



# Catholic Research Resources Alliance

[www.catholicresearch.net](http://www.catholicresearch.net)

*Providing enduring global access to Catholic research resources*

## **CRRA Accomplishments 2014-15**

**Pat Lawton, Jennifer Younger, Jency Liddell, Nick Casas, Committees**

***Compiled May – June 2015***

### **Board**

- Approved plans for funding two newspaper digitization and preservation projects: European Immigration (1880-1919) and Vatican II (1958-1972)
- With input from the Development Committee, determined the basis and structure of a strategic multi-year financial plan for completion and implantation next year.
- Proposed a *Bylaws* revision for enhanced member governance, adopted by members in August
- Established a Board Governance Committee

### **Collections**

- Mentored new member St. Louis University on selecting portal resources.
- Collaborated with and provided guidance on collection issues including appropriateness of content from institutional repositories, website redesign, the newspapers program, the EAD template, and portal documentation.

### **DAC (Digital Access Committee)**

- Identified, deployed, and documented strategies for harvesting member content from CONTENTdm (Duquesne and Barry), bepress (Dayton), and journal articles from Digital Commons (Marquette).
- Implemented recommendations (from Ingrid Hsieh-Yee) on enhancing access to the twelve themes.
- Prioritized and oversaw changes to the CRRA website as recommended by the CUA SLIS redesign team.
- Provided direction and assistance in enhancing the EAD template to include the description of subordinate components; made the template available for use by members.
- Identified options for archiving the CRRA Update.
- Provided technical guidance and expertise to the Newspapers Committee on all goals.
- Conducted a member survey of platforms used for metadata and digital assets.
- Explored and evaluated platforms for the *CRRA Update*, adopted use of MailChimp.
- Developed a charge and members, and chair for the DAC Subcommittee, the Metadata Advisory Group.

- Recommended and purchased two domain names: catholicresearch.info and catholicresearch.org (with forwarding to .net).
- Planned and presented the “Catholic Portal Overview” webinar for Liaisons and members describing portal content, navigation, and how to contribute records on January 16, 2015.

#### **Liaisons Council**

- Oriented and educated liaisons about CRRA with two webinars on use of LibGuides and the Catholic Portal (July 30, 2014 and Jan. 16, 2015).

#### **Membership Committee**

- Welcomed three members for 2014/15
- Built and maintained relationships with 12 prospects; five requested membership applications
- Communicated with directors/deans at 10 current members
- Refreshed content on *Join* web pages and an membership application
- Revised the brochure with an updated list of members; distributed it to new provosts at Catholic academic institutions (through ACCU) and library prospects
- Pursued opportunities for diocesan and religious archives to participate in the Catholic Newspaper Program and/or the Catholic portal by responding to the concerns of three archives interested in joining and submitting a program proposal on digitizing Catholic newspapers to the Archivists for Congregations of Women Religious (ACWR) Conference in August 2015
- Showcased members on the portal by adding live links to member and partner web pages, and adding member testimonials to *Join* pages with an ongoing call for more testimonials
- The Subcommittee on a Subject Guide to the Portal published seven LibGuides to the Portal and specific portal collections, available on the CRRA website
- Promoted the new subject guides and links to the portal and Catholic Newspapers Online at a well-attended Liaisons Council webinar and via CRRA Updates
- Provided a CRRA presence at the CLA Annual Conference, April 2014

#### **Catholic Newspapers Committee and Digitizing Partners Group**

- Collaborated with Reveal Digital to develop a Cost Model and project plan for the Catholic Digital Newspapers Project (digitizing priority papers, implementing the Veridian platform, and preserving newspapers in MetaArchive); hosted three joint meetings of the Newspapers Committee and Digitizing Partners to refine, develop, and approve the model and plan.
- In collaboration with DAC, coordinated conversations with CONSER and Library of Congress to determine strategies for representing Catholic newspaper data in Chronicling American and NDNP.
- Hosted a three-part webinar on Facilitating Your Data into ICON (Jan-Feb 2015).
- Digitizing Partners and members worked with Nick to ingest data for 14 new publications (18,273 issues), or, six of the eleven priority papers into ICON.
- Made recommendations for formatting ICON data into a draft Directory of Catholic Newspapers.

#### **Scholars Committee**

- Advised Collections and Membership on growing CRRA collections

- Reached out to ACHA to increase ACHA member awareness of CRRA resources - participated in presentations at ACHA Annual 2015 (New York); ACHA Spring meeting 2015 (Notre Dame).

#### **Pat Lawton/Jennifer Younger**

- Submitted a pre-proposal to CLIR Digitizing Hidden Collections to digitize priority Catholic newspapers (1880-1919) on European Immigration.
- Developed and administered stakeholder surveys on newspapers for Libraries and Archives and Publishers, which was developed in collaboration with Catholic Press Association.
- Marta Deyrup, Seton Hall, and Jennifer presented a paper about CRRA at IFLA RELINDIAL August 2014

#### **Pat Lawton**

- In collaboration with St. Catherine University, Marquette, and Catholic University, assisted in developing a CLIR pre-proposal for Catholic Social Action.
- Developed goals and consulted with CRRA Webmaster and Digital Projects Associate.
- Developed goals and consulted with CRL staff member on collecting metadata for submission to the ICON database and Catholic newspaper digitization projects.
- Recruited and interviewed candidates, selecting a volunteer from CRRA membership to serve a two year term as *CRRA Updates* Associate Editor.
- Presented a paper at the IFLA Newspapers Section August 2014; served as a panelist at ACHA in January 2015 and DPLA Indiana in April 2015; assisted CRRA members on presentations about CRRA at the Florida Chapter of ATLA in West Palm, FL and CLA Annual Conference in April 2015.

#### **Nick Casas CRL/ICON**

- Collaborated with ICON database manager on enhancement of metadata and record creation.
- Identified and shared processes and procedures for adding data to ICON.
- Hosted a three-part webinar on Facilitating Your Data into ICON (Jan-Feb 2015).
- Liaised with Digitizing Partners and members to ingest data for 14 new publications (18,273 issues), or, six of the eleven priority papers into ICON.
- Reformatted ICON data into a draft Directory of Catholic Newspapers.
- Consolidated ICON data of the priority papers to create the Survey of Publications.

#### **Jency Liddell, CRRA Webmaster and Digital Projects Associate**

- Implemented recommended changes to website in sandbox version for migration in following year, including development of online application form for the Membership Committee.
- Entered question data into Survey Monkey for Stakeholders surveys.
- Explored, tested, and recommended options for the newsletters platform.
- Created an archive for rotating exhibits and curated new exhibits for the home page.
- Pat, Nick, with implementation by Jency: Developed the password-protected Digitizing Partners page, providing member and Partner access to all documentation related to the Catholic Newspapers Program.