com/>

Metal Edge Inc.
<http://www.metaedgeinc.com/>

Preservation Technologies, L.P.
info@ptlp.com
Canadian Facility & Bookkeeper process:
Jason Graham, Director of Operations
Preservation Technologies Canada
graham@preservationtechnologies.ca

Ristech a Canadian Distributor of Automated Digitization Technologies.
<http://www.ristech.ca/>

University Products, Inc.
Email: custserv@universityproducts.com

Preservation Technologies hosted an opening reception at their deacidification facility for all participants. In addition, a grant to attend the P&C Satellite meeting was awarded to Guillermo Gonzales, IDICT, Cuba. The recipient gratefully thanks Preservation Technologies for making his attendance possible. This report is the final piece to the award and will be circulated in Spanish.



News from IFLA- PAC Core Activity

by Christiane BARYLA,
Director

I am very happy to update you on the PAC Core Activity. First of all I would like to remind you that PAC is working closely with the Section, even though we have our separate communication tools. At the beginning of 2008, PAC decided to create a new mailing listserv. We now have nearly 300 subscribers. If you are not already a part of this listserv, we invite you to join. The major goal is to disseminate timely information on the many events about preservation (congresses, events, new techniques, new publications). The key words are obviously "Preservation", in all its dimensions (from paper to digital, from books to audiovisual) and "Convergence" (Libraries, Archives, Museums) from all around the world. Please register to be part of our network and send us news from your country or institution.

Please subscribe through: pac-list@infoserv.inist.fr

Our second communication tool is IPN (International Preservation News). You will find it online (see: <http://www.ifla.org/VI/4/ipn.html>) and you may also ask to receive a paper version (please send an email to flore.izart@bnf.fr and provide your postal address. Please remember that a subscription is free of charge.

The next two IPN issues (December 2008 and April 2009) will be dedicated to "image and sound" preservation. The following issue (summer 2009) will be related to "Paper."

Our third link with the "Preservation Community" is the IFLA website (<http://www.ifla.org/VI/4/pac.htm>).

We are pleased that the IFLA website will be upgraded next January. It means that we will be able to give you more information, in a more routine way with more images. It means also more pictures. We shall try something new with our next issue of IPN on line.

Training in French Speaking Africa

In April 2006, I had the pleasure to join the PAC at a very well organized event in Namibia, hosted by the

National Archives in Windhoek: a workshop called Preserving our Pictorial Heritage: Photographs in African Collections.” It was managed by Ellen Namilha, Director of the National Archives and the training was under the direction of Johann Maree, retiring member of the Section and Director of PAC South Africa. This seminar was a success and well attended by English speaking librarians coming from throughout the region.

Since 2007, I have received many requests for a workshop in French, in Francophone Africa, on the topic of Preventive Preservation. It is the reason why a seminar will be held in Porto Novo (Benin) from the January 2009 to 5-10th, 2009. The title is:

*Conservation préventive dans les bibliothèques et archives d'Afrique de l'Ouest francophone
Séminaire international /Porto-Novo, Bénin*

The workshop will bring together 16 attendees from West African National Libraries and Archives (Togo, Benin, Senegal, Mali, Niger, Ivory Coast, Burkina Faso). It is co-organized by PAC International and PAC Porto Novo) with the added sponsorship of ALP and UNESCO. I would like to thank ALP for this assistance, without which it would have been impossible to hold the conference.

We hope that the documentation and bibliography that will be produced during and for this event, will be compiled, translated and possibly used in further seminars of this type (focusing on tropical climates and developing countries).

PAC is trying to prepare a publication (IPI and flash disk) in several languages. We need translators (English, Spanish, and Arabic and Chinese). Please contact us if you can suggest translators.

New PAC Center in Kazakhstan

An agreement has just been signed with the National Library of the Republic of Kazakhstan, creating a new PAC Center for Central Asia. Zarema Shaimardanova is the Director of the new PAC Centre in Almaty. The centre is working with four Republics in Central Asia: Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, and Tajikistan. You will find more information about PAC Regional Centers on the new IFLA website (2009).

Conferences

PAC is launching a cycle of four conferences, scheduled in 2009 and 2010 following the four themes of Air, Water, Earth and Fire.

The idea is to address the different issues in Preservation (not only climate change and risks, but also sustainable architecture, research in conservation, financial challenges, standards) with each of these large themes.

The first Conference: “**Air**” will be held in Paris on March 5th and 6th, 2009. It will be a co-organized between Bibiothèque nationale de France and PAC. There will be simultaneous interpretation (English and French). Program, registration and details will be soon on our website.

<http://www.ifla.org/Vl/4/pac.htm>

The second conference “**Water**” will be held in Prague later in 2009.



Information Updates

E_conservation

E_conservation magazine is a free online publication dedicated to professionals involved in the conservation and preservation of cultural heritage. For those interested, the 6th issue September 2008 of e_conservation magazine is now online and available to download from

<http://www.e-conservationonline.com/>

e_conservation magazine:

general@e-conservationonline.com

<http://www.e-conservationonline.com/>

CAMEO (Conservation and Art Materials Encyclopedia Online)

<http://www.mfa.org/cameo>

by Kimberly Peach

Developed by the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, CAMEO is a free, interactive online database of more than 10,000 materials used in conservation treatment, currently and historically. CAMEO's Materials Database is notable for its complex search capabilities, comparison documents, and detailed scientific statistics and images. Most database entries include lists of synonyms and related terms (including multilingual terminology), authoritative sources, manufacturer information, and health and safety precautions with links to Material Safety Data

Sheets. Accompanying images range from photographs of sample artifacts to micrographs. Digital image enhancing tools are provided. Also featured are infrared spectra, chromatograms, and other analytical graphs and charts. All information is professionally reviewed and kept current via an online form, with which users can submit corrections to existing entries, or suggestions for new entries.

Along with the extensive Materials Database, CAMEO maintains a directory of conservation organizations which are searchable by title, acronym, language, location, and services offered. CAMEO also maintains a Forbes Pigment Database which provides a searchable platform to access information on Forbes Pigment Collections around the world and the institutions in which they are housed.

CAMEO's flexible and friendly interface is intended for use by conservation professionals, as well as students and researchers in associated professions.



In case you missed it

Forum on Preservation: “Keeping Pests Out or Down – Integrated Pest Management in Libraries”

On September 11, 2008, the National Diet Library (NDL) held the 19th forum on preservation on the theme of pest control in libraries. Eighty-six people participated from Japanese libraries, archives, organizations related to material preservation, and the NDL.

From ancient times, libraries in Japan have suffered damage from pests and mold because of the mild climate and materials made of washi (Japanese paper) on which pests like to feed. Therefore, in Japan, a mixed gas of methyl bromide and ethylene oxide has been widely used for killing insects and disinfecting since about the 1960s. However, in the 1990s, an international regulation was established for the use of methyl bromide, which is an ozone-depleting substance, and concerns about the safety of ethylene oxide to humans were raised. This encouraged museums and other institutions to introduce programs on the principle of IPM (Integrated Pest Management), that is controlling damage by pests and mold by combining various countermeasures and using as little chemicals as possible.

The 19th forum on preservation was organized with the purpose of introducing this principle and case studies of IPM to the Japanese libraries.

Dr. Rika KIGAWA, a leading IPM expert, from the National Research Institute for Cultural Properties, Tokyo, introduced the basic concept of IPM and real examples in Japan and abroad. Ms. Rieko UNO of the Preservation Division, Acquisitions and Bibliography Department, NDL gave a presentation on a trap monitoring survey conducted in the NDL.

As part of the IPM program, the NDL has compiled a manual for pests and mold damage, gathering information about pests and mold damage. In addition to gathering data, NDL has introduced a method for killing insects by low oxygen atmosphere treatment. As a part of these efforts, staff members conducted a trapping survey in an area of the stacks for a one-year study starting in October 2006. At the forum, Ms. UNO reported on the survey and its result. The survey will continue for another year. In addition, an IPM implementation structure across all departments is planned including mold control.

Documents distributed at the forum are available at http://www.ndl.go.jp/jp/aboutus/data_preserve19.html

Report on ICOM-CC Meeting

By Dianne van der Reyden

On Sept. 20-26, 2008, the 15th Triennial Conference of ICOM-CC (International Council of Museums – Conservation Committee) was held in New Delhi, India. ICOM-CC is composed of over two dozen working groups, many examining issues common to libraries. The conference publishes papers in two volumes, as well as on a CD. (Papers pertaining to graphic documents are also published in a special issue of *Restaurator*). The next conference will be held in Lisbon, starting Sept. 25, 2011. To find a listing of this year's presentations, see <http://www.icom-cc2008.org/en/programme.html>

This year there were eight working groups with papers of possible interest to IFLA P&C members (the working groups for documentation, education, paper documents, leather, photographs, preventive care, research, and legal issues), as well as special sessions on thangkass, and public engagement. There was also a concurrent special meeting of ICCROM on issues and challenges in documenting and preserving sound and image record (not in the preprints). Highlights from ICOM-CC follow, in alphabetical order of working groups:

Documentation: Reducing forgery practices to ensure authenticity; Color management systems for digital optical microscopy; and Mobile wireless multimedia for visitors and conservation in museums.

Education And Training: Education of conservation scientists (The EPISCON project – European PhD in science for conservation); Revisiting the development of interlinked conservation and curatorial Masters programs; Development of the OnLine Preventive Conservation MA at Northumbria University and the integration of haptic sensory technology; Art Conservation as an element in Nation Building; Bangladesi (un exemple réussi de partenariat international); and Conservation education and training in Europe, Bangladesh, India, and Africa.

Graphic Documents: NIR/Chemometrics to characterize historical paper and surveying of paper-based collections; Non-invasive analysis of Van Gogh's drawing inks; Developing a risk assessment tool for iron gall ink on paper; Paper-treat project; Birch-bark collections in Oxford; An Illuminated Book of Hours; Hindu Portraits on Mica paper; Papier-mâché models; Infrared imaging of oriental manuscripts with standard digital camera; Use of turmeric (Indian traditional material) in preservation of old manuscripts; and Analysis of materials used in Iranian paper dyeing process (special reference to henna).



The author at the ICCROM conference venue

Leather: The restoration of a gilt leather portière of the 16th century (study of a magnet-based support structure) and Evaluation of a new type of leather for use in restoration.

Legal Issues: The Treasure Trove Act in Nova Scotia; Conservation challenges in Antarctica; The

legal consequences of inadequate conservation contracts; L'engagement d'E.C.C.O. pour une reconnaissance politique, institutionnelle et juridique de la conservation-restauration en Europe; A semi-automatic system for the noncontact 'fingerprinting' of objects; and Cultural heritage crimes.

Photographic Materials: Changing perspectives on color photography; Physical effects of cold storage on cellulose nitrate negatives; Treatment of an Anglo-Afghan War Photo Album; Negatives transferred from glass to other support; Exhibition of photographs on a shoestring budget; Physical effects of cold storage on cellulose nitrate negatives; and Surfactant use in the salvage of housed water-damaged black and white silver gelatin photographs.

Preventive Conservation: Retro-fitting old display cases; Setting up requirements for environment in the storage; Vibration impact (methods and results of some recent studies); A practical collaborative approach for long-term displays; Effect of oxygen on color fading; Comparison of light-induced damage under common museum illuminants; Utility of environmental standards for loans; Development and testing of standard packaging solutions for collections: Modeling collection value to future generations (understanding the difference between short-term and long-term preservation actions); and Cultural property risk assessment (matching approach with purpose).

Scientific Research: The potential for applying evaporation kinetics to the study of art; Effect of traditional pigments on artificially aged oil paint systems; Antibody assay to characterize binding media in paint; MOLAB (a mobile facility for non-invasive in-situ investigations); and Scientific evaluation of surface cleaning acrylic emulsion paintings.

Art Technological Source Research: Textual evidence for the use of pigments in Anglo-Saxon England and the journals of naturalists who visited Brazil in the 19th century (sources of information for paint materials and international trade).

Forum on the Conservation of Thangkas: Preserving a living religious heritage; Presenting, handling and treating sacred thangkas with respect to their cultural context; Thangka conservation at the National Museum (New Delhi); Documenting Thangkas (A conservation strategy); Case studies in the treatment of three thangka paintings; and Tibetan painting materials.

Taskforce on Public Engagement in Conservation:
Conservation – the confluence of social and cultural capital; Caring for collections during conflict; Building and audience for conservation in Hong Kong; What's the story - Defining and refining the conservation message; and finally, Why do conservators find it so hard to convince others of the significance of conservation?



News Notes from around the World

NEDCC Executive Director Ann Russell to Retire

Andover MA – Dr. Ann Russell retired from her position as President and Executive Director of the Northeast Document Conservation Center (NEDCC) on November 1, 2008.

Following her appointment as Executive Director in 1978, Dr. Russell led the growth of NEDCC for three decades. Under her leadership, the Center established a national and international reputation for the quality of its work and the impact of its educational programs.

Highlights of Ann Russell's career at NEDCC include:

- Funded and launched internship programs that seeded at least 50 conservators into the profession at labs across the country and advanced the careers of more than 75 international conservators
- Initiated and organized conservator exchange programs in Eastern and Central Europe, Mongolia, the Caribbean, Latin America, and South Africa
- Obtained a Treasury Department License for travel to Cuba for US conservators to participate in the preservation of the Hemingway Papers at the Hemingway House in Havana, and provided training for the conservators at Cuban libraries, archives, and museums
- Co-authored two books and numerous articles on preservation issues. On behalf of United States funders reported on the conservation of the Sistine Chapel vault in 1986, and investigated the preservation needs of the St. Petersburg museums

- Launched and raised funds for free, online preservation courses, and for dPlan, an innovative online disaster planning tool.

The Northeast Document Conservation Center is a non-profit, regional conservation center that specializes in preserving paper-based materials. Its mission is to provide conservation and imaging services, including digitization, to institutions that lack in-house expertise; to enable libraries, museums, and archives to improve their preservation programs; and to provide leadership to the conservation and preservation fields. Visit the Center's Web site at <http://www.nedcc.org/>.



Training paradigms around the globe

This is a new continuing series in the P&C Section Newsletter. (If you would like to share information about training in your country for a future issue please contact the editors.)

British Conservation Training

By Jocelyn Cuming

Conservation training at Camberwell Conservation University of the Arts London puts a strong emphasis on students gaining practical experience away from the confines of studio practice at the University. Being based in London gives students access to a wide range of cultural heritage institutions that the university has carefully built links with over the years. Throughout the duration of their undergraduate and post-graduate degrees this voluntary work is built into the program. Such placements in London in the last year, for example, have included rehousing of special collections at the University College of London; taking part in Oddy testing at the Horniman Museum; rehousing photographs from deteriorating plastic at the Kubrick Archives held at the London College of Communication; cleaning oversize books at the Victoria and Albert Museum; taking part in a book survey at the London Zoological Society Library. This experience is carefully moderated to maximize the experience for the student. By having set learning outcomes for each of the voluntary projects it is easier to evaluate the different learning experiences, and by matching students to projects it is possible to be of more service to the institutions and thereby to the local community.



Ana Soares, BA Conservation student, working on an Australian Aboriginal Bark Painting, inspired by her visit to Australia

As well as this volunteer program, there are also formal placements that undergraduate students do in their third year as part of a University-wide programme. Over the years students have worked in many of the major cultural heritage institutions in London and across the world, as well as in private studios. Students have worked on aboriginal material in Australian institutions; archives in the Vatican; books in monasteries in Greece; textiles and archives in China. One student, Emma Bradshaw, presently working in Mongolia, recently wrote of her excitement cleaning and preparing for exhibition a Buddhist ritualistic costume made of silk, ivory, coral, papier mache, and gold. When students return to complete their degree they share their experiences with all conservation courses and many students elect to do a final dissertation based on this placement experience.



Emily Bradshaw working on Buddhist ritualistic costume. Zanabazar Fine Arts Museum, in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia.

Japanese Remote Training Program

The National Diet Library (NDL) has developed a system and prepared training materials to launch a remote training program to offer a wider variety of training via the Internet, as well as face-to-face training for librarians. The program was launched in 2006 and 2008, marks the program's third year.

Applicants subscribe online from the remote training portal site and receive IDs and passwords to take the course. The programs are available any time and anywhere in an Internet-capable environment. The training materials utilize charts, figures, sound and animation all of which is useable with a standard browser. While taking a course, trainees can ask questions by e-mail and check their progress and their level of understanding with tests. The first subject of the remote training programs was "Basic Ideas of Preservation and Conservation". The staff of the Preservation Division was involved in the planning of the program from the very beginning. The program lasts three months. The total number of participants engaged in the course was 636. In 2007, the largest number of participants was from academic libraries. While the language is Japanese, the participants included librarians from abroad. This e-learning is expected to complement the Preservation and Conservation Training Program face-to-face training held yearly in the NDL.



Preservation and Conservation Section

P&C News

P&C Member Contributions

Translations

Did you notice? The January and July 2008 issues were also available in Spanish from our website. (<http://www.ifla.org/VII/s19/index.htm>)

The Spanish translation is overseen by Lorea Elduayen Pereda at the Biblioteca Nacional, Spain. She receives the English version of the P&C Section newsletter via e-mail in a Word document. A member of the staff of the Preservation and Conservation Department translates the whole newsletter. Afterwards, the head of the Department edits the translated newsletter. A last revision is done by the translator and the editor together and the Spanish translation is sent back to the newsletter editor by e-mail

Would you be willing to provide a translation of our Newsletter? In the past, newsletters have been available in Russian and French. To volunteer your expertise, contact the newsletter editors.

Welcome



Philippe Vallas Committee Member (France)

Philippe Vallas studied history at the Paris University, after which he earned a archiviste-paleographe diploma at the Ecole nationale des Chartes and became a library curator in 1986.

The same year he began his career in the Bibliothèque nationale conservation Center in Sablé-sur-Sarthe, in western France, working in conservation training and staff management. During that time he was involved in many conservation projects with the regional library associations (such as management of a microfilming workshop). From 1994 to 1995 he was head of the Sablé Center.

In 1996, he came back to Paris as head of the Conservation and Cataloging Services in the Philosophy, History and Social Sciences department of the Bibliothèque nationale de France, and took part in the large collection move from the old buildings to the new ones. He used the majority of his time in organizing preservation storage and reading rooms, and selecting damaged documents to be repaired, deacidified, bound, or microfilmed.

In 2005 he joined the Conservation department of the Bibliothèque nationale de France, where he became Deputy Director in 2006. He worked in administrative and coordination tasks, but he recently took part in the writing of the Bibliothèque nationale conservation charter, which may be adopted before the end of 2008. Since 2005 he has been a member of the EROMM (European Register of Microform and digital Master) Steering Committee, and since 2007 a member of the IFLA Preservation and Conservation Section Committee.

P&C Section website

<http://www.ifla.org/VII/s19/index.htm>

Don't forget you are always welcome to contribute and make suggestions for the section newsletter and website. We do want to hear from you!

Contact: jdre@loc.gov

And Into the Future....



[World Library and Information Congress:
76th IFLA General Conference and Council](#)

Brisbane, Australia, August 2010

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