Columbia University has received $500,000 from the J. Paul Getty Trust to support the affiliation of the Program for Art on Film with the university’s School of the Arts. The program has operated for the past ten years as a joint venture of the Getty Trust and the Metropolitan Museum of Art. The program’s principal activity is the administration of the Art on Film Database, a computer index to more than 23,000 films, videos, and videodiscs on art and artists, which serves more than 600 major museums, television networks, schools, and libraries across the country and the world. Media producers and art experts have been brought together to collaborate on productions and explore new ways of presenting art on screen.

Dalhousie University’s Bertram H. Mac-Donald, associate professor in the School of Library and Information Studies, Faculty of Management, has been awarded a three-year research grant in the amount of $114,000 from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada. The study, entitled “Information Diffusion in Scientific Research in Canada,” will result in a large bibliographic database of the historical assessments of science and technology in Canada published up to 1995 and an analysis of the place of information in scientific research.

Harvard University’s Middle Eastern Division of Widener Library has been given $44,000 from the Department of Education’s Foreign Periodicals Program to buy Central Asian periodicals, Palestinian Arab newspapers, and several Arab women’s serial titles. Over 70 important 19th- and 20th-century periodicals from Central Asia, mainly in the Turkic languages with some Russian-language titles, will be bought, along with six Palestinian Arab newspapers from the cities of Jerusalem and Haifa covering the last 25 years and 1920–34, and several Arab women’s periodicals published from the turn of the century to the present in Jerusalem, Tel Aviv, Ram Allah, and other cities.

The Philadelphia Area Consortium of Special Collections Libraries has been awarded $1.35 million by the Pew Charitable Trusts to complete a collaborative cataloging project to improve access to rare books, manuscripts, archives, films, photographs, and drawings in 15 Philadelphia-area research libraries. The grant, which is being matched by $582,000 in institutional contributions, will result in the addition of 200,000 computerized descriptions of holdings to the electronic cataloging networks OCLC and RLIN.

Radcliffe College has received a $50,000 grant from the Ford Foundation for a pilot project to design a computerized database of cataloging information for the Schlesinger Library’s photograph holdings. Approximately 3,000 records will be entered into the database. The Schlesinger Library, established in 1943, collects books, manuscripts, oral histories, and photographs documenting women’s roles, achievements, and contributions to American life from 1880 to the present.

Texas A&M University’s Sterling C. Evans Library recently received a pledge of $500,000 from Houston-based Randall’s Food Markets to help build a resource center named after the late R. C. Barclay, a cofounder of the company. The retailing resources center will be part of the new West Campus Library and will link students in retail studies, agriculture, and business to about 7,000 libraries and 300 databases around the world. The Barclay family will commit another $500,000 in the next five years for the building of the center.
The university's Board of Regents also announced a new quasi endowment of $1 million for the Evans Library. The funds for the endowment are the result of a ten-year contract with Coca-Cola USA for vending and concession services. The contract provided an immediate cash payment to the university. The endowment is unrestricted and will be used to enhance services and collections in the library.

The East Asian Library at the University of California, Berkeley, has been awarded a $100,000 grant from the Korea Foundation for the acquisition of Korean materials over the next five years. The grant will enable the library to expand the scope of its acquisitions to meet the demand from newly emerging clientele, namely students in the social sciences and those who lack Korean language skills.

The University of California, Irvine (UCI), Library has been awarded a $25,000 grant from Nordstrom to establish the Nordstrom Library Acquisition Fund for Cultural Diversity to help increase UCI's collection of materials to further the education, understanding, and importance of cultural diversity. Nordstrom's decision to make the gift was based on its desire to support and affirm the value of the rich, cultural diversity in the region and to expand its outreach to the growing community, including minorities. In recognition of the gift, a study room will be named for Nordstrom in the Main Library and all books purchased from the fund will be identified with a special book plate acknowledging Nordstrom's support.

The University of Nevada, Reno, has received a grant of $199,997 from the U.S. Department of Education to enhance researchers' access to the materials housed in Basque Studies Library. Called the Basque Studies Collection Cataloging Project, the grant will allow the creation of new records or the updating of existing ones on OCLC's bibliographic network. It will provide access to the collection of over 10,000 titles, the only one of its kind in the Western Hemisphere and only one of three such collections in the world.

The University of Wisconsin (UW)-Madison's General Library System (GLS) has received $1.12 million from late alumna Adeline Elizabeth Pepper, a 1925 UW graduate who bequeathed her whole estate to the libraries. Owner of an East Coast public relations firm, Pepper established herself as one of the few women at the top of her profession. She specialized in health care-related consulting and was an author and photographer. According to Ken Frazier, GLS director, "The gift will help us support important pilot projects aimed at improving our responsiveness to the university and the community."

Acquisitions

One of the most comprehensive private collections of the works of Charles Darwin has been given to the Huntington Library in San Marino, California, by a San Francisco book collector. Warren D. Mohr, a retired businessman, donated his entire 1,500-volume collection, which includes over 1,000 editions of Darwin's writings, representing all of his output, and over 500 supporting volumes by Darwin's contemporaries and followers. Many of the works are extremely rare, such as an 1835 printing of excerpts from letters Darwin sent home during his expedition on the H.M.S Beagle. Also, an 1888 edition of The Life and Letters of Charles Darwin contains handwritten annotations by his son, Francis.

The archives of Texas Monthly, documenting more than 20 years of reporting on Texas and Texans, have been acquired by the Southwestern Writers Collection at Southwest Texas State University in San Marcos. All aspects of the 20-year history of the magazine are represented in the gift, including editorial, art, production, business, and publicity and public relations. The Southwestern Writers Collection, founded in 1986, honors the publishers, writers, photographers, and artists of the American Southwest.