

**INSTITUTE OF CLASSICAL STUDIES LIBRARY**  
**JOINT LIBRARY OF THE HELLENIC AND ROMAN SOCIETIES**  
**ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE SESSION 2012/2013**

In many ways this has been a year in which the Library has operated on an even keel after the physical and political upheavals of recent times, though there are hints of a recurrence of the latter; it has also been a year in which a number of initiatives and developments in the pipeline – for example relating to the Library management system, scanning facilities and digitisation – have yet to come to fruition. This combination of factors leads to a sense that this is very much a “holding” report, before various outcomes can be substantiated next year.

As ever, the HEFCE Review and subsequent report by Professor Edward Acton on the School of Advanced Study proved largely favourable to the work carried out by the School, resulting in an agreement that funding for SAS should continue at the same level from 2013/2014 (though with no increase for inflation); but that, instead of the totality of funding being reviewed every five years, 10% of its funding should be subject to an annual review, in effect reducing each constituent’s budget by that amount. A likely consequence of this reduction was the removal of subsidies on space-charges for the Societies and some hard negotiations ahead with the University over the renewal of the Memorandum of Understanding due in 2014. Meanwhile the proposal to re-structure the School by merging a number of cost centres and aligning the ICS with a miscellaneous body of constituents would inevitably have an impact on the Institute’s budget and that of the Library, if, as was hoped, it was re-united with the ICS through a process of de-convergence from Senate House Libraries.

Such a hope was in part generated by the SHLs’s own Financial Transparency Review, operating in tandem with the above, which began by discussing financial management and our interaction with Senate House Library, usefully eliminating misconceptions over the level of services received from the latter as a result, and thereby obviating considerable overcharging in the future (though not retrospectively). Despite initial disclaimers, financial management was inextricably linked with management structure as a whole, and led to the publication, at the end of the review process, of a paper by the SHLs Director entitled “Management and Governance of the Central Libraries”. A key conclusion within this recommended a de-converged strategy which would see our Library, along with those of the Warburg, Institute of Advanced Legal Studies and Institute of Historical Research removed from the SHLs budget and transferred fully into SAS, with any residual agreed benefits, such as a shared Library management system, charged for using an appropriate formula. However, because of the vital role played by the Societies, no change was likely in the case of our Library before the re-negotiation of the MoU, due, as already mentioned, by the end of the forthcoming session.

Other more local concerns saw continuing problems with security arrangements and heating – particularly, in the case of the latter, in the largest reading room where archaeology and art are shelved, causing it to be virtually unusable during what turned out to be a prolonged and hard winter. These concerns were strongly expressed to the Facilities Management team in two meetings with the Librarian: undertakings to address the problems have been received, so we keep our fingers firmly crossed. On a happier note, extra shelving units were installed both in that room, relieving congestion in what is traditionally a rapid-growth area, and in the Computer Room, allowing the Tract Volumes, previously kept in closed access, to be made openly available again to readers; the need for double-stacking of Dissertation Boxes was also eliminated, thus rendering them less susceptible to damage.

## Collection Management

As the result of an approach at the end of March 2013 by Prof. Dr. Jürgen Malitz, Chair of Ancient History at Eichstätt Catholic University, our Library's monthly accessions lists have now been incorporated in the Gnomon Bibliographic Database. GBD comprises over 500,000 entries for specialised literature on Classics, containing monograph studies, articles in periodicals, reviews etc. in German, English, French, Spanish, and Italian, searchable with a comprehensive and multilingual thesaurus - currently around 25,000 keywords. Further information on the database and current projects can be found at:

<http://www.philhist.uni-augsburg.de/de/lehrstuehle/geschichte/alte/projekte/GBD>

A system of alerting readers to new issues of those e-journals available from within our Library - currently: *Bulletin of the Institute of Classical Studies*; *Classical Receptions Journal*; *Polis: The Journal of Greek Political Thought*; and *Transactions of the American Philological Association* - was introduced with their inclusion in our monthly listings of newly-received printed journals, both in paper copy and on the Library's web-page. Investigations were proceeding into how readers with different areas of interest might register with journal suppliers for alerts to new on-line issues on a much broader basis.

Arrangements were tightened up for the more vigorous pursuit of readers with very overdue books who had not responded to repeated requests for their return. This, in conjunction with a month's amnesty at the end of the session, was instrumental in the retrieval of a number of items which otherwise would have had to be replaced at considerable expense.

Following last year's valuation of the items in the Rare Books Room, the proprietor of the Classics Bookshop in effect completed the task with a valuation of the rest of the Joint Library's collection, giving a total figure of just under £10 million. The figure was required in order to satisfy the Societies' Auditors, and its impact on the insurance premium would be discussed with them by the Treasurers of the Societies. Over the course of the session, the Joint Library's accounts and book-keeping procedures were transferred from the Hellenic Society to the Roman Society. In future, it was agreed that the notional costs of journals exchanged would need to be included in the accounts in order to balance the converse value of journals received by exchange. The threat posed to the Library's extensive periodicals exchange programme by the introduction of Open Access, together with the various other possible adverse effects outside the remit of this report, were being underlined by both the ICS and the Societies in their forthright contributions to the national debate on this subject.

Once again it was a very good year for notable acquisitions and donations to the Library. Pride of place must go to a monetary bequest by former Societies' member John Spencer from Durham, who had left £60,000 to both Societies for the *carte blanche* purchase of Joint Library books: this would be put into the special book fund for future use as required. The Classical Association continued to pass on material not required for *Classical Review*, resulting in some useful additions to the collection and extra funds from the sale of duplicates. A similar division was the outcome of donations of multiple items by Professor Sir Laurence Martin, Mikhael Essayan Q.C., and Mr William F. Stancomb: the latter included a *1690 two-volume edition (with commentary) of Suetonius by Samuel Pitiscus*; other notable items received were, from Mr Dennis Blandford a "*quater-centenary*" edition of *Virgil, published in Basle in 1613*, of over 2000 folio pages; and, from the estate of Anthony Tyers (father of Paul Tyers, a Roman archaeologist), a *facsimile edition of the Codex Sinaiticus, with reference guide, published in*

2010 by the British Library (amongst others), together with *Volume 1 of the illuminated Greek manuscripts of the Monastery of Saint Catherine at Mount Sinai, covering the ninth to the twelfth century*, edited by Kurt Weitzmann and George Galavaris (Princeton U.P., 1990). Major bequests of books were received via their respective widows from the collections of Professor John Barron and Professor John Healy, and from that of David Ridgway via the executors of his estate; the set of *Oxyrhynchus Papyri* with Professor Eric Turner's annotations, bequeathed by Professor Eric Handley, was retrieved from Trinity College Cambridge and located in one of the ICS research rooms in the Library; and finally, after a delay of many years, following their recent discovery at UCL, over 1,000 books from the estates of both Professor James Hooker and Professor Otto Skutsch, intended for our Library, were retrieved for eventual accessioning.

Our deep appreciation is herewith expressed to all of the people named above who have made such a valuable contribution to our Library, as indeed to the following donors of individual books, periodicals, pamphlets, and audio-visual materials:-

Mr R.P. Adam, Dr J.P. Alcock, Professor E. Amato, Dr G. Aristodemou, Professor Dr S. Audano, Professor C.M. Barron, Dr D.C. Bellingham, Mrs P.J. Betts, Mr D.W. Blandford, Professor J.M. Blázquez Martínez, Mr G. Brisch, Mrs S. Brown, Dr A.M. Burnett, Dr J. Coderch, Dr C. Constantakopoulou, Dr S.J.J. Corcoran, Professor A. Corso, Professor M.H. Crawford, Mr E.M. Davies, Professor J.K. Davies, Ms K. Demakopoulou, Dr E. Eidinow, Professor V. Fera, Dr M. Ford, Professor J. Glucker, Mr D. Goodfellow, Mr E.A.C. Goodman, Dr T. Grabowski, Professor V. Gramatopol, Professor J.R. Green, Dr P. Guest, Professor L.P. Hardwick, Mr T.M. Hayes, Miss A.E. Healey, Dr R. Hobbs, Professor R. Hope Simpson, Mr G. Hunt, Professor G.L. Huxley, Mr P.L. Jackson, Professor R. Janko, Dr A.W. Johnston, Professor I. Jordović, Dr M. Junkiert, Dr A. Kanta, Professor A.C. King, Dr S. Krmnicek, Professor Dr A. Külzer, Professor D.I. Kyrtatas, Dr E. Läfli, Professor P. Lambrini, Ms J. Layton, Dr M. Luke, Professor B. Manuwald, Professor M.V. Manzano Ventura, Professor G.P. Marchi, Dr F. Mermati, Professor T. Minamikawa, Dr E. Nemerkenyi, Professor J.M. Noguera Celdrán, Dr E. Papadopoulou, Dr S. Pasqualis Dell'Antonio, Professor I.N. Perysinakis, Professor P. Poccetti, Dr C. Pudney, Professor D.W. Rathbone, Professor A. Rodighiero, Dr F. Russo, Mr E. Sanders, Professor S. Sharypkin, Professor A. Small, Mr J.R.M. Smith, Dr C.A. Stray, Dr Y. Suzawa, Professor H. Takahashi, Professor J.J. Wilkes, Ms S.J. Willetts, Professor J. Wisse, Dr M. Xanthopoulou, Professor Y. Yatromanolakis, Dr O. Zoller.

American Center of Oriental Research; American Classical League; American Philological Association; American School of Classical Studies at Athens; Anglo-Hellenic League; Archäologische Gesellschaft Steiermark; Association of Ancient Historians; British School at Athens Library; British Museum, Department of Coins and Medals; British Museum, Department of Greek and Roman Antiquities Library; Cahn Auktionen AG; Chianciano Terme: Museo Civico Archeologico; Charles Ede Ltd; Classical Association; Egypt Exploration Society; Fondazione Lorenzo Valla, Roma; Friends of Classics; Fundación Focus-Abengoa, Sevilla; International Plutarch Society; Istituto Papirologico G. Vitelli; Joint Association of Classical Teachers; National Gallery, Libraries and Archive Department; Officina di Studi Medievali, Palermo; Römerstadt Augusta Raurica; Society for Libyan Studies; Society for the Promotion of Byzantine Studies; Texas Tech University Press; Universidad Nacional de La Plata, Buenos Aires: Centro de Estudios de Lenguas Clásicas; University College London, Department of Greek and Latin; University of Exeter; University of Stellenbosch; Warburg Institute.

## Staffing / Personnel

The beginning of the session saw the customary change-over from one annual Winnington-Ingram Trainee to the next: Hannah Dingwall was replaced by Kate Symonds, a graduate in Classical Civilisation with an M.Litt. in Classics from the University of Glasgow. It turns out, in fact, that Kate will stay with us for the forthcoming year as well, since it proved not possible to appoint a successor from among February's interviewees.

Five casual staff assisted with morning shelving, late evening and Saturday opening this year – Xavier Duffy, Mary Ruskin, Anita Frizzarin, Adam Lecznar and Geri Van Essen. To all of these our Library is greatly indebted, and to the last three we extend particular thanks for their service over the years as they now take their leave of us.

Work experience was given to two school students under the guidance of Sue Willetts: in February 2013 to Joseph Robson, a sixth-form pupil at Aylesbury Grammar School, and in July 2013 to Kareen Muhammed, an A-Level student at the UCL Academy. In April 2013, Sue herself attended the two-day inaugural conference of the Digital Classics Association in Buffalo, New York State, entitled "Word, Space, Time: digital perspectives on the Classical World".

## Statistics (2012/2013)

Figures for acquisition and usage follow below. The figures for the previous year (2011/2012) have been given in parentheses.

### Expenditure on collection development:

Institute: Books: **£17,754** (£14,606); Periodicals: **£3,265** (£2,057) E-resources: **£4,269** (£4,271).  
Joint Library: Books: **£19,633** (£19,070); Periodicals: **£6,447** (£6,230)  
Total estimated value of combined Institute and Joint Library acquisitions (including purchases, review copies, exchanges, gifts and bequests): **£111,801** (£162,491).

Books and pamphlets added: Institute **409** (347); Joint Library **2,254** (3,475);  
Total: **2,663** (3,822); Net gain, allowing for replacements: **2,585** (3,766).  
Current periodicals: Institute **179** (187); Joint Library **517** (515); Total: **696** (702), of which **458** (458) were acquired by exchange, and **238** (244) by gift or purchase.  
There were **37** (36) Institute and **47** (48) Joint Library exchanges for books and dissertations; and **8** (11) more exchanges were made on behalf of other libraries.

### Expenditure on binding (books and periodicals):

Institute: **£8,364** (£8,196); Joint Library: **£8,643** (£8,247).  
Books bound or rebound: Institute: **99** (142); Joint Library: **127** (57); Total: **226** (199).  
Periodicals bound or rebound: Institute: **65** (83); Joint Library: **224** (266); Total: **289** (349).

Usage: Borrowers: **2,122** (2,005); Books borrowed: **11,667** (12,763).  
Library swipe-cards issued (current only): Institute: **1,606** (1,508); Societies: **2,316** (2,201).  
Turnstile count: **46,105** (48,405) entries; Temporary visitors: **251** (264).  
Book parcels sent: to members: **300** (276); to reviewers: **100** (97).  
Xerox copies made: **4,435** (5,321) for **85** (104) members and institutions.

(Colin Annis, Librarian, August 2013)