

# THE CHRONICLE



*A Newsletter for the Department of English  
At Texas Southern University/Fall 2007*

*Hold fast to dreams, for if dreams die, life is a broken winged bird that cannot fly.*  
Langston Hughes



## **Harlem Renaissance Resonates At Festive Fall Symposium**



Krystal Cousins, Quianna Glapion; Donna Kimble, Angie Bisong;  
Logo above courtesy of Ernesto Saldivar

The first Fall Literary Symposium was held recently on the TSU campus. “The Women of the Harlem Renaissance and Its Radiance” was hosted by the Department of English and Women’s

Studies on November 15, 2007. The day-long conference, the first in an annual series of interdisciplinary programs, showcased presentations from a wide spectrum of disciplines, including literature, dance, music, photography, painting, film, business, and library holdings. Attendees were regaled with a myriad of historical accounts, critical examinations, and illustrations chronicling the accomplishments of women such as Zora Neale Hurston and Nella Larsen in the 1920s in Harlem.

Presenters included faculty and students from disciplines across the campus, including participation from departments of English, History, Chemistry, Fine Arts, and Foreign Languages, as well as the Robert James Terry Library.



Symposium Director and Department Chair Rhonda Saldivar; TSU interim president J, Timothy Boddie, Jr.

The often-filled auditorium was treated to a specially choreographed program by Professor Bert Cross II and the TSU Jazz Ensemble. The performance group enlivened the audience with musical scores from the Harlem Renaissance. These numbers included Josephine Baker's "Drivin' Me Crazy," sung by Tabitha Myles; Ethel Water's "Stormy Weather," sung by Ms. Myles; Bessie Smith's "Back Water Blues," sung by Kathryn O'Neal; and Billie Holiday's "All of Me," sung by Tresa Wolford. The singers wore period costumes and imitated the voices and gestures of the historical artists. The musicians (top photo, left to right, next page) included Bert Cross on the piano, Ashley Davis on the base, John King on the drums, Daniel Robinson on the saxophone, and Jose Loreda on the trombone. Professor Cross, the artistic director, wrote the galvanizing program that brought together the rich talents of the many performers.



Photos by A. Jennings

Special thanks are extended to Dr. John Sapp who made the state-of-the-art facilities of the New Science building available as a venue for the program. Additional recognition goes out to Dr. Rhonda Saldivar, the welcomed new chair of the Department of English, for developing the program's introductory video, "Women of the Harlem Renaissance." The DVD format video includes a specially designed logo for Women's Studies (credit goes to Dr. Ernesto Saldivar) and numerous memorable photographs from the rich artistic period. Many of these photos also appear in Dr. Cary Wintz's landmark text *Harlem Speaks: A Living History of the Harlem Renaissance*. The introductory DVD is available for viewing from the Department's archives and library. Dr. Saldivar also developed the program's logo for Women's Studies.



Pictured above, clockwise from upper left: Dr. Betty Taylor-Thompson, Dr. Karen Kossie-Chernyshev, Dr. Michael Zeitler, Dr. Cary Wintz, Dr. John Sapp, Dr. Wintz's new book, Professor Bill Miller



Photo above: graduate student Neshon Jackson presents her lecture, Dr. Michael Sollars



Students enjoying the program of events (both photos left and right above)





(Above) Chair and Symposium Director congratulates program presenter Quianna Glapion, a graduate student in English;  
(Right) Dr. Samples presents his paper on Gertrude Stein



Professor Thomas Meloncon reads his poetry, accompanied by Ashley Davis (above, left); Dean Merline Pitre (above)

The Organizing Committee included Rhonda Saldivar, Nupur Chaudhuri, Arbolina Jennings, and Michael Sollars.

The Steering Committee included Rhonda Saldivar, Thorpe Butler, Nupur Chaudhuri, Donna Kilgore, Karen Kossie-Chernysev, Arbolina Jennings, John Sapp, Ronald Samples, Michael Sollars, Haiqing Sun, Cary Wintz, and Michael Zeitler.

The Organizing Committee members would like to thank President J. Timothy Boddie, Jr., Dean Merline Pitre, and Associate Dean Fennoyee Thomas for their support and participation in the symposium. An electronic copy of the complete program of “Women of the Harlem Renaissance and Its Radiance” is available at [lambdaiotataudeltaalpha.com](http://lambdaiotataudeltaalpha.com).

The Fall 2008 symposium will examine “Post Colonial Diasporic Literature and Culture.”

## **TSU Book Club Reclaims Academic Priority**



The TSU Book Club held its first meeting on October 30, 2007, after a long cessation, under the auspices of Lambda Iota Tau Literature Honor Society and the direction of Drs. Ronald Samples and Michael Sollars. A group of students and faculty members from various University departments met during a lively lunch hour to discuss this year's selection, Zora Neale Hurston's *Their Eyes Were Watching God*.

Dr. Rhonda Saldivar, the Department's new chairperson and the catalyst behind the rejuvenation of the book club, saw the need to restore an important foundation of academic pursuit in the Department—that of regular academic dialogue based on shared reading and challenged ideas.

The TSU Book Club was first organized in the fall of 1985 under the sponsorship of Lambda Iota Tau Literature Honor Society (LIT), with Professor Yvonne McCree serving as facilitator. In an effort to promote the reading and discussion of literature and to foster learning communities at TSU in the 21<sup>st</sup> century, Lambda Iota Tau proposed the reactivation of the TSU Book Club beginning with the 2007-2008 academic year.

The TSU Book Club now falls under the auspices of LIT committee members and the English Capstone course professors; these groups will be responsible for selecting the books and organizing book club discussions. Dr. Samples serves as this fall semester's Capstone professor.

Participation in the TSU Book Club is free. Lunch is provided. Books, a minimum of one per semester, will be selected in advance in order to allow instructors to incorporate the title(s) into their syllabi. Using the selected books within the classroom is encouraged but not required.

The TSU Book Club will meet at least once per semester, although members are encouraged to maintain an on-going dialogue. Interested members from across the campus—faculty, administrators, and students—are invited to attend the spring 2008 meeting on April 16, 2008 from noon to 1:00 P.M.

Information on the TSU Book Club will be available on the TSU English Department web site and from LIT sponsor, Dr. Rhonda Saldivar at 713-313-7667.

## **Scholarship Fund Seeks Applications**

The McCleary Scholarship Fund (MSF) invites applications from students. The MSF allots up to \$500 to undergraduate and graduate students. A student can receive an award only once. Application forms are available from Mrs. Conerly. The MSF committee will review applications. The deadline for the fall 2009 awards is March 17, 2008. Please encourage qualified students to submit their academic records.

## **Achieving the Dream In Freshman English**

The Achieving the Dream Initiative, a national initiative to help more beginning college students succeed, is funding the English Department in a joint effort with GUAC to bolster success of students in English 131, Freshman English I.

A presentation by campus Achieving the Dream coordinator, Dr. Jacqueline Fleming, GUAC Director, participants in September resulted in a proposal from the English Department for inclusion of ENG 131 in the Achieving the Dream program. The Achieving the Dream proposal, prepared by Arbolina Jennings and Rhonda Saldivar, includes a comprehensive approach to class lectures, organized academic and support services through the Writing Lab, supplemental instruction for students, and improved assessment and tracking of student progress.

As a first step in planning this program, which will begin for ENG 131 in spring semester 2008, English faculty members joined Achieve the Dream program coordinator, Shannon Thomas, on November 16, 2007, in an all-day training workshop on an important component of the project, Supplemental Instruction. English faculty members participating in the SI workshop include Professors Kimberly Barron-Brown, Linda Burgess, Arbolina Jennings, Iris Lancaster, Bill Miller, Tiffany Rayl, Lana Reese, Michael Sollars, Rhonda Saldivar, and Negussie Zelelie.

Many students from the department, identified as potential Supplemental Instruction leaders, also known as “master students,” attended a training workshop on Saturday, November 17, 2007.

Achieving the Dream focuses on research into effective practices at community colleges and rigorous use of assessment and data to improve student outcomes in gateway courses like ENG 131, to better understand and begin to close achievement gaps, and to drive institutional change to achieve student success.

## **LIT Holds Fall Meeting**

The fall meeting of Lambda Iota Tau was held on October 11, 2007, with Dr. Rhonda Saldivar presiding. Following an overview of the history of and benefits to membership in the national honor society, new members were inducted. New officers named include Neshon Jackson, president, and Natalie Baker, vice president/secretary. Dr. Samples disseminated the national certificates of membership to new inductees. The next meeting and induction ceremony of the honor society will be held February 27, 2008.

## **NuRoots Seeks New Members**

Professor Donna Kimble, who heads up the creative writing program at TSU, would like to invite students to join TSU's interdisciplinary creative writing organization. Students interested in workshopping their short fiction or poetry are encouraged to contact Professor Kimble at 713-313-7536 or [kimble.dk@tsu.edu](mailto:kimble.dk@tsu.edu). Also, by popular request, Professor Kimble will be teaching ENG 320 in Spring 2008. This marks a return to the Department's offering courses in creative writing.

## **Coming Soon to A Theatre Near You!**

The English Department at TSU has recently greatly enlarged its collection of educational films through a National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) grant with Prairie View A&M that addresses certain State Board of Education Certification (SBEC) and National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) standards for education majors. This NEH grant supports collaborative work among faculty members in history, political science, Spanish, and English to develop and facilitate courses or parts of courses in the humanities area, study of film.

The TSU grant recipients—Donna Kimble, Arbolina Jennings, and Rita Saylor from English, Cary Wintz from history, and Haqing Sun, grant principal, from Foreign Languages—have attended and offered workshops and developed new humanities courses and course modules on film, with a goal to improve students' analytical skills, emphasizing the literary, historical, and cultural aspects.

A portion (about one third) of the nearly \$75, 000 NEH grant has been earmarked for the acquisition of films useful in teaching humanities courses. Grant participants have developed a wish list of educational films, primarily in the newer DVD format, to replace and refresh the departmental film libraries at TSU. In the English Department, faculty can look forward to the enriched film collection beginning in spring 2008.

## **A Bright Shine on the Homecoming Parade**



Congratulations to the English Department for a first place winning Car entry in the TSU 2007 Homecoming Parade. The winning car was one of three entries sponsored and decorated by English Department faculty and students, NuRoots Writers, and Lambda Iota Tau Literary Honor Society members. Lana Reese presented the idea at a departmental meeting and numerous others supported the effort with time and money. Special thanks go to Donna Kimble, Iva Woods, Donna Harmon, Lana Reese, and English Department Chair, Rhonda Saldivar. Great show of unity and spirit! Dean Merline Pitre also thanked the Department: “Congratulations to the English Department for winning 1<sup>st</sup> place in the Car Category of the 2007 TSU Homecoming Parade. Special thanks to everyone who participated and supported the department in sponsoring three cars. Such action presented a good image for the department and the college.”

Text and photo by Arbolina Jennings

## **Conferences and Symposia**

Betty Taylor-Thompson and Linda Johnson-Burgess participated in a symposium, “Plagiarism/Till/Africana Theory Symposium” at the University of Missouri at Columbia on October 12-13, 2007. Burgess gave a talk on Africana Theory and Taylor-Thompson served as a moderator. Both also served as panelists at a roundtable discussion during the conference. In addition, Dr. Taylor-Thompson has a chapter in the new book, *Contemporary Africana Theory, Thought and Action: A Guide to Africana Studies*.

## **SCAASI Members To Meet in Atlanta**

Members from the Department will be presenting papers at the SCAASI in February 2008. The upcoming conference's theme is Coalition Building: Cross-Cultural Connections Throughout the Diaspora." The venue for the Southern Conference on African American Studies, Inc. is Atlanta, Georgia in 2008.

## **TSU Student Inducted Into Honor Society**

Quianna Glapion (graduate student in English) was inducted into the National Scholars Honor Society on August 16, 2007. Her membership in the select group of talented scholars marks a milestone in her academic achievements. The national president of the honor society, Kevin Wakeman, M.D., uttered these remarks about the new inductees into the honors organization that includes over 70,000 students and scholars from university, graduate, and professional levels: "The students represent scores of America's brightest minds and top achievers in the Arts, Sciences, Medicine, Law, and Business."

## **Multiculturalism And Black History Month**

The Department will celebrate Black History Month in February with the 2008 theme Carter G. Woodson and the Origins of Multiculturalism. Instructors at every level are encouraged to involve students in research and presentations. Faculty advisors and English majors are organizing the program, including topics and speakers. Please contact Dr. Rhonda Saldivar for more information.

## **Online Quests For Busy Scholars**

Questia is an exceptional research tool that allows its subscribers access to a vast array of scholarly books, journals, and newspaper and magazine articles. One can view an entire book, from cover to cover, online. Key words or phrases can be highlighted as one reviews selected publications and printing. Questia also offers tools that assist in creating footnotes and bibliographies. Unlike many online journal collections, Questia's offerings are selected by librarians and include current and exact publications that meet one's full research needs. I recently completed research on the Harlem Renaissance author James Baldwin and was amazed to find a great deal of information on his works, personal essays and biography. All of these outstanding benefits do, however, come with a price. Check the company's web site for specific costs. For a graduate student, whose days are spent studying, working full time, and chasing a very busy toddler, having twenty-four hour access to a full online library is priceless.

By Josie M. Decatur

## **Publications**

Dr. Alexis Brooks de Vita reports that Amazon.com is publishing five of her short stories. This will continue the two novel-length series she began to publish with them in the fall of 2006. Continuing the "Safari" series about life in Uganda as Idi Amin took over, Amazon.com will soon publish "Snakes and Bangles," "Gangs and Soldiers," and "Moonlight in the Monastery."

Continuing the series of magical realism stories about the Atlantic Slave Trade, the online publisher will offer "My Mother Came Running Across Oceans" and "The Measure of Grief."

Learning good habits early in life is the idea behind a series of children's books. Dr. Michael Sollars has edited book for children entitled *Digibots: Classroom Adventures III*, published by the Digibots Corporation. This text, along with the previous two volumes, is a classroom aid directed at helping elementary students learn how to conduct themselves in a proper classroom environment. The series of books offer a positive and sometimes humorous approach to instructing students on how not to speak without raising their hands, paying attention to the teacher, completing in-class tasks, etc. The books, printed in a large format, four-color style, feature a series of robot-like computer generated characters.

Department members have signed contracts to write contributions for the *Encyclopedia of Contemporary LGBTQ Literature of the United States*, published by Greenwood Press. Dr. Michael Sollars and graduate students Quianna Glapion and Krystal Cousins are working with Dr. Emmanuel Nelson of SUNY, editor of the two-volume reference set. Dr. Sollars emphasizes that one of the responsibilities of those who mentor graduate and undergraduate students is to inspire those students to seek publication of their research.

Dr. Michael Sollars has signed a contract with the Edwin Mellen Press to publish his manuscript on modern theatre: *The Aesthetics of Uncertainty in Samuel Beckett's Drama*.

## **Clear Sailing For Poetry Lite Day**



The Department of English presented its annual Poetry Day program on Tuesday, October 2, 2007, in the MLK Auditorium from 9:30-11:00 A. M. In an effort to engender levity in these somber times, the Department chose as its theme, *Poetry Lite: The Humorous Side of Verse*.

Dr. Michael Sollars, Poetry Day co-chair, opened the program, and Donna Kilgore-Kimble introduced the poets. Participants in the program included undergraduate poets from the Department's own NuRoots Creative Writers; Sollars' Scholars, students from Dr. Michael Sollars' English 231 class, reading from Alexander Pope's mock epic poem "Rape of the Lock;" Dr. Marylise Cassinus and a French major Jacquenetta Armstead from the Department of Foreign Languages, performing *Les Fables de la Fontaine*; and Dr. Ronald Samples, presenting his original works. The program began with special guest Rich Levy, local poet and executive

director of Inprint, Inc., a non-profit community organization which conducts creative writing workshops as well as educational and literary events throughout the year; and ended with TSU professor, poet, and playwright Thomas Meloncon, accompanied by singers and a keyboardist. Interim Chair, Dr. Rhonda Saldivar, provided closing remarks.

Following the formal program in the MLK Auditorium, the proceedings continued with an open mic session outside on the south side of the MLK building. Poets for Politics and other interested students performed spoken-word works; afterward, Dr. Sollars' students conducted a read-in chain, performing Alexander Pope's "Essay on Man." Poetry Day co-chair Arbolina Jennings served as Department photographer and Cliff Edwards of the School of Communications engineered sound and recording devices.

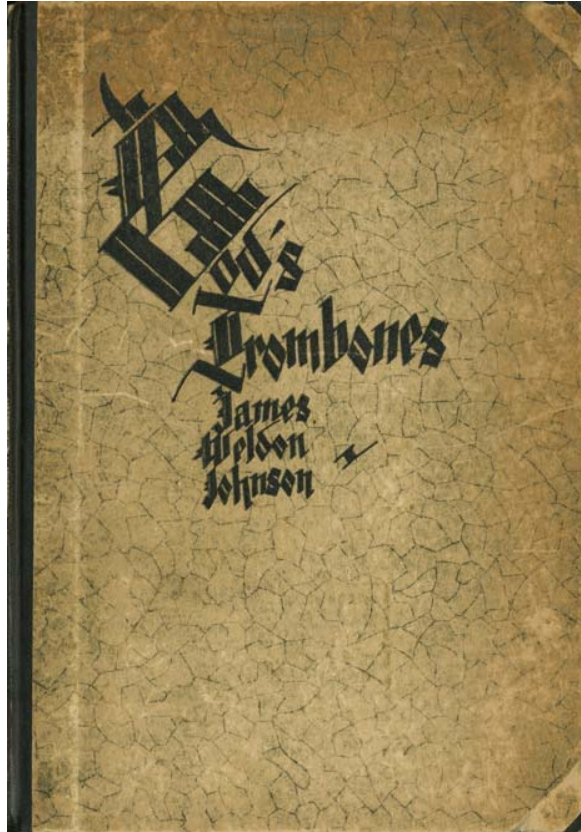
## **Grants From Poets & Writers**

The Department of English held a reception for Cheryl Klein, a representative of *Poets & Writers*, the magazine and organization. Poets & Writers is currently accepting applications from organizations in Harris County interested in sponsoring literary events.

Ms. Klein discussed with the faculty avenues they could pursue for grant opportunities for creative writing events and/or persons the Department may wish to sponsor. Interested persons can personally contact Ms. Klein at [cklein@pw.org](mailto:cklein@pw.org) for more information or contact [pw.org](http://pw.org) for guidelines and application forms at the group's website found at [www.pw.org/rw/](http://www.pw.org/rw/)  
By Donna Kimble

## **Celebrating Writers**

The Department of English presented the young African American fiction writer William Henry Lewis on October 25, 2007 in the MLK Auditorium. During the following reception, Mr. Lewis expressed interest in returning to TSU as part of a creative writing workshop for students. A reception followed. Mr. Lewis's visit resulted from the help Inprint, Inc., a non-profit organization promoting creative writing events and conducting community workshops. In the past, Inprint, in its community out-reach efforts, has arranged TSU campus visits and readings by such well-known writers as Haitian-born novelist Edwidge Danticat and Hispanic mystery writer Maria Gaspar d'Alba. Mr. Lewis will be the third such author to visit our campus through the auspices of Inprint. For further information on the many other literary events conducted by Inprint, please visit their website at [www.inprinthouston.org](http://www.inprinthouston.org).  
By Donna Kimble



## **Honor students Hit High Notes**

Freshmen Honor Students of English 131, under the direction of Professor Iva Woods, performed a brilliant and emotional rendition of James Weldon Johnson's *God's Trombones—Seven Sermons and a Prayer*—on November 1, 2007, in King Center Auditorium.

First to appear onstage was Robert Clary as James Weldon Johnson, summarizing the author's life. Clary was one of several students who dressed in costume. His introduction was followed by clapping and singing of "This Little Light of Mine." The confident and professional mood onstage quickly became apparent, although only minutes previously the class had had to overcome a potential setback. Upon their arrival on the set, the students discovered that their chairs had not been delivered. However, a negative was turned positive as these quick-thinking students improvised by seating themselves on the edge of the stage and on the front row opposite the stage. By so doing, they converted the room into an intimate, informal, and relaxed little theater setting which, in turn, evoked audience interaction—not unlike the old African American church atmosphere about which Johnson reminisces in his book.

Following Clary's performance came Arnicia Flowers' recitation of "Listen, Lord—A Prayer," as the choir (all class members) softly hummed "Swing Low, Sweet Chariot." Jarrell Simpson recited "The Creation"; Marita Henney, "The Prodigal Son"; and Durelle Jacob, "Let My People Go" with Carrington Washington as God, Steven Johns as Pharaoh, Zsa Zsa Howard as Pharaoh's wife, and the class as the Complaining Hebrews. This selection was accompanied by the choir singing lines from "Go Down Moses." The program was punctuated by Arnicia Flowers' solo,

“His Eye Is on the Sparrow.” Audience members were visibly moved by her quiet and sweetly unpretentious performance.

The presentations resumed with Nikki Howard’s recitation of “Go Down, Death—A Funeral Sermon.” The mourners were Steven Johns, Anthony Campbell, and Jessica Rugley. Britany Riles and Grace Hills recited “Noah Built the Ark”; RaiAnna Arscott and Ashley Dewalt gave a splendid performance of “The Judgment Day.” Finally, Myrtle Nickerson gave such a convincing rendition of “The Crucifixion” that the audience was momentarily transported to Via Dolorosa and the auditorium became Mount Calvary.

Amazingly, these students utilized only two class periods for rehearsal, were initially unfamiliar with the Old Negro Spirituals and the early Black Baptist Church, and still they performed remarkably well. They were strongly supported by Dr. Rhonda Saldivar (Department Chair), Linda Coach (Honors Program Coordinator), Professor Donna Kimble, Professor Lana Reese, Professor Bill Miller, Dr. Michael Sollars, Quinn Shelton, Professor Arbolina Jennings, Professor Melba Johnson, Joyce Conerly, Dr. Linda Burgess, and Dr. Tommy Woods.

The event culminated with remarks from TSU President Dr. Timothy Boddie and Associate Dean Dr. Fennoye Thomas. In an emotionally charged address, President Boddie stated that he was touched by the honor students’ performance and that some parts of it had brought back many memories for him. He asked them if they knew the location of the ancient city, Babylon, referred to in “The Prodigal Son,” and shared with the audience that he has a son now serving in Kuwait, very near the site of the biblical Babylon. He encouraged the students to stay on the right path and to continue their good work. Dr. Thomas also made some highly complimentary and encouraging statements to the students and challenged them with a few questions about “God’s Trombones” and its author. They met the challenge.

Following the remarks, the audience sang “The Negro National Anthem--Lift Every Voice and Sing,” and all enjoyed a reception. There, Mrs. Reese spoke with a small group of students stating that no matter what the forum or the genre, people from all walks of life appreciate hearing The Word.

By Iva Woods

## **Online Library Gives Readers Access to 1.5 Million Books**

The Million Book Project, an international venture led by Carnegie Mellon University in the United States, Zhejiang University in China, the Indian Institute of Science in India, and the Library at Alexandria in Egypt, has completed the digitization of more than 1.5 million books, which are now available online.

For the first time since the project was initiated in 2002, all of the books, which range from Mark Twain’s *A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur’s Court* to *The Analects of Confucius*, are available through a single Web portal of the Universal Library ([www.ulib.org](http://www.ulib.org)), according to Gloriana St. Clair, Carnegie Mellon’s dean of libraries.

“Anyone who can get on the Internet now has access to a collection of books the size of a large university library,” said Raj Reddy, professor of computer science and robotics at Carnegie Mellon. “This project brings us closer to the ideal of the Universal Library: making all published works available to anyone, anytime, in any language. The economic barriers to the distribution of knowledge are falling,” said Reddy, who has spearheaded the Million Book Project.

Though Google, Microsoft, and the Internet Archive all have launched major book digitization projects; the Million Book Project represents the world's largest, university-based digital library of freely accessible books. At least half of its books are out of copyright, or were digitized with the permission of the copyright holders, so the complete texts are or eventually will be available free. The collection includes a large number of rare and orphan books. More than 20 languages are represented among the 1.5 million books, a little more than 1 percent of all of the world's books. Many of the books, particularly those in Chinese and English, have been digitized — their text converted by optical character recognition methods into computer readable text. That allows these books to be searched and, eventually, reformatted for access by PDAs and other devices.

An outgrowth of Reddy's Universal Library, the Million Book Project received \$3.5 million in seed funding from the National Science Foundation and substantial in-kind contributions from hardware and software manufacturers. These funds were primarily used to purchase scanning equipment and for developing the scanning, digitization, and cataloguing methods necessary for creating a large digital library.

The vast majority of the scanning, digitization, and cataloguing has been performed at centers in China and India, where more than 1.1 million and 360,000 books have been scanned, respectively. The United States, China, and India provided \$10 million each in cash and in-kind contributions to the project. More recently, the Library at Alexandria, Egypt, has joined the effort. Now, about 7,000 books are scanned daily by more than 1,000 workers worldwide.

"We greatly value the participation of Bibliotheca Alexandrina," said Michael Shamos, a Carnegie Mellon computer science professor and copyright lawyer. "Scholars everywhere regret the destruction of the Alexandria Library at various points in history, and we're willing to go to great lengths to see that no such destruction is ever possible in the future. Once books are on the Internet, they become immortal."

Protecting and preserving texts is a major goal, said Pan Yunhe, the leader of the Million Book Project in China. "Paper gets old and brittle, so books soon become so delicate that no one can read them without damaging them," said Yunhe, the former president of Zhejiang University who is now vice president of the Chinese Academy of Engineering. "Artwork fades. But once we have digitized texts and illustrations, we can keep them in circulation indefinitely. And by storing them at multiple sites, we can minimize the risk that they be destroyed, as occurred in Alexandria."

"This collection of books in multiple languages opens up unparalleled opportunities to bring Indian cultural material to everyone, and offers a huge range of possibilities in natural language research," said N. Balakrishnan, associate director of the Indian Institute of Science in Bangalore, one of the partners in the project.

"Digital libraries constitute an essential part of the future of the developing world," said Ismail Serageldin, director of Bibliotheca Alexandrina. "This requires that we approach conditions governing copyright, digital archiving, and scientific databases with a view to creating two-tier systems of access to information that would allow access to such data from developing countries for a nominal fee or for free."

Though the long-term goal of the Universal Library is to make books, artwork, and other published works available online for free, about half of the current collection remains under copyright. Until the permission of the copyright holders can be documented, or copyright laws are amended, only 10 percent or less of those books can be accessed at no cost.

The project has surpassed one million books, but the participants are looking to expand to all countries and eventually every language. At the Third Annual International Conference on Universal Digital Library, held at Carnegie Mellon, Nov. 2-4, 2007, the partners in the Million Book Project agreed to continue scanning, to enlist more centers for the scanning of rare and unique materials, and to work on governmental solutions to the problem of books which are out of print but still in copyright.

Source: Carnegie Mellon University

***Last thoughts...***

*Dreams surely are difficult, confusing, and not everything in them is brought to pass for mankind. For fleeting dreams have two gates: one is fashioned of horn and one of ivory. Those which pass through the one of sawn ivory are deceptive, bringing tidings which come to nought, but those which issue from the one of polished horn bring true results when a mortal sees them.*

Homer, *The Odyssey*

*The Chronicle, a Newsletter for the Department of English, is published each semester. To submit information for a future issue of the Chronicle, please send your topics and copy to the publication's editor Dr. Michael Sollars. The Chronicle results from the efforts of its contributors, writers, and editors, including Arbolina Jennings, Donna Kimble, Ron Samples, Rhonda Saldivar, Iva Woods, and Josie Decatur.*