

# Online Library Report fall 2018

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## State of the library: October 2018

As I write the Library contains over 3,200 items, 1,800 of which are catalogs. Only one third of the AIS Bulletins have been added, awaiting their inclusion in the Biodiversity Heritage Library. Over 1,000 journal articles are part of this mix.

For the last six months there have been between 21,000 and 48,000 page views each month. I have averaged about 800 edits or uploads per month. So people are using the library and work is progressing.

## Future of the library:

The structure of the Library is becoming established. I am writing some "How To" articles so that my successors will be able to continue my work. Because I have recently confronted my mortality I am trying to make it easy for the Library to continue to develop. **I am suggesting that AIS create a formal position "Online Librarian" so that the task of maintaining and developing the library will continue.** I would be happy to continue in this task for as long as I am able but hopefully I could help develop a team that could take over when needed. If I have a few more years, the upkeep of the Library may become a much smaller task but I think we are only half to a third finished accessing old material.

## Future Goals:

- To develop a culture within AIS of saving our history and sending stuff to the online library so it is accessible to the world.
- To extract descriptions from old published sources that would enhance the meager descriptions created in registration.
- To develop a program of individuals submitting observations on the plants they are growing to detect regional differences and provide information that allows similar cultivars to be distinguished from each other. (Citizen Science)
- To encourage International cooperation. Seeking and providing descriptions in the native tongue of the hybridizer/author and providing translations to English from other languages.
  - Note many cultivar names are transliterations of other languages. As such they cannot be translated and have no meaning. Modern Cultivar registration authorities are now including the original Chinese, Cyrillic, etc, from which the alliteration was derived.
  - Hopefully journal articles/catalogs/etc in other languages will be accessed into the library and translations provided.
- To encourage Meetings where papers are presented (Symposia) on various Iris topics that would subsequently be made available in the Online Library.