



Catholic Research Resources Alliance

CRRA Update APRIL 2011

In this update ...

- CRRA welcomes new members: **College of the Holy Cross** and **Creighton University!** Look for more on our newest members in next month's *Update*.
- Welcome to **Terry Ehling, Strategic Consultant** to the CRRA! [More ...](#)
- **News on membership dues**
The Membership Dues Task Force met with members of the Board and other member library directors to discuss its recommendation to adopt a multi-tiered dues structure and a proposal for dues for the coming year.
[More ...](#)

Welcome to Terry Ehling, Strategic Consultant

On behalf of the CRRA Board of Directors, I am pleased to introduce Terry Ehling, who will advise us on the strategic development of the CRRA service profile, content offerings, information architecture, and business model. Ms. Ehling has over 25-years' experience as a publisher, innovator and entrepreneur within the academic and scholarly communications community. Her professional interests lie at the intersection of scholarly publishing, academic libraries, and open innovation models.

Terry Ehling is currently a digital content strategist for the Cornell University Press and the Principal Investigator on an Andrew W. Mellon Foundation grant to develop an open innovation program for the scholarly communications and publishing communities. Prior to her appointment at the Press, she was the scholarly communications strategist at Cornell University Library, where she helped to set and implement an innovative, cost-effective publishing agenda for the university. From 2003-2008, she served as the Executive Director of Project Euclid <<http://projecteuclid.org>> - a complex, collaborative, non-profit online journal publishing initiative for mathematics and statistics - which is now a joint venture of the Cornell University Library and Duke University Press. Before joining Cornell, she was Director of the Digital Projects Lab (DPL) at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. The DPL's primary focus was on the design and cost-effective implementation of scholarly on-line communities, such as CogNet (2000) and ArchNet (2001).

We are entering a period of exhilarating growth in members, content and portal development. As we go forward, we will need to develop a clear long range vision of what the CRRA wants to be and the ways in which we add value to the scholars, researchers and students of the Catholic experience. We are pleased to welcome Terry Ehling.




SAVE THE DATE!

"Advancing Catholic Scholarly Research: A Symposium"
November 9-10, 2011
Duquesne University
Pittsburgh, PA
[For more ...](#)



CRRA in Philadelphia

On Wed., March 30, [35 CRRA members and friends](#) participated in the CRRA annual meeting. Agenda items included goals for fiscal year 2010/2011 (see proposed goals at <http://bit.ly/DraftPlan2012>), [usability studies](#), and membership dues.

[For more on the annual meeting ...](#)



University of St. Michael's College in the University of Toronto has recently received a Provincial grant to create a digital collection of materials based on the federation of the women's religious colleges with St. Mike's 100 years ago...and the subsequent contribution of women to colleges over the past century.

Congratulations!



Powerpoints from the **CRRA/Notre Dame Digital Humanities Forum** are now available, courtesy of JSTOR and Crivella West. Thank you to all our sponsors, presenters, guests, and participants for making the day a success. Click [here](#) to view

**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 Catholic University, deliver the Keynote address. Events will include presentations and discussion, poster sessions, a demo of the Catholic portal <http://www.catholicresearch.net>, and CRRA members on the activities of member libraries in making Catholic research resources accessible.

Plan to join us!

Update from the Membership Dues Task Force

The Membership Dues Task Force met with members of the Board and other member library directors to discuss its recommendation to adopt a multi-tiered dues structure and a proposal for dues for the coming year.

Appointed last year, the Task Force is working to develop a dues model that is affordable by many individual institutions and that helps sustain our mission of providing enduring global access to Catholic research resources.

Participants agreed on key points, including the following:

- The dues structure should address the need for revenue sufficient to cover expenses next year as well as enable continuing growth and sustainability in the future.
- It is important for everyone to feel they are paying a fair share.
- It is important that all members pay something.
- When an institution has more than one library and/or archive, the level of dues should be based on the library budget (excluding professional school libraries such as medical and law, but including branches that are part of the university library).
- Institutional membership supports the mission by enabling local collaboration in adding collections and content to the portal.

Janice Welburn, chair of the Task Force, thanked the group for its valuable input and said the Task Force will submit an expanded recommendation for Board consideration in April. She also thanked the Task Force members: Joe Lucia, Villanova; Evelyn Minick, Saint Joseph's; Bob Seal, Loyola University Chicago; Steve Connaghan, Catholic; and Jennifer Younger, chair, Board of Directors.

Subsequently, the Board accepted the recommendation at its April meeting and will implement the new dues structure for the next fiscal year. The new dues structure has five levels of dues which will range from \$500 for the smallest libraries to \$7,500 for the largest

the ppts. Sincere thanks to Ron Synder of JSTOR and Art Crivella of Crivella West for permission to view.

libraries. All members paying dues will be full members. More information will be forthcoming next month.

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Given the large number of goals, members were asked to prioritize goals of most interest to them. There was decided agreement on the top priorities:

- 1.4 Draft a plan for increasing digital content in the portal.
- 1.2 (& 2.1) Facilitate continual updating of member records and content. (see <http://bit.ly/jcNzpf>)
- 4.1 (& 4.2) on developing a sustainable business plan and growing membership.

Our next steps include conducting an environmental scan to identify priority collections and resources. With guidance from the Scholars Advisory Committee, the Collections Committee, and all of our members, we will gain a direction for increasing digital content in the portal, focusing on our strengths and our users' needs.

"The University is where the Church does its thinking"

-- Rev. Theodore M. Hesburgh, C.S.C.

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