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### New Extern Scanner at Univ. Hawaii

A valuable capacity that LLMC has acquired in the digital era is the freedom to place our data capture units, the scanners, directly on site in cooperating libraries; with all the rest of the processing work being done back at the store. We have exploited this new capacity to access invaluable, but otherwise inaccessible, collections at the George Washington Univ. & Los Angeles County law libraries, at the Saint Louis Univ. Library, and at the Hawaii State Archives. A refresher overview of those previously existing programs is provided further below.

But first, we are delighted to announce the launch of one more component of our Extern Scanner Program. After a year or so of negotiation and prep work, today we installed a step-and-repeat<sup>1</sup> digital scanner in the University of Hawaii's (UH) main campus library.

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<sup>1</sup> Most of LLMC's scanning is done on high-speed digital scanners that accept disbound paper fed into the machines in batch mode. These high-speed scanners can achieve throughput of up to 6,000 images per hour. Rates vary downward for paper that is brittle or has other physical complications. This capacity to do most of our data-capture work at high speed, involving less per-page labor input, lets us put large amounts of data on *LLMC-Digital* at relatively low cost. It also explains our eagerness to acquire gift material that can be disbound. However, some of our target titles are rare books, museum artifacts, or just materials that must be returned to the loaner library. For these books we use special scanners where the pages of the bound books are turned by hand one page at a time; thus the technical term "step-and-repeat." The step-and-repeat scanners that we use in our extern scanner program are made by a German company, SMA. These units are specially designed to handle rare and delicate books very gently, and achieve throughputs of 200 to 300 images an hour, depending on the condition of the material. Of course, given those throughput rates, the costs are significantly higher for step-and-repeat material. But those are costs we are happy to absorb given the valuable and unique material we can thereby bring online.

With a collection of over 3.2 million volumes serving a nine campus system and well over 50,000 students, the UH Library mirrors in some respects the collections of other large American research universities. However, quite naturally its acquisitions efforts over the years have been heavily guided also by its location. Under that benign influence it has developed world-class excellencies in several subject areas. High among them are its Pacific, Asian, and Hawaiian collections. These are the prime targets justifying the effort and expense involved in installing one of our extern scanners in this institution.

Our major initial focus for using this new UH capture capacity is going to be in the area of the Pacific-island nations' law and law-related materials. Longtime participants in the LLMC program will recall that one of our well-received, and heavily used, fiche offerings was a "U.S. Territories Collection." This included substantial coverage for the U.S. Pacific territories: American Samoa, Guam, the Trust Territory of the Pacific, Micronesia, Palau, the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Commonwealth of the Mariana Islands. Some of these territories later became independent, and the fiche collection contained both pre- and post-independence titles. In the first year of the UH project, we will migrate all of these fiche titles online to *LLMC-Digital*.<sup>2</sup> In addition, we will be adding many other titles for these jurisdictions that were passed over in the fiche era due to space and cost restrictions.

Moving beyond the U.S.-associated jurisdictions, our next focus will be to scan and bring online hundreds of public domain, law, and law-related titles related to the island nations of Oceania, expansively defined. This will enable us, both to broaden our existing col-

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<sup>2</sup> An abbreviated copy of the text of the print text describing our fiche collections for these U.S. jurisdictions is appended to this issue as a word document entitled "Univ. HI scan targets.doc". Since the print for the bulk of these filmed titles came from the UH Pacific Collection, interested readers can use this list as a fair approximation of what they will soon have available on *LLMC-Digital* for these jurisdictions.

lections, and also to venture into jurisdictions never before offered. Additionally, access to the UH Pacific collection will enable us to progress that much more quickly toward the completion of our long-standing Common Law Abroad Project, which covers materials from the former British colonies.<sup>3</sup>

Moving beyond the Pacific materials, we expect to use our access to the outstanding UH Hawaiian Collection to fill out gaps in the already-rich assembly of Hawaii monarchy, republic and territorial titles that we currently offer online that was derived from our four-year scanning project at the Hawaii State Archives (see below). Finally, a little later on we will begin mining the UH's rich Asian Collection in connection with a joint project under negotiation with another library with major Asian holdings that is in the final stages of development.

On behalf of all the patrons of *LLMC-Digital* we welcome our new colleagues at the University of Hawaii Library to our common endeavor, and thank them most sincerely for agreeing to join our number. This new project is going to bring major additional resources to the desktops of all of our patrons at no extra cost to our subscribing libraries. When the LLMC Community started its digital project some five years ago, a major reason was that we saw that the world was changing fast. The way things were going, it looked like our fate was going to be decided by others, mostly the commercial publishers. We wanted a seat at

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<sup>3</sup> Our selectors will be working from a list of over 3000 potential titles. It fills a spreadsheet too large to be appended to this newsletter distribution. However, a copy of this list can be obtained by interested subscribers who e-mail our Business Manager, Debbie Bagwell, at [llmc@llmc.com](mailto:llmc@llmc.com) and ask for "PACLAW2000-J-K.xls". Please remember that this is a preliminary list derived from the UH shelflist for the J&K classifications of the special Pacific Collection. The list still needs to be weeded down to exclude copyright, inappropriate titles, etc. But it does provide an overview of the type of law-related riches available. In eyeballing the list, LLMC's selectors estimate that as many as a third of the titles might eventually meet their selection criteria for migration online. If you see some titles of special local interest for your patrons, don't hesitate to ask us to give them priority.

the table. Well, we've created that seat for ourselves. Today's development is one more demonstration that we know how to use it.

#### **LLMC/NELLCO/LIPA Advocacy Webinar**

In these times of straitened budgets, and declining attention by library funders lured by the siren song of the digital maiden, it behooves all of us to learn how to market our whole panoply of library services. As a contribution to that necessary effort, LLMC has partnered with the New England Law Library Consortium (NELLCO) and The Legal Information Preservation Alliance (LIPA) in developing a "webinar" on Advocacy for Librarians. Real experts have been recruited to help participants learn practical and near-term-applicable methods for promoting their libraries to their constituents. A brochure outlining the courses offered, the facilitators, dates, and registration details is attached to this issue as "LLMC/NELLCO/LIPA Webinar.pdf".

#### **Extern Scanner Program Overview**

The following is an abbreviated and updated repeat of an article on this same subject that ran in issue No. 27, Nov. 24, 2007, of this newsletter. It is provided here for the benefit of new readers who may not be aware of the extent and purposes of this major and vital part of the LLMC program.

At present something like 5% of our books are on loan, and therefore cannot be disbound. For these we use so-called "step-and-repeat" scanners, which are designed to gently scan *bound* books. While LLMC has a long tradition of borrowing books for filming (and now scanning), we have long lived with the fact that donor libraries generally will not lend us their "A List" materials. They don't, and can't, because the books are too unique, too valuable, or too fragile to travel. On a few occasions during the film era, we compensated by moving a camera to the library.<sup>4</sup> But filming technology was tied to messy film-processing machinery, and was far too bulky and expensive to deploy except as a last resort. As a result, in our film years we were mostly

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<sup>4</sup> We did this for the Yale Blackstone Collection, filmed at Yale back in the early 1980s, and for our Canon Law and Civil Law Collections, filmed at UC-Berkeley in the late 1980s and early 1990s.

restricted to targeting those less rare or less fragile books that could be subjected to the perils of shipping. We didn't film many very desirable titles because we just couldn't get our hands on them.

With digital scanning this has all changed. It is now possible to put clean, simple-to-handle, step-and-repeat scanners into ordinary library-office situations (no dark rooms). Even better, we can limit the host library's function to image-capture (no tricky post-processing, no messy chemicals, etc.). Finally, operating a digital scanner is far more easily taught to off-site library personnel than was the somewhat persnickety film technology.

Given these favorable circumstances, in the digital era LLMC has retooled its approach for targeting rare and inaccessible books. Now, when we can't ship the materials cross-country for scanning, we take our picks and shovels to the mines. To date, the machines we have installed have been SMA 21's; production-scale, step-and-repeat scanners specially designed to be gentle with rare books. The SMA 21 can handle very small books and fairly large folios. It's not that speedy, with a thruput rate of only 300 or so images per hour. Also, with many books that thruput slows down even more due to the need for extra-gentle handling. However, in these situations, it's the quality of the data that is being targeted, so that speed and quantity are not as vital as the ability to take great care with the print or manuscript originals.

At present, in addition to our new operation at the University of Hawaii Library, LLMC's network of what we call "extern scanners" is, deployed in three other institutions. These are:

— **George Washington Univ. Law Lib.:** GWU-Law was our first extern scanner operation, being launched a year after we started in digital. Its principal focus is on GWU-Law's collection of rare books, which is particularly rich in early Civil Law imprints, but also covers many other subject areas. GWU-Law's current scanning is focused on a large collection of historical French imprints recently acquired from the Library of the Association of the Bar of the City of New York. These books are providing a rich supplement to

the titles that were offered in our Civil Law France microfiche collection.<sup>5</sup>

- **Saint Louis Univ. Library (SLU):** Our second extern scanner was installed in the main library at SLU. It targets a very large body of Canon and Civil Law literature assembled over the years at SLU due to the university's collection focus as one of the major North American Catholic institutions of higher education. These were recently enhanced due to SLU's acquisition of the collections of several major, now-defunct, French seminary libraries. Lately SLU has also focused on its Law Library's extensive collection of U.S. state constitutional journals and records material. On another front, the SLU operation has fulfilled a secondary function envisioned for our extern libraries. Over the years the initial LLMC scanner has served as the catalyst for a much more professional operation. It has been joined by two additional scanners, funded from other sources. Other technical competencies such as preserving and migrating data from VCR tapes, etc. have been added. As the SLU operation has branched out into other digital preservation technologies and other subject fields, it has established itself as perhaps the most widely recognized model for full-range digitization services in its geographic region.
- **Los Angeles County Law Library:** This exceptionally-productive installation currently focuses on LA-Law's outstanding collection of early British Commonwealth legal materials. With its help LLMC can now project that its Common Law Abroad Project will reach completion many years earlier than we ever anticipated.<sup>6</sup> Of course, as was announced in the Decem-

<sup>5</sup> Subscribers should be aware that those of our online titles that may have been included in the fiche-era "Civil Law Collections," but which refer only to a single jurisdiction, are now being grouped with the other materials for the relevant country: France, Spain, Italy, Germany, etc. The online Civil Law Collection (for which we have no titles at present) will include only titles generally treating the topic of Civil law and titles covering more than one jurisdiction.

ber issue of this newsletter, LA-Law is also engaged in the mammoth project of scanning its uniquely-complete, five-shelf-miles-long collection of the California Records and Briefs. The first year of the retrospective scanning, 2009, went up on *LLMC-Digital* over the holidays.

- This review wouldn't be complete without acknowledging an "alumnus project" of the LLMC extern scanner program at the **Hawaii State Archives (HSA)**. The recently completed HSA scanning operation was a joint enterprise of LLMC, HAS, and the University of Hawaii Law Library; with the latter using federal grant money routed through its Native Hawaiian Studies Program. While only in operation for four years, the HSA installation was able to digitize, among many other titles, the laws and legislative journals for the Hawaiian Kingdom (1827-1893), the Republic of Hawaii (1893-1900), and the U.S. Territory of Hawaii (1900-1950). Post-statehood titles, being much more common, were scanned high-speed from books received from other sources. Much of the early historical material scanned at HAS existed only in the original manuscript versions. Hitherto it was practically inaccessible to Hawaii residents and scholars worldwide. Now it is all online as a valuable part of the rich lode of treasures available to all of our subscribing libraries' patrons. The HSA program ended after we had captured the full range of legal titles initially targeted. But, like the program at SLU, it created a legacy. The enterprising Archives staff used the LLMC project as a model to convince the Hawaii State Legislature to fund

equipment and staffing for a permanent in-house Archives scanning operation. So the good work goes on. Also, like any good alumna, HSA has stayed close to its alma mater. We co-operate closely. HSA uses its scanner to help LLMC fill gaps in our online titles when they have the materials. We, of course, can return the favor, now that we have privileged access to the complementary UH Hawaiian Collection.

<sup>6</sup> The template for this project is a major bibliography compiled under LLMC's auspices and published by Hein in 2001: *The Common Law Abroad; Constitutional and Legal Legacy of the British Empire; An annotated bibliography of titles relating to the colonial dependencies of Great Britain held by twelve great law libraries*. LA-Law is one of those great law libraries. It's scanning efforts to date have covered its holdings in the following areas of the bibliography: General Treatises, British Canada, British Caribbean, and British Australasia. It is currently about two thirds of the way through its holdings for British India.