

Yale University Library 2000–2001

Report by Alice Prochaska, University Librarian

This was Yale's three hundredth year. The Tercentennial celebrations began in October 2000 and continued at intervals for a full twelve months. President Richard C. Levin in his Tercentennial convocation address defined the work of Yale's fourth century:

“To educate thinking citizens and leaders, to preserve free inquiry and free expression, to generate new knowledge that improves health and spreads prosperity, to encourage realization of the human potential latent within our cities, and to reach out to the world to provide a foundation for mutual understanding and peace.”

The University Library plays a full part in this agenda, by working in partnership with the faculty to provide Yale's students with the knowledge and training they need to become thinking citizens and leaders; by selecting and making known the sources of knowledge and research on which new knowledge is based; by reaching out to colleagues and communities elsewhere, beginning with the local schools and libraries of New Haven and extending to libraries and information networks across the world; and by building up the range and uses of its international collections.

This report covers the activities of the library and its staff during the year to July 2001. Like the preceding year, this was one of substantial change. One very important change was the retirement, just one month into the fiscal year 2002, of University Librarian Scott Bennett, following seven years' tenure during which the library made tremendous strides. This report, penned by his successor, must start by paying tribute to the dedication that Scott Bennett showed throughout his period of office and to his determined vision and leadership. Much of the hard work undertaken by the library's staff during his tenure came to fruition during this year, but there will be further achievements to report for the following year, and the foundations laid by Mr. Bennett will underpin the library's work for years to come. A sketch follows of just some important developments in the year ending June 30, 2001.

Public Programs

The library contributed very substantially to the Tercentennial celebrations. During the Yale open house on October 21, 2000, some 5,000 visitors flooded into Sterling Memorial Library. The Beinecke Library received a similar number, and hundreds visited other library sites. Exhibitions organized by library staff within the library and beyond included a series entitled *Yale: Crossing International Boundaries: A Tercentennial Retrospective*. Manuscripts and Archives staff worked with Area Studies curators to create this series, and each exhibition also featured a lecture by a member of the faculty. The Medical Library organized its own highly successful Tercentennial series of lectures and exhibits. Staff from all parts of the library contributed information and materials to public events organized by the university throughout the year.

Public programs increased significantly during the year, not only stimulated by the Tercentennial. The Medical



During the Tercentennial open house visitors explore the resources of the library's Map Collection.



Portrait of playwright Thomas D'Urfey (1653–1723) from the Beinecke Library's Tercentennial exhibit accompanying the conference on *Theater and Anti-Theater in the Eighteenth Century*.

Library continued to work on its public health information Web site and worked with local hospitals, schools, and public libraries to enhance public awareness of the sources of health information. Three exhibitions from the historical medical library were mounted on the Web. The Beinecke Library and Manuscripts and Archives Department ran courses for teachers and organized school visits to see the collections. Two conferences arranged jointly by the Lewis Walpole Library and the Beinecke attracted high attendance: one on John Dryden and the second on *Theater and Anti-Theater in the Eighteenth Century*. Both were accompanied by special exhibitions and performances involving the School of Drama and other parts of the university. The Divinity Library mounted five exhibits during the year, including one online on the *Centennial of the Boxer Rebellion in China*, and the Ministry Resource Center, whose management was transferred to the library during the year, provided twenty-two workshops.

Buildings and Facilities

The library's physical infrastructure supported some important changes in the way collections are handled and made available, but these changes also demonstrated pressing needs for further work and new space. This was the first full year of operation for the Library Shelving Facility (Isf) in Hamden, a new development that fully justified the investment and turned out to work far more smoothly than many of the library's users had feared. By the end of June 2001, 760,920 items had been shelved there and 12,960 items retrieved for patrons' use. Despite the successful operation of the Isf, the Sterling stacks were more than 100% full by the end of the year, owing in part to the fact that the air conditioning ducts installed in the first phase of renovations took up the equivalent of one whole floor of stack space, and partly to the contin-

uing healthy rate of growth in the library's collections of books and serials. This meant that books had to be kept on overflow trucks in some parts of the stacks, and the lack of space into which to move books seriously impeded the staff's work on creating a more rational distribution of some of the collections. A program of cleaning the books, to remove the dust left by the renovation work plus years of previous accretion of dirt, proceeded systematically. At the end of the year it was not yet finished, and despite heroic efforts by the staff, the overall state of the stacks could still not be described as satisfactory.

Plans to erect a second module of the Isf and to accelerate book cleaning and rearrangement were under way, and the next year's report should contain news of substantial progress. Meanwhile, five years of works on the Wall Street façade of Sterling and on repairs to the roof were virtually complete by the end of June 2001. The Beinecke Library underwent significant renovations, including the installation of new stacks and an electronic classroom. The first of these improvements led to a major program of reshelving the collections. The second has already proved so popular with faculty and students that it demonstrates the urgency of providing more facilities where electronic instruction can take place alongside traditional library collections. The Arts Library meanwhile participated in planning for the restoration of the Art and Architecture building (designed by Paul Rudolph and opened in 1963) and for a new building adjacent to it, designed by Richard Meier. Additional planning efforts were under way for swing space for the library to move into while building work is in progress, and for the installation during summer 2001 of a new fire protection system. The Divinity Library underwent the greatest physical upheavals by far during this year, with the library planning for a double move as part of the renovation program of the Divinity School and moving into temporary quarters that are considerably more cramped than their previous space. A large proportion of the collection was moved to the Isf.

Public Services

The year produced enhancements to many of the library's traditional collection-based services as well as some new ones. The completely redesigned Web site is now easier to navigate and gives a higher profile to the online catalog and to collection-based services. The retrospective conversion of the card catalogs continued apace, producing nearly 640,000 converted records during the year and exceeding its targets. Meanwhile, the addition of 95,220 new titles and over 176,000 new pieces to the online catalog represented an impressive total. A new Document Delivery Department was set up with Carol Jones appointed as its head; working with interlibrary loan units throughout the library system, it began planning to

introduce a new interlibrary loan management system. The pilot phase of the Borrow Direct program, in collaboration with Columbia and the University of Pennsylvania, proved so successful that it is about to be extended to several other universities, giving Yale library users ready access to an increased range of important research collections. The library's instruction program for students recorded impressive numbers of classes (see statistics at the end of this report). New services included the Arts Library's instruction lab, where six workstations and a large seminar table enabled faculty and library staff to construct classes using a mix of traditional and electronic resources. Increasing numbers of faculty in art history and other humanities disciplines tested the Luna Imaging technology in the classroom with instructional support from the library. Overall, the amount of instruction offered by the library to Yale classes increased dramatically and continues to do so. In the Medical Library alone, for example, there was an increase of 82% in the number of educational sessions, with a 75% increase in attendance. This work has a special importance in the light of the current review of the Yale College Curriculum, led by Dean Brodhead. It should become part of the mainstream of Yale's education for "thinking citizens" and "free enquiry," two of the aims expressed in the committee's charge.

Collections

The work of enhancing and preserving the collections received a boost from more than one innovative project during the year. The university gave generous funding to the Archives 300 project as part of its Tercentennial program, and this enabled staff of Manuscripts and Archives to introduce a new university-wide records management program. As a result, the number and size of accessions to



The Israeli poet Yehuda Amichai; his archive came to the Beinecke Library in 2000.



Etching by Leonid Gorban of a wooden synagogue in Gabin, Poland, built in 1710 and destroyed by the Nazis in 1939. The etching was part of the Tercentennial exhibit *Yale: Crossing International Boundaries* and can now be seen in the online exhibit *Judaica: Yale University Tercentennial Celebration* at <http://www.library.yale.edu/judaica/exhibits/tercen/index.html>

the university archives increased dramatically, and a new electronic records initiative was introduced. The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation funded the library to undertake an exciting experiment on archiving electronic journals, in conjunction with the major publisher of scientific journals Elsevier. This work promises to make an important contribution to an initiative involving several universities that is tackling the problems of preserving electronic materials and providing reliable long-term access to them. In the Preservation Department, work also began on the Collections Care program, designed to enhance the repair of the circulating collections. The program was the recipient of some generous donations, noted in the previous annual report, and the library will continue to seek donors' support for this vitally important work.

Work on the collections themselves, including collection development, included some significant milestones. The Curator of African collections, in her first full year at Yale, carried out important rationalization of the collections, removing duplication of serials and dramatically reducing the backlog of cataloging. She developed a new Web site and contributed to the Tercentennial with information on the relationship between Yale and Africa. The Babylonian collections published a new volume of their catalog and mounted their first online exhibition, *The Emergence of Economic Institutions in Mesopotamia*. The Judaica curator upgraded and redesigned the collection's Web site and produced an online exhibition based on the Sholem Asch collections. The South-East Asian collections increased their cataloging statistics by 300% while simultaneously increasing the amount of reference assistance given to Yale faculty, accepting charge of the Cambodian Genocide databases (with Manuscripts and Archives), and taking on responsibility for the growing South Asian collections. In 2001, Yale recognized the South Asia committee as a full area studies council, and the library is working to enhance use and accessibility of the South

Asian collections in its care. The Curator of Latin American collections shared responsibility for running the East Asian collections after the retirement of their curator. He also added a large quantity of Latin American material to the Economic Growth Center collections, one of the most important collections of data on developing countries held by any library in the U.S. The Latin American collections also reported increased demand for library instruction. The Near Eastern collections acquired some 13,000 volumes collected by Professor Mohammad Kamal on the history, literature, and philosophy of the Arabic-speaking world. The collections now also include films.

In the Map collections, the Beinecke Library is funding a five-year position to catalog antiquarian maps, mainly of western Americana. The Divinity Library restructured its use of the Latourette Fund to embark on a radical strategy of documenting world Christianity via comprehensive purchasing and a series of agreements with publishers to produce microfilm of rare and/or unpublished material.

A new position was created in the Research Services and Collections department (rsc) to serve geographic information systems for the library as a whole. rsc also expanded its collections of primary sources in microformat, for example with the Gerritsen Collection of Women's History; British Foreign Office files for Japan, Cuba, and the USA; the records of the U.S. Department of State concerning Eastern European and Middle Eastern countries; and a range of newspaper backfiles from Italy and Germany as well as American regional newspapers. The Librarian for Film and Theater studies acquired microfilms to support the new Ph.D. program in Film Studies as well as theater collections in microform, including the papers of Richard Brinsley Sheridan, Henry Irving, and Ellen Terry. The Government Documents and Information Center purchased two major microform sets: the *Congressional Member Caucuses* and the *Congressional Information Service Limited Edition*, 1991 to present. Among significant electronic resources added to the growing list of databases held by the Social Science Library and Information Service were *United Nations Statistics Division Common Database* and *Worldwide Political Science and Government Abstracts*. Collections of electronic sources began to feature prominently in the humanities collections. Among those acquired in 2000–2001 were *Classic Protestant Texts* and additional portions of the Past Masters series of full-text databases containing works of major philosophers and scientists.

Staffing

Against this background of constantly increasing activity, several changes in senior staffing left significant gaps in the library's management. Scott Bennett's retirement has already been mentioned. Equally epochal was the retirement of Ralph Franklin as Director of the Beinecke

Library, and his replacement by Barbara Shailor. Patricia Willis served highly effectively for six months as Acting Director between the departure of Ralph Franklin and the arrival of his successor. A previous issue of *Nota Bene* records the initial thoughts of both Barbara Shailor and myself as newcomers to the leadership of Yale University Library. The retirement of Hideo Kaneko after thirty-four years' service deprived the East Asian department of its curator, a position filled this June by Ellen Hammond. In the interim of nearly two years, Cesar Rodriguez and Joan Swanekamp shared the duties of supervising the department. Max Marmor left his position as Director of the Arts Library in April 2001 to join the new enterprise of artstor at the Mellon Foundation. Until his successor Katherine Haskins joined the library in June of this year, Christine DeVallet served as Acting Director. Paul Conway left his position as Director of Preservation in the summer of 2001 for a new, senior position at Duke University. He was replaced on an interim basis by Richard Frieder, but recruitment of a permanent successor is still in progress. All of these departures bereft the library of much accumulated wisdom and expertise, and necessarily placed extra burdens on colleagues (not least the Library Human Resources department). I would like to extend the library's warm thanks to all of those leaving for the important contributions that they made while they were with us, and I also wish to thank the people they left behind for picking up additional duties so ably and willingly. All of us keenly look forward to welcoming our new colleagues.



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

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Building for the Future

Writing an annual report for a year in which I had not yet joined the library makes me feel humbled by the attainments that I hope to build on and conscious that I probably have not done justice to them. Perhaps it is enough to say here that the Yale University Library system is continuing to demonstrate excellence and resilience in the service of a university and a wider community which deserve nothing less. It is my hope that in the years to come the library will develop even stronger links with the communities it serves: Yale faculty and students above all, and also the wider community of New Haven and the world's research community. The library's staff have been working together to provide a strong, up-to-date infrastructure, and also to plan a strategy for the next five years. We hope to move the library system forward energetically. Phase ii of the renovations to Cross Campus and Sterling libraries (for which planning is now beginning) will provide the opportunity for some new approaches to the way students and faculty use the collections. They will also enable us to restore

some of the original beauty of the Sterling nave and, I hope, to give space for better presented information about the collections. We will strengthen our core services to achieve well-managed shelving, comprehensive and accurate bibliographic records, good preservation of the collections, a well-trained staff, and well-trained, highly literate users. We will enhance electronic services and collections so that in the future Yale library users will enjoy the benefit of a mature system providing seamless, integrated access to the information they need in both traditional and new formats. We will build up the library's great international collections in all disciplines and develop closer links with the nation's and the world's libraries, supporting the great goal of free access to information world wide, which is part of Yale's agenda for its fourth century. I look forward to reporting achievements in all these spheres. Meanwhile, I would like to thank all those generous donors who have supported the library's work during the year under review, and I salute the achievements of the library and its staff.

—Alice Prochaska, University Librarian

Yale University Library Facts for 2000–01

Includes the Medical Library; excludes the Law Library. Collections data excludes Government Documents.

COLLECTIONS

	2000–01	1999–00
Number of books & serial volumes in the library (30 June 2001)	9,867,300	9,668,681
Number of serials (journals, annuals, etc.) currently received	51,371	51,370
Number of volumes added to the collections in fy2001 (net)	198,619	190,441
Total volume of manuscript & archival holdings (linear feet)	61,286	58,301

INSTRUCTION

Number of classroom sessions & workshops offered	872	699
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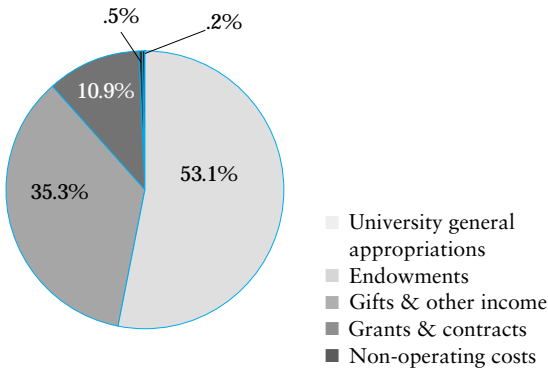
SERVICES AND OPERATIONS

Professional and managerial staff (full-time equivalent employees)	216	212
Clerical and technical staff (full-time equivalent employees)	338	314
Student employees (full-time equivalent employees)	46	69
Searches in online catalog	3,773,475	3,368,726
Items charged to readers (first time only)	412,689	413,216
Items requested through Eli Express	28,370	21,751
Number of titles cataloged	176,108	157,847
Number of full-level records converted to machine-readable form	635,932	505,914
Total number of online bibliographic records	5,030,608	4,689,050

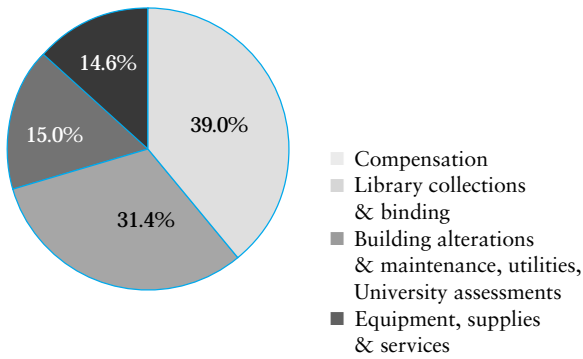
PRESERVATION

Circulating collection volumes commercially bound	22,623	54,513
Circulating collection volumes repaired	2,837	6,219
Special collections volumes and single sheet items treated	8,033	4,841

Library Funding



Library Expenditures



DONOR SUPPORT

(\$ millions, except number of funds)

	2000–2001	1999–2000
New endowment gifts	\$ 2.1	\$ 2.0
New expendable gifts	.6	.6
Total of gifts to the library (excluding gifts of books, etc.)	\$ 2.7	\$ 2.6
Total market value of endowment (30 June 2001)	\$ 825.3	\$ 742.9
Income from endowment	26.6	22.4
Number of endowed funds	536	530

LIBRARY BUDGET (\$ millions)

SOURCE OF FUNDS

	2000–2001	1999–2000
University general appropriations	\$ 32.7	\$ 32.5
Endowments	21.7	19.0
Gifts and other income (excluding pledges)	6.7	4.6
Grants and contracts	.3	.3
Non-operating costs, including construction	.1	.1
Total	\$ 61.5	\$ 56.5

EXPENDITURES

	2000–2001	1999–2000
Compensation	\$ 24.0	\$ 22.7
Library collections and binding	19.3	17.9
Building alterations and maintenance, utilities, University assessments	9.2	9.2
Equipment, supplies, and services	9.0	6.7
Total	\$ 61.5	\$ 56.5

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