

mblwhoi library



Group of people on the MBL collecting boat Vigilant in the late 1800s. (MBL Archives)

report of the library director

“Do you remember a time when books could NOT talk to each other?”

My colleagues and I who are working in Global Research Libraries 2020—a vibrant community of experts that is focusing on top-level challenges facing the global research library of the future—will one day look back and say “Do you remember a time when books could NOT talk to each other?” David Pogue, technology columnist at the *New York Times*, expects the companies that currently manufacture those extremely low-power, non-illuminated, grayscale displays on the Amazon Kindle and Sony Reader, will have perfected the futuristic “living newspapers” featured in the *Harry Potter* movies. The device of choice will be the mobile phone with high-end computing power capable of carrying petabytes of data.

These tetherless devices will link the Global Research Libraries and deliver information to scholars, researchers, citizen scientists, and public library users—in short, everyone. Wireless technology, along with wireless electricity, will be ubiquitous and libraries will be expected to keep pace and perform their time-honored services of classification, dissemination, and preservation of knowledge in all media types.

library researchers

Abbott, Jayne, Normandeau Associates
Allen, Garland E., Washington University
Allen, Nina S., North Carolina State University
Anderson, Everett, Harvard Medical School
Anderson, Gary, University of Southern Mississippi

Baccetti, Baccio, University of Siena
Barlow, Robert B., Upstate Medical University
Benjamin, Thomas L., Harvard Medical School
Bermuda Institute of Ocean Sciences
Bihari, Michael, Falmouth, MA
Blake, Charles, University of South Carolina
Burger, Max, Novartis

Candelas, Gracielas, University of Puerto Rico
Carrington, Mark, University of Cambridge
Center for Coastal Studies
Child, Frank M., Woods Hole, MA
Childs, Andrew F., Falmouth Hospital
CIEE Research Station Bonaire

Cohen, Seymour S., Woods Hole, MA
Corwin, Jeffrey, University of Virginia School of Medicine
Couch, Ernest F., Texas Christian University

D’Alessio, Giuseppe, University of Naples
deToledo-Morrell, Leyla, Rush University Medical University Medical Center
Dodge, Frederick, Upstate Medical University
Duncan, Thomas K., Nichols College

Finkelstein, Alan, Albert Einstein College of Medicine
Finkelstein, Amy, Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Frenkel, Krystyna, New York University School of Medicine

Gainer, Harold, NIH, NINDS
Galatzer-Levy, Robert Woods Hole, MA
Gelperin, Alan, Monell Chemical Senses Center
German III, James L., Weill Medical College of Cornell University
Gifford, Prosser, Woods Hole, MA
Giray, Cem, Microtechnologies
Goldstein, Moise, Woods Hole, MA

joint users committee

John Farrington, WHOI, Chair
 John Hobbie, MBL
 Larry Pratt, WHOI
 David Shepro, MBL
 Peter Smith, MBL
 Ann Stuart, UNC Chapel Hill and MBL
 Rob Theiler, USGS
 John Waterbury, WHOI

In 2008, the virtual and physical aspects of the MBLWHOI Library became seamless. Although this takes place on many levels, nowhere does it challenge and inspire the library staff more than in the Biodiversity Heritage Library (BHL) open-access digitization project. By February 2008, the volume of BHL pages scanned by the MBLWHOI Library and its partners was sufficient to create a foundation of scanned literature that supports the Encyclopedia of Life project. By the close of 2008, over 10,000,000 pages of scientific literature were scanned by the BHL, about 1/3 of which were from the MBLWHOI Library.

The library staff has been active not only in the labor-intensive literature scanning portions of BHL, but also as part of the multi-institutional technical team working on the development of the BHL Portal (www.biodiversitylibrary.org). The Portal is the web platform through which MBLWHOI scanned literature is viewed. The BHL Portal not only displays scanned literature, but also employs MBLWHOI Library-developed uBio taxonomic name finding applications. BHL also uses a MBLWHOI Library-developed tool that identifies book duplicates in the collections of all 10 BHL member libraries before the scanning process begins.

Bringing our serials collection into focus as we add to the multi-million page Biodiversity Heritage Library has been an enlightening undertaking for the Library serials staff. Both the MBL's *Biological Bulletin* and WHOI's *Oceanus* have been digitized in the BHL. Safely handling our pre-1923 foundational journal collection has been a preservation challenge. However the payoff from this content being made available on the Internet exponentially increases the impact of the MBLWHOI Library to the world's scientific community. Along with the Biodiversity collections in the library we have also sent the "early oceanography" collection to be scanned.

Gould, Robert, University of Illinois, Chicago
 Great Lakes Water Institute
 Grossman, Albert, New York University Medical School

Halvorson, Harlyn O., MBL
 Harrington, John, State University of New York at New Paltz
 Henson, John H., Dickinson College
 Herskovits, Theodore, Fordham University
 Hotchkiss, Frederick, MPR Institute

Inoué, Sadayuki, McGill University
 Issidorides, Marietta, University of Athens

Jacobson, Allan, University of Massachusetts Medical School
 Jaye, Robert A., Solomon Schechter Day School

Kaminer, Brian, Kaminer Informatics
 Karlin, Arthur, Columbia University
 King, Kenneth, Woods Hole, MA
 Krane, Stephen M., Massachusetts General Hospital
 Kravitz, Edward A., Harvard Medical School
 Kuhns, Bill, Hospital for Sick Children

Laderman, Aimlee, Yale University School of Forestry and Environmental Studies
 Loewenstein, Werner, Journal of Membrane Biology

Mandel, Maria A., University of Arizona
 Massachusetts Department of Marine Fisheries
 Mellon, DeForest, University of Virginia
 Mitchell, Ralph, Harvard University
 Miyakawa, Hiroyoshi, Tokyo University of Pharmacy & Life Sciences
 Mizell, Merle, Tulane University
 Mooseker, Mark, Yale University

Narahashi, Toshio, Northwestern University Medical School
 Naugle, John E., National Aeronautics & Space Administration
 New England Aquarium Right Whale Research
 New England Fishery Management Council
 Normandeau Associates

Olken, Benjamin, Massachusetts Institute of Technology



On the MBL collecting boat Cayadetta, c. 1910.
Photo by Gideon S. Dodds (MBL Archives)

Together, these efforts will allow books and serials to truly interact and “talk” to one another and make the vision of Global Research Libraries 2020 a reality.

Also in 2008, to the delight of our interlibrary loan colleagues around the world, MBLWHOI staff developed a streamlined method of adding Direct URL links to the library catalog making access to these scanned items seamless.

The Woods Hole Open Access Service (WHOAS) continues to grow with published monographs from our local scientific research along with deposits of data sets, audio, and video.

For the past five years the library has been promoting papers published by the researchers and scientists of the Woods Hole scientific community by highlighting current published research papers on the library’s home page. We are now developing a portal that that will not only feature Woods Hole research in general, but will find experts and current collaborations happening in Woods Hole and promote the research of specific departments, institutes, or research groups. The hope is that these new capabilities will increase the visibility of Woods Hole science and provide publication data that can be easily reused in other repositories and applications.

The scanning projects and tools that are being developed in this library and other research libraries will help to facilitate the REUSE and RECOMBINATION of information/data by adding METADATA and CONNECTIVITIES. Together, these efforts will allow books and serials to truly interact and “talk” to one another and make the vision of Global Research Libraries 2020 a reality.

—Catherine N. Norton

library volunteers

Dick Backus
Nat Corwin
Rosemary Davis
Werner Deuser
Paul Freyheit
Lew Hadelman
Mrs. Robert Huettner
Carol Knox
Nancy MacDonald
Lewis Nassikas
Pamela Polloni
Virginia Reynolds
Arlene Rogers
Jacqueline Webster
Ann Weissmann

Library Researchers, continued

Pallas, Sarah, Georgia State University
Poindexter, Jeanne, Barnard College, Columbia University
Prendergast, Robert, MBL

Rabinowitz, Michael, Harvard Medical School
Reinisch, Carol, Falmouth, MA
Rosenbaum, Joel, Yale University

Salmon, Edward, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Schippers, Jay, Woods Hole, MA
Sea Education Association
Segal, Sheldon, MBL
Shepro, David, Boston University
Shimomura, Osamu, MBL
Spector, Abraham, Columbia University
Spiegel, Evelyn, Dartmouth College
Spiegel, Melvin, Dartmouth College
Spotte, Stephen, Mote Marine Lab

Stuart, Ann, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Sweet, Frederick, Washington University School of Medicine

Tweedell, Kenyon, University of Notre Dame
Tykocinski, Mark, University of Pennsylvania
Tytell, Michael, Wake Forest University School of Medicine

University of the Virgin Islands

Warren, Leonard, University of Pennsylvania Medical School
Weidner, Earl, Louisiana State University
Weissmann, Gerald, New York University School of Medicine
Williams, C. Rogers, National Marine Life Center
Woodhead, Peter, SUNY Stonybrook
Woods Hole Research Center

Yevick, George, Stevens Institute of Technology