

<http://www.catholicresearch.net>

**CRRA Collections Committee**

**Thursday, November 29, 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 (Diane)]

**Agenda**

**Present:** Evelyn Asch, John Buchtel, Alan Krieger, Diane Maher, David Richtmyer, Kathy Young, Jennifer Younger

1. **Approval of Minutes from 10.25.12**

Minutes approved for October 25 with the addition of “column” under topic 3

2.  **Review and discuss the various documents and information relating to collections:**

***Collection Policy*.** Discussion notes also captured ***Collection Policy Statement* *Comments* *11-29-12.doc*.**

Notes on the discussion:

* *Should we identify a new theme for Catholic ethnic groups or does this topic relate to other categories?*
  + How do Irish materials relate to the portal? Irish materials often touch on Catholics and Catholic issues. David (BC) local collections may have significant Catholic content, ex. the life of Cardinal O’Connell in 20th century. Question: how to explain how these collections relate to Portal themes?
  + Continuing discussion on relationship of Irish and other ethnic collections to the Catholic experience and themes. David pointed out that these collections often tangentially or substantially touch on Catholic issues.
* *How can we offer guidance and focus to members in the process of adding records, e.g., would scope notes under individual themes be helpful?*
  + Alan: Themes need to be guideposts not exclusive categories.
  + Seattle University has collection on Maria Montessori, is this of interest? She was a devout Catholic, do we have evidence of whether her Catholicism influenced or in reverse, did not influence her educational theories? This is the kind of knowledge the local subject librarian has.
* *What about adding examples to show how member collections relate or contribute to the themes?* How do we interpret the relevance of our collections to these themes and the study of Catholicism?
  + Comment that the themes are not visible in searching the portal.
  + Observation that Goal 3.1.4 addresses this point: *build theme pages to which subject headings from portal records can be added and indexed.*
  + Need to develop an illustration of how themes are found in local collections – but there also need to recognize that existing collections were not set up on the basis of these themes.
  + David: may need to set up themes of ethnic, regional and local collections; also a 14th theme/category for “other related Catholic collections.”
  + Diane: where to put convent stories about girls being captured, could be related to women’s religious orders?
  + For example, anti-Catholicism isn’t mentioned as a theme, but it can fit under Religion and citizenship.
* *Should we create local collection names for the Portal themes?*
  + David: 940 field on local collection name, e.g., Jesuitica, Irish, British Catholic authors, which reference librarians use in searching OPAC by collection. Could this be done in the portal? Invite members to put in applicable 940 fields into their records? Who would identify themes for local additions?
  + Diane: how to interpret themes? Allan agrees a starting place is to revisit how to interpret themes. Did not envision a controlled vocabulary.
  + What kinds of materials support Catholic studies, the study of the Catholic experience and Catholicism – existing collections, themes/subject headings,
  + Diane sees the themes as useful with the addition of scope notes and then may need to expand the scope notes with illustrations on themes. This is intended to encourage participation in adding records to the Portal.
  + Pat can also provide some examples of collection “stumpers,” e.g., a priest had a collection of Aesop’s fables, committee thought no because individual not particularly important and no significance for study of Catholicism. But, there is a book on Aesop’s fables in the portal from the BC collection of British authors because of introduction by G. K. Chesterton.
  + Alan: Anti-Catholicism is interesting, it reinforces difference between themes and controlled vocabulary, this fits easily under the theme of Religion and Citizenship because the heart of anti-Catholicism was the notion that Catholics could not be good citizens due to their allegiance to the Pope. Decision that a scope note would help here.
* *Actions to be taken as the result of this discussion:*
  + Diane will do a first pass at revising the *Collection Policy Statement* and will ask for help on scope notes for themes.
  + Alan would like to see perspectives of other committee members, and will do a scope note for the theme: Religion and Citizenship.
  + The last paragraph on current members will be dropped. This information is elsewhere.
  + Diane will add a paragraph relating to print publications, meaning published books: what is rare & unique, suggested cut-off dates for publications and/or holdings, circumstances for inclusion, such as part of local comprehensive rare collections (as discussed in a previous Collections Committee meeting)
  + Collection Committee will review this document at the next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 3 p.m. There was no time to discuss the other documents. After the meeting, Diane and Jennifer agreed to skip the December meeting and to hold the next meeting in January 2013. The rest of the documents will be discussed at the January meeting:

* Making Your Content Available in the Portal
* Member orientation materials:
  + Member Guide
  + New Member Steps
  + Procedures for Adding New Members