

# **COLLECTING WORLD CULTURES: AFRICAN, ASIAN, CARIBBEAN, AND NATIVE AMERICAN MATERIALS IN CHICAGO INSTITUTIONS**

**ALA Annual Conference, Chicago, Illinois  
Sunday, June 26, 2005, 1:30 – 3:30 p.m.  
McCormick Place, S – 402**

**Presented by**



**Rare Books and Manuscripts Section (RBMS) and  
African, Asian, and Middle East Section (AAMES)**

**of the**

**Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL),  
American Library Association (ALA)**

**with the**

**Literatures in English Section (LES) of ACRL and  
American Indian Library Association (AILA)**

**Track: Collection Management and Technical Services  
Subtrack: Collection Development**

## **PROGRAM**

Moderator: Mary A. Lacy, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress

- A. Welcome and Introductions
- B. Presenters
  - 1. David Easterbrook, George & Mary LeCron Foster Curator, Melville J. Herskovits Library of African Studies, Northwestern University
  - 2. Nancy John, Assistant University Librarian, University of Illinois at Chicago, and Nancy R. Cirillo, Associate Professor of Comparative Literature, English Department, University of Illinois at Chicago
  - 3. Brian Hosmer, Director, D'Arcy McNickle Center for American Indian History, CIC American Indian Studies Consortium, The Newberry Library
  - 4. James Nye, Bibliographer for Southern Asia and Director of the South Asia Language and Area Center, University of Chicago
- 5. Questions and Answers
- 6. Thanks

### *Five-minute Intermission*

- C. Presentation of the RBMS 2005 Leab Exhibition Awards, Melissa Conway, Chair, RBMS Exhibition Awards Committee. Award winners are on display.

Following the program, the Rare Books and Manuscripts Section (RBMS) will hold its Information Exchange in S-402 at 4 p.m. The Information Exchange includes brief, news-filled reports on activities of RBMS committees, as well as reports on other events of interest to members of the section.

Everyone is welcome.

### **2005 Conference Program Planning Committee**

Anjana Bhatt, Florida Gulf Coast University, chair, AAMES Program Committee  
Lois Fischer Black, North Carolina State University  
John Cullars, University of Illinois at Chicago  
David Faulds, Emory University  
Hjordis Halvorson, Newberry Library  
Mary Lacy, Library of Congress, chair, RBMS Program Committee  
Elaine Smyth, chair, RBMS (ex officio)

## Talk # 1: The Melville J. Herskovits Library of African Studies: An African Studies Resource for All of Chicago.



**David Easterbrook**

**David Easterbrook** is George and Mary LeCron Foster Curator of the Melville J. Herskovits Library of African Studies, Northwestern University. He has served as Chair of the Cooperative Africana Microform Project of the Center for Research Libraries (1980-83 and 2000-02) and currently directs AFRINUL, a web-based project to develop a union list of African newspapers headquartered at CRL, part of the AAU/ARL Global Resources Program. He has also served as Chair of the Africana Librarians Council of the African Studies Association (1978-79 and 1998-99) and the African, Asian and Middle Eastern Section of the ACRL (1987-88 and 1997-98), and currently serves as a member of the ALA Council. A forthcoming publication (2005) is the African studies chapter in *Building Area Studies Collections*, edited by James H. Spohrer and Dan Hazen.

**Abstract:** Northwestern University, a private university in Evanston, Illinois, has amassed the largest separate collection of African studies research materials in existence, which provides support for research and curricular programs both on the Northwestern campus and beyond. The Herskovits Library also supports the varying interests of independent researchers and a broad range of community-based individual and corporate Africa-related information needs. This paper will provide a brief historical background to the collection and its unique relationship with Melville J. Herskovits, who established Northwestern's Program of African Studies in 1948; emphasize the role inter-institutional cooperation has played in the development of African studies libraries; survey the present scope and formats of materials in the Herskovits Library's collection with emphasis on issues related to acquiring African imprints including rare and unique materials, and include examples of collaboration with African institutions. Current digital projects enhance access for researchers both on the Northwestern campus and elsewhere, including Africa.

## Talk # 2: The H.D. Carberry Collection of Caribbean Studies, or, Why is a University on a Great Lake Interested in the Caribbean?



**Nancy John**

**Nancy John**, Associate Professor and Assistant University Librarian at the University of Illinois at Chicago, is interested in the role technology plays in providing increased access to information. She is one of the senior editors of the distinguished international library journal, *Libri*. She has been active in the American Library Association and the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions. Co-author of *The Internet Troubleshooter* (1994) and co-editor of *The Internet Initiative* (1995), her current research is centered on digital libraries.

**Abstract:** The University of Illinois at Chicago and its University Library are committed to giving back to the community through an intensive program of partnerships with agencies, institutions and other organizations whose development can be enhanced through a working relationship with UIC. The H.D. Carberry Collection has given the Library the opportunity to experiment with several projects whose goals are the fostering of digital libraries and digital library partnerships through the Caribbean and with universities in the United States.

**Nancy R. Cirillo** is Associate Professor of English at the University of Illinois, Chicago. Her special fields of responsibility are Post-Colonial Studies, with a concentration in Caribbean Studies, and her general areas of expertise are European and British literature of the late nineteenth century. Her current research interests are in representations of race theory and genocide in post-colonial literature, and in the ongoing development of the Carberry Collection of Caribbean Studies.



**Nancy R. Cirillo**

**Abstract:** The Carberry Collection comprises one thousand volumes, two-thirds literature and one-third history and political theory, purchased by the UIC Library in 1997 from the Carberry family of Kingston, Jamaica. Primarily an English language collection, it presents a nearly complete picture of an influential intellectual and cultural tradition as it emerged in the latter half of the twentieth century. Most volumes in the collection are general first editions published in England; the book jacket art, especially of the novels, is a rich source of social, racial, sexual and political iconography of post-war Britain during the dissolution of empire and the assimilation of new populations of color. "Images of the Caribbean" is a preservation and access project and will serve scholars in such fields as post-colonial and Caribbean Studies, Black British studies, history of the book and cultural studies particularly of contemporary Britain. Many of these works are out of print and unavailable anywhere, including the Caribbean.

### Talk # 3: The Research Library as “Steward” of American Indian History and Culture: Sounds Reasonable, but what does that mean in practice?



**Brian Hosmer**

**Brian Hosmer** is Director of the Newberry Library's D'Arcy McNickle Center for American Indian History and the Committee for Institutional Cooperation American Indian Studies Consortium. The McNickle Center has recently become headquarters for the CIC American Indian Studies Consortium, an innovative program in American Indian studies that draws together resources of the 11 Big Ten Universities, the University of Chicago and the University of Illinois at Chicago. Hosmer also is Associate Professor of History at the University of Illinois at Chicago. His research interests focus upon intersections between economic change and cultural identity in American Indian Communities. In 1999 the University Press of Kansas published his first book, *American Indians in the Marketplace: Persistence and Innovation among the Menominees and Metlakatans, 1870-1920*. His current project is a study of New Deal era work relief programs on the Wind River Reservation, Wyoming.

**Abstract:** For its entire three-decade existence the Newberry Library's D'Arcy McNickle Center for American Indian History has explored innovative ways to bridge the gap between tribal communities and the library's considerable holdings in American Indian history. This emphasis, which brings with it certain stresses and strains, misunderstandings, and a few missed opportunities, is driven by the conviction that research libraries such as the Newberry must build reciprocal relationships with communities whose history and culture is represented and documented in the library's holdings, as an articulation of the library's often discussed "stewardship" obligation. This talk will explore this issue in light of Library and Center varied and ongoing initiatives. It will focus on results but equally on the lessons learned.

### Talk # 4: "Catch and Release": An Acquisition Strategy Sensitive to Cultural Patrimony.



**James Nye**

**James Nye** is Bibliographer for Southern Asia and Director of the South Asia Language and Area Center at the University of Chicago. His current activities include directorship of the Digital South Asia Library (<http://dsal.uchicago.edu/>) and the Digital Dictionaries of South Asia (<http://dsal.uchicago.edu/dictionaries/>), service as an executive officer of the Center for South Asia Libraries (<http://dsal.uchicago.edu/csali/>) and the South Asia Language Resource Center (<http://salarc.uchicago.edu/>), and as principal director of a project on minority languages of Pakistan. He also directs the recently founded South Asia Union Catalogue, an historical bibliography and a union catalog of imprints from the subcontinent. He chaired the South Asia Microform Project for eight years and formerly edited *South Asia Library Notes and Queries*. He is the author of numerous articles on South Asian libraries, micrographics, and digital resources.

**Abstract:** The University of Chicago has been engaged over the past decade in several South Asia library programs and projects which have in common the purchase of collections from private collectors in South Asia, maintaining the cultural patrimony in the subcontinent, delivery of preservation surrogates to Chicago for use by U.S. scholars, and eventual ceding of the print collections to sister institutions in the subcontinent. This paper will explain assumptions motivating those programs; provide descriptions of their establishment and maintenance, their intended audiences, consequences for scholars and librarians, and projected future directions, including the role of the recently-founded Center for South Asia Libraries. Why have the predominant modes of preservation and delivery been largely non-digital, with the exception of reference resources, images, and finding aids? What are the challenges of collaboration with overseas partners; and, what is the potential for replication of an approach to acquisition based on sharing?