Pedersen, Hans Peder

THE TRAINING OF CONSERVATORS
AT THE ROYAL DANISH ACADEMY OF FINE ARTS.

Since we in 1973, following the recommendation of the report of 1969 to the Minister of Cultural Affairs on:
"The organisation of conservation activities within archives, libraries and museums and the establishment of a school of conservation" began teaching, many changes have taken place in the organisation and the training programs at this school.

In the Royal Decree for The Royal Danish Academy of Fine Arts, The School of Conservation, is stated as follows: "- the school of conservation, as a school under the supervision of the ministry of cultural affairs, has to give training in conservation and restoration of works of art, graphic material and cultural objects, and on an artistic and scientific foundation to support the development and research in these fields."

The training program.

Two diplomas are offered at the School of conservation.
1. Conservation Technician Diploma. 3-year course (part one of the Conservator/Restorator Diploma).
2. Conservator/Restorer Diploma. 5-years course (Conservation Technician Diploma + 2 years).

From 1973 until now, 20 danish basic students were admitted every second year. These 20 students were divided equally between the schools three lines, the art department, the department of cultural history and the graphic department. The students were normally admitted to a specific line.

Within the nordic counsel for cultural affairs, it was agreed, that the school of conservation every year can take in app. 15 students from the other nordic countries divided between the three departemnts, in agreement with the mother contry.

From 1979 until now, 15 nordic students were admitted to the graphic department.

Our three year basic training program for conservation of graphic material, includes the following main groups of materials:

- Conservation and restoration of manuscript of paper.
- Conservation and restoration of graphic prints, maps and drawings.
- Conservation and restoration of books in all aspects.
- Conservation and restoration of manuscript of parchment.
- Conservation of photographic material, black and white, and colored prints.
- Conservation of oriental material.
- Handling of metal on graphic material.
- Handling of data, sound and pictures on data.

In the first years we also trained restorationtechnicians parallel with the conservationtechnicians, but very soon we found we were on the wrong track, and this special line was taken off the program.

In the beginning we gave lectures and practical training 30 hours every week, sometimes more. After a few years we gave the students an afternoon off every week for self-study.

Last year we made an agreement with the ministerium, combining our wishes for more hours for research and budget cuts, reorganising our teachingprogram to 21 weekly instruction hours and more hours for self-study.

The school was then given the right and duty to work with research.

Since the start of the school in 1973, we have produced a long line of conservation-technicians, conservators and now, at graphic department a line of projects on ph-d level.

And our graduates are now working in all nordic countries, and in other parts of Europa, and in U.S.A., and very often in leading positions.
Pedersen, Hans Peder.
The Royal Danish Academy of Fine Arts,
School of Conservation.

Abstract:
Training of conservators at The Royal Danish Academy of Fine Arts have taken place since 1973. Two diplomas are offered at the School of Conservation. Conservation Technician diploma. 3-years basic-course. (Part one of the Conservator/Restorator diploma. 5 years course. (Conservation Technician diploma + 2 years). 20 danish basic students are admitted every second year + students from other nordic countries. The course at the graphic department, includes all types of graphic materials, also photographic material and data, sound and pictures on data. Since 1973 a long line of graduates have left the school, and a line of projects on Ph-d level have just began.

Keywords:
Conservation Technician, Conservator, Restorer, Training.