In Fiscal 2015 (Oct. 2014-Sept. 2015) SIL’s Digital Library Department, under the newly renamed Digital Programs and Initiatives Division (DPI), continued to advance knowledge at home and around the world through targeted digitization of cultural heritage and scientific literature, including work for the Biodiversity Heritage Library (BHL) and filling requests from researchers inside and outside the Smithsonian.

The Natural History of British Surface-Feeding Ducks and its companion volume, British Diving Ducks (both John Guille Millais) were fulfilled amazingly fast <G>.

And what a beautiful scanning job!
Ain't they gorgeous?
– external researcher

PROGRAM UPDATE
Expanding Smithsonian’s Digital Library

FY15 digitization
2,301 items
637,618 pages
PROGRAM UPDATE
Expanding Smithsonian’s Digital Library

FY15 Digital Library Visits
630,582 unique visitors
875,788 sessions (visits)
2,817,137 pageviews

Most downloaded titles
- Insects, their ways and means of living
- Bijutsukai
- Handbook of marks on pottery & porcelain
- Smithsonian miscellaneous collections v. 120
- Indian medicinal plants
- Leather work
- Human paleopathology: current synthesizes and future options
- The 3rd Industrial Directory of Pennsylvania
- The ABC and XYZ of bee culture…
- Index Animalium

image of Marseilles faience from French Pottery and Porcelain by Henri Franz (1906) digitized for the “Marks on Silver, Pottery, and Porcelain” collection. This collection was created based on analysis of user demand and curated by a librarian at the Cooper-Hewitt National Design Museum Library.

FY15 Digital Books Accessed
4,732,886 downloads
Fulfilling Requests – Whether an SI curator, a visiting researcher, a BHL user, or an external patron, requestors provide informal, indirect selection guidance for digitization. We work with staff across the Libraries to fulfill user requests in order to support their research needs. In so doing, we provide global access to SIL collection materials that are often both rare and unavailable online.

Requests

241 items digitized

• For internal and external patrons
• Both general and special collections
• If the request is for only one volume of a serial, we will digitize additional volumes to complete the title’s run.

Scholarly support

Baird Fellows

70 special collections items digitized

The Baird Society Resident Scholar program supports the study of SIL’s rare books and Special Collections. Digitization helps our Fellows prioritize their limited time on-site, so that they can focus on using collections items that cannot be digitized. Digital files also support post-Fellowship research, publications, and presentations.

Plate 11 South-African butterflies; a monograph of the extra-tropical species, v.3 (1889) by Roland Trimen, digitized for an FY15 Baird Fellow
The quality of it is excellent and I’m sure they will be appreciated by my editors, as well as readers upon publication.

-Dr. Lawrence Marceau

Monsters in Art: The Works of Sekein Toriyama

The works of 18th century Japanese folklore artist and scholar, Sekein Toriyama feature traditional monsters, ghosts and demons. His works Gazu Hyakki Yagyō “The Illustrated Night Parade of a Hundred Demons”, Konjaku Gazu Zoku Hyakki “The Illustrated One Hundred Demons from the Present and the Past”, Konjaku Hyakki Shūi “Supplement to The Hundred Demons from the Present and the Past”, and Gazu Hyakki Tsurezure Bukuro “The Illustrated Bag of One Hundred Random Demons” are held by the Library of the Freer Gallery of Art and Arthur M. Sackler Gallery. Twelve of these rare volumes were scanned at the request of scholar, Dr. Lawrence Marceau to be used in his forthcoming work.

An image from Gazu Hyakki Yagyo (1805), Akashita- a creature that looms in a black cloud over a flood gate.

Contributions to BHL – In 2015 1,235 volumes were digitized for the Biodiversity Heritage Library, including 157 volumes from three in copyright titles for which BHL received permission from the publisher to make freely available online.

Newly Licensed Titles in FY15 digitized by SIL:

*Indo-Pacific Mollusca (1959-1976)*

*Anales de la Sociedad Científica Argentina (1874--)*

*Journal of the Entomological Society of British Columbia (1966--)*
Our digitization program also supports SIL exhibitions and 2015 was no exception with the opening of Fantastic Worlds. The online collection for Fantastic Worlds has volumes ranging from the fiction of Albert Robida and Jules Verne to scientific works from Humphrey Davy and Georges Cuvier.

"I am so pleased and impressed with the quality of the images…everyone involved in the process has been timely and responsive while also making sure that the images produced meet the high-quality standards Smithsonian Libraries and Internet Archive have established for digital images. Thank you so much for your help in making our project so successful."

-Dr. Julian Raby, The Dame Jillian Sackler Director, FSG
PROGRAM UPDATE
Expanding Smithsonian's Digital Library

Browse Our Content

SIL Digital Library:
http://library.si.edu/books-online

SIL in BHL:
http://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/browse/contributor/SI#/?titles

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(Right): “Herone,” (1600) image 38, found in Machine et Instrumenti de Piu Celebratissimi Autori, a volume of ink drawings of machinery by Vitruvius, Besson, Capra, Mayer, Pesasmeno, Hero, Pappus, Fontana, and others. This item is part of the Dibner Manuscript Collection.