The Doe/Moffitt, Research and Collections, International and Area Studies Department (DMIAS) was formed on December 16th, 2006. Allan Urbanic was appointed the interim department head. The Department includes one public service unit, the South/Southeast Asia Library, which is managed on a day-to-day basis by Rebecca Darby-Williams.

DMIAS selectors acquire and maintain collections and provide assistance in their use for the following geographic areas: the countries of Latin America, Africa, Europe & Eurasia, South and Southeast Asia, the Middle East, as well as Francophone Canada and the Caribbean including publications from national governments and international organizations.

Members of the department participate in general reference at the Doe and Moffitt desks, individualized reference, both in person and through email (including a pilot chat reference program), and provide library instruction through numerous venues. Selectors are also responsible for the development and maintenance of subject web pages and are the chief Library liaisons for their corresponding academic departments and ORU’s.

**Staffing Developments**

The Department completed a successful recruitment for the Romance Languages Selector this past fall. Claude Potts, formerly of Arizona State University, arrived on campus on April 2nd to assume these responsibilities and has begun his orientation to the Library and his assignment under the supervision of the Department Head and James Spohrer and Susana Hinojosa, who managed these collections in the interim.

After the unexpected resignation of Africana Librarian, Emilie Ngo-Nguidjol, and the departure of Amy Kautzman, who assumed responsibility of the collections until she left the Library at the end of the year, Simon Bockie, the Curatorial Assistant for Africana Collections was assigned selection and liaison responsibilities for the collection in December 2006. He will continue in that position until the end of 2007.

Following another successful recruitment process Jason Schultz, currently at Georgia State University, was appointed the new Africana Librarian. His tenure will begin in January 2008.

Sabine Bachhofner (Germanic Collections) and Rita Fregola (Slavic Collections) were interns in the Department for the Spring semester.

Paul Hamburg, Judaica Librarian, was on disability leave from January through May of 2007. We are happy to say that he has returned full-time to the Library.
Jim Church, Librarian for International and Foreign Documents joined DMIAS in October 2006. He has been engaged in establishing closer working relationships with area studies selectors to acquire government publications from their respective regions.

Collection Development and Management Activities (selected highlights)

The Jacob Wahrman Collection was evaluated by Judaica Librarian, Paul Hamburg, while on a trip to Israel. A plan to acquire this valuable collection is being considered.

A steep decline in the amount of materials received through the United Nations Depository program has resulted in the library spending an additional $10,000 for materials previously received free of charge. James Church, the International Documents Librarian, is overseeing the acquisition of the missing materials.

Significant augmentations to the Latin American Collections were negotiated by Carlos Delgado, Librarian for Latin American Collections. These include: new profiles and increased resources for Mexican and Central American Collections, an exchange agreement with the National Library of Venezuela, 300 monographs and 150 serials from the National Library of Cuba, 110 reels of rare regional newspapers from the ‘Biblioteca Franklin’ in San Juan, Argentina, and the 4000 reel Microfilm set of the Central American Archives.

The 8000 volume St. Hyacinth Collection of Polish Culture is being prepared for cataloging and storage.

The Library signed a contractual royalties agreement with Praxess Microfilming to film more than 1200 titles in its Russian Independent Press Collection.

The South Asian collections was enriched by the acquisition of two collections: 1) Mughal court histories obtained from the British library on film and in paper copies, and 2) a collection of Newari Buddhist palmleaf manuscripts on DVD from Nepal.

A collection of photographs by Geoffrey Clifford entitled Vietnam: Journey of the Heart was given to the Southeast Asian special collections. Funding is being provided by the Library to create a reference guide and on-line exhibit for these materials.

Two new exchange agreements were signed with the National Library of Vietnam and the Mekong River Commission Documentation Center (Laos).

Shayee Khanaka made a collection development trip to Tunisia where she uncovered several new sources for selecting materials, among them Librarie el-Kitab which proves to be especially helpful in collecting in numerous subject and also government publications. Unfortunately her planned trip to Morocco was shortened due to harrassment from Moroccan authorities.

Public Service and Outreach Activities (selected highlights)
This Spring, DMIAS, along with the selectors from the East Asia Library and Jan Carter, the selector for Religion and Philosophy, hosted a joint meeting with the Director and staff of the Graduate Theological Union Library. The meeting served to reconfirm cooperative activities between the Library and the GTU and to update both organizations about current activities of mutual interest.

The exhibit “The Changing Face of Europe” was installed in the Brown Gallery. The exhibit was created and designed by James Spohrer, Librarian for Germanic Collections.

The Middle East Collection Development Council (MECDC), a group consisting of Middle East librarians from UCB, UCLA, UCD, UCSB, and Stanford University, held their annual meeting at Berkeley. The meeting was hosted by Shayee Khanaka, UCB’s Middle East Librarian. Issues discussed include continued cooperative collection development and the acquisition of several on-line resources in cooperation with the California Digital Library.

The South/Southeast Asia Library accommodated 30 visiting scholars and 12 university students from Indonesia, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.

DMIAS selectors hosted a visiting delegation of librarians from the Royal Library, Copenhagen, Denmark.

DMIAS selectors play significant roles in numerous national academic organizations. Among these groups are the Seminar for the Acquisition of Latin American Library Materials, the Middle Eastern Studies Association and its subgroup the Middle Eastern Librarians Association, the African Studies Association, the Association of Jewish Librarians, the Association of Jewish Studies, the Committee on Research Materials on Southeast Asia of the Association for Asian Studies, the Association for Library Collections and Technical Services, Cataloging and Classification Section, Committee on Cataloging: Asian and African Materials of American Library Association, the ACRL Western European Section and Slavic and East European Section, the American Association for the Advancement of Slavic & East European Studies, and the Government Documents Roundtable (GODORT) of the American Library Association.

James Spohrer, the Librarian for Germanic Collections, coedited (with Dan Hazen, Harvard University) and contributed an article for the book Building Area Studies Collections. Wiesbaden: Harrassowitz, 2007.

Virginia Shih, the Librarian for Southeast Asian Collections, assisted the National Library of Vietnam in the evaluation of two of their important research collections: 1) pre-1954 serials at the National Library of Vietnam and 2) fragile historical maps.

Jim Church made a presentation on Asian Regionalism at a preconference on International Organizations at the ALA annual meeting in Washington. The preconference was hosted at the World Bank headquarters.

Goals/Problems (selected)
The Southeast Asian collections suffer from a large cataloging backlog of both print and microfilm materials. Access to these collections can be improved through the recruitment of a Southeast Asian Cataloger and/or the hiring of Library Assistants with the requisite language capabilities.

To meet the stated research needs of the Economics Dept., James Church, the International Documents Librarian, plans to investigate the means of acquiring household survey and industrial (firm level) data from developing countries.

Claude Potts, the Romance Languages Librarian, will continue his orientation to UC Berkeley collections and expand knowledge of consortial arrangements though discussions with librarians from other UC campuses and Stanford University. Through Claude’s experience with the orientation, we will review out current orientation documents and procedures and revamp them prior to the arrival of Jason Schultz, the Africana Librarian.

A summit of Area Studies Librarians from UC Berkeley and Stanford is planned for the next academic year.

Newspaper collections remain a problem. Neither is there enough space for an adequate print collection of newspapers nor is there adequate funding for a true research level collection.

In general, there is still less foreign language expertise in Technical Services than required by the various area studies workflows.

The current University Archives policy for the collections of faculty papers is limited and makes it impossible to preserve the true history of the academic excellence of the Berkeley faculty.

Submitted by Allan Urbanic, July 18, 2007
Revised, August 9, 2007