

## Notes and News in Jesuit History

### **Meeting of Archivists: Jesuit Conference of Asia and the Pacific (JCAP) Quezon City, Philippines, July 3<sup>rd</sup>–5<sup>th</sup> 2023**

Between 3 and 5 July 2023, the archivists of the provinces and regions in the Jesuit Conference of Asia and the Pacific (JCAP) met in person at the East Asian Pastoral Institute (EAPI) in the Ateneo de Manila University (ADMU) Campus, Loyola Heights, Quezon City, Philippines. All were present for the meeting, except for colleagues in Japan and Myanmar: Japan's David Wessels SJ was unable to travel at the time and Myanmar's uncertain political situation impeded travel from there. Fortunately, provisions were made that absent colleagues could connect online for the plenaries of 4 and 5 July. Festo Mkenda SJ, Academic Director at ARSI together with ARSI's Administrative Director, Raúl Gonzalez SJ, flew from Rome to the Philippines to be present at the meeting.

The face-to-face meeting was prepared for with over a year and a half of quarterly online meetings, notably with the participation of Fr. Gonzalez and Salvatore Vassallo from ARSI. These meetings set the agenda for the meeting in Quezon City, namely:

1. To meet each other in person, interact with, and learn from each other so as to build a stronger network within JCAP and with ARSI, Rome.
2. To visit working archives and to listen to non-Jesuit archive specialists and learn from them.
3. To begin to resolve questions that had arisen over the past online meetings, specifically:
  - a. Collections and collection management
  - b. Challenges of conserving, restoring and cataloguing archive sources (fonds)
  - c. Living in a digital world
  - d. Preparing and training personnel for the Jesuit Archives.

Because many of the JCAP's archives were new and its archivists were also new to the assignment, the three-day meeting was structured accordingly.

On Day 1, the archivists visited three archives at the ADMU, namely, the Ateneo Archives, the Manila Observatory Archives (MO) and the Archives of the Philippine Province of the Society of Jesus (APP-SJ) at the Loyola House of Studies. The archivists of each archive met the participants and oriented them to the work of the archives and Fr. Jose Villarin SJ, Director of MO, also met the archivists. All three archives were visited for their collections of written documents, photographs and objects, and memorabilia related to the institutions they represented.

The archivists also visited the Recollect Archives at *Bulwagan Recolecto*, where the archivist, Fr. Emil Quilatan, OAR, provided a tour of the museum and archive. This archive is unique among those of the religious orders because the bulk of its collection is digital, being copies of the documents in the Recollect archive in Marcilla, Spain. It is also unique for being one of a few archives with an in-house conservation laboratory for paper and art objects, such as paintings. The conservator demonstrated how paper and paintings are restored.

On Day 2, the archivists met in plenary to discuss the theme: "Collections and collection management, challenges of conserving, restoring and cataloguing archive sources (fonds) in the tropics, the Ring of Fire and the typhoon track". Resource speakers were Dr. Francis Navarro (PhD, Archivist, ADMU) and Ian Saulog (Archivist, De la Salle University, Manila).

Day 3 had the theme "Living in a digital world". It began with a tour of ADMU's Rizal Library digital laboratory, hosted by the library director, Dr. Vernon Totanes and his staff. After the morning break, this tour was followed by the resource speaker, Paulo Gonzales, from Jesuit Communications and the Faculty of the Department of Information Systems and Computers at ADMU. He spoke of digitization and a realistic assessment of its future, challenges and cost.

On the second and third afternoons of the meeting, small working groups worked together to come up with a practical strategy of action. The meeting concluded with a plan to:

- Concentrate on fonds' collection and management
- Improve cataloguing of fonds
- Defer drafting a JCAP-wide policy on digitization, because of costs but more importantly because of the different political situations of the various countries and the issue of cyber security. Having fonds in digital form might give greater access to totalitarian regimes. Therefore, digitization was left to the discretion and decision of the provinces and regions.

Before the meeting concluded, there remained a small window of time to acknowledge briefly the need for the preparation of archivists, Jesuit and lay. Further discussion of this was tabled for the on-line meeting in November 2023.

With the formal program completed, the following day participants had the chance to visit some of the cultural and artistic highlights of Manila.

Ateneo de Manila University

René B. Javellana SJ

**Conference Commemorating the 400<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
of the Bohemian Jesuit Province (1623–2023):  
Charles University, Prague, September 21<sup>st</sup>–23<sup>rd</sup> 2023**

In 2023, on Saturday, September 23, four hundred years had elapsed since the establishment of the Bohemian Province of the Society of Jesus. This anniversary was commemorated by an international historical conference, *400 Anniversarium Provinciae Bohemiae Societatis Jesu*. The conference took place at the Catholic Theological Faculty of Charles University from Thursday, September 21 to Saturday, September 23, 2023. It was organized by the Institute of History of the Czech Academy of Sciences and Catholic Theological Faculty of Charles University – namely by Kateřina Bobková-Valentová, Ph.D. and Petra Oulíková, Ph.D. – in cooperation with the Catholic University of Leuven, Austrian Ludwig Boltzmann Institut für Neulateinische Studien, University of Hamburg, and the Institutum historicum Societatis Jesu in Rome. The conference took place under the auspices of the Czech Province of the Society of Jesus.

Territories of the Bohemian Province encompassed the Lands of the Bohemian Crown, i.e. Bohemia, Moravia and Silesia, which were part of the Habsburg monarchy. Nationally, the Province could be characterized as Czech-German with partial presence of Jesuits with different mother tongues (Polish, Dutch, English, or Spanish). In 1623, following its separation from the Austrian Province, it encompassed 650 members; a hundred years later, this number doubled to approximately 1.300, and the province thus became one of the largest in Europe. Its development was disrupted by the separation of Silesia following Maria Theresa's defeat in the War of the Austrian Succession, when Silesia went to Prussia and an indepen-

dent Silesian Province was formed. This meant that the Bohemian Province lost over one fourth of its members and its national composition changed in favor of the Czech nationality.

The conference aimed to introduce the latest results of scientific research on Jesuits in the Czech Lands, namely with respect to the dynamics of development, stagnation, and demise of the Bohemian Province in the period from 1623 to 1773. Emphasis was also placed on an overlap across the boundaries of the province, as well as on comparisons with other provinces that maintained closer ties with the Bohemian Province (Austria, Germania Superior, Gallo-Belgica, Flandro-Belgica), which helped to conceive the history of the Bohemian Province in the broader (central) European area.

Over forty speakers participated in the conference, not only from Czechia, but also from neighboring European countries (Slovakia, Poland, Austria, Hungary) as well as from overseas (USA, Mexico, Japan); the official languages being English and German. Individual contributions were divided into the following thematic groups: hagiography, political and historical thinking, contacts between the provinces of the Society, Jesuit education, inspiration and competition (between Jesuits and other religious orders, etc.), Jesuit school theater, Jesuit university festivities, overseas missions, the Society's houses and residences, and spirituality and art.

The opening section in the morning of the first conference day introduced the basic framework in which the Bohemian Province was established, namely in the geographical context and in the context of the entire Society. Robert Danieluk SJ and Wenceslao Soto SJ from ARSI introduced source materials pertaining to the history of the Bohemian Province deposited in the Roman archive of the Society of Jesus, especially annual reports. Zsófia Kádár from the University of Vienna compared two attempts to establish new provinces through their separation from the Austrian Province during the 17<sup>th</sup> century. These attempts concerned the Bohemian Province and the intended Hungarian Province. She described processes and reasons leading to the successful establishment of the Bohemian Province (1623) compared to the unsuccessful establishment of an independent Hungarian Province (1649). The following aspects were to the benefit of its establishment: a sufficient number of members and houses in the given territory; a developed institutional structure; language and ethnic reasons. However, fundamental political reasons linked with raids by the Ottoman Empire on a significant portion of the Hungarian

territory spoke against its establishment. Subsequently, Stanisław Jujeczka's contribution (the University of Wrocław) focused on the Silesian part of the old Bohemian Province with special attention paid to personal matters of this area in the context of the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries. Religious and national compositions of the individual parts of Silesia were introduced, which differed significantly from those in Bohemia and Moravia, because the population of certain Silesian areas was predominantly Protestant throughout the entire period. Jujeczka concentrated on the dynamics of the number of Jesuits coming from Silesia in the given period and on their share in the total number of members of the Bohemian Province. Using source information on the local origin of the members, he identified Silesian areas from which call-ups to the Society of Jesus were most frequent in the given period. The contribution by Kateřina Bobková-Valentová from the Institute of History in Prague discussed how the first decade of the Bohemian Province was described by Josephus Juventius (1643–1719) in the manuscript of the sixth volume of *Historirae Societatis Jesu*, and which sources he used.

The hagiography section included four contributions. Bohemian Jesuitic Hagiography by Marie Škarpová focused on specifics that can be traced in hagiographic treatises by Bohemian Jesuits compared to the usual European hagiographic production. Michał E. Nowakowski from the Catholic University of Lublin introduced Polish Jesuit Mikołaj Łęczycycki (1574–1653), who spent several years in the Bohemian Province. His personality was discussed based on a testimony by Bohuslav Balbín SJ (1621–1688) given in the revised biography *Vita venerabilis Patris Nicolai Lancicii* – it was originally published in Polish by Kazimierz Wijuk Kojalowicz (1652), and subsequently in Latin in Prague (1690). Patryk Michał Ryczkowski from the University in Innsbruck focused on Italian-Bohemian relations in connection with the cult of St. John of Nepomuk and how they manifested themselves in a Latin epos about John of Nepomuk written by Jesuit Matteo E. Persico (cca. 1759/1773). Jiří M. Havlík spoke about an unsuccessful attempt by the 17<sup>th</sup> century Bohemian Jesuits to initiate a beatification process of Jesuit Martin Středa (1587–1649) which ended by a ban to revere him in Brno, issued in 1707.

The block dedicated to political and historical thinking had two contributions. Jiří Hrbek from the Institute of History in Prague analyzed the political philosophy of Prague professor Karl de Groben-

doncq SJ (1600–1672), whose treatise is an extraordinary evidence of a Jesuit anti-Machiavellian approach to the understanding of society. Dmitrij Timofejev from the Czech Language Institute in Prague introduced proposals by Jesuit missionary Antonín Koniáš (1691–1760) as to how to censor (re-catholicize) crucial historiographic works about the history of the Czech Lands, such as chronicles by Wenceslaus Hájek of Libočany, Daniel Adam of Veleislavín, and others.

The second conference day was divided into two parallel sections, meaning that several thematic groups were concurrently discussed. The block about contacts between the provinces of the Society had three contributions. Iva Lelková from the Institute of Philosophy in Prague introduced correspondence of Jesuit mathematician Theodor Moretus (1602–1667) which is kept in the Museum Plantin-Moretus in Antwerp – Moretus' birthplace – and which has not been studied in detail so far. This correspondence *inter alia* clarifies his role in the publishing of works by Czech authors in the Antwerpian print shop of the Moretus Family. Miriam Ambrůžová Poriezová from the University Library in Bratislava and Erika Juríková from the University of Trnava discussed relations between members of the Bohemian Province and Jesuits in Trnava (part of the Austrian Province). They focused on the publishing of books by Czech Jesuits in the Trnava university print shop and on the distribution of books in the libraries of Jesuit colleges in neighboring provinces. Andrea Mariani and Robert Tomczak from Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań introduced the Bohemian Province as a refuge for 120 Jesuits from Polish and Lithuanian colleges fleeing from a Swedish invasion to Poland (1655). They stayed in the Bohemian Province until 1664 and underwent Jesuit formation or taught at Jesuit colleges.

Three blocks were dedicated to the topic of Jesuit education, with a total of eight contributions. Pavel Gábor SJ from the Vatican Observatory in Tucson (USA) talked about astronomer Joseph Stepling SJ (1716–1778). He perceived him as a representative of the so-called Theresian (Catholic) Enlightenment within the Society of Jesus, to which more attention has been paid in the last decades. Martin Holý from the Institute of History of the Czech Academy of Sciences discussed student foundations supporting students of Jesuit schools in Moravia, and Jakub Zouhar introduced the national composition of teaching staff at the Chomutov grammar school. The second block dedicated to Jesuit school theater was opened by Josef Förster's contribution about a little-researched phenomenon of Jesuit dramatics

– meditative dramas and melodramas performed by Marian sodalities during Holy Week. Magdaléna Jacková attempted to capture changes in the way Jesuit dramatists approached biblical topics in the period from the 16<sup>th</sup> to the 18<sup>th</sup> centuries. The contribution by Paolo Sanvito from the Austrian Academy of Sciences in Vienna pointed out preserved documents detailing the furnishings and location of the Jesuit theater in Český Krumlov (later the municipal theater). The section about Jesuit university festivities started with Alena Bočková's contribution about a virtually unknown topic of congratulatory prints prepared by the highest grammar school classes and graduations of Bachelors/Masters of Philosophy. Kateřina Dolejší from the Institute of Art History in Brno discussed the use of emblems during university festivities. Using especially books of emblems that were the output of the activities of the University of Olomouc in the period 1597–1742, she observed changes in their form and function.

Two conference blocks were dedicated to the topic of inspiration and competition in the relations between Jesuits and other religious communities, diocesan clergy, or different confessions. Out of the five contributions, three deserve special attention. Radek Pučalík, OCR from Charles University searched for evidence of how Jesuit spirituality influenced the reformation of the Knights of the Cross with the Red Star Order, advanced by Grand Master Jiří Ignác Pospíchal (1634–1699) who strove to transform the medieval hospitaller order into a religious community of priests. Tomáš Havelka from the Institute of Philosophy in Prague discussed J. A. Comenius' relation to Jesuits. Firstly, he focused on the multidimensionality of attitudes in Comenius' treatises ranging from anti-jesuitism in his treatise *Retunk proti Antikristu* to incorporation of Jesuits in his plan for the correction of mankind in the treatises *Consultatio catholica* and *Clamores Eliae*. Secondly, he studied re-editions of Comenius' textbook *Janua Linguarum* published by the Jesuit university print shop in Prague, outlining potential initiators. Differences between educational content at Jesuit and Piarist grammar schools of the second half of the 18<sup>th</sup> century were touched upon by Václav Bartůšek.

The block dedicated to overseas missions included three contributions. Simona Binková from the Charles University in Prague focused on the activities of Jesuits from the Bohemian Province on the territory of the former viceroyship of Peru (modern day Chile and Argentina) in southern areas of Spanish colonies in America. She in-



troduced a still unpublished and little-commented manuscript in which a Czech Jesuit working as the royal cosmographer in Madrid suggested a (rejected) plan for Spanish control of the seaway between the Atlantic and Pacific by occupying Cape Horn. Pavel Zavadil's contribution discussed Pavel Klein SJ (1652–1717) from the Bohemian Province who was a missionary and became the first Provincial of the Philippines. It focused especially on his complicated and distinctive character in relation to the vow of obedience which – according to Klein – was not static, but rather dynamic. Haruka Oba from Kurume University in Fukuoka (Japan) observed the spreading of images of Japan in baroque Bohemia. The changes in the image of Japan were observed on the example of depiction of scenes connected to the activities of Saint Francis Xavier, especially the scenes of the Yamaguchi debate.

The block dedicated to the Society's houses and residences included three contributions. In the first one, Marek Brčák, Michal Vokurka and Jiří Wolf introduced a local example of a residence and estate in South-Bohemian towns of Opařany, Bernartice, and Dobronice. They analyzed the extent and development of the estate, its economic administration, as well spiritual care provided to the subjects. Based on the results of a construction-historical survey of a former college in Telč, Ondřej Hnilica discussed changes in Jesuit buildings following the dissolution of the Society of Jesus, as well as the extent to which their original dispositions have survived to this day. Klára Zářecká from the Gočár Gallery in Pardubice analyzed eight preserved diaries of the rector of the Jesuit College in Kladsko, perceiving them mainly as a source evidencing the everyday life and activities of a Jesuit house superior.

The third conference day included the last thematic block of spirituality and art and was divided into two sections. The first section pertained to iconography linked with local religious devotion. Jan Royt from Charles University talked about the iconography at the Jesuit estate in Tuchoměřice near Prague. Martin Deutsch from Masaryk University in Brno presented changes in the iconography program at the Tuřany pilgrimage site near Brno. Veronika Poláková from Universidad Nacional Autónoma in Mexico focused on the concept of Marian "topography" developed in Bohemian Crown lands in books and art during the 17<sup>th</sup> century. Andrzej Kozieł from the University of Wrocław observed the use of art (architecture, sculptures, paintings) as a means for the re-catholization activities of Jesuits in Silesia, in certain parts of which a Protestant population



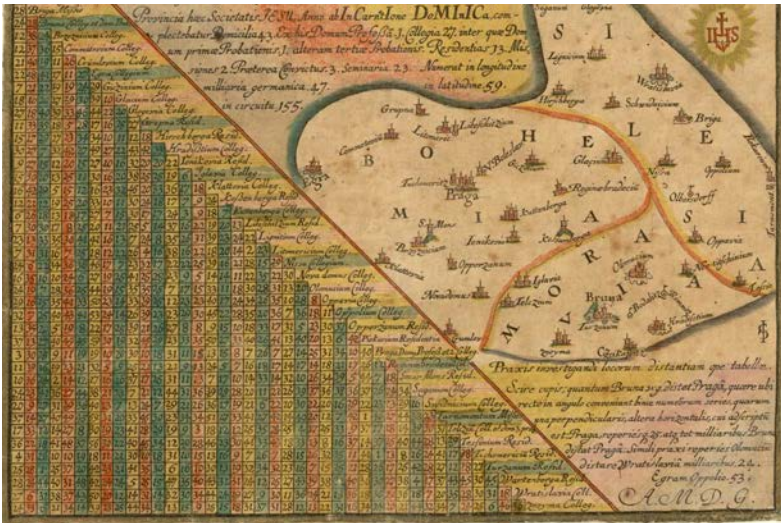


Figure: Johann Christoph Sartorius, *Collegia et Residentiae Bohemiae*. [Prague: s.n.], 1704. MZK, Sign. Moll-0001.563. The map is used with the kind permission of the Moravian Library in Brno.

prevailed even in the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries. Petra Oulíková from Charles University focused on the symbolism of the sun in the baroque decoration of the Marian Chapel in the Jesuit parish church in Silesian Świdnica where the medieval statue of the Virgin Mary “Madonna in Sole” was revered.

The conference also included a performance of a Czech Jesuit school drama. In the congregation hall of St. Ignatius Church in Prague, the Lauriger Theater Company performed a play about martyr Saint Catherine of Alexandria entitled *Costis sive Catharis Partheno-Martyr Alexandrina* (1656). It was written by Arnold Engel SJ (1620–1690) who was a member of the Bohemian Province, although he came from the Netherlands. He strove to have his dramas published, which has never happened, but six of them have survived in a convolution of manuscripts deposited in the Strahov Library in Prague. The Lauriger Theater Company was established in 1993 and since 2000, it reconstructs plays of the neo-Latin school drama from the Czech Lands.

In many respects, this year’s conference commemorating the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the establishment of the Bohemian Province was a follow-up to the ground-breaking conference *Bohemia Jesuitica* that

was held in the same place 17 years ago, in 2006, commemorating 450 years since the arrival of the first Jesuits in Bohemia (1556). The publications of this conference are the proceedings in English and German which are currently being prepared, in order to be available to the broad scientific public interested in the history of Jesuits not only in the Czech Lands, but also in Central Europe.

The Czech Province of the Society of Jesus

Petr Havlíček SJ

**Proyecto de Investigación: “Conseguidores”: procuradores jesuitas y circuitos artísticos alternativos en el mundo hispánico – ProJesArt**

En el año de la 71<sup>o</sup> Congregación en Loyola, la figura de los procuradores jesuitas y su impacto en el ámbito de la historia cultural y artística del mundo hispánico en la Edad Moderna vuelve a estar en el punto de mira con el proyecto de investigación “Conseguidores”: *procuradores jesuitas y circuitos artísticos alternativos en el mundo hispánico - ProJesArt*, ganador en 2022 de un financiamiento trienal otorgado por el Ministerio de Ciencia e Innovación (gobierno de España), dentro de la convocatoria de proyectos nacionales de investigación.

El proyecto, liderado por la Dra. Luisa Elena Alcalá - Profesora Titular en el Departamento de Historia y Teoría del Arte de la Universidad Autónoma de Madrid - se centra en los procuradores provinciales de la Compañía de Jesús enviados a Roma periódicamente desde sus respectivas provincias y en su rol como agentes culturales, con un especial interés en estudiar las relaciones de intercambio y circulación entre Europa y los virreinos americanos, así como con los territorios del Pacífico con presencia hispánica. Es importante señalar que, para aquellos que viajaban desde los virreinos americanos, su principal responsabilidad era reclutar y equipar los misioneros para las misiones, con lo cual también se dedicaban a adquirir los materiales necesarios para ello.

La Dra. Alcalá, autora de numerosos estudios y publicaciones dedicados a la circulación artística entre el Viejo y el Nuevo Mundo y al impacto de la Compañía de Jesús en el arte virreinal, ha reunido para este proyecto a un equipo internacional de destacados investigadores. Sus miembros incluyen profesores universitarios - Macarena Moralejo Ortega (UCM, España), Alexandre Coello de la Rosa

(UPF, España), Margarita Ana Vázquez Manassero (UAM, España), Patricia Díaz Cayeros (UNAM, México), Carmen Fernández-Salvador (USFQ, Ecuador), Rafael Japón (UAM, España), Josefina Schenke (UAI, Chile), Vanina Scocchera (UNTREF, Argentina), – y experimentados profesionales del ámbito de los museos y la conservación del arte - Corinna Gramatke (Alemania) y Verónica Zaragoza (INAH, México). Así mismo, colaboran algunas doctorandas de la UAM: Melania Ruiz Sanz de Bremond, Elizabeth Vite Hernández, Elba Tejero Cox y quien escribe, Elena Amerio.

“Conseguidores” es el término que se ha elegido para caracterizar y llamar la atención sobre la heterogénea actividad que realizaban los procuradores, elegidos cada tres años dentro de las provincias jesuíticas, y enviados a Roma para asistir a las reuniones de la orden. Estos jesuitas tenían la oportunidad en su viaje hacia Roma de visitar muchas localidades para efectuar sus gestiones y adquisiciones y la historiografía los ha calificado igualmente de gestores, delegados, agentes, o mediadores. En sus giras por ciudades y cortes, entre otros asuntos, se encargaban de las compras de una gran variedad de materiales para sus provincias: libros y objetos de devoción para sus colegios e iglesias, incluyendo medallas, rosarios, crucifijos, reliquias, altares portátiles, telas para ornamentos litúrgicos, pinturas, esculturas y estampas. De por sí, se trataba de una enorme empresa de compra, transporte y distribución. Pero, además, eran “conseguidores” porque, como han revelado algunos documentos, todo tipo de personas en sus sitios de origen les encargaban gestiones personales y compras de la más variada índole, ya fuera una vajilla de cristal de roca para un noble en Venezuela, pigmento azul para un pintor novohispano, perlas falsas para unas mujeres en Chile, un Niño Jesús de Nápoles con una especial encarnación de pulimento para un cura en Paraguay, o un Cristo de marfil para un colegio en Valladolid (España).

Ante tan heterogénea realidad, el proyecto ProjEsArt no se limita solamente al ámbito exclusivo de los estudios jesuíticos, pues incide en áreas de investigación de mayor espectro relacionadas con la cultura material y la globalización. En esta época el mundo estaba conectado por muchos canales, pero el papel de los procuradores jesuitas constituye uno de los capítulos no escritos de esa historia compartida.

La recuperación de la vida de los objetos es otro de los objetivos del proyecto, ya que a través de la figura del procurador es posible visibilizar obras y objetos que la historia del arte muchas veces ha igno-

rado y que sin embargo existen arrumbadas en los almacenes de museos, tanto en España, como en Hispanoamérica, o apartadas en iglesias donde ocupan lugares secundarios. Devolver visibilidad a este patrimonio y a los agentes que hicieron posible su movilidad a través de grandes distancias, recuperar historias y generar nuevas narrativas y ocasiones de debate son las tareas principales del proyecto ProJesArt que en un año de actividades ya ha podido lograr una importante y positiva respuesta por parte de investigadores y estudiantes.

Los primeros eventos académicos se han desarrollado en el mes de octubre 2022 con dos encuentros virtuales en que se han abordado las metodologías de investigación y el estado de los estudios sobre los procuradores jesuitas - a cargo de la directora del proyecto Luisa Elena Alcalá y de Alexandre Coello de la Rosa - y, sucesivamente, la circulación de los objetos y los procuradores jesuitas en Chile, Argentina y Paraguay - a cargo de Corinna Gramatke y Vanina Scocchera. El programa de seminarios de investigación del proyecto continuó a principios de 2023. En marzo 2023 Agustín Galán García (Universidad de Huelva), autor de *El "Oficio de Indias" de Sevilla y la organización económica y misional de la Compañía de Jesús (1566-1767)*, ha presentado unas consideraciones sobre los proyectos de estudio de los Procuradores Generales de Indias en Sevilla y Cádiz. Por su parte, en abril Pedro Rueda Ramírez (Universidad de Barcelona) ha animado el debate acerca del rol de los procuradores jesuitas en las estrategias editoriales y los circuitos del libro.

Mayo ha sido un mes muy denso de actividades para el proyecto, con conferencias virtuales y talleres presenciales en el marco de las jornadas formativas *El legado documental de la Compañía de Jesús en los archivos* dirigidas a jóvenes investigadores y centradas en los archivos jesuitas en el mundo iberoamericano. El objetivo principal ha sido dar a conocer, analizar e ilustrar la presencia de fondos documentales jesuitas en archivos públicos y privados y así fomentar los estudios históricos e histórico artísticos de la Compañía de Jesús. Para los estudiantes el acercamiento al estudio de la historia jesuita puede resultar arduo y complejo, debido a la dispersión y variedad documental que caracteriza la Compañía de Jesús. Ese tipo de actividad pretende proporcionar algunas herramientas preliminares de apoyo a los jóvenes investigadores y responder a unas inquietudes manifestadas además por los docentes que forman parte del equipo del proyecto. Las jornadas virtuales han sido muy participadas - más de 150 asistentes via Zoom y Youtube - con una gran acogida por parte de estudiantes e investigadores de todo el mundo.

En estas jornadas virtuales, que se llevaron a cabo el 15 y 16 de mayo, se contó con la participación de nueve ponentes, incluyendo jesuitas historiadores, académicos y profesionales encargados de la gestión de archivos y fondos jesuitas en Europa y América. La primera sesión (*Los pilares del archivo jesuítico*) tuvo como protagonistas al H. Wenceslao Soto, S.J., (ARSI, Roma), que ha ilustrado la composición del ARSI en la conferencia "*Para gobernar de modo informado*", y al P. José García de Castro, S.J. (Universidad Pontificia de Comillas de Madrid) que ha presentado una conferencia enfocada en los *Monumenta Historica Societatis Iesu*, sus orígenes, historia y vigencia en el siglo XXI.

La segunda sesión (*La documentación jesuítica de Sudamérica: acceso, usos e investigación*) estuvo a cargo de Luis Martínez Tapia y Jonathan Segovia Quezada (Archivo Nacional de Chile) que han ilustrado la composición e historia del Archivo Jesuitas de Chile y América, y de María de la Soledad Justo (Universidad de Buenos Aires, Argentina) que ha presentado la ponencia con título "*El Paraguay Natural del padre José Sánchez Labrador. Saber natural, coleccionismo y cultura visual en la Compañía de Jesús*" que detalló los fondos de la Provincia de Paraguay que se encuentran en el ARSI de Roma.

La primera sesión del segundo día se ha enfocado en los archivos provinciales y fondos jesuitas en Latinoamérica. El P. Juan Dejo, S.J. (Universidad Antonio Ruiz de Montoya, Lima) ha ilustrado los fondos peruanos en la ponencia "*o que los procuradores buscaban y traían: fuentes a rescatar en el Perú*", dando a conocer recientes descubrimientos que sin duda alentarán futuras investigaciones, mientras que el P. Arturo Reynoso, S.J., (ITESO Universidad Jesuita de Guadalajara, México) ha ilustrado las fuentes documentales y recursos bibliográficos de la Provincia Mexicana de la Compañía de Jesús.

Han cerrado las jornadas virtuales la sesión *Los fondos en España* en que Luis Miguel de la Cruz, (Archivo Histórico Nacional, Madrid) ha presentado el acervo de la Compañía de Jesús en el Archivo Histórico Nacional, mientras que Javier Burrieza, (Universidad de Valladolid, España) se ha enfocado en la documentación jesuita en el archivo y biblioteca del Colegio de Ingleses de Valladolid, ejemplo de una fundación jesuita poco conocida entre los investigadores. Su contribución al programa obedece en parte al deseo de visibilizar más, no sólo los grandes archivos, sino también los pequeños, albergados en instituciones a menudo desconocidas y repartidas por el mundo.

Como complemento a la programación, en los días sucesivos se llevaron a cabo talleres prácticos y presenciales organizados en diferentes partes del mundo - Archivum Romanum Societatis Iesu (Roma, Italia), Archivo Histórico Nacional (Madrid, España), Archivo del Colegio de los Ingleses (Valladolid, España), Archivo Nacional (Santiago de Chile, Chile), Archivo Nacional (Quito, Ecuador), Archivo General de la Nación (Buenos Aires) - guiados por los encargados y los miembros del proyecto. En todos los talleres ha habido participación de estudiantes (máster, doctorado, e incluso algunos más jóvenes, de grados), además de algunos posdoctorales e investigadores interesados. La idea detrás de esta programación dual de las "Jornadas" era llevar a la práctica el conocimiento transmitido en las ponencias. Para algunos ha sido su primer contacto con documentos en un archivo en general. Para otros, ha servido para aprender y visibilizar distintos tipos de documentos, algunos característicos de la Compañía de Jesús (como las cartas anuas o las cartas edificantes y todo lo relacionado con las Juntas de Temporalidades), y otros propios del periodo, pero también reflejo de procedimientos y organización típica de los jesuitas (libros de gasto, recibos, testamentos y un largo etcétera). En definitiva, en todos los talleres se ha comprobado la importancia que tiene una aproximación directa y docente en el archivo, en el que se estrechan lazos entre los encargados de los mismos y la comunidad investigadora, como metodología ideal para alentar más investigaciones.

Sería largo detallar en esta revisión todas las interesantes actividades prácticas en que se han desempeñado los participantes, pero es oportuno terminar este recorrido de la presentación del proyecto ProjEsArt dedicando dos palabras al taller desarrollado el 18 de mayo en el ARSI - que, además, agradecemos por el espacio concedido en esta revista - e impartido por H. Wenceslao Soto SJ, Macarena Moralejo y quien escribe. Los quince estudiantes participantes han podido familiarizarse con los instrumentos de consulta y los fondos digitalizados, desarrollando también algunas actividades de búsqueda biográfica entre los documentos digitalizados disponibles en la sala de estudio. También ha sido posible visitar los depósitos y mirar algunos documentos entre los 1.650 metros lineales de los diferentes fondos que componen el ARSI como, por ejemplo, los exámenes de ingreso de algunos de los primeros novicios del Noviciado de Sant'Andrea al Quirinale de finales del siglo XVI, como San Estanislao Kostka, Claudio Acquaviva y el del pintor Bernardo Bitti.

El proyecto ProJesArt tiene previstas numerosas actividades a lo largo de 2023 y 2024 e invitamos a los interesados en seguir nuestro programa de actividades en la página web <https://projesart.org>, donde además existe un blog con aportaciones inéditas de la investigación, presentada de manera divulgativa.

Universidad Autónoma de Madrid

Elena Amerio





Fig: José Sánchez Labrador, Drawing of amphibians from Paraguay, end of the 18<sup>th</sup> century (ARSI, *Paraq.* 19, f. 191r). See article in this issue by Robert Danieluk SJ.

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