

<http://www.catholicresearch.net>

**CRRA Catholic Newspapers Task Force**

**Thursday, March 1, 2012**

**11:00 a.m. Eastern / 10:00 a.m. Central**

Call: 1-866-469-3239 Attendee access code: 219 864 93

**Agenda and Notes *DRAFT***

Present: Noel, Cait, Jennifer, Pat, Malachy, Rob

1. **Updates:**
   * LSTA funds for Philadelphia Catholic newspaper   
     Cait: Last year the deadline was Sept. 1; will apply this year for Philadelphia newspaper. Contacted Susan Kellerman who has funding for Civil War newspapers, Susan is interested in the *Philadelphia Standard and Times* for Civil War years. Excellent news.  
       
     Cait is also applying to Raskob, perhaps in pieces. The plan is for Villanova to digitize the paper volumes and others to do various years of microfilm.   
       
     Malachy recommends we propose a standard, for example, that newspapers be microfilmed for preservation at time of digitization if not available in film. Or, look at preservation practices for digitization. Need to take a look at that as a question.
   * NEH Humanities Collections and Reference Resources <http://www.neh.gov/grants/guidelines/hcrr.html> Deadline is July, 2012. CRRA will submit a proposal to conduct the environmental scan and build the directory and repository.
   * OSV  
     Pat and Jean McManus (ND) are meeting with the OSV Institute next week.
   * OCD  
     Cait meeting March 8 with Villanova and PAHRC to discuss OCD and papers Catholic Standard and Times. Between PAHRC and SCB, have full run. Will seek a grant to digitize from film.
   * CPLI   
     CLA owns 1930-1981. To PDF the film, CLA needs a partnership agreement with Villanova.

**2. Discuss scope of Catholic newspapers: include college and university student newspapers and/or missionary newspapers (Jennifer)**

Proposal is coming from a couple of our members; most universities have student papers. Are these of interest and in scope for project?   
  
Malachy: initially, when school is founded they start a publication, student newspaper/promotion. Of value might be the older ones, not post-1960.   
  
Missionary newspapers are newsletters from congregations. For example, Duquesne digitizes the Spiritans, which is more of a newsletter.   
  
JY: have we defined Catholic newspaper? Will include metadata records for student newspapers in the portal.  
  
Malachy: set up priorities for national and diocesan papers initially. Student newspapers will not be appealing to a wide range of scholars. Include them but not emphasize them. Scope: priorities are national and diocesan papers. Agreement.   
  
JY: Will someone write the general scope and priorities in order to run by the group again? Would one or two work together to draft a statement about groups’ approach to scope, just a paragraph. Readdress at next meeting.

**3. Discuss Task Force membership – open to new members?**

Jean McManus (ND) and Shawn Weldon (PAHRC) are interested in joining the TF, Cait describes Shawn as a “walking encyclopedia of Catholic newspapers.”

The group is open to one or two additional members.

**4. Duquesne/Crivella West demonstration project**

Crivella West is located in Pittsburgh, they develop text mining tools for legal work. They gather case documents – email, reports, create a file apply search discovery and analytical tools to find information, for example, who in the firm was talking about X.

Have branched into academe in work with Newman Kiosk. Toronto folks worked on that. They are now also doing Nouwen and Lonergan.

Bottom line CW would like to work with Duquesne employing CW search tools on a chunk of the Pittsburgh Catholic. Down the road, CRRA is interested in similar tools. Would we work with a for-profit? We don’t know. We are committed to freely available. Not making a decision, it’s an opportunity to learn from a demonstration project.

Noel: they are for-profit and making it. Lonergan and Nouwen are really their philanthropic giving back.

Rob: Complementary rather than replacement for traditional search. They are offering traditional keyword searching. They are interested in a whole corpus of texts for scholarship. They can begin thinking about algorithms for Catholic scholarship with this proposed project. CW keeps competitive advantage by working with academe and other businesses.

**5. Next meeting date:** March 15, 2012 at 11:00 eastern/10:00 central.