

Shakespeare

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The World Shakespeare Bibliography Online is updated frequently throughout the year and is international in its scope as it represents every country in North America, South America and Europe, and nearly every country in Asia, Africa and Australia.

Published in more than 92 languages, the current version includes more than 74,500 entries.

Harner said he was brought to A&M to assume editorship of the bibliography upon the retirement of Dr. Harrison T. Meserole, who brought the bibliography from Penn State to A&M in 1985.

As editor of the bibliography, Harner identifies anything published or produced about Shakespeare throughout the world.

"We have some 100 contributors throughout the world. Among them are the major Shakespeare scholars in their respective countries who report on material that we cannot obtain or in languages we are unable to read in the bibliography office," Harner said.

Being in constant correspondence with scholars, publishers and theatrical companies is a must, he said.

Harner edits 4,500 to 4,700 submissions for an annual print volume, which is an issue of the journal Shakespeare Quarterly, as well as through the World Shakespeare Bibliography Online.

Working alongside Harner are a full-time technical editor and three graduate research assistants.

Many graduate students are attracted to A&M because of the presence of the bibliography, Harner said.

One graduate student from China came to A&M because of an opportunity to work with the bibliography. Another graduate student is a Romanian scholar

who spent her Fulbright year at A&M for the opportunity work on the bibliography, he said.

"Graduate students are especially drawn to A&M not only because of the prestige that the presence of the World Shakespeare Bibliography and Shakespeare Yearbook confers, but also because of the opportunities to work as research assistants for both publications," he said.

Brooks said the bibliography provides the needed training for graduate students.

"The WSB has been a major source of training and professionalization for graduate students here, a number of which have finished their Ph.Ds and gotten excellent teaching positions," Brooks said.

The World Shakespeare Bibliography Online has won the Besterman Medal, given for the outstanding bibliography published in 1996, and the Besterman McCoolvin Medal, given for the most outstanding electronic reference work published in 2001.

These awards bring considerable prestige to the University and are awarded by the Library Association of Great Britain," Harner said. "The bibliography is the only work ever to receive both medals."

Many of the books and journals the bibliography receives are donated to Evans Library, thus benefiting students and faculty, Harner said.

"As more and more of our colleagues in early modern studies at other schools throughout the country learn about the exciting things happening in Shakespeare studies at A&M, I think it will have a significant impact on our ability to recruit graduate students," Brooks said. "One thing a prospective Aggie can be sure of: when they come to A&M they have an opportunity to study Shakespeare in an English department that has one of the most vital and exciting Renaissance Studies programs in the country."

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— Douglas Brooks, editor Shakespeare Yearbook

Drum majors

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work and dedication.

"Tryouts began in February," he said. "That is when you begin practicing as much as you can."

Sajewski said he is confident next year will be a success.

"The three of us have a good working relationship," he said. "Jonathan is the best man for the job because everyone respects him. We also respect each other, and I see a very good future for us."

Hurst said he looks forward to being a drum major despite the stress it might bring. He said he understands the commitment needed to carry on the band's traditions.

"We get things organized and I am sure we will have an amazing band next year," he said.

Rhea said the head drum major has the final say on several aspects of the band's performances, but the position requires collaboration from the other two drum majors.

"The positions are a team effort and the three that were chosen work very well together," Rhea said.



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