UCLA
UCLA Library Research Forum

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2021 Library Research Forum Program

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2021 Library Research Forum Program

23 March 2021 | 10am – 4pm PT

Program Outline

10-10:15am – Welcome & Opening Remarks
Ginny Steel, University Librarian

This session was recorded
https://escholarship.org/uc/item/46k2w2dq

10:15-10:40am – Lightning Talks & Q&A
QR-8: Redesigning Curriculum on a Curatorial Model
Presenter: Christopher Gilman

In this lightning talk, I will present a concept for curriculum design that optimizes instructional use of digital and physical collections. The premise of this approach is a revised understanding of knowledge that includes modalities of information (e.g. visual imagery, video, digitized rare books) that cannot be communicated through speech or written description. Its purpose is to lay the foundation for technical infrastructure and instructional support services that will bridge gaps in the flow of high quality library media resources, and help develop foundational, multimodal information literacy proficiencies at the undergraduate level.

This session was recorded.
https://escholarship.org/uc/item/9ch0656f

Three Dimensional Bibliography: Plaster Casts in the Sir John Soane Museum, A Dress Rehearsal
Presenter: Nina Schneider

The nineteenth-century appetite for plaster cast reproductions of architecture and sculpture is still evident in a handful of museums in the United States and England: London's Victoria & Albert Museum, Oxford's Ashmolean Museum, Pittsburgh's Carnegie Museum, and New York's Institute for Classical Architecture. But in the last quarter of the eighteenth century, antiquarians intent on understanding the Classical world, souvenir hunters on the Grand Tour, and wealthy landowners looking to fill their homes and gardens with cultural cache, also collected plaster casts. One such person, John Soane (1753-1837), depended on plaster casts to fulfill some of the same functions as a descriptive bibliography does today.

In A New Introduction to Bibliography, Philip Gaskell stated that "there is no reason to confine bibliography to literary texts. All documents...are the bibliographer's province; and it may be added that the aims and procedures of bibliography apply not only to written and printed books but also to any document...where production is involved and variant versions may result."

Suzanne Briet successfully argued that anything could be a document, including an antelope in a zoo. If an antelope is a document and bibliography can be applied to any kind of document, and a document can be anything, the possibilities become infinite. I will argue that plaster casts can also be considered within the bibliographer's wheelhouse. Sir John Soane's eponymous London museum serves as a case study.

I will be participating in a Roundtable at an upcoming ASECS conference and would appreciate feedback from my UCLA colleagues.

This session was recorded.
https://escholarship.org/uc/item/4tv922wh

Tools in the Data Lake: What's There and How to Get More of Them?
Presenter: Sharon Shafer

Data Lake is a central repository for assessment-related reports, data, and tools created for the use of UCLA Library. It is a centralized assessment planning platform with modules. Today, we will be covering the tool module and how to use it to your best advantage to conduct assessment, research, and to request new programs related to your work.

This session was recorded.
https://escholarship.org/uc/item/9qm9f6r0

The Contemporary Music Score Collection at UCLA
Presenters: Rachel Boehl and Matthew Vest

Matthew Vest will present a collaborative open access music score publishing project undertaken by the UCLA Music Library and Kaleidoscope, a local chamber orchestra. In February 2020, Kaleidoscope and the Library jointly put out a Call for Scores that attracted over 7,800 submissions from composers and received over 5,500 submissions for publishing in UCLA's open access institutional repository. He will discuss the planning and implementation of the Call.

Rachel Boehl will discuss the next steps for the Score Collection, including global context and promotion, as well as offering student perspective on open access music scores.

This session was recorded.
https://escholarship.org/uc/item/0fk697c0

Q&A

10:40-10:45am – Break

10:45-11:45am – Concurrent Session A
Redrawing Lines: Cartography, Networks, and Linked Open Data
Presenter: Ryan Horne

This talk outlines theoretical and methodological approaches of digital gazetteers, and highlights the increasing use and importance of Linked Open Data (LOD) in the practice of digital spatial humanities. It explores how a wide variety of research projects and pedagogical approached can use LOD resources and initiatives to answer basic research questions, create maps, and view spatial networks which challenge traditional conceptions of cartography and data visualizations. In addition, this talk will discuss how projects can make significant contributions to the growing spatial and environmental humanities digital ecosystem.

This session was recorded.
https://escholarship.org/uc/item/30r499hd

The UCLA Library and Wikidata: A Pilot
Presenters: Erica Zhang, Iman Dagher & Paromita Biswas
Since the fall of 2020, the UCLA Library has been participating in the Program for Cooperative Cataloging's Wikidata Pilot, an initiative to explore contributing linked data to a free and public platform as well as incorporating linked data work and principles into current cataloging practices. This talk will introduce the linked data platform Wikidata and the benefits it provides, including opportunities to share siloed metadata with the public, serving as a hub of identifiers, and supporting multilingualism, among others. We will walk through current projects that the UCLA Pilot team is working on, and the lessons learned thus far. We hope that this talk will inspire our colleagues to think of other Wikidata projects and to spark new ideas and discussion about the potential of Wikidata in not just cataloging, but also broader research and scholarship.

This session was recorded.
https://escholarship.org/uc/item/80p6w2f1

An Evolving Sinai Manuscripts Data Program
Presenters: Dawn Childress & Ryan Horne

Dawn Childress and Ryan Horne will discuss the evolution of the data program for the Sinai Manuscripts Digital Library project and how these efforts will support research activities related to Byzantine history and culture, book and knowledge creation histories, and digital manuscript cultures. We will discuss early considerations underlying the first phase of metadata collection and modeling to represent the complexities of early manuscripts, how this work has evolved into developing a new "witness-centric" data model for representing manuscript codices, and plans to build a Linked Open Data portal to publish all collection data as an open, machine-actionable research dataset. Finally, we'll share how we are collaborating within the larger digital manuscripts and Linked Open Data communities to define standards, practices, and ontologies for digital manuscript collections.

This session was not recorded.

10:45-11:45am – Concurrent Session B

Retrospective Accessioning: Elevating Access to LSC's Archival Collections
Presenter: Jasmine Larkin

Library Special Collections (LSC) is embarking on a Retrospective Accessioning Project to address the archival collections backlog. This backlog is an estimated 11,663 linear feet of collections. These collections lack physical, administrative, and intellectual control thus remaining undiscoverable and inaccessible to our users. To ensure LSC is fulfilling its role as responsible stewards of our collections and meeting our mission to provide access to collections and serve our users, we need to establish baseline levels of control. This long-term, multi-year project will take an iterative approach to accessioning LSC's backlog in order to establish those necessary levels of control to facilitate discovery, reappraisal, prioritization, and access activities within the department. This presentation will provide a general overview of the project, project work that has been done so far, and project end goals.

This session was recorded.
https://escholarship.org/uc/item/1019q7kh

Divided Development and the Struggle for Housing Justice in Los Angeles
Presenters: Syan Lunsford, Rachel Abrahams, Joaquin Peres, Katherine Ramirez, Julia Tanenbaum & Jake Tompkins

We are a group of Library and Information Studies Master's students at UCLA working in the Digital Library Program (DLP). While the UCLA Library Digital Collections include rare & unique digital materials to support education,

research, service, and creative expression, this digital exhibit intends to highlight materials related to housing injustice in Los Angeles across multiple collections. This exhibit documents the stories of the Laws and Aréchiga families—experiences that were in some ways 'hidden' within the Digital Collections—to encourage more people to learn about the history of housing injustices in Los Angeles.

The selected resources are drawn primarily from collections published through the UCLA Library Digital Collections website: the Los Angeles Times Photographs Collection; Miriam Matthews Photograph Collection; Maps of Los Angeles, California, United States and the World; Pamphlet Maps Collection; Los Angeles Daily News Negatives; and the Alfred Thomas Quinn Collection. Some of the resources originate from other UCLA-affiliated collections, such as UCLA Library Special Collections' Richard and Dion Neutra Papers and Edward R. Roybal Papers, both published via Calisphere; the UCLA Center for Oral History Research's Black Leadership in Los Angeles series; and the Strachwitz Frontera Collection of Mexican and Mexican American Recordings.

Repository: https://github.com/UCLALibrary/lahousing
Website: https://uclalibrary.github.io/lahousing/about/

This session was recorded.
https://escholarship.org/uc/item/78k7w95j

Henry J. Bruman Maps at UCLA through Georeferencer
Presenters: Zhiyuan Yao & Maria Jankowska

In this presentation, we will demonstrate how to georectify old historical maps through the Georeferencer in a crowdsourcing way. These georeferenced historical maps will be eventually show up in Old Maps online, a search engine for historical maps.

This session was recorded.
https://escholarship.org/uc/item/9xr406tw

11:45am-12:15pm – Lunch Break

12:15-1:00pm – Concurrent Session C
Assessing the Effectiveness of a University Library's Strategic Initiative to Foster Data-Informed Decision Making
Presenters: Dana Peterman & Sharon Shafer

Using a survey of UCLA Library employees, interviews of library leaders, and an assessment of planning documents and reports within UCLA Library's

Data Lake, the authors examine the extent to which the organization has adopted a culture of assessment where data-informed decision making is a norm. The study attempted to frame its findings using various maturity models to determine how the organization has met markers for instilling a culture of assessment, but found those models insufficient, particularly in light of a lack of benchmarking data. Therefore, the authors developed a set of model-influenced measurable characteristics from the data to illustrate how well the organization incorporates assessment within its culture that will be used in a future replication study. The study reveals the current attitudes and perceptions of organization members who took the survey, what interviewed library leaders think about assessment efforts and priorities, and how well those who attempted to conduct and report on assessment were able to conform to a basic rubric indicating competence.

This session was recorded.
https://escholarship.org/uc/item/58g5k4h5

Introducing Reproducibility to Citation Analysis: a Case Study in the Earth Sciences
Presenter: Wynn Tranfield

This study replicated the prior citation study's methods and conclusion to analyze the citation practices of Earth Scientists at four institutions. We found that 80% of the citations could be accounted for by only 7.88% of journals, a key metric to help identify a core collection of titles in this discipline. We then demonstrated programmatically that 36% of these cited references were available as open access.

This session was not recorded.

On The Recruitment & Retention of Academic Librarians of Colour
Presenter: Dee Winn

Dee will discuss a paper that she co-authored that was published in College & Research Libraries in January 2020.

The goal of the study was to determine the strategic approaches that academic libraries in the US and Canada use to recruit and retain librarians from racially and ethnically diverse backgrounds. A systematic review was chosen for the methodology because they provide a comprehensive summary and evaluation of relevant literature to answer specific research questions. The specific questions the authors asked were:

1) What are the current and historical practices used to recruit diverse librarians into academia?

2) How are university libraries supporting librarians from diverse backgrounds?
3) What initiatives are in place to encourage diverse librarians to remain in academic librarianship?

Data was evaluated using a modified version of the CASP Qualitative Checklist developed by the Critical Appraisal Skills Programme. This checklist evaluated the impact of the initiative and the evidence of support for the initiative.

Although recruitment programs currently exist, they are not significantly increasing the number of librarians of colour entering the field or advancing in their careers. Additionally, the majority of interventions focus exclusively on early-career librarians, and little is being done to address the unique needs and experiences of mid- and late-career librarians. The authors located few publications about efforts to retain diverse librarians once they enter the profession or about career advancement initiatives to recruit them into leadership positions.

This session was not recorded.

12:15-1:00pm – Concurrent Session D

Promoting Critical Reading through Learner-Centered Design: WI+RE's Approach to Open Online Learning
Presenters: Hannah Sutherland, Salma Abumeeiz & Renee Romero
The WI+RE team recently had a book chapter (title above) accepted in the ACRL published book "Teaching Critical Reading Skills: Strategies for Academic Librarians". Our book chapter explores three WI+RE projects: the Reading Strategies Playlist - a bank of videos that outline general tips for reading and comprehending informational content efficiently and effectively, the Breaking Down Academic Articles webcomic - focuses on reading strategies that help learners identify and understand the essential components of academic articles, and C.R.E.A.T.E.S - an interactive website highlighting a six-step approach for comprehending and analyzing scientific papers. By highlighting these online learning resources, and the process through which they were created, we outline the cross-applicability of learner centered design in creating responsive, community-oriented instruction in general. We will advocate for WI+RE's learner-centered design process by outlining how it informed three unique resources geared towards student reading, specifically critical and analytical reading skills acquisition and reading different source types.

This session was recorded.
https://escholarship.org/uc/item/71x5033z

[Library Instruction Training, Winter 2021](https://escholarship.org/uc/item/7jk3x6cv)
Presenters: Michelle Brasseur, Alex Solodkaya & Chris Lopez

Alex Solodkaya and Michelle Brasseur will represent a group of instructors from the Teaching and Learning Functional Team and WI&RE to discuss a series of workshops piloted in Winter, 2021. Current Library Student Research Assistants as well as students in the UCLA Master of Library and Information Science program participated in this series of workshops which aimed to provide library instruction training by means of active learning experiences in a peer-to-peer setting. The training explored a variety of learner needs and environments, teaching pedagogies, and more. This presentation with discuss the origins of this project, what information was covered, what went well, and what changes could be made for future offerings of this training.

This session was recorded.
https://escholarship.org/uc/item/7jk3x6cv

1:00-1:10pm – Break

1:10pm-2:10pm – Concurrent Session E

[Panel Discussion: What is Digital Humanities?](https://escholarship.org/uc/item/9ww8h15x)
Presenters: Zoe Borovsky, Wendy Perla Kurtz, Anthony Caldwell & Ashley Sanders Garcia

This presentation includes a brief overview of UCLA's Digital Humanities Program, introduces projects and methods as well as local people (Wendy, Anthony, and Ashley) and their expertise(s). The methods covered: text analysis/text-mining, mapping, 3D modeling -- and, perhaps, network analysis. Our goal is to acquaint librarians with what DH is, the main resources/methods, and how to refer/contact us.

This session was recorded.
https://escholarship.org/uc/item/9ww8h15x

1:10pm-2:10pm – Concurrent Session F

Roundtable Discussion: Grant-Funded Research Projects: Challenges and Opportunities
Presenter: Rebecca Fordon

This roundtable is for Library folks who have obtained research grants or who are interested in doing so. Participants will discuss challenges we have faced and strategies for overcoming them, including: (i) policies prohibiting acting as principal investigator, (ii) grant writing, (iii) budgeting, and (iv) finding sources for research grants.

This session was not recorded.

2:10-2:20pm – Break

2:20-3:20 – Session G
Media Asset Management for a 21st Century Archive
Presenter: Matt Gainer

The UCLA Library is implementing a Media Asset Management (MAM) system to support, optimize, and provide automation for the digitization, restoration, and long-term access of the Film & Television Archive's digital assets. The MAM will help enable the Library meet the evolving needs of the UCLA community for broad access to our growing media collections. This session will provide an overview of requirements research & project goals, and will discuss ways the system might be used in support of teaching, learning, and research at UCLA.

This session was not recorded.

Towards an Ethics of Care in Representing Minoritized Voices through Transcription
Presenters: Nicté Fuller Medina, Alexander González Paz, Daniela Hernández Castro & Griselly Padron

The paper reports on transcription as a means to increase usability and access to specialized audio collections in the library. We discuss the complexity of transcriptions as a both a political and linguistic process rather than a neutral one. Two audiovisual collections are discussed: The Older Recordings of Belizean varieties of Spanish (Fuller Medina 2018) and the Chinese-Cuban oral histories (UCLA library's International Digital Ephemera project). The first collection consists of sociolinguistic interviews collected by Timothy W. Hagerty in Belizean Mestizo-Maya communities for his linguistic analysis of the Spanish of Belize in 1979. More than a linguistic benchmark, however, these interviews document a disappearing cultural heritage and are therefore reimagined as cultural patrimony. Thus, rather than giving primary consideration to linguists as is traditionally done in the creation of linguistic corpora, the goals of specialist researchers are balanced with those of repatriation and the creation of a public resource that it is both meaningful and accessible to local communities. The Chinese-Cuban oral histories are a born-digital collection destined to be part of the IDEP open access online collection and ultimately shared with the interviewees and Casa de Artes y Tradiciones Chinas in Cuba. While both these important audio collections document voices largely absent from library and archival collections, the transcription workflows differ based on both the nature of the recordings and

intended users. Through these case studies we present some of the major issues to consider in developing best practices for the transcription of audiovisual collections.

This session was recorded.
https://escholarship.org/uc/item/9gg321gf

Science Fiction Against the Margins
Presenters: Maya Montañez Smukler, KJ Relth-Miller & Paul Malcolm

"Science Fiction Against the Margins" explores what takes place when the science fiction genre extends outside of Hollywood and into independent filmmaking productions that foreground cultural difference, political injustice, and social inequality. Sci-fi films are typically dominated by Hollywood's action-driven melodramas and state-of-the-art spectacles featuring a heteronormative star who will restore social order, whether on earth or in space. "Science Fiction Against the Margins" challenges these conventions of mainstream cinema by considering how certain independent filmmakers repurpose established tropes to privilege alternative representations of race and ethnicity, gender politics, and national identity in the construction of speculative cinema. This project is funded by the Getty Foundation's Pacific Standard Time 2024 Grant that focuses on the intersection of science and art. During this Paper Talk we will present a working draft of our program introduction. The final project will consist of an eight-week, public film series showcasing feature films from around the globe, complementary narrative shorts and television programs, a groundbreaking anthology of original scholarship on the subject, and a graduate seminar in the Cinema and Media Studies Program.

This session was recorded.
https://escholarship.org/uc/item/75s7w6zd

What's Wrong with Digital Stewardship: Evaluating the Organization of Digital Preservation Programs from Practitioners' Perspectives
Presenter: Shira Peltzman

The National Digital Stewardship Alliance surveyed practitioners in 2012 and 2017 to gauge, among other things, how satisfied they were with their organizations' digital preservation function. This presentation, based on a panel discussion at the 2020 NDSA Digital Preservation conference, will report the findings of a qualitative study that seeks to understand what contributes to the high and rising levels of dissatisfaction that practitioners reported. For the study, my co-authors and I interviewed 21 digital stewards at institutions across the country and asked them to describe the organizational context in which they work; to reflect on what aspects of their

organizations' approach to digital preservation are working well and which are not; and to evaluate necessary areas of improvement. We identified experiences that were common among participants using a qualitative research methodology based on phenomenology. These conversations revealed that practitioners largely consider digital stewardship values and goals to be misunderstood at an organizational level, and demonstrated that the absence of a long-term vision for digital stewardship disempowers practitioners.

This session was not recorded.

3:20-3:30 – Break

3:30-4:00 – Session H

Open Axis: The Making of and Opportunities for Gamification

Presenters: Salma Abumeeiz, Courtney Hoffner, Jennifer Chan, Simon Lee & Wynn Tranfield

The Play Based Open Access Team (pboat) will provide an overview of the Open Axis video game, which was released for Open Access Week 2020. The team will outline inspirations behind the game, while also demonstrating the tools and workflows used to actualize it (including Twine and Flowlab). Practical strategies for incorporating gamification into teaching and outreach activities will be emphasized. Finally, pboat will highlight broader opportunities and considerations associated with play-based learning, and in doing so will advocate for dynamic, engaging, multimodal approaches to asynchronous library instruction and outreach.

This session was not recorded.