Approved proposals

Proposals submitted 15 April 2015

“Digitization and transfer of pre-1900 maps from Sterling Memorial Library’s Map Department to the Beinecke Rare Book & Manuscript Library,” Todd Fell

Following a recommendation from the Maps Task Force Report of 4 October 2013, a decision was made to transfer to the Beinecke Rare Book & Manuscript Library all of the pre-1900 maps currently housed in the Map Department at Sterling Memorial Library. As part of this transfer, all maps will be digitized and their images and metadata ingested into the Beinecke’s digital collections. In addition, coordinates will be determined and entered into the Orbis bibliographic records (and be contained in the metadata for the images) for those map titles that do not already contain such data.

Proposals submitted 30 January 2015

“RapidILL Implementation Proposal,” Tom Bruno

This project proposes to adopt the RapidILL system for Sterling Memorial Library and LSF materials. RapidILL is an automated request processing system based on known holdings, similar to how the Borrow Direct platform allows Yale patrons to request expedited loan delivery based on known item locations and availability. This is a faster, more efficient and cost-effective alternative to the current ILL process.

“Web-based Box Request System,” Werner Haun

Using a web-based form, YUL staff will be able to submit measurements for custom fitted boxes for volumes. Bibliographic information will be pulled from Orbis and downloaded to the Kasemake box-making system along with the measurements. Boxes will be generated at 344 Winchester by the Kasemake machine and sent to the owning collection.

“Relaunching YFAD with ArchivesSpace,” Mark Custer

Rather than redesigning the Yale Finding Aid Database (YFAD) as a local system, this project proposes the next version of YFAD to utilize the public web portal that comes as part of ArchivesSpace. YUL’s Finding Aid Coordinating Committee members, Mark Custer (BRBL Archivist and Metadata Coordinator), and Library IT staff will work with LYRASIS’s ArchivesSpace developer and their contractor over the next year to develop an updated public ArchivesSpace web application and three plugins that support the YFAD-redevelopment objectives.

Proposals submitted 31 October 2014

“Omeka: a platform for online exhibitions,” Francesca Livermore

The need for an online exhibits platform was demonstrated by the number of ‘legacy’ online exhibits using a variety of applications which are hard to support, update, or maintain. Omeka was chosen over other options including a Drupal module because of ease of use. It also produces exhibits that can be preserved, sustained, easily maintained and migrated. This project will implement Omeka for use by YUL staff.

“YUL/ITS joint repository,” Michael Dula

ITS and YUL will collaborate to develop a digital asset management infrastructure, built on top of the existing YUL digital content repository, to support faculty-submitted and faculty-curated collections of digital content. This joint venture will achieve two key goals: development of a central repository of academic content and self-submission of valuable community outputs. One use case will be the development of the Avalon Media System for streaming AV content. The other use case is to address the needs of uncurated research data.

“YUL/ITS joint repository & development of the Avalon Media System,” Remi Castonguay
The Music Library, in collaboration with Library IT and ITS, will be one of two use cases in the development of the YUL/ITS joint repository. The Avalon Media System will replace the outdated Variations Digital Music Library so as to meet the needs of the music faculty by allowing for the deposit of digital AV archival materials and for delivery of those materials for teaching and research.

"YUL Metrics Dashboard," Sarah Tudesco

The Library produces a large amount of data across many applications and departments. Currently this data resides in silos: LibAnalytics, Voyager, Aeon, ILL, Borrow Direct, electronic resources. This project will begin the process of bringing together data gathered from across the Library for usage information, reference & instruction transactions, and acquisitions & collection development into a modern, web-accessible, optimized reporting platform.

"Vendor Data Backlog, Recovery & Curation," Euan Cochrane

The project is to recover and curate (arrange, describe/catalog, and convert/normalize) a backlog of approximately 50TB of vendor data currently stored on old hard drives and tape cartridges that are degrading. This data is the result of licensing agreements providing YUL with copies to ensure access in perpetuity.


This project will combine all 20,000 digitized images from BRBL’s papyri collection into the Hydra/Fedora repository to make them more easily and completely available online. It will also enable these images to be accessible through ArchiveSpace and the central web interface (papyri.org) that displays papyrus from across institutions.

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