

## Forum for Classics, Libraries, and Scholarly Communications (FCLSC) Minutes

January 7, 2015

2-4PM

San Francisco, CA

### Agenda

- 1 Introduction (Colin McCaffrey, Chair; Lanah Koelle, Secretary)
  - 2 Confirmation of 2015 Minutes
  - 3 Round-the-room updates
  - 4 "Tools of the Trade" Instruction Initiative (David Ratzan et al.)
  - 5 Refugee Scholars Papers Updates (Larissa Bonfante)
  - 6 Discovering Open Access Resources
    - a Open Access Books: The Problem of Visibility (Cathy Mardikes)
    - b The AWOL Index (Chuck Jones) <http://isaw.nyu.edu/publications/awol-index/>
  7. Open Greek and Latin Project (Greg Crane)  
<http://www.dh.uni-leipzig.de/wo/projects/open-greek-and-latin-project/>
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### Announcements

- Brill pricing rates
  - Montanari dictionary translation: online subscription \$2600/year; not a sustainable price; comparatively print version is only \$125
  - proposal to write a letter to Brill (possibly co-signing letter in partnership with ALA) asking them to defend their pricing and request an option for perpetual access
- Digital Latin Library update – *report submitted by Samuel Huskey included at end of minutes*

### Refugee Scholars Papers

- Forum previously decided to add links to finding aids in Wikipedia
- Comprehensive survey would be a huge task – both libraries and departments may have archives; would be helpful to have a list of names
  - National Anthropological website (COPAR) could be one model Council for the Preservation of Anthropological Records <http://copar.org/>
- Refugee scholars could be a pilot project within a larger project to look at classicists' papers in general
- David Ratzan volunteers to talk to Todd Hickey to see what kind of survey work has already been done (Hickey is finishing a book, *Goodspeed of Chicago: America's First Papyrologist*)

## **“Tools of the Trade” initiative**

### Introduction:

- Project goals are to identify skills relevant to 21<sup>st</sup> century research (bibliographic searching skills to big data and computational tools)
- Start by creating a LibGuide to pull together resources; hosted at NYU by ISAW
- More ambitious plan to draw up a list of competencies in collaboration with Society of Classical Studies that graduate and undergraduate programs should be aware of
- LibGuide would be a shared knowledge base, organized by functional areas, with information about different tools and tutorials. Audiences include students, professors, and librarians.
- LibGuide would also be a tool for professors who have to teach multidisciplinary classes or move between sub-disciplines: what are the accepted tools in each subfield?

### Models to consider:

- Could be publication opportunities for articles on how to do research in an area (see [“Surveying the Scholarship”](#) in Blackwell’s *A Companion to Greek Art*)
- <http://programminghistorian.org/> model: includes peer-edited tutorials, so quality control is built in and creates community around the site
- [“Rome wasn’t digitized in a day”](#) by Alison Babeu

### General suggestions:

- Consider different models for presenting information: in-depth comparisons or listing resources
- Include for-cost tools, if they are the best, but also include workarounds
- Include a section on mapping
- Collaborate with the DCA; aim tutorials at general level and include a section on manipulation of digital texts, for instance
- Importance of discipline-specific tutorials
- Different approaches: how to use tools vs. how to do research
- Share lesson plans for teaching tools and research skills

Forum vote: in support of ad hoc committee at Colin’s initiative to work on this initiative as a joint venture with the DCA. Committee members include Colin McCaffrey, David Ratzan, Jeremy Ott, Jackie Neel, and Patrick Burns plus NY meeting participants.

## **Discovering OA Resources**

### Announcement:

- [AWOL Index](#): With funding from Delmas Foundation, Chuck Jones and a team of collaborators structured AWOL data online and created an index, which should aid in discovery (and structured data should work with discovery tools).

Best practices initiative from Catherine Mardikes and Lenny Muellner – *draft of best practices included at end of minutes*:

- Roundtable discussion 2015: proposal to draft best practices for making open access materials discoverable, particularly monographs
- Would like to see:
  - A form to suggest open access titles for catalogs
  - Open access content included in traditional indexers (Zenon, Gnomon, L'Annee)
  - Maybe even OA publications in commercial e-book packages to increase distribution

## Open Greek and Latin Project

### Background:

- Project did not receive funding from the DFG; encouraged to reapply
- Goal to digitize at least one version of every edition of every work that survives of Greek and Latin through 600 CE; make works citeable by chapter and verse
- In partnership with [SLUB](#) (State Library of Saxony): digitizing post-1922 German editions to 1985 (including Teubners), with textual notes cut out
- Of the 100 million words that survive, we have about 40 million.
  - 10 million words of Greek on Perseus, 7 million of Latin; Harvard 3-4 million Greek philosophy and science; 6 million of Latin CCEL (finished and converted to XML in CTS protocol); 7 million Patrologia Latina; 7 million of Greek waiting to be finalized and fragmentary collections
  - Have a contract to get rest of Patrologia Latina

### Lucie and Rhea, project managers:

- Rhea Lesage submitted a proposal for Harvard money to help with digitization for the First Thousand Years of Greek prototype – one version of every text up to 300 CE
- Lucie Stylianopoulos is working with UVA Digital Scholars Lab, where two colleagues will use some of their consulting time to look at interface questions; also creating Digital Humanities micro-fellowships for undergraduates to participate in project
- Lucie and Rhea will draft a proposal for forum members to take to their institutions to garner support

### Models for sustainability, text-editing, etc:

- Idea to distribute the work through some kind of central infrastructure and interface. Take charge of a text and annotate, build in ability for morphological markup, assign credit.
- EEBO project at Michigan as a model; teaching students how to submit corrections, encouraging the broader community to take responsibility for the tools
- “Freemium” model: Write to classics programs for support; yes it’s open access, but using a “subscription” as a form of contribution for sustainability ([PhilPapers](#), for example)
- Perseids is an extended papyrological editor. Now students are translating things that haven’t been translated before and creating aligned translations.

- Opportunities for learning how to use these tools: [Teach the Teachers Workshop](#)
- Need for Github tutorials

Forum vote: in support of application for Harvard grant and initial seed project for 1000 Years of Greek project.

## REPORT ON THE DIGITAL LATIN LIBRARY PROJECT

January 2016

*Submitted by Samuel J. Huskey*

After their prospectus for the implementation phase of the project received approval from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, Huskey and his co-PI's assembled the full proposal in January and submitted it in February.

The rest of the first half of 2015 was spent wrapping up the final items from the second planning period. Huskey and his team at the University of Oklahoma continued evaluating options for a number of key components of the project. Much of the time was spent analyzing the kinds of data commonly found in critical editions of Latin texts and deciding how to represent it effectively for a wide variety of applications, including the data visualizations under development by the computer science arm of the project. The library arm of the project evaluated different Content Management Systems and finalized the metadata model for describing authors and works in the DLL's catalog. Huskey continued preparing a pilot edition to use for testing purposes in the implementation phase. Filming of the instructional videos concluded.

We held two technical meetings. In April, Bridget Almas and Marie-Claire Beaulieu, both of the Perseids project, came to Norman to discuss using the DLL's working space as a test case for the Perseids collaborative editing platform. Since Perseids is based on the Son of Suda Online platform developed by Hugh Cayless, who has been part of the DLL project from the beginning, and since Perseids meets many of the requirements identified in our user studies, we plan to move forward with a modified version of Perseids as the editing platform for the part of the project where users will collaborate and share their work. In May, we invited the team responsible for the Tesserae project to Norman to discuss opportunities for collaboration. Although the meeting suggested many good possibilities for the future, we concluded that the best outlet for Tesserae's new direction as a series of web services would be to collaborate with the Perseids team directly. We facilitated a remote meeting with the Perseids team to advance that discussion.

The DLL's advisory board met in Norman at the end of May, with representatives from the SCS, MAA, and RSA in attendance. We had a fruitful discussion of the project's progress to date and the work to be completed in the next stage. We also set some goals for establishing editorial workflows and rubrics for evaluating new editions proposed for publication in the DLL's *Library of Digital Latin Texts*.

At the end of June, we hosted scholars from Europe, Canada, and the U.S.A. for a two-day seminar on Latin textual criticism in the digital age. We also launched the informational web site for the project, <http://digitallatin.org>. The instructional videos mentioned above should be published on the website sometime in the first half of 2016.

On July 1, we received the first installment of the \$1,000,000 grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation for the implementation stage. Since then, we have been finalizing the data model for critical editions and installing the CMS for the library portion of the project. We plan to have pilot editions for the *Library of Digital Latin Texts* underway in the first quarter of 2016.

## **Open Access Books: The Problem of Visibility**

Open access publications rarely receive the treatment that leads to traditional forms of “advertising.”

1. Publishers advertise the book.
2. Bookstores/vendors alert customers/librarians of its availability
3. Libraries create a record for their catalog/OCLC.
4. Indexers, such as APh, add a record in their database.
5. Scholars receive the book as “payment” for their review.
6. LISTERV/blogs post information.
7. Search engines, like Google, index its website.

Only the last two are readily available for an open access book. Until open access books receive the same or similar treatment as a book with a price, they will remain less attractive to authors.

## **Draft of Best Practices for making Open Access classics monographs /journals/articles *visible* to researchers**

1. Optimize for major search engines (scholar.google.com, etc.) web sites offering open access publications
2. Catalogue open access publications catalogues of major university libraries and in WorldCat/OCLC
3. Disseminate information about new publications in social media frequented by classics professionals and humanists in general (listservs, blogs like Kleos, AWOL, etc.). AWOL also has an online index of resources.
4. Normalize inclusion of open access publications in indexers for classics (Aph, DAI [Zenon], Gnomon DB); there should be a form accessible to authors/librarians for inclusion of their data in the DBs
5. Work with commercial publishers of open access materials (DeGruyter, HUP, Cornell University Press, etc.) to develop a protocol for marketing them through various channels: brochures, book exhibits, working with librarians' vendors
6. Work with EBSCO, ProQuest (eBrary) and other aggregators to develop a model for integration of OA books into their packages on a reading platform that is familiar to users so that they will be batch loaded into library catalogues of those who purchase these packages
7. Work with vendors like YPB to make accessible *individual* OA titles for a small fee (\$5-10) payable by librarians
8. From now on, authors should require open access clauses in their book university-press contracts that allow them to participate in such a set of protocols, either after a certain amount of time or once their book goes out of print; and if their books are out of print, they should request the rights to it from the publishers and participate
9. Work with review journals, print and online, to get OA books reviewed like print books -- for intellectual reasons if not economic ones -- or at least to add them to "Books Received" lists