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IU Libraries digitization project creates rich repository of Hoosier authors

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 15, 2013

BLOOMINGTON, Ind. -- An Indiana University Libraries project that will allow anyone to research Hoosier authors and their bibliographies online -- as well as access hundreds of digitized books -- is nearly complete.

Conceived years ago and funded in 2006 by a Library Services and Technology Act grant through the Indiana State Library, the "Indiana Authors and Their Books" project oversaw digitization of a three-volume reference set published by Wabash College that covers nearly 200 years of Indiana’s literary history.

The books include authors who were born, raised or educated in Indiana, or who lived in the state for a major portion of their lives.

The website hosted by IU Libraries includes more than 7,000 author entries
Representative Documents: Promoting Digital Collections

and nearly 21,000 book citations. It links directly to about 400 digitized copies of selected titles and allows users to search for remaining titles via external services like Google Books, WorldCat, Hathi Trust Digital Library and the Libraries’ online catalog, IUCAT.

Entries range from well-known authors such as James Whitcomb Riley, Booth Tarkington and Gene Stratton Porter to the lesser known, such as an entry for Ethel Mathilda Green Adams, a public schoolteacher who wrote a book about musical understanding in the 1960s. In addition to works of literature, there are a number of nonfiction works including histories of local towns, counties and churches. These sources, and a handful of regimental histories dating to the Civil War, are a genealogical gold mine.

“Our hard work on this project has created a really rich resource that is already receiving more than 28,000 unique visits per month from users,” digital projects and usability librarian Michelle Dalmau said. “I see it as an important K-12 tool, while it can also assist scholars who are researching more obscure authors. Users are able to browse by author, book title or publication date, creating possibilities for deep textual analysis.”

Dalmau plans to share encoded texts and descriptive metadata with the state library to include in the Indiana Digital Library portal, Indiana Memory.

The original project had called for digitization of about 150 curated titles from 1880 to 1920, an era known as Indiana’s Golden Age of Literature. But the explosion of Google Books and other resources such as the HathiTrust Digital Library onto the digitization scene opened up new possibilities, allowing for access to hundreds more titles than originally expected, Dalmau said.

In addition to the original 150 books digitized for the grant, IU Libraries staff digitized an additional 250 books available through the project themselves, focusing on important books from Indiana’s literary and historical heritage. These books become available as staff complete them -- on average, four new books every month.

That crucial behind-the-scenes effort is also benefitting Indiana University in another way: The Digital Library Program partnered with the Library Technical Services Department to generate new workflows for digitization for the project, opening new doors for future collaboration.
Once the texts are encoded and available online, Technical Services staff catalog those digital texts, a full-service treatment that makes metadata/cataloging librarian Jennifer Liss proud.

"In a time in when public libraries are pushing back against outdated publishing and distribution models for e-books, it's gratifying to know that our work makes these digital texts -- and their respective high-quality cataloging records -- freely available to anyone with an Internet connection and a browser," she said.

The partnership brought other changes, including the development of cataloger expertise in new tools. Digital library staff did a fine job lowering technical barriers for catalogers to participate in digital projects, Liss said, noting that 70 percent of all Technical Services catalogers now provide metadata for digital projects.

"Now that we've 'productionized' this process, so to speak, it opens the door to partner in other ways," Dalmau said. "We've set up workflows where contributions from catalogers are facilitated with minimal intervention by digital library technologists."
UM Digital Collections is your go-to source for rare and unique digital material about the University of Manitoba and the province.

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The University of Michigan Library is justly famous for our efforts to digitize our print collections, and to make them as freely available as possible via the Internet. We led the creation of HathiTrust, a partnership of institutions offering open access to millions of readable and fully-searchable volumes.

But our digital initiatives extend much further—for example, at quod.lib.umich.edu you’ll find more than 250 collections of images, texts, bibliographies, and finding aids. There you can search for a specific collection, browse by title, format, subject, and more, and search the text collections for specific words or phrases. These collections feature our own digitized print materials, as well as those of other U-M departments, including the Bentley Historical Library, and local institutions, including the Ann Arbor District Library.

Among other things, these digital collections enable scholars here and everywhere to access primary-source and image materials for their research, and for the public to have ready access to images documenting the rich history of the university.

**Featured Digital Collections**
(An asterisk indicates that material is restricted to U-M affiliates.)

- **Bentley Image Bank**: Photographs and other images from the Bentley Historical Library, the official archives of the university and documenter of the history of the State of Michigan.
- **Bible**: King James Version: A fully-searchable text of the King James Bible. (Four additional collections feature other Bible editions and translations.)
- **Clark Library Maps**: Digitized maps from the Stephen S. Clark Library at U-M.
- **Clements Manuscript Division Finding Aids**: Descriptive inventories for manuscript collections at the Clements Library, which houses resources for the study of American history and culture from the 15th-19th centuries.
- **Art, Architecture and Engineering Library**: A portion of the library’s collection of images via the Imageworks service. (*)
- **Making of America**: A collection of primary text sources in American social history from the antebellum period through Reconstruction.
- **Michigan County Histories and Atlases**: Digitized images of Michigan county histories and atlases as resources for historical and genealogical research.
- **Middle English Dictionary**: Comprehensive analysis of the lexicon and usage of Middle English, from 1100-1500, based on the analysis of a collection of over three million citation slips. (*)

To find subscription-based online collections that the library provides to the U-M community, go to lib.umich.edu/searchtools.

**Contact Us**
For questions about our digital collections, email dlps-help@umich.edu.
NLM Launches “Surviving and Thriving: AIDS, Politics, and Culture” — Traveling Banner Display and Online Exhibition

The National Library of Medicine has launched a traveling banner exhibition and online adaptation of Surviving and Thriving: AIDS, Politics, and Culture, an exploration of the rise of AIDS in the early 1980's and the evolving response to the epidemic over the last 30 years.

In 1981, a new disease appeared in the United States. Reactions to the disease, soon named AIDS (acquired immune deficiency syndrome), varied. The exhibition illustrates an iconic history of AIDS alongside lesser-known examples of historical figures who changed the course of the pandemic. Utilizing a variety of historic photographs, pamphlets, and publications, Surviving and Thriving is divided into five historical investigations, each of which highlights how different groups responded to AIDS. Early responders cared for the sick, fought homophobia, and promoted new practices to keep people healthy. Scientists and public health officials struggled to understand the disease and how it spread. Politicians remained largely silent until the epidemic became too big to ignore. Activists demanded that people with AIDS be part of the solution.

The title Surviving and Thriving comes from a book written in 1987 by and for people with AIDS that insisted people could live with AIDS, not just die from it. Jennifer Brier, PhD (University of Illinois at Chicago), the exhibition's curator, explains that, "centering the experience of people with AIDS in the exhibition allows us to see how critical they were, and continue to be, in the political and medical fight against human immunodeficiency virus (HIV)/AIDS." This exhibition presents their stories alongside those of others involved in the national AIDS crisis.

The companion website includes an extensive selection of NLM's diverse poster collection about HIV/AIDS. This "Digital Gallery" displays 238 posters grouped into fifteen thematic clusters, providing viewers new historical avenues to explore beyond the exhibition. Brier sees these as invaluable resources for multiple audiences: "not only will these visual materials be incredibly useful for teachers interested in engaging students in historical thinking about HIV/AIDS, but they will also allow the general public to learn more about how public health efforts relied on graphic design and imagery to effect behavior change." The website is augmented by education resources that investigate the exhibition content, including two lesson plans for grades 10-12; three six-class higher education modules; and two online activities. In addition, a selection of published landmark HIV/AIDS articles are provided by NLM's PubMed Central, which freely provides access to over 2.8 million life science journal articles and modern day information is provided by AIDSInfo/InfoSIDA.

Early stops for the traveling banner exhibition include the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Public Health Library Information Center, Atlanta, GA; Gay Men's Health Crisis, New York, NY; University of California, San Francisco, San Francisco, CA; University of Colorado, Denver, Aurora, CO, and the University of Illinois at Chicago Library of Health Sciences, Chicago, IL. For more information about Surviving and Thriving: AIDS, Politics, and Culture or to book the exhibition for your site, please visit the traveling exhibition services website.

Michael Callen (at typewriter) and Richard Berkowitz, 1984
Courtesy Richard Dworkin
In 1982, Michael Callen and Richard

Robert C. Gallo, MD, at the National Institutes of Health, early 1980s
Courtesy National Cancer Institute, National Institutes of Health
Berkowitz, two gay men with AIDS living in New York, wrote *How to Have Sex in an Epidemic: One Approach*. The short manifesto described ways for men to be affectionate and sexual while dramatically lessening the risk of spreading and contracting AIDS. This booklet was one of the first times men were told to use condoms when having sex with other men.

In April 1984, Dr. Robert Gallo of the National Cancer Institute at NIH isolated HTLV-III (human T-lymphotropic virus III) as the cause of AIDS. Scientists later determined it was the same virus identified as LAV (lymphadenopathy-associated virus) by Dr. Luc Montagnier and his team at the Pasteur Institute a year earlier. Despite disagreement over who made the initial discovery, French and American researchers eventually agreed to share the credit. In 1986, the virus was renamed HIV (human immunodeficiency virus). Identifying a viral cause enabled the scientific community to develop a test for HIV and better confront AIDS with treatment.

In October 1990, ACT UP descended upon Washington and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta, carrying signs that demanded the formal definition of AIDS change to include women. Excluded from the diagnosis of having AIDS, women could not access potentially lifesaving care and treatment, even as they died of the disease. By 1992, activists succeeded in their efforts: women were officially recognized as people who could have AIDS.

In the 21st century, testing for HIV is the first line of defense in the battle against AIDS. But when the test was released in 1985, many people refused for fear that their names would go on a registry to deny them health care. Municipal unions in Washington, DC, are at the forefront of fighting this persistent myth and explaining how testing helps keep people healthy.
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