

Oral Tradition Online Open-access

About Oral Tradition - History of the journal

OT was founded in 1986 to serve as an international and interdisciplinary forum for discussion of worldwide oral traditions and related forms. Since that time, and through the end of 2006, it has been published by Slavica Publishers, with an additional online edition through Project Muse from 2003 onward.

New, Universal Access

With the advent of eOT, the free, open-access electronic version of the journal based here, we aspire to remove many of the natural barriers created by print-based and subscription media. Since we believe that academic contributions should be as democratically available as possible, we are from this point onward offering the journal as a pro bono, gratis contribution to the field. Anyone with a connection to the internet will be able to read and redistribute its contents – not only the current issue, but also the entire 22 years and 10,000 pages of back issues.

In addition to reaching a much larger and more diverse readership, we hope that eOT will encourage submissions from scholars whose voices are not customarily heard in western print media because of the difficulties involved with currency exchange and distribution networks. Let me take this opportunity to offer a special invitation to non-western scholars to join the discussion by sending contributions for possible publication in this newly expanded forum for scholarly exchange. All materials should be transmitted electronically to John Miles Foley, Editor.

Publication details

We post OT on this website as a series of pdf (Adobe Acrobat) files in order to preserve formatting and diacritics accurately. If the computer you are using does not have Adobe Acrobat installed, you can download the free reader. Files can be opened and read online, and can also be printed to produce hard copy. Additionally, you may redistribute any or all contents as you wish, with the sole condition that the original publication source is accurately cited. See the citation policy on this page.

The entire OT archive is searchable online by keyword and by author, so that readers seeking information on specific traditions or concepts can easily locate pertinent research. eCompanions, which contain photographs, audio, video, and other multimedia support for articles, are linked from within the individual article texts.

OT will continue to be a fully refereed academic journal, with all manuscripts reviewed by a specialist and a generalist before a decision is reached. Although the medium of publication has shifted, nothing in the process of evaluation will change. As before, we will attempt to have a decision within 90 days of receiving the manuscript.

For information on submitting a manuscript to OT, see Prospective Authors.
Citation policy

For the sake of accuracy and to help spread awareness of the electronic edition of the journal as widely as possible, we ask authors who quote or cite contents from OT to acknowledge the internet source via URL.

A sample citation might read as follows: Burton Raffel, "The Manner of Boyan: Translating Oral Literature," *Oral Tradition*, 1 (1986): 11-29 [eOT = <http://journal.oraltradition.org/issues/1i/Raffel>]

URLs for websites, bibliographic references, and other online resources are reviewed, current, and valid at the time of publication. Oral Tradition cannot accept responsibility for the future availability of these online materials.

Announcing the Center for eResearch

Effective mid-January 2005, the University of Missouri-Columbia inaugurated a Center for eResearch. The primary mission of the CeR is to foster internet-based research across disciplines, both locally on campus and via national and international cooperations. It is crucial to emphasize that all schools, colleges, and intra-college units of its home university, as well as all outside institutions, are welcome and invited to take part in CeR activities, and that the director will make every effort to solicit their initial and continuing participation.

The philosophy behind the establishment of this facility is simple. Today internet-based research is proliferating throughout colleges and universities, just as web-based interactions have revolutionized nearly every sector of our daily lives. A major stumbling block, however, is the fact that individual efforts in e-research have remained highly individual; they have tended to take root and flourish in relative isolation, thriving within their own narrow confines but seldom interacting with efforts by other researchers. To network these "silos" more effectively, the CeR proposes to help e-researchers communicate with one another through local seminars and consultations, webcasts and archived recordings for campus and national/international audiences, national and international agreements, an online journal-newsletter entitled eResearch, and a web page with an updatable database. For more on various CeR initiatives, visit www.e-researchcenter.org.

About the Center for Studies in Oral Tradition

Founded in 1986 with the approval of the University of Missouri Board of Curators, the Center for Studies in Oral Tradition stands on the verge of its twentieth anniversary as a national and international focus for interdisciplinary research and scholarship on the world's oral traditions. Our long-term mission is to facilitate communication across disciplinary boundaries by creating linkages among specialists in different fields. Through our various activities we try to foster conversations and exchanges about oral tradition that would not otherwise take place.

Center for Studies in Oral Tradition

66 McReynolds Hall

Columbia, MO 65211

573.882.9720 (ph) | 573.884.0291 (fax)

csot@missouri.edu

<http://oraltradition.org/>