New perspective on disaster recovery

Library disaster planning and recovery handbook is a comprehensive account of the 1997 flood that damaged more than 500,000 volumes in the Colorado State Library collections. Its emphasis on continuing library service after a disaster distinguishes this handbook from many other titles in this genre. Edited by Camila Alire, the handbook is a compilation of documents, augmented by advice and recommendations, produced by the Colorado State staff members who were involved in managing response to the disaster and subsequent library operations. It covers risk management, human resources, collection salvage, media relations, collection restoration, resource sharing, gifts, fundraising, insurance, and offering partial service at temporary sites. It also addresses the roles played by various library departments when their normal operations are suspended or altered significantly.

The handbook is available from Neal-Schuman Publishers, Inc., 100 Varick St., New York, NY 10013; phone: (212) 925-8650; fax: (800) 584-2414; e-mail: info@neal-schuman.com; URL: http://www.neal-schuman.com.

New NISO standards

The National Information Standards Organization (NISO) has published two new standards. The first, "Environmental conditions for exhibiting library and archival materials," recommends parameters for light exposure, relative humidity, temperature, gaseous and particulate contaminants, display techniques, and components for case and support materials. The second, "Guidelines for information about preservation products," defines language to be used in describing products to promote consistency and accuracy in marketing.

Free PDF versions of both standards are available at http://www.techstreet.com/cgi-bin/detail?product_id=863737 and http://www.techstreet.com/cgi-bin/detail?product_id=879717, respectively. Hardcopy versions are also available for $49 each at the same URLs.

Newsletter about mold

Ellen McCrady of Abbey Publications has begun publishing "Mold reporter," a newsletter about the effects of exposure to mold on humans.

In a "Note from the Editor," which appeared in the premiere issue, McCrady wrote, "This will not be a health newsletter. ... It will cover the causes, remedies, and nature of mold problems, and the specialists who deal with them."

Subscriptions cost $25 for six issues per year. For more information, contact: Abbey Publications, Inc., 7105 Geneva Drive, Austin, TX 78723; phone: (512) 929-3992; fax: (512) 929-3995; e-mail: abbeypub@flash.net.

Environmental control workshop

The Southeastern Library Network (SOLINET, Inc.) and The Society of Georgia Archivists (SGA) are cosponsoring "Preserving Collections in a Hostile Environment: Environmental Control and Monitoring" on June 28, 2001, in Macon, Georgia. Michael Trinkley, director of the Chicora Foundation and instructor for this daylong workshop, will cover monitoring, identifying problems and developing strategies for improving collections' environments.

The workshop costs $95 for SOLINET and SGA members or $135 for nonmembers. The registration deadline is June 14. For more information, contact: SOLINET, 1438 W. Peachtree Street NW, Suite 200, Atlanta, GA, 30309-2955, Attn: Continuing Education & Training; phone: (800) 999-8558; fax: (404) 892-7879; e-mail: cet@solinet.net; URL: http://www.solinet.net/cet/reginfo.htm.

Conservation conference

The International Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works (IIC) will hold its 19th congress in Baltimore, Maryland, on September 1–6, 2002. IIC congresses are held (continued on page 644)
Yale University alumnus Walter L. Pforzheimer has donated his private collection of more than 15,000 books and 46 linear feet of manuscript material to Yale’s Beinecke Library. Pforzheimer inherited two collections from his father (an almost complete collection of the French playwright Molière and a collection of French armorial bindings, which included one of the bindings from the library of 16th-century bibliophile Jean Grolier). As a student, Pforzheimer began gathering materials of the Philadelphia-born novelist, short-story writer, and humorist Frank Stockton (1834-1902). Pforzheimer, a Yale Law School graduate, began working for the CIA and immediately began to form a collection on the intelligence agency. The materials include not only manuscripts, official documents, and historical materials, but also fiction and biography relating to intelligence and espionage, ranging chronologically from the American Revolution to the Cold War.

The papers of Américo Paredes (1915-99), scholar and humanist, are now part of the Nettie Lee Benson Latin American Collection at the University of Texas (UT) at Austin. The papers (65.5 feet) include manuscripts of his published and unpublished work, correspondence, note cards, class notes, audio- and videotapes, sheet music and songbooks, and files of his editorial work for major folklore journals. In 1956, Paredes received his doctorate in English from UT, where he spent his scholarly life teaching and developing programs and centers on folklore of the Southwest and Mexico, and for the study of Mexican American culture. His best-known work With His Pistol in His Hand: A Border Ballad and Its Hero (1958) was the basis for the 1982 film The Ballad of Gregoria Cortez.

The NASA/Johnson Space Center’s archives have been acquired by the University of Houston, Clear Lake’s (UHCL) Neumann Library. Representatives from the two organizations signed a memorandum of understanding for the transfer, which contains copies of correspondence, reports, and more than 1,000 oral history interview tapes and transcripts documenting the Mercury, Gemini, and Apollo programs. Johnson Space Center’s collection documents the history and role played by the center in NASA’s human space flight program.

Renovation at the Neumann Library are underway to meet National Archives and Records Administration standards, which call for a secure, environmentally controlled facility. UHCL also plans to hire an archivist to oversee the collection. The agreement allows for the documents to be housed at UHCL for 10 years with the option for a possible extension.

The archives of the Jewish Historical Society of the Upper Midwest (JHSUM) will be housed by the University of Minnesota Libraries, Twin Cities Campus. The agreement calls for JHSUM to place 500 linear shelf feet of archives on long-term loan with the University Libraries. The libraries will catalog the archives and provide access for research by students, scholars, and members of the public. The archives contain institutional and organizational records, family histories and genealogies, photos, oral histories, videos, and maps. The items focus on the Jewish community in Minnesota, and North and South Dakota, with additional materials from northern Wisconsin and Michigan’s Upper Peninsula.

The University of Michigan’s Special Collections Library has completed cataloging its Shakespeare Pamphlet Collection, also known as the Crosby Shakespeare Collectanea. More than 270 records describe the holdings of the purchase from the late Joseph Crosby of Zanesville, Ohio, a prominent Shakespearian scholar of the 19th century. The collection features scholarly works by noted Shakespearian authorities; theatrical memorabilia; and ivy and other foliage from the church walls that covered Shakespeare’s grave. Particularly well represented are materials relating to the publication of John Payne Collier’s “discovery” of a copy of the 1632 Second Folio, and its eventual exposure as a forgery.