

<http://www.catholicresearch.net>

**CRRA Collections Committee**

**Thursday, April 19, 2012**

**11:00 am Pacific**

**1:00 pm Central**

**2:00 pm Eastern**

**CALL-IN INFO**

Call: 1-866-469-3239

Attendee access code: 216 605 75

[Host code: 216 79 444 (committee chair uses)]

**Present:** Diane, Pat,Jennifer, Shawn, Alan, John

**Agenda and Minutes**

1. Approval of Minutes from 3.29.12 (attached)  
   Minutes approved.
2. Discuss “Collections at [candidate and member] institutions” (attached)

Pat:  
About this document:

* A working document, JY and i use to share info about institutions and their collections.
* Not comprehensive, does not list all members AND includes prospective members.   (For a list of current members, see the participants tab on the website.)
* Does have (in most cases):

-member institution and link to main page

-overview of collections, with hotlinks

-portal themes that are represented in the institutions' collections.  Portal themes are listed in this doc following the list of institutions (bottom p. 1)

Suggested future use:

Once the new website infrastructure is in place (August), I will ask members to review, then will revise the document and post on our website. Could also link this to the institution directory that will be linked from portal records.

-Is this approach what you envision as part of the portal?

-Give your vision and can get DAC to make it happen.

-What would you like to see in this document?  What would the template look like?  Currently, insti name, a link, overview with links to collections, themes.

JY: If it were retitled, collections of interest. To include both members and non-members.

DM: a working document for the committee as is.

AK: should remain a working document for the simple reason that if a review of collections from outside then any public display of these collections might override any decisions as to what to include and not to include. Could be embarrassing or encouraging.

JB: Certainly as a tool for scholars to find a repository, collections in North America. CRRA would be a logical body to promulgate such a directory but that is a huge project. Would best benefit as automated, self-perpetuating database could contribute descriptions of their holdings. Massive if all, even if just crra it’s big but circumscribed and something we could manage.

DM: if beyond members, could be confusing to users.

JY: I include some information for the board about collections, this is the genesis of the document. Conversations with new prospective members – some with membership, collections, dues, when we know there is interest, Jennifer writes a proposal for board and board votes to extend membership. Principle of membership is capacity to share resources. That information goes into this document. Collections could use to say this is what we know, would like to feature in collections update. Can update what is there. Committee could be involved in reviewing the document.

1. Volunteers for June and July articles? (current schedule is attached)

Solicit through Update. Pat check with Noel on June. Look at new members and ask someone.

Pat will send to list members from Filemaker with date joined.

DW: New members might be a good group to tap for articles highlighting their collections.

DM: OK to contact new members and not on committee to ask if they would be willing to contribute to the collections spotlight?

SW: How do we solicit articles now?

DM: Solicit through Update and to date the Collections Committee members have contributed the articles.

SW: Find it convoluted to get news. Have trouble finding the updates unless you go to listserv.

SW: Maybe add discussion boards. Place for questions from outside. Get feedback from portals using the site. Conference postings. A place to exchange ideas on a regular basis as they come up. Have discussions outside of a meeting, develop ideas before the meeting and people articulate what they are talking about before the meeting.

Pat indicated that all great comments, and hope to incorporate into the new website infrastructure. Pat will have help from Max Tolomei (ND) this summer to move current content into a more flexible platform, Concrete5.

1. Continue discussion from March 29 meeting: Identifying portal content, working with dates (Diane)

SW: See it as broken down by date but more ephemeral things like pamphlets etc. probably wouldn’t want a date on that at all.

DW: non-print not a problem, but print.

SW: maybe a lexicon: brochures yes; pamphlets – yes; books with wide distribution then go by date.

DW: probably with deep collections, like Catholic authors, the item may not be rare but the depth of the collection itself may be rare. A way to identify that.

SW: Some things, maybe want to identify not parts but just the colllection itself. Thinking of a photographer 1940s approx. at least 350K images. We won’t list each one, but collection description in the portal with a link. Some large collections where you don’t list the whole thing.

Portal to get people to places with items they are looking for.

JB: we also make a collection level MARC record giving broad strokes. Also for newspaper or pamphlet collections giving multiple points of access.

SW: links to finding aid and also individual records.

DM: for example, the Tolkien collection, would we require a collection level record? Can make virtual collections using 790 field noted as rare book collection. Can search on that and bring up all in the subset.

Raised issue of 505 not displaying in record. Might this committee want to review what is displayed and what not.

SW: our call number does not display. There is a way we have to format records to get our records in the portal.

1. Discuss: Creighton’s Carlson Fable Collection, a collection assembled by a Jesuit: <http://www.creighton.edu/aesop/>.

AK; may be an applicability I’ve not seen. Relevance to Catholic Studies more important than the provenance. Would our researchers come to look for this?

SW: Frank Rizzo dominated political scene in late 50s even though he’s Catholic nothing in the papers that speaks to Catholicism in Philadelphia.

JB: Maybe books within the collection but not the collection.

Pat will bring another example of what we mean about portal scope.

1. **Next meeting date:** Wed., May 9 at 11am pacific, 1pm central, 2pm eastern.