



Bodleian Libraries Centre for the Study of the Book

2010-11

Prospect to the Gladys Kriebel
Delmas Foundation

This prospect is offered to the Gladys Kriebel Delmas Foundation in acknowledgement of the valuable support given by the Foundation to the Centre. That support has enabled the Centre to develop as a core for research and learning in history of the book within Oxford and to attract scholars with international reputations as speakers and as visiting fellows. By presenting the latest research alongside unique items from the Bodleian collections, the Centre engages academic and community participants in greater appreciation and understanding of the culture of the book throughout history.



About the Centre

Programs of the CSB present the latest scholarship in the material and cultural history of the book through lectures, seminars, one-day symposia and masterclasses.

The Centre promotes innovation in curatorial care of early books through workshops fostering discussion between academic researchers and librarians, aimed at improving access to and information about books and manuscripts.

The Centre supports use of the Bodleian Library's unique collections, in safe and secure conditions, to enrich the learning experience for students at the University of Oxford and through masterclasses open to the public.

Fellowships supporting research in the history of books, libraries and communication are hosted by the Centre.

CSB events are publicized through [the online calendar](#) and recorded in the Special Collections blog, [The Conveyor](#), as well as in annual printed reports in the Bodleian Library Record and the Friends of the Bodleian newsletter.

The Bodleian Libraries gratefully acknowledge the support of the Gladys Kriebel Delmas Foundation for all the programs presented through the Centre for the Study of the Book.

Summary of Autumn, 2010

In partnership with the Faculty of English, the library hosted a very distinguished collection of scholars and library curators at [a one-day symposium, 'The Gathered Text'](#) in September 2010. This event completely filled the library's Seminar Room to the capacity of 60 people, and was the last event to take place there before the closure of the New Library for re-development. Speakers examined the role of the gathering, or quire, in the make-up of hand-press books, considering the importance of this fundamental unit of book production for the binder, the printer, and the author. Speakers from a variety of fields of book studies included Nicholas Pickwoad, David



Learning about medieval bookbindings in a masterclass with Chris Clarkson



Jan and Kasper Luiken, *Spiegel van't menschelyk bedryf* (Amsterdam, c.1700), plate 63 *De Boeckbinder* (The Bookbinder)

McKitterick, Peter Stallybrass, and John Barnard. The event was convened by Rebecca Bullard.

The November 2010 colloquium, [‘Enlightenment correspondence: letter-writing and reading in the 18th century’](#), was presented by the CSB in partnership with the Electronic Enlightenment project, which collates and transcribes 18th-century correspondence for online access.

Supporting the study of early books and manuscripts

The CSB supports research and learning through regular classes and through liaison with scholarly projects.

The Centre’s [masterclasses program](#), for which experts speak about items from the library collections, continued with two ongoing series in medieval and literary manuscripts. Plans have now been introduced for masterclasses in early printed books and Oriental manuscripts. The masterclasses are open to all and typically attract between 25 and 35 scholars, students, library staff, and interested members of the community.

The series on Medieval manuscripts is convened by Professor Richard Sharpe and Martin Kauffmann of the Bodleian Library; the series on Literary manuscripts is convened by Professor Kathryn Sutherland and Chris Fletcher, the Bodleian’s Keeper of Western Manuscripts. The Literary Manuscripts classes for have attracted funding from the university’s John Fell Fund up to 2011.

The masterclasses were held in a new location in the Pitt Rivers Museum, due to the New Library’s closure for reconstruction. Despite this change, graduate students, librarians, and members of the university faculties and staff, as well as interested visitors, attended to make an average of 30 participants per class.

CSB liaison with the [Cultures of Knowledge project](#) in November 2010 yielded [a slideshow of early scientific copperplates published in the Nature News online](#). A display of the Lister copperplates and drawings for the *Historiae Conchyliorum* is planned for 2012.

Prospect for 2011

Following the CSB symposium on broadsides, ‘Taking Sides’, in November 2009, the Centre successfully bid for a grant from the John Fell Fund in 2011 to pilot new techniques for the transcription of texts in the extensive early-modern broadside ballads collections. This project will be led by Dr Giles Bergel, the Lyell Fellow in Early Modern Bibliography.

In 2011 the fellowships program will expand with the introduction of new month-long research fellowships in partnership with two scholarly societies, the Renaissance Society of America and the British Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies.

Academic programs continue in 2011 with the Seminar in the



A masterclass on Coptic manuscripts with Professor Jennifer Cromwell (University of Liverpool)



Lister copperplates, described by Dr Anna Marie Roos in Nature News, December 24

History of the Book in Hilary Term, convened by Professor Ian Maclean at All Souls College. Speakers this year include James Carley on the library of Lambeth Palace; Professor Martin McLaughlin on translations and illustrations of the work of Leon Battista Alberti; and Theodor Dunkelgrün on the Antwerp Polyglot Bible.

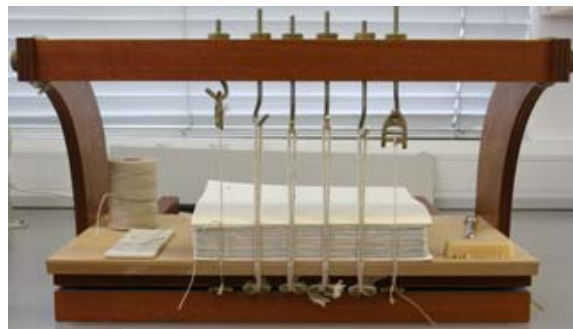
A new series of four masterclasses taking place in January to March 2011 examines Modern Political Papers in the library, looking behind politicians' memoirs and biographies to the archives of their private papers. Subjects whose papers are held in the Bodleian Library include the Conservative politicians Benjamin Disraeli (1804-1881) and Harold Macmillan (1894-1986), and the Labour politician Barbara Castle (1910-2002).

A two-day event in June 2011 will present speakers from Europe, the UK and the USA on the subject of research into early book bindings. A public day will enable participants to learn about the structures of early bookbindings and see the materials used, while experts present recent research projects to identify bookbindings in libraries. On the second day, a roundtable meeting among academic researchers and library curators will enable in-depth discussion aimed at discovering the best ways to record and publish information about bindings in rare books collections. The event will be convened by binding historian Nicholas Pickwoad.

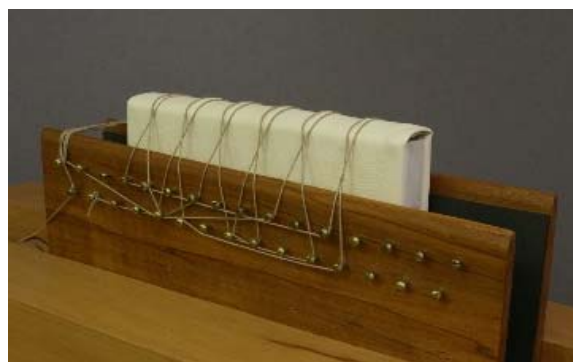
The Centre's support for an ongoing [conservation project](#) in partnership with the British Museum will result in an event in our program calendar in September, 2011, with a conference about an outstanding object from the library's Chinese collections, the Selden Map of Chinese trade routes in the early 17th century.

Planning has begun for 2012 when the CSB will contribute to two major events, a conference in Oxford on the dispersal of books from European monasteries (many of them eventually finding their way to libraries and private collections in Britain and, later, the USA) and a conference on blockbooks to take place in Munich. In January, 2012, the Centre will also sponsor a celebration of a major Bodleian collection, the Harding Collection of music and ephemera.

Dr. Alexandra Franklin
Project Co-ordinator
Centre for the Study of the Book
Bodleian Libraries



Re-sewing a 15th-century manuscript, MS. Laud Misc. 740, on a frame in the Bodleian's Conservation workshop



Re-covering the volume with alum-tawed calfskin

Summary of projected expenses on programs, Centre for the Study of the Book, 2010-11

CSB print publicity & images for research	£870
The Gathered Text, September 3 2010	£400
Masterclasses, Michaelmas Term 2010 (with John Fell Fund grant)	£1,335
Enlightenment Correspondence Colloquium, November 13 2010	£1,510
Leiden Provenance Conference, November 19 2010	£306
<i>Annual Marconi Lecture, March 1 2011</i>	<i>£300</i>
<i>Annual McKenzie Lecture, March 2 2011</i>	<i>£500</i>
<i>Early English Text Society Conference, April 2011</i>	<i>£400</i>
<i>Masterclass: the King James Bible, May 2011</i>	<i>£250</i>
<i>Ballads textual transcription project workshops, Spring 2011</i>	<i>£400</i>
<i>Historic book-bindings day and curatorial roundtable, June 2011</i>	<i>£1,700</i>
<i>Steering Committee, June 2011</i>	<i>£2000</i>
<i>Total</i>	<i>£9,771</i>