



This new CRRA Liaisons Council initiative will bring monthly news on members' professional development, achievements and conferences, as well as institutional projects and grant opportunities. This bulletin looks to help support and grow our community. Thanks for submitting your news and articles.

1. CRRA 2017 Annual Meeting - Mark the Date!

The CRRA Annual Member Meeting will be held at the Loyola University Chicago's Water Tower Campus in downtown Chicago. We will meet in the Schreiber Center, 16 E. Pearson Street. Plan now to join colleagues – in-person and possibly online – on Tuesday, June 27. Please reserve the morning from 8 a.m. – Noon Central Time. We are planning box lunches to eat on premises or to go. For everyone flying out on Tuesday, please book a flight departing at 3 p.m. or later. That way you can stay for the whole meeting and maybe even a bite of lunch with colleagues on-site.

If you are interested in joining a program planning committee, please contact [Pat Lawton](#) or [Jennifer Younger](#). We welcome your ideas and participation.

2. Valuing the User Experience: [CRRA Annual Meeting June 27, 2017, Chicago](#)

Users are the raison d'être for the Catholic Portal and the Catholic News Archive. It is therefore important to listen to their stories of discovery as we plan the expansion of these resources and other projects. This year part of the CRRA Annual Meeting will be devoted to listening to our users in order to better understand how students and researchers are using these resources and what types of future collaborative projects might be beneficial for students and researchers. If you know a researcher who has used either the Portal or the News Archive, and who might be willing to share their story, please contact any member of the program planning group. We look forward to hearing from you. Plan now to join us at Loyola University Chicago (LUC) at the Schreiber Center in downtown Chicago to learn from students and researchers.

[Kathy Young](#), Loyola University Chicago, chair; [Jennifer Head](#), Sisters of Charity of the Blessed Virgin M [Pat Lawton](#), CRRA; [Karen Reilly](#), College of the Holy Cross; [Marianne Ryan](#), LUC; [Stephanie Shreffler](#), University of Dayton and [Jennifer Younger](#), CRRA.

3. CRRA Data Collection on the Value of the Portal

CRRA Liaisons, Collections, DAC and Scholars committees have been planning and preparing for data collection among current and prospective portal users in fulfillment of the 2016/17 goal:

“Revisit the scope and functionality of the portal through focus groups at member institutions. [Committees determined that data collection methods such as survey and interviews would be more effective and fruitful than focus groups]. Assist in planning and implementing data collection to address the question of the portal value and scope: what is unique and important about the portal, where is it duplicative? Is this a unique resource, filling a niche need? Ask “what resources do you use? What is unique about the portal?”

In order to assist member institutions in collecting data locally, a short video presentation of the portal is being created to accompany an also short survey. Members will use these survey and video for data gathering. They may choose to host group sessions, distribute the video-survey option and/or engage in one-to-one session with faculty and graduate students.

More information coming soon. Thank you in advance for your consideration, and help with this project.

4. CRRA Subject Guides (by Ted Bergfelt, Duquesne University, Chair of Subcommittee on Developing a Subject Guide to the Portal Members)

Two new guides been added to the stable of CRRA subject guides:

"Vatican II" (Many thanks to Noel McFerrin, University of St. Michael's College, Toronto, for permission to use content from his Vatican II guide). Vatican II is also the guide with most views in the system-wide usage statistics.

<http://guides.catholicresearch.net/vatican2>

The screenshot shows the 'Vatican II: Welcome' page. At the top, there is a red header with the CRRA logo and name. Below the header, a navigation bar includes 'Welcome', 'Search', 'Texts', 'Debates', 'Accounts', and 'Reference'. A search bar is located on the right side. The main content area features two portraits: St. John XXIII on the left and Pope Paul VI on the right. Between them is a central text block describing the Second Vatican Council. Below the portraits are two columns of links: 'CRRA Links' on the left and 'Learn the Basics' on the right. At the bottom, there is a section titled 'The Documents of Vatican II'.

"Peace Building" <http://guides.catholicresearch.net/peacebuilding>



This brings the total number of CRRA subject guides to 21.

As well as adding these two new guides, in order to provide additional points of connection for users to the subject guides, links to appropriate guides have been added to the webpages describing the individual CRRA collecting themes. Here is an example:

<http://www.catholicresearch.net/cms/index.php/catholic-portal/content-and-scope/peace-building/>

Since January 1, 2017, there have been 829 hits on the CRRA subject guides and portal users who begin with the subject guides spend more time on the portal, with more page views.

5. 2017 Conferences and Workshops

5a. 2017 CLA Annual Convention

The 2017 Catholic Library Association Annual Convention in conjunction with National Catholic Educational Association (NCEA) will be held in St. Louis, MO, on April 18-20, 2017. The NCEA Convention & Expo is the largest private-education association gathering in the nation. Those participating represent all aspects of Catholic school and faith-based education from preschool, elementary, secondary, adult education, colleges and universities. [Registration](#) is now open, for preliminary program please click [here](#).

5b. DPLA Fest 2017 to take place in Chicago on April 20-21

DPLAfest 2017—the fourth major gathering of the Digital Public Library of America's broad community—will take place on April 20-21, 2017 in Chicago at Chicago Public Library's Harold Washington Library Center. The hosts for DPLAfest 2017 include [Chicago Public Library](#).

the [Black Metropolis Research Consortium](#), [Chicago Collections](#), and the [Reaching Across Illinois Library System](#) (RAILS).

For more information, blog and news please go to [DPLAfest 2017](#)

5c. MARAC Spring 2017

Mid-Atlantic Regional Archives Conference “Adaptable archives, Redefine, Repurpose and Renew” will take place at the Best Western Robert Treat Hotel, Newark, New Jersey, on April 20-21, 2017. MARAC holds this conference to offer members opportunities to discuss archival concerns and obtain new training through breakout sessions, workshops and guest speakers. Tours and receptions highlight cultural institutions and organizations in the immediate area.

For conference information, hotel reservation and details, visit <http://www.marac.info/upcoming-conferences#Spring2017>

5d. SobekCM Code Camp

The third SobekCM Code Camp: <http://sobekrepository.org/events/codecamp/fl2017> will be a three-day event on April 24th through April 26 of 2017 in the shadow of the Kennedy Space Center, on the Space Coast of Florida. This camp is intended for developers and administrators of the open source digital repository software (SobekCM) and will be mostly a coding party. All three days will be full of facilitated hands-on exercises. Much of the work will focus on the recent addition and expansions of the open architecture of SobekCM. Participants should be able to easily customize any of the SobekCM features through the plug-in architecture by the end of the three days. Registration for this event is free and spots are still available! Click here to register for the code camp.

For registration and tentative schedule, please go to <http://sobekrepository.org/events/codecamp/fl2017>

5e. University of San Diego 2017 Annual Digital Initiative Symposium

The fourth annual Digital Initiatives Symposium will take place at the University of San Diego on May 1 and 2, 2017. The symposium is a forum for librarians and researchers to share their knowledge of institutional repositories and the digital elements of library ecosystems. The event, hosted by The University of San Diego’s Copley Library provides educational programs, networking and collaboration opportunities for professionals at the regional, state and national level. The registration deadline is March 23, 2016. For additional program information and registration, please go to <http://digital.sandiego.edu/symposium/>

5f. More on Conferences

Listing of digital library meetings, workshops, and conferences, as well as other activities associated with digital libraries research and technologies, click on [D-Lib](#) Digital Library Federation [DFL Community calendar](#)

6. Grant Opportunities

Michigan State University Libraries publishes a compilation of web pages and books of potential interest to nonprofit organizations seeking funding opportunities related to religion. Please go to [Grants for Nonprofits: Religion and Social Change](#) . Also for Faith Based Grants, check out GrantWatch for faith based grants supporting at-risk youth, crime victims and community organizations. 86 Faith Based Grants available at <https://www.grantwatch.com/cat/11/faith-based-grants.html>. Library of Congress published a Foundation Grants for Preservation in Libraries, Archives, and Museums list, to access the 2010 edition go to <https://www.loc.gov/preservation/about/foundtn-grants.pdf>

OPPORTUNITY NUMBER	OPPORTUNITY TITLE	AGENCY NAME	POSTED DATE	CLOSE DATE
20170607-MD	Digital Projects for the Public	NEH	4/5/2017	6/7/2017
20170601-SO	State Humanities Councils General Operating Support Grants	NEH	3/29/2017	6/1/2017
20170608-PR	Research and Development	NEH	3/27/2017	6/8/2017
20170601-PY	Common Heritage	NEH	3/23/2017	6/1/2017
20170503-ZH	Humanities Access Grants	NEH	2/28/2017	5/3/2017
20170502-PG	Preservation Assistance Grants for Smaller Institutions	NEH	2/27/2017	5/2/2017
20170502-PE	Preservation and Access Education and Training Grants	NEH	2/27/2017	5/2/2017
20170606-HAA	Digital Humanities Advancement Grants	NEH	2/17/2017	6/6/2017
20171227-MR	Programming Grants to Accompany NEH on the Road Exhibitions	NEH	1/6/2017	12/27/2017
EDITIONS-201706	Publishing Historical Records in Documentary Editions	NARA	12/9/2016	6/14/2017
EDITIONS-201710	for Publishing Historical Records in Documentary Editions	NARA	12/9/2016	10/5/2017
NLG-LIBRARIES-FY17-2	National Leadership Grants for Libraries	IMLS	11/9/2016	6/9/2017
LB21-FY17-2	Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian Program	IMLS	11/9/2016	6/9/2017
MAJOR-201707	Access to Historical Records - Major Initiatives	NARA	7/25/2016	7/12/2017

Source <http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/search-grants.html>