

Heads of Special Collections -- HOSC

Minutes for HOSC Conference Call Meeting of Nov. 21, 2008.

Attending: C. Bunting – Chair (SC), M. Conway (R), L. Claassen (SD), C. Faulhaber (B), M. Light (I), E. Lin (M), L. Mix (SF), D. Morrison (D), D. Tambo (SB)

1. Introductions and Farewell:

Michelle Light was welcomed as UC Irvine's Acting Head of Special Collections and Archives. Michelle has stepped in as a replacement for Jackie Dooley who has taken a new position as a consulting archivist for OCLC Research. (Dooley later joined the call and a proper farewell was given.)

2. HOSC Web Site:

Lisa Mix was thanked for her many years of maintaining HOSC's web site. We are grateful to Michelle Light who has volunteered to become the new manager.

3. Next Gen Melvyl:

Bunting briefed members on a conversation she had with David de Lorenzo, Bancroft Library's Head of Technical Services and member of OCLC/RLG Partnership Program's Worldcat Local Special Collections and Archives Task Force. Some of the Task Force's activities and concerns were reported. Members of this group had reviewed both UCSB's list and the August 7, 2008 letter drafted by De Lorenzo (on behalf of HOSC) on the Next Generation Melvyl Pilot. The Task Force expects to produce a white paper on Worldcat Local and special collections and archives which is to be submitted to OCLC in December. HOSC members expressed interest in seeing the paper as it can be made available.

4. CDL Mass Digitization Survey:

Members discussed campus responses to the CDL's questionnaire on the Mass Digitization of Special Collections materials. (The reply deadline was November 7, 2008.) Once assessed the responses will help the CDL determine whether to adopt a systemwide approach to book digitization as well as how to approach systemwide access and digital preservation initiatives. Questions were phrased to consider both out-of-copyright works with the Internet Archive and in-copyright & out-of-copyright works with Google. Interest in digitization at the campus level ranged from "moderate" to "extremely interested"; campuses all expressed the need for funding to undertake such digital efforts, some expressed a willingness to solicit funding. Most of the campus responses referred to the handling and care criteria posed in HOSC's November 2007 document "Outline of potential topics for a mass digitization manifesto with notes from a HOSC conference call." It was agreed that HOSC could move this "manifesto" into a "best practices"/ guideline document for future use. HOSC will wait for Ivy Anderson's (of CDL) and/or SOPAG's Collection Development Committee's assessment of the questionnaires before taking action in this area.

5. CDL Digital Special Collections:

Rosalie Lack of CDL joined HOSC for this portion of the call. Lack discussed OAC website re-design, and then commented on UC's curated digital collections (Calisphere, OAC, and UC Image Service) all of which share similar issues of collection development, metadata construction, rights management, access, preservation, and storage. She will be writing a collection policy document (scheduled for December review and to be updated semi annually.) This document will outline the scope, terminology, contributions, formats, access and restrictions, etc. for digital collections managed by the CDL's Digital Special Collections Program. Lack will share this document with HOSC. It is her intention to establish a Digital Special Collections Steering Committee, of which representation from UC's special collections and archives departments would be included. Lack

will share with HOSC the draft charge to this committee and define how membership would be solicited. She will also outline the skills and knowledge, which might be sought in future Steering Committee participants.

6. Campus round robins:

Members updated the group on budgetary and staffing issues experienced within their libraries in these difficult economic times. Members mentioned grants received, exhibitions and conferences being planned, gifts received, and new content added to web sites. Several libraries are involved in facility planning or are engaged in library construction; the new Bancroft Library is expected to open January 5th.

Minutes by C. Bunting

Document owner: Michelle Light
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