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And They Were There-Reports of Meetings-SALAM’s XLV Annual Conference, 52nd Frankfurt Book Fair

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And They Were There

Reports of Meetings — SALALM's XLV Annual Conference and Frankfurt Book Fair 2000

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SALALM's XLV Annual Conference
Andean Studies: New Trends and Library Resources
Sponsored by Library & Latin American Center, University of California
Long Beach, California, May 27-31, 2000

Report by Claire-Lise Benaud
and Sharon Moynahan (University of New Mexico)

"Andean Studies: New Trends and Library Resources" was the theme of the 45th annual seminar on the Acquisition of Latin American Library Materials (SALALM) held in Long Beach, California, May 27-31, 2000. Sponsored by the Library and the Latin American Center of the University of California, Los Angeles, the event gave participants an opportunity to discuss research trends, library issues and solutions, and to attend top-notch panels which addressed Andean resources, social issues, and publishing.

The two days of committee meetings ensured that the many projects of SALALM, such as regional consortia, acquisitions and processing agreements, the Hispanic American Periodicals Index, the Latin American Microfilming Project, and outreach activities, were running smoothly. Other committees kept members and guests abreast of current issues and introduced new members into the workings and activities of the organization. During this time, the annual Book Exhibits opened with coffee and an opportunity for a first-hand look at new publishing and databases from Latin America and elsewhere.

After the welcoming remarks from Carlos A. Torres, Director of the UCLA Latin American Center and Janice Koyama, Associate University Librarian for Public Service, at the UCLA Library, Dr. Maria Rostworowski of the Instituto de Estudios Peruanos delivered the keynote address, "Vision General del Incario." An eminent scholar of Peruvian anthropology, she discussed the organization of the Inca Empire and how this structure affected its response to the Spanish conquest. Also during the opening session, the prestigious Jose Toribio Medina Award was given to Eileen Oliver of Kent State University for her bibliography of Afro-Brazilian religions.

Theme panels developed the topic of Andean resources and bibliography by exploring historical, social, and political developments. For example, a panel "Research Expeditions: Discovering Historic Andean Collections in the Northeast US," used events such as Hiram Bingham's discovery of Machu Picchu and Peru's viceroyalty to examine regional resources. David Block presented photographs of Hiram Bingham's expeditions to Peru contained in the Yale archives. The photographs show how Machu Picchu has drastically changed from its discovery in 1911 to the present. Peter Stern discussed how legal documents, rather than military presence, shaped colonial Peru. Darlene Walker examined rebellions, land issues, and the sale of communal Indian lands in 19th-century Bolivia as reflected in 10 newspapers of the time. Fernando Acosta Rodriguez reported on a NEH-funded project at New York Public Library.

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library to microfilm Latin American materials from 1800 through 1950. He reported selection criteria in terms of preservation, date of publication, and general interest. Materials printed on poor quality paper, materials published before 1850, and materials published during exceptional periods of history were considered good candidates for microfilming.

Fred Morgner's (Literatura de Vientos Tropicales) panel "Revolución y Contrarevolución en los Andes: El Sendero Luminoso de Perú y el Caso Pinochet de Chile," dealt more specifically with events and their interpretation. Peter Stern, a Sendero Luminoso authority, explained the downfall of this movement. This seemingly unstoppable group split after its leader's arrest in 1992 into two factions, Sendero Blanco and Sendero Rojo. Little is known about Sendero's new leader. Even though the violence has subsided, the group is trying to regain a foothold in urban areas.

Anne Barnhart Park presented her bibliography on Pinochet and highlighted the best resources on the topic. James Barnhart Park discussed the situation of the Mapuche, an indigenous people from Chile. He described several Mapuche organizations and he reported on Mapuche artistic, literary, and political aspirations.

Two panels (moderated by Scott Van Jacob of the University of Notre Dame and Darlene Weller of the University of Connecticut) were devoted specifically to Andean resources and bibliography. Internet access, documentaries and videos were also explored. Literature and literary production of the region were also explored in detail. Whether exploring the history of theInvite trade book dealers in Peru (by Mark Grover of Brigham Young University) or Vargas Llosa's exploration of the corruption of society under Trujillo's dictatorship (by Efrain Kristal of UCLA) participants were engaged in lively discussions and debate. Andean politicians were reflected in two presentations. Linda Rodriguez of UCLA reported on the situation in Ecuador. The country is going through its worse crisis in the 20th century. Long standing economic and political problems from the 19th-century continue to plague the country today and there are more regional disparities than ever. Extreme political fragmentation prevents the country from going forward. Rodriguez ended her presentation with a plea for librarians to continue collecting Andean materials.

Karen Lindvall-Larson focused on Colombia. She discussed her guide on election results at the municipal, state, and general level from Independence to today.

Society is affected by political events, but is also shaped by elements in the population. Clara Chu of UCLA moderated a panel which explored Asians in the Andean region. Of note was a presentation by Steven Masami Ropp of the UCLA Department of Anthropology which examined the Japanese presence in Peru, from Manco Capac to Alberto Fujimori, and in doing so, how and why they came and how they have fit into Peruvian society and politics at various times in history. The slide-show panel "Documenting Peru: One Hundred Fifty Years of Peruvian Photographic Images" gave a good overview of the Tulane University Latin American Photographic Archive (TULAPA). Architecture, portraits, folk arts, and landscapes are all represented in the various collections of this unique archive.

More practical elements of librarianship were dealt with in panels such as Laura Shedenhelm's (University of Georgia) history of the Latin American Information Series and its development of access links, and Claire-Rose Benaud's and Elizabeth Steinhagen's (University of New Mexico) discussion of Cataloging and Bibliographic Control Issues.

All work and no play makes for a dull conference, and SALALMists continued discussions and networking at several social events, including the famed booksellers' reception that took place at the Museum of Latin American Art. A spectacular reception at the Getty Research Institute capped five days of informative panels and nuts-and-bolts workshops. Visitors were treated to tours of the grounds and a history of the design and building of the Getty Center. Next year's conference will be sponsored by Arizona State University and will be held in Tempe, Arizona.

A Nightmare of Publishers — A Report from the 52nd Frankfurt Book Fair

Report by Anthony Watkinson (Independent Information Consultant)

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This is a new collective noun like a flock of sheep. I do not know how many publishers exhibit or attend the Buch Messe but in 2000 there were 6887 booths, most of which are staffed by publishers and some of them were really big. The Thomson Corporation tends to send over 100 staff and there are probably others bigger. An informed regular reckoned that the event is eight times bigger than Book Expo America. And in spite of all the mergers, there were an extra one per cent of booths this year. Why a nightmare for a librarian? Just imagine dealing directly with all this lot without the benefit of vendors.

Publishers at Frankfurt are talking to each other. Traditionally this is a rights occasion. It was not an exciting year. At one point it was suggested that most money changed hands for the book about the footballer David Beckham, the husband of Posh Spice, so you can see what I mean. Knopf is said to have paid two million dollars for a book called The Fabric of the Cosmos: catty competitors pointed out that popular science as a market is on the wane. Most deals are actually done before Frankfurt and announced at the Fair and the big push by the Fair management is to provide virtual rights trading throughout the year to be up and running in summer 2001.

The other things that publishers do are meet their distributors and above all network. The scene used to be that you did business during the day and networked during the evening in the bars and restaurants of the city. Now you still do the eating and drinking but you are often forced to spend time away from the floor of the marketplace in subsidiary meetings. The STM Association proffers the great and the good of that industry strutting their stuff at the Arabella Grand on the Tuesday before the Fair proper starts. On the same day there is the supply chain meeting, the international rights meeting and the sales conferences for some international presses such as Marcel Dekker. One day there is an anti-piracy breakfast: are parrots on the shoulder optional or mandatory? On the Saturday Wissensbezeichnungsorganisation starring Ann Okerson, Ross Atkinson, James Campbell and Peter J. Givler (AUP) conflicts with the closed (not to say secret) annual general gathering of the Association of Subscription Agents and Intermediaries. Of course there are also presentations of the DOI, CrossRef and the digital future, where a communication on (wait for it) a Multinational Community programme to stimulate the development and use of European digital content on the global networks and to promote linguistic diversity in the Information Society must compete hotly for the prize of the most boring title ever.

Yes this is Europe and specifically Germany. The little buses that enable the infirm or tired to get around the buildings (see below) advertised the German translation of the Ian Kershaw biography of Hitler, and Leni Riefenstahl, aged 95, gave a contentious press conference. The Fesballe adjoining the Fair was advertising not only Britney Spears, Elton John and the Corrs but also the Nokia Night of the Proms whatever that is. There is a lot that is not in English. Most the UK and the US exhibitors are currently located in Hall 8 which is one of the halls devoted to international publishers but there are halls continued on page 81

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devoted to religion, “fiction and non-fiction,” “fiction and art books,” tourism, and “graphic
arts.” In the last mentioned there was a strange
assortment of art works including a series of
photographs on the life of the leek plant and
a lot of book shaped objects made of wood
and stone. What was going on in a wine shop
in all these different collections of publishers
doing their own thing in their own tongue? I
was helped by the Casalini family who has
rather more languages available to them than
I do. It was their impression that one obvious
trend was the way in which publishing in
Eastern and Central Europe was on the up. I
went to look. Much on show was seriously
professional whereas in the old days the
booths used to be inhabited by burly char-
ters of both sectors eating imported cookies
and crouched over samovars, or do I exag-
gerate. There were some pleasantly old-fash-
ioned products on offer nevertheless. The
Albanians, for example, were showing their
political developments by what seemed to be
a series of pocketbooks enabling easy access
to the thoughts of Sygmund Frojd. The Far
East contingent was checked by jowl with these
groups and their representatives did not look
too confident. The Chinese particularly in
Singapore, Malaysia and Taiwan but also
from mainland China seemed to be pushing
composition rather than the end products and
the Japanese medium sized publishers were
less in evidence than they have been in the
past. The “guest of honour” was Poland who
had a whole floor to themselves. They in-
cluded a café and a medieval scriptorium.

It will be obvious from what I have writ-
ten so far that each participant in this extrava-
ganza has his or her own perceptual map. I
wore out my shoe leather hurrying between
8.0 (already mentioned) and 4.2, the domain
of academic, professional and scientific pub-
lishers. Excursions farther afield were ven-
tures into the unknown for ATG readers.
However I shall go on to discuss matters elec-
tronic rather than book design or the latest
novels because that is what I know about pro-
essionally. Because I do feel an obligation
to make a stab at conveying the big picture, I
consulted over breakfast Fred Kobrak (AAP
and The Thomson Corporation) who has been
attending Frankfurt virtually since the be-
ingen. His analysis was immediate and
straight to the point — comic books have
come of age and entered the mainstream.
Indeed DC Comics were two away from the
massive Harcourt presence. There was the
Comic-Zentrum in hall 4.1 but the big compa-
nies were very much in there mixing with
the best and giving away amusing freebies.
Between DC Comics and Harcourt was IDG
advertising Sex for Dummies. On the Friday
when some of us were waiting for the pre-
dicted announcement of the sale a loud boom-
ing noise came from the general direction. An
announcement in German from Bertelsman
announcing the fall of another American for-
tress? No — it was Dr Ruth doing an author
spot. Is there something symbolic here?

Scholarly publishers, and in particular
STM, mostly had no big developments on
show but their big booths. The design agen-
cies seemed to have earned a lot of extra
money. Elseiver Science has become the New
Elsevier. For Brits with New Labour in power
there are resonances here. The booth es-
chewed books and journals and instead pro-
vided screens within pods for each of the
main services, ScienceDirect, BioMedNet,
ChemWeb, EL etc. These were locked to pre-
vent naughty German youth switching them
to pornographic sites and the little holders
attached were something of a problem in that
they were too small for the available promo-
tional literature. None of the other compa-
nies went as far down the electronic road with
Wolters Kluwer a distant runner up. They
seemed to have more copies of their corpo-
rate report available than brochures about
publications. There is still a special Electronic
Media floor but that is mainly for local con-
sumers though C-Elect, alias Charlesworth
the composer, reported plenty of traffic.
NetLibrary and eBrary were in Hall 8.
NetLibrary personnel were as busy as ever.
Many I spoke to felt that eBrary offered the
most interesting deal for publishers out of the
new kids on the block: in my interpr-
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The most fruitful grafting of a new discipline onto an old might be the union of environmental studies and history, where the interplay between human-kind and our natural surroundings—or what long ago were “natural” surroundings—has within the past 25 years become a staple of scholarship, teaching, and publishing. The remarkable variety of topics under study is merely hinted at by this list of YBP’s best-selling books in the field for our 1999-2000 fiscal year. Waste and Want: A Social History of Trash (Metropolitan), Gold: The California Story (University of California Press), and Second Nature: The History and Implications of Australia as an Aboriginal Landscape (Syracuse University Press), are only three examples, from the fifty on our list. The books, arranged in descending sales order, starting with our most popular title, Something New Under the Sun: An Environmental History of the Twentieth-Century World (W.W. Norton), pay due respect to some of the pioneer names in environmental studies. And No Birds Sing: Rhetorical Analyses of Rachel Carson’s Silent Spring (Southern Illinois University Press), for example, demonstrates that environmental history now studies its own history, and so has certainly come of age.


Redman, Charles L. Human Impact on Ancient Environments. Univ of Arizona Pr 1999 $45.00 Cloth 0816519625.


Strasser, Susan. 1948-. Waste and Want: A Social History of Trash. Metropolitan 1999 $27.50 Cloth 0805048308.


Davis, Donald Edward. Where there are Mountains: An Environmental History of the Southern Appalachians. Univ of Georgia Pr 2000 $40.00 Cloth 0820321257.

Daws, Gavan. Archipelago: The Islands Of Indonesia: From the Nineteenth-Century Discoveries of Alfred Russel Wallace to the Fate of Forests and Reefs in the Twenty-First Century. Univ of California Pr 1999 $45.00 Cloth 0520215761.


Debazy, William Eno. Salt Dreams: Land & Water in Low-Down California. Univ New Mexico Pr 1999 $35.00 Cloth 0826321267.

And No Birds Sing: Rhetorical Analyses of Rachel Carson’s Silent Spring. Ed. By Craig Waddell. Southern Illinois UP 2000 $44.95 Cloth 0809322188.

Bonnickson, Thomas M. America’s Ancient Forests: From the Ice Age to the Age of Discovery. John Wiley 2000 $75.00 Cloth 0471136220.


Hill, Mary. 1923-. Gold: The California Story. Univ of California Pr 1999 $45.00 Cloth 0520215478.

Pritchard, James A. 1954-. Preserving Yellowstone’s Natural Conditions: Science and the Perception of Nature. Univ of Nebraska Pr 1999 $45.00 Cloth 0803237227.


Clements, Kendrick A. 1939-. Hoover, Conservation, and Consumerism: Engineering the Good Life. Univ Pr of Kansas 2000 $33.00 Cloth 0700610332.

Griffith, David Craig. 1951-. Estuary’s Gift: An Atlantic Coast Cultural Biography. Penn State UP 1999 $55.00 Cloth 0271019506.


Anderson, Robin L. (Robin Leslie). Colonization As Exploitation in the Amazon Rain Forest, 1758-1911. Univ Pr of Florida 1999 $49.95 Cloth 081301719x.

Ashley, Jeffrey S. 1965-. Groundwater Management in the West. Univ of Nebraska Pr 1999 $45.00 Cloth 080324276x.

Pincetl, Stephanie Sabine. 1952-. Transforming California: A Political History of Land Use and Development. Johns Hopkins UP 1999 $45.00 Cloth 0801861101.

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