

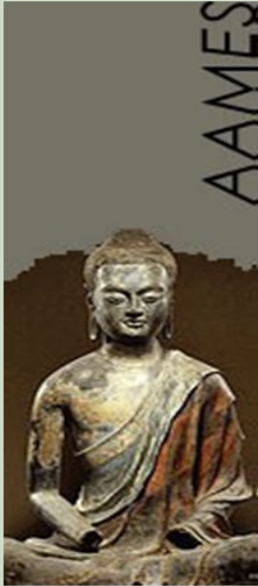
AAMES Newsletter Vol. 6, No. 2

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Upcoming AAMES Program -

ALA Annual Conference 2009, Chicago

AAMES program titled "Asian, African and Middle Eastern Librarians in Academic Libraries: Challenges, Expectations and Rewards" will cover different aspects of the field including collaborative collection development & library services; digital collection development; innovative reference & information literacy instruction techniques; marketing, advocacy and future trends; legal & social challenges.

The purpose of the program is to share experiences, learn effective

strategies to overcome challenges, and bring awareness amongst peers and aspirants to the field of the Area Studies Librarianship. The following speakers will grace the occasion:

1. Ellen Tise (President IFLA 2009-2011) Senior Director, Library & Information Service, Stellenbosch University, South Africa
2. David Magier Associate University Librarian for Collection Development, Princeton University
3. James Simon

Director of International Resources, Center for Research Libraries

4. Anchi Ho Assistant to Chief, Asian Division, Library of Congress
5. Lauren Hartley Tibetan Studies Librarian, Columbia University
6. Binh Le (moderator) Associate Librarian, Penn State University
7. Liladhar R. Pendse Librarian for Slavic/ Eastern European Studies & South Asian Studies, UCLA

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Library Leaders to Address IRC/ACRL

at ALA Annual Conference

The International Relations Committee (IRC) of the Association of college and Research Libraries (ACRL) has organized an historic session during the Annual Conference of the American Library Association (ALA) from July 9-15, 2009. The meeting will be held in Chicago on Saturday, July 11, 2009 from 10:30 AM to 12:00 Noon. The theme of the meeting is "Academic Librarians

and International Librarianship". Five well known speakers will share their views on the topic. They will also discuss the importance and need of cooperation among professionals and libraries in the fast changing world with limited resources and budgets for academic libraries and high infla-

tion. Speaker include Professor Robert Wedgeworth, former president of IFLA (1991-1997) and University Librarian Emeritus, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Jay Jordan, President and CEO of OCLC, Beverly Lynch, former President of ALA



Beverly Lynch



Robert Wedgeworth

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Report - ALA Midwinter Conference 2009 : ACRL/ AAMES Program

Dr. Rajwant Chilana, Chair, welcomed new Executive Members and introduced two guests. It was proposed that AAMES should publish the papers from the Washington DC, Anaheim and Chicago conferences in



book form. There will be three sections--Middle East, Africa and Asia—papers from AAMES members can be solicited both

here and abroad, to add to the book. An editorial committee will be formed and Dr Rajwant Chilana will serve as co-ordinating

editor.

There were two presentations by two candidates **Kelly Janousek** and **Lisa Hinchliffe** for the ACRL Vice-president/President-elect that were followed by lively discussions among the present.

The Committee agreed to solicit three fifteen-minute presentations from area studies professionals on their research in progress or best practices in area studies for the next All Committees Meeting, these to be followed by a fifteen-minute Q&A session. Binh Le will coordinate this program.

AAMES Sponsors International Conference in New Delhi, India

The Delhi University Library System of the University of Delhi(India)has taken a stupendous task of organizing an International Conference on Academic Libraries in October 2009, and ACRL/AAMES is pleased to be one of the sponsors.

This event is being organized to come up with a vision for next generation academic libraries in

order to meet the challenges of knowledge society, in giving the country a competitive edge in knowledge economy. The conference will provide an international platform to all stakeholders to address all issues of importance to academic libraries, discuss and debate roles that academic libraries can play in the higher education system in developed and de-

veloping countries with particular reference to India by 2020. For more details please check its website: <http://library.du.ac.in/ocs>, and its organising secretary can be contacted at:

Dr. S. Majumdar,
Organising Secretary, ICAL-2009
University Librarian, Central Library
University of Delhi 11 00 07 (INDIA)
Phone: Telefax: 011 27666034

Share Your Ideas at the Annual Conference

Call for Papers by Binh P. Le

At the 2009 Midwinter in Denver members of the AAMES Executive Committee approved the request of several AAMES members to use a portion of the time designated for committee meetings at the annual for an informal program. This informal program hopes to achieve the following

objectives:

1. to share ideas or practices that are useful to AAMES members,
2. to provide a friendly forum for AAMES members to present papers and receive constructive feedbacks, and 3. to hone scholarly conference presentation skills.

I am looking for five to six (short) papers. If you are interested, please send me the title and an abstract of the presentation, no more than 150 words, by May, 15, 2009. My email address is: BPL1@PSU.EDU. I look forward to receiving your contributions.
Binh P. Le
Penn State University

Preservation and Access to Indian Manuscripts

By Dr. Ramesh C Gaur

The glorious past of Indian culture lies in ancient manuscripts. These are the basic historical evidence and have great research value, which led to recognize its need and importance internationally. It is estimated that India possesses more than five million manuscripts, making her the largest repository of manuscript wealth in the world. . Though our ancestors had tried to preserve these manuscripts, thousands of such valued unpublished Indian manuscripts on varied subjects are lying scattered or fragmented in India and foreign collections and some of these are no longer accessible to research scholars. This invaluable and unique pool of knowledge is under threat and manuscripts are disappearing at an alarming rate.



Initiatives at Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA), New Delhi

Recognizing the need to encompass and preserve this knowledge resource and to make these accessible to scholars and researchers, The Indira Gandhi National Centre for the

Arts (IGNCA) in year 1989 has initiated the most important manuscript-microfilming program. The IGNCA was established by the Government of India, in 1987, as an autonomous institution encompassing the study and experience of all forms of the arts -- each form with its own integrity, yet within a dimension of mutual interdependence, interrelatedness with nature, social structure and cosmology. The IGNCA has approached many of the private and public institutions and individuals who are in possession of valuable manuscripts preferably in Sanskrit Language and has signed Memorandum of Understanding with each of them for microfilming of their manuscripts. The IGNCA has, so far, microfilmed over 2.5 million manuscripts. Out of the total of over 20,600 microfilm rolls, 17087 rolls have been digitized and 13803 rolls duplicated.

Some examples of the repository collection or projects include : - Maulana Abdul Kalam Azad Arabic & Persian Research Institute, Tonk, Bhandarkar Oriental Research Institute, Pune, Khuda Bakhsh Oriental Public Library, Patna, Sahitya Sansthan Rajasthan Vidyapeeth, Udaipur, Rampur Raza Library, Rampur, **Some of the reprographic material of various primary and secondary texts has also been obtained from many foreign institutions including Bibliotheque Nationale (Paris), Cambridge**

University Library (Cambridge, UK), Staatsbibliothek (Berlin), INION (Russia), and Wellcome Institute for the History of Medicine (London), and India Office Library & Records (London). Access to IGNCA Manuscripts Collection



Conservation of manuscripts

Scholars and researchers can access this microfilm/microfiche collection at the IGNCA. They can also obtain copies, subject to copyright restrictions, and indeed the conditions spelt out in the MOUs signed between IGNCA and concerned manuscript Library. As a general practice, one need to seek permission of concerned library to obtain a copy of the manuscript from IGNCA Collection. Copies are being made available in Digital / Microfilm / Print formats on charge basis. The consultation to all above manuscripts at IGNCA Reference Library is open to all without any charges. Online catalogue of these manuscripts will be made avail-

Continued on Page 4

Preservation and Access to Indian Manuscripts cont'd

able soon. More details regarding above collection and its access can be had from:

Librarian & Head-Kala Nidhi Division

Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts(IGNCA)

(An Autonomous body under Ministry of Culture. Govt. of India)

5 Dr. Rajendra Prasad Road, New Delhi-1

Phone: 91-11-23385442,

23385884 Fax: 91-11-22385442

URL: www.ignca.nic.in Email: gaur@vt.edu; rcgaur@bol.net.in

National Mission for Manuscripts, IGNCA www.namami.org

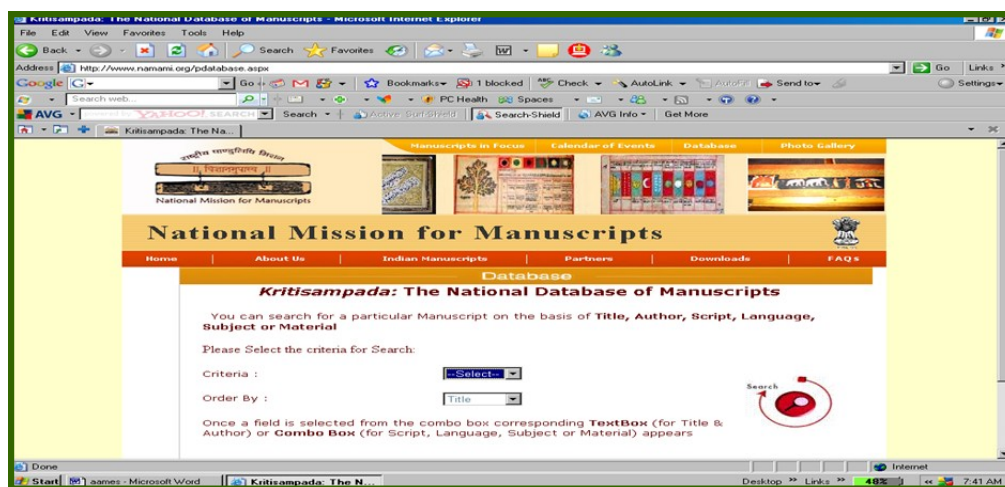
The National Mission for Manuscripts(NMM) is the other important programme at IGNCA for preservation and documentation of Manuscripts. The Ministry of Tourism and Culture, Government of India established the National Mission for Manuscripts in February 2003. Working with specially identified Manuscript Resource Centers (MRC-s) and Manuscript Conservation Centers (MCC-s) in states all over the country, the Mission collects data on manuscripts located in a variety of places, from universities and libraries to temples, mathas, madrasas,

monasteries and private collections. It also brings manuscripts and the knowledge they house to the public through lectures, seminars, publications and specially designed programs for school children and university students. Some examples of important collections covered by NMM, IGNCA include :

- **6000 manuscripts at Iqbal Library** mainly in Arabic and Persian and some in Sanskrit as well had been digitized till December.
- **1000 Kutiyattam manu-**

Asian Studies and Adyar Library.

- **3500 illustrated manuscripts in Orissa** mainly located in the Orissa State Museum, Bhubaneswar. Smaller collections at Behrampur University, Utkal University, Sambalpur University, Dasarathi Pattanaik Library Trust, Orissan Institute of Maritime and South East Asian Studies are also covered.
- **4000 manuscripts in Majuli Islands** Assam. All Vaishnavanva manuscripts in the Satras will be covered under this project. There are about 400 manuscripts distributed in 22 Satras across the Islands.
- **Digitization of New Catalogus**



scripts from Kerala The State of Kerala was surveyed for Kutiyattam .

- **6500 Siddha manuscripts in Tamil Nadu** mainly located in the Government Oriental Public Library and Research Centre, Chennai. Other repositories include Institute of Siddha and Homeopathic Medicine, Institute of

Catalogorum volumes The Mission, in collaboration with University of Madras, Chennai is currently digitizing the existing volumes of New Catalogus Catalogorum (NCC). We have already digitized 5 books and the project is expected to be complete by the end of the year.

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Columbia Library Holds a Collection of 358 Sanskrit Manuscripts

Bindu Bhatt, South and South East Asian Studies Librarian, Columbia University

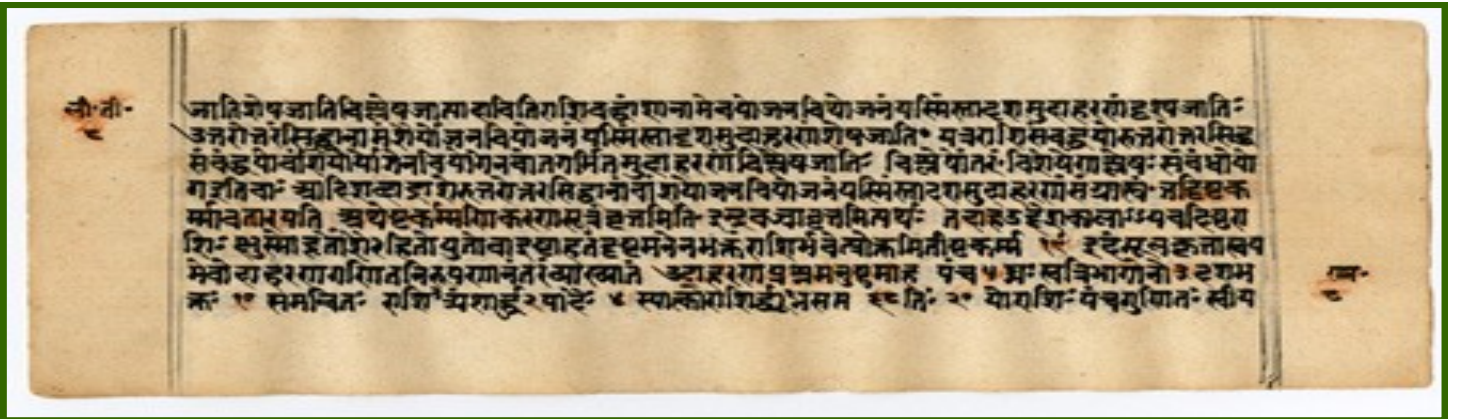
The Columbia University Libraries holds a collection of 358 Sanskrit manuscripts in the Rare Book and Manuscript Library. The majority of these items were acquired in Bombay and Kashi, India by David Eugene Smith (1860-1944), a former professor of mathematics at Teacher's College. Prof. Smith generously gifted this collection to the University.

Based on the efforts of late Prof.

David Pingree, Professor of History and Mathematics at Brown University, Columbia University Library has made it possible for the public to access 253 of these manuscripts through CLIO. A Recent publication *A Catalogue of the Sanskrit Manuscripts at Columbia University / David Pingree* by American Institute of Buddhist Studies, is more exhaustive and is the first detailed and scholarly catalogue of these manuscripts. It includes cross references to *Census of the Exact Sciences in Sanskrit*.

We invite you to browse this collection in CLIO by performing a Call Number Browse search for "Smith".

The predominant subject matter of this collection is Hindu Astrology which includes astronomy, mathematics, divination, and predictive astrology. For more information on this collection, or other materials in Sanskrit, please contact Bindu Bhatt, the South Asian Studies Librarian.



Lilavati Manuscript [1700-1900], by Bhaskaracarya, b. 1114, from the Smith Indic Collection. (Call Number: Smith Indic 12)

Preservation and Access to Indian Manuscripts cont'd

The ' Manuscript Treasures of India ' The Mission plans to digitize 500 manuscripts each in 50 important repositories across the country. It also plans to digitize 45 most valuable and rare manuscripts in the country

Kritisampada: The National Database of Manuscripts:

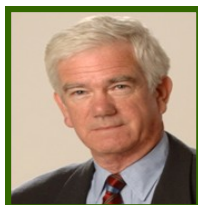
The Mission's main aim is to create an electronic database of manuscripts. The database contains information of various kinds on India's manuscripts-

titles, themes, authors, commentaries, scripts, languages, conservation status and much more. The database all contains information on existing catalogues. The Mission endeavors to provide complete and valid information about each manuscript. This database can be searched at <http://www.namami.org/pdatabase.aspx>
A number of other programs are designed to promote manuscript conservation, manuscript digitization and scholarship through manuscript studies workshops. More info can be found at www.namami.org.

Library Leaders to speak to IRC/ACRL cont'd

"It is the first time in the history that five distinguished speakers will speak on the same stage in one national conference"

(1985-86) and professor at the Graduate School of Education and Information Studies, University of California-



Jay Jordan

Los Angeles, Winston Tabb, Dean of University Libraries and Museums of the Johns Hopkins University and Claudia Lux, President of IFLA. R.N.Sharma, chair of

the IRC/ACRL will be the moderator of the session.



Claudia Lux



Winston Tabb

ACRL 2009 Virtual Conference

Registration Still Available

Didn't make it to ACRL 2009 in Seattle? Register for the ACRL 2009 Virtual Conference and access more than 80 sessions offered at the face-to-face ACRL 14th National Conference in Seattle. Registration materials are online at www.acrl.org/seattle (click "Virtual Conference").

"I always come away from the ACRL National Conference feeling energized and excited about new possibilities and now the virtual conference means that I can continue this learning and share it more fully with others at my institution".

For the first time, the Virtual Conference includes **Dynamic Screen Captures** -- PowerPoint presentations synced with audio from sessions presented in Seattle. When you register for the ACRL 2009 Virtual Conference, you receive access to Dynamic Screen Capture recordings of more than 80 contributed paper, panel session, and invited paper sessions presented at the face-to-face Seattle conference. Select presentation topics include:

- *Brother, Can You Spare a Dime? The ACRL 2009 Trends for Academic Libraries*
- *What Really are Student Learning Outcomes?*
- We're not playing around: Gaming literate librarians = information literate students
- Studying *Your* Students: Adapting Research from the University of Rochester
- Study
- Twitter for Libraries: Best Practices and Advanced Uses of Micro-Blogs
- How to Green a Library Conference
- Workplace Information Literacy: Cultivation Strategies for Working Smarter in 21st Century Libraries
- Beyond the Buzz: Planning Library Facebook Initiatives Grounded in User Needs

"I always come away from the ACRL National Conference feeling energized and excited about new possibilities"

The Virtual Conference also features webcast recordings, SecondLife library tours, podcast recordings, and presentation handouts from more than 200 sessions. Registration for the ACRL 2009 Virtual Conference is available through May 1, 2009. Registration materials are online at www.acrl.org/seattle (click "Virtual Conference"). Registration includes unlimited access to the online conference community for one year after the event. Questions concerning the ACRL 2009 Virtual Conference should be directed to Margot Conahan at 312-280-2522; mconahan@ala.org.

Ping Situ and Shuyong Jiang win 2008 ACRL Samuel Lazerow Fellowship

Ping Situ of the University of Arizona and Shuyong Jiang of the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign were selected to receive the 2008 Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL) Samuel Lazerow Fellowship for Research in Technical Services or Acquisitions. Situ and Jiang were selected for the award for their research project on vendor-provided records and the experience of a research library in outsourcing cataloging service for its Chinese language materials, including its backlogs.

Sponsored by Thomson Scientific, the award fosters advances in collection development and technical

services by providing fellowships to librarians for travel or writing in those fields.

Situ received her M.A. in Library and Information Science from the University of Arizona in 2001, where she also earned a master's degree in Hispanic Linguistics in 2000.

Jiang earned her Ph. D. in Chinese from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 2005, where she also received her M.A. in Library and Information Studies in 1996 and her M.A. in Chinese in 1994.

Editor's Note

Dear AAMES Readers,

It gives me great pleasure to put together this issue of AAMES newsletter (the second one that I have edited) as a Chair and the Editor of the AAMES Publications Committee . This issue brings to you two very interesting articles about access to Indian Manuscripts.

Preservation and Access to Indian Manuscripts by Ramesh C Gaur discusses the manuscripts preservation work being carried out at Indira Gandhi National Center for the Arts (IGNCA) and the center's effort to make the manuscripts available to everyone. *Columbia Library Holds a Collection of 358 Sanskrit Manuscripts* by Bindu Bhatt also discusses Columbia University Library's effort to provide access to these Sanskrit manuscripts through CLIO.

This issue also includes very important announcements about the upcoming programs during ALA Annual Meeting , 2009 in Chicago and program reports from the previous meetings.

I would like to extend the welcome to you to send in your contributions and/or join the AAMES publications committee.

Sincerely,

Deepa Banerjee

AAMES Editor, ACRL/ALA



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ACRL Pre-Conferences @ ALA Annual Conference

ACRL is offering three pre-conferences in conjunction with the 2009 American Library Association (ALA) Annual Conference in Chicago on July 10, 2009. [Registration materials are online.](#)

- **Discovering Digitization: Defining Your Path to Digital Access** - Friday, July 10, 2009 Understand the components of successful digitization project planning by discussing specific examples. Topics include project planning, digitization and image processing, and cataloging and metadata. *Presenters: James Bradley, Head of Metadata & Digital Initiatives, Ball State University; Jonathan Brinley, Metadata & Digital Initiatives Developer, Ball State University; Amanda Hurford, Digital Initiatives Multimedia Developer, Ball State University*

- **Instructional Design for Librarians: The What, Why, and How of ID** - Friday, July 10, 2009 Gain an understanding of instructional design principles. These principles can help you design effective and high-impact teaching environments from semester long courses to one-shot library instruction classes to the effective use of signage and website design. *Presenters: Lauren Pressley, Instructional Design Librarian, Wake Forest University; Kaeley McMahan, Reference and Instruction Librarian, Arts, Wake Forest University*

- **The Not-So-Distant Librarian: Online Library Instruction to Engage Students and Faculty** - Friday, July 10, 2009 Learn about practical tips and tools for designing and implementing online library instruction that addresses a variety of learning styles and engages students through active learning exercises, and fosters faculty buy-in. *Presenters: Barbara Mann, Assistant Director for Public Services, Information and Library Services, University of Maryland; Megan Davis, Regional Services Librarian, University of Maryland University College; Joe Rawson, 24 x 7 Services Coordinator, University of Maryland University College*

Complete details are available online at <http://www.acrl.org/ala/mgrps/divs/acrl/events/annual09.cfm>. May 22, 2009 is the advance registration deadline. Questions? Contact Margot Conahan at 312-280-2522 or e-mail mconahan@ala.org.

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