## **Acknowledgements**

During the 3 years of this project, we have downloaded papers from 9 online data bases, employed the co-operation of 15 PhD's, 4 senior researchers and 19 librarians of 13 Libraries, and staff from 13 Museums, 7 Universities and 9 Organizations from 15 countries on 5 continents to bring together 774 papers, published in 11 languages, culminating in an excess of 1,800 pages of data. During this effort, we have had the privilege of working with some truly talented and insightful people. The following list of individuals deserve special recognition for their tremendous help in locating, copying, scanning, mailing, or otherwise sifting through the last 250 years worth of literature for a tiny handful of particularly valuable descriptions of the Earth's owls. We couldn't have been successful in this project without you.

Carolyn Kidahy Curator of Collections/Archivist, Museum of Science, Boston.

Cdr. M. B. Casement, OBE, RN., Chairman, British Ornithologists' Club.

Travis Rosenberry, Library Assistant, The Peregrine Fund.

Dr. Alison Pirie, Ornithology Dept., Museum of Comparative Zoology, Harvard University.

Girish Jathar, Research Fellow, Bombay Natural History Society

Dr. Clemency Fisher, Curator of Birds and Mammals, Dept. of Science, Liverpool Museum.

Dr. Jevgeni Shergalin, Manager, International Wildlife Consultants Ltd. Dr. Igor Fefelov, Research Intitute of Biology, Irkutsk State University, Russia.

Yvonne Paterson, Hon. Librarian, Western Australian Naturalists' Club.

Alison Harding, Assistant Librarian, Ornithology & Rothschild Libraries, Tring.

Margaret Sandwith, Librarian, Niven Library, Percy Fitzpatrick Intitute of African Ornithology, University of Cape Town, South Africa.

Janet Hinshaw, Collection manager, Bird Division, Museum of Zoology, University of Michigan.

Irene Axelrod, Head research Librarian, Peabody Essex Museum.

Anne Marie Malley, Academy Librarian, Californian Academy of Sciences, San Fransico.

Barbara L. Narenda, Peabody Museum of Natural History, Yale University.

Melinda Hayes, Librarian, Specialised Libraries & Archival Collections, Doheny Memorial Library, University of southern California. Dr. Wolfgang Fiedler, Vogelwarte Radolfzell, Max-Planck Institut für Ornithologie.

Dr. Fridtjof Ziesemer Birgit Holler-Gronow, Landesamt fur Natur und Umwelt Schleswig-Holsein Abteilung Naturschutz und Landeschaftspflege.

Ronald de Ruiter, Library Naturalis, National Museum of Natural History, Leiden, The Netherlands.

Kirstin Leighton-Boyce, Information Assistant, General/Zoology Library, The Natural History Museum, London.

Bernadette G. Callery, Museum Librarian, Carnegie Museum of Natural History.

Rebecca Shulte, University Archivist, Spencer Research Library, University of Kansas.

Dr. Peter Batary, Hungarian Natural History Museum, Budapest.

Dr. Roberto Poggi, Director, Museo Civico di Storia Naturale, Genova, Italy.

Dr. Rod Kavanagh, Principal Research Scientist, Forest Science Centre, N.S.W., Australia. Goran frisk, Collection Manager, Department of Vertebrate Zoology, Swedish Museum of Natural History, Stockholm.

Dr. Michel Gosselin, Collection Manager, Canadian Museum of Nature, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada.

Dr. Sylke Frahnert, Humboldt-Universtat zu Berlin, Museum fur Naturkunde.

Richard Greene, Martha A. Rosen, David Steere, Ms. Leslie K. Overstreet, Daria Wingreen-Mason, Smithsonian Institution Libraries, Washington, D.C.

Brian Blaylock, Hon Secretary, Birds, South Australia.

Robert Olley, Bronx Zoo Library, New York.

Keith Betton, African Bird Club.

Vera A. Pryanishnikova Chief of Foreign Acquisitions, National Library of Russia, St. Petersburg, Russia.

Tom Baione, Assistant Director for Client Services, Department of Library Services, American Museum of Natural History, New York. Dr. Cécile Mourer-Chauviré Université Claude Bernard Lyon Centre des Sciences de la Terre.

Dr. Storrs Olson, Senior Zoologist, Division of Birds, Smithsonian Institution.

Dr. Steve Emslie, University of North Carolina.

Dr. Gerald Mayr, Curator of Ornithology, Dept. of Terrestrial Zoology, Forschungsinstitut Senkenberg.

Heidi Herr, Special Collections, The Sheridan Libraries of the Johns Hopkins University.

Laurent Raty

Nikita G. Ovsyanikov.

Daniel Philippe