



# Catholic Research Resources Alliance

<http://www.catholicresearch.net>

**CRRA Catholic Newspapers Task Force**

**Thursday, January 26, 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**

Present: Noel, Steven, Darren, Rob, Malachy, Jean McManus, Pat, Jennifer

1. Welcome new member Rob Behary, Duquesne (Noel)

Members introduced themselves, with a special welcome to Rob Behary (Duquesne) and Jean McManus (ND).

2. Update on LSTA funds for Philadelphia Catholic newspaper (Cait)

Discuss at next meeting.

3. Update on NEH and IMLS grant options (Jennifer, Pat)

Jennifer reported on her and Pat's conversation in December with Liz Bishoff, concerning IMLS and NEH grant possibilities.

Conversation with Liz Bishoff. Colorado Heritage Alliance, experience with IMLS and NEH. Stiff competition for IMLS grants, though we might look at goal #3 focus on early learners. A lot of work for not much reward.

NEH – Board will not now apply for a Challenge grant. First, incorporate, become a Catholic organization, etc. NEH Humanities Collections and Reference Resources. Arrange and describe unique materials.

Next steps: Pat talks with Joel Wurl at NEH to investigate their openness to our subject area.

Upshot is that from the conversation, we learned that the IMLS grant is a longshot that will take a lot of preparation. In short, it is probably not worth it. There is stiff competition, the focus of the grants is on early learners and is a lot of work for not much reward.

NEH Reference Resources grants are worth having a look. Pat will talk to Joel Wray from NEH about feasibility of sub ...

Deadline June/July 2012

Discussion:

- Noel: centralized aspect of task force to get funds for digitizing. Not turning out that way but seeing it as cooperating and encouraging other projects, sharing standards, etc.
- Malachy just got Catholic Funding Guide online, we use to see what's been funded. CRRRA team can work with dioceses and see what might be funded. Have the diocese apply. For example, work with the Texas Catholic Archives in Austin. There is money locally at which we have a better shot.
- Jennifer – sees it as both. The centralized aspect is getting a grant and overseeing the environmental scan and creating the directory. Individual digitizing projects yes, replace “team” with “task force.” Task force is a coordinating and assisting group.

#### 4. User requests for Catholic newspapers at ND (Jean McManus, Head, Scholars Committee, Catholic Studies Librarian, ND)

Jean described an active group of grad students in history, theology, and American studies; some specifically Catholic, not all. The group is interested in crra projects. One grad student is interested in Indiana Catholic newspapers to see what they said about Vatican 2 – what was reported, what folks home learned about what was going on in Rome. His introduction to a draft paper proposes to develop a history of Catholicism from the diocesan level [quote?]. Also looking for paper in Cincinnati paper, Catholic Telegraph which ran from the 1830s through present. ND has significant gaps, no one has the whole thing. Ohio Historical has pieces, CUA, Dayton, and others. Our next steps include ILL and thinking about immediate access. How do we determine publication history? Usual process is to look at microfilm. Who has masters, can we get copies from them? If filmed with NEH masters should be available at a reasonable cost. Digitizing has rights issues, 1960-1965 is primary area.

Another request – a faculty member in theatre history is looking for references to ND productions, the Catholic Herald Philadelphia had them. ND has a couple but tracked down other institutions. It ran from 1833-1856, ND has only 1848. Marquette (CRRRA member) has the complete run. Collectively, we have access. This serves as an anecdote to illustrate the need for the digitization project - discovery and digitizing. Microfilm is still our preservation copy according to the Preservation Librarian.

Discussion:

- Noel create a finding aid by scan. At same time, vain hope for one database and

find it all.

- Malachy house at local repository and copy to CRRRA. Work with members with that condition.
- JY good to have these reminders. Speak for Darren for deep shared repository/database, all Catholic newspapers in central database. Foster through individual local projects.
- Darren: members contribute and virtually collocate collections and metadata.
- Malachy: site needs more bang for the buck. Nice to talk of other projects critical to look at OCD and get that digitized. Immediately.
- Malachy – also look at CPLI 1930-1981 - digitization of all volumes would be valuable. Access the file with errors done in India. Scan as is. Bona fide index for catholic thought.
- Noel ATLA religion database has few Catholic publications. Will investigate at UToronto to digitize CPLI. IS CLA ok with giving up rights if UT digitized then goes to Internet Archive?
- Darren include attribution, preclude money making from the item.
- Noel UT does not. Some publications submitted to IA from UT have been digitized and are being sold by Amazon.
- Pat will take the issue of scanning CLPI to DAC, and will follow up with key members on digitization of OCD.

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

Discuss at next meeting.

6. Discuss how to pursue partnerships with Catholic newspaper publishers: what contacts do we have, where to start, etc. (Jennifer)

How do we get started in finding funding agencies to fund the scan and directory? It is the groundwork for all else, all individual digitization efforts. Shall we have 2-3 TF members as subgroup to pursue partnerships and funding?

- Malachy – most significant partners include OSV and diocesan publishers. Two key in expanding Catholic newspaper world: OSV and the Register (Denver).
- Jean and Pat will make a trip to OSV.
- Jean: what about Catholic Press Assoc?
- Malachy – their convention is in Indy in June (June 20-22).
- JY: Possible moral (not financial) supporting partner.
- Malachy – plus for them and CLA and ACHA also. Affiliates. Share the org's goals. More credibility. ACDA as well.
- JY: 3 things: OSV visit, Malachy on Catholic Press, CLA, ATLA, ACDA, will coordinate identification of other partners. USCCB may be interested in

providing moral support. Will pull together in next six weeks.

- Darren: USCCB at least moral support helpful.
- Pat described conversations with Jeff Hoffman, Archivist at Our Lady of Victory Noll Archives (OLV). They are interested in digitizing the Catechist Missionary (1924-1964) and in partnering with CRRA to do so. OSV was founded by the Archbishop Noll, who was instrumental in OLV's formation and expansion. Jeff has had grants from OSV to digitize films from OLV Archives. Might we want to consider including OLV in a proposal to OSV?
- Darren: Would it lend weight to begin doing it in advance of application?
- JM: Also make inroads with other Midwestern holdings and doing a magazine as well. No hard line need be drawn between serials and newspapers.
- Rob – Spiritan publication is one of our most popular, lots of interest outside the congregation, politically good move.
- Malachy – OLV is one of the pioneers with Mexicans in southwest. Classic hidden collection and minority population that is undocumented.