music library association

NEWSLETTER

new york state / ontario chapter

Number 25
August 1991

Laura M. Snyder
Eastman School of Music
Editor

FROM THE CHAIR

There is a significant change in the program for the October 12 meeting at Vassar. Several Chapter members have mentioned to me that problems concerning the utilization of library space have been adequately dealt with in recent meetings, and thought that a different topic might elicit greater interest. One topic that is on everyone’s mind these days involves the impact of automated systems on music libraries. During the past decade, many of the libraries in our Chapter have established automated systems, which deal with requirements peculiar to music libraries with varying degrees of success. In order that discussion may be stimulated and facilitated, we have decided that a questionnaire be sent to all participating libraries. This questionnaire, which was devised by Vice-Chairperson Richard McRae, is included elsewhere in this Newsletter. The session at Vassar will be an open discussion, so that all present may have the opportunity to share views freely. Members are encouraged to bring examples from their automated systems, so that the problems they have to face are understood more clearly by all present. It is hoped that all present would obtain a good overview of the various systems used in music collections in our area, and that solutions to shared problems might be found.

The session on coordinated collection development will feature two speakers. James Coover, who has been instrumental in enhancing the quality of the collections at both Vassar and SUNY Buffalo, will discuss his views on the subject, and Kent Underwood, from New York University, will share with us some of the experiences that he has had with the Metro Project, which involves a group of libraries in the New York metropolitan area. After the two presentations, the floor will be open for further discussion.

Dr. Brian Mann, a member of the Vassar music faculty, will talk to us about his researches in the Biblioteka Jagiellońska, in Cracow, Poland. This library has achieved a position of importance in recent years, on account of the fact that many autograph scores of Bach, Beethoven, Mozart, and Mendelssohn, which were formerly in the Deutsche Staatsbibliothek in East Berlin, are presently held there. Dr. Mann’s paper will center around an aspect of the “transfer” of materials from the Deutsche Staatsbibliothek that has been given less attention: that of printed sources of sixteenth- and seventeenth-century Italian vocal music. Some of these sources are unica that were thought to have been destroyed or otherwise irretrievably lost during World War II. They have fortunately survived and are now available for examination in Cracow.

The day’s events will conclude with a concert by Vassar faculty members honoring the sixtieth anniversary of the opening of Skinner Hall, the building housing the Music Department and the Music Library.

David Ossenkop
CHAPTER OFFICERS

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CHAPTER NEWS

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Now is the time to renew your chapter membership for the upcoming year. A registration form can be found on page 7.

ELECTIONS

A slate of candidates is now being prepared for the positions of Vice Chair/Chair Elect and Secretary/Treasurer. A ballot for these elections will be sent to Chapter members in the next few weeks. Please vote!

ANNUAL CHAPTER MEETING

OCTOBER 12, 1991

Our annual meeting will take place at Vassar College. Look elsewhere in this issue for more information. Also, Richard McRae has prepared a survey on automation as preparation for a session at that meeting, which has been inserted into this issue. Time is short for returning it, so please take it out now, fill it out, and send it in!

NOTES FROM THE EDITOR

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:

One or two "reporters" could help prepare summaries of our upcoming meeting for the next issue of the Newsletter. If you are planning to attend that meeting, and would like to "write up" a session, please contact me before October 10.

NEWS NEEDED:

What's a Newsletter without news? You are invited to submit news items and/or short articles for future Newsletters. Use the handy form on page 7, send me an e-mail message, or give me a call. Deadline for the next Newsletter is February 28, 1992.
Laura Snyder, Editor

MLA NEWS

ANNUAL MEETING: FEBRUARY 19-22, 1992
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND

AWARDS NOMINATIONS SOUGHT

MLA is now inviting nominations for the following publications awards:

The Vincent H. Duckles Award, for the best book-length bibliography or other research tool in music published in 1990.

The Richard S. Hill Award, for the best article-length bibliography or article on music librarianship published in 1990.

The Eva Judd O'Meara Award, for the best review of a book or music score appearing in the 1990 issues of Notes.

Nominations should be sent by October 31, 1991 to John B. Howard, Chair, MLA Publications Awards Committee, Eda Kuhn Loeb Music Library, Music Building, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA 01238.

Applications for next year's Walter Gerboth Award (for support of research by a member of MLA in the first five years of his or her career as a librarian) should be submitted by October 31, 1991 to John Shepard, Music Division, New York Public Library, 111 Amsterdam Ave., New York, NY 10023. Applications should be accompanied by two letters of support, one for the person and one for the project, a vita, and names of further references. They should describe the project and its significance and show the total budget, specifying the amount (up to $1000) requested from the Association, sources of other funds if any, and the purpose of the funds requested. See the April, 1991 issue of our Chapter Newsletter for more information about this award.
MLA New York State/Ontario Chapter
ANNUAL MEETING
October 12, 1991 -- Skinner Hall -- Vassar College

PRELIMINARY PROGRAM

9:30 A.M. Registration; coffee and doughnuts

10:00 A.M. "Automated Systems and the Music Library"
Open Discussion
Richard McRae, moderator

12:00 Noon Lunch -- on your own (list of restaurants provided)

2:00 P.M. "Italian Madrigal Imprints in the Biblioteka Jagiellońska, Cracow"
Brian Mann, Assistant Professor of Music, Vassar College

2:45 P.M. "Coordinated Collection Development: Can It Be Used Effectively in Music Libraries?"
Speakers: James Coover, State University of New York at Buffalo
Kent Underwood, New York University
Moderator: David Ossenkop

4:00 P.M. Business Meeting

4:30 P.M. Reception

5:30 P.M. Dinner -- on your own (list of restaurants provided)

8:30 P.M. Concert of chamber music by Vassar faculty members

ACCOMMODATIONS*

Alumnae House, Vassar College
Across the street from the College; a Tudor-style inn and restaurant, owned by Vassar and open to the public.
Continental breakfast included.
Single-$70; Double-$75; $5 each additional. Dormitory style: $40-$45. (914)437-7100.

Courtyard by Marriott
Route 9
Poughkeepsie, NY 12601
10 minutes from Vassar. Single-$79; Double-$79; additional: no charge. (914)485-6336.

Daystop Motel
62 Haight Ave.
Poughkeepsie, NY 12601
5 minutes from Vassar. Single-$51; Double-$57; $5 each additional. (914)454-1010.

Edison Motor Inn
Route 55, Manchester Rd.
Poughkeepsie, NY
10 minutes from Vassar. Single-$64; Double-$70; $4 each additional. (914)454-3080.

Holiday Inn
Route 9
Poughkeepsie, NY 12603
15 minutes from Vassar. Single-$69; Double-$73; $4 each additional. (914)473-1151.

The Radisson Poughkeepsie
Civic Center Plaza
Poughkeepsie, NY 12601
10 minutes from Vassar. Single-$89; Double-$119; $10 each additional. (914)485-5300

Ramada Inn
Route 9
Poughkeepsie, NY 12601
10 minutes from Vassar. Single-$53-$66; Double-$53-$66;
$6 each additional. (914)462-4600.
See separate Ramada Inn registration form, p. 5.

*Rates as of 6/91, do not include tax.
MUSIC LIBRARY ASSOCIATION
NEW YORK STATE/ONTARIO CHAPTER
SURVEY OF AUTOMATED SYSTEMS

This year's chapter meeting taking place at Vassar College on Saturday, October 12, 1991, will feature a group discussion concerning the state of online catalogs in our own libraries. The purpose of this discussion is not simply to boast about our new toys, or to engage in a flurry of techno-jargon, but to reflect upon the impact that automation has made on our workflow, our productivity, and our quality of service. As music libraries are frequently considered as peripheral to the sphere of mainstream librarianship, can we say that our special needs are completely met by these products? Or are we forced to compromise some of our established practices to fit the specifications of machinery not primarily designed with us in mind?

Below is a brief survey towards a facilitation of our discussion. Please take the time to fill it out and to make additional remarks. Do not consider that only those institutions with systems in place need to respond; I would greatly wish to hear from non-automated libraries as well, to learn if decisions are being made to steer clear of automation.

Although this survey has been included in the newsletter, only one completed survey per institution is necessary. Please feel free to collaborate with your colleagues while answering the survey questions. In addition to raising some important issues for the chapter to discuss, this survey may lead to important suggestions for improving current online products, or at least may stimulate a bit of creative brainstorming within your library to solve some in-house problems.

Because the summer is rapidly coming to a close (sorry to bring that up), and planning for the fall meeting is nigh, I need to receive the completed surveys no later than September 4. Please mail or FAX your questionnaires to Richard McRae, Music Library, Baird Hall, SUNY at Buffalo, Buffalo, NY 14260. The FAX number is (716) 636-3824. If you wish to contact me; you may call (716) 636-2924, or send an E-mail message to me at mmlrick@ubvm.bitnet.

1. **GENERAL INFORMATION**

1. Name of Institution: ..................................................................................................................

2. Type of Library: 
   a) public
   b) academic (research emphasis)
   c) conservatory (or academic, performance emphasis)

3. Approximate size of music collection: ______ materials
   (figure may include scores, books about music, sound and/or visual recordings)

4. Please identify the product(s), other than OCLC and RLIN, that are currently used in your library.
   - CLSI
   - DRA
   - Innovac
   - GEAC
   - NOTIS
   - VTLS
   other (please list)  ..........................................................................................................................

5. Does your music library perform all of its own technical functions?
   yes ______  no ______

5a. If you answered "no" to question 5, please specify where technical functions are performed: 
   ................................................................................................................................................
6. Identify the status of each module in your library with the appropriate letter. Also, write in the name of each system (see question 4) utilized for each module.

   a. Fully automated
   b. Partially automated, operation in progress
   c. Automation soon to be implemented
   d. No present plans for automation

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>MODULE</th>
<th>STATUS</th>
<th>SYSTEM</th>
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<tr>
<td>Acquisitions</td>
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<td>Authorities</td>
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7. Rate your level of satisfaction with each of those modules that your library has either fully or partially automated. Use a scale from 1 to 10, 10 being the most satisfied, 5 being neutral (or not judgeable), and 1 the least satisfied.

Has automation of these modules helped or hindered their operation in your library? Advantages? Unforeseen problems? Please use the spaces for comments.

   Acquisitions
   COMMENT:

   Circulation
   COMMENT:
II. **BIBLIOGRAPHIC UTILITIES**

1. Does your library currently use a bibliographic utility?
   
   yes ______ no ______

2. Which utility? OCLC ______ RLIN ______

3. How long has it been in use? ______ years.

4. Check all subsystems of the utility in operation at your institution:
   
   Search only ______
   Cataloging ______
   Acquisitions ______ (discontinued in OCLC, 12/90)
   Reference ______
   Interlibrary Loan ______
   Union list ______

5. Rate your utility according to a scale from 1 (poor) to 10 (excellent):
   
   Hardware ______
   Searching Capability ______
   Response Time ______
   Cost ______

6. Has your institution ever switched from one bibliographic utility to the other?
   
   yes, from OCLC to RLIN ______
   yes, from RLIN to OCLC ______
   no ______

6a. If you answered "yes..." in question 6, what was the reason for switching the bibliographic utility?
   
   ____________________________________________
   ____________________________________________
   ____________________________________________
   ____________________________________________
   ____________________________________________

6b. In retrospect, has the decision to switch been beneficial to your library?
   
   yes ______ no ______
   
   Why? ______________________________________
   ____________________________________________
   ____________________________________________
   ____________________________________________
   ____________________________________________
7. Please use this space for additional comments about your bibliographic utility:

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

III. **ONLINE CATALOGS**

(Please answer questions in this section only if your library is currently utilizing a local online system.)

1. How long has your catalog been online? ____________________________

2. What approximate percentage of your library's collection is represented in the online database? _____ %

2a. If your percentage in question 2 is less than 100%, is your library currently involved in a retrospective conversion project?

   yes ______ no ______

2b. If you answered "yes" on question 2a, can you estimate when your entire retrospective holdings will be entered into your database? (Please check appropriate time-frame)

   - within 1 yr. ______
   - 1-2 years ______
   - 2-3 years ______
   - 3-4 years ______
   - 4-5 years ______
   - over 5 yrs. ______

COMMENTS: ____________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

3. How does your library add records to the online database? (Please check one)

   Directly (i.e. each record typed into the database) ______

   Through utility (i.e., cataloging is done using OCLC or RLIN; then transferred into OPAC individually or in tape-load) ______

4. Please rate the following aspects of online catalog utilization according to the previously defined scale from 1 to 10:

   Response time ______

   COMMENT: ____________________________________________________________

   Ease of error correction ______

   COMMENT: ____________________________________________________________
Ease of searching
COMMENT:

Index displaying
COMMENT:

Browsability
COMMENT:

User help screens
COMMENT:

System down-time
COMMENT:

5. Does your online system have a keyword searching function?
   yes ___ no ___

5a. If you answered "yes" to question 5, do you feel that the designation of MARC fields for keyword searching in your system is not enough, adequate, or too many?
   not enough ___
   adequate ___
   too many ___

5b. If you answered "not enough" to question 5a, which fields would you prefer to be added to your online catalog's keyword index? (You may specify individual fields either by their numerical tags, or their definitions)

5c. If you answered "too much" to question 5a, which fields would you prefer to be eliminated to your online catalog's keyword index?

6. Does your online system offer a call number searching capability?
   yes ___ no ___

7. Can your online system support the display of musical accidentals in index displays?
   yes ___ no ___
8. Does your online system offer a shelflisting function?  
   yes ___  no ___

9. Can your system perform multiple (or "global") changes in authority headings? yes _____ no _____

******************************************************************************

Please use the remainder of this survey for any additional comments you wish to make about your system, or any topics you wish to discuss during our chapter meeting. Use additional pages, if necessary. Remember: Please return this survey no later than September 4, 1991. Thank you very much for your cooperation in this project.

Richard McRae

COMMENTS: