

## Presidential Records Act

HR 4187, a bill to nullify President Bush's November 2001 Executive Order 13233, "Further Implementation of the Presidential Records Act," was introduced on April 11 by Representative Stephen Horn (R-California). The original Presidential Records Act of 1978 declared that the official records of a former president belong to the American people. It gives custody of those records to the Archivist of the United States and imposes upon the archivist "an affirmative duty to make such records available to the public as rapidly and completely as possible consistent with the provisions of this Act."

The first presidential records to come under the act, and which should have become publicly available in February 2001, are those of former President Ronald Reagan. For much of last year, their release was delayed by the current administration. On November 1, 2001, President Bush issued an Executive Order to govern the review of a former president's records for possible executive privilege claims. The Executive Order asserts an extremely expansive view of the scope of that privilege and takes virtually all authority for release of the records away from the archivist.

HR 4187 would nullify the Executive Order and set procedures for former and incumbent presidents to make claims of executive privilege. The bill limits claims of executive privilege to incumbent presidents and living former presidents only. Claims can not be made by any vice president nor by any designee of a former president.

ALA is on record as opposing Executive Order 13233 and calling on Congress to amend the Presidential Records Act as necessary to reaffirm the intent of Congress that presidential records be made generally available to the public with limited statutory restrictions by the end of 12 years. ACRL and

other library advocates are asked to urge their representatives to fully support HR 4187.

## Academic libraries and LSTA

The current Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA, also called the Museum and Library Services Act, HR 3784), must be reauthorized this year. LSTA reauthorization usually occurs every five years when Congress approves and sets levels of funding level for the program. HR 3784 has been passed by committee and is headed for a House floor vote.

All types of libraries are impacted by LSTA through the national leadership grants and the state-based funding distributed by state library agencies for networks and other library projects. ACRL members and other library supporters should contact their representatives to ask for full support during the House floor vote. Ask Senators to cosponsor legislation now being developed.

## Appropriations for LSTA

While ALA is asking for an authorizing level of \$500 million for the new LSTA for each of the next five years, we must still conduct annual appropriations battles. ALA has requested Congress to appropriate \$500 million for FY 2003 to meet the needs of library users in all types of libraries across the country. The administration's proposal would fund programs at \$181.7 million. Ask your representatives and senators to support full funding for LSTA.

## The "Teach" Act

Library supporters should ask House members to pass S.487, the Technology Education and Copyright Harmonization (TEACH) Act. S. 487 passed the Senate in June 2001 and updates the distance education provisions of the Copyright Act to account for advancements in digital transmission technologies for distance learning. ACRL members are asked to contact the House Judiciary Committee, and

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## **A comprehensive collection of books**

and other publications by the poet and novelist James Dickey (1923–97) has been acquired by the University of South Carolina (USC). Dickey taught at USC for three decades as poet-in-residence and First Carolina professor of English. The collection comprises 436 first editions, limited editions, proofs, other books, and periodical issues containing Dickey items, many with personal inscriptions, covering the range of his career.

## **The Barbara Harbach Collection has**

been acquired by Wilmington College. Harbach is a noted composer, performer, recording artist, and professor of music. She is also the founder, publisher, and editor-in-chief of Vivace Press, which promotes underrepresented composers (mainly women) by publishing music scores, producing CDs on the Hester Park label, and issuing the *Women of Note Quarterly* journal. The Harbach Collection consists of Harbach's complete published compositions and recorded works and performances, as well as a substantial portion of the catalog of Vivace Press and a complete run of *Women of Note Quarterly*.

## **A major collection of the works of author**

W. Somerset Maugham has been acquired by Boston University. The Loren and Frances Rothschild-W. Somerset Maugham Collection contains hundreds of letters chronicling Maugham's personal and intellectual life, ev-

ery significant first edition of the author's novels, short stories, and the original manuscripts of *The Gentleman in the Parlour* and *The Painted Veil*. Also included are personal documents and ephemera; audiovisual material; photographs and art of the author; thousands of additional manuscripts and typescripts, page proofs, and galleys dating from 1906 to 1953; and more than 200 periodicals containing the first publication of many of Maugham's works.

## **The papers of the late Dr. William**

Kaufman, a leader in the field of vitamin therapy research, and the papers of his wife, Charlotte Schnee Kaufman, have been acquired by the University of Michigan (UM). Kaufman, who earned both his Ph.D. and M.D. at UM in the 1930s, is best known for his research in the 1940s and 1950s on the use of Niacinamide (a form of vitamin B3) to treat osteoarthritis. Kaufman published more than 60 papers in scientific and medical journals mainly dealing with arthritis, nutrition, food allergy, and psychosomatic medicine. He also published 25 articles for a general audience in such magazines as *Coronet* and *McCall's*. Charlotte Kaufman, a 1938 graduate of UM, acted as his research assistant for many years and later served as founder and executive director of the Family Life Film Center of Connecticut, where she pioneered techniques for using films followed by discussion. The archive consists of 30 feet of material. ■

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(*"From Cataloger . . ." continued from page 434*)

### **Notes**

1. Eric Liu, *The Accidental Asian: Notes of a Native Speaker* (New York: Random House, 1998).
2. "Mi: Beauty in Korean Art and Culture" is available at <http://library.csun.edu/jwakimoto/koreaexhibit.html> (10/1/01).
3. "Land of the Morning Calm: the Western

View of Korea, 1741–1960" is available at <http://library.csun.edu/jwakimoto/maengexhibit.html> (10/1/01).

4. A version of this paper was first given at the First National Conference on Asian Pacific American Librarians in San Francisco on June 14, 2001. ■

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(*"Washington Hotline" continued from page 441*)

then the full House, to pass this important legislation, which has been held up to leverage passage of other legislation. Let's get this bill out of committee and passed by Congress.

Other hot issues in Congress include privacy bills, and database and digital

rights management proposals. Watch for further reports or subscribe to the electronic newslines, ALAWON. To subscribe, send the message: subscribe ala-wo [your\_firstname] [your\_lastname] to listproc@ala.org. ■