

Nota Bene News from the Yale Library

Reflections of a New University Librarian

I arrived on August 1 of this year, new both to Yale and to the environment of American research libraries. Nearly four months into the job, this seems a good time to reflect on the organization I have joined.

The most obvious truth is that I have joined not just a great library but a great university. At this particularly vibrant stage in its life, I have been learning the reality behind the reputation. I meet people whose commitment to Yale is what makes it so successful and, at the same time, so humane. Each event in the kaleidoscope of the tercentennial year revealed another facet of Yale's traditions. Alongside the celebrations, the University's response to the terrible events of September 11 and their aftermath demonstrated its role as a community and within the broader community in ways that I found humbling and impressive.

Large research libraries serve their communities in many ways. The question that interests me is what makes a large research library into a great one?

Serving patrons

A library's primary task is to provide access to the world's fund of knowledge, meeting its patrons' myriad needs for information with systematic, up-to-date catalogs and well-ordered shelving. But a great research library also presents its users with sources of knowledge they did not know they needed and opportunities to make connections they had not imagined. It builds and maintains a deep and wide-ranging collection of print and microform resources as well as strong collections of unique and rare materials. Increasingly of late, a research library augments these traditional collections with access to electronic materials, including large and costly databases to which individual scholars would have difficulty gaining access. These aspirations challenge a research library to continue meeting the demands of traditional library use while innovating along with current research and anticipating the needs of future scholarship.

A resourceful staff

Yale Library staff are resourceful in meeting both new and old demands. They have guided the retrospective conversion of the library's catalogs to fully automated form, a process that is nearing completion. They are currently planning for "Orbis 2," a new library man-



Alice Prochaska, University Librarian

agement system that will improve services, and they are working to alleviate the overcrowding in some collections. At the same time Yale librarians have set the standard for new purchasing and licensing arrangements for electronic materials and have worked with faculty to produce exciting initiatives in digital imaging. A close relationship with the Mellon Foundation's new ArtSTOR and a generous grant from the Getty Foundation will intensify the interaction of faculty, students, technical experts and librarians to produce a new generation of classroom and teaching resources. Librarians and faculty are just beginning collaborations to create new sets of materials based on Yale's traditional strengths.

Library managers are developing a strategic framework for the next five years that will combine traditional services and new directions.

Renovations

In the next few years, the library will be better and more effectively housed. Divinity School renovations will include improved library space. There will be a second Library Shelving Facility, and the Arts libraries will be re-housed in the new Arts and Architecture complex. I hope to see successful fund-raising for Phase 2 of Sterling Library renovations that will significantly

improve the undergraduate experience of studying at Yale. Plans for a new Social Science building would provide an integrated service for one of the most swift-moving clusters of disciplines the library serves.

The library at Yale and in the wider world

This library serves first and foremost the faculty and students of Yale. If librarians cannot meet their needs and surpass their expectations, no wider ambitions will succeed. My personal contacts with colleagues in the library and throughout the University will always be what I enjoy most. But there is also a broader community to serve.

The Yale University Library is a leader in both regional and national library networks. Beyond these, it is one of the largest libraries in the world and holds quantities of material that no researcher of any nationality will find elsewhere. It is vitally important that Yale's library should play its full part in all these spheres. The internationalization of Yale, the goal the University has set for its fourth century, includes a crucial role for the library. It is possible now to share unique resources via the Internet, and while doing so to develop and complement collections in print and manuscript. Yale's magnificent library resources, mediated by the work of world-class faculty, students, and librarians, can support learning and scholarship in new ways.

The library's ambitious program will build on solid achievements and the dedication of its excellent staff, working closely with all parts of the University to bring together the resources of this close-knit academic community. For me, it is an extraordinary privilege to have arrived here at such a moment of opportunity.

—ALICE PROCHASKA, *University Librarian*

Yale University Library now has access to more than 13,000 journals, magazines, and newspapers in electronic format. More than half of these were acquired as part of aggregations licensed by the library. Aggregations of electronic materials are products containing many different full-text resources packaged together for sale. Their content can be fluid depending both on market forces and on the duration of licenses between the packager or “vendor” of an aggregation and the publisher of a journal, magazine, newspaper or other item included in it.

Libraries and other subscribers often find aggregations attractive because subscription costs for such packages can be significantly lower than subscribing to individual titles of interest. However, these collections can also have drawbacks. For example, they may not provide the most recent issues. Also, titles are not always fully present in an aggregation; book reviews, letters to the editor, or similar content might be excluded, as might illustrations or charts.

Aggregations can meet some of the growing demand for electronic access to journals, magazines, and newspapers. In particular, they can supply titles whose publisher does not yet provide online access to the complete journal, titles whose older years are not otherwise available online, or titles of marginal interest to the Yale community.

Once the Yale Library acquires an aggregation, librarians confront the need to make it accessible to those readers who want to use the titles it contains. Orbis, the online catalog of library holdings, is the logical place to record a title's availability. However, the contents of aggregations are large (some products gather more than 1,000 titles) and fluid (some titles are not permanent features of a collection), thus complicating the process of including the individual titles in Orbis.

Many aggregations do not even supply to subscribers a complete and current list of titles covered. For those that do, librarians first enter the titles in the list of electronic journals at: <http://www.library.yale.edu/journals/>. Then they begin the process of including the titles in the online catalog. Librarians negotiate to get title lists from vendors in an electronic format that is easily transferred into Orbis. When this is not possible, library staff must create Orbis records for the titles.

More and more materials are becoming available online, and the library will continue to acquire appropriate and cost-effective versions for use by the Yale community. That process includes efforts to ensure that Orbis and the lists of electronic resources are as complete as possible. —KJP



A view of the city of Kandahar from an eighteenth-century map showing views of several cities in the Persian Empire. The inset from *Verschiedene Prospecte der Vornemsten Städten in Persien* by Johann Baptist Homann (Nurnberg, c. 1740) is on display in Sterling Memorial Library.

 *New Beinecke Director: A Homecoming with Surprises*

My connections to the Beinecke Library go back almost thirty years, when I came here as an assistant to Professor Cora Lutz, who had begun to catalog the collection of pre-1600 Western manuscripts. The last of the three original Beinecke brothers, Frederick W., the great Western Americana collector, had just died, and his brother E. J., collector of Robert Louis Stevenson and illuminated manuscripts, had passed on the year before. “Fritz” Liebert was still in charge. Between then and now I returned to the Beinecke many times, as researcher, cataloger, exhibition organizer, and advisor to the collection of medieval and renaissance manuscripts.

My first impressions upon becoming director of the Beinecke last July were thus mixed with memories. It was, in a way, a homecoming with surprises.

The growth of the collections, for instance, is astonishing in sheer magnitude and glory. In just the last year, the Beinecke has added Walter Pforzheimer’s collections (Molière, armorial bindings, Frank Stockton, intelligence service)—15,000 volumes strong—and the Frederick R. Koch Collection, surely one of the most outstanding gatherings of musical, historical, and literary autographs assembled recently. The Pforzheimer collections seem to me emblematic of the way the library benefits from the generosity and perspicacity of Yale’s faithful alumni, while the Koch Collection is a prime example of one of those defining moments that creates new directions for our collecting.

The interior renovations at the Beinecke Library, undertaken in distinct stages throughout Ralph Franklin’s tenure, may surprise an old hand, but—more essentially—they will help increase the Beinecke’s role as a focal point for the humanities by providing additional conference, lecture, and teaching spaces. The new rooms are equipped with state-of-the-art electronic tools that allow an instructor or lecturer to work with and to manipulate large images of original materials. What in the past only a few could see at a time now an entire class can see at once. As one devoted to teaching, this excites me deeply.

The Beinecke staff has also grown, and I am impressed with their accomplishments and creativity. The group includes old friends and new colleagues. During my first few months, I talked privately with each and every member of the staff—a wonderful way of taking the pulse of the library. I was gratified to learn how much energy, dedication, and insight all staff members bring to their work.



Barbara Shailor, Director of the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library

Finally, I have initiated promising collaborations that are of great importance to the Beinecke’s future mission. I have very much enjoyed working with Susan Hockfield of the Graduate School and with Michael Holquist, interim director of the Whitney Humanities Center. Both collaborations promise to be extremely productive as we strive for greater interaction between the library and the Yale community. The trustees of the Yale Library Associates, who traditionally meet at the Beinecke, continue to be devoted advocates, and the Beinecke family welcomed me with open arms even before the beginning of my appointment.

During the summer, the Beinecke senior staff helped me to develop a five-year plan for the library. Like my first impressions as director, the plan mixes old and new. It takes our core activity—the preservation of the documents of the past in their original formats—and builds on that central mission to fashion a bright future for the Beinecke Library as a center of inquiry and discourse for the humanities, both on the Yale campus and internationally.

— BARBARA SHAILOR, *Director of the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library*

A Library for Its Time: Collections Then and Now

In 1701, according to the story, ten ministers gathered at the Branford home of the Reverend Samuel Russel; each brought a number of books and ceremoniously placed them on the Reverend Russel's parlor table to mark the founding of the Collegiate School. The exact identity of these books may remain forever obscure. However, the current Beinecke exhibition *A Library for Its Time* gathers a number of volumes that may well have been at Yale since its beginning, as they represent the sorts of titles appropriate to the principles on which the school was founded. The exhibit also contrasts this early theological library with a selection of the diverse materials collected by the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library to support the research and curricula of its time.

The sorts of books that comprised the earliest Yale library were, for the most part, printed in Switzerland, Germany, and Holland in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. Most of the books were written in Latin, then the lingua franca of scholarship, but a few were probably in English.

As reconstructed by the exhibit, Yale's founding collection documents neither the great expeditions of the age of discovery nor the scientific revolution of the seventeenth century. Not a line of Shakespeare, Marlowe, or Ben Jonson is to be found. The books Yale's forefathers brought together in 1701 constituted, with the exception of a few historical and philosophical works, a theological library. The Bible is of course present, in the Latin translation of Immanuel Tremellius and Franciscus Junius (Geneva, 1590), as well as the works of Saint Augustine, a ten-volume edition published in Basel in 1569, the gift of Yale's first rector, Abraham Pierson. The works in English are all commentaries on books of the Bible, for example, Andrew Willet's commentary on Genesis (London, 1632).

Swiss reformers associated with Ulrich Zwingli are prominent in this hypothetical first library, but the focal point of the collection is Calvinism. Pride of place thus belongs to Calvin's *Institutio Christianae religionis* (1536), present in a 1606 edition printed in Geneva that bears on its title page the ownership inscription of Yale founder James Pierpont.

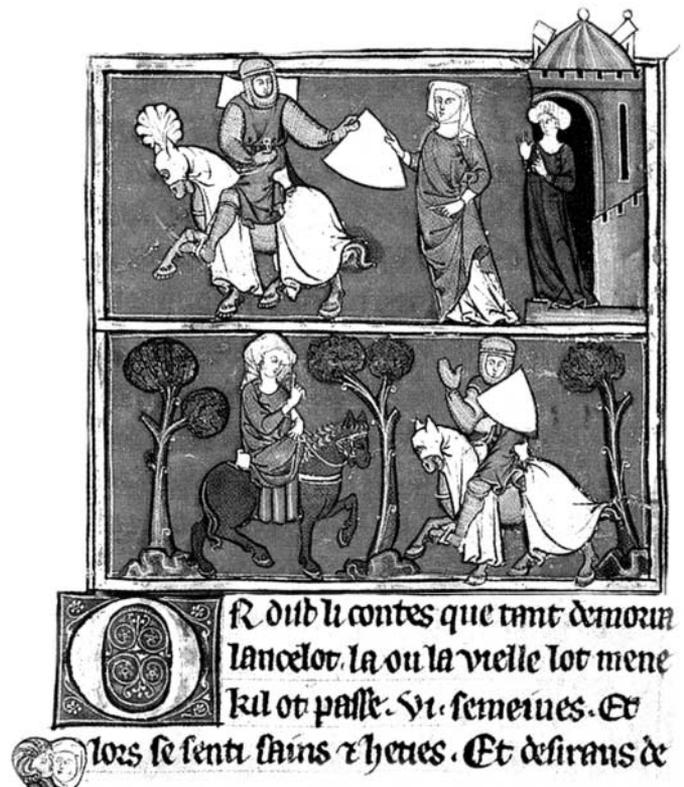
Three hundred years later, the Beinecke Library is still an avid collector of sixteenth and seventeenth century books. Works from this period on astronomy, cosmography, costume, navigation, fencing, and

hunting are to be found among recent acquisitions along with how-to manuals, scientific treatises, and literary works from poetry to popular street plays.

But modern collecting practices encompass other periods as well. The exhibition includes an illuminated manuscript, representing the Beinecke's large collection of medieval and Renaissance codices, and several incunables, books printed in the West between the appearance of the Gutenberg Bible in 1455 and the beginning of the sixteenth century.

Twentieth-century literary archives and the artistic/literary products of Modernism are represented in the exhibition by Marinetti's "metal book" and selections from the papers of Gertrude Stein, Georgia O'Keeffe, and the Theatre Guild.

The second half of the Beinecke exhibition demonstrates that a modern rare book library collects more than books. Musical scores, a selection of rare photographs, and art works by Georgia O'Keeffe and Charles Demuth represent some of the non-print formats on display. —CAS



Detail from a thirteenth-century French illuminated manuscript of Arthurian Romances (Beinecke MS 229, 29r) on display in the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library.

Yale University Library Selectors Directory

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Director of Collection Development

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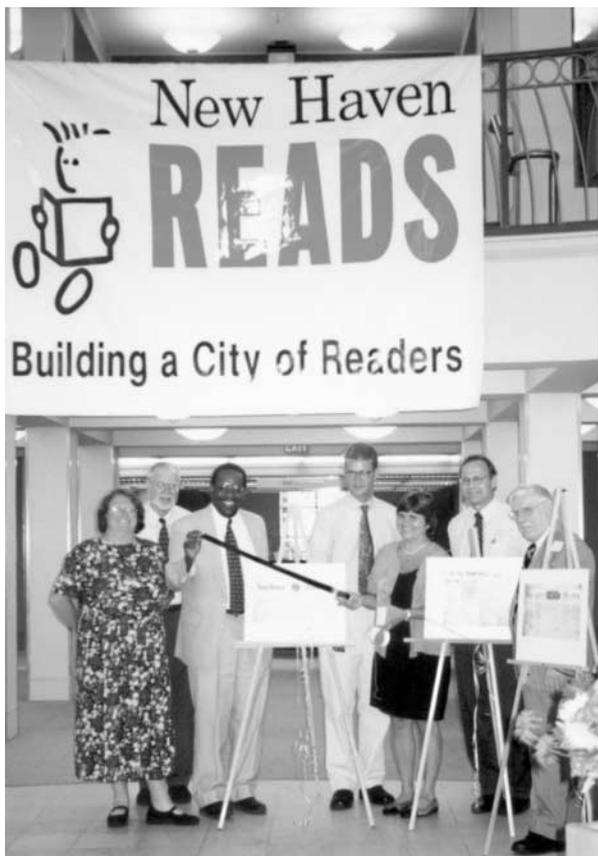
Requests for new materials in all formats should be directed to the appropriate subject specialist below or, as a last resort, to the e-mail account book.requests@yale.edu. The area code for Lewis Walpole Library is 860; for all other numbers, it is 203. A slightly expanded list can be found at <http://www.library.yale.edu/NotaBenelselector.htm>.

Subject	Selector/Address	Telephone/E-Mail
Accounting and Finance	Judith Carnes SSL	432-3306 judith.carnes@yale.edu
African Studies	Dorothy Woodson SML 317	432-1883 dorothy.woodson@yale.edu
African-American Studies	Nancy Godleski SML 226	432-4798 nancy.godleski@yale.edu
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Korea	Calvin Hsu SML 219	432-1793 calvin.hsu@yale.edu
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English Literature	Todd Gilman SML 226	432-1761 todd.gilman@yale.edu
Epidemiology & Public Health Library	Matthew Wilcox 47 COLLEGE	785-5680 matthew.wilcox@yale.edu
Film Studies	Tobin Nellhaus SML 226	432-8212 tobin.nellhaus@yale.edu
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Gay and Lesbian Studies	Pamela Mann SML 226	432-7171 pamela.mann@yale.edu



Please detach and retain for reference

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Geology Library	David Stern KGL 328	432-3447 david.e.stern@yale.edu
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Hebrew Language & Literature	Nanette Stahl SML 335	432-7207 nanette.stahl@yale.edu
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History		
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Western Europe & Great Britain	Susanne Roberts SML 226	432-1762 susanne.roberts@yale.edu
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Music Library	Ken Crilly SML ML 107M	432-0495 kendall.crilly@yale.edu
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Statistics	Julie Linden SSL	432-3310 julie.linden@yale.edu
Theater Studies	Tobin Nellhaus SML 226	432-8212 tobin.nellhaus@yale.edu
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Women's Studies/Gender Studies	Pamela Mann SML 226	432-7171 pamela.mann@yale.edu
Yale University Archives	Richard V. Szary SML 150	432-9657 richard.szary@yale.edu
Yiddish Language & Literature	Nanette Stahl SML 335	432-7207 nanette.stahl@yale.edu



Staff from both institutions celebrate Yale Library's gift to the New Haven Public Library.

New Catalog of Medical Prints

The Historical Library, Cushing/Whitney Medical Library, has just published a catalog of its medical prints and drawings collection:

Susan Wheeler, *Five hundred years of medicine in art: an illustrated catalogue of prints and drawings from the Clements C. Fry Collection in the Harvey Cushing/John Hay Whitney Medical Library at Yale University*. Aldershot, England: Ashgate Publishing Limited, 2001.

The Clements C. Fry Collection is among the largest and most comprehensive collections of art related to the history of medicine. Its two thousand prints and drawings span five centuries and represent the works of over six hundred artists, among them Pieter Bruegel, Rembrandt van Rijn, Thomas Rowlandson, James Gillray, Honore Daumier, and Kathe Kollwitz.

The collection surveys the general, non-didactic historical iconography of medicine and health care. Doctors visiting their patients, satires of therapeutic fads, polemics on vaccination, temperance propaganda, anatomy in art, childbirth scenes, hospital façades, and images of disease are among the scores of subjects represented. The collection also reflects the professional interests of Dr. Fry, a Yale psychiatrist. It brings together many works related to mental illness, including images of patients, psychiatric institutions, and therapeutic practice.

The catalog contains over 1,600 small black and white images of the prints in the collection and has an extensive set of indexes. —TAA

Tercentennial Gift to the New Haven Library

As a Tercentennial gesture, the Yale University Library has donated microfilm of the historical backfiles of the New Haven Register and the New Haven Palladium to the New Haven Free Public Library to complete its collection of these important documents of local history. Although the Yale library has a long-standing commitment to provide local residents with access to its collections of city newspapers, such access has not always been simple. To remove barriers, Ann Okerson, Associate University Librarian, and Alan Solomon, Head of Research Services and Collections, arranged to acquire the microfilms for the city's library.

To celebrate this donation, the public library hosted a small event on August 26, 2001, for staff from both libraries. Attendees made brief presentations about the resources offered to the community by each library and discussed collaboration to improve services to residents of New Haven and scholars at Yale. —DAN



Nota Bene is published during the academic year to acquaint the Yale community and others interested with the resources of the Yale libraries. Please direct comments and questions to Susanne Roberts, *Editor*, Research Services and Collections Department, Sterling Memorial Library (phone: 432-1762, e-mail: susanne.roberts@yale.edu).

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ISSN 0894-1351

Contributors to this issue include Toby A. Appel, Danuta A. Nitecki, Kimberly J. Parker, and Christa A. Sammons. Special thanks are due Shalane R. Hansen.

Photographs on pages 1 and 3 are by Michael Marsland; photograph on page 7 is by Susanne Roberts.

Design is by John Gambell and Sandra Chen

Alice Prochaska, *University Librarian*
Susanne F. Roberts, *Editor*



Calendar of Exhibits

ARTS LIBRARY

New York City Architecture: Celebrating Landmarks of History
through March

BECTON CENTER

History of the Sheffield Scientific School
through fall

Materials from the Manuscripts and Archives Dept. SML
Sponsored by the Engineering Library

BEINECKE RARE BOOK LIBRARY

A Library for Its Time: Collections Then & Now
through December 21

STERLING MEMORIAL LIBRARY

Grand Expositions: Iberian and Latin American Modernisms in the Museum
through December

Kabul to Kandahar: Historic Maps of Afghanistan
through December

ARTS OF THE BOOK

The Tradition of Letterpress Printing at Yale: The College Presses
through February

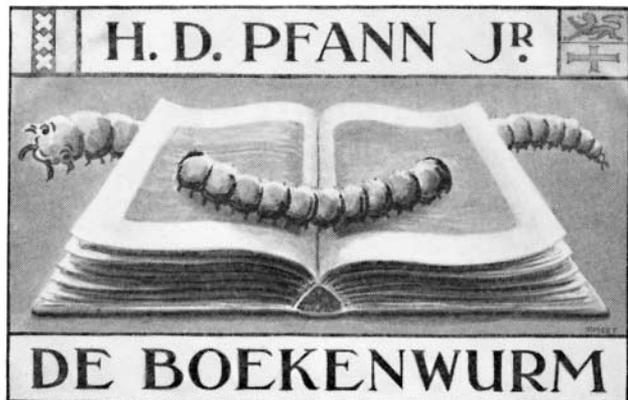
MEMORABILIA ROOM

Yung Wing and the Chinese Educational Mission, 1872-1881
through December

YALE CENTER FOR BRITISH ART

"Wilde Americk": Discovery and Exploration of the New World
through December

Please see our Website: <http://www.library.yale.edu/NotaBene/nbhome.htm> for a complete listing of exhibits.



From the
Bookplate Collection

Nota Bene News from the Yale Library

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