

# The Smithsonian Institution Libraries in

# 1999

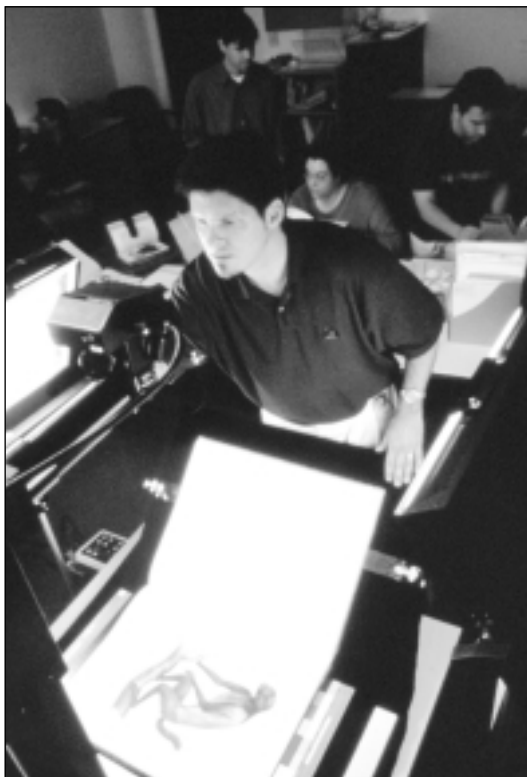
Fiscal Year October 1, 1998-September 30, 1999

## IMAGING CENTER OPENS IN 1999

Anyone with an Internet connection can now consult one of the treasures from the Libraries' collection instead of making a trip to Washington. **Tom Garnett**, Assistant Director of Information Systems, heads the effort to publish online digital editions of selections from the Libraries' rich collections. Six titles, three in the history of science and technology and three in natural history, are available on the Libraries' home page. Thanks to start-up funding from the Smithsonian's Atherton Seidell Endowment Fund which supports dissemination of previously published scientific research, and the Jaques Admiralty Law Firm of Detroit, Michigan, the Libraries purchased equipment for a digital Imaging Center which opened March 2. The center, overseen by **Susan Blaine**, head of the Libraries' Preservation Services Department, is equipped with a digital camera, flat-bed scanner, computers, and software.

The online publications — or Digital Editions — faithfully reproduce the book's contents from cover to cover, including blank pages. And SIL staff have added much value in the form of biographical indexes and other navigational tools to help readers use the books successfully. Says Garnett, "Production of each digital volume is a team effort involving the intellectual and technical skills of SIL's librarians, specialists, and technicians." Works in the pipeline include *Simiarum et Vespertilion Brasiliensium species novae* (1823) by Johann Baptiste von Spix (pictured above), an early volume with descriptions of new species of Brazilian monkeys and bats, valuable to researchers in the National Museum of Natural History.

See 'Click Here', p. 3, for online publications.



David Holbert scanning in the Imaging Center

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# SERVICES TO OUR USERS

## THE LIBRARIES IN FISCAL YEAR 1999

- > 19 Branch Libraries  
(18 open, Natural History Rare Book Library to open in 2001)
- > 1,220,101 volumes in collection
- > 6,485 journal subscriptions
- > 186,402 microfilm and -fiche items
- > 2,103 linear feet of manuscripts
- > 7,682 acquisition purchase orders prepared
- > 10,599 titles cataloged
- > 327 e (electronic) titles cataloged
- > 9,700 journal issues checked in
- > 8,470 volumes bound and boxed
- > 161 brittle books microfilmed

## GIFT & EXCHANGE PROGRAM (G&E)

*Includes G&E programs operating from Washington and from the STRI (Panama) and Cooper-Hewitt (New York) Branches*

- > 4,754 G&E exchange partners in 50 states and 145 countries
- > 3,379 journals and serials received on G&E exchange
- > 7,259 gift books received

## STAFF PUBLICATIONS

Eleven SIL staff published, in print and online, 3 bibliographies, a cataloging guide, 6 bibliographic and scholarly introductions, 6 articles and published presentations, 35 biographical entries in reference works, 21 reviews, and published 15 monthly columns in professional newsletters. These authors on the Libraries' staff are **Ron Brashear, Timothy Carr, Elaine Cline, Margaret R. Dittimore, Martin R. Kalfatovic, Ned O. Kraft, Alvin Hutchinson, Leslie Overstreet, Sheila Riley, Lucien R. Rossignol, and Valerie J. Wheat.** Margaret R. Dittimore also co-authored an online exhibition produced by staff of Smithsonian's Department of Anthropology, Libraries and Archives.



The Libraries opened its eighteenth branch at the National Museum of the American Indian Cultural Resources Center in Suitland, Maryland. See *Information* #87 for appointment of Librarian Ruby Hamilton

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



Director Nancy E. Gwinn established an Information Systems Division headed by Tom Garnett who was named Assistant Director, Information Systems Division. Garnett oversees digital initiatives and the computer systems. Shown here are Executive Committee members Assistant Directors Mary Augusta Thomas who heads the Management and Technical Services Division, Bonita D. Perry who heads the Research Services Division, Gwinn, and Garnett.

## INFORMATION SERVICE IN THE BRANCH LIBRARIES

- > 55,383 Reference questions answered by branch staff
- > 96,480 Library materials consulted or browsed on-site in the branches
- > 109,419 Circulation transactions (items checked out or renewed)

## LOANS OF LIBRARIES' MATERIALS

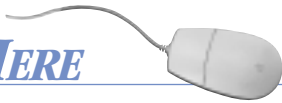
- > 10,776 Interlibrary loans of books and articles to institutions in all 50 states, Puerto Rico, and 17 countries
- > 25 volumes loaned for exhibition to Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service (SITES) and to museums in 1 foreign and 4 U.S. cities

## CORC'S EFFORTS TO ORGANIZE THE WEB

CORC (Cooperative Online Resource Catalog) is a cooperative effort of OCLC libraries who are creating a high-quality database of web-site descriptions in various fields of interest. CORC will help Internet users search and find needed information quickly and efficiently. The Libraries is participating with approximately 100 libraries from around the world in this OCLC project.

## AWARD

**Lowell Ashley** received a Special Achievement Award from the Music Library Association for his work on *Cataloging Musical Moving Image Material* (1996).



## LIBRARIES' ONLINE PUBLICATIONS

In its Imaging Center, the Libraries produced five **digital editions** of rare books, originally published from the 16th to the 19th centuries, in the fields of astronomy, physical science, and natural history. **Ron Brashear**, Curator of Science and Technology Rare Books, and **Leslie Overstreet**, Curator of Natural History Rare Books, prepared the introductions for the works in their respective fields. **David Holbert**, **Conrad Ziyad**, and **Shawn Adams** of the Preservation Services Department digitized the volumes, and **Martin Kalfatovic** and **Courtney Danforth** of the Information Systems Division prepared the navigational tools and indexes.

[Click here](#)

### [www.sil.si.edu/DigitalCollections](http://www.sil.si.edu/DigitalCollections)

- > Jacques Dauphinois Besson, *Theatrum instrumentorum et machinarum* (1578), Digital Edition, 1999
- > Tycho Brahe, *Astronomæ instauratæ mechanica* (1602), Digital Edition, 1999
- > Christiaan Huygens, *Systema Saturnium* (1659), Digital Edition, 1999
- > Joachim Johann Nepomuk Spalowsky, *Prodromus in Systema Historicum Testaceorum*. (1795 [1801 issue]). Digital Edition. 1999
- > José Dionisio Larreátegui, *Description Botanique du Chiranthodendron* (1805). Digital Edition, 1999

[Click here](#)

### [www.sil.si.edu/SILPublications/Anthropology-K12](http://www.sil.si.edu/SILPublications/Anthropology-K12)

> Anthropology Branch Librarian **Maggie Dittmore's** website, *Anthropology on the Internet for K-12* (1999), designated the "best online resource for anthropology students" by the WWW Virtual Library, is an annotated listing of hotlinks to selected websites offered as part of the Smithsonian effort to support and advance education for diverse audiences



"Another equatorial armillary instrument" from Tycho Brahe (1602)



Libraries Home Page [www.sil.si.edu](http://www.sil.si.edu)

[Click here](#)

### [www.sil.si.edu/SILPublications/Online-Exhibitions](http://www.sil.si.edu/SILPublications/Online-Exhibitions)

> *Library and Archival Exhibitions on the Web* with links to more than 800 online and archival exhibitions  
 "In one clean list, the site opens the door to some of the best that libraries have to offer." - LibrarySpot Site of the Month, July 1999 ([www.libraryspot.com](http://www.libraryspot.com)).  
 LibrarySpot focuses on contributions to the library community. This online exhibition project, started at the University of Houston in 1995, was revived by **Diane Shaw** and re-launched on the Libraries' website in May.

[Click here](#)

### <http://ericir.syr.edu> at ERIC (Educational Resources Information Clearinghouse), Department of Education, document ED428772, 1999

> **Timothy Carr** and Debra Shumate, compilers, "Postal Service in Colonial America: A Bibliography of Material in the Smithsonian Institution Libraries, National Postal Museum Branch." Republished from *Philatelic Literature Review* 47, no. 1 (1998): 44-57

[Click here](#)

### [www.nmnbsi.edu/antbro/laexped](http://www.nmnbsi.edu/antbro/laexped)

> Smithsonian Expeditions, a bi-lingual, multi-media website to highlight people and events in the 150 years of Smithsonian research in Latin America, with collections of the Libraries, the Anthropology Department and the Smithsonian Archives, co-curated by Jane Walsh, **Margaret Dittmore**, and Pamela Henson (based on a 1996 exhibition held at the Inter-American Development Bank)

In FY 1999, the SIL www site logged over 3.8 million hits.

# HOW WE MAKE IT HAPPEN

## OUR THANKS TO OUR PRODUCTIVE AND LOYAL VOLUNTEERS

And to VIARC, the Smithsonian Visitor Information and Associates' Reception Center, for coordinating volunteer activities.

### **Acquisitions Services Department**

Rita Hunter Ellen Unumb

### **Preservation Services Department, Book Conservation Laboratory**

Patricia Brennan Joan Gilder  
 Jahanvi Desai Eliza Gilligan  
 Rebecca Elder Spencer Haynsworth  
 Jennifer Engelbach Claire Mason  
 Luci Geller

### **Botany Branch**

Karla Farrall

### **Cooper-Hewitt, National Design Museum Branch**

Edith MacGuire Fran Smyth  
 Margery Masinter Louise Ufland  
 Renata Rutledge Griselda Warr

### **Horticulture Branch**

Ann McIntire Barbara Robinson  
 Marian Tebben

### **Information Systems Division**

Helen Nordberg Henry Zoller

### **Museum Reference Center**

Christine Mayer

### **National Air and Space Museum Branch**

Agnes Counihan Grace Engeler  
 Robert Dreesen Patricia Squire

### **National Museum of African Art Branch**

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 Evalyn Carter Lucienne Orosch  
 Ruth Chandler Lillian Pharr  
 Jody Jeweler Betty Smith  
 Karen Lee Lillian Vaughan  
 Sherrie Nagin Sherri Watkins

### **National Museum of American History Branch**

Betty Spungen

### **National Museum of Natural History Branch**

Joan Horn Eileen Shoemaker

### **National Postal Museum Branch**

Heinz Gerstle Ruth Richards  
 Samuel Pringle Herbert Trenchard

### **Office of the Director**





Ben Axleroad Jennifer Engelbach

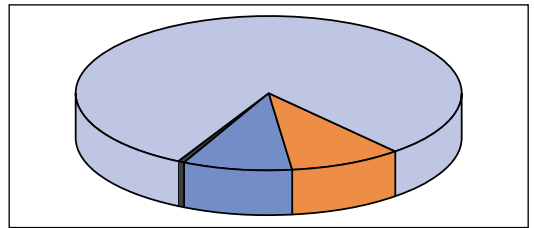
### **Special Collections Department**

Marilyn Barth








## THE FINANCIAL RESOURCES

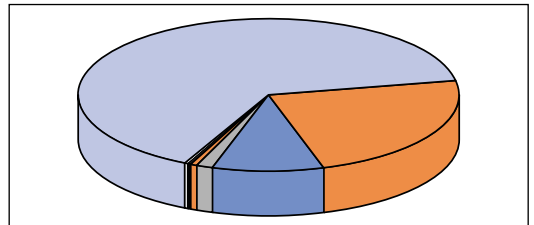
### **Funding Sources, FY 1999**

	\$6,711,004	Federal appropriation
	777,000	Trust Fund allocations
	763,569	Gifts and grants
	39,843	Endowments income



### **Expenditures, FY 1999**

	\$4,782,866	Personnel costs
	1,710,471	Library materials (collections)
	707,131	Program Support (OCLC, computer equipment, renovation, repair, &c.)
	102,000	Cataloging Support
	30,221	Staff Development
	24,190	Miscellaneous
	10,332	Public programs



## APPOINTMENT

**Tracy-ann Suleiman**, appointed in August Librarian of the Anacostia Museum & Center for African American History and Culture Branch, will develop the Libraries' collection of materials about the experiences of African American history and culture in Washington, D.C. and throughout the Western hemisphere. Ms. Suleiman has a B.A. in African American Studies from William Smith College, an M.A. from the University at Albany in Africana Studies, and an M.L.S. from the University at Albany. During the period of renovation at the Anacostia Museum, the Branch Library will operate from the Center for African American History and Culture in the Arts & Industries Building.



## THE HUMAN RESOURCES

- 109 Staff (full time equivalent)
  - 1 Librarian for Latino Research (funded by Smithsonian Center for Latino Initiatives)
  - 3 Visiting Guest Librarians (from Australia, Kenya and Poland)
- 50 Volunteers
- 8 Interns
- 7 Student workers

## ...TO LEARN ABOUT AN AMERICAN LIBRARY

### **Visiting Guest Professionals**

Roxanne Missingham, Director of Information Services, National Library of Australia, to the Natural and Physical Sciences Department

Ashah Owano, Head Librarian, National Museum of Kenya, to National Museum of Natural History Branch Library

Agnieska B. Koszowska, Librarian, Biblioteka Slaska, Katowice, Poland, and Soros Fellow, to Acquisitions Services Department

### **Post Graduate Professional Residency for Latino Research funded by the Smithsonian Center for Latino Initiatives**

Mario Ascencio, National Museum of American History Branch Library, and rotations through all Libraries' Departments

### **Interns**

- > Camilla Arcangioli, Cooper-Hewitt, National Design Museum Branch Library
- > Kindera Chase, National Museum of African Art Branch Library
- > Martha Conners, Cooper-Hewitt, National Design Museum Branch Library
- > John Lee Curtis, Information Systems Division
- > Elizabeth Houck, Dibner Library of the History of Science and Technology
- > Cathy Serifica, National Museum of American History Branch Library
- > Erin Tyburski, Horticulture Branch Library
- > Christine Winkler, Information Systems Division and National Museum of American History Branch Library



John Rennie Short (seated), Carolyn de la Pena, and Ron Brashear, Curator of Science and Technology Rare Books

## ...TO USE LIBRARIES' COLLECTIONS

### **Smithsonian Institution Fellows working under the supervision of Libraries' staff**

Janin Hadlaw, Cooper-Hewitt, National Design Museum Branch Library and National Museum of American History Branch Library

Joanna Grabski, National Museum of African Art Branch Library

Since 1992 The Dibner Fund has annually provided support for a total of nineteen scholars to come to Washington and conduct their research in the Dibner Library of the History of Science and Technology.

### **1999 SIL Dibner Library Resident Scholars**

Carolyn Thomas de la Pena, Ph.D. candidate in American Studies at the University of Texas at Austin, is writing her dissertation on American strategies of the late 1800s to increase human energy through technological and industrial sources. An important area of her research is the metaphor of the body as a machine in American medicine. Assuming "that industrial metaphors would have appeared only after the 1860s," she found in the Dibner Library "textbooks as early as the 1840s comparing the body to industrial equipment."

John Rennie Short, Professor of Geography at Syracuse University, examined a number of early works in the Dibner Library in order to better understand the traditions of the early, pre-modern geographies as part of a larger plan to publish a book, *Alternative Geographies*. He reported, "My initial aims were to look at the emergence of a separate geography discourse from the cosmographical texts of the late 15th-early 16th centuries. I want to see how a specific academic discipline emerged from a comprehensive view of the world. The Dibner Library has a wonderful collection of cosmographical sources, especially the variety of editions of standard works by Petrus Appian and Oronoco Fine. Prompted by links discovered in my research and by the availability of key texts in the Dibner Library, my focus widened to explore 16th- and early 17th-century development of surveying and navigation. I think I have been successful in establishing the outlines of a general cosmographical model that held sway across Europe for almost a century, serving as the basis for the Renaissance scientific world view."

See *Information* # 86 for the third 1999 resident scholar, Gregory A. Wickliff. The Resident Scholar program is supported by The Dibner Fund.

# PROGRAMS AND CONTRIBUTIONS

## PROGRAMS

The Libraries organized a public symposium on “Edward S. Curtis and *The North American Indian* Re-viewed” with support from the National Anthropological Archives and the National Museum of the American Indian. The event was held on November 16, 1998, during Native American Month in conjunction with the Libraries’ exhibition on *Edward S. Curtis, Frontier Photographer* (on view in the Libraries Exhibition Gallery September 1998-September 1999), curated by the Libraries’ **William E. Baxter**.

The 1999 Dibner Library Lecture, supported by The Dibner Fund, featured Charles Brownell speaking on “Horrors! Changing Views of the American Victorian House.” The May 21 lecture was part of the Washington Collegium for the Humanities lecture series on Shifting Perspectives on History, Culture and the Arts.

The Smithsonian Associates launched a series of lectures on “Authors Working in the Smithsonian Libraries” (January 24 and March 25). The first two lecturers, Cynthia Van Allen Schaffner and Russell Flinchum, both worked in the collections in the Cooper-Hewitt National Design Museum Branch.

## CONTRIBUTIONS

### *Gifts and Pledges FY 1999*

The Libraries raised over \$450,000 in gifts and pledges in FY 1999 from individuals, corporations, and foundations. Highlights include new funds pledged for a preservation endowment and for enlargement of a resident scholar program, gifts to enhance the S. Dillon Ripley Library Endowment, funds for the Natural History Rare Book Library, support for acquisitions at several branches, exhibition support, and funds for digital library projects.

### *Ripley Endowment Surpasses Half-Million Dollar Mark*

Additional gifts and strong market growth enabled the S. Dillon Ripley Library Endowment to grow to \$503,677 in FY 1999. Endowment income allowed the Libraries to purchase 118 books for 15 of the Libraries’ branches this year. Subjects ranged from the language of the Aleutian Islanders and 18th-century English porcelain to the impact of climate variability on forests. Since its inception in 1993, the Ripley Library Endowment has



Edward S. Curtis, “Atsina Camp [Montana, 1909],” *The North American Indian*, v. 5, plate 175 (1909)

supported acquisition of 562 books, many titles requested by Smithsonian scholars to support ongoing and new research projects.

### *Cooper-Hewitt Branch Supported by Parsons Program Alumni Appeal*

The first-ever appeal for support to alumni of the Parsons Graduate Program in the History of Design and Decorative Arts resulted in almost \$16,000 for acquisitions for the Cooper-Hewitt, National Design Museum Branch Library. Students from the Parsons Program use the resources of both the Cooper-Hewitt Museum and SIL’s Cooper-Hewitt Branch Library extensively, and many alumni continue their use of the library as they progress on to careers in the design world or pursue academic and personal research.

### *Award*

The Smithsonian Women’s Committee awarded the Libraries two preservation grants totaling almost \$16,000. One grant is to purchase 840 protective custom-made enclosures for rehousing natural history rare books providing both immediate and long-term protection for these valuable resources. The second grant funds the preservation of an exceptionally rare set of 19th-century plates on French furniture, wallcovering, and textile design, *Le Garde-Meuble: Ancien et Moderne* (Paris, 1839-1900).



“Chaise de Fantasie,” *Le Garde Meuble: Ancien et Moderne* (Paris, 1839-1900) preserved with funds from a Women’s Committee Grant

### *Book Donations*

Eleanor Smallwood Niebell made a significant gift of over 150 books, pamphlets, and documents to the National Museum of the American Indian Branch. Collected over many years by her late husband Paul Niebell, a claims attorney who worked for tribes including the Seminole, the Creek, and the Yakima, the materials are a welcome contribution to building the research collection at the new branch library.

The Dibner Library of the History of Science and Technology received a generous donation from Gale Dunn Kaufmann of 11 rare volumes relating to medicine, dating from 1585 to 1843. The books were collected by her parents, physicians in Czechoslovakia who had brought them along when they emigrated to the United States.

# SUPPORTING THE LIBRARIES' EFFORTS

## DONORS TO THE COLLECTION

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*A Little Maryland Garden (1909)* preserved with funds from a Women's Committee Grant

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