**Electronic Resources for the Humanities**

**ELECTRONIC TEXT CENTER**

The Electronic Text Center in Sterling Memorial Library, where the 5th century B.C. meets the 21st century A.D., is now open to serve the research needs of the Yale community. While scholars have used computerized indexes such as the MLA Bibliography, the Humanities Index, or Dissertation Abstracts for a number of years to find research by others, the databases located in the Electronic Text Center enable users easily to do their own original research in ways previously difficult, if not impossible.

The Electronic Text Center houses the library's growing collection of more than four thousand electronic texts and serves the specific research needs of numerous disciplines. The hypertext database, *Perseus 1.0: Interactive Sources and Studies in Ancient Greece*, contributes to classical scholarship. *Perseus* includes primary texts such as Homer's *Iliad* and *Odyssey* as well as a library of over 4,000 vases, sculpture and coin images from collections such as the Agora Museum in Athens and the Antikensammlungen in Munich. Scholars of American literature can access the works of Melville, Faulkner, Cather and others via the computer to do textual analysis with an efficiency unattainable in other media. Students and scholars of medieval and religious studies will find the *Patrologia Latina Database*, the *Theaurus Linguae Graecae*, the *CETEDOC Library of Christian Latin Texts*, and the *Hebrew Responsa Database* particularly useful for searching and analyzing ancient works in their original languages.

In addition to providing access to commercially available texts, ETC staff members assist users in identifying, locating and obtaining other electronic texts. A list of titles housed in the ETC is available for consultation at the ETC, the SML Reference Desk, or on YaleInfo.

The Electronic Text Center is located in Room 509 of Sterling Memorial Library. It is open from 1-5 pm, Monday through Friday. For further information please contact Paul Constantine at 432-8373 or 432-1783 (e-mail: CONSTAN@YALEVM.YCC.YALE.EDU).—PJC

**FULL-TEXT DATABASES IN THE HUMANITIES**

**Patristics** Among the full-text databases now available in the Electronic Text Center are two containing works of Christian writers from the patristic and medieval periods.

The *Patrologia Latina*, a collection of texts assembled and edited by the nineteenth-century priest and publisher Jacques-Paul Migne, has long been the standard edition for many of these writings. Its 221 volumes contain over one thousand ecclesiastical authors who span the millennium from A.D. 200 through 1216. A fundamental resource for scholars of theology, philosophy, history, literature and linguistics, it comprises both major and minor Latin authors.

The CD-ROM *Patrologia Latina Database* will convert this collection to electronic form. The current release comprises forty-two volumes and about 500 authors, including John Chrysostom, Peter Damian and Anselm of Canterbury. The database contains the entire published text, complete with its scholarly apparatus of notes, glosses and indexes, as well as the standard column numbers. The text has been encoded with the *Standard General Markup Language* which permits highly
detailed as well as general searching. Single-word, phrase, proximity and Boolean searches are possible as are analyses of syntax and diction and studies of morphology and semantics.

More modern editions of some of these influential writings as well as others not included in the Patrologia appear in the Patrologia Christianorum, a monumental publishing enterprise undertaken in the 1950's by the Belgian Benedictine Abbey of Steenbrugge with the ambitious goal of creating a "new Migne." It aims to publish the standard patristic and medieval Christian texts in scholarly editions that meet exacting twentieth-century standards. Included in the database to date are nearly all of the 250 volumes in the Corpus Christianorum subseries Series Latina and Continuatio Medievalis, the complete works of Augustine, Jerome, Gregory the Great, other authors such as Hildegard of Bingen and Raymond Lull, and documents from Church councils from the fifth to the eighth centuries.

Philosophy Past Masters, a newly acquired CD-ROM, is the largest available collection of electronic texts in philosophy. It comprises English translations of standard philosophical works as well as numerous works written in English. This growing corpus now contains modern critical editions of the works of Plato, Aristotle, Aquinas, English philosophers, the Continental Rationalists, and classical economic, social and political thinkers. The works of Kierkegaard are available in Danish. These databases should interest students of philosophy, theology, intellectual history, economics and political science. All three databases are also available in the Divinity Library (see below).–SFR

Poetry English Poetry: The English Poetry Full-Text Database includes poetry written between 600 and 1900 whose texts have been encoded consistently and published electronically on CD-ROM. The database, which will hold machine-readable texts of 1,350 poets, makes possible projects of literary research and analysis that would otherwise be difficult or impossible to carry out. English Poetry can be used to display and read any poem or part of a poem, it can be searched for any word or phrase, and its indexes can be browsed to establish variant spellings. Among many possible applications, database users can now easily identify quotations, establish word occurrences and frequencies, and analyze verse structures and other patterns.

The Editorial Board of English Poetry aims to make available as full a collection of published works by each poet as possible, as well as certain "landmark" anthologies. The poets included in English Poetry are primarily those writers listed as poets by The New Cambridge Bibliography of English Literature. Recognizing that this core collection will need to be supplemented by the works of entire categories of poets who are under-represented in The New Cambridge Bibliography, the editors stress the ongoing nature of the project and promise future, more inclusive versions of the database.–MKP

ELECTRONIC RESOURCES IN THE DIVINITY LIBRARY

Bible Databases Currently there are three databases of biblical texts and supporting materials available on the Tweedy Resource & Reference Program network at the Divinity School Library:

The American Bible Society's Reference Bible on CD-ROM contains the full text of six English translations of the Bible: the King James (or Authorized) Version (KJV), the Revised Standard Version (RSV), the New Revised Standard Version, the New American Standard Version, the New King James Version, and Today's English Version, as well as the Latin Vulgate and contemporary German and Spanish translations. It also provides English translations of the Apostolic Fathers and the works of Josephus. The ABS Reference Bible includes the Greek New Testament, the Greek Septuagint and the Hebrew Old Testament, but the retrieval software can display only the transliterated texts.

Bible Windows includes Greek and Hebrew scriptures as well as the KJV, RSV and Latin Vulgate texts. Because
English poetry appears in stained glass form in SML 215, formerly the English Study. The image is from Dante Gabriel Rossetti’s Blessed Damozel.

it includes Hebrew and Greek lexicons with hypertext links to the scriptural texts, the program can display the texts in their original alphabets and provide complete parsing and basic translation. In addition, several texts can be viewed at once in parallel windows.

CD/Word Library is similar to Bible Windows. It does not contain the Hebrew Bible but does provide the full text of the Bible Knowledge Commentary, the Jerome Biblical Commentary, Harper’s Bible Commentary, the New Bible Dictionary, and Harper’s Bible Dictionary. CD/Word also includes image files of the maps, charts, and illustrations from all the original printed works.

Each of these databases was developed for a particular set of users. The ABS Reference Bible was conceived as a quick reference tool for translators and teachers. Bible Windows is intended primarily for students and scholars working directly with the Greek and Hebrew texts. CD/Word Library focuses on New Testament and is the most suited to pastors and preachers. –DGH

Thomas Aquinas on CD-ROM  Thomae Aquinis opera omnia, cum hypertextibus in CD-ROM results from a pioneering effort to use computer technology to analyze the work of a major theologian. In 1946, Robertus Busa, a Jesuit priest, began an exhaustive analysis of the complete corpus of St. Thomas Aquinas using state-of-the-art data-processing techniques. The project took 30 years, and in 1974 the data began to be published in the *Index Thomisticus*. The Thomas Aquinas CD-ROM (TACD) is produced from the same data as the *Index*, but the information has been reformatted for interactive exploration. The TACD complements rather than replaces the printed *Index*.

The TACD is not a textbase in the same sense as the *Library of Christian Latin Texts* or the *Patrologia Latina Database*, though it can be put to some of the same uses. The latter databases contain the texts as transcribed from the printed works. The TACD, however, organizes the works of Aquinas and other medieval Latin writers by *lemmata* (the lemma is the uninflected form of a word); users can investigate concepts easily since all forms of a word appear together. Texts can also be viewed in normal linear format, and some types of Boolean searching are possible.

It is possible to transfer the results of a search or portions of the full text to an ASCII file. This database is sufficiently complex that it requires considerable scholarly acumen and a good knowledge of Latin to use. –DGH

MLA BIBLIOGRAPHY AND THE ARTS & HUMANITIES INDEX ONLINE

Two significant research tools, the Modern Language Association (MLA) Bibliography and the Arts & Humanities Citation Index (A&HCI) are now available online to the Yale community. The online version of the MLA Bibliography, one of the fundamental bibliographic tools for the study of literature and language, indexes over 4,000 journals and series worldwide covering the period 1963 to the present. The online A&HCI is particularly useful for showing the incidence and frequency of scholars citing other scholars in their published writings. The two bibliographies are delivered through FirstSearch, an easy-to-use online service developed by the Online Computer Library Center (OCLC). The Library has contracted with OCLC to deliver the service through the Internet, enabling Yale users to search the databases from any networked workstation or terminal or from any microcomputer which can connect to the campus network.

FirstSearch may be reached through the Yale Multi-Protocol Gateway (MPG), a “doorway” to other information services like Orbis, Nexis/Lexis, Legi-Slate and YaleInfo (the Yale campus network and Internet gateway). To gain access to FirstSearch:
- Type “firstsearch” at the MPG screen.
- You will be instructed to type your Yale ID (social security number) followed by the first four letters of your surname. Example: 123456789smit
- You will then be prompted for terminal type. Type “vt100” unless you are using an Orbis terminal, in which case type “ibm3163.”
- Follow the instructions on the FirstSearch opening screens. When you see the menu with fourteen subject
areas, type 1 for “Arts and Humanities” databases. You will then see a menu offering “MLA” and “A&HCI” (Arts and Humanities Citation Index). Type the number or name of the database you wish to search.

For detailed, printed instructions for using the MLA Bibliography or A&HCI via FirstSearch, please inquire at the Reference Desk in Sterling Memorial Library.—ACS

Yale Pursues Preservation Options

The National Endowment for the Humanities has given the Yale Library an unusual opportunity to lead the development of two major preservation strategies: microfilming and digital imaging. In December, NEH awarded Yale substantial grants to find new and efficient ways to manage preservation microfilming projects and to convert preservation microfilm to electronic impulses. Together the grants will dramatically increase the pace of preservation filming and significantly improve the accessibility of Yale’s preserved collections.

The Western Americana Preservation Project targets material printed between 1800 and 1950 describing the exploration of the American West. Yale’s holdings in this area are among the most comprehensive in the United States. The intellectual heart of this material concerns the effects of westward expansion on native populations and on the natural terrain. The impact of the nation’s new railroad system on economic and social life is particularly well documented. The project will microfilm some 3,900 embrittled volumes; distribute catalog records of the filmed titles in national bibliographic databases; and repair damaged books, serials and pamphlets. The Preservation Department expects to double its productivity by using the library’s online system to streamline workflow and to record Yale’s intention to film these works.

In tandem with the filming of Western Americana, Yale will expand its innovative exploration of the use of digital imaging technologies for library preservation and access. A second NEH grant will fund the production phase of Project Open Book. This research and demonstration program is studying the means, costs and benefits of converting 10,000 volumes from preservation microfilm to digital imagery. In this phase of the project, Yale will establish a production-level conversion operation, using computer hardware and software supplied by the Xerox Corporation, and will convert 3,000 volumes in one year. Additionally, this phase will implement and evaluate patron access to the digital collection. Earlier phases of the project have received substantial support from the Commission on Preservation and Access.

Both projects are pilot studies that will result in a clearer understanding of the value of two preservation technologies that have seemed to be mutually exclusive. Rather than trading preservation microfilming—a sound, if traditional approach—for new digital imaging techniques, however, Yale plans to discover how to make the best use of both approaches to protect and provide greater access to scholarly resources.—PLC

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, Bibliography Department, Sterling Memorial Library (432-1762).

Copyright © 1994 Yale University Library
ISSN 0994-1351

Contributors to this issue include: Paul J. Constantine, Paul L. Conway, Duane G. Harbin, John J. Morrison, Margaret K. Powell, Susanne F. Roberts, Christa A. Sammons, and Alan C. Solomon. Special thanks are due Shalane R. Hansen.

Photographs on pages 1, 2, and 3 are by Michael Marsland.

Design is by John Gambell and Rebecca Gibb.

Millicent D. Abell, University Librarian
Susanne F. Roberts, Editor

Donald Wing’s Catalogue

The outbreak of civil war in 1641 brought an abrupt end to government control of the press in England. The resulting flood of publications documented the momentous events of the following decades: the execution of Charles I and abolition of the monarchy, the Commonwealth under Oliver Cromwell, the restoration of the Stuart kings and the Glorious Revolution of 1688. In 1934, Yale librarian Donald Wing (1904–72) set out to record all books and pamphlets printed in England during this tumultuous era. Wing first described all English books printed between 1641 and 1700 present in the Yale Library, then methodically supplemented his list with information from more than 100 printed library catalogues.

As the project gathered momentum, major libraries in the United States and Great Britain contributed information about their holdings in “Wing-period” books. The result was the Short-Title Catalogue of Books Printed in
England, Scotland, Ireland, Wales, and British America, and of English Books Printed in Other Countries, 1641–1700, published in three volumes between 1945 and 1951. The first edition of the bibliography had nearly 70,000 entries.

To honor Donald Wing’s achievement, and to mark the completion of the revised edition of his bibliography, the Beinecke Library is showing an exhibition assembled by John Morrison, Editor of the Wing Revision Project: “A Celebration of Sixty Years at Yale: Donald Wing and His Short-Title Catalogue.”

The first part of the exhibition features a selection of 17th-century English publications, including almanacs, ballads, periodicals and engravings as well as books by such authors as Milton, Newton, Locke and Dryden. Examples from the voluminous pamphlet literature of the age, clustered around major political upheavals, illustrate the growing freedom of the press in seventeenth-century England.

The second half of the display focuses on the making of Donald Wing’s Short-Title Catalogue, from its beginnings as 3x5-inch slips filed in shoe boxes to the computer technology that has supported the recent revision of the catalogue. Libraries and collectors around the world now report to the Yale data base of Wing-period books, which currently includes some 105,000 entries.—CAS

“Wing-Period” Resources at Yale

Since 1934 when Donald Wing began to list the important features of every 1641–1700 English publication held at Yale, “Wing-period” resources and access to them have continued to grow.

The books on exhibit in the Beinecke Rare Book Library’s exhibition “Donald Wing and his Short-Title Catalogue” provide a small sample of Yale’s vast holdings of seventeenth-century English publications. Wing located books from this period in libraries throughout the world; he then spent nearly forty years of his life as an active acquisitions librarian, building Yale’s already strong collection of English imprints between 1641 and 1700. Today Yale ranks as one of the top three repositories of “Wing-period” books in North America and as one of the top six libraries in the world in its holdings of such works.

The books Wing acquired for Yale have been supplemented by microfilm. Early in his work on the Short-Title Catalogue, Donald Wing collaborated with Eugene Power of the University of Michigan on a project to microfilm early English printed texts. On the completion of his three-volume Short-Title Catalogue in 1952, Wing became active in this endeavor. He selected books to be filmed and annotated his catalogue to assist in locating copies for filming. Thus began the University of Michigan’s Early English Printed Books, 1641–1700 microfilm series. In the summer of 1992, Yale acquired its first installment of this series containing 62,995 titles on 2,142 reels of microfilm. These films contain a large number of items not held at Yale, thus supplementing the Beinecke’s seventeenth-century English holdings. Located in the Microform Reading Room in the basement of Sterling Memorial Library, the films are accessible to faculty, students and scholars in evenings and on weekends when the Beinecke Rare Book Library is not open.

Access to this massive collection has improved. In May 1993, 41,213 catalogue records for the Early English Books series were batch-loaded into Orbis to join numerous existing Beinecke records. Together these records allow researchers to locate by author, title, subject, keyword search and call number the seventeenth-century English publications held at Yale whether in print or microfilm. By late 1995, all of the 1641–1700 books at Beinecke should have full catalogue records in Orbis. When University Microfilms completes its Early English Books, 1641–1700 series in the year 2000, records for these films will be added to Orbis as well. As the twenty-first century opens, faculty, students and scholars at Yale will have access to the complete output of the 1641–1700 English press. None of these resources, in their current or future forms, would have become available without the pioneering work of Yale graduate (class of 1926) and librarian Donald G. Wing.—JIM
Calendar of Exhibits

BEINECKE RARE BOOK LIBRARY
A Celebration of Sixty Years at Yale: Donald Wing and His Short-Title Catalogue
through April 2

DIVINITY LIBRARY
The Teaching of History at Yale Divinity School: A Historical Review
through April

MUSIC LIBRARY
Walter Piston, 1894-1976
through April

STERLING MEMORIAL LIBRARY
The Benny Goodman Archives in the Yale Music Library
through mid-April
Mahatma Gandhi, 1869-1948
through April
Selections from the Cyrus Vance Papers
April through September

This vision of Benny Goodman by Hirschfeld is on display in Sterling Memorial Library.