Subject Liaison Department Report – 2010
Summary
March 24, 2010

AREA STUDIES - Overview of the Program

I. State of Department/Program (e.g., new faculty, leaving faculty, changes in undergraduate/graduate programs, etc.)

African Studies Program and the ILA:
Pending retirements: The most significant issue facing the program are pending retirements: Edna Bay and Ivan Karp, the two Africanists in the ILA are both retiring. This will leave no Africanists in the ILA. The ILA chair has stated that hiring an Africanist is their top priority but no funding has been approved. Corrine Kratz, African Studies/Anthropology is also retiring (with her husband Ivan Karp) Furthermore, the current Director of the African Studies Program, Sidney Kasfir of Art History, is retiring after the fall semester. It is not clear who will take charge of the program next year.

The program continues to be highly ranked – number 8 in the US. There were 18 applications for the PhD program – only 2 will be accepted.

East Asian Studies:
Korean Studies: in the next two years REALC will be hiring for two new positions: Korean language and Korean social studies.

Exchange program: In December Emory University and Nanjing University signed an agreement on an exchange program. This March the first part of an international conference on Chinese Studies: Chinese literature, Culture and Media was held in Emory; the next session will be held at Nanjing University this June. The Emory delegation will be led by Provost Lewis.

Latin American & Caribbean Studies:
New faculty / retirements: Ricardo Gutierrez-Mouat has taken over as Head of LACS. David Nugent stepped down to head the new Master’s in Development program. The History Dept. hired Yanna Yannakakis a specialist in colonial Mexico. Susan Socolow will retire this summer and a national search for a third Latin American historian will begin in the fall. Jeff Lesser has signed a new contract.

Faculty Forum. Starting in September, 2009 LACS implemented a series of monthly faculty forums in which one member of the LACS faculty does a presentation on their current research followed by an open discussion of the project.

Title VI Application: The LACS program entered into a consortium with the University of Georgia’s Latin American Studies Program to apply for a Title VI grant (from the Dept. of Education)

Linguistics:
Exchange Program: Emory launched a new exchange program with two Dutch universities: Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam (VU) or Universiteit van Amsterdam (UvA); Emory studies will be able to take a range of courses in English Students who are majors in linguistics will be encouraged to take coursework abroad as part of their Emory academic degree program.
MESAS:
New faculty: Scott Kugle will be joining the department as associate professor. He is specialist in Sufism in North Africa and South Asia, on South Asian studies in general, and on religion and gender in Islam. He is being hired on the religion and sexuality initiative to replace a departing faculty member. He works in Arabic, Urdu and Persian.

REEES:
REEES Director: Matt Payne’s term as director ends this semester; he is eligible for a second term.

Spanish Dept.
Faculty: Loss of several visiting faculty positions. Search for a senior-level faculty member in Iberian literature is still on hold. Portuguese instruction remains minimal. Spanish 300 dropped the writing component of the course so no longer needs library sessions for the course.

South Asian Studies:
New faculty: New faculty added to Urdu, to Hindi, Sanskrit, and Tibetan.
New languages: Proposal has been developed by SAS to develop a program in Telugu

II. Trends in the Field (New areas of focus, changes in scholarly concentrations, etc.)

New or changes in areas of emphasis:

African Studies:
Post colonial period: Increasing interest in the period
Development Studies: African Studies will be impacted by rapid development of development studies programs at Emory.

East Asian Studies:
Transnational studies: The trend in both research and instruction has been with transnational studies; just as Japanese-Korean Studies, Chinese-Japanese Studies and Sino-Soviet Union Studies.

LACS:
Interdisciplinary Studies: LACS faculty is increasingly doing interdisciplinary research. Increased interest in immigration studies of Latinos to U.S.
Transnational: More work on transnational studies comparative studies to Latin America to other regions.

MESAS:
Islamic Studies: A new focus on Islam and gender. In general more courses are being given in Islamic studies, including Shiite thought.
Proposal for a Ph.D. Program in Islamic Civilization: The most notable development was MESAS proposal to the Graduate School for a Ph.D. program in the History of Islamic Civilization. The proposal is still being reviewed; this is the first time that a departmental proposal to the Graduate School has reached this stage. A detailed collection analysis was submitted to MESAS giving an idea of the state of the collection, and budgetary recommendations have been made for additional support both for material and staff.

Spanish:
Cultural Studies: The department has an increased interest in cultural studies. More interest in Latin American & Iberian film
III. State of the Collection (e.g., New purchases, budget issues, collection analysis, major changes to collection management plan, etc.)

African Studies:
**African Film Collection:** It continues to grow, however, loss of ICIS meant the Emory African film database had to be suspended. An arrangement was made with cataloging to add a field “African Films Collection” to each record to try to keep the collection somewhat together. Country indicators will also be added as necessary. This will be a summer project each year.

**WNA:** Emory is a charter member in the World Newspaper Archive (WNA) of the Center for Research Libraries. This year library joined the African newspapers segment currently being digitized. WNA will digitize backfiles of selected foreign newspapers up to 1922.

**Faculty gift:** Edna Bay donated a large gift collection emphasizing Francophone Africa.

**Approval Plan:** We have started an approval plan for videos through Clarke’s Bookstore. Henrietta Day, of Clarke’s, donated to the library Obama materials from Africa. A prized receipt is a South African miner’s helmet celebrating Obama’s election.

**Notable purchases (microform):**

- **Women’s Missionary Activities for the Center for Christianity in Non-Western world.** Adam Matthew. $3400.
- **Women Missionaries** (various collections from National Library of Scotland) Adam Matthew. $1400.
- **Africa through Western Eyes**, Manuscript Records of Traders, Travellers, Soldiers, Missionaries and Diplomats in Africa. Pt. 5 $1000.
- **Empire Writes Back.** Adam Matthew. $1600
- **Livingstonia Mission Archives.** Adam Matthew. $2800.

Jewish Studies:

**New faculty:** Jewish Studies and the History Dept have hired Ellie Shainker, a specialist in Russian Jewish history, for the Blank Assistant Professorship in European Jewish history. I have received a list of library resources that she will need, some of which we already have. I have given Jeffrey Lesser an estimate of how much it would cost to acquire the titles we don’t have.

Latin American Studies/Spanish:


**Approval Plans:** 7 new approval plans for Iberian & Latin American imprints began in September/October, 2009. We are receiving more titles because most of these vendors have lower prices than Latin American Bookstore

**Video:** Additional of more than 500 DVDs of Iberian and Latin American feature films.

**LAMP Grant:** Emory received a $6000 grant from LAMP to microfilm Judische Wochenschau (1953-1967).

**Title VI Grant:** Library portion of the Title VI Grant required many hours work over 2 months to produce some detailed information about the Emory LAS collection. Now have some good data on the size, breakdown and library support for the collection.
Middle Eastern Studies:

Notable acquisitions:
1. Oxford Islamic Studies Online – large collection of full text articles, including two translations of the Koran, and a major concordance also.
2. Islamics’ Islamic Encyclopedia – A CD ROM containing a fully Arabic text of the Koran, Hadith, Islamic Law, and the major books of interpretation of the Koran. This is a dedicated CD ROM edition. We are having discussions with the vendor about getting a license for this.

South Asian Studies:

Notable acquisitions:
1. Purchased the 7th core collection of digitized Tibetan texts from the Tibetan Buddhist Resource Center. Emory rejected a faculty member’s proposal to take ownership of the full collection when it is finished within the next few years.
2. Purchased new online digital collection of primary sources in colonial South Asia, "India, Raj, and Empire," and arranged to download MARC records of each set of documents into EUCLID.
3. MARBL acquired Rushdie archive which is of interest to scholars in modern South Asian literature in English.

East Asian Studies:

Notable acquisitions:
Purchased an online database: China: Trade, Politics & Culture 1793-1980. Added two more major parts to China Through Western Eyes and completed Japan Through Western Eyes. Actively added more Chinese films to support Dr. Ca’s classes Film on China and China in Film, Chinese Women in Film and fiction. Added QinQiang, a unique local opera materials to our collections to support Dr. Everette’s research on QinQiang.


Korean Studies: Provided library collection info. to Dr. Juliette Apkarian, chair of the REALC for the renewal grant from Academy of Korean Studies, and to Dr. Holli Semetko, vice provost of International Affairs for a grant continuation of Emory’s Confucius Institute.

IV. Products / Services and Communication

Area Studies Google Group
Launched a Google Group for our team with agendas for team meetings, meeting notes, and other documents that we need to work with as a group.
V. Challenges / Issues

Fiscal Crisis
Fewer graduate students: Fewer Grad students admitted Spanish has 2 new students Fall 2010, 1 new Latin Americanist history grad student; History likely to take only 2 new African grad students;
Replacing faculty: Lack of replacements for retiring faculty in African Studies and ILA
Budget reductions for collections: Few volumes acquired for the collection

Dollar Devaluation:
Dollar has lost purchasing power against many Latin American currencies including Chilean and Columbian pesos, Brazilian real. U.S. $ remains fairly stable against the Mexican and Argentine pesos. Until recently we have lost substantial purchasing power against the Euro.

New programs without support:
Telugu: New faculty added Urdu to Hindi, Sanskrit, and Tibetan as the South Asian languages taught at Emory. Also there is a proposal to develop a program in another South Asian language, Telugu. The bottom line is that two new languages are being introduced to the curriculum -- Urdu and Telugu -- with no corresponding language skill in library.

Increasing emphasis on interdisciplinary approaches:
Some members of the Spanish Department are interested in strengthening the Library’s collection of Latin American music.

Internal communications:
More inter- and intra-divisional and vertical communication structures, e.g., a web 2.0 enabled intranet and cross-silo meetings, could improve planning, coordination, and confidence. Experiment with Google Groups not fully satisfactory. Drupal platform holds promise but not tested yet.

Reports and infrastructure:
Lack of good interface with ILS data makes it difficult to track usage, budgets, vendors, and orders and therefore difficult to see trends and manage our processes and budgets.

Liaison role.
Future role of subject librarians in the digital library generally requires some more attention and discussion across subject teams.

Acquisitions Process Improvement
Much of the work of Area Studies involves acquisitions processes; our productivity hinges on both on documenting and improving these processes.