http://www.catholicresearch.net

CRRA Catholic Newspapers Task Force

Thursday October 20, 2011
11:00 a.m. – Noon Eastern, 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Central

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

AGENDA

Present: Cait Kokolus, Pat Lawton, Malachy McCarthy, Darren Poley Steven Szegedi, Jennifer Younger
(In Noel's absence, Cait agreed to lead the meeting)

1. Approve draft minutes from Oct. 13 meeting (attached)
   a. Name is Immigration Research History Center, Minnesota. Director is Donna Gabaccia, many immigrant newspapers, many of which would be Catholic.
   b. Correct Gilfoyle spelling
   c. On page 3, the main paper is *Chicago New World* which then changed to *Chicago Catholic New World*

   Minutes accepted with corrections.

2. Discuss prospectus outline (attached).
   a. **Discussion of 3.2:**
      Will the Directory include full MARC records as in the LC newspaper project or will it be more of a listing with specified fields?
      - National Digitization Newspaper Program (NDNP) up and downside is the required standardization. We may have to match theirs. Big thing is separation of articles, applied to digital project. Standards for NDNP, more work, better project. NDNP digitization only in half the states.
      - Create a directory using current national standards. Evaluate which standards to use.
   b. *After the grant period, will CRRA continue to do the updating?*
      - Granting agency looking for sustainability, should CRRA do the updating? Not much updating, mostly closing runs. Yes, CRRA should take on updating.
   c. *Survey CRRA members, and who else? Where to begin in identifying targets for the survey?*
      - Survey archdiocesan archives, group of seminary librarians, religious orders and archives. Official Catholic Directory (OCD) lists official publications blessed by the bishop. Catholic Press Association 1920 lists everybody. Use *OCD* and *Catholic Press Directory* as starting points. Once *Catholic Press Directory* started, *OCD* dropped its listing. Mention in prospectus.

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- To determine: Does *Catholic Press Directory* list all or just members?

d. *What criteria will be used to set priorities?*
- Good beginning to include papers from large population centers.
- Consider feasibility of digitizing with members or other partners. *Southern Messenger* Archdiocese of San Antonio, UTexas has that run. If we digitize that, might partner with UT to get it done. Think about how we can piggyback with local initiatives.
- The Emerald (Catholic paper in NY) : Yale is only one that owns in Worldcat.
- Ability to partner with other cultural heritage institutions who desire to provide digitized copies to their populations.

e. *Do we want the object itself or simply link to it?*
- Once digitized and in a file, easy to have many copies. Recommend that contributors provide CRRA multiple copies.
- CRRA builds a repository for digital objects. Allow institutions that partner to have their own copy. (see Villanova U agreement), ask for perpetual right to make available to scholars.
- Maintain control over the server, do not farm out. Physically have control of a server. Transcripts, uncompressed copy, web accessible copy, multiple copies of each object.
- Main thing is to have uncompressed copies with one master copy and one copy easier to get to.

f. *On the tag function*
- DLF has standards that VU follows. Discovery layer needs to be a decision made at the institutional level. Not all libraries will adopt same standards, all will be standardized. Need portability of digital object in standard format. Follow NDNP or how far to go with that? One set of standards, a committee will decide. Must be searchable.
- What is our purpose? *Dissemination or preservation?* JSTOR vs Project Muse? Preservation level maintains integrity of the object. Preservation level is the goal, as long as not at expense of dissemination. "Our standard is one of preservation."

g. *How will identified content be digitized?*
- Useful to briefly identify strategies to indicate we have thought beyond the scan. Ideally great if CRRA could open a digital lab, shift it to them for quality control. But would they want to build a staff, market it, .. huge issue. Better to outsource or have members with capacity do it. CRRA certify vendor or institution to ensure standards follow. Members with capacity do the digitization. Vendor option a Pandora's box. " IA has been a nightmare." Jennifer indicated it is "almost a certainty" that CRRA would not build a lab. Work with members and other cultural heritage institutions. Conduct a separate survey to members to understand capacity and interest in partnering in this endeavor.
- Locate projects that could be put together in a grant proposal as a group. CRRA would assist in finding financial projects to fund collaborative projects, facilitate and provide support for developing collaborative grant projects, disseminate information about national grant opportunities. Mention the strategies, need not rank. As opportunities

develop, all could happen simultaneously. Agreed upon digital standard used for and by all.

- Would form a subcommittee to determine which standards to adopt and then approved by CRRA board.
- Need project manager for survey; also ability for others to contribute (wiki-like component), scholars, advisors.

Discussion of 4. Proposed Budget, Approximate Cost over a Period of Approximately How Many Months

- Survey period – 6 months – need a FT Project Manager
- Expenses include:
    - o computer and software
    - o mailings
    - o salary and office
    - o some travel support
    - o include in budget in kind contribution from CRRA member or other
    - o telecommunications
    - o newsletter to highlight outreach with catchy name "Capturing the Catholic Past" part of an extremely important national project
    - o Add a sponsored researcher who uses the project and has a product that will come from it
    - o Launch event, one in Canada, one in US have f2f meeting.
    - o Host webinars for completing the survey and digitizing to help with what they know.

3. Wrap up and agenda items for next meeting
   Good discussion today of the survey.

   Next week discuss:

   - Compiling the list
   - Digitization period
   - Digitization costs

4. **Next meeting date:** Thursday, Oct. 27, 11:00 Eastern, 10:00 Central.
   Call-in information is the same as above.