

# DCRM INVITATIONAL WORKING CONFERENCE INFORMATION SHEET

20 January 2003

## WHAT IS THE DCRM CONFERENCE?

It is a special meeting of the RBMS Bibliographic Standards Committee for the sole purpose of revising *Descriptive Cataloging of Rare Books*, the edition of the rare book cataloging rules that has been in use the past decade. The new edition will be called *Descriptive Cataloging of Rare Materials (Books)*. The DCRM conference will last four full days and take place at the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University, 10-13 March 2003.

## WHEN WAS THIS PLANNED, OR, HOW COME NOBODY KNEW ABOUT IT AT ANNUAL?

The committee's intention to accomplish the bulk of revision work via e-mail and DCRB-L – an e-mail discussion list created for this purpose – has proved unrealistic. In addition, meeting conditions at ALA conferences are not conducive to productive collaborative work, given the committee's full agendas and a typically large number of visitors at our meetings. Frustrated at the slow progress of the DCRB revision after approximately five years, several committee members were musing during a break at the annual conference in June 2002 about a "working retreat," in which we would gather key people and lock them in a room together until the revision was complete. The seed for the DCRM Conference was planted.

In July 2003, Deborah J. Leslie (BSC chair) appointed a DCRM planning group, consisting of Jane Gillis, Laurence Creider, Jain Fletcher, Robert Maxwell, Jennifer O'Brien Roper, and Manon Théroux. We started work on a proposal for a DCRM Conference. The proposal covered conference goals, preparation, structure and working plan to achieve those goals, aftermath, necessary facilities, and a list of invitees. After consulting Daniel J. Slive and Margaret Nichols, the current RBMS chair and chair-elect respectively, we submitted the conference proposal to Alice Prochaska, Yale University Librarian, and on her advice, to Barbara A. Shailor, Director of the Beinecke Library. To our very great delight, they agreed to host and fully fund the conference. Invitations went out in August, and the conference details were fundamentally settled by September. It is worth mentioning that a similar working conference, albeit private and much smaller, was held at the Library of Congress in the latter stages of preparing DCRB for publication, which we take as a precedent.

## WHY IS THIS CONFERENCE INVITATIONAL, AND WHO GOT INVITED?

We had to accept with regret and a certain amount of discomfort that it was necessary to sharply limit the number of participants. Exigencies of cost, facilities, and the realities of providing optimal conditions for productive work dictated an absolute cap of 25 participants. All current members of the BSC as well as those with formal relationships with the committee form the core of the participant list. A full list of participants is appended.

The work of Bibliographic Standards has always been public, and for good reason; therefore, the conference planning group was careful to form a mechanism for widest possible public participation. DCRB-L is open to anyone wishing to subscribe, and we have received a gratifying number of subscription requests from both the U.S. and Great Britain. Conference preparation includes the publication on DCRB-L of six papers which will form the basis of discussion at the conference. Likewise, final versions of the papers and/or a report will again be submitted to DCRB-L after the conference. Naturally the finished draft of DCRM(B) will be distributed widely for comment.

## DCRM Conference Participants

- John Attig.** Authority Control Librarian, Penn State Univ. M.A., History, Syracuse Univ., 1970. M.A. in LS, Univ. of Michigan, 1975. *The Works of John Locke: a Comprehensive Bibliography*, 1985. BSC liaison to MARBI from time immemorial.
- Ann W. Copeland.** Special Collections Cataloging Librarian, Penn State Univ. MS in LS, Columbia Univ., 1981. BSC member.
- Laurence S. Creider.** Head, General Cataloging Unit, New Mexico State Univ. Ph. D. in Medieval Studies, Yale Univ., 1979. M.S.L.S., Univ. of Tennessee, Knoxville, 1982. 2<sup>nd</sup>-time BSC member.
- Jackie Dooley.** Head of Special Collections and Archives, UC Irvine. MLS, UCLA. Ed., *EAD: Context, Theory, and Case studies*, 1998. Ed., *EAD Guidelines: Version 1.0*, 1999. Former BSC chair; former RBMS chair.
- Sarah Schmidt Fisher.** Coordinator, Special Collections Cataloging & Processing Unit, Univ. of Delaware Library. MLS, Univ. of Maryland, College Park, 1997. BSC member.
- Jain Fletcher.** Head, Technical Services Division, Dept. of Special Collections, Research Library, UCLA. M.A., Music Literature, San Jose State University, 1979; M.L.S., UCLA, 1988. 2<sup>nd</sup>-time BSC member.
- Jane Gillis.** Rare Book Cataloger, Yale Univ. Library. MLIS, Univ. of Pittsburgh, 1969. Former BSC member; BSC Liaison for Rare Serials Cataloging.
- Brian Hillyard.** Head of Rare Books, National Library of Scotland. D.Phil. in Greek Literature, Oxford Univ. (diss. pub. 1981: edition with commentary of Plutarch's *De audiendo*.) Co-author, *Rare Books Group's Guidelines for the Cataloguing of Rare Books*, Library Association, 1997, rev. reprint 1999.
- Elizabeth L. Johnson.** Head of Technical Services, Lilly Library, Indiana Univ., Bloomington. M.L.S. U. of Texas at Austin, 1976. Former BSC member; former RBMS chair.
- Barbara M. Jones,** Head, Rare Book and Special Collections Library. Univ. of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. M.L.S., Columbia Univ., 1978. M.A. History with Archival Certification, NYU, 1985. Ph.D., Univ. of Minnesota. *Libraries, Access, and Intellectual Freedom*, 1999. ARL Task Force on Spec. Coll., Group on Access.
- James Larrabee.** Law Library, UC Berkeley. BSC member.
- Deborah J. Leslie.** Head of Cataloging, Folger Shakespeare Library. MA history, Indiana Univ., 1983. MLS, UCLA, 1990. 2<sup>nd</sup>-time BSC member; BSC chair; former thesaurus editor.
- Robert Maxwell.** Special Coll. & Ancient Languages Catalog Librarian; Brigham Young Univ. MLS Univ. of Arizona; M.A. (Latin/Greek), JD Brigham Young Univ.; Ph.D. (Classical languages & literature) University of Toronto. *Maxwell's Handbook for AACR2*, 1997; *Maxwell's guide to authority work*, 2002. Former BSC chair; BSC liaison to CC:DA.
- Juliet McLaren.** Senior Bibliographer, Early Serials Project, ESTC, UC Riverside. MLS, UCLA. MA (English), Simon Fraser Univ. Former BSC member; BSC Liaison for Rare Serials Cataloging.
- Gregory A. Pass.** Librarian, Vatican Film Library, Saint Louis Univ. A.M., Harvard Univ., 1990. Ph.D., Harvard Univ., 1996 in Medieval History. M.L.S., Univ. of Missouri, 2001. *AMREMM*, 2003. BSC member.
- Elizabeth Robinson.** Rare Book Team Leader, Library of Congress. MA American Studies, Emory. MS Library Service, Clark Atlanta Univ. Former BSC member; BSC liaison to Library of Congress.
- Jennifer O'Brien Roper.** Wake Forest Univ. MLS Univ. of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. BSC secretary.
- Beth M. Russell.** Head, Special Collections Cataloging, Ohio State Univ. M.A. (History), Univ. of Kansas. MLIS, Univ. of Texas. BSC member.
- Stephen Skuce.** Rare Books Cataloging Librarian, MIT Libraries. MLS, Simmons College, 1990. BSC member.
- Eileen L. Smith.** Rare Book Catalog Librarian, Huntington Library. M.A. in LS, Univ. of Arizona. BSC member.
- Joe Springer.** Curator, Mennonite Historical Library, Goshen College. MSLS/MA (History), Catholic University of America. 3<sup>rd</sup>-time BSC member.
- Laura Stalker.** Avery Head of Collection Development, Huntington Library. MLIS Univ. of Texas. Former BSC chair; former RBMS chair.
- Bruce H. Tabb.** Special Collections Librarian, Univ. of Oregon. MLS, Southern Connecticut State Univ. MA, Music, Yale. MA, Germanic Philology, Univ. of Minn. Co-ed. *Water, Leisure and Culture: Euro. Hist. Perspectives*, 2002. Former BSC member; thesaurus editor.
- Suzy Taraba.** Head of Special Collections and University Archivist, Wesleyan University. MLS. Columbia University. Former BSC member; former RBMS chair.
- Manon Théroux,** Authority Control Librarian, Yale Univ. Library. M.S. Information Studies, Drexel University, 1993. BSC member.