

June 20, 2011

Dear CRRA colleagues,

We are pleased to invite you, members of your staff, students and faculty at your institution to a symposium to be held in November 2011. The Catholic intellectual tradition and the scholarship which studies and presents it encompass the experiences of a flourishing Church currently made up of a billion human beings who live on every continent and whose history reaches back over two millennia. Our focus is on advancing Catholic scholarly research with speakers from among our faculty and librarians. We hope that you will join us in what promises to be a stimulating and productive conversation about Catholic scholarly research and the ways in which librarians and archivists support such research.

More information will be coming over the summer but we do know the program will begin in the afternoon of Wednesday, November 9th and conclude on Thursday in mid-to late afternoon. Please, save the dates and share this announcement with others in your library and on campus. We are also sending this announcement to library directors at Catholic colleges and universities in Pennsylvania and eastern Ohio. If you know of colleagues in other states or libraries who might be interested, please feel free to send this invitation to them. There is also an announcement in the ACCU Summer 2011 Newsletter online at http://www.accunet.net/org/public/files/Summer 2011.pdf.

On behalf of Duquesne University and the Catholic Research Resources Alliance (CRRA),

Laverna Saunders, University Librarian, Duquesne University Jennifer Younger, Chair, Board of Directors, CRRA

Advancing Catholic Scholarly Research: A Symposium at Duquesne University Sponsored by Duquesne University and Catholic Research Resources Alliance (CRRA) November 9-10, 2011, Pittsburgh, PA

Join us as together we explore directions in Catholic scholarship. Invited Catholic scholars will discuss the "state of the art" of Catholic scholarship, directions that scholarship is headed, and how libraries, archives, and member organizations support and nurture future Catholic scholars and scholarship.

We are honored to have Leslie Tentler, Professor of History at The Catholic University of America, deliver the keynote address. She is a distinguished scholar and noted commentator on American Catholicism as a subject of historical research. Joseph P. Lucia, University Librarian and Director of Falvey Memorial Library, Villanova University, will speak on the digitizing of hundreds of documents, including many historical items from the American Catholic Historical Society (ACHS), the nation's oldest Catholic association, and the partnerships formed in building a digital library for the support of the teaching and research of the campus and global communities. Dr. Michael Galligan-Stierle, President and CEO, Association of Catholic Colleges and Universities, will conclude the day with reflections on the role and significance of Catholic Studies in the world today.

Other events will include poster sessions, a demonstration of the Catholic portal, and discussions with CRRA members on the activities of member libraries in making Catholic research resources accessible through the Catholic portal. Information on the full program and registration will be forthcoming over the summer.

The Catholic Research Resources Alliance (CRAA) is a nonprofit membership alliance with twenty seven current members from among the community of Catholic colleges and universities. Its purposes are to identify and create access to Catholic research resources, establish the Catholic Portal and best practices for adding materials to it, and build the network of libraries, archives, and other institutions that further this work. Please feel free to contact us with program suggestions or requests for more information about the symposium or the Catholic Research Resources Alliance (CRRA).

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