Subject Liaison Department Report – 2011

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:

African History graduate program is still ranked number 8 in the country but African Studies Program (Institute of African Studies) overall is threatened by a shortage of Africanist faculty. The program has had a number of retirements and few new hires. Retiring have been Corrine Kratz & Ivan Karp (who still come to campus for various programs outside of African Studies), Edna Bay (historian in ILA) and Sidney Kasfir (art history). David Eltis, noted historian may be in his last year.

Only major new Africanist hire in last few years has been Peter Little in anthropology, who is also Director of new Development Studies Program at Emory.

There is ongoing difficulty in offering enough courses to populate the African Studies major and minor.

The faculty shortage is at the same time that there is increasing interest in Africa throughout the university, thanks to a number of development studies and global health initiatives. There is also a very active undergraduate group supporting African studies.

Currently the IAS is attempting to work with Global Health to put together a multi-year post-doctoral appointment to establish a position that could offer four AFS courses yearly, one at the graduate level.

Also worth noting is that existing Africanist faculty have significant responsibilities outside the IAS program. Pam Scully is the Chair of Women’s Studies, Kristin Mann is Chair of History Dept, and, as previously noted, Peter Little is heavily involved in Development Studies. On the plus side, this is a tribute to quality of the existing faculty, but it also shows the difficulty of running an area studies program vs. having a home department. Looking forward, the continuing issue is that the needs of African Studies do not necessarily mesh with the needs of individual departments. For example, will art history replace Sidney Kasfir with another Africanist?

East Asian Studies:

The East Asian Studies program is steadily developing at Emory.

Faculty hiring: The recruitment of a Korean language lecturer is about to end (I helped interviewing 5 candidates). The new faculty will be teaching in the Fall, 2011

Emory Sponsored Conference: Knowledge Futures: Language, Culture and Technology Conference and Exhibit of Chinese Language and Culture Resources and Spring Teacher Institute from April 16th to 17th at Emory

Multi-media China Culture Corner Project: the planned project finally got funded and the implementation date is this summer and will be ready for students to use in the fall. This will be an exciting addition to the Chinese Collection.
Chinese E-Books: Chinese E-books have been ordered. I am working with Bernardo on the MARC records loaded to EUCLID now.

Latin American & Caribbean Studies:  
New faculty / retirements: The History Dept. interviewed 3 candidates for the 3rd Latin American History position in Jan/Feb. A candidate has been selected and negotiations ongoing. Juan del Aguila in the Political Science Dept. is retiring in May.

LACS Faculty Forum: 2 to 3 times a semester a member of the LACS faculty does a presentation on their current research which is followed by an open discussion.

LACS Graduate Certificate: LACS is exploring the possibility of offering a proposal to the Graduate School to offer a Graduate certificate in Latin American & Caribbean to interested graduate students. Discussion are at a preliminary stage.

MESAS:  
As part of their application to start a Ph.D. program in Islamic Civilization, MESAS will be hosting a review committee in March and they have asked Hikmat and Tim to meet with them.

REES:  
Currently offers a major, a minor and several study abroad programs (St. Petersburg, Moscow, Irkutsk and Yaroslavl). Juliette Apkarian is the current chair.

Jewish Studies:  
Faculty: Eric Goldstein is the current chair of Jewish Studies. Visiting professors: Marc Miller (Yiddish) and Cornelia Wilhelm (DAAD professor)

South Asian Studies:  
New faculty hired this year in Sanskrit and in South Asian and Islamic Studies as well as a visiting professor in South Asian Studies.

Spanish Dept.:  
Faculty: Cristina de la Torre, senior lecturer is retiring in May. The Dept. interviewed 3 candidates for a replacement in Feb. Portuguese instruction remains minimal.
II. Trends in the Field (New areas of focus, changes in scholarly concentrations, etc.)

New or changes in areas of emphasis:

African Studies:
African Studies has been swept up in the new post-colonial interest that impacts a number of area studies. Locally at Emory, we are also focusing on Africa in terms of development issues.

LACS:
Transnational: More work on transnational studies comparative studies to Latin America to other regions.

MESAS:
Applying for graduate program in Islamic Civilization. Faculty want the Hindi instructor to add Urdu language instruction and also want to add Turkish and Greater Persian.

Spanish:
Latino Studies: The department is offering at least 1 course a semester dealing with the Mexican-American Border, Latinos in US or Citizenship.

Linguistics: The program is offering a course on world Englishes next year.
III. State of the Collection (e.g., New purchases, budget issues, collection analysis, major changes to collection management plan, etc.)

African Studies:

Approval Plans:
The African Books Collective plan has been merged into the Yankee Book approval plan due to problems with Michigan State’s administration of the ABC plan. Henrietta Dax of the Clarke’s South African book plan paid a visit to Emory and we expanded Clarke’s to include South African films and more development materials. I continue to be impressed by Clarkes. When you see a title, it is very rare that we do not already have it.

Digital Resources:
Digitally, we acquired the African newspapers portion of World Newspaper Archive from CRL/Newsbank and the Macmillan Cabinet Papers from Adam Matthews.

Microform:
In microfilm, we purchased a number of new missionary collections (African Missionary collections: Centre for the Study of Christianity in Non-Western World; African Missions: United Presbyterian Church from the National Library of Scotland) and Empire and Commonwealth, Archives of the Royal Commonwealth society from Cambridge University Library

LACS /Spanish:

New Funds – Jeff Lesser obtained an additional $66,000 ($22K in each of the next three fiscal years) to support Latin American History acquisitions.

Film Collection: It continues to grow, added between 300 to 400 titles over the year. I have produced a list of all film titles purchased on LACS/Span/Port funds. Long term project to create a complete film list of Iberian & Latin American holds

Gifts: Juan del Aguila donated a number of political science titles to the library. Jeff Lesser arranged a donation of over 50 older Brazilian titles that the library does not own.


Approval Plans: Continued the implementation of new approval plans with Latin American vendors to replace Latin American Bookstore as our vendor.
Libros Andinos-Bolivia, Colombia & Ecuador
Libros De Barlovento-Puerto Rico & Dominican Republic
Luis Retta- Cuba, Paraguay & Venezuela
Vientos Tropicales-Central America
Collaborative Collection Development: Working with U GA Latin American Librarian to deepen Central American collecting. We use the same vendor (Vientos Tropicales) UGA will collect more in Literature and the Humanities, Emory will collect in the Social Sciences. Each school will still be titles needed by faculty & students.

Notable purchases (microform):
- **Brazil’s Popular Groups** Supplement 14, 15, 16, 17, 75 reels $6375.
- **ADMYTE Online** – Collection of transcriptions of Medieval Spanish manuscripts
- **Bibliografía de la Literatura Espanola** – Chadwyk Healy Mini MLA for Iberian Literature published since 1980
- **Chicano Database** – OCLC product covering the Chicano, Mexican-American & broader Latino experience
- **Digitalia** – Collection of Spanish Language E-books aimed at Research Libraries

South Asia:

Collaborative Collection Development. Working with national association of south asia librarians to develop a program. Already met once and tweaked LC approval plan.

Notable purchases: Historical Times of India 1838-2001 (online), Historical South Asian Newspapers (online), Foreign Office Files for India Pakistan and Afghanistan 1947-1964 (online), 200 monographs and films from a faculty member’s bibliography on Hyderabad for course and summer abroad program.

Linguistics

Notable acquisitions:
- **Collins Wordbanks Online**, a web based updated corpus of the English language with a new interface and online guide will replace Bank of English.
- **Linguistic Bibliography Online** has replaced the print version.

Jewish Studies

Notable acquisition:
- **Jewish Life in America**, c1654-1954
  Original manuscript collections from the unique holdings of the American Jewish Historical Society in New York. Offers access to six major organizational collections and twenty-four collections of personal papers.

REES

Notable acquisition:
- **The Current Digest of the Soviet/Post-Soviet Press**: the digital archive

Gift:
62 out-of-print titles on Russian history and culture.
IV. Products / Services and Communication

African Studies:

Taught the following classes that included an African focus:
- African History Graduate Research Methods class (3 hours)
- War Crimes and Genocide (undergrad - 1 hour)
- American Human Rights Policy (undergrad - 2 hour)
- American Foreign Policy (undergrad - 1 hour)
- Development Studies (2 classes - grad/2 hrs & undergrad/1 hour)

Libguides prepared for all of the above classes plus all African Studies libguides (5) have been updated.
- African studies guides have 1386 hits since September
- War Crimes/Genocide guide 1145 hits since September
- Development Studies 1695 hits since Sept.
- Foreign Policy 780 hits since January
- Human Rights 386 hits since January

I am on core African studies faculty and attend meetings; participate on faculty and grad student listserv.
Will house several out-of-town grad students at my house during upcoming African Studies Conference at Emory (April 14-16)
V. Challenges / Issues

Fewer graduate students: Fewer Grad students admitted Spanish has 2 new students Fall 2011, 2 new Latin Americanist history grad students

Dollar Devaluation: Dollar has lost purchasing power against many Latin American currencies including Chilean Peso, Columbian Peso, Brazilian Real, and Mexican Peso. Wide fluctuations in the exchange rate of the Euro.

Fiscal/Staffing Crisis: Faculty details above. Also history has limited number of grad students accepted for African History despite numerous applications & the fact is it is the highest ranked program in the graduate school. Last year only 1 new grad student; this year likely to be only 2 at most accepted. It was noted that students not accepted at Emory last year went on to be accepted at other highly ranked programs.

Dissolution of ICIS: African Studies still struggling as part of ILA. No specific staff support for program.

Storage/Acquisition concerns: African materials are largely in print and need to be housed. African history is an important part of program so wide collecting remains important. We have an understaffed acquisitions dept.

Staffing within library: although I came back full-time in September, I am also now the Development Studies Librarian and doing selection for Educational Studies (as well as continuing with sociology/social sciences & some gov docs service). Comparable programs have full-time professional and support staff devoted to African Studies.

New languages added to curriculum, e.g., Urdu, or proposed to be added e.g., Turkish, Telugu.