HEB Portal

CNI, December 14, 2009
Eileen Gardiner
Ron Musto
ACLS
A Plan for Universal Press Participation

CNI, December 14, 2009
Eileen Gardiner
Ron Musto
ACLS
“One of the best — if not the best — electronically accessible sites in the humanities”

— *Reviews in History* (September 18, 2009)
Institute of Historical Research (London)
http://www.history.ac.uk/reviews/paper/herringm2.html
ACLS Humanities E-Book
Summary

- ACLS Humanities E-Book (HEB) is an online collection of over 2,800 books of high quality in the humanities, accessible through institutional and individual subscription.

- Launched in September 2002 with a grant from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.

- It became self-sufficient in April 2005 and is a not-for-profit scholarly publishing venture.

- In June 2007, the History E-Book Project completed its transition to ACLS Humanities E-Book.

- HEB’s collection now covers most Humanities areas.
ACLS Humanities E-Book
Goals

✧ Encourage scholarly publishers to develop programs in electronic publishing.

✧ Explore the intellectual possibilities of new technologies.

✧ Create a not-for-profit space in e-publishing.

✧ Encourage the acceptance of e-books for hiring, promotion, tenure and review.

✧ Encourage libraries to add quality lists in the Humanities to their electronic resources.
ACLS Humanities E-Book Partners

- 20 Scholarly Societies in the Humanities
  (which recommend books in their respective subject areas).

- Nearly 100 contributing publishers
  (which license selected books to HEB for digital publication).

- Scholarly Publishing Office and Digital Library Production Service at the University of Michigan
  (which provide the technological resources for HEB’s e-books).

- Over 625 libraries and 41 consortia
  (which subscribe to the HEB digital collection).
ACLs Humanities E-Book
Collection Size and Growth

- 2,200 titles currently online.
- 500 titles added annually.
- 576 titles are being added in January.
- 2 different formats: page image/OCR and XML encoded.
- 3 different views: page image, PDF, full text.
- Publications now include monographs, reference works, collected essays, documentary and literary collections.
ACLS Humanities E-Book
Collection Criteria

✧ Quality and usefulness for teaching and research.
✧ Works that remain vital to scholars and advanced students.
✧ Works that are frequently cited in the literature,
✧ Selected based on the quality and longevity of the works,
✧ Form part of a scholarly network of titles.
ACLS Humanities E-Book
Titles

- Titles from fields across the Humanities.
- Both in- and out-of-print.
- 87 percent in copyright and in print.
- Publication dates range from 1820s to 2009.
- Over 350 HEB titles are now available in various Print-on-Demand formats.
# ACLS Humanities E-Book

## Fields

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<tr>
<th>History</th>
<th>Other Fields</th>
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<td>Caribbean</td>
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<td>Women's Studies</td>
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**Forthcoming**

- Biblical Studies
- Bibliographic Studies
- Linguistics
# ACLS Humanities E-Book
## Special Series

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Series</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>American Historical Association’s Guide to Historical Literature</td>
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<tr>
<td>ASA Rose Series in Sociology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cambridge University Press (with 18 sub-lists in Film, Literature, Music, Performance &amp; Philosophy)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Catalogus Translationum et Commentariorum</td>
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<tr>
<td>Collected Writings of Walt Whitman</td>
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<tr>
<td>College Art Association Monographs</td>
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<td>English Institute Publications</td>
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<td>Gutenberg-e</td>
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<td>John Harvard Library</td>
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<tr>
<td>Records of Civilization</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Society of Biblical Literature (with 2 sub-lists)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Works of Henry Steele Commager</td>
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ACLS Humanities E-Book
Features and Functions

- The entire collection is fully cross-searchable.
- Simple, Boolean, Proximity, Bibliographic, Series.
- Browse by Title, Author, Library of Congress Subject Area.
- View by Page Image, PDF or Live Text.
- Titles linked to their reviews in JSTOR, Project MUSE, History Cooperative and elsewhere online.
- XML titles linked to related titles within the collection, external archives, websites, and other resources.
- Free, downloadable MARC records for entire collection.
- Free, downloadable user stats.
- Scholarly Fair Use rights & restrictions apply to printing and downloading.
Subscriptions provide both on-site and proxy access.

Simultaneous, unlimited access to multiple users.

E-reserve.

Access available through Shibboleth or Athens.

Open-access for select titles.

Individual subscriptions for any member of an ACLS constituent society ($35/year).
Over 625 libraries and 41 consortia.

Combined FTE of over 5 million.

28 countries worldwide.

Research Universities: Georgetown, Harvard, Princeton, Yale, etc.

State Systems: California State University, Kansas Regents, OhioLink, the University of Texas.

Public Libraries: NYPL, Research Libraries, etc.

Smaller Libraries: Bryn Mawr, Mt. St. Mary’s, Lyon College, York College, Folger Shakespeare; numerous secondary-school libraries.

Non-U.S. Libraries: In Australia, Bulgaria, Canada, China, Denmark, Egypt, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Lebanon, Singapore, the UK.

Consortia: ACA, Australian, Cal State, CIC, Danish Research, HReL, JISC, Lyrasis, NERL, OhioLink, Ontario, WALDO.
ACLS Humanities E-Book
Pricing

- Annual subscription is priced on a sliding scale, based on size of institution (FTE / Carnegie designation) or population.
- Price range: from $450 (small college, etc.) to $3,125 (large research university, etc.).
- Three-year price guarantee.
- Discounts are available for consortia.
- Individual subscriptions are available through 70 ACLS Learned Societies ($35/year).
HEB Portal: Why?

- tipping point
- crisis in scholarly publishing:
  
  “There is no question that the current distribution system for book-length academic scholarship is broken.”

  — Alex Holzman, President, AAUP, valedictory address on Friday, June 19, 2009.
  

- print/digital replication: publishing and library budgets
- Google
- move to aggregation
- 3–5 year window of opportunity
HEB Portal: What?

- broaden and scale HEB’s current role
- expanded partnership
- critical mass of titles
- common platform, multi-publisher
- single distribution portal
HEB Portal: What?

* publishers’ complete, new annual lists

* scholarly materials: monographs, collected essays, key reference works, digital archives, documentary and literary collections, series

* either page-image/OCR (tif to gif, with PDF, text views) or XML

* full-text, unlimited simultaneous access

* app. 5,000 titles/year

* “publishers” include: university and commercial presses, institutional aggregators, learned societies, disciplinary or area-study groups
HEB Portal: What?

- in addition to full frontlist offerings from each publisher:
- joint list offerings to cover specific fields, disciplines, publisher lists
- aggregate smaller lists each year
  (ideal for smaller publishers, lists, disciplines)
- publishers have asked ACLS and librarians to help determine lists
- backlist added annually as publishers and libraries decide
- would replace HEB core collection within 3-5 years
HEB Portal: What?

- aimed at core scholarly community: academic and research libraries
- *not* intended as solution for trade sales, handhelds, e-book readers
- digital-first collection: print as POD, derived from digital files
HEB Portal: How?

- one-time purchase (not subscription)
- perpetual access
- archival rights
- combination of new (frontlist) and already published (backlist) titles
- open-access options
HEB Portal: How?

- Publisher annual lists purchased as separate options (click a box to order)
- Standardized price/discount schedules for library, multi-campus systems, or consortia
- Libraries pay publishers through HEB Portal
- HEB Portal: single point of sale
- Billing and access automatic from click and confirmation
HEB Portal: When?

- digital-ready now
- including acquisitions, digitization, hosting and distribution
- launching discussions with libraries 2010
- to offer titles from 2011/2012 publisher frontlists
Why HEB?

- ACLS: a recognized, fair and neutral broker
- HEB’s 10 years of experience, service and highest quality
- digital-ready
- established business model, workflow, distribution and archiving, metadata, review process, links to broader scholarship
- already offering distinct publisher lists: cross-searchable and distinct identity within HEB
- commitment to collaboration
- subscriber base and loyalty
Why HEB?

- 100 university and commercial presses already under contract
- A trusted partnership based on quality, goodwill and return
- Presses, editors, series and titles of highest quality
- Peer review at university presses
- Not-for-profit partnership
- Commitment to the mission of scholarly communication
Why HEB?


When the values go up, up, up
And the prices go down, down, down.
Why HEB?

- Low Overhead means Low Prices
- HEB maintains its value
- HEB remains self-sustaining
- HEB stays trim and efficient*
- HEB scales to fit mission, not vice-versa

Why HEB?

- HEB’s 625 subscriptions/FTE 3
  = 208/staff-person

- vs. “The Big Store”: c.2500 subscriptions/FTE 130
  = 19/staff-person

- costs savings reflected in purchase prices

- aggregated digitization reduces publishers’ costs and libraries’ purchase prices

- efficiency and flexibility guarantee sustainability

- focus guarantees commitment to mission

- commitment guarantees focus
Key Questions

1. Are libraries ready to go Digital-First?
Key Questions

2. Are libraries ready to go Digital *Purchase*?
Please Contact Us

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