Restructuring

NYU’s technical services department, Knowledge Access & Resource Management Services (KARMS), continued to review of its current departmental structure this year. Last year, we began a multi-phased restructuring. In Phase 1 a new department, Data Analysis and Integration was formed which is responsible for the access, integrity, interoperability, and delivery of data across library systems. This year phase 2 concentrated on a re-alignment of staff in Resource Management (RM), Metadata Production & Management (M&M), and Knowledge Access Design & Development (KADD). In this re-alignment, copy-cataloging was completely moved to RM, original cataloging and complex maintenance remained in M&M. Cataloging for non-roman script was also moved to M&M. Finally, M&M was merged with KADD and is now a unit within that department. These changes have allowed us to improve resource allocation, streamline processing workflows, and improve staff training.

New Projects 2018

Indigenous Film and Media Collection – From 1979 to 2011, the Smithsonian Institution’s National Museum of the American Indian Film and Video Center produced and hosted a biennial Native American Film and Video Festival (NAFVF) that became internationally recognized as the longest running major showcase of outstanding new work by Native Americans and Indigenous peoples across the Americas. Over the years, the Museum acquired over 2,400 titles representing tribes and filmmakers from North, Central, and South America, the Pacific region, and the Arctic.

Over three decades, New York University’s (NYU) Center for Media, Culture and History partnered with NAFVF, co-sponsoring many events and hosting visiting Indigenous filmmakers, thus expanding the opportunities available for faculty and students interested in understanding and researching this important but under-recognized work. Because of that close relationship and recognizing NYU as a world-class research institution, in 2015 the Smithsonian transferred this collection to the NYU Division of Libraries.

KARMS is collaborating with colleagues in Collection Development on newly acquired Indigenous Film and Media Collection:

1. Logistical Support – NYU is conducting a comprehensive evaluation of the collection in preparation for the NYU’s Digitization.

2. Developing a Metadata Schema – The project will provide access through to the collection through the Libraries’ discovery system. The cultural protocols for the collection will be maintained in the Mukurtu Content Management System. Local fields are also being provided to Cinepedia Ethnographica a prototype online expert and user-generated union catalog for ethnographic and folklore films.
**Formation of Metadata Policy Committee** – This committee brings together local experts in bibliographic, archival, and digital library practices, clarifying and documenting policies that affect all three areas. The committee has already vetted a new, streamlined copy cataloging workflow and is now reviewing policies for describing different categories of video holdings. The committee will begin a full audit of local metadata policies this coming year, to insure our policies and practices are properly aligned with the Division of Libraries Strategic vision.

**Finding Music in Bobcat** – Utilizing the search behavior of an information-literate end-user, this study intends to analyze the configuration and functionality of BobCat (Primo), and to evaluate its impact upon user success, when seeking library-held manifestations of known musical works. The study resulted in the formation of a working Group from across the division of Libraries and our consortial partner The New Schools. The working group then made recommendations to improve discovery and access for our music collections, which were implemented in the Spring. For more information see the initial study results and working group recommendations.

**Completed Projects**

**New Primo User Interface** – NYU Libraries’ initial deployment of the Primo discovery application in 2008, we have significantly enhanced its user interface (UI) by applying highly customized overrides to its basic functions. While these local customizations allowed us to provide our users with many enhancements well before other Primo sites, it has come at the cost of requiring staff development time to perform regression testing and fixes with all application updates, as well as introducing dependencies on potentially unsupported application functions. The new UI, natively includes many of the features which were provided by the local customizations to the system. The new UI was put into production this June.

**OCLC Reclamation** – This year we completed Phase 1 of our reclamation project. to date, we have matched 87% of our overall catalog with OCLC master records (4,601,312 out of 5,292,890 million). Full report of the project is available here.

**E- Book Audit** – KARMS has undertaken an audit of its electronic resources to insure full bibliographic control of its collections. In phase two we have been concentrating on our e-books collection (approximately 1.8 million titles). Project Summary available here.

**NEH Unbound Movements** – Grant to archivally process the Tamiment Library’s serials backlog (over 1,500 linear feet with over 9,000 titles)

**Archiving the Websites of Contemporary Composers** – The principal and specific aim of the project, was to develop protocols for obtaining master-level recordings and integrating them into the archival copies of the websites with which they are associated. The project integrated master-level audio and video elements with the NYU’s Collection of Contemporary Composer’s Websites archived in the Internet Archive repository. More information on the Project can be found here.

**Ongoing from Previous Year**
Special Collections Renovation – NYU has begun work on a two renovation of our Special Collections. The renovation will provide a unified reading room and on-site storage for Fales Library &Special Collections, Tamiment Library & Robert F. Wagner Labor Archives, and University Archives. KARMS is involved in two projects to prepare collections materials to be relocated.

1. Archival Collections Control - The project will establish baseline physical, administrative, legal, and descriptive control of all onsite archival holdings. It will also survey these holdings to identify legacy born digital and audiovisual media, and establish cross collections evaluative data about collection size, condition, level of control, and research value.

2. Rare Book Cataloging - Scope of the project is to catalog 11,000 volumes (9,000 titles) that are housed onsite at Fales which currently lack physical and intellectual control that would allow us to safely and efficiently move the collections.

New Staff

Head, Resource Management – Gregory Ferguson

Head, Archival Collections Management – Weatherly Stephan

Metadata Librarian – Alex Provo

Sr. Manager, Data Analysis & Integration – Ahmad Arshad

Supervisor, Monographs Acquisitions – Jane Excell

Processing Archivist – Jacqueline Rider

Assistant Archivist – Jennifer Neal

Current Recruitment

Librarian for Archival arrangement and Description -- Posted

Web Archivist – Posted

Supervisor, Metadata Production & Management – Interviewing

Senior Processing Archivist – Interviews completed

Senior Processing Assistant – Posted