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Kontakt/Contact

[Digizeitschriften e.V.](#)
SUB Göttingen
Platz der Göttinger Sieben 1
37073 Göttingen

✉ info@digizeitschriften.de

Editorial

by **TRIX BAKKER**

This first issue of *LIBER Quarterly* has just 3 articles this time. The reason for this is that I didn't receive any proceeding of the conference of the Groupe des Cartothécaires de *LIBER* (GdC) which took place in Paris, 29th August till 2 September 2006. The theme of this Paris meeting was "Cartographic materials: access and conservation". You'll only find a rather short summary written by Hélène Richard, chair of this expert committee. Although Hélène ends the summary with "The proceedings will be published on the *Liber* website, ..." there will just be this summary. The progress reports still have to be published on the website of the GdC.

The second article is written by Jola Prinsen, manager of Ticer (Tilburg Innovation Centre for Electronic Resources). Ticer organises high-quality international courses and provides consultancy and programming/development services. In this article Jola presents an overview of the Ticer courses since 1996. More than 1,000 individuals from 59 different countries attended one or more Ticer courses, mainly targeted at academic and research libraries. The majority (79%) of the participants are from Europe. The article ends with the programme of the 2007 summer course 'Digital libraries à la Carte 2007' (27-31 August 2007) at Tilburg University, the Netherlands, which looks very promising with international experts from the library and information world.

The third article is from a totally different angle of incidence and written like a detective story by Jesper Düring Jørgensen, chief security advisor, The Royal Library, Copenhagen, Denmark. Jesper not only tells the story of an extensive book theft at the Royal Library in the 1970s, but also about the problem how to claim the ownership of stolen books when they have reached the auction houses or antiquarian book dealers. Due to the solving of the thefts and new digital technology the Royal library created a special tool for book identification, Royal Identification Marks, a picture gallery of characteristic bindings, Royal monograms, stamps, ownership marks and shelf marks which makes it possible to link a particular book with the library.

WEB SITES REFERRED TO IN THE TEXT

Digital libraries à la Carte 2007.
<http://www.tilburguniversity.nl/services/lis/ticer/07carte/index.html>

Editorial

GdC - Groupe des Cartothecaires de LIBER. <http://liber-maps.kb.nl/intro.htm>

Royal Identification Marks. <http://www2.kb.dk/kb/missingbooks//marks/index.htm>

Ticer - Tilburg Innovation Centre for Electronic Resources.
<http://www.tilburguniversity.nl/services/lis/ticer/>

Conference of the Liber Groupe des Cartothécaires, Paris 29th August-2nd September 2006

by HELENE RICHARD

Following on from Copenhagen (2000), Helsinki (2002) and Cambridge (2004), the meeting of the "Groupe des Cartothécaires" took place in Paris from the 29th of August to the 2nd of September 2006. It was hosted by the Bibliothèque nationale de France (BnF), with the support of Institut Géographique National (IGN), Service Historique de la Défense (SHD), Archives nationales and the Library of the Château de Chantilly. The Conference was organised by the Comité Français de Cartographie (CFC). A committee was set up within the CFC, which organised the scientific program and participated in the general organisation.

The number of delegates was particularly high - 70 map librarians representing 20 countries with backgrounds in libraries (national, university, public), archives (national, regional or local), cartographic agencies, research institutions or museums. As in preceding years, the conference began with the various national reports presented by 16 National Correspondents. These reports provide an overview of activities during the years 2004-2006 and also the difficulties faced by professional staff in a time of significant change in the methods of cartographic production which has a serious impact on access and conservation.

For these reasons, the committee chose the following theme for the Paris meeting: "Cartographic materials: access and conservation". The sessions took place from Wednesday morning till Friday afternoon in the national library (Richelieu site and Tolbiac site), in the IGN (at Saint-Mandé) and the SHD (at Vincennes).

After an introduction by the President of the Library, Jean-Noël Jeanneney, the Wednesday morning session was dedicated to conservation of digital documents. Henrik Dupont (Royal Library of Denmark) spoke about legal deposit of digital maps, the difficulties faced in establishing a system to support this and the possibilities created for the library user. Emmanuelle Bermès (BnF) presented "Digital preservation, a challenge for libraries" which considered the 'why' and 'how' of preserving digital material while Göran Bäärmhielm (National Library of Sweden), describing his paper in his usual self-effacing way as the 'reflections of an amateur' gave us all a considerable amount to think about based on his long experience in the world of map libraries. In his paper, 'The Future of Geodata, in the context of local Communities in Sweden', he emphasised the contrast between the extent of web creation and the weakness of deposition and

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archiving of this product. The lack of expertise in handling new products and the complexity of map files resulting in deferred decisions on preservation were themes returned to during the discussions which followed the presented papers.

The afternoon session, chaired by Wouter Bracke, (Koninklijke Bibliotheek van België, Brussels) considered ways to promote access to digitised map products. Firstly, Marcel Watelet, from the European Community, challenged the Group to become involved in the eContentplus program. He highlighted the need for interoperability, the use of existing content and the involvement of content providers combined with an emphasis on user needs. He was followed by Liudmila Zinchuk (Russian State Library) who reported on the challenges faced by librarians due to increased demand for maps. Digitisation as a solution poses a series of questions on the strategy, priority and service technology to be employed and the paper offered an example from the two main libraries in Russia. Annick Anceau (University Library of Liege) warmed the hearts of many delegates by her presentation on a very practical but invaluable local in-house electronic map collection created to preserve and improve access to the geological maps of Belgium drawn between 1890 and 1919 at 1:40,000. Philippe Cazamajor d'Artois and Marie-Odile Schnepf (Institut de recherche pour le développement, Paris) demonstrated the Phosat project which includes aerial photographs and satellite images, a coverage particularly important for francophone Africa. Marco van Egmond (Utrecht University) concluded the day's session with a presentation on Dutch thematic maps on the web, a cooperative project which adds value to the maps by extensive descriptions.

The Thursday morning meeting took place at the IGN where the participants had an extensive presentation of the tasks, duties and responsibilities of the Institute and of its role in the conservation of its products, which included an overview of Geoportail, a visit to the map collection, the instruments collection and the printing room. It is always a delight to be shown round by people enthusiastic for what they do and, certainly, the cartographers of France still love to talk about maps. During the afternoon, the delegates were received at the SHD where Marie-Anne de Villèle presented a panorama of map collections and the changing needs of the Armed Forces, complete with background fanfares.

On Friday, the conference moved to the Tolbiac site of the BnF. The morning session, chaired by Jan Werner, was dedicated to new ways of accessing digital documents. Laetitia Azzolin (Institut de Géographie Alpine) presented a review of how GIS and library management operated in cartography at her institution using electronic index sheets and a geospatial search tool for maps. Jens Bove (University Library of Dresden) spoke about "Kartenforum Sachsen"- a system allowing access to a digital library of rare cartographic material launched in July 2005. About 300 items valuable for teaching and research have been digitised as a union library of maps of Saxony. The first morning session closed with Jürg Bühler (ETH Zurich) who returned to the use of "Toporama" as a spatial search tool in the map library. His paper stimulated much discussion as a

foundation for a wider European approach to accessing national topographic sheet series and holdings. His solution seems to have met the expectations of most map librarians and it may yet prove to be a valuable catalyst for future activity. As Jürg will be retiring next year, it was a fitting occasion on which to thank him for his services to the "Groupe des Cartothécaires", particularly as webmaster. Although he may be retiring, his pragmatic and thoughtful paper emphasised the need for basic solutions built on experience.

The second morning session opened with Steffi Mittenzwei (Staatsbibliothek Berlin) who spoke about the retrospective conversion of the Staatsbibliothek's map catalogues, a project which ran between July 2005 and July 2006. Ewa Szykiewicz and Elzbieta Dziemianczuk (University of Wrocław) introduced Virtua, a union catalogue of every edition of multi-sheet maps of Silesia (1850-1950) at scales varying between 1:25,000 and 1:300,000.

Before lunch, the BnF staff took great pride in escorting the delegates on a visit to the installation of the two Coronelli globes made for Louis XIV. While installation is still in progress, the size, complexity and quality of restoration impressed us all. The final session of papers included a presentation on the bibliography of Polish cartography, by Lucyna Szaniawska from the National Library of Poland, and the new access means to the French national bibliography of maps by Véronique Thomé (BnF).

At the end of the formal sessions of the Conference there was an opportunity to discuss future destinations for our congresses (Amsterdam in 2008 and – perhaps - Tallinn in 2010) and possible areas for the Group's future involvement: shared management of and access to records of European multi-sheets series using interactive graphical indexes, website, and board of the group.

Cultural and social occasions were not overlooked, as the congress was received wonderfully by the BnF, by the IGN and by the Archives nationales. An excellent conference dinner took place at the restaurant "le Cardinal" on the Grands Boulevards and our hosts will be long remembered for the warmth and generosity of their welcome receptions. Special exhibitions were presented by BnF (at both Richelieu and Tolbiac sites), Archives nationales, IGN and SHD.

Finally, most delegates took advantage of an excursion to Chantilly on Saturday where they visited map collections of the Duc d'Aumale and viewed documents chosen by the curator of the Library. Many will take away a lasting impression of maps of the Egyptian campaign annotated in Napoleon Buonaparte's own hand. Last, but not least, everybody had the opportunity to visit the chateau and the park after having tasted the real "Crème Chantilly"

This conference was extremely rich, providing an opportunity to discuss fundamental questions about the future of map libraries and services to their users, particularly for those who feel somewhat isolated in their own situation. The variety of presentations

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from different types of libraries and institutions emphasised the common ground shared and problems faced. It was also an opportunity to meet with French map librarians and, therefore, to widen the audience of the Commission de Documentation of the Comité Français de Cartographie. Helene Richard and the staff of the Bibliotheque nationale de France were gracious, hospitable and most attentive hosts.

The proceedings will be published on the Liber website, and all the delegates are looking forward to meeting again in July 2008 at Amsterdam.

WEB SITES REFERRED TO IN THE TEXT

Archives nationales. <http://www.archivesnationales.culture.gouv.fr/>

BnF - Bibliothèque nationale de France. <http://www.bnf.fr/>

Château de Chantilly. <http://www.chateaudechantilly.com/>

IGN - Institut Géographique National. <http://www.ign.fr/>

SHD - Service Historique de la Défense.

<http://www.servicehistorique.sga.defense.gouv.fr/>

The International Ticer School: Getting Inspired to Shape your Library of the Future

by JOLA G.B. PRINSEN

TILBURG UNIVERSITY AND TICER

Tilburg University in the Netherlands was the first university in Europe to develop a strategic vision of the digital library (Wieërs, 1989 and 1990). This strategy focussed on electronic access to information from the users' desktops. In 1992, the library managed initially to implement these ideas with a new library building, 450 desktop computers for students in the library, and integrated access to various electronic information sources for all university staff and students (Dijkstra, 1994; Geleijnse & Roes, 1996).

From 1992 to 1996, more than 9,000 visitors from 33 different countries visited the library to see and discuss these developments and to get inspiration for the development of their own digital library. From these visits we learnt that there was a great need for the exchange of experiences and for re-education. In 1995, due to increased market demand, the library and computer centre started a private company: Ticer (Tilburg Innovation Centre for Electronic Resources). The key activities included consultancy, courses and seminars.

The private company Ticer was 100% owned by the university and was in operation until the end of 2006. It had a modest turnover and profits were exclusively used for new innovations within the university

On 1 January 2007, three departments: the Library, IT Services, and the Audiovisual department at Tilburg University were converged in one department: Library and IT Services. It was decided that Ticer should be included in this new service department. The private company was discontinued, and the Ticer manager now reports directly to the director of Library and IT Services. The services Ticer provides will remain the same. Ticer will continue to organise high-quality international courses and provide consultancy and programming/development services.

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SET UP

Ticer became known for its annual International Summer School on the Digital Library, the first of which was organized at Tilburg University in August 1996. It was a two-week course that attracted a total of 57 participants. The course covered a wide set of issues related to the digital library, including strategic planning, human resources management, IT, publishing, digital content, knowledge navigation, etc. In 1999, an article on the first four summer schools was published in *D-Lib Magazine* (Prinsen & Geleijnse, 1999).

The set-up of the summer school changed drastically in 2000, when the two-week set-up was abandoned and Ticer management chose one-week or even 2- to 3-day courses. With the expertise and experience worldwide in digital libraries growing, it was no longer necessary to offer the kind of broad, introductory courses we started with in 1996. Instead, Ticer management decided to cover specific themes, e.g.:

- change management
- electronic publishing
- libraries supporting teaching and learning
- return on investment
- visions for the library of the future

Also, Ticer started organising customised courses:

- seminar for library directors, deputy librarians and administrators of Dutch universities, in cooperation with Pica, SURF/IWI and the OCLC Institute (2000)
- seminar on the library's role in education for Avans University (2001)
- three courses for Japanese and Korean librarians by order of Elsevier (2002)
- course at CERN in Geneva on digital libraries in science and technology (2002)
- seminar on university libraries for Elsevier account managers (2003)
- course at CERN in Geneva on digital libraries in science, technology and medicine (2004)

We even left our original field to organise a highly successful course on security and legal issues for IT managers (2004).

Over time, we had good and bad years, since educational activities are highly influenced by economic recessions. Especially in the years 2000, and 2002-2004 we experienced a

lower number of applications. Through market research it was discovered that not only the economic recession was the reason. Library managers indicated that they had less time to be away from the office and alumni did not return to attend a second or third course because the programmes looked so much alike.

From 2005 onwards, we have been offering modular courses, with one-day modules around themes. This set-up enables participants to pick and choose and be away from home for a shorter time. Themes until now include:

- trends and strategic issues for libraries
- technological developments: threats and opportunities for libraries
- library 2.0 technologies to reach out to the customer (hands-on module)
- libraries supporting research and Open Access
- Open Access and institutional repositories
- libraries and teaching and learning
- library consortia and licensing

Also, we now have a policy to not re-invite the same speakers for years in a row, thus making sure that the programmes of successive courses look less alike. This set-up has turned out to be very popular.

All these changes also affected the social character of the Ticer courses. Participants attending the two-week course (until 2000) developed a real bond, which resulted in yearlong international contacts between the alumni after the course. Of course, the bonding decreased when the courses became shorter.

PARTICIPANTS

Since Ticer's start in 1996, over 1,000 individuals from 59 different countries have attended one or more Ticer courses. Alumni do return to attend other courses, so the total number of participants is even higher. Some 20% of our participants are alumni. Also, some 20% of participants are colleagues of alumni.

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Countries best represented include the following.

Country	Number of participants	Percentage of participants
Netherlands	384	38%
Greece	71	7%
Japan	63	6%
Switzerland	60	6%
United Kingdom	58	6%
Finland	51	5%
South Korea	43	4%
Italy	41	4%
Norway	30	3%
Denmark	25	2%
Sweden	20	2%
Belgium	19	2%
South Africa	14	1%
United States	14	1%
Rest	113	11%

Table 1 Participants' countries of origin

The high number from the Netherlands can, of course, largely be attributed to the fact that Ticer courses are generally held in the Netherlands. The same applies for Greece, Japan, Switzerland, South Korea, and Italy. In all of these countries, two or more Ticer courses were held.

I cannot resist also mentioning the participation of some more unusual countries: Qatar, Chile, Bangladesh, Cyprus, Israel, Poland, Trinidad en Tobago, Estonia, Mexico, Mozambique, Serbia, Tanzania, Zambia, Lithuania, Oman, Moldavia, Brazil, Sri Lanka, and Uganda.

European countries that have been surprisingly underrepresented over the years include Austria, France, and Germany.

If we look to the continents, it is not surprisingly that the majority of our participants are from Europe, followed by Asia. What maybe is surprising is that over the years we've had more participants from Africa than from the United States and Canada.

Continent	Number of participants	Percentage of participants
Europe	799	79%
Asia	142	14%
Africa	24	2%
North America	19	2%
South America	13	1%
Australia / Pacific	9	1%

Table 2 Participants' continents of origin

Since the Ticer courses are mainly targeted at academic and research libraries, it is no surprise that 67 % of the participants originate from these libraries. This is an increase compared to the first 4 years, when this percentage was around 50 %. The increase is, however, explicable. In our marketing and programming, we are stricter in stressing that our point of departure is the academic/research library environment.

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Organisation	Number of participants	Percentage of participants
University libraries and libraries at institutes for professional education	633	63%
Corporate libraries (including research libraries in companies)	92	9%
Publishing companies	71	7%
Research libraries	44	4%
Government libraries	43	4%
National libraries	42	4%
Consortia, library associations, library organisations	20	2%
Library automation and consultancy companies	16	2%
Libraries in international organisations	14	1%
Various	31	3%

Table 3. Participants' affiliation

We can only tell a little about participants' jobs, because in many cases a job title (like, e.g., 'librarian') is difficult to interpret. However, at least 38 % of the participants are senior or middle managers. Reference librarians represent at least 12 % of our participants. In both cases, the actual percentages might be higher if the job title 'librarian' is used for 'library manager' or for 'reference librarian' respectively.

Job titles	Number of participants	Percentage of participants
Library manager, library director, deputy librarian, chief librarian, head, division manager, team leader, coordinator, etc.	391	39%
Reference librarian, information specialist, documentalist, faculty librarian, subject librarian, subject specialist, etc.	124	12%
IT specialist, programmer, systems manager, systems librarian, etc.	75	7%
Unclear (e.g., 'librarian') or unknown	416	41%

Table 4. Participants job titles

From my contacts with alumni I learnt that in many cases attending a Ticer course was a turning point in the career of participants. Many of them set up digital library projects, became project managers, switched jobs, or were promoted within their own organisation. I cannot, however, substantiate this with numbers.

environments												
information literacy					1	1			1			1
digital portfolios					1	1						
gaming											1	1
libraries supporting research												
library's role in research						1					1	1
e-science, cyber infrastructure							1				1	1
virtual research environments											1	1
self-publishing, open access, institutional repositories	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
open access to data												1
library management												
visioning and strategic planning	1	1	1	1	1	1	1					

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change management			1	1	1		1		
financial management, costing and pricing		1		1	1	1	1		1
project management	1	1	1						
human resources management	1	1	1	1	1	1	1		1
convergence libraries / computer centres	1	1	1						
library buildings, learning spaces		1			1	1			1
measuring and accountability, ROI, assessment	1	1				1		1	1 1 1
marketing, PR, communications	1	1		1	1	1	1	1	
collection development, e-collections								1	1
digital archiving and preservation					1	1	1		
technology									
IT developments, digital library	1	1	1				1		1 1

research											
hardware, servers, cd-roms, ICT infrastructure	1	1		1	1		1		1		
internet, intranet	1	1	1	1							
knowledge navigation, information agents	1	1									
search								1	1	1	
innovative OPACs										1	
reference linking, OAI-MHP		1	1	1	1	1	1	1		1	
metadata, encoding	1	1			1	1	1	1		1	
security, access management, trust federations									1	1	
open source software										1	
library 2.0											
wikis, blogs, rss, instant messaging, social software									1	1	1

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legal issues and consortia

copyright	1	1	1	1	1	1	1		
licensing	1	1	1		1	1	1	1	1
consortia		1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
negotiating				1	1	1	1	1	1

information industry

publishing industry	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
library vendors	1	1	1	1					
aggregators, intermediaries, I&A services	1	1	1	1		1			

Table 5. Evolution of topics covered during Ticer courses (1997-2007)

Environment

Not surprisingly, in all courses there were lectures on the subject of the future role of libraries in general. Special attention for the future role of libraries in teaching and learning started in 1999, followed by special attention for the role in research from 2002 onwards.

Libraries supporting teaching and learning

In the area of libraries supporting teaching and learning, information literacy has been present since 2001; gaming is clearly a newcomer.

Libraries supporting research

The attention to scholarly communication shifted from general lectures about scholarly communication to lectures more specific on Open Access, eScience and virtual research environments. Although this cannot be deduced from the above table, within the field of self-publishing, the accent shifted from setting up electronic journals, via Open Access, to institutional repositories. In 2007, we will cover open access to research data for the first time.

Library management

Up until 2003, considerable attention was paid to visioning/strategic planning and change management. In 2004, the change management course had to be cancelled due to insufficient applications. Since then, we haven't picked the subject up again. One of the reasons behind that decision is that in 2005 we started with the 1-day modules and this subject is difficult to cover in one day. It is interesting to see that project management hasn't been covered since 1999. We decided that specialised project management courses could better cover this subject. The interest in the convergence of libraries and computer centres has ceased since 2000. We covered archiving and preservation from 2001-2003, but because this was increasingly considered a task of national libraries and not of university libraries, we abandoned the subject. Now that universities manage more and more institutional repositories, the subject will become relevant again.

Technology

Throughout the years, we have included overview lectures on IT, generally neither the library director's expertise nor his/her favourite subject, but always recognized as a very important topic for library managers. In the first few years, we presented lectures on internet/intranet and knowledge navigation. In recent years, we see a shift to lectures on search/search engines and innovations in OPACs. Reference linking has been an important topic in all Ticer courses, and this topic has evolved over the years from interlinking and searching heterogeneous databases, via CrossRef, OAI-MHP, and OpenURL to cross-repository functionality. In all years, this topic was evaluated as very important and we were lucky to have a lecturer who was able to explain this important, but technical, subject to library managers.

Library 2.0

Clearly a new topic, first covered in our 2005 courses. In 2006, we even decided to change the learning method on these subjects from lectures to hands-on sessions.

Legal issues and consortia

Attention moved from copyright and licensing, via consortia to negotiation. Many negotiations with information providers are currently no longer done by individual libraries, but by consortia. Because of this, the interest for these topics diminished and we decided to abandon them.

Information industry

Clearly, this topic has been abandoned in the past years, the aggregators being the first, following by the vendors and then the publishers. We still invite speakers from the industry, but, unlike the early years, they do not lecture on their company or line of industry, but rather on worldwide developments, showing that a certain convergence has taken place in the industry.

LECTURERS

Over the years, Ticer has been able to attract renowned speakers. Although I do some 200 speakers wrong by not mentioning them, I would like to list a very small selection of speakers, in alphabetical order:

- Lynne Brindley (Chief Executive The British Library)
- Jonathan Clark (Executive Vice President Technology, Elsevier)
- Roland Dietz (President and CEO, Endeavor Information Systems, Inc.)
- Carl Grant, MLS (President & COO, VTLS, Inc.)
- Derk Haank (Chief Executive Officer, Springer Science + Business Media)
- Rick Johnson (SPARC Enterprise Director)
- Donald W. King (Research Professor, University of Pittsburgh, School of Information Sciences)
- Jenny Levine (Internet Development Specialist and Strategy Guide, American Library Association)

- Rick Luce (Vice Provost and Director of Libraries, Emory University)
- Clifford Lynch (Executive Director Coalition for Networked Information)
- Peter Suber (Open Access Project Director, Public Knowledge)
- Alma Swan (Director, Key Perspectives Ltd)
- Carol Tenopir (Professor of Information Sciences, University of Tennessee, School of Information Sciences, College of Communication and Information)
- Herbert Van de Sompel (Digital Library Research & Prototyping Team Leader, Los Alamos National Laboratory)
- Jan Wilkinson (Head of Higher Education, The British Library)

Over the past ten years our experience has been that identifying and locating experts and speakers has become easier. What is happening in the (international) academic library scene has become more visible with the increasing use of the web, blogs and other electronic resources. Also, since 2005 Ticer has used programme committees, which means that we get input from more people.

We are lucky to find that many of the speakers we approach feel honoured to be invited to the International Ticer School. In spite of that, being able to get potential speakers' confirmation and finish the programme in time has become more difficult. This has internal and external causes.

- The best speakers have busier schedules than ever.
- More and more, our invitations threaten to get lost in an increasing amount of other incoming mail or even spam filters.
- We changed our policy and decided not to invite the same speakers several years in a row (with some exceptions). This means that we have to introduce and prove ourselves to every speaker instead of falling back on existing contacts.
- In the recent years we have no longer limited our search for speakers to the library environment, but have tried to interest, for example, strategists or futurologists to lecture at our school. In these cases, the unfamiliarity with Ticer and the Ticer courses of potential speakers from outside the library environment is a big disadvantage.

At the end of a Ticer course speakers are generally very pleased with the result. Many of them arrive earlier or do not leave after their presentation and stay a couple of days or even a whole week. This is greatly appreciated by participants, Ticer and the lecturers themselves. Participants thus get an opportunity to talk to lecturers in an informal setting.

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Discussion sessions usually become more interesting and sometimes evolve towards panel sessions. Lecturers can get a flavour of the atmosphere prior to their own lecture. They can also link to other lectures and to adapt their presentation on the basis of what happened during previous sessions.

THE 2007 TICER COURSE

Ticer will again organise a summer course in 2007. "Digital Libraries à la Carte 2007" will be held at Tilburg University, the Netherlands, from the evening of Sunday 26 August up to and including the evening of Friday 31 August. The course director is Norbert Lossau, Director of the Goettingen State and University Library in Germany.

This year, our international programme committee consists of

- Michael Breaks, University Librarian of Heriot-Watt University, United Kingdom
- Joan Lippincott, Associate Executive Director of the Coalition for Networked Information (CNI), United States
- Thomas W. Place, Manager Innovation and Internationalisation, Tilburg University Library and IT Services, the Netherlands
- Jola Prinsen, Manager Ticer, Tilburg University, Library and IT Services, the Netherlands
- Hans Roes, Director of Information Resources and Multimedia at the Jacobs University Bremen gGmbH, Germany

When this article was written, the programme had not yet been finalized and it was not yet certain in what way module 4b would become part of the programme. You will, however, find up-to-date information on the course website 'Digital libraries à la Carte 2007', which will be available from March 2007.

Module 1: Strategic developments and library management

- Science Commons and the Library (John Wilbanks, Executive Director, Science Commons, USA)
- Collection Development in an Age of Ongoing Digitization (Ronald Milne, Director of Scholarship and Collections, The British Library, UK)

- Libraries Think They Have a Role in the New Information Society – Do Users Agree? (Birte Christensen-Dalsgaard, Director of Development, State and University Library, Aarhus, Denmark)
- Performance Measurement and Accountability (J. Stephen Town, Director of Knowledge Services, Cranfield University, Defence Academy of the United Kingdom, UK)

Module 2: Technological Developments: Threats and Opportunities for Libraries

- Strategic Introduction to the State-of-Technology (Robin Murray, Managing Director, OCLC PICA, UK)
- Search Engines and Innovations in Catalogues (Peter Binkley, Digital Initiatives Technology Librarian, University of Alberta, Canada)
- Library Chatbots in Electronic Reference (Anne Christensen, Web Services Librarian, State and University Library Hamburg, Germany)
- Trust Federations (Dr. Ton Verschuren, Manager Middleware Services, SURFnet, The Netherlands)

Module 3: Hands-on Open Source Software and XML

- Open Source Software in Libraries (Eric Lease Morgan, Head of the Digital Access and Information Architecture Department, University Libraries of Notre Dame, USA)
- Getting Started with XML (Eric Lease Morgan, Head of the Digital Access and Information Architecture Department, University Libraries of Notre Dame, USA)

Module 4a: Libraries Supporting Research and Open Access

- Libraries Supporting eScience (Pauline Simpson, Consultant, Digital Repositories, University of Southampton, National Oceanography Centre, UK)
- Sakai as a Virtual Research Environment (Chuck Severance, Sakai Executive Director, University of Michigan, USA)
- Open Access to Data Sets (Dr. Peter Doorn, Director, Data Archiving and Networked Services (DANS), the Netherlands)
- Services Based on Open Access Repositories (John MacColl, Sub-Librarian, Digital Library Division, University of Edinburgh, UK)

The International Ticer School. Getting Inspired to Shape your Library of the Future

Module 4b: Hands-on Library 2.0

- Podcasting/Vodcasting in Academic Libraries (David Free, Public Services Librarian, Georgia Perimeter College, USA)
- Social Networking and Virtual Worlds in Academic Libraries (Lisa Hinchliffe, Head, Undergraduate Library and Coordinator for Information Literacy Services and Instruction, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, USA)

Module 5: Libraries Supporting Teaching and Learning

- Are We Ready to Rethink Libraries for Net Gen Students? (Joan Lippincott, Associate Executive Director Coalition for Networked Information (CNI), USA)
- Changing Learning, Changing Roles: Collaboration in Support of Course Redesign (Patricia Iannuzzi, Dean of University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, USA)
- Ptolemy or Copernicus? Implications for Learning Space Design & its Impact on the Changing Role of the Library (Anne E. Bell, University Librarian, University of Warwick, UK)
- Gaming (Dr. Igor S. Mayer, Associate Professor Public Management & Director CPS, Delft University of Technology, The Netherlands)

Like in previous years, each module has its own target groups and it is possible to attend one or more modules.

CONCLUSION

I have been involved with Ticer since 1995 and have organised close to twenty Ticer courses since then. I also attended most of them. The most important thing the courses give me is inspiration. Both participants and lecturers confirm this. I sincerely hope that Ticer can continue doing this in the years to come.

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<http://www.tilburguniversity.nl/services/lis/ticer/>

The Anatomy of a Crime Discovery after 25 Years. A Notable Case of Book Theft and its Detection [1]

by JESPER DÜRING JØRGENSEN

THE STORY

The 11th September 2003 was quite an ordinary working day in the Royal Library - at least for the first few hours in the morning. At approximately 11.00 a.m., however, I was interrupted by the telephone. A polite lady introduced herself as the rare book specialist from Christie's in London. From a consignor she had received the following work for sale: *Propalladia de Bartholome de Torres Naharro. Dirigida. Napoles: por Ioan Pasqueto de Sallo*, Naples 1517. Her investigation of a critical edition of Torres Naharro's works from 1943 had established that only two copies of this particular work were known to exist. One incomplete copy in the National Library of Spain in Madrid, and one complete copy in The Royal Library in Copenhagen. This puzzled the keeper of books at the auction company, and she was keen to know whether she had a historic sensation in her hands or simply a stolen book.

Unfortunately, I had to inform her that this extremely rare book had been missing from the collections of the Royal Library since 28th February 1979. On that particular day the systematic revision of our collection of older, foreign printed books - caused by the regrettable fact that the Royal Library had been subjected to a number of thefts in the 1970s - had reached volume 18, p. 36, of our systematic shelf-list. These figures also form the shelf-mark of the book. I therefore asked whether there were any traces of any library shelf-mark in the left-hand corner on the inside of the binding. The answer was at first in the negative, but when I asked my conversation-partner to turn the book more towards the light, she was then able to read some numbers. It became quite obvious that an attempt had been made to erase the shelf-mark of the Royal Library. It was still legible, however: 18, - 36, when the book was held in the correct position towards the daylight.

This was a moment to be remembered. For thirty years the police and the security organisation of the Royal Library had been without any trace of either the thief, who it was considered must have been an insider, or the books, which until now had not appeared on the market. Up to that day we had not been able to identify any copy of the stolen titles among the books, which from time to time appeared in auction or antiquarian catalogues. In the course of our conversation it became clear that the same

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consignor had delivered three more books for sale, among these a Luther edition from 1525 which was also missing from our collection of early printings from the Lutheran reformation. The binding of this copy was stamped with the Danish coat of arms in a way, which is typical for books from The Royal Library. After a few further conversations on the phone and the receipt of a fax from Christie's with pictures of the characteristics of the bindings of the books in question and of the special coats of arms, I informed the director general of the Royal Library about the astonishing development in this old case. This was not, however, that easy to do, as Erland Kolding Nielsen was taking part in an important meeting in Jutland, in which the subject was the future of cultural politics for the research libraries in Denmark. At last, however, he came to the telephone and immediately ordered me to go to London as soon as possible and although this was a little impolite to Christie's, I invited myself and the librarian who had been in charge of our revision of the foreign collection to come to London as soon as possible to investigate the matter. In this way I acquired a highly qualified witness, as no one else in the Royal Library had ever had so many of our rare books in her hands.

Before our departure I contacted the local Interpol office in Copenhagen and informed the head of the office that some of the stolen books had come to light at Christie's. My intention was that the Copenhagen police via Interpol would be able to inform Scotland Yard, should complications arise at Christie's. Four days later, on the 15th September at Christie's, we were presented with not merely four books but a total of sixteen, all of which had been delivered by the same consignor. Let me make no bones about this: we were rather curious to know the identity of this particular consignor but whether we asked in a tactful manner or tried to persuade our host in a more persistent way, it did not help at all. At last I decided to phone Interpol in Copenhagen and the result of this call was another one to the Arts and Antique Squad at Scotland Yard. The conclusion of our negotiations was that the security chief at Christie's guaranteed that the books would under no circumstances be handed back to the consignor or sold, for we had been able to prove that each one of the sixteen books was property stolen from The Royal Library.

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Fig. 1: The pile of sixteen books at Christie's

In the course of my work as a chief security advisor I have often seen stolen books, as well as other stolen items. It is always typical that stolen books tend to look worn and it is normally obvious that they must have passed through many greedy hands. These books at Christie's from the unknown consignor, on the other hand, had all been very well looked after; in fact it looked as if they had only recently been removed from the shelves of The Royal Library, although this was not of course possible, for the books had been missing from our collections for more than thirty years. I could simply not get it out of my head that there must be a Danish connection behind the appearance of these books, although I had been told that the consignor was British, which was the only information we managed to get out of Christie's concerning the identity of this mysterious person.

On my return to Copenhagen I had a meeting with Erland Kolding Nielsen that concluded in a notification of the theft to the police. A document was enclosed in which we demonstrated that all the books listed had been stolen from The Royal Library. We were in the fortunate position that we could establish several pieces of evidence for each book to prove the ownership of The Royal Library.

However, all was not plain sailing: we had difficulties. As the theft of the books had taken place more than ten years earlier, the case was statute-barred as a criminal act according to Danish practice. If we were to be able to pursue the case, we were advised to try it as a private lawsuit. This was not, of course, acceptable and we persisted by arguing that the case could at least be tried as a case of receiving stolen goods. It was really a few very dramatic hours for us, among other things we threatened to go public with the whole affair, but at last our points of view were accepted by the police authorities and on 23rd September the case was brought to court. The result was that the Danish authorities sent a rogatory commission to Scotland Yard in London in order to get the following information from Christie's:

The identity of the consignor.

- Documentation of earlier business transactions with the same consignor.
- Shipment-papers as documentation for shipments and shipping companies.
- The names and addresses of buyers of books earlier delivered from the same consignor and sold by Christie's.

As the case began to develop, Kolding Nielsen decided to convert the paper catalogue of books missing from the Royal Library into a database, a project which was carried out within two months, on the pretext that the library had been given some extra funds which had to be used as soon as possible.

On 8th October I received a call from the police officer at the Danish police headquarters who was in charge of the case, and he informed me that the name of the consignor was Silke Albrecht. She was obviously a German lady from the small Bavarian town of Lindenberg. All agreements between Silke Albrecht and Christie's had been made by telephone, and I was further informed that Silke Albrecht since 1998 had sold a considerable number of quite rare books at Christie's. Every shipment of books had come from Lindenberg as a transport undertaken by a shipping company from Munich. This puzzled me. Normally stolen books look quite worn or more or less damaged but the sixteen books we had seen at Christie's were all - as mentioned earlier - in very good condition, as if they had only recently been removed from the shelves in The Royal Library, and I could not get the thought out of my mind that there must be some kind of Danish connection.

I began to search on the internet for the name *Silke Albrecht*, but only on Danish sites. The name Silke Albrecht is a quite common one in Germany but unusual in Denmark, and suddenly the name appeared on the MSN-Denmark site. Silke Albrecht was apparently a member of the marathon club of Elsinore, and had taken part in a quarter marathon. The next step was simply to find her address in the telephone book, which was

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quite easy for me. According to the telephone directory she lived in a flat in Elsinore. The Royal Library has maintained a copyright deposit since 1697, which means that the library receives almost all kinds of material printed in the kingdom of Denmark. It was therefore perfectly simple to check the Elsinore directory for the year 2002 and, according to this reference, Silke Albrecht lived in Steenwinkels Vej, but not alone. The entry in the directory showed that she was living with a man by the name of Thomas Møller-Kristensen. The surname *Møller-Kristensen* was quite familiar to me. It was that of a former colleague, Frede Møller-Kristensen, who had retired from tin 2000, and in January 2003 had died at his home in Espergærde, just south of Elsinore. He had been employed at the library between 1967 and 2000. From 1969 to 1987 he was the head of the Oriental Department but from 1987 he was employed as a research-librarian specialising in Indian philology, since he was an expert in the Pali language.

It seemed, however, that he had a few other interests or talents about which nobody in the Royal Library had been aware in due time. An informal chat with one of the staff-members from Frede Møller-Kristensen's time established that Frede Møller-Kristensen had a son by the name of Thomas. At this moment, I remembered my own early years in the seventies in The Royal Library. At that time I was responsible for the stacks of the Danish Department, and I therefore became a member of the security board of the library in 1973. This special security board was established because the library had had the sad experience that quite a number of valuable and rare books from the foreign collections had disappeared from the shelves in mysterious ways, leaving no traces that could explain the disappearance. The police had been notified and discrete enquiries had been made for the stolen books from antiquarian booksellers in Denmark as well as abroad. The national librarian of that time had also notified his colleagues in Europe and in the United States of the thefts but none of these efforts paid any results at the time.

IDENTIFICATION OF THE THIEF

During the late 1970s the security board of the Royal Library developed a comprehensive system of security measures to prevent further damage occurring to the collections of the Royal Library, and from 1978 it could be said that the thefts did in fact cease. The case as such, however, remained unsolved, and no thief was caught. Several people were suspected and they were interrogated by the police, and this gave rise to an atmosphere of mutual suspicion in the institution for several years. Now at last on 8th October 2003 I was given the possibility to put a name and a face on the thief who for years had caused catastrophical damage both to the collections of the Royal Library and to all his contemporary colleagues. Again a moment to remember. A few other investigations were carried out in order to verify whether there really was a connection between Frede Møller-Kristensen and Thomas Møller-Kristensen. The names could be coincidental but these efforts confirmed that those two persons were father and son, and

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that Thomas had married Silke and furthermore, that they had been able to leave the modest flat in Elsinore and buy a house in the attractive village of Ålsgårde on the north coast of Sealand, not far from Elsinore and Espergærde, where Frede Møller-Kristensen had lived with his widow, Eva Møller-Kristensen, and where she was still living.

I tried to phone the police officer with whom we had been cooperating since September but he was busy, working on a nasty case of robbery and attempted murder. Two Cubanian refugees had that very same afternoon committed a robbery in a post office in Copenhagen and had shot and wounded a female civil servant from the post office. Instead I went to Erland Kolding Nielsen, and reported that we were now able to identify the thief from the seventies. Both of us were quite surprised. In his entire library life Frede Møller-Kristensen had given the impression of being a quiet, distraught, learned philologist, not exactly a skilled administrator but happy - too happy - for a pint of beer now and then, which had been the reason for his retirement from his position as department director in 1987 of the Oriental Department. In that way not only were we able to present a solution of the old matter of thefts from the Royal Library but suddenly the face of the perpetrator appeared before us, even though he was now dead and gone.

The next steps to be taken were to get search warrants, which is quite a complicated matter, as the law, of course, has to protect the security of the life and property of the citizens; in this case, however, there was strong evidence that a few citizens had behaved illegally, and the court decided that searches should take place at the homes of Frede Møller-Kristensen's widow and of Silke Albrecht and Thomas Møller-Kristensen. Furthermore, it was decided that searches should also take place in Lindenberg and Munich in Germany, as the investigation had established that the books had in the first place been transported from Denmark to Lindenberg in Bavaria, and that from Lindenberg they were shipped to Christie's in London by an art shipping company in Munich, which meant that this shipping company had also to be searched. Since Germany is a federal state, it took time to get hold of the search warrants from the Bavarian and federal authorities, but at the end of October 2003 the necessary paperwork had been done. In the meantime the Danish police officer and I paid a visit to Scotland Yard in order to get further documentation of the transactions between Christie's and Silke Albrecht, and we succeeded in getting hold of copies of their accounts and sales which Christie's had made on behalf of Silke Albrecht, whom Christie's thought to be living in Lindenberg. The address of Silke Albrecht's mother, Theresia Albrecht had been used as a cover by Silke Albrecht. The conclusion was that Silke Albrecht had sold or tried to sell 36 books at Christie's for 415,540 GBP.

The 5th November 2003 was chosen as the day on which the searches in both Denmark and Germany should take place. Antiquarian books are normally not a topic for Danish police officers, and this case seemed to be quite extraordinary, as far as it could be judged from the sixteen rare books found at Christie's. As the liaison officer of the Royal Library I was asked to point out another specialist who could assist the police in

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identifying books as the property of the Royal Library. I chose the librarian who had been the head of the revision group of our collections, as no one in the library had seen or had in her hands as many rare books as she had and this also meant that she was well aware of the diversity of our collections. And last but not least: she was a person of whom I knew that she could not in any way be connected with the thief or the thefts. Though we now knew the identity of the perpetrator, we did not know whether he had had connections in the library of which we were unaware. It was therefore extremely important that only a very few persons in the library should know what was going on. It was decided that this librarian, Susanne Budde, should take part in the searches in Denmark, and that I should assist in Germany. The German authorities had seemed a little reluctant to take the matter as seriously as we did in Denmark.

On 4th November we, i.e. two Danish police officers from Copenhagen, two Danish police liaison officers from Bundeskriminalamt in Wiesbaden, two Bundeskriminalamt-people from Munich and two representatives from the Bavarian police in Lindenberg and I had a planning-meeting at Bundeskriminalamt in Munich, at which I was asked to give an account of the case from the perspective of The Royal Library. It was decided that the searches in Denmark should start at 5 o'clock in the morning but the German police insisted on waiting to start until 10 o'clock, which caused some difficulties for the Danish police, as it would be necessary to keep each of the suspected persons in Denmark isolated for some hours to prevent them from warning each other. In the end this was an advantage because we knew the result in Denmark before the action in Lindenberg and Munich took place.



Fig. 2: The ransacking team from Germany

Already at breakfast at the hotel in Lindau, an idyllic town situated on a small peninsula in Lake Constance, which was the basis for the German operation, only a few miles away from Lindenberg, we knew that a total of about 1,500 books had been found in the home of Frede Møller-Kristensen's widow. Five other quite rare books were found at Silke Albrecht and Thomas Møller-Kristensen's home in Ålsgårde. These five volumes had been ready for sale, i.e. all the traces which could connect them with the Royal Library had been carefully removed. In Lindenberg at the home of Silke Albrecht's mother, the result of the search was apparently quite modest: only four books, of which two had been returned from Christie's as unsold. However, the most important result was that the police found some accounts of books which had been shipped to London and some quite compromising letters from Silke Albrecht to her mother that proved that mother and daughter had cooperated in this business, and Theresia Albrecht was taken to the police station in Lindenberg, where she was questioned for two hours about her knowledge and what profit she had made from her daughter's activities. At 11 o'clock the searches were concluded. The search at the shipping company was quite successful, as were some bank investigations into a few accounts of Silke Albrecht's in Germany. I phoned Erland Kolding Nielsen to inform him about the results of the actions in Denmark and Germany.

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He was quite amazed at this result! As he already on the 31st October was confidentially informed by the Copenhagen police about the coming search and therefore had arranged an appointment with the Minister of Cultural Affairs for the afternoon of the 5th November, he was able to inform him and the Ministry personally about this surprising development, i.e. before the press eventually got hold of the story. The Minister of Justice was at the same time informed by the Copenhagen police commissioner, as it was considered to be a very important case due to the value of the missing books.

In Denmark, Møller-Kristensen's widow, her son and daughter-in-law were taken to a preliminary examination and imprisoned, where they were kept in isolation with no possibility of making contacts outside the prison with the exception of their defending counsel. This form of imprisonment has been much discussed in recent years because it can be psychologically damaging for those involved. It is employed, however, in cases where the judge in charge of the preliminary examination considers that the prisoner under remand might otherwise be able to hinder the solving of the case. It is probably also employed to encourage the prisoner to confess to the offence in question. The following day, an Irish friend of the family was also imprisoned, since he had confessed that he had transported books to the USA and that his sister in New York had helped him to sell these books at the auction house Swann's Galleries.

From November 2003 until 1st February 2004 all the books which had been found in Espergærde at the house of Frede Møller-Kristensen's widow were registered and described in a way which could convince the court that all these books were the property of the Royal Library. This extraordinary task was too complicated for the police to carry out, and I was asked whether the Royal Library could place specialists at the disposal of the police to deal with this. I gathered together a small team of rare books librarians to do this work, which had to be done in secret in order not to confuse what remained to be cleared up of this matter. It was extremely important that the press should not get any hint of what was going on. This meant that all the books were taken to the police headquarters in Copenhagen and two offices were put at our disposal to carry out discretely the work which had to be done to prepare the case for the court. First of all it was necessary to list all the 1,665 books found on a special list for the court. Each book received a number for identification on a slip and on the list in which it was catalogued: Author, title and imprint, as well as a brief description of any characteristic features of each book, provenance, rareness, owner marks etc, as well as an indication of the value.



Fig. 3: Registration of the books at the police head quarter in Copenhagen

Two photocopies were taken of the title page and the number of each book was written on these copies. One of these was placed in the book, the other was taken to the Royal Library, where two librarians checked shelf mark, author, title and imprint in the database of missing books and marked each entry for the books that had been found with a special code. These two colleagues were only informed that the old case had been solved but they were not told the identity of the criminals. As for the books, they were packed successively in boxes and transferred to one of the strong rooms in the Royal Library day for day, as there was not sufficient capacity in the storerooms for stolen property in the police headquarters. This did not mean that the books were now considered to be the property of the Royal Library but in a way the Royal Library was acting on behalf of the police and the court.

Every late afternoon from November 2003 until February 2004, on my return from the daily work in the police headquarters I gave an account of our various findings for Kolding Nielsen in his office. Besides this topic of conversation, the standing agenda for our meetings was as follows:

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Special rare books regained during the day. Among these was Thomas More's *Utopia* printed in Basel 1517. Originally the Royal Library had also had the Louvain edition [1516] which had last been seen in an exhibition at the Royal Library in the summer of 1969. However Silke Albrecht had succeeded in selling this edition at Christie's on 7th June 2000, the profit to her and her family had been 140,000 GBP.

- Discussions, i. e. the development of theories as to the possible motives of Frede Møller-Kristensen.
- Various analyses in an attempt to date the beginning of Frede Møller-Kristensen's thefts.

As for the last subject, it was the retrieval of two Danish books on astronomy which gave us an opening, for the catalogue of astronomy in the Danish Department had been removed from a stack in the main building of the Royal Library to one situated at another address in Copenhagen, to which Frede Møller-Kristensen had no access. The collection of astronomy had been removed 1968-69, as far as it could be established. As Frede Møller-Kristensen obtained his position as a research-librarian in 1967 and was already promoted to the post of department director in 1969, it was our theory that he must have started his criminal activities almost from his very first day in The Royal Library, which was both a fascinating and a frightening thought. I must confess that Kolding Nielsen and I never managed to bring our discussion of this subject to its final conclusion. This is not because we were in disagreement but the problem continued to puzzle us. We still discuss this subject from time to time. The finding of 9 atlases which disappeared on Saturday the 13th October 1975 was another case we discussed very intensely. The atlases had been used in the reading-room of the Department of Maps on Friday 12th October 1975 by a Norwegian scholar, and when they were required again on Monday 15th October, the staff of the Map Department was unable to find them. The case was reported to the police, and inquiries were made via Interpol.

In May 1976 one of the missing atlases apparently turned up in Paris. One of our specialists from the Map Department immediately went to Paris, escorted by a police officer from Copenhagen. She could have sworn that the copy of the atlas which was shown to her was identical with the one which had been stolen from the Royal Library, but this copy showed no evidence which could prove that was the correct owner. The conclusion of this case was in the negative, which was quite frustrating at that time because we were then still convinced that this copy originated from the Royal Library. We were quite wrong, however: all the 9 volumes of atlases were found in the house of Frede Møller-Kristensen's widow on the 5th November 2003. This case proves how difficult it can be to identify stolen books when they have once reached the world outside the library. During the search at the house of Frede Møller-Kristensen's widow a complete set of tools for binding and book restoration was found. In a way, this discovery brought the explanation of why Frede Møller-Kristensen had always taken

such a great interest in the care, restoration and preservation of the collections of the Oriental Department. It had until those remarkable days in the autumn of 2003 always been considered as 'good professional custodianship'. Now, his enthusiastic engagement in this particular field of the work of the library revealed that Frede Møller-Kristensen's motives had been of a quite different nature. His real intention had been to find out how he could best remove stamps, shelf marks and other characteristics, which could link a particular copy of a book with the Royal Library, a theme which Kolding Nielsen and I also discussed very intensely.

We succeeded in keeping the whole matter secret until 9th December 2003. On that date the Irishman had been in court and his solicitor had demanded that he should be set free. The court had not approved this, however, and instantly the press got wind of the whole matter. I do not claim that the solicitor was the source of this particular press leak, for that would have been illegal, as her client was technically in solitary confinement and this meant that it was forbidden for the name of the person concerned or the case to be revealed to the press or anyone else. This was of course a new difficulty in our path, which caused some delays, as both the police and the library had to answer many more or less futile questions. From that day on, the attention of the media, and soon also of the political world, was on the case. This was a new aspect of this matter, not exactly surprising, but it was a new situation and it meant that Kolding Nielsen had to publish an article about the case in the Danish newspaper *Jyllands Posten*: "The Anatomy of Book Thefts" However, it did not help much: The story had developed its own dynamic in the media and we had to compile a comprehensive report for the Ministry of Cultural Affairs, explaining both the present state of affairs and its historical dimension, since the media and a few politicians mixed past and present in a way which made the very clearing up of the affair look like a scandal. I shall not waste more time on these trivialities. In May 2004 all the four perpetrators were sentenced to prison. The 69-year-old widow was to serve two years in prison, her son three years, and both the Irishman and the daughter-in-law one-and-a-half years each. The facts were taken into consideration that Silke Albrecht and Thomas Møller-Kristensen had a two-year-old child and that the widow was almost 70 years old.

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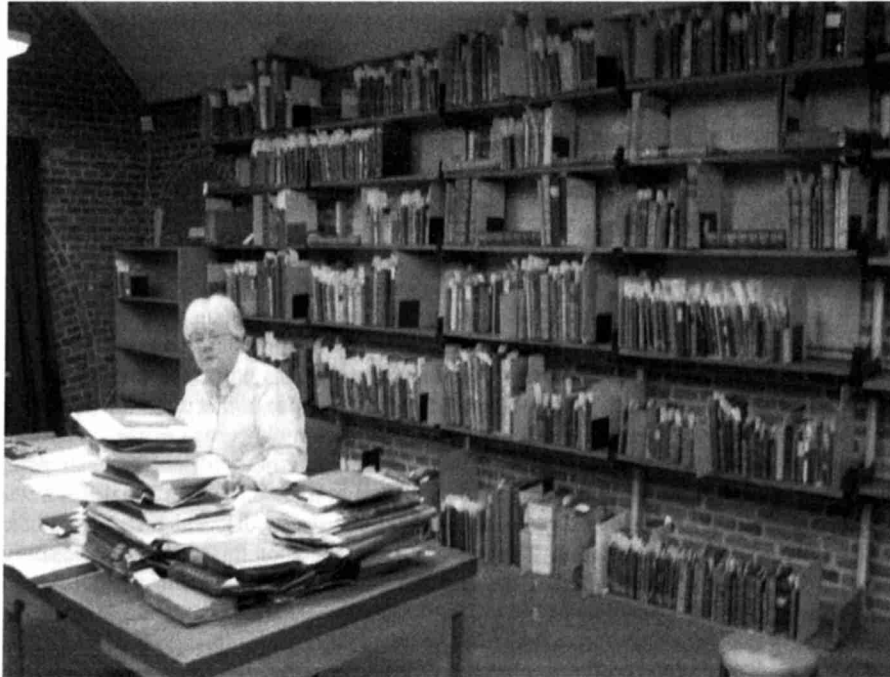


Fig. 4: The books recovered

THE SECURITY PERSPECTIVES OF THIS MATTER

Quite apart from those security measures which are designed to prevent books, manuscripts and other valuable items which old libraries have in their possession from being stolen or disappearing in unaccountable ways, it is very difficult to regain items once they have disappeared. In the following I shall try to list some of the most significant experiences and difficulties which have to be dealt with in such cases.

1. It is very difficult to claim the ownership of stolen books when they have once reached the market, i.e. auction houses or antiquarian book dealers. Stamps, marks or other signs of ownership have very often been removed, which means that auction houses, antiquarian book dealers or other buyers have normally bought a stolen item in good faith.

2. It is very difficult for a library to cope with a matter of this kind. You cannot go public because this will simply ruin all possibilities for the police and the library to investigate and clear up the matter. All experience shows that the press and the politicians simply use cases like the present one for their own purposes. They very often have their own agenda: the newspapers and the media world want to sell scandals and sensations, the politicians aim to sharpen their profile as politicians who can be remembered and elected again another time.
3. There have been two victims in the present case: the Royal Library which has had its books stolen and the auction companies who have been cheated. Stamps, marks and other evidence which could relate a particular book to the Royal Library had been carefully removed from those books which Frede Møller-Kristensen had prepared for sale. He had a complete restoration workshop in the basement of his house, as well as a set of quite professional bookbinding-tools, and he knew how to use his tools.
4. The international legislation concerning the illegal traffic in cultural property is, to put it diplomatically, expressed too weakly or vaguely to play any important role in the international struggle to find stolen books and restore them to their legal owners.
5. The public, legal control with auction houses, the antique trade and antiquarian book dealers is far too weak. In the case in question it delayed the solution of the matter that Christie's would only reveal the identity of the consignor after the presentation of a court order from the British police. In cases like this one it might be a realistic possibility that the stolen goods would be handed back to the consignor if the auctioneer or the antiquarian book dealer becomes suspicious. Situations like that leave the library and the police without any chance of regaining stolen items.
6. It will be necessary to create closer cooperation between the antiquarian world and the libraries but it will also be a basic condition that the antiquarian book dealers and the auction houses become more open to the library world.
7. Libraries are public institutions and accessible to any citizen, while auction houses are private enterprises, whose only obligation is to earn money for the benefit of the houses and those consignors who make use of the services which those institutions provide.

As mentioned above, in the present case there were two victims: Christie's and The Royal Library. You might ask in what way do the libraries mark or describe their precious material so that a second part, for example an auction house, has a possibility to identify rare books originating from a library? Up to now the only public registers of library books have been the library catalogues. The purpose of a library catalogue is firstly to register which books or other documents the library has in its possession and secondly to make those documents accessible. This means that the descriptions of the books in library catalogues are very often very modest. Many library catalogues are simply short title catalogues which in a practical manner make it possible to verify and

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locate the books on the shelves. On the other hand, an auction catalogue does not normally reveal traces which could connect a particular copy of a book with a certain library. The intention behind auction catalogues is to promote a sale and this means that the characteristics mentioned are designed to make a particular book attractive for a collector or an investigator, which is the reason why those aspects of the history of the volume which deal with rarity or value are very often emphasized. An owner mark or a certain name or a stamp which could mean a lot for a librarian with respect to the provenance of the book would often not be mentioned or only described in lapidary style: unidentified name, or provenance: "From a gentleman's property." This makes it quite difficult for a library to identify a particular missing book as that particular copy which has been stolen from the library. In searching for stolen books details of author, title etc. are not particularly useful for the police. When you report to a police officer the theft of a rare book, his first question will be: What does it look like? What should we look for? In such cases the librarian will most likely not be able to give any sensible answer. The solving of the thefts from the seventies and the new digital technology made it possible for us to create a new instrument, Royal Identification Marks. It is a picture gallery of characteristic bindings, stamps, owner-marks and shelf marks in the Royal Library which makes it possible to link a particular book with the library.

Royal monograms

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A royal monogram is an ownership mark of the Royal Library. Each monarch has his/her own monogram.


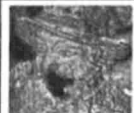

Monogram	King	Description and notes
	Frederik II King of Denmark 1559-1588.	Crowned monogram, FS, here placed on the front cover. FS can mean either <i>Fridericus Secundus</i> (Frederik the Second) or <i>Friderik and Sophie</i> , Sophie (1557-1631) being Frederik II's queen. <i>Andreas Hinderff. Historien umt Exempelbuch (1592).</i>
	Frederik II King of Denmark 1559-1588.	Portrait on the front cover. <i>Bruder Fals. Eigentlich Beschreibung der Art und weiser Fahrt zu dem Heiligen Landt (1557)</i>
	Christian IV King of Denmark 1588-1648.	Crowned monogram, C4, here placed on the front cover. <i>Christoff Gumbach. Buchhändlermesterey (1609)</i>

Fig 5: An example from Royal Identification Marks

We sincerely hope that this new instrument will also be useful in a more traditional kind of history of the book.

NOTE

1. This article is a revised and extended version of “Report on a theft of books, a non-fiction detective story” published 2006 in *Care and Conservation of Manuscripts*, vol. 9. Cph.: Museum Tusculanum Press, 2006, pp. 113 – 125.

RELATED ARTICLES

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WEB SITES REFERRED TO IN THE TEXT

Royal Identification Marks. <http://www2.kb.dk/kb/missingbooks//marks/index.htm>

Royal Library: National Library - Copenhagen University Library - The Black Diamond. <http://www.kb.dk/en/index.html>