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Giving access through collaboration: UConn Library & CRL's collaborations through ICON, LAMP & LARRP

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UConn Library & CRL collaborations through ICON, LAMP & LARRP

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WHAT IS CRL’S ICON?

- Part of the Global Resources Programs, “the International Coalition on Newspapers (ICON) is a multi-institutional effort to promote the accessibility and preservation of international newspaper collections by gathering and providing data on physical and digital collections of newspapers from all world regions. ICON was established in 1999 as an international cooperative body under the administration of CRL to support a broad agenda of preservation and bibliographic access.”

- “The open access ICON Database is the most comprehensive source of information about significant newspaper collections in print, digital and micro formats. The database is designed to inform library decisions on developing, managing and reformatting newspaper collections. It provides highly granular information on newspapers held by libraries in physical form (print and microform) and newspaper titles included in major research databases such as Chronicling America and Readex’s World Newspaper Archive.”
Part of the Global Resources Programs, “the Latin American Materials Project (LAMP) acquires, preserves, and maintains microform and digital collections of unique, rare, and bulky or voluminous Latin American research materials for its members. LAMP emphasizes original preservation, either through microfilming or digitization, though it may also purchase existing microfilm.”

“LAMP, formed in 1975, has conducted projects in cooperation with Latin American repositories and now devotes greater attention to preserving primary source materials, such as political archives. While LAMP’s holdings are widely representative of the region, its Brazilian materials, Haitian imprints, and annual ministerial reports from all countries are particularly extensive.”
Also part of the Global Resources Programs, “the Latin Americanist Research Resources Project (LARRP) is a consortium of research libraries that seeks to increase free and open access to information in support of learning and scholarship in Latin American Studies. It mobilizes collaborative activities among individuals and organizations on a global scale but focuses on relationships within the academic library community.”

Projects funded by/or supported by LARRP:

- **Latin American Periodicals Tables of Contents (LAPTOC)**
  - Members' librarians led a crowdsource online database of ToC of 975 journals, in the humanities & social sciences, published in Latin America (Closed project).

- **Latin American Open Archives Portal (LAOAP)**
  - LAOAP, a portal service, provides access to social sciences grey literature produced in Latin America

- **Presidential Messages**
  - The Presidential Messages database contains digital images of more than 75,000 pages of Mexican and Argentinian presidential speeches from the early 19th century to the present.

- **Distributed Resources**
  - An agreement between participating North American libraries designed to strengthen the collective coverage of monographs and other resources produced in Latin America.
UConn has been a collaborator of ICON for many years.

One of my first jobs when I started in 2007 was to supervise the creation and addition to ICON of our Bolivian newspapers holdings in the Latin American Newspapers (LAN) Collection

- Some of the newspapers in this collection are so rare that not even Bolivia has copies of them
  - Until that time, there were not records in WorldCat that showed our holdings besides our in-house database for LAN for our Bolivian holdings.
  - More records, more visibility for the collection!

- In 2008, we loaned our holdings for the title El Diario (La Paz) to support CRL in a grant awarded by NEH to preserve selected Latin American newspapers
  - We had the most complete set for this newspaper at the time and by loaning our holdings to this microfilm project we were able to contribute in the creation of a more complete set for this newspaper

- In 2012, using data created for this ICON project, we applied for a LAMP grant to microfilm a selection of Bolivian’s newspapers from regional cities outside the capital, La Paz.
UCONN-CRL’S COLLABORATION

- Since I started working in 2007 as the representative of UConn Library, I have submitted and been awarded 3 LAMP grants:
  - **2008**: Microfilmed 4 rare newspapers from Paraguay
    - Grant: $3,200
  - **2011**: Digitized 5,000 documents from the *Puerto Rican Civil Court Documents Collection*
    - Grant: $15,000
  - **2012**: Microfilmed of 7 titles from Bolivia
    - Grant: $11,700
    - In addition, CRL digitized the microfilms and added these titles to the *World Newspaper Archive* database, which we have access to.
The US Embassy in Asuncion contacted me to request if we could microfilm these newspapers and donate them to the National Library of Paraguay since there were no copies of these 4 newspapers in the country:

- **La Opinión** (Dec.7, 1894-Dec.31, 1895 [Lacks Oct.16, 1895])
- **La Patria** (Apr.19-June 8, 1894)
- **El Pueblo** (Feb.5, 1894-Dec.31, 1895.)
- **La Unión** (June 11-Nov 30, 1894.)

By teaming with CRL’s LAMP we were able to return and make accessible the cultural heritage of Paraguay.
The digitization of the *Puerto Rican Civil Court Documents Collection* in 2011 was significant because it allowed us to make accessible a collection that is part of the cultural patrimony of the Puerto Rican people.

- These are legal records that still have validity in a court of law in Puerto Rico.
- They also documented the social, cultural and economic life of an important region in Puerto Rico, the Arecibo district, during the 19th century.
- With this project we were able to give online access to this cultural property of the people of Puerto Rico.

Lawsuit over ownership of a female slave (1844) from the *Puerto Rican Civil Court Documents Collection*. 

Reviewer: Daniel Mora Ortiz - September 12, 2016

Subject: Last will / Testamento: Excellent job by UCONN and proyect (sic) staff.

About this document, the person who is referencing is Don Manuel Ortiz. Complete name, Manuel Ortiz Latorre, was born on Lanzas Aguadas, from Valle de Carranza, Vizcaya, Spain. In the document, Josefita Tejada was his wife, daughter of Juan Manuel Tejada, owner of one of the great sugar mills in Arecibo, named San Juan Bautista de Monte Grande. Don Manuel Ortiz also was partner of Don Francisco Ulanga, in Ulanga y Cia. (mercantile[e] firm). He died in January of 1856, victim of cholera outbreak in Arecibo, Puerto Rico. * This info is part of my research of thesis in the Graduate History Program at the University of Puerto Rico.
Bolivian newspapers, 1877-1908 microfilm project
- These papers represent a cross-section of opinion from Bolivia during a period of political instability and conflict especially the years that cover the War of the Pacific (1879 to 1883) and its aftermath.
- These are all regional cities’ newspapers, which offer to researchers a provincial view of Bolivia’s political life and culture outside the capital.
- Though the original material is stored in relatively stable condition at UConn, by microfilming and subsequent digitizing this newspapers selection exposed these collections to a wider audience.
FUTURE PROJECTS AND MORE...

- Future projects will depend on the needs of the scholarly community
  - Faculty input is vital to help us plan for the next project
  - CRL and LAMP welcome grant proposals that include faculty collaboration or input
  - If you have an idea for a project using our Latin American collections, feel free to contact me to explore the possibilities
  - New projects help make collections more accessible to scholars both at home and abroad!

- Take advantage of the many collections (both microfilm or digital) available through CRL by visiting CRL Online Catalog, [http://catalog.crl.edu/](http://catalog.crl.edu/)

THANKS!