

<http://www.catholicresearch.net>

**CRRA Catholic Newspapers Task Force**

**Tuesday, November 20, 2012**

**11:00 am Pacific**

**1:00 pm Central**

**2:00 pm Eastern**

**CALL-IN INFO**

Call: 1-866-469-3239

Attendee access code: 219 864 93

**Agenda**

**Present:** Noel, Pat, Shawn, Jean, Jennifer

**Regrets:** Rob, Susan, Malachy, Cait, Amy

1. Approve minutes from November 15 (attached)   
   Approved.
2. Committee review of the 2012-2013 Strategic Plan:    
   Review and seek approval of or revision of 2012-2013 goals.   
   Proposed goals include:

* Create prototype Catholic newspaper directory with member holdings and mined from existing resources (3.3.2.)
* Identify and pursue collaborative projects around Catholic newspapers – Diocesan archives & [spell out] ACDA, [spell out] CLA, Catholic Press Association, National Digital Newspaper Program, Center for Research Libraries, [spell out] ATLA (4.1.2.)  
    
  Goals for 2012-2013, with changes as noted below, were approved.

Discussion:

* Shawn: Wording ok.  Create prototype Catholic newspaper directory with member holdings and mined resources. All agreed.
* On second bullet.  Spell out ACDA, ATLA, CLA.   What about “around?”  More than digitizing? We might not be thinking of activities other than digitizing, but others might.  All in agreement goal is appropriately broad with understanding can cutback later.   
  Jennifer will reword the goal in the strategic plan.
* What is distinction between member holdings and mined resources?  Difference is source of information, e.g., survey of members, and mined resources are other sources used to find newspaper titles for adding to director. Shawn noted “mined resources” are those beyond than member holdings.  Pat agreed. It is a difference in sources. Everyone noted there will be some overlap in titles found. Noel emphasized the intent is to create a comprehensive directory of North American Catholic newspapers published.
* Is intent to include metadata and/or full text?  Pat indicated metadata primarily but certainly with links to full text where it exists. Noel noted the Canadian project is focusing on known, desired newspaper titles and state of digitization.
* Shawn asked will final inventory/directory include only newspapers that exist today with holdings or include all even if no holdings? Pat indicated will include Catholic newspapers known to exist even if no holdings are currently known.
* Jean asked source of 800 titles. Pat indicated from all sources – USNP (40%), Center for Research Libraries, and member holdings. Distribution important to know in pursuing digitization projects because easier to digitize what is in member holdings.  Pat could indicate where the titles were initially found but Noel suggested it would become less important over time.

1. Discuss draft document (Pat and Jennifer) on next steps: Directory investigation and recommendation, Member Survey, Listing of Digitized Titles on CRRA Website (documents attached)  
     
   Pat and Jennifer will redraft, revise, and send to the TF for input. Goal is for Board approval for request for student worker.   
     
   Discussion:

* Suggestions made to indicate next steps with request for Board assistance as indicated
* Note both born digital and digitized versions to be included.
* Indicate information on article, issue level in directory, but not in the “list.” The list is intended to be a list with title information, but not a “mini-directory.”  Noel mentioned a long list of titles may already be available digitally.  Purpose is to get the word out, to be a stopgap.  The big goal is the directory.
* For list, include title, date, publisher, and link.  Suitable for keyword searching.
* On number 2, what is platform?  Means software, application, etc.  Who will do this?  TF to identify features for checklist. Ask others for help in nitty gritty of technical details. Pat has talked with Betsy McKelvey at Boston College about Veridian, a software developer with a platform to host and provide access to newspapers.
* Is process of investigating different from what has been done before?   Build on what is known about digital libraries?  Pat indicated newspapers are different.
* Is there an existing software platform we could use?  Pat indicated a range of options. The easiest is a spreadsheet but has to be converted into a database, e.g., Filemaker Pro or Microsoft Access.  The next part is enabling people to search the database. Filemaker has a simple browse feature.  Moving up the hierarchy of applications adds to searchability and display features, such as the Veridian platform.
* ND website sits on an ND server. CRRA does not have a server.  What are the security concerns?  Need to have ND in conversation about putting directory on ND server.
* Conduct survey of member holdings.  Anything to change?  Ok as is but add  request for $4,000.

1. Other business  
   Shawn has sent out call to ACDA for their holdings and had three responses and some leads: Springfield Illinois Lincoln Library has copies of Catholic newspapers.
2. Next meeting – TBD.