



# AFRICANA LIBRARIES NEWSLETTER

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*Africana Libraries Newsletter (ALN)* is published quarterly by the Michigan State University Libraries and the MSU African Studies Center. Those copying contents are asked to cite *ALN* as their source. *ALN* is produced to support the work of the Africana Librarians Council (ALC) of the African Studies Association. It carries the meeting minutes of ALC, CAMP (Cooperative Africana Microform Project) and other relevant groups. It also reports other items of interest to Africana librarians and those concerned about information resources about or in Africa.

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Deadline for no. 80: Sept. 20, 1994; for no. 81: Jan. 1, 1995.

## EDITOR'S COMMENTS

Most of this issue is taken up with the ALC activities in Durham, North Carolina. Unfortunately, the decisions taken by CAMP were not available for this number.

Contributors to this issue include Moore Crossey, David Easterbrook, Karen Fung, Al Kagan, Bob Lesh, Elizabeth Plantz, Nancy Schmidt, Andrea Stamm, and Hans Zell (who deserves a special thanks).

I had hoped to continue my comments in *ALN* no. 78 with some numbers (derived through keyword searches via the Internet) about comparative collection strengths. Instead I have a simpler idea: A materials budget of roughly \$50,000 per year is enough to satisfy the local library needs of an African studies program. The spending above local needs is for the nation (and theoretically available for a cooperative program). Should bibliographers be asked to identify which materials fall into each of these categories? My apologies for suggesting more work. Readers are reminded that comments here are in no way to be taken as representing the views (either formal or informal) of ALC. In fact, members generally dislike numbers.

## ACRONYMS

ACRL - Association of College & Research Libraries (ALA)

ALA - American Library Association (Chicago)

ALC - Africana Librarians Council (formerly Archives-Librarians Committee) of ASA

ASA - African Studies Association (U.S.)

CAMP - Cooperative Africana Microform Project (CRL)

CRL - Center for Research Libraries (Chicago)

IFLA - International Federation of Library Associations

LC - Library of Congress

MELA - Middle East Librarians Association

MSU - Michigan State University

SCOLMA - Standing Conf. on Library Materials on Africa

U. - University

UCLA - University of California, Los Angeles

## AFRICANA LIBRARIANS COUNCIL / CAMP NEWS

## CALENDAR OF FUTURE MEETINGS

November 2-6, 1994, Toronto - ASA Annual Meeting.  
 May 4-6, 1995, Evanston, IL - ALC/CAMP Spring Meeting.  
 November 3-6, 1995, Orlando - ASA Annual Meeting.  
 Spring 1996, Boston - ALC/CAMP Spring Meeting.  
 Fall 1996, San Francisco - ASA Annual Meeting.  
 Fall 1997, Norfolk - ASA Annual Meeting.  
 Fall 1998, Midwest site - ASA Annual Meeting.

## ALC SCHEDULE FOR TORONTO

(subject to change)

Wednesday, November 2:

9:00-10:00 ..... ALC Executive  
 10:00-11:30 .... Cataloging Committee  
 11:30- 1:00 ..... Bibliography Committee  
 1:00- 2:00 ..... Lunch; CAMP working groups  
 2:00- 4:00 ..... CAMP Business Meeting  
 4:15- 5:30 ..... CAMP Executive

Thursday, November 3:

9:00-11:00 ..... ALC Business Meeting  
 11:00-12:00 .... ALC Executive

Friday, November 4:

9:00?-11:00 .... ALC-sponsored Roundtable:  
 Internet Resources for African Studies.

AFRICANA LIBRARIANS COUNCIL  
BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

Duke University

Durham, NC, April 16, 1994, 9:30am-12:00pm

The meeting was called to order by Al Kagan, Chair.

**Present** were: Helene Baumann (Duke U.), Julianne Beall (LC), Phyllis Bischof (U. of California, Berkeley), John Blosser (Northwestern U.), Dan Britz (Northwestern U.), Joseph Caruso (Columbia U.), David Easterbrook (Northwestern U.), Kay Elsasser (LC), Onuma Ezera (Michigan State U.), Gregory Finnegan (Dartmouth College), Karen Fung (Stanford U.), James Gentner (LC), Marieta Harper (LC), John Bruce Howell (U. of Iowa), Al Kagan (U. of Illinois), Joseph Lauer (Michigan State U.), Robert W. Lesh (Northwestern U.), Peter Malanchuk (U. of Florida), Razia Nanji (University of Florida), Dorothy Nickamp (Indiana U.), Pat Ogedengbe (Northwestern U.), Elizabeth Plantz (Northwestern U.), Yvette Scheven (Champaign, IL), Nancy Schmidt (Indiana U.), Mette Shayne (Northwestern U.), Denise Shorey (Princeton U.), Andrea Stamm (Northwestern U.), Thomas Weissinger (Cornell U.), David Westley (Boston U.), Dawn Williams (Northwestern U.), and Joanne Zellers (LC).

## Toronto Program

Finnegan, Chair Elect, discussed plans for the 1994 Annual Meeting of the African Studies Association (ASA) in Toronto. As the regular ASA programs begin on a Thursday this year, ALC meetings will begin one day ahead, as voted by the group at the fall meeting in Boston. ALC will sponsor a roundtable entitled "Africana Libraries Without Walls: Internet Resources for African Studies", chaired by Finnegan. The core of the program will be a "canned" demonstration by Gretchen Walsh. Her presentation will be "Gateways, Gophers, and NGO's: Internet Resources demonstrated." The program will also include Faraz Rabbani, University of Toronto (AFRICA-N: Pitfalls and Beacons of Running a Listserv), and Denise Shorey (Integrating the Internet into Africana Library Instruction). A Friday 9-11 a.m. slot has been requested, but not confirmed. Finnegan intends to publicize the program electronically and will be looking for others with Internet resources and expertise to be on hand to speak as well.

## Spring Meeting 1995

Easterbrook proposed holding the ALC spring 1995 meeting at Northwestern on April 28-29th. He was asked to investigate the possibility of the first weekend in May. If this is not possible, the originally proposed dates will be accepted.

## Spring Meeting 1996

Westley extended an invitation to hold the spring 1996 meeting at Boston University. The invitation was accepted.

## ALC Elections Committee

Kagan announced that Baumann and Easterbrook have been appointed to form the Elections Committee for the fall 1994 meeting in Toronto. Anyone interested in running for office or nominating someone should contact either of them.

## 40th Anniversary Program

Schmidt and Malanchuk presented plans for the ALC 40th Anniversary Conference program. The name of the conference will be "Africana Librarianship into the 21st Century: Treasuring the Past and Building the Future." They stressed that they want to include all types of libraries. Topics to be included: sharing information, new forms of distribution of information, training of librarians, methods of compiling and distributing bibliographies, cooperative agreements, cooperation in indexing and abstracting, collection management—especially of new formats, and networking within Africa as well as with Africa. Sessions will focus on the old and the new and there will be a variety of papers, panels and working groups. The site of the conference will be the Library of Congress, for approximately 2-2 1/2 days in April 1997. They hope to establish linkages with other library associations in order to identify people interested in presenting and attending. Any "gemstones" from the conference will be reported on at the annual fall ASA meeting.

Goals for the fall meeting in Toronto: 1. develop a list of speakers for the above topics and a list of potential dynamic keynote speakers; 2. develop a list of funding sources; 3. fix an exact date for the conference so hotel rooms can be reserved; and 4. develop a mailing list for publicity. Anyone with suggestions for any of the above, please send them to either Schmidt or

Malanchuk. Everyone is reminded to ask their institutions about supporting a librarian from overseas to attend the conference.

**Conover-Porter Award** (Schmidt): 12 titles were nominated and 4 were selected as finalists. The award will be split between 2 of them; and there will be 2 honorable mentions. The winners will be announced at the fall meeting in Toronto.

#### **Long Range Strategic Planning Committee**

Finnegan and Nanji reported on their initial meeting. The issue of what to do about the editorship of *Africana Libraries Newsletter* (ALN) was discussed. The possibility of securing funding for ALN from Title VI centers was raised. Schmidt noted that due to the Title VI funding cycle and cutbacks, it would not be feasible to ask them to take on any additional expenses. Lauer, the current editor, indicated that he felt that the problem was not really a question of money, but of time. The Committee will prepare a report on how much ALN costs to produce in both time and money. At the same time it will look into evaluating the importance and value of ALN to others outside of ALC. In addition, it will think about how to go about getting an editor, developing some kind of application procedure.

The Committee also has plans for developing an ALC manual that would provide all the rules, bylaws, etc. of the Council. It is possible that it would be available in both electronic and print form. They will look into what ASA is doing and perhaps include some information about ASA as well.

Finally, the Committee presented the possibility of becoming a standing committee of ALC, charged with looking at long range issues. It was noted that the ALC needs to look into how our planning fits in with ASA's goals.

#### **Book Donation Project Report**

A written report was submitted by Gretchen Walsh. Five applications were received for ASA money for book donation projects. [Of these, 3 were funded and the awardees will be announced in *ASA News*.] All of the applications represent small to medium scale donations with strong recipient participation.

Walsh continues to receive numerous appeals for books, and she has distributed the handbook/directory to interested participants in *Africana-L*, an electronic discussion group focusing on information technology for Africa. The group Bridge to Asia has begun work in establishing a sister organization, Bridge to Africa, headed at present by Willie LaMousse Smith, University of Maryland at Baltimore. Walsh is on their board of advisors.

#### **ALA Acquisitions Book, Africa Volume**

Schmidt presented a report on long standing problems involving a proposed set of volumes being published by the American Library Association (ALA) on library acquisitions. She and several other ALC members have been working on the section for Africa for the second part of the already published volume entitled *Selection of Library Materials for Area Studies*. Hans Panofsky began work on this project in 1984. There have been a large number of delays and communication problems with the project and because these seem insurmountable, the contributors to the Africa volume have decided to withdraw.

Easterbrook noted that this is a very important project that should not be dropped without pushing for more discussion within ALA. Finnegan, Easterbrook and Malanchuk will all take up the issue in ALA. The first volume published won an award and the project is an important commitment by ALA that should be followed up.

#### **ARL Foreign Acquisitions Demonstration Project**

Easterbrook reported that they have submitted their report and the Association of Research Libraries (ARL) Foreign Acquisitions Project Advisory Committee will discuss it at the annual ALA meeting in June. Copies of the report are available upon request. In the next stage of the project, they may be asked to do a "demonstration project." This would involve developing a small scale project to implement something in the report. An edited version of the report will be submitted as a paper for the next ACRL Conference.

#### **Statement on Access to Government Documents**

A revised statement on access to government documents, entitled "Government Documents Resources in Academic Libraries: Implications for International and African Government Publications," was presented by Kagan and Bischof. [After discussion], ALC voted to endorse it. [The statement, after minor additional editing, was distributed via Email on 20 May. A copy appears at the end of these minutes.]

#### **ALC Distribution List / Listserv**

Finnegan proposed the possibility of turning the ALC "distribution list" into an actual listserv. Some of the advantages: 1. can choose to receive one days mailings as a block; 2. archiving capabilities; 3. can post brief notes that can lead to larger documents; and 4. solve the problem of the huge header. Some discussion followed on how the nature of the "list" would change as a listserv is a "public" space. Some members do not want to be on another listserv. Others felt that a place was still needed for purely ALC business. It was decided that we would experiment with having both until the fall meeting. A distribution list will be maintained as a formal place for ALC business. Finnegan will take on the responsibility for setting up a listserv that will provide a forum to discuss issues of interest to *Africana* librarianship and information science. Once he has set it up, he will publicize it to ALC members and invite those interested to "subscribe."

#### **Scope of ALC Directory**

Noting the increasing size of and interest in the *ALC Directory*, Finnegan asked the ALC what they thought should be done with it. He cited several examples of people being asked to be listed in it who were not involved in ALC, as well as people who were interested in purchasing it. In general the group felt that the directory should be made available for non-commercial purposes and that the scope of the people listed should be tighter rather than looser. Only people involved with the ALC will be listed, rather than just any person or publisher interested in *Africana* materials. It was decided to change the name to *Africana Librarians Council Directory*. An ALC copyright statement will be added to the cover page as well.

Kagan and the entire Council thanked Finnegan warmly for all his work on both the distribution list and the directory.

#### **Use of E-mail for ALC Business**

The appropriateness of using e-mail in between meetings for ALC business was discussed. Of particular concern was its use for voting. It was noted that there are no provisions for such votes in the by-laws. Several votes attempted by e-mail since the fall meeting have proven to be a failure due to the lack of response by members. It was thought however that e-mail should be useful for votes among the Executive Committee. Baumann will draft a proposal for the use of e-mail for voting.



### Linkages to African Librarians and Associations

Schmidt received 7 replies to her letters to various African library associations. There were replies from Nigeria, Senegal, Cameroon, Sierra Leone, Gabon and Namibia. Information about newsletters and other materials provided by these various organizations will be provided in *ALN* as they are received. The ALC directory will be sent out to those who responded and they will be informed of our plans for the ALC 40th Anniversary Conference. It was suggested that a list be compiled of African librarians who have attended ALC meetings in the past. Information about the conference will be sent to them as well.

### Outreach to Black Studies Librarians

Kagan will look into providing information about ALC to new Title VI centers, inviting them to participate in our activities. Weissinger, editor of ACRL's African American Studies Section listserv, will look into sending out information about ALC to members of that listserv. Kagan will also make copies of *ALN* available during appropriate programs at ALA in Miami. Harper suggested that Library Fellows who have gone to Africa be contacted about ALC as well.

### Library of Congress Reports

Zellers noted that on 2/6/94 Beverly Gray was appointed chief of the **African and Middle Eastern Division**, after having served as head of the African Section since 1978. Zellers is currently acting head of the Section, which now consists of 2 area specialists and 1 technician.

*GenBib : a Guide for Searchers*, a new in-house manual, has been compiled to assist staff in searching these online files. The GenBib files are accessible via the internet and include databases produced data by the African Section. Paper copies of the guide will not be available to outside users, but it is available via the LC gopher, LC Marvel. There is a new GenBib file, CD-ROMREF, which will eventually provide bibliographical control and location access for all CD-Rom title used for reference at LC.

The Federal Research Division reports that the following country studies are in preparation: Algeria (mid '94), Cameroon (late '94 or early '95), Ghana (mid '94), Indian Ocean Isles (early autumn '94), Rwanda (in limbo), South Africa (late '94) and Zaire (Spring '95).

The budget for FY '94 had only a slight increase over FY '93, and is barely adequate to cover increased costs. Given the financial situation, foreign newspaper subscriptions and micro-filming costs are a concern. Over the next several months, all titles will be reviewed and prioritized in the event that cuts must be made.

LC is in the process of undertaking six "case studies" in collection evaluation. Dr. George Atiyeh, Head, Near East Section, is in charge of preparing a study on the field of Islamic Studies, the only African related study. ALC members are encouraged to inform Dr. Atiyeh of materials they think are integral to an Islamic Studies collection; materials they think should or should not be acquired. A user survey was distributed to the Middle East Librarians Association. Anyone wanting a copy should contact Dr. Atiyeh (tel. (202) 707-5407).

LC has acquired photocopies of 9 Mauritanian manuscripts from Prof. Stewart, Univ. of Illinois. The Collections Policy Office is in the process of revising acquisitions policies statements. These statements will be published, at the earliest, in 1995. They will not be available over the Internet.

James Gentner reported on the activities of **Overseas Operations Division**. He reminded everyone that LC was developing a new cost recovery scheme for participants in its Overseas Acquisitions Programs. Comparison bills were to have been sent to participants showing their FY 94 bills under the present scheme and what they would have been charged under the new scheme. Unfortunately there was a flaw in the model created by Price-Waterhouse which would result in bills 3 times higher than in the past. LC is currently working to change the model in order to keep the program alive, as well as share costs in a fair and equitable manner. A new model is expected to be approved shortly. As soon as it is approved, information concerning FY 95 charges will be disseminated to participants. In spite of the expected "flat" budget for FY 1995, LC has no plans to cut either the Cairo or the Nairobi offices. However, the Division is not working on any proposals for a West Africa Office at this time. *The Accessions List: Eastern & Southern Africa* will continue to be published for the time being. There is a \$5,000 Rockefeller grant for the *Quarterly Index*. Unfortunately, this is insufficient to cover the entire cost of the publication. They would appreciate any suggestions for where they might find additional funding for this important publication. The Nairobi Office is currently putting a collection of Somalia contemporary history publications on microfiche. They plan to return the original documents to Somalia when there is a stable government. The fiche will be available for purchase when complete. The Nairobi Office has made a number of acquisition trips since the last ALC meeting. These include: Madagascar, Nov/Dec. 1993; Ethiopia and Eritrea, Nov/Dec. 1993; Zaire, March 1994; Angola, April 1994; Seychelles, April 1994; Botswana, April 1994; Tanzania, April 1994 and Malawi, April 1994.

Marieta Harper reported on the activities of the **Order Division**. The Africa/Middle Eastern Acquisitions Section has been utilizing the services of bibliographic representatives in Liberia, Togo, Benin, Ghana and Nigeria. They have acquired interim government reports and white papers from Liberia, as well as increased numbers of newspapers. They have had increased numbers of newspapers and official gazettes from Togo. They have been able to update their holdings on periodicals and government annuals that have ceased publication in Nigeria, although they still have no definitive directory of new state governments. More state publications have been acquired from Eastern Nigeria. An online database of PNDC statutes from Ghana on CD has been acquired in addition to customary law publications. They hope to acquire more legal databases. They have begun tracking costs per item from bibliographic representatives and will later compare those with vendor costs. It appears that, in general, actual item costs may be lower from the representatives than from vendors. Administrative and transportation costs will need to be factored in to obtain true costs. They plan to increase travel in order to locate representatives in Gambia, Senegal, Côte d'Ivoire, Sierra Leone, Mali, Central African Republic, Gabon and Guinea-Bissau.

### OTHER

Schmidt announced that Indiana University is now offering a joint MLS and MA program with a focus on Africa. It includes working for one year in the library.

The meeting was adjourned.

—Elizabeth J. Plantz, Secretary

## RESOLUTION ON GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS

Government Documents Resources in Academic Libraries: Implications for International and African Government Publications

The Africana Librarians Council of the [U.S.] African Studies Association views with concern the apparent national trend of downgrading resources available for the acquiring, collecting, processing and servicing of government publications in academic libraries. This sometimes takes the form of merging departments, collections, and or/processing functions with other units without providing for necessary expertise and resources in the resulting new structures.

In several cases, such actions appear to have been taken without thorough research into the implications emerging from new electronic context. On the one hand, new technologies make the library more user-friendly, but on the other, new specialized products may be immensely complicated both for librarians and for end-users. This double-edged situation is particularly true for government publications. For example, loading documents records into an online catalog makes them easier to find and lessens the need for expert reference assistance. On the other hand, new government document CD-ROM disks are often much more complicated than their commercial counterparts and require very specialized levels of expertise for service to end-users. In a different realm, automated acquisitions and processing will be more efficient, but cannot address the very real complications of acquiring and collecting materials that fall far outside the mainstream acquisitions processes, such as international and African documents.

Documents specialists perform work which is essentially different in kind from other collection development and reference work. Specialists must understand the intricacies of government organizational structures and processes in various countries and in international intergovernmental organizations in order to acquire publications and later access them for users. It is the need to know provenance and the way governments work that sets this work apart.

Africana materials are probably the most difficult library resources to collect. Furthermore, the collection of African government publications is more difficult than documents from more developed world areas. It is obvious that African studies collections are at great risk when government publications resources are cut or reorganized.

The Africana Librarians Council urges library administrations to maintain adequate government publications resources and expertise. We urge thorough study before organizational changes are made that may negatively impact collection and access to documents. We understand the need for efficient operations and the need to cut costs, but we ask that administrators also consider the cost of not acquiring and not servicing what is or is not acquired. The right to know must be applied to government publications throughout the world, and it is self-evident that this is in our national interest.

We are, of course, most concerned with African documents and international documents related to Africa, but we think these issues apply to all area studies. We welcome responses and comments from individuals and organizations in addressing our common needs.

—Adopted by ALC, April 16, 1994

## BIBLIOGRAPHY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Friday, April 15, 1994, 1:30-3:00 pm

The meeting was called to order by the Helene Baumann, Chair.

**1. Conover-Porter:** Schmidt expressed disappointment at the small number of nominations and encouraged members to start a "Conover-Porter" file for the next award in 1996. She also suggested revising the evaluation form to include two additional criteria: the importance of the work in the field, regardless of scope, and a better definition of "Africa." Current criteria are too technical and fail to take into account the intellectual input. Even though the Committee took such input into account, no harm would be done by spelling it out. The Committee voted to accept Schmidt's motion. She will revise the current version. Schmidt also asked whether a narrow definition of Africa or a broad definition that included the diaspora and works worldwide in scope should be used. It was agreed that the definition should be broad, but should not include titles that are primarily African-American or diaspora oriented. In general, the meeting felt that this could be left to the discretion of the Committee on a title-by-title basis.

Schmidt reported that the issue of a reception at the Toronto meeting would be discussed at the ASA Board Meeting shortly, and that an informal offer had been received from WARA (West African Research Association) for assistance, should ASA decide not to host a reception.

**2. ARL Foreign Acquisitions Project:** Schmidt summarized a letter from Jutta Reed-Scott asking ALC's views on the feasibility of an African studies demonstration project, perhaps similar to the three acquisitions projects which have at present been identified (Latin America, German language, and Japanese language scientific and technical resources). On the whole, the meeting was not inclined to enter into the project, even with ARL funding, as previous area studies had been conducted for Latin American and Japanese material, with no follow-up. It was felt that, unless ARL were to fund a project, ALC would continue to operate as it had in the past, particularly since the ALC work would be broader in scope than merely acquisitions. Easterbrook expected the matter to be discussed at advisory panels at ALA in Miami and agreed to find out what is being done. The issue might become an agenda item for the ALC Toronto business meeting.

**3. Materials on Africans in the diaspora in Europe:** Schmidt raised the question of who is collecting materials on Africans in Europe. Current acquisition practice varies too widely to ensure a thorough job. There was agreement that materials collected should focus on regions rather than on specific countries. Zellers referred to LC's useful bibliographies on ethnic communities, Easterbrook suggested liaisons with institutions who collect on immigrant groups. Finnegan pointed to local community material in Europe which may also be uncollected. It was agreed that a list of ALC member's current policies would be useful, and Schmidt volunteered to collect these for discussion in Toronto.

**4. Collection and cataloging of foreign dissertations:** Schmidt suggested a cooperative project to catalog and share information on foreign dissertations, since CRL, although willing to purchase them, does not catalog them and Northwestern has a significant backlog of uncataloged dissertations. Given that there were over 300 dissertations in 1980, CRL's approach was



felt to severely hinder access and delivery. This was suggested as a possible CAMP agenda item.

**5. Resource Sharing/Cooperative ventures:** This was a follow-up to the discussions in Boston. Baumann suggested that they be linked to outreach discussions; she will work on it over the summer.

**6. UN High Commission for Refugees access to "infobases":** Baumann circulated a copy of a letter from the UNHCR indicating its pleasure with the response to its databases and informing that ASA has been added to the list of proposed new participants.

#### 7. Individual Bibliographic Projects:

Bischof announced that most of her work for the new edition of the *Guide to Reference Books* is complete. Much editing remains to be done.

Malanchuk expected that his updates for Katz, *Magazines for Libraries*, would be done by July.

Shayne has completed her revision of *African Newspapers Currently Received*.

Schmidt reported that Indiana's list of African languages is nearly complete and that Indiana's Title VI grant, which permitted the acquisition of the BBC Somalia Service archive from the 1950s to the present, had been renewed. It will be housed at the Archives of Traditional Music.

Scheven is cumulating the bibliographies of reference works that appeared in the *African Book Publishing Record* from 1987 to 1993.

**8. Library of Congress report:** Zellers reported that *U.S. Imprints on sub-Saharan Africa*, vol. 8 (1992) has been issued. It includes records for African languages and literatures as defined by specific LC call number ranges and has been broadened in scope by using the geographic area code for developing countries to identify additional edited works with essays about sub-Saharan Africa. For vol. 9 (1993), all Third World studies monographs will be included if at least ten percent of their texts concern Africa. Under consideration is the cessation of this title, to be superseded by a serial which would include all monographs about Africa.

**Africana Data Base**—a "master" base tape of about 90,000 records citing sub-Saharan African materials created by running a detailed query was run against the MARC BOOKS file. Two other queries—one for developing countries (including miscellaneous regions) and one for various peculiar language fields (such as for multilingual and creole works) were separately produced for review before merging with the Africana master tape. Each run is updated every 3 months with the records catalogued during the previous 30 days. LC welcomes cooperation in reviewing these records for errors or exclusion. End products may include a CD-ROM.

Zellers reminded the meeting that a number of special bibliographic files compiled by the African Section are searchable on the Internet, including the contents notes of edited works such as conference proceedings cited in *U.S. Imprints*. Another Library division has compiled a new file citing CD-ROM databases in LC reading rooms that are available on the Internet.

**9. Northwestern University:** Easterbrook reported on the Foreign Periodicals Program grant at Northwestern which began on December 1 1992 and has both an acquisitions and a cataloging

component. Since the beginning of the project, 142 new titles, nearly all of them newspapers, from 25 countries have been ordered. Copies of just over 70% of the titles ordered have started to be received. Northwestern was granted funds for a second year of the project which began on December 1, 1993. A proposal for a third year of funding was submitted in early March of this year. The cataloging component of the grant has made considerable progress to date. The focus here is both the new titles acquired with project funds and the Africana serials backlog. John P. Blosser is the project's half-time Africana Serials Cataloguer and as of March 31, 1994, had completed cataloging for 803 titles (96 newly acquired and 654 previously acquired). Records for all titles catalogued as a result of the project appear in OCLC, RLIN, and JALA.

—Denise Shorey, Secretary

### CATALOGING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Friday, April 15, 1994, 3:15-4:45pm

Present: Beall, Blosser, Barbara Branson (Duke U.), Caruso, Elsasser, Fung, Gentner, Harper, Howell, Kagan, Lauer, Lesh, Nanji, Niekamp, Plantz, Schmidt, Shayne, Stamm, Williams, and Zellers.

The meeting was called to order by Robert Lesh, Committee chair.

1. The minutes of the December 3rd Boston meeting were approved as they appeared in *ALN*, Jan. 1994.

2. Old business:

a. **African Languages Survey:** Lesh sent corrections to the Indiana statistics as replacement pages to all who attended the last meeting or participated in the survey.

b. **DT classification schedule:** Elsasser specified that LC is eager to go forward with schedule changes and enhancements; what is sought is an entire span of development. She suggested that those who will be doing the work should start with one country, such as Nigeria, and fill out the schedule and enhance gaps in information. Since the schedules for Namibia and other Southern African countries have been developed recently, they would be good examples to follow. The schedules are easily segmented into parts, which is the best method of working with them. Priority should be given to expanding DT469, for the island countries off the coast of East Africa, which now exist only as cutters. Presently there is no timeframe for any expansion project, but it would be preferable to start work soon. The following countries were also suggested as needing expansion: Eritrea, Djibouti, Rwanda and Burundi, Somalia, Sudan, and a great many of the countries of West Africa. North Africa should be considered by our Middle Eastern colleagues. She recommended expanding close by within the schedule, for the work will be easier, no recataloging is required, and many people will prefer this.

c. & d. **Enhancement of LC authority records for African languages and Time period subdivisions in LCSH for African countries:** [See also report on end of minutes on morning workshop.] Lesh asked if the Committee as a group wanted to

examine different areas of need and make decisions on what we would like to see enhanced first. After some discussion and the observation that Northwestern was already submitting bibliographic records to LC within a cooperative cataloging project, it was noted that the Committee seemed to prefer individual, not group, contributions. Lesh will send a letter from the Committee to Sarah Thomas, thanking her for organizing the workshop, and reporting that we will undertake individual contributions. Members of the Committee agreed to document problems encountered and the types of headings submitted, and will report about them at the next meeting.

**e. Dewey proposals (Stamm):** The Dewey Editorial Policy Committee will meet in May to review previously proposed changes.

**f. Africa geographic area code (f—) vs. Africa, Sub-Saharan (fb—):** Lesh wrote a letter to Karl Kahler, Chair of the Committee on Cataloging: Asian and African Materials regarding issues relating to application of these codes; he has received no response. Someone suggested a letter to John Byrum, of the NISO Standards Committee, to see if he has any advice.

**3. ALA/CC:AAM report (Stamm on second meeting at Midwinter, in absence of Bell-Gam):** Brenda Bickett gave a progress report on the proposed revision of DDC 296 and 297 (Judaism and Islam). It was discussed whether or not it would be appropriate for ALC to work on the expansion of the DT LC classification schedule, and have CC:AAM endorse it. CC:AAM was asked to approve or not approve NISO standards for representation of languages for information interchange. Also discussed was the proposal to reduce series authority work at LC. Bell-Gam suggested that the Africana librarians could work on an African musical instruments subject heading project similar to that for Thai musical instruments; the Grove Dictionary of Music is the authority for spelling.

James Gentner added that the LC Nairobi office is now independent in creation of bibliographic description. Preliminary records from the field offices will be able to be seen on OCLC and RLIN, which is new. Nairobi is also submitting serial records to Conser. Elsasser stated we should report our activities to CC:AAM, so other groups see what we have accomplished and are encouraged to do the same.

Lauer suggested reports about ALA meetings be published in *ALN* in the issues prior to meetings of ALC. Lesh offered to talk to Bell-Gam about coordinating this.

**4. Cooperative cataloging at LC:** Elsasser announced that LC is gradually moving toward combining the names/subjects authority files. A number of new NACO participants are consortiums. For example, art and dance materials are being submitted by groups working in those two subject areas. NACO is becoming much more specific regarding topical focuses and area studies. LC cataloging now has a newslines available by subscription. The National Coordinated Cataloging Program has been expanded; for example, LC has entered into a cooperative program with Sanford Berman and the Hennepin County Library. There is a six-month pilot project underway to add Hennepin's subject headings to LCSH. She concluded her announcements by saying that a tremendous change is needed in attitudes toward cooperation. Cooperation is the only way LC can survive in the present financially-strapped atmosphere.

**5. Report on the reorganization of cataloging at LC:** Elsasser mentioned the reorganization is about two years old now; it has been a major change to which everyone has had to adjust, as a very new environment was created. Forty-one cataloging teams now exist, which vary in size; there are some contract employees also. With a reduced staff, copy cataloging is becoming more and more important. The LC classification will eventually all be online and browsable. The overseas offices are doing an increasing amount of cataloging. A special team at LC processed 7,600 items from the backlog in six months.

**6. Amharic romanization tables:** Lauer announced he is reasonably satisfied with the new tables. James Gentner mentioned that Nairobi's MLC Amharic records are being loaded in OCLC for the first time; no authority work has been done for these records, but they do contain a summary note (520).

**7. Announcements:**

**a. NUL Africana conference paper indexing project:** Northwestern has not yet received a reply to its grant application. Meanwhile work on these materials continues, with 502 conferences and over 8,000 (1991-) papers indexed thus far.

**b. DDC:** Julianne Beall asked that comments regarding the proposed revision of 296 and 297 be sent directly to her. She was aware that there are not as many numbers for African languages as we would like, but balance is needed in the tables. She also asked for suggestions on other areas in DDC where more Africana numbers are needed.

**c. Lesh's term as Chair** will expire after the fall meeting. Anyone interested in replacing him should talk to Kagan.

The meeting was adjourned.

—Dawn Williams

## LC ENCOURAGES COOPERATIVE CATALOGING A REPORT ON A WORKSHOP

by Andrea Stamm

On April 15, 1994, LC staffers David Michener and Kay Elsasser led a half-day workshop on cooperative subject cataloging in conjunction with the spring ALC meeting at Duke University. Africana librarians from approximately 10 institutions were represented. In an era of shrinking budgets, this workshop is seen as a vital tool to encourage the growth of national cooperative cataloging projects.

David Michener's presentation focused on how to propose new LC subject headings. Although the process of non-LC staffers submitting subject heading proposals is not new, LC will now consider the headings "preapproved" in order to expedite action. This major change breathes life into a stagnant procedure and encourages catalogers to submit proposals. Michener stressed that any individual can submit proposals, regardless of attendance at this workshop, and that there is no membership requirement.

Before creating a new subject heading, check LC's *Subject Cataloging Manual: Subject Headings*, H193-203, as well as the current edition of LC's *Free-floating Subdivisions*. The manual form is illustrated in the *Subject Cataloging Manual*, H200. LC is also encouraging us to modify existing subject

headings as part of their new willingness to cooperate.

LC will accept either manual or electronic versions of the proposals. The electronic proposal form is available by dialing up to LC Marvel (Internet address: lcmarvel@seq1.loc.gov), and searching the menu for cooperative cataloging programs at LC. Completed electronic proposal forms should be sent to naco-cscp@seq1.loc.gov. Fax the manual forms to 202-707-2824.

Kay Elsasser spoke about the submission of LC classification proposals. Africana catalogers in ALC are interested in updating the DT schedule (History of Africa), which was largely written before World War I. For this project, LC's *Subject Cataloging Manual: Classification* should be consulted. Work on this project is being coordinated by Joe Caruso of Columbia University, and it is anticipated to take several years to complete.

For further information, contact Bob Lesh, chair of ALC's Cataloging Committee at r-lesh@nwu.edu or 708-491-7585.

### ALC EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Saturday, April 16, 1994, 8:30-9:30 am

The meeting was called to order by Al Kagan, Chair. Present were: Lesh, Baumann, Finnegan, Lauer, Caruso, Kagan, Nanji, Howell, Plantz, Schmidt, & Zellers.

The Executive Committee discussed the make up of the Elections Committee for the fall 1994 meeting in Toronto. It

was decided to appoint Baumann and Easterbrook to the committee.

Finnegan noted that the meeting schedule for ALC had been sent in, but not officially approved yet. He noted there may be some possible complications since one of the presentors is not an ASA member.

Kagan reported that, in an e-mail vote, the Executive Committee had rejected a proposal to co-sponsor an African Publishers Network (APNET) roundtable at the fall 1994 meeting. Walsh has offered to help them and is waiting for a response.

The Committee discussed Northwestern's proposed dates (April 28-29) for the spring 1995 meeting. It was decided to ask Easterbrook to look into the possibility of holding the meeting in early May. If this is not possible the originally proposed dates will be accepted. Kagan noted that Boston University is interested in sponsoring the spring 1996 meeting.

The business meeting agenda was reviewed and LC reports were added.

Meeting was adjourned.

—Elizabeth J. Plantz, Secretary

### RECENT MEMBER PUBLICATIONS OR ACTIVITIES

Dorothy Woodson recently spent a year on a Fulbright at the Mayibuye Centre, University of the Western Cape. While there, she helped to organize the Robben Island Archives.

## OTHER NEWS

### NEWS FROM OTHER ASSOCIATIONS

#### CALENDAR

##### ALA:

Aug. 5-7, 1994, Milwaukee - National Conf. of African-American Librarians.  
Feb. 3-9, 1995, Philadelphia - Midwinter Meeting  
Mar. 29-Apr. 1, 1995, Pittsburgh - ACRL National Conf.  
June 22-29, 1995, Chicago - ALA Annual Conf.  
Jan. 19-25, 1996, San Antonio - Midwinter Meeting  
June 20-27, 1996, Orlando - ALA Annual Conf.  
Feb. 14-20, 1997, Washington - Midwinter Meeting  
June 26-July 2, 1997, San Francisco - ALA Annual Conf.  
1998, New Orleans - Midwinter Meeting  
1998, Washington - ALA Annual Conf.  
1999, Philadelphia - Midwinter Meeting  
1999, New Orleans - ALA Annual Conf.  
2000, San Antonio - Midwinter Meeting  
2000, Chicago - ALA Annual Conf.

##### IFLA Annual Conference:

Aug. 21-27, 1994, Havana  
Aug. 22-26, 1995, Istanbul  
1996, Beijing  
1997, Geneva  
1998, Edmonton

##### Book Fairs:

Aug. 3-7, 1994 - Zimbabwe International Book Fair  
Oct. 1994 - Africa Books Expo '94 (London)

##### AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION:

**Black Caucus of ALA** presents the Second National Conference of African American Librarians, to be held August 5-7, 1994, in Milwaukee, WI. Theme: Culture Keepers II: Unity through Diversity. For additional information, contact Alex Boyd, Caucus president, 201-733-7780.

**ALA International Relations Committee** was just expanded from 9 to 12 people. Al Kagan was appointed by the ALA President to a one year term, beginning after the Miami meeting. The Committee advises the ALA Council.

**Program in Miami (June 27, 1994):** Promoting Cooperation and Understanding Among Librarians in the US and Africa, sponsored by International Responsibilities Task Force, Social Responsibilities Round Table, International Relations Committee, ALA Black Caucus:

- Ismail Abdullahi, Clark Atlanta U. (Moderator);
- Lucy Kinyanjui, Kenya Polytechnic U.;
- Mary Ivy Saa Boye, U. of Ghana.
- Kacem Saad, Morocco National Documentation Centre



## SCOLMA

**Images of Africa** was the name of a conference held on 9-10 June 1994. The program included speakers on resources, cataloging and storage of pictorial materials.

## FREE MATERIALS OFFERED AND REQUESTED

*Notes on requests for books are listed as received, without any endorsement by the editor, MSU or ALC.*

**K-Executive Club of Uganda** (PO Box 3992, Kampala) promotes libraries, adult education and voluntary services. It seeks new and used books on all subjects, plus financial assistance to help with shipping costs. To support the later, contact: Mr. Cliff B. Gosney Jr., Benevolence T.E. Inc., PO Drawer 291850, Port Orange, FL 32129-1850.

**Michigan State University's Africana Library** has a few copies of *Current Development in Proficiency Evaluation for African Languages*, edited by David J. Dwyer. 1991. 46p. OP

**Tanzania's Environmental Information Centre** seeks current texts on environmental monitoring management, natural resources, G.I.S., remote sensing, biodiversity, etc. Contact Ms. Ade Towry-Coker, National Environment Management Council, P.O. Box 63154, Dar es Salaam.

**Zanzibar Library Project** seeks donations from individuals and institutions to support a new research library for scholars in the House of Wonders (Beit al-Ajaib) Museum. Priorities include scholarly materials on Africa in general and East Africa in particular. It also seeks more general material for the new National Library for the general public; and Macintosh computers and printers (Imagewriters preferred).

All donations should be sent (preferably in 12x12x18 boxes) to: Zanzibar Library Project, c/o Mr. Leo Robinson, ILWU Local 10, 400 North Point St., San Francisco, CA 94133. The longshoremen's union will ship the contributions in November 1994. The Project is endorsed by the Association of Concerned Africa Scholars. Questions should be directed to Ed Ferguson in Berkeley at 510-204-9837, through July 31st; afterwards, 413-256-8316.

## PERSONNEL CHANGES

**Louise Fredén** is the new head of the Library at the Scandinavian Institute of African Studies.

**Dr. P.A. Awogbami** (Kenneth Dike Library, University of Ibadan, PO 20905, Ibadan) seeks a one to three-year position in a university or agricultural library or library school during his sabbatical from 1995/1996. Advanced degrees from the University of Pittsburgh; areas of interest: CD-ROM technology and information technologies.

## RESEARCH ON LIBRARIES AND INFORMATION SCIENCE

*The following items have come to the attention of the editor.*

## BOOKS &amp; DOCUMENTS

Berman, Sanford. *Prejudices and Antipathies: A Tract on the LC Subject Heads Concerning People*. Jefferson, NC, & London: McFarland, 1993. 211p. \$19.95 pbk.

Reprint of 1971 edition, with a new preface and forward. Among the new subject headings requested: Afrocentric education; Afrocentric historiography; Anti-Arabism; Cultural imperialism; Makossa music; Mbaqanga music; Neocolonialism; New international economic order; New world information order; North-South relations; Soukous (Music).

## JOURNALS &amp; ARTICLES

*African Research & Documentation*, no. 62 (1993) has several articles of interest:

- "European Centre for African Documentation/Centrale européenne de documentation Africaine." A Feb. 1993 document issued by Centre set up at end of 1992 at Cergy-Pontoise (France), much to the surprise of SCOLMA.
- Larby, Patricia M. "People, Places and African Studies." A retrospective view by the recently retired librarian from the Institute of Commonwealth Studies. Includes following observation:

Many libraries now acquire African materials using agents from the UK or the States; but are they the

answer? ... Checks against other libraries' holdings show that more than we [Institute of Commonwealth Studies] would like is also held elsewhere within the University of London from which we deduce that we are all using the same sources of supply. Such duplication of coverage is no service to scholarship....

- McIlwaine, J.H. "Writings on African Archives (Part 1)."

*Cataloging Bulletin (Edina)*, or HCL Cataloging Bulletin from the Hennepin County Library (12601 Ridgedale Dr., Minnetonka, MN 55305-1909), no. 129 (March/April 1994) includes catalogers notes on following subjects: Hansen's disease; Southern Sudan.

*International Information & Library Review*, v. 26 (March 1994) includes: \* Odi, A. "Library and Information Dissemination in a Traditional Society: The Igbo of Eastern Nigeria." \* Alemna, A., & E. Badu. "The Nature and Trends in Research and Journal Literature in English Speaking Africa."

*Project for African Research Libraries Notes*, v. 3, no. 2 (Winter 1993/Spring 1994) includes reports on two workshops (Survival Strategies in African University Libraries; Electronic Networking in West Africa) and other news. Available from AAAS Sub-Saharan Africa Program, 1333 H St., NW, Washington, DC 20005. This same office also issued *CD-ROM for Development*, v. 1, no. 2 (Winter 1993-94).

Evans, E. "Enabling South Africa: Development of an Intelligent Gateway." *Electronic Library*, 11 (Aug.-Oct. 1993): 279-82.

McGillivray, R. "InfoAccess: Platform for the Distribution of Southern African Information." *Electronic Library*, 11 (Aug.-Oct. 1993): 245-8.

Nweke, K.M.C. "National Libraries as Institutes of International Understanding among Member States of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS)." *International Information & Library Review*, 25 (Dec. 1993): 281-292.

Phiri, P.N.C. "Why CD-ROM is Better than Online Database Systems for Developing Countries: A Critical Review of These Technologies with Reference to Libraries in Zambia." *Libri*, 43 (1993): 343-.

Seeds, R. "Academic Library Service in the Republic of Burundi." *International Information & Library Review*, 25 (Dec. 1993): 293-.

Zulu, S.F.C. "Africa's Survival Plan for Meeting the Challenges of Information Technology in the 1990s and Beyond." *Libri*, v. 44 (March 1994): 77-.

#### PUBLICATIONS OF AFRICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATIONS

*The following notes were compiled by Nancy J. Schmidt (Indiana University), who received these as part of an exchange initiated during her 1992/93 term as chair of ALC.*

Association des Documentalistes du Gabon. *Annuaire des Centres de Documentation et des Documentalistes du Gabon 1991-1992*. 2e. ed. Libreville: ADG, 1992. 118 p.

Covers 130 documentation centers and 163 documentalists. Address: BP 4018, Libreville, Gabon.

Association for Health Information and Libraries in Africa. *Newsletter* No. 3, Dec. 1993.

Four page newsletter. Comes with membership Z\$25 personal, Z\$100 institutional (AHILA Treasurer, c/o National Health Information Network, Medical Library, University of Zimbabwe, PO Box MP45, Mount Pleasant, Harare).

Association for Health Information and Libraries in Africa. *Tenth Anniversary Commemorative Issue. Abstracts from the First Three Congresses*. Brazzaville: Library & Documentation Centre, WHO Regional Office for Africa, n.d. 23pp.

Bilingual (English/French) abstracts of papers from congresses in 1987, 1989 and 1991 on the following themes: African health sciences libraries in the year 2000, management of health science libraries, and microcomputer applications in health information. (Library & Documentation Centre, WHO Regional Office for Africa, PO Box 6, Brazzaville).

Namibia. Ministry of Education and Culture. *LAS News, Newsletter of Library and Archives Services* Vol. 1, No. 1, Oct./Nov. 1993.

Library services, training opportunities, awards, databases and committees are described. The first issue is 15 pages. (Directorate of Library and Archives Services, Ministry of Education and Culture, Private Bag 13186, Windhoek).

Namibian Information Workers Association. *NIWA-INFO*, Vol. 3, No. 6, Mar. 1993 through Vol. 4, No. 5, Jan. 1994.

The 5 issues vary in length from 20 to 28 pages. Each includes information about NIWA committees and members. Several issues include reports on seminars on coordinating information services in Namibia, literacy, preservation and conservation, and school libraries. The Florence Agreement on Customs and Excise on Books is described in one issue. There is information on awards, training opportunities and publications received by NIWA. (NIWA, PO Box 3060, Windhoek; R20 for 4 issues, foreign countries).

## REFERENCE SOURCES

### NOTE

Hans Zell has asked that a clarification be made concerning the compilation of *African Books in Print*. Nancy Schmidt's "very generous review" of the 4th edition of *ABIP* [see *ALN*, no. 78, p. 10] mentions "questionnaires sent to publishers." In fact, publishers were sent computer printouts or edit lists. Since many publishers [46% of those contacted] failed to return the edit lists, "it must follow that the availability status of titles from these publishers is uncertain..." — Letter of 7 April 1994 to editor.

### NEW REFERENCE TITLES

*The following items or issues are noted.  
For more titles, see the annual "Africana Reference Books" in The African Book Publishing Record, no. 2.*

*African Studies Abstracts* is the new name for *Documentatieblad*, the quarterly abstracts journal of the African Studies Centre Leiden, starting with Vol. 25, no. 1 (1994). Each issue contains about 450 lengthy abstracts of journal articles and chapters from edited works. The abstracts are in the language of the article (English, French or German; English summaries for Italian and other languages).

Arrangement is by broad geographic region and then country, similar to that of the competing *Africa Bibliography* and *International African Bibliography*. Instead of see-references, abstracts on more than one country are simply repeated. The geographic "index" belongs with the table of contents. Includes



classified subject and author indexes and lists of books and periodicals covered.

Now published by Hans Zell Publishers, orders and remittances go to: Bailey Management Services, 127 Sandgate Rd., Folkestone Kent CT20 2BL, UK. Subscriptions: £80/\$130 for institutions; £40/\$65 for individuals.

*Atlas of the World's Languages*; general editors: Christopher Moseley & R.E. Asher. London: Routledge Reference, 1994. ISBN 0415019257. Expensive. 372 oversize pages. 113 col. maps.

General index has names of ca. 9000 languages. Introduction mentions Meillet & Cohen (1952) as earlier atlas. Other general sources such as *Ethnologue*, Ruhlen and linguistic compendiums and encyclopedias are mentioned for non-map detail.

Section 7 (Middle East & North Africa) has 5 maps and text by A.K. Irvine & David Appelyard. Section 8 (Sub-Saharan Africa) by Benji Wald has an overview, population figures for over 1200 languages, and 35 maps. Specialists will dispute some decisions on geographic and linguistic boundaries, but the color and detail are impressive.

**SARDIUS** (Southern African Research, Documentation, Information User Service) is compiled by Jan Smuts House Library in Johannesburg, in association with the South African Institute of International Affairs, the Commission of the European Communities and the University of the Witwatersrand Library. It is edited by J. Kalley and E. Schoeman. It is available on CD-ROM for R800 (\$300 outside South Africa), plus R500 (\$200) for annual updates, from Jutastat, POB 14373, Kenwyn 7790 South Africa.

## LETTERS & OPINIONS

*In this section, the editor hopes to publish letters and essays that challenge prevailing practices or beliefs.*

*In all cases, the opinions expressed are those of the writer.*

*No endorsement by the editor or ALC or MSU is intended.*

### ANALYSIS OF THE REVIEWING OF HANS ZELL PUBLISHERS TITLES

by Hans Zell

The following is a editorial summary of a document ("Hans Zell Publishers Titles Reviewed in Academic and Library Journals, 1989-1993: An Analysis and Evaluation") distributed in February by Hans Zell. For the complete document, contact: Hans M. Zell, 11 Richmond Rd., PO Box 56, Oxford OX1 2SJ, England.

Hans Zell Publishers, an imprint of Bowker-Saur Ltd., are publishers of library references resources in African and Third World studies. Until 1993, they also published a number of (non-reference) monographs in series. During the years 1989-1993, they published 54 titles, including 30 reference works.

The following analysis of journal practices is based on reviews that came to our attention, mostly via scanning journals. Only a small number of journals actually mailed clippings of their reviews. Review copies were sent to a core list of 10-15 African studies periodicals, about 8 major library journals, and occasionally other journals or magazines. (These review copies were usually 3-4% of the print run of 575 to 750 copies.)

Major findings:

1. Average time between mailing and appearance of a review was just under 12 months, with the first review usually appearing 6-7 months after mailing.
2. For the 32 titles published through August 1992, the number of reviews ranged from 4% to 100% of the titles mailed, with an average of only 37%. For reference works, the average was 45.2%, versus 29.1% for other monographs or edited collections of papers. A ratio of 40-50% can probably be considered as satisfactory.

3. Analysis by individual titles of those with best and worst ratios showed some highly specialist and expensive titles leading the list. The actual number of reviews for an individual title does affect sales.

4. Of the 46 titles reviewed (in 321 reviews), 45.7% (21 titles) were rated highly favorable; 36.9% were favorable; 14.6% were mixed; and only 2.2% were negative.

5. Journals with the best record of publishing reviews: *Choice*, *Focus on International & Comparative Librarianship*, *African Research & Documentation*, *World Literature Today*, *African Affairs*, and *West Africa*. Journals with worst record: *Library Journal*, *Journal of Modern African Studies*, *Review of African Political Economy*, *Southern African Review of Books*, *Canadian Journal of African Studies*, and *Third World Quarterly*. And there is no evidence that any journals actually return review copies when they decide against reviewing.

6. A comparison of sales and published reviews provides evidence that favorable reviews, and a good number of them, have a positive effect on sales. Reviews in library journals (especially *Choice* and *Library Journal*) generate more sales than those in academic journals.

7. Reviews of reference books in academic journals tend to be more favorable than reviews, frequently by librarians, in library journals.

8. The few unfavorable reviews are usually justified, but an unfavorable review of one title (that received numerous favorable reviews) was judged to be both unfair and harmful to sales, without providing the publisher with an adequate chance to reply.

9. Many requests for review copies are simply requests for free copies.

Essay concludes with details for each title on number of copies mailed and reviews that came to their attention. Of the 20 titles received an unsatisfactory ratio of reviews (under 40%), 13 were non-reference monographs (collected papers), 2 were new editions, 1 was a Third World reference title, and 1 was an index to a single journal. In general, journal publishers are willing to review the new reference titles, but not the others. And this seems to reflect their impression of the publisher's strength relative to other publishers. —Editor.

## NOTES ON MATERIALS AND VENDORS

## VENDOR ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Africa Book Centre Ltd.** (38 King St., Covent Garden, London WC2E 8JT) are the distributors for Haan, a specialist publisher of books about Somalia.

**African Book Collective Ltd (ABC).** Hans Zell has announced he is leaving ABC and the Noma Award to pursue other interests. He will relinquish overall responsibility for ABC's operations at the end of June 1995, when his colleague Mary Jay will assume the role of senior consultant. He will continue to be available in a consultative position; and ABC will appoint a Trainee Manager.

At the end of 1995, Hans Zell will also step down as Secretary to the Managing Committee of the Noma Award for Publishing in Africa. He will continue to develop the list of Hans Zell Publishers (an imprint of Bowker-Saur Ltd./Reed Reference Publishing) in a freelance capacity. And he will continue as editor of the quarterly *African Book Publishing Record*.

**African Imprint Library Services** (236 Main St., Falmouth, MA 02540; tel: 508-540-5378) has lists of "Titles Recently Received" for various countries, including Malawi. It also produces lists by subject, e.g. Women's Studies.

**Clarke's Bookshop** (211 Long St., Cape Town) issued its Catalogue 88, which has about 500 older titles and 500 current publications.

**Librairie Kongo** (BP 65, F-08600 Givet, France) has issues its first catalog of "Livres anciens et modernes sur l'Afrique et divers tropiques."

**Linguistique Africaine** (Université de Paris 7, U.F.R.L., T.C. 9è étage, 2 Place jussieu, 75251 PARIS cedex 05) has announced a new series: Les Documents de Linguistique Africaine. The first 3 titles are reproductions of Paris theses.

**Rhodes University's** Dept. of Political Science has prepared an extensive, indexed set of *Press Clips on South Africa's Transformation*, mostly drawn from *The Weekly Mail* and covering February 1990 to May 1994. About 5000 items are arranged into 100 categories. The Collection is available from Joan Muller, who compiled the collection, or from the secretary at: International Studies Unit, Rhodes University, PO Box 94, Grahamstown 6140, South Africa. Cost: \$1000 plus \$100 postage (surface mail).

**Robyn Michaels** (6916 N. Wayne, Chicago, IL 60626; tel: 312-973-3663) offers a color reprint of the original George Peter Murdock ethnic map of Africa. Single copies are \$10 & \$3 p&h, with substantial discounts for multiple copies.

**Yoruba Book Center** (610 New York Ave., Brooklyn, NY 11203) distributed a list of African and Afro-Cuban books, cassettes and compact discs in Spanish.

## BOOK AWARDS

**National Awards for Book Development**, sponsored by the Nigerian Book Foundation, went to:

- Edmund Asare, Book Illustrator of the Year Award;
- Academy Press PLC, Outstanding Book Printer Award;
- Fourth Dimension Publishing Co., Legal Deposit Award;
- Evans Brothers (Nigeria) Ltd., Legal Deposit Award;
- Chinua Achebe, Outstanding Achievement Award for Writers;
- Wole Soyinka, Outstanding Achievement for Writers.

The maiden awards ceremony was held in Lagos on 28 April 1994. Further details available from the Foundation, POB 1132, Awka, Nigeria.

## EVENTS

**Africa Books Expo '94** will be in October 1994 at Friends House, Euston Rd., London. Details with Toby Milner, Africa Book Centre, 38 King St., London WC2E 8JT.

**Zimbabwe International Book Fair** will be held 3-7 August 1994 in Harare on the theme "Science and Technology." More than 200 exhibitors are expected, including up to 50 from the South Africa. The program of satellite events at ZIBP94 includes the first African Rights Indaba, an international conference on African rights protection and trading. Further information available from POB CY 1179, Causeway, Zimbabwe; or Margaret Ling, ZIBP (UK), 25 Endymion Rd., London N4 1EE.

## LITERATURE ON THE BOOK TRADE

Mbanga, Trish (Director, ZIBP). "The Zimbabwe International Book Fair: Africa's Publishing Showcase," *African Book Publishing Record*, v. 19, no. 4 (1993): 223-7.

"Publishing in Africa: The Crisis and the Challenge: An ASA Roundtable." *African Book Publishing Record*, v. 20, no. 1 (1994): 13-22, includes the complete (slightly edited) papers presented at the ASA Roundtable in Boston. These are:

- Bgoya, Walter. "Taking Books to the Non-Literary Market Place." Managing Director of Mkuku na Nyota Publishers discusses ways to promote reading in East Africa.
- Nwankwo, Victor. "Access to New Technologies for Africa's Publishers." Cover his experiences with computers as Managing Director, Fourth Dimension Publishing Co.
- Brickhill, Paul. "Regional and Collaborative Approaches in African Publishing." Focuses on APNET (African Publishers' Network).
- Chakava, Henry. "Discussant's presentation."

*African Publishing Review* (available from APNET, POB 4209, Harare) appears 6 times per year. In addition to news about publishers and some new books, there are country reports for Ghana, Mozambique and Zambia (Vol. 3, no. 1 - Jan/Feb 1994) and Kenya, Uganda and Zaire (Vol. 3, no. 2).



*Bellagio Publishing Network Newsletter*, no. 10 (June 1994), includes reports on a symposium (23 March) organized by the Southern African Book Development Education Trust (SABDET), the African Books Collective, and publishing in Nigeria, Kenya, Senegal and Zambia.

### ONLINE FILES

Electronic Mail Information for Africanists is available from the University of Pennsylvania's **PennInfo** where there is a bulletin board on the Internet created specifically for Africanists. To access information, telnet "penninfo.upenn.edu." After connecting to the BNBS, choose "Interdisciplinary programs" and then "African Studies."

**Black Studies** on the University of Missouri-St. Louis' African-American Collection gopher includes:

1. Black Studies gophers on the Internet;
2. Internet Resource Guide "Black/African Development" (McGee);
11. Somalia Army Area Handbook 1993.

This can be reached by gopher at host: umslvma.umsi.edu. Path=1/ Library/ Subjects/ BlackStudies. — *AFAS Newsletter*, Spring 1994.

**Information Bank on African Development Studies (IBADS)** is an electronic mailing service of the World Bank's Africa Technical Department. IBADS consists of an index and a list of abstracts of studies undertaken by the Africa Technical Dept. In order to subscribe, send to Listserv@tome.worldbank.org the following message: Subscribe IBADS [first name] [last name]. Include your specialty, organization, address and subject of interest in the message.

**The Media Institute of Southern Africa (MISA)** Free Press Newsletter (May/June 1994) may be accessed via anonymous ftp from: wmail.misanet.org in the directory: /pub/FreePress. Filename: misamay.txt.

**Weekly Mail** (excluding the parts that are sourced from The Guardian, the Washington Post or Le Monde) is now available in an electronic version that is E-mailed each Friday to subscribers. South African price is R250 per year for individuals; R1000 for organizations. Overseas price is \$100 per year for individuals; \$500 for organizations. Discounts available for students and other African or Latin American addresses. Enquiries should be directed to: wmail-info@wmail.misanet.org.

### SERIAL CHANGES

*Historiens et géographes du Sénégal* is an annual from Ecole normale Supérieure (Dakar). Address: B.P. 5036, Dakar. 6 issues have appeared. Subscription of \$20 may be made to Joseph Lauer, c/o David Robinson, History Dept., Morrill Hall, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI 48824.

*Industrial and Social Relations Journal*, previously known as the *Industrial Relations Journal of South Africa*, is now available from the Graduate School of Business, University of Stellenbosch, Bellville, South Africa. Vol. 13, nos. 3/4 includes author and title indexes for vols. 1-13 (1981-1993). Subscriptions (foreign): R100 per year.

*South African Journal of International Affairs (SAJIA)*, v. 1, no. 1- (Spring 1993), is a new bi-annual issued by the South African Institute of International Affairs. Along with the Jan Smuts House Newsletter (a gratis quarterly for Institute member), SAJIA replaces the Institute's International Affairs Bulletin and Southern Africa Record which have ceased.

*Tanzania Zamani* is being revived by the Dept. of History, University of Dar es Salaam, in conjunction with the Historical Association of Tanzania. Subscriptions (outside Tanzania) are \$20/£12 for institutions or \$15/£8 for individuals from: Dept. of History, UDSM, PO Box 30505, Dar es Salaam.

### NEW SERIALS

*See also new serials in Research on Libraries & Information Science and in References Sources.*

*African Affairs Bulletin* (vol. 1, no. 1 (Spring 1994)) is the newsletter of the Center for African Studies, Central State University (Wilberforce, Ohio 45385), which is one of four undergraduate national resource centers. The initial 8-page issue has brief articles on African culture, plus institutional news.

*The ANITEPAM Bulletin* is the newsletter of the African Network of Institutions of Theological Education Preparing Anglicans for Ministry. The first issue appeared in September 1994. Subscriptions rates are \$12.50 for 3 issues in 1994; \$15 for 4 issues in 1995. Payment by check in U.S. dollars payable to "Virginia Theological Seminary (ANITEPAM)" should be sent to ANITEPAM, Trinity Bible College, PO Box 72430, Nairobi, Kenya.

*Hal-Abuur* (Journal of Somali Literature and Culture) is an independent journal in Somali and English. Annual subscriptions: \$31 for individuals; \$52 for institutions. Address: POB 3476, London SE15 5QP.

*Questions actuelles*: revue trimestrielle internationale des cultures et sociétés africaines. No. 1 (3e trim. 1993)-. Published by Les Editions du Pharaon, BP 06-1079, Cotonou. Overseas price: \$20 per number; \$75 per year.

### VIDEOS

**First Run/Icarus Films** has issued 9 new releases about South Africa in transition. For details about sale or rental, contact them at: 153 Waverly Place, 6th Floor, New York, NY 10014. Tel: 212-727-1711 or 800-876-1710.

*Kofi chez les français = Kofi, an African in France* is a 58-minute 1993 documentary in French, with English subtitles, about an African immigrant elected mayor of a small town in France. Contact Karin Farnworth, National Film & Television School, Station Rd., Beaconsfield, Bucks HP9 1LG, England. U.S. contact: Beth Epstein at 7-18832-6327.

## SELECTED NEW BOOKS

*This section is generally limited to titles outside the regular book trade, or titles received by the editor.*

*Many more titles and/or details on publisher addresses can be found in Joint Acquisitions List of Africana (6 issues per year available for \$50 from Northwestern University Library), The African Book Publishing Record (Hans Zell Publishers), American Book Publishing Record (Bowker), Accessions List: Eastern and Southern Africa (LC Office, Nairobi), or in one of the current national bibliographies.*

Robert F. Kennedy Memorial Center for Human Rights (1206 30th St., NW, Washington, DC 20007; tel: 202-333-1880) issued:

- *Failing the Democratic Challenge: Freedom of Expression in Multi-Party Kenya, 1993*, by Joel A. Solomon; edited by James J. Silk. 76p.
- *Justice Enjoined: The State of the Judiciary in Kenya*, by Drew S. Days et al. 90p.

"Beira, Mozambique: Learning from Life in a Distant City" is an education pack produced by the Southern Africa Resource Centre. Available for £9.50 plus £2 p+p from SARC, 6 West St., Old Market, St. Phillip's, Bristol BS2 0BH.

*History of the Galla (Oromo) of Ethiopia*, by Bahrey, Almeida, Huntingford & Beckingham; intro. by Donald N. Levine. 1993. 93p. Available from: African Sun Publishing, PO Box 21365, Oakland, CA 94620.

Jaggar, Philip J. *The Blacksmiths of Kano City: A Study in Tradition, innovation and Entrepreneurship in the Twentieth Century*. Cologne: Rüdiger Köppe Verlag, 1994? (Westafrikanische Studies, Frankfurter Beiträge zur Sprach- und Kulturgeschichte; v. 2).

Lusignan, Guy de. *Political Conditions of Development: Africa in the Year 2000 and Beyond*. Bloomington, IN: School of Public and Environmental Affairs, Indiana University, 1994. 30p. (Occasional paper, no.32) \$5 from School, SPEA RM 241, IU, Bloomington, IN 47405.

McGarry, Richard G. *The Subtle Slant: A Cross-linguistic Discourse Analysis Model for Evaluating Interethnic Conflict in the Press*. Boone, NC: Parkway Publishers, 1994. Based on the Otieno court case concerning burial in Kenya. \$35 (or \$45 outside the US) from Box 3768, Boone, NC 38607. Tel: 704-265-3993.

## SPECIAL ISSUES OF JOURNALS

"History Making in Africa." *History and Theory*, Beiheft 32 (1993). Includes articles by V.Y. Mudimbe and B. Jewsiewicki, Jean-Loup Amselle, David Schoenbrun, Jocelyne Dakhli, David Coplan and Patrick Harries. Available from: Wesleyan University, 287 High St., Middletown, CT 06459.

"Women and Change." *SASH*, v. 36, no. 3 (Jan. 1994). Published by the Black Sash, 5 Long St., 7700 Mowbray, South Africa.

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