Summer 2012 Capstone Poster Session

Thursday, July 5th, 2012

3pm-5pm

1616 Guadalupe Street, 1st floor
The book publishing industry experienced a period of drastic change during the final decades of the twentieth century. Small publishing companies consolidated and were purchased by large, profit-minded media conglomerates. The widespread adoption of digital media technologies prompted many questions about the very future of the book itself. Yet at the pinnacle of these changes, the American young adult publishing market gradually began to experience not a decline, but a renaissance. In this report, I explore ways that changes in book publishing have manifested themselves in contemporary young adult literature through two case studies. In the first, I examine the production and marketing of Jay Asher’s novel, *Thirteen Reasons Why*. In the second, I discuss the grassroots community created by John Green that contributed to the success of his most recent novel, *The Fault in Our Stars*. Are today’s young adult books works of literature or commercial products? Is their increased popularity due to widening readership or more savvy marketing? Are the companies producing them more concerned with the public good or their own profit margins?

Sarah Brandt

*Improving Literacy Instruction with the Perry-Castañeda Library’s Youth Collection*

Perry-Castañeda Library, University of Texas

Faculty Supervisor: Barbara Immroth
Field Supervisor: Janelle Hedstrom

In years past, the students studying in the School of Education have not made optimum use of the youth collection housed at the Perry-Castañeda Library. The goal of this project is to create resources which will allow these students to use the collection more effectively in their classes and teaching practicums, and which will facilitate sharing text sets and other literacy resources for use in the classroom. Project deliverables include: a research guide, created in Drupal and hosted on the libraries' website, which highlights resources for teaching literacy and best practices when using the youth collection, a blog on which students can upload text sets they have created so that others can use them, and an information literacy plan for the fall semester. The information literacy plan will ensure that we are highlighting these resources to the proper classes so that they will be put to good use assisting education students in creating effective literacy instruction.
The Harry Ransom Center’s Uzielli collection contains a large number of well-known and high profile fine press items by the Venetian printing family, the Aldines. These 297 items are beautiful examples of early fine press materials that span the course of a century. Donated by Giorgio Uzielli in 1983, a descriptive bibliography was created in 1988, but none of the items have yet been integrated into the online catalog. This project aims to rectify this situation by cataloging as many items as possible using established rare book cataloging standards. Specifically, the project relies on DCRM(B) cataloging rules and OCLC Conexion and Cataloger’s desktop functionality and regulations. Additionally, substantive research has been required in bibliographies to ensure complete description of these items, since many of the items do not have title pages or contain false information. Furthermore, many of the items have been printed in Greek and Latin, requiring a knowledge of languages and Romanization of alphabets. Ultimately, the goal of this project is to improve access to items in the Uzielli Collection via the creation of online OCLC and local records.

Carly Dearborn

David O. Selznick Still Negatives Project

Harry Ransom Center

Faculty Supervisor: Barbara Immroth
Field Supervisor: Steve Wilson

The David O. Selznick Collection is the largest collection currently held by the Harry Ransom Center. Acquired in 1981, it contains scripts, awards, clippings, audio recordings, props, costume designs and much more. My project focused on a small, under-processed collection of negatives and negative transparencies. It consisted of about 100 boxes and was divided into two, hastily cataloged series. The collection is extremely fragile and contains both acetate and nitrate negatives so frozen storage is imperative. My final deliverable is a project plan for processing the David O. Selznick Still Negatives. The plan outlines rehousing efforts, preservation consideration, and cataloging standards. The plan will aid future volunteers and staff in handling and processing the collection. In order to complete the plan, I conducted an appraisal of the housed negatives, the scanned images, and attempted to locate missing items. The plan also addresses access issues. By adding more fields to the database records, staff will be able to easily track and locate materials once in frozen storage. Following the completion of this capstone experience I will implement the project plan I designed. This will involve hiring, training, and managing volunteers.
Alexandra Doval Perez

*Bilingual Summer Reading Program about the Summer Olympics*

McBee Elementary School

Faculty Supervisor: Barbara Immroth

Field Supervisor: Heather Stephens

The school library at McBee Elementary is holding a bilingual summer reading program about the Summer Olympics. This summer program includes stories in English and Spanish for children between the ages of 6-13. I will provide a learning experience for the students by reading to them in both languages and incorporating teaching lessons into the summer classes at the library. This bilingual community will benefit from a dual language reading program and also learn about current events and different countries at the same time.

Meg Eastwood

*Processing the Photographic Records of De Soto National Memorial*

Everglades National Park

Faculty Supervisor: Barbara Immroth

Field Supervisor: Jenna Edwards

The records of the National Park Service document the agency's efforts to preserve the natural and cultural heritage of the United States. De Soto National Memorial, dedicated in 1950, is a 24 acre park located on the western coast of Florida. The photographic records of the Memorial document the development and maintenance of the park, illustrating the challenges of preserving a small amount of acreage threatened by urban development on one side and beach erosion on the other. The photographs also show the growth of the Memorial's interpretation efforts from one set of outdoor displays into a visitor's center and a living history camp. The collection measures 11.5 linear feet and contains over 6800 photographic prints, 5600 slides, and 1625 negatives, as well as 57 CDs and two floppy disks of digital images. My project is to assess, arrange, and describe these records, then catalog them in the National Park Service's ICMS database system and produce a finding aid that will help park staff and researchers find materials of interest. I will also perform basic preservation tasks such as removing photographs from magnetic albums and rehousing them in acid-free paper sleeves.
This paper examines the role of library classifications in creating a public body of knowledge, specifically the Dewey Decimal Classification (DDC), developed in the United States in the latter third of the nineteenth century, and one of its derivatives, the Soviet Russian Library-Bibliographic Classification (BBK), developed in the first half of the twentieth century. In spite of the very different philosophical contexts of the two classifications in terms of their respective societal roles, they show a surprising amount of convergence. Both classifications were developed as the public library movement was beginning to gather speed with the support of a highly motivated backer, and both were key components of the public library’s role in educational enrichment for adult learners in particular. These classifications also allowed fast and more or less standardized access to books in public libraries at a time when public education was beginning to create a reading public capable of exploiting the library’s resources. As standardized access methods, the DDC through its overwhelming popularity and the BBK through decree, both classifications played a role in uniting the publics they served by providing those publics with a single means of access to the body of knowledge judged worth knowing by academic and political elites in their respective societies. Although the convergence is not identical—the most glaring and significant difference is the Soviet system’s highly coercive nature, which can be called brainwashing as easily as education—it is nevertheless significant and worthy of exploration, because it is this legacy libraries struggle against as they strive to remain relevant in a society that no longer wants or needs a lone cultural authority.

This capstone addresses a critical information problem at Austin Ventures (AV), a leading Texas-based venture capital firm with over $3.9 billion under management. As a recognized thought leader in the VC industry, AV is frequently called upon to do outreach and investor presentations. Much of the financial data displayed in these presentations changes rapidly, sometimes on a quarterly basis. As a result, associates at AV find themselves constantly updating different aspects of their outreach and investor presentations. This creates the following problems:

- Lack of visual continuity across presentations
- Lost time spent performing research (particularly when multiple information sources exist)
- Lost time spent re-designing slides to account for new data

To mitigate these issues I have employed Mekko Graphics, a data visualization program, and have designed a system to manage the process of updating data and quickly visualizing it according to a common visual vocabulary. This system guides users through the process of updating and visualizing constantly changing datasets, creating consistent, visually appealing presentations, all while saving the firm valuable time and resources.
Libraries provide havens where children can safely explore a variety of interests, which is why it is important that they maintain a diverse collection including materials focusing on science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM). For this project I am working with the staff at Cedar Park Public Library to compose a bibliography of STEM-related books, websites, videos, and other materials that are engaging and relevant for a variety of ages. In addition to finding materials that meet these needs I am also developing programs targeted at different age groups that will give participants the chance to actively engage with the ideas they're exploring from building structures to growing rock candy or even learning basic programming logic.

The reference section in today's library is changing as more and more selections are accessible online. One might assume that a physical space for reference materials is no longer necessary. However, online materials are not always an acceptable substitute for classroom learning. In this project I will take a look at the reference section of Burnet Middle School library with my field supervisor, Shelby Counts, Burnet Middle School Librarian. We will research what materials are available online, and whether teachers prefer to access certain reference materials online or in physical (book) format. We will be keeping some titles; however the collection will be weeded heavily. Reference materials will be consolidated and moved to a new location so that the Biography collection can take its place and be more easily accessible to teachers and students.
Russell L. Holley-Hurt

*J.R. Hunnicutt Photograph Collection*

The University of Texas at Austin

Faculty Supervisor: Barbara Immroth

Field Supervisor: Ladd Hanson

This digital repository contains the photographs of J.R. Hunnicutt, who served in the Texas Rangers, U.S. Customs Service, and U.S. Army. This collection, along with a large collection of correspondence and personal documents, is held at the Texas State Library and Archive. The photographs portray events from Mr. Hunnicutt's entire life, but the most significant were taken while he was a Ranger stationed near Glenn Springs in far West Texas in 1919. John Anderson, the State Archive's photo archivist, created an extensive metadata record for this collection using a set of custom subject headings. After applying Library of Congress authorities to proper subjects, I added all of this metadata to an MS Access database at the State Archive. This data was then copied and uploaded into MySQL and I used a PHP script to convert the metadata into Dublin Core XML documents. I digitized the entire photograph collection and performed minor edits on the images using Adobe Photoshop. Finally, the images and metadata were ingested into a Fedora Commons repository and I built an interface using Islandora, a Drupal-based front end.

Stephen Kuperman

*Creating an Online Video Series and Getting Real World Experience at the UT Health Science Center at San Antonio Libraries*

Briscoe Library at UTHSCSA

Faculty Supervisor: Barbara Immroth

Field Supervisor: Jonquil D. Feldman

The Dolph Briscoe Jr. Library is a branch of the UT Health Science Center at San Antonio Libraries. As an intern in the Library & Outreach Services Division of the Briscoe Library, I undertook to create an online video series introducing incoming UT Health Science Center students to the physical spaces of the UTHSCSA Libraries, as well as to the use of online library resources such as the Library Catalog. These videos are the culmination of an extensive planning process, incorporating a review of scholarly literature on library orientation and tutorials, analysis of similar efforts by other institutions, meetings with Briscoe Library staff to assess specific institutional needs, and iterative script-writing submitted to Briscoe Library staff for feedback. The videos were filmed and edited using Camtasia video screen capture software. In addition, during my internship I shadowed and met with members of the Briscoe Library staff across all divisions, learning about their professional duties and the issues specific to their professional roles. I also observed library orientations and class sessions to develop my instructional abilities, and received specialized training in reference services and in the research tools specific to health sciences librarianship, such as PubMed and OvidSP.
Stefanie Lapka

**The Frank Welch Architectural Collection**
The Alexander Architectural Archive, University of Texas at Austin
Faculty Supervisor: Barbara Immroth
Field Supervisors: Donna Coates, Beth Dodd, and Nancy Sparrow

The Alexander Architectural Archive at the University of Texas at Austin is the largest architectural research center in Texas. It is a repository of over 90 collections containing over 250,000 drawings and over 900 linear square feet of papers, photographic material, models and ephemera. The AAA recently received the Frank Welch Architectural Collection. Welch, an eminent Texas architect, is known for his regionalist architecture, particularly his houses. His collection is composed of 150 linear feet of manuscript material, 649 document rolls, over 10,000 slides, and also includes photographic material and audiotapes. The objective of my Capstone has been to make the Collection quickly accessible to researchers. Over the course of the project, I completed a receipt inventory of the collection, transferred the items from their receipt boxes into temporary boxes, and conducted a random sample survey in order to better understand the collection’s contents. Using this data, I then developed a processing plan and compiled a provisional series-level finding aid for the Archive. It will be available through their website and TARO.

Michael Redding

**Modern College Journalism: Upgrading and Archiving The Daily Texan Online**
Texas Student Media
Faculty Supervisor: Barbara Immroth
Field Supervisor: Jalah Goette

Media entities have undergone rapid changes in the past decade. They have faced declining print circulations, a sped-up news cycle, declining ad revenues, and changes in the way readers consume news. This is true for college newspapers as well. The Daily Texan, UT Austin’s student-run newspaper since 1900, currently has a website that does not take full advantage of these changes. This project consists of three stages. The first is a full upgrade of the current Daily Texan site, which entails a user-requirements gathering process, building a new website using the Drupal 7 content management system, conducting user tests with content creators, and deploying the site. The second stage requires migrating over 100,000 pieces of content into the new system automatically and with little disruption. The final stage is to migrate into the new site the Daily Texan’s complete story archive from 1997-2009. The project also includes creating both a mobile-ready and tablet-ready version of the website.
In 1987, KUT-FM aired the 13-part radio documentary series Lift Every Voice: Celebrating 50 Years of Black Gospel Music in Central Texas. Produced by Texas Folklife, the program featured interviews and performances by many influential figures in the history of Texas gospel music, including The Bells of Joy (an Austin group that recorded the only million-selling gospel record), and Lavada Durst, aka “Dr. Hepcat” (a music promoter and Austin’s first black disc jockey). The tapes include oral history interviews, rehearsals, and spirited performances recorded live in area churches. The source tapes for Lift Every Voice contain a wealth of additional material - over 40 hours of interviews and performances. The Dolph Briscoe Center for American History now houses the recordings, which have been unheard for twenty-five years. The Briscoe Center currently lacks the equipment to digitize the reels, and the tapes are at risk of deterioration. This project consisted of digitizing select tapes, entering metadata, and creating a wiki with recommendations and best practices for reel-to-reel digitization to aid Briscoe Center staff in future projects. This project will make these recordings publicly accessible via the web for the first time, where they can be enjoyed by listeners and preserved for posterity.

Kimberley Sharp

Redesign and Usability Evaluation of the VoteWatch iPhone App
Cliff Sharp iOS App Development
Faculty Supervisor: Barbara Immroth
Field Supervisor: Clifford Sharp

The purpose of this project is to design the new version of the VoteWatch iPhone app. Creating a new design involves testing the current design with end-users to discover what works and what can be improved. Next, rapid iterative prototyping of the new design is done to create, test, and implement new screen designs and task flows quickly. Usability testing and research into current design best practices also informs the iterative design process.
Sarah Sundbeck

UT Design Lecture Series Digitization

The Department of Art & Art History, University of Texas at Austin
Faculty Supervisor: Barbara Immroth
Field Supervisor: David Shields

To ensure long term preservation and increase access to the UT Design Lecture Series, this project seeks to digitize 24 DV tapes and make them available online. Since 2000, the lectures of visiting scholars and designers have been videotaped but up to this point have been inaccessible. This project will digitize these resources and establish an online home for past and future lectures. A digitization workflow that incorporates best practices for video digitization and online upload procedures for digitized materials will be developed. The project also seeks to enhance the media and make it more searchable by creating transcripts, indexing and tagging the materials. This may involve including the intended audience for the material, UT design lecture students, in developing these enhancements and seeing how students might interact with the materials as an educational resource. To ensure long term access and digital file preservation, the digitized materials will also be ingested in to UTDR.

Tami Saldaña Sutton

Space and Storage Plan for the Austin History Center, Phase I

Austin History Center
Faculty Supervisor: Barbara Immroth
Field Supervisor: Susan Rittereiser

It is often said that space is the most precious commodity to the archival repository. This cannot be more true at the Austin History Center. In order to assist them with their available space issues, I first performed an inventory of all the holdings in the Archives & Manuscripts Division. Several urgent issues surfaced. Additions to existing collections in many instances had been accessioned with new numbers and treated as separate records. I also found collections stored in inappropriate conditions and in areas in which facilitation was not an option. My report addresses all of these issues, along with others, and provides a strategic plan for the reallocation of storage space, while considering both current and future storage space needs. While my Capstone project only involves the creation of this plan, I will also head up Phase II of the project and oversee, not only the implementation of my recommendations, but also assist in the physical rearrangement of the collections.
Marianna Symeonides  
*Establishing the Framework for the Ballet Austin Archives*
  Ballet Austin  
  Faculty Supervisor: Barbara Immroth  
  Field Supervisor: Pei-San Brown

Ballet Austin recently acquired a substantial amount of materials that a former board member, Velma Lee Guinn, had collected in the course of her lifetime. The documents in this collection form the most comprehensive collection of historical materials relating to Ballet Austin and to dance in Austin in general. The materials date back to the founding of the first ballet school in Austin in 1956, and include both public materials created by Ballet Austin, such as programs and flyers, as well as internal documents, such as meeting minutes. There is also a photograph collection (estimated at 5,000+ photographs) that requires attention to ensure their long-term preservation and access. During the course of this project I am fulfilling many duties of an archivist including: ordering supplies, making appraisal decisions, arranging and describing materials, performing preservation and conservation work, and making recommendations for future care of the materials.

Christina Taylor  
*Plugging the Summer Brain Drain*  
Neysa Callison Elementary School  
Faculty Supervisor: Barbara Immroth  
Field Supervisor: Laura Trellue

Too often, the advent of summer heralds not only the end of school but also the beginning of learning loss. Although all children who are not engaged in educational activities during the summer experience learning losses, low-income children experience greater losses than their higher-income counterparts—an average loss in reading achievement of more than two months. Furthermore, even though student achievement for both middle- and lower-income students improves at similar rates during the school year, low-income students experience cumulative summer learning losses over the elementary school grades. Providing consistent access to high-quality summer enrichment programs throughout a child’s education is a central component in effectively combating such loss. In August 2009, Round Rock Independent School District was awarded the 21st Century Community Learning Center grant in order to provide academic enrichment opportunities for children during non-school hours. As the summer of 2012 was its inaugural implementation at Neysa Callison Elementary, I aided the campus librarian in offering students a broad array of enrichment activities that complemented their regular academic programs and offered literacy and other educational services to the families of participating children.
I am assisting Shawn Mauser in reorganizing the fiction collection at the Ann Richards School for Young Women Leaders. The collection is currently organized in the traditional manner, alphabetically by author. We are creating new sections by genre, similar to the organization of a bookstore. The current genres we are looking at are: fantasy fiction, science fiction, mystery, horror, romance, historical fiction, adult books, and contemporary realistic fiction. When searching for leisure reading, young adult readers are typically "browsers" in the library, and when the fiction collection is organized by genre they are better able to find books that fit their interests.