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News from the Field

Acquisitions

• The Atlanta Historical Society, Georgia, has received the sound archives of the public radio program *Southwind* from its creator, journalist Boyd Lewis. Originally funded by the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, *Southwind* was a program of “new sounds from the old Confederacy,” incorporating interviews, music, and commentary on various aspects of Southern culture, history and politics. Among the topics included were black history, Southern Appalachia, religion, women’s issues and literature. For six years until January 1987, the program aired bi-weekly on Atlanta Public Radio, WABE-FM, and was broadcast via satellite to other parts of the United States for approximately three years. The collection consists of more than 170 half-hour program tapes, scripts, and more than 50 hours of field interviews with authors, musicians, civil rights and other community leaders, and educators, as well as with ordinary people. In addition to making the collection accessible to researchers, the Society plans to make the program available to special audiences in Atlanta, including prison inmates, the handicapped, senior citizens, etc., through a series of audio salons featuring excerpts of the program with commentary by Lewis and a team of humanities scholars. Lewis has also donated a collection of some 10,000 negatives from his work as an Atlanta photojournalist in the 1970s.

• The Johns Hopkins University’s Milton S. Eisenhower Library, Special Collections Department, Baltimore, has received fifty years of music correspondence from the noted American sheet music collector Lester S. Levy. Among the correspondents represented in the collection, which covers 1933 to 1983, are Irving Berlin, Harry Dichter, Arthur Fiedler, Foster Hall, James J. Fuld, Ira Gershwin, Joseph Muller, Rosa Ponselle, Richard Rodgers, and Elliott Shapiro. Levy had previously given the Library his extensive sheet music collection, which consists of more than 33,000 items. The correspondence details how it was assembled and how it has been used by researchers.

• Portland State University, Oregon, recently received from Charles A. LeGuin, professor of French history, a collection of books dealing with the French Revolution and the Napoleonic Empire, the period from 1789 to 1815. Most of the 500 volumes are basic historical texts published in France in the 19th century. A notable item is the 40-volume set of the *Histoire Parlementaire de la*

révolution Française (1834–1838), taken from the proceedings of the French assembly. The collection also features a reprint edition of *L’Ancien Moniteur*, the revolutionary newspaper published between May of 1789 and November of 1799.

• Radcliffe College’s Schlesinger Library, Cambridge, Massachusetts, has received more than 200 cartons containing the diaries, papers, books, and correspondence of Alice Paul (1885–1977), a pioneer in the fight for women’s suffrage in the United States and the author of the Equal Rights Amendment. The papers are the donation of the Alice Paul Centennial Foundation, a feminist group based in southern New Jersey, which has also donated Paul’s clothing, banners, jewelry, campaign buttons, and her desk—which allegedly once belonged to Susan B. Anthony—to the Smithsonian Institution. Both collections were bought by the Foundation at the auction of the estate of Paul’s nephew, Donald, in February. The collection includes Paul’s letters to her family, written while she was campaigning for suffrage in England during 1907–1910; correspondence relating to her leadership of the National Women’s Party, and documentation of her extensive investigations of the legal status of women in countries throughout the world. The material will be processed and preserved with the assistance of a grant from the William Bingham Foundation of Cleveland, Ohio.

• The University of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, has received the papers, manuscripts and drawings of noted children’s author E.L. Konigsburg, whose work has been awarded the prestigious Newberry Medal. The highest honor in children’s literature was given to Konigsburg’s second book, *From the Mixed-Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler*, in 1968. Her first book, *Jennifer, Hecate, Macbeth, William McKinley and Me, Elizabeth*, published a year earlier, was a Newberry Honor winner. The author of 12 books, Konigsburg did graduate work in chemistry at Pitt from 1952 to 1954 and is a graduate of the Carnegie Institute of Technology, now Carnegie-Mellon University.

Grants

• Brown University, Providence, Rhode Island, has received a \$600,000 gift for retrospective conversion of humanities and social sciences holdings in the John D. Rockefeller Jr. Library. The gift was made by Rockefeller’s sons, Laurance S. and David Rockefeller. It will enable the Rockefeller Library

to catalog approximately half of its 750,000 titles in machine-readable form. At present, less than 19% of the Library's holdings are available online.

•The Research Libraries Group, Stanford, California, has been awarded \$210,291 in outright funds plus \$30,000 in matching funds by the National Endowment for the Humanities' Office of Preservation for a Chinese materials preservation microfilming project. In addition, a grant of \$30,000 has been made by the Henry Luce Foundation. During the two-year project, which began last September, six RLG members (the Hoover Institution at Stanford University, Columbia University, Princeton University, the University of California-Berkeley, the University of Chicago's East Asian Library, and Yale University) plus the Library of Congress will film Chinese-language monographs, serials, and newspapers published between 1880 and 1949. The project was developed by RLG's East Asian Program Committee to preserve the intellectual content of brittle or endangered materials important to East Asian scholarly research. It is believed that many of the materials to be preserved may be held only in North America, having disappeared in China as a consequence of various political instabilities during the first half of this century, including the losses Chinese libraries experienced during the Cultural Revolution (1966-1969).

•The University of Nevada, Las Vegas, has received the donation of nearly \$2 million from the

estate of the late Peggie Jean Gambarana, a real estate developer, for the establishment of two library endowments. The gift is the largest ever received by the library and one of the largest ever to be given to the university. The Eddie and Peggie Jean Gambarana Endowment (named also in honor of Gambarana's late husband, a former hotel food and beverage director) will enhance the library's College of Hotel Administration Collection, which includes the library's gaming collection. The R.J. Kaltenborn Endowment, named for Mrs. Gambarana's father, a Las Vegas developer, will support the library's Howard R. Hughes School of Engineering Collection. Excess funds from the annual income may be used to benefit other areas of the library.

News Notes

•The University of North Carolina at Charlotte and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's Langley Research Center, Hampton, Virginia, signed an agreement in January designating the University as a NASA Teacher Resource Center. The designation was a result of a proposal by the NASA facility and the UNCC Mathematics and Science Center. UNCC's Atkins Library now houses and administers the new Center. UNCC becomes one of 14 such centers around the country and the first in the southeast. NASA Teacher Resource Centers provide educators with an opportu-



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deotape programs, slide/audiocassette programs, lesson plans, and NASA publications. ■■

• PEOPLE •

Profiles

SUSAN P. BESEMER, associate director of library services at the State University of New York College at Buffalo, has been named director of the library at the SUNY College at Fredonia.

Besemer had served at Buffalo since 1975, where she received the Chancellor's Award of Excellence in Librarianship. Prior to her appointment at Buffalo she was music librarian at Kentucky State University. Besemer holds a bachelor's degree in English literature from SUNY-Albany, an MLS from Indiana University (1967), and a master's degree in creative studies from Buffalo (1980). She is currently taking courses toward an advanced studies certificate at SUNY-Buffalo.

Besemer has written many articles for library and education journals, and is the author of *From Museums, Galleries, and Studios: A Guide to Artists on Film and Tape*, published by the Greenwood Press.

CHARLENE E. RENNER has been named dean of libraries at Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo.

Renner previously served as associate director of libraries for bibliographic control at the University of Washington (1984-1987), as assistant director for technical services at Iowa State University (1982-1984), and held several positions at the University of Illinois (1965-1982), culminating in assistant director for central processing. She has also worked at the Free Library of Philadelphia, Ohio State University, Northwestern University and the University of Pennsylvania. While at the University of Illinois, Renner was involved in the automation process, supervising a massive transfer of ma-



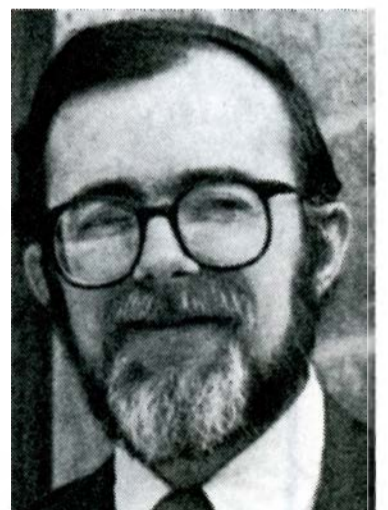
Susan P. Besemer

terials from the main stacks to storage while a new stack addition was being constructed. At the University of Washington she was again involved in the establishment of an integrated online library system and participated in a \$28 million addition to the main library. She was one of five librarians selected by the Council on Library Resources to participate in the Academic Library Management Intern Program in 1980-1981, serving at the University of California, Berkeley.

Renner has published several articles and papers, and has served on and chaired a number of ALA committees, including the editorial board of *College & Research Libraries* (1980-1983). She has served on the OCLC Users Council (as a delegate from Pacnet), and was the University of Washington Libraries' representative to the Western Library Network Users Group. Renner holds bachelor's (1958) and master's (1959) degrees in English literature from Northwestern University and an MLS from Drexel University (1964).

ROBERT EARLE SKINNER has been named director of the library at Xavier University of Louisiana, New Orleans. He had previously been a senior consultant on the staff of Robert L. Siegel & Associates, a New Orleans consulting firm.

Skinner was previously a member of the Department of Medical Bibliography at the Louisiana State University Medical Center in New Orleans (1979-1984), and senior search analyst at the U.S. Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine in San Antonio, Texas (1977-1979). Between 1970 and 1974, Skinner served in the U.S. Coast Guard as a petty officer. He received a bachelor's degree in history from Old Dominion University and an MLS from Indiana University in 1977.



Robert Skinner