



Smithsonian Institution Libraries

# Annual Report *2001*



- ◆ 22 libraries
- ◆ \$8.2 million annual budget
- ◆ \$1.15 million annual collections purchases

- ◆ 136 staff members
- ◆ 1.52 million volumes in collection
- ◆ 47,832 reference questions answered

Message  
from  
the  
Director

Nancy E. Gwinn



The Libraries achieved its first substantial growth in many years when, in October 2000, we welcomed into the SI Libraries' administrative structure three established art libraries located in the Smithsonian American Art Museum/National Portrait Gallery, the Freer Gallery of Art & Arthur M. Sackler Gallery, and the Hirshhorn Museum & Sculpture Garden. Combined with the Warren M. Robbins Library of the National Museum of African Art and the Cooper Hewitt, National Design Museum Library, the five libraries form a new Art Department. The consolidation provides SIL with greater leverage to negotiate contracts for art-related databases, a structure for development of more effective services to all Smithsonian staff working in art-related areas, and an ability to assure uniform library-related practices across the Institution.

In this report you'll see charts, graphs, photos, vignettes, and other representations of a year filled with activity in our mission to provide information in whatever form is necessary. Increasingly the form is electronic, which facilitates the retrieval of data and information. Our collection of scholarly e-journals numbers nearly 850 titles.

The Libraries' development staff worked hard to increase funds from donors and to put in place the foundation of a first-ever Libraries Capital Campaign. This major effort to find supporters will help us expand our programs, collections, and services. In fiscal year 2001 the Libraries raised \$1,005,000, principally for endowments, which will ensure that SIL remains healthy in the future.

Major excitement accompanied the launch of our new website, "Galaxy of Knowledge," [www.sil.si.edu](http://www.sil.si.edu). Reference staff have for years been organizing and making easily accessible numerous Internet resources of interest to Smithsonian researchers. With the new "Galaxy" site, we open our virtual doors more widely to the general public so they, too, can experience the Libraries' rich and multifaceted collections and services. Our virtual outpost makes the Libraries accessible to an international audience 24 hours a day.

A most exciting event was the opening of our first out-of-town exhibition at The Grolier Club in New York, N.Y. on May 16 for a three-month run. ***Voyages: A Smithsonian Libraries Exhibition*** featured over 100 of SIL's most valuable, rare, and intriguing books and manuscripts in a display designed to illustrate the synergy between museum and library collections and their importance to curators and scientists.

This report is organized in line with Secretary Small's institutional objectives of Public Impact, Management Excellence, and Financial Strength, to show how the Libraries fits into and helps move this strategic, visionary plan for the Smithsonian forward. As the library of the world's largest museum and research complex, the Smithsonian Libraries is uniquely situated at the crossroads of serious research and the popular presentation of knowledge. You won't find our extensive work in support of scientific research recognized here because of the current definitions - but that is changing and will be reflected in FY2002. The Libraries staff and I enthusiastically embrace the coming year and the new challenges posed by our distinctive role within the Institution. New demands shape our identity; ultimately, they also broaden our horizons.

Each year I am more impressed by the persistent dedication of reference librarians and catalogers, acquisitions and delivery staff, information technologists and library technicians, book repairers and fundraisers, events planners and editors-and let's not forget the supervisors and administrators-who come to work every day and simply get the job done without fuss. To all Libraries' staff, I salute you and wish you even more success in fiscal year 2002!



*You certainly have caught the lines of our ship.*  
Lester West  
Donald A. Hall



## Public Impact

### Exhibitions

***The Underwater Web: Cabling the Seas***  
Smithsonian Libraries Gallery, Washington, D.C.  
National Museum of American History, Behring Center  
March 23, 2001 - March 11, 2002

***Underwater Web: Cabling the Seas*** explores the birth, history and technology behind global communications, which began in 1851 when a telegraph cable laid under water in the English Channel opened communications between England and France. TyCom funded the exhibition. An online version of ***Underwater Web: Cabling the Seas*** can be seen at [www.sil.si.edu/exhibitions](http://www.sil.si.edu/exhibitions).

### ***Voyages: A Smithsonian Libraries Exhibition***

The Grolier Club, New York, N.Y.

May 16 2001 - August 4, 2001

***Voyages: A Smithsonian Libraries Exhibition*** opened at Manhattan's prestigious Grolier Club. The nearly 100 examples of lavishly illustrated books from the Smithsonian Libraries' 1.5 million-volume collection drew a large crowd. The exhibition will open under the new title, ***An Odyssey in Print: Adventures in the Smithsonian Libraries***, in the Smithsonian Libraries Gallery in the National Museum of American History, Behring Center in May 2002.

### Public Programs

#### **Dibner Library Lecture, November 16, 2000**

Kenneth L. Caneva, Professor of History at University of North Carolina Greensboro delivered the annual Dibner Library Lecture, "The Form and Function of Scientific Discoveries," in the Castle Library. Caneva used Ritter's discovery of ultraviolet light in 1801, Ørsted's discovery of electromagnetism in 1820, and Seebeck's discovery of thermoelectricity in 1821 as case studies.

#### **Family Day, Grolier Club, New York City, June 23, 2001**

The family day event was the Libraries first public program aimed at the K-12 age group. Well-known children's author Mary Pope Osborne was on hand to read from her ***Magic Tree House*** series.

#### **Lecture Series, Grolier Club, New York City, May - June 2001**

A free public lecture series was offered at the Grolier Club to complement the exhibition ***Voyages: A Smithsonian Libraries Exhibition***. Exhibition Curator Mary Augusta Thomas spoke on the history and identity of the Libraries. Rare Books Curators Ron Brashear and Leslie Overstreet and Librarians Stephen Van Dyk of the Cooper Hewitt National Design Museum Library and Paul McCutcheon of the National Air and Space Museum Library delivered lectures about the books and authors represented in the exhibition.

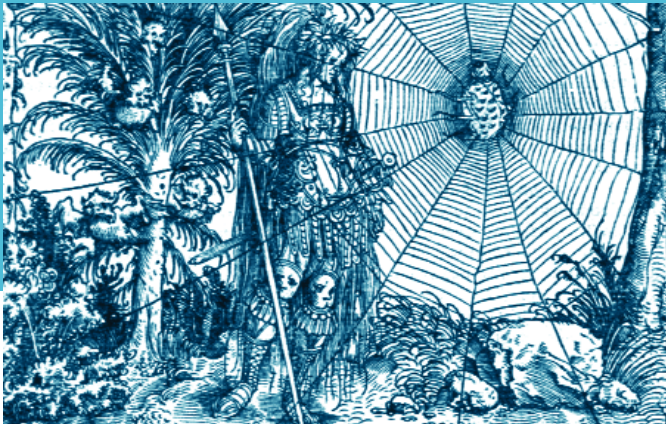
#### **2001 Lieberman Lecture, National Museum of American History, Behring Center, September 25, 2001**

The American Printing History Association (APHA) held its annual Lieberman Lecture at the National Museum of American History, Behring Center. Guest speaker was Johanna Drucker, Robertson Professor of Media Studies at the University of Virginia. Drucker's lecture focused on the work of poet Ilia Zdanevich. The event's co-sponsors were the museum's Graphic Arts Division and the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress.

### Print Publications

- ◆ Kenneth L. Caneva. ***The Form and Function of Scientific Discoveries***. Dibner Library Lecture, November 16, 2000, Washington, DC: Smithsonian Institution Libraries.
- ◆ Steven J. Dick. ***Extraterrestrial Life and our World View at the Turn of the Millennium***. Dibner Library Lecture, May 2, 2000, Washington, DC: Smithsonian Institution Libraries.
- ◆ Rhoda Ratner, Barbara Suit Janssen, and John Fleckner. ***Sewing Machines: Historical Trade Literature in Smithsonian Institution Collections***. Washington, DC: Smithsonian Institution Libraries, 2001.
- ◆ Stephen H. Van Dyk. ***Rare Books***. London: Scala Publishing, 2001.

# Digital Library



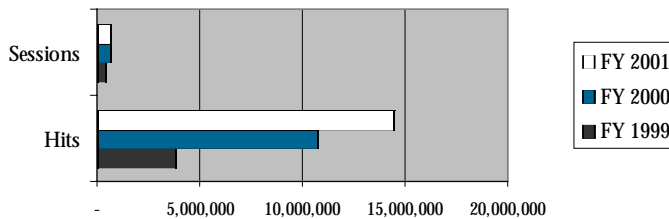
The SIL website, [www.sil.si.edu](http://www.sil.si.edu), hit a new yearly high in terms of both total hits and user sessions. Hits rose to 14.6 million - an increase of 34.68% over FY 2000, and user sessions were at 657,541 - an increase of .67% over last year. March and April were the site's all time monthly

highs in terms of hits and user sessions. September saw a dramatic drop off in use of the site reflecting the overall drop of Smithsonian visitorship after the events of September 11. Time spent by visitors on the site averaged about 14 minutes, among the longest visit times of any Smithsonian website.

## SIL Web Projects

Since October 2000, the Smithsonian Libraries produced 11 new digital publications, manifesting the Libraries' commitment to increasing the longevity of vital historical materials and to making its rich resources available to the widest audience possible. Through digitization of this material, scholars and other interested parties can access this material internationally, 24 hours a day, via the World Wide Web. "Galaxy of Knowledge," [www.sil.si.edu](http://www.sil.si.edu), the Libraries' new website, was launched in October 2001. "Galaxy" serves as a virtual portal to the Libraries' extensive collections and resources. The site

## SIL Web Statistics

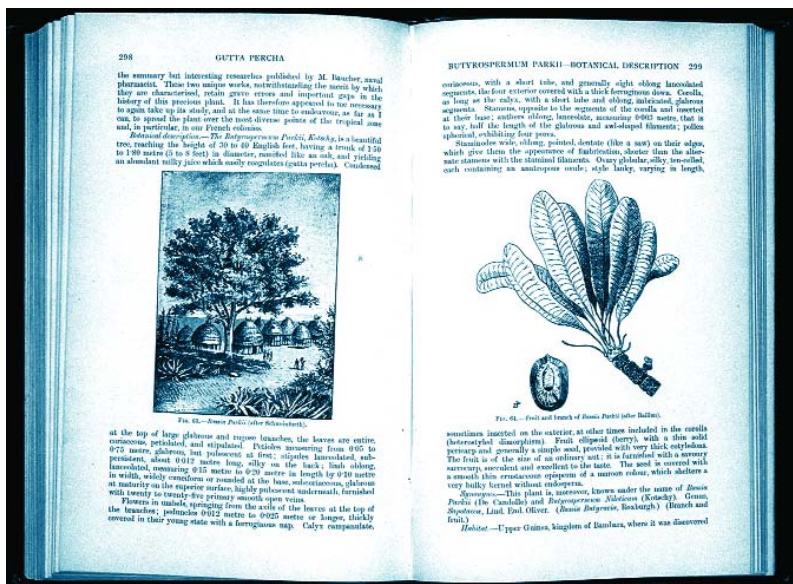


offers greater ease of navigation of previously existing online tools and information. A sampling of projects that went live during this past year include:

- ◆ **Local Mail Posts in the United States, A Bibliography of Items in the National Postal Museum Library of the Smithsonian Institution Libraries**
- ◆ **Sewing Machines: Historical Trade Literature in Smithsonian Collections**
- ◆ **Underwater Web: Cabling the Seas**
- ◆ **Extraterrestrial Life and Our World View at the Turn of the Millennium**
- ◆ **The Form and Function of Scientific Discoveries**

## RLG Cultural Materials Database

In fiscal year 2001, the Libraries contributed records and their associated images for nine digital editions to the Research Libraries Group's Cultural Materials database. The database provides access to the holdings of major research, academic, corporate, medical, law, theological, music and art libraries, archives, museums and historical societies. Its unique organization offers the potential to reveal patterns and other affinities among the many objects, places, and time periods included.





## Resident Scholars

### Spencer Baird Society Resident Scholar Program

Inaugurated in 2001, the Spencer Baird Society Resident Scholar Program supports

students and scholars from a number of scientific, historical, and artistic disciplines, who seek to use the Libraries' extensive World's Fairs and International Exhibitions Collections. Scholars in 2001 were:

- ◆ **João Felipe Gonçalves** (Ph.D. candidate, Johns Hopkins) spent his three-month residency working on a project titled, "The Presentation of Brazil at World's Fairs and Expositions: 1851-1914."
- ◆ **Christine O'Malley** (Ph.D. candidate, University of Virginia) spent her three-month residency conducting research on her project, "American Industrial Designers and the Challenge to Architecture, 1925-60: World's Fairs."

### The Dibner Library Resident Scholar Program

Since its inception in 1992, the Dibner Library Resident Scholar program has made the Libraries' History of Science and Technology collections available to over 25 scholars for in-depth research. The residency program is made possible through the generous support of The Dibner Fund. In 2001 the scholars were:

- ◆ **Jill H. Casid** (Visiting Lecturer in the Art Department at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill) came to SIL from an Ahmanson-Getty postdoctoral fellowship at the Center for 17th & 18th Century Studies, UCLA. She took her Ph.D. from Harvard University in Art History in 1999. Her project was titled "Necromancy of Empire: The Magic Lantern and Technologies of Projection, 1650-1850."
- ◆ **Richard Cunningham** (Assistant Professor in the Department of English at Acadia University in Wolfville, Nova Scotia) received his Ph.D. in English from Pennsylvania State University in 1999. Dr. Cunningham conducted research on "Image and Text in the Education of English Mariners."
- ◆ **Bertrum H. MacDonald** (Associate Professor and Director of the School of Library and Information Studies at Dalhousie University in Halifax, Nova Scotia) was awarded the Marie Tremaine Medal, the highest honor of the Bibliographical Society of Canada, in 2000. He received his Ph.D. in Library and Information Science from the University of Western Ontario in 1990. Dr. MacDonald studied "Rhetoric and Reality: Was Science Borderless in the Victorian Era?"
- ◆ **Alberto Martinez** obtained his Ph.D. in 2000 from the University of Minnesota. His degree is in the history of science and technology with a minor in the philosophy of science. Dr. Martinez did research on the modern science of motion with his project, "A History of Modern Kinematics."



# Management Excellence

## Vision for the 21st Century

The Smithsonian Institution Libraries, the most comprehensive museum library in the world, strives to become an internationally recognized source for recorded knowledge and information in subjects related to Smithsonian interests.

We will be catalyst, partner, and participant in the use of information technology and the transformation of scholarly research in the sciences, arts, and cultural heritage of the United States.

- ◆ We shall preserve and organize our collections and shall use the most appropriate and innovative means to enrich and augment them. We shall provide vigorous, responsive service to meet the needs of an increasingly diverse institutional and public clientele.

- ◆ We shall interpret our collections for the general public, using them as the basis for exhibitions, publications, and public programs that advance an understanding of scientific and technological progress, the arts and the American experience.

- ◆ We shall foster in our staff common goals of excellence, innovation and cooperation and ensure that all are highly trained, technologically sophisticated, and thoroughly committed to the Smithsonian's research, education, and public outreach mandate.

## Preservation Services

Conservation is crucial to ensuring the longevity of SIL's 1.5-million volume collection, of which 40,000 are rare or out-of-print works. With a single conservator working in SIL's Book Conservation Laboratory, the focus in FY01 was principally on the evaluation and stabilization of objects slated to travel on loan and on the treatment of books damaged by water, insects, or mold.

## Moves

- ◆ The Anacostia Museum and Center for African American History and Culture Library reopened in a renovated space in September 2001.

- ◆ The Smithsonian American Art Museum/ National Portrait Gallery Library moved from the Patent Office Building on April 14, 2001, and reopened to researchers on May 29, 2001, in the newly renovated Victor Building several blocks away.



## The Libraries in Fiscal Year 2001

22	Branch Libraries
1,520,000	Volumes in collection
6,587	Journal subscriptions
188,185	Microfilm and -fiche items
2,109	Linear feet of manuscripts
7,667	Acquisition purchase orders prepared
12,332	Titles cataloged
144	E (electronic) titles cataloged
9,048	Volumes bound and boxed
394	Volumes reformatted

## Gift & Exchange Program (G&E)

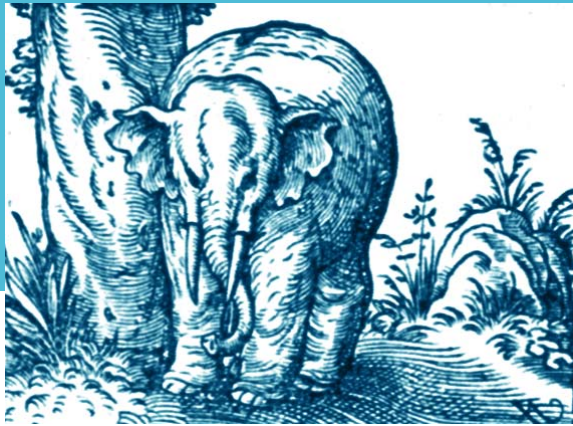
4,648	G&E exchange partners in 50 states and 144 countries
3,139	Journals and serials received on G&E exchange
9,061	Gift volumes received

## Information Service in the Branch Libraries

47,832	Reference questions answered by branch staff
41,467	Library materials consulted or browsed on-site in the branches
223,890	Circulation transactions (items checked out or renewed)

## Loans of Libraries' Materials

9,064	Interlibrary loans of books and articles to institutions in 50 states, Puerto Rico and 17 countries
23	Volumes loaned for exhibition to Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service (SITES) and to museums in 1 foreign and 4 U.S. cities



## Financial Strength

In fiscal year 2001, a number of eminent corporations, foundations, and individuals supported Smithsonian Libraries projects and operations. The Dibner Fund continued support of the Dibner Library Resident Scholar Program and helped launch an annual published lecture series and the new *Dibner Library*

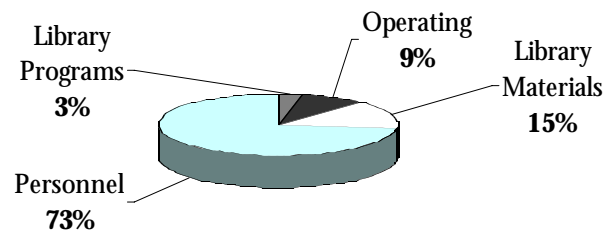
**News** Funds from the Spencer Baird Society brought additional researchers as part of the Baird Society Resident Scholar program. **Voyages: A Smithsonian Libraries Exhibition** attracted major funding from UBS Warburg UBS PaineWebber. Additional funds for the exhibition, the accompanying full-color catalog, and educational programming came from Credit Suisse First Boston, Morgan Stanley, the Carl and Lily Pforzheimer Foundation, the Gladys Krieble Delmas Foundation, and members of the 1999-2000 Smithsonian Libraries Board. The underwater cable company TyCom supported the exhibition, *The Underwater Web: Cabling the*

**Seas** Two new endowments were established: The Frank J. and Betty M. Quirk Endowment for technology, and an Endowment for Serials Acquisitions and Preservation funded by F. Christian and Betty Thompson.

### Joseph F. Cullman 3rd Library of Natural History

Joseph F. Cullman 3rd, Chairman Emeritus of Philip Morris Companies, Inc., pledged \$2 million dollars in fiscal year 2001 for the new natural history rare book and manuscripts library, which is named in his honor. Upon making his generous commitment to the Libraries, Cullman said, "I have the highest regard for the Smithsonian Institution and I hope that my gift will enable the Libraries to share its natural history treasures with the world." This newest addition to the SIL branch library system is currently under construction in the National Museum of Natural History. Equipped with state-of-the-art climate controls, the Cullman Library will bring together and provide a preservation-friendly environment for a world-class collection, estimated to exceed 10,000 volumes.

### Expenditures



### Endowments

- ◆ Smithsonian Institution Libraries General Support Endowment
- ◆ Smithsonian Institution Libraries Special Collections Endowment
  - ◆ S. Dillon Ripley Library Endowment (general acquisitions)
  - ◆ Dr. John W. Wells and Ellen B. Wells Endowment Fund
- ◆ Joseph F. Cullman 3rd Endowment for the Preservation of Natural History Rare Books
  - ◆ Joseph F. Cullman 3rd Endowment for the Natural History Rare Book Library
  - ◆ Frank J. and Betty M. Quirk Endowment for Information Technology
- ◆ Smithsonian Institution Libraries Endowment for Serials Acquisitions and Preservation
  - ◆ Alice Kennington Rare Book Fund
- ◆ Lloyd and Charlotte Wineland Endowment for Native American and Western Exploration Literature

### The Spencer Baird Society

The Spencer Baird Society, an annual giving and donor recognition society, completed its third successful year in July 1999. The Society is currently 69 members strong and continues to attract interested supporters. On April 26, 2001, the Smithsonian Libraries hosted its second annual Spencer Baird Society Benefactor's Dinner to recognize its outstanding supporters. Co-hosted by the Libraries, the National Portrait Gallery, and the National Museum of American History, Behring Center, the dinner featured author and historian David McCullough, who spoke about his newly released book, *John Adams*

# Donors

## Director's Circle \$5000 or more

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph F. Cullman, 3rd  
David and Frances Dibner, The Dibner Fund  
Richard E. Gray  
Brian J. and Darlene Heidtke, The Heidtke Foundation  
James M. Kemper, Jr.  
H. F. Lenfest  
Margery and Edgar Masinter, The Masinter Family Foundation  
Morgan Stanley and Co. Inc.  
Frank J. and Betty Quirk  
New School University  
Ruth Lawson Webb

## Benefactors- \$2000 to \$4999

Jay and Linda Freedman  
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John Henry and Ann Crittenden  
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Allan and Kim Stypeck  
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## Patron \$1000- \$1999

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Mr. and Mrs. Howard Phipps, Jr.  
Mr. and Mrs. Albert H. Small  
Frances Smyth  
Mr. and Mrs. Frank Weil, The Hickrill Fund

## Associates \$500-\$999

Frederick M. Bayer  
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Mr. and Mrs. Harold R. Handler  
Mr. and Mrs. Frederick A. Klingenstein  
Marion S. MacIntyre  
Mrs. Jefferson Patterson  
Joseph R. Salcetti  
Janet L. Stanley

## Other Supporters \$100-\$499

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Mr. and Mrs. Malcolm P. Ripley  
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## Smithsonian Libraries Board 1999 - 2000

Rosemary Livingston Ripley, Chair  
John B. Henry  
Jeannine S. Clark  
Margery F. Masinter  
Shirley M. Gifford  
Barbara J. Smith  
Richard E. Gray  
Frank A. Weil  
Brian J. Heidtke

## 2001 Notable Acquisitions

- ◆ Giovanni Benedetti, *Diversarum speculatiunum mathematicarum & physicarum liber*, Venice, 1599.
- ◆ Joseph Lister (Herald 133), "On the Antiseptic Principle in the Practice of Surgery," *The Lancet*, vol. 2, London, 1867.
- ◆ John Harrison (Herald 178), *An Act for Providing A Publick Reward for Such Person. . .*, London, 1753-1777, folio 9

## Personnel

### Joined SIL

- ◆ Eliza Gilligan, Book Conservator, Preservation Services Department
- ◆ Stephanie Guthrie, Library Technician, National Museum of American History Library
- ◆ Carol Heard, Library Technician, National Air & Space Museum Library
- ◆ Barbara Insidioso, Library Technician, American Art/ Portrait Gallery Library
- ◆ Elizabeth Periale, Secretary, Director's Office
- ◆ Savannah Schroll, Writer/Editor, Public Information Office
- ◆ Keri Thompson, Computer Specialist, Systems Office
- ◆ Kirsten Van Der Veen, Library Technician, Special Collections Department
- ◆ Nicole Van Doren, Digital Imaging Specialist, Systems Office

### Retired or Departed from SIL

- ◆ Amy Bloom, Library Technician, Systems Office
- ◆ Timothy Carr, Librarian, National Postal Museum Library
- ◆ Elaine Cline, Librarian, National Air and Space Museum Library
- ◆ Courtney Danforth, Visual Information Specialist, Preservation Services Department
- ◆ Claire Dekle, Book Conservator, Preservation Services Department
- ◆ Ruby Hamilton, Librarian, National Museum of the American Indian Library

- ◆ Dawn Hawkins, Library Technician, Horticulture & National Postal Museum Libraries
- ◆ Nancy L. Matthews, Publications/Public Information Officer
- ◆ Carlos Orraca, Library Technician, Cataloguing Services Department
- ◆ Elizabeth Orraca, Library Technician, Cataloguing Services Department
- ◆ Bonita Perry, Assistant Director for Research Services
- ◆ Margaret (Peggy) Sealor, Librarian, Cataloguing Services Department
- ◆ Bonnie Sousa, Library Technician, Special Collections Department
- ◆ Tracy-ann Stewart-Suleiman, Librarian, Anacostia Museum Library
- ◆ Elizabeth Tate, Library Technician, Central Reference and Loan Services

### Reassignments

- ◆ William Baxter, Librarian, to National Air and Space Museum Library
- ◆ Kent Boese, Librarian, to Cataloguing Services Department
- ◆ Ronald S. Brashear, Curator of History of Science and Technology Rare Books, to Head of Special Collections
- ◆ Carmen Eyzaguirre, Library Technician, to Anthropology Library
- ◆ Paul McCutcheon, Librarian, to National Postal Museum Library
- ◆ Rhoda Ratner, to Acting Assistant Director for Research Services
- ◆ Daria Wingreen, Library Technician, to Special Collections

## Images

**Cover, pp 3 & 6:** Pliny the Elder (about A.D. 23-79) *Naturalis historia (Natural history)* Frankfurt: Martin Lechler, 1582. Gift of the Burndy Library - **photograph: John Tsantes**

**Page 1:** Smithsonian Institution Libraries Director Nancy E. Gwinn - **photograph: Don Hurlbert**, Charles A. Lindbergh (1902-1974) *We: The Famous Flier's Own Story of His Life and His Transatlantic Flight* New York: G.P. Putnam's Sons, 1927. William Burden Collection - **photograph: John Tsantes**

**Page 2:** *Voyages: A Smithsonian Libraries Exhibition* opening in New York, NY, from left, Mary Augusta Thomas, curator & Sjoerd Hofstra, book artist - **photograph: The Grolier Club**

**Page 3:** Th. Seeligmann, G. Lamy Torrilhon, and H. Falconnet, *Indiarubber and Gutta Percha: A Complete Practical Treatise* (London, 1903) - **photograph: SI OIPS**

**Page 4:** Baird Resident Scholar Christine O'Malley and Dibner Resident Scholar Alberto Martinez - **photograph: Harold Dorwin**, Negretti & Zambra, *Crystal Palace series (A scrap book of original photographs)* ca.1854 - **photograph: SI OIPS**

**Page 5:** Smithsonian American Art Museum / National Portrait Gallery Library, Library Technician Barbara Insidioso - **photograph: Jeff Tinsley**