

# ICT Forum

## Hilary Term 2012

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### Report from the Bodleian Libraries

#### New Associate Director

We welcome Wolfram Horstmann, who joined the Bodleian Libraries on 3<sup>rd</sup> January in the newly established position of Associate Director, Digital Library Programmes & IT. Wolfram is a member of the Libraries' senior management Executive Group, and Dave Price, Head of the Bodleian Digital Library Systems and Services reports directly to him. The creation of this new post is indicative of the Libraries' emphasis on the digital experience of users in our future strategic development.

#### The ILS

Work continues on a number of phase II initiatives, which currently include:

- Configuring the Aleph Reporting Centre (ARC) for roll-out to libraries. ARC is a Cognos based management information solution which, it is anticipated, will address many of the libraries' reporting needs.
- Development of a Scan on Demand facility for the scanning and electronic delivery of items held in the Book Storage Facility. This is on track for launch in mid-April
- Aleph version upgrade. The next version of the underlying software (Aleph v21) is now available. This will need to be evaluated and tested before a date for roll-out can be determined.

#### SOLO

The Solo interface is subject to continual review and incremental improvements. Changes since the last report include:

- Making copy specific notes visible and searchable
- Launch of the Oxford Google Books. This made available through SOLO 300,000 of the books digitized through the Oxford Google Books project. Further details can be found here: <http://www.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/dbooks> . Work is currently underway to further enhance the user experience with the provision of a "flip-book" viewer.
- Amendments to the FRBR clustering to improve usability. In the first instance we have changed the default sort order within clusters from date-newest to relevance. Further enhancements are planned for the summer when it is hoped that clustering can selectively be applied according to material type. This should aid antiquarian scholars while maintaining what is, for most users, a useful feature.

## Barcoding Project

The last of the material was removed from Nuneham Courtenay shortly before Christmas, and the final delivery of material from Iron Mountain has been received. All this material has now been ingested into the BSF and the project formally drawn to a close.

## Digital Initiatives

### Digital BodSquad

The first Digital BodSquad meeting was held on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> January. This weekly internal meeting has been convened by Sarah Thomas, Bodley's Librarian, to coordinate our progress on certain critical digital initiatives such as the digitization of many of our collections and the creation of digital services such as the Digital Asset Management System, Scan and Deliver, web re-development. A selection of Bodleian staff will attend including members of Bodleian Executive and Cabinet as well as project and technical staff. This is a great opportunity to improve communication and decision-making about these important efforts underway in the Libraries.

### Music and Maps Catalogues Conversion

The Bodleian is in the process of converting approximately 536,400 cards from the Maps and Music catalogues. The scanning of these cards is complete and tender responses for the rekeying of the card data have been received from three companies and a decision on the successful supplier will be made by end of March. The rekeying work could take up to ten months and data clean-up, software and user interface development will take place concurrently. This project runs until July 2013.

### What's the Score at the Bodleian?

The "What's the Score at the Bodleian?" project aims to increase access to music scores from the Bodleian's collections, through a combination of rapid digitization and the creation of descriptive metadata through crowd-sourcing. The digitization of the data is now complete and there was a soft-launch earlier this year of the crowd-sourcing work on the collection via the Zooniverse site <http://whatsthescore.herokuapp.com/>. Development continues on the Bodleian user interface which will allow users to search for the scores, view images of the scores and explore the rich metadata which will be integrated from the crowd-sourcing efforts of musicians and scholars. This project was recently featured on the Digital.Humanities@Oxford site:

[http://digital.humanities.ox.ac.uk/ProjectProfile/Project\\_page.aspx?pid=293](http://digital.humanities.ox.ac.uk/ProjectProfile/Project_page.aspx?pid=293).

### Integrating Broadside Ballads Archives (IBBA) Project

The IBBA Project is held a Semantic Specification Workshop at Merton College in January. The purpose of this workshop was to engage stakeholders in a discussion about cataloguing and the Specification will serve both as a reference for collaboration between project partners and as the basis for further development, perhaps with other partners and contributors in future. More information can be found via twitter #ibbaworkshop @BodleianBallads. Mike Bennett has started with BDLSS as the IBBA Software Engineer and he is initially concentrating on migrating the legacy Ballads website and allegro data for the integrated solution.

### Genizah

The Bodleian Libraries have digitized and made available for the first time the exceptional collection of the Cairo Genizah fragments ( <http://genizah.bodleian.ox.ac.uk> ). BDLSS DAMS Software Engineer, Mat Wilcoxson, carried out the development work for this project.

### **Digital Asset Management System Architect**

Sadly, Ian Chard, DAMS System Architect will be leaving us at the end of May. Ian has made a huge contribution to the construction and management of the DAMS and he provided support for the Libraries as a member of the ICT Support Team for a number of years before joining our team. Ian will be hugely missed and we wish him every success in his new role. BDLSS will be recruiting Ian's replacement this spring so please watch the University recruitment website for more details.

### **ORA (Oxford University Research Archive)**

The ORA search and access interface has been re-designed. This has not only involved a total re-design of the display, but also an overhaul of the code and item types underneath. This will streamline the service. New features are the display of 'top downloads' on the home page, faceting for better searching and display of icons to indicate whether a record includes access to a local full text copy in ORA and/or a link to the publisher's copy (via DOI). The new design went live in January and can be found at: <http://oradev.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/> . The transfer to the live was coupled with an upgrade to the OAI-PMH feed for metadata harvesting by other services. Optimization for mobile devices will be undertaken as Phase 2 of this project when additional funds can be obtained.

### **Digitization of theses**

The first batch of DPhil theses have been sent for digitizing. The digital files will be examined for quality when we receive them. A second round of communications has taken place to try to contact as many authors as possible and invite them to give permission for their thesis to be digitized and added to ORA. Channels such as the Gazette, the Alumni Office and the Development Office have been asked to help with sending out messages.

### **EEBO-TCP**

The JISC has awarded funding to enable the Bodleian Libraries, in partnership with the Oxford Internet Institute, to investigate the sustainability of the Early English Books Online Text Creation Partnership (EEBO-TCP). The project, SECT (Sustaining the EEBO-TCP Corpus in Transition), started on 1<sup>st</sup> February 2012 and will run for 18 months. Upon completion, EEBO-TCP will have cost almost \$20M, £2M of which has been contributed directly by the JISC, and taken almost 15 years to create. A benchmarking impact study and subsequent analysis will develop practical strategies to secure a sustainable future for the collection, while gaining important insight into issues of long-term curation and usability of resources based on international academic partnership and on commercial partnership. Such a study will be of significant value for other projects in the Humanities and beyond, and for the funding bodies that support them. Michael Popham will be the Project Director and Judith Siefring of the EEBO-TCP team will be managing the project.

### **Digital.Bodleian**

The Bodleian Libraries has been awarded a grant from JISC, under their Resource Discovery programme, for a project called Digital.Bodleian. The goal of Digital.Bodleian is to aggregate and open up, through both a graphical user interface and through open linked data, the Bodleian Library's substantial

collection of digital assets. In line with the Resource Discovery Taskforce vision of making collections open and useable to both people and machines, our goals are:

- 1) To bring all of our historical digital content up to date and in line with the RDTF vision by enriching the metadata, mapping it to RDF and the images to jpeg2000;
- 2) To aggregate all of this digital content into a single object store with both an OAI-PMH handle and a RESTful interface for accessing the open linked data; and
- 3) To provide a unified user interface that will allow students, scholars, and the general public from around the world to search and browse within discrete curated collections, but also across the entirety of the content.

*Andrew Bonnie, BDLSS, 27<sup>th</sup> March 2012*