trail TECHNICAL REPORT ARCHIVE & IMAGE LIBRARY

Summer 2020 Newsletter

In this issue:

- New Trail Member
- Annual Meeting Debrief
- New Officers and Working Group Coordinators
- Media Kit Web Page
- HathiTrust ETAS & TRAIL Connection
- Update on Microcard Project
- Processing Update

New TRAIL Member

The Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) has joined TRAIL! LANL is the first national lab to join TRAIL. Serving as the member representative from Los Alamos is Rory Elliott, who is the Section Leader, Research Services & Resource Discovery. She can be reached at roryelliott@lanl.gov. Please welcome Rory and LANL as the newest members of TRAIL!!

Annual Meeting Debrief

TRAIL held its first virtual annual meeting over 10 hours on Wednesday and

Thursday, May 27th and 28th. With no costs (other than time) to attend, 53 people registered to attend the meeting, about double the previous high number of attendees at previous in-person meetings. Attendees came and went as their schedules permitted, but average attendance across all segments of the meeting numbered in the mid-to-upper 40s. The agenda for the meeting, along with a series of reports and presentations, plus meeting notes that summarize each day's sessions are available on the TRAIL 2020 annual meeting page (available to all TRAIL member representatives and members of any TRAIL committee or working group). Any questions related to the annual meeting can be directed to Mel DeSart at desart@uw.edu.

Screen capture from Annual Meeting

New Officers and Working Group Coordinators

Congratulations to Zac Painter and Jesse Garrison for being elected to leadership positions with TRAIL! Zac is an engineering librarian at Stanford University and was elected Treasurer. Jesse is a science and technology librarian at Iowa State University and was elected Secretary. Also, congratulations go to Jen Kirk, Government Information Librarian at Utah State University, for agreeing to serve as the new Coordinator of the Metrics Working Group. All began their new roles after the close of the annual TRAIL meeting and all are now members TRAIL's Steering Committee. That group consists of the four TRAIL officers, each of the working group coordinators, plus (at present) two at-large members. TRAIL's CRL liaison, Judy Alspach, serves as ex officio member of the Steering Committee.

Media Kit Webpage

TRAIL has made it easier to include information about TRAIL and technical reports in your outreach. Check out the web site at https://www.crl.edu/trail-media-kit. This kit includes our official logos so that you can promote TRAIL and technical reports on your library's social media. Also included are links to our social media accounts, brochures to promote TRAIL, and an infographic on our accomplishments for FY 2019 (FY 2020 coming out late summer). Have questions? Contact our Marketing Facilitator Laura Sare at lsare@tamu.edu.

ETAS & TRAIL Connection

Without a doubt the clear winner and academic champion during this past chaotic Spring was HathiTrust's Emergency Temporary Access Service (ETAS). This |service permitted HathiTrust partner institutions temporary lawful access to digital materials that corresponded to physical books held in their own libraries. With this access academic librarians were able to "save the day" by directing their faculty to online equivalents and related content for quickly supplanting or creating online course modules. Users searching for content options were able to find and select federal technical reports most likely made available by TRAIL, a significant content contributor to HathiTrust. Without missing a beat or any additional costs, federal technical reports were available to users 24/7.

Update on Microcard Project

The microcard digitization project is beginning to more forward again. Because of the amount of money involved, TRAIL, CRL, and the University of North Texas chose to create an informal but written agreement for how to proceed. TRAIL has now been invoiced for $150,000 by UNT to cover the cost of the

outsourced digitization (third party vendor) and post-digitization processing and metadata creation (UNT Digital Library staff). UNT will now create an RFP to solicit bids for the digitization of approximately 31,000 Atomic Energy Commission reports on nearly 51,000 microcards. Those cards (almost 600 pounds of them) were shipped from the University of Arizona to UNT in mid-May.

At a Glance

2,598 Items	2 Types	118 Titles
1 Partner	4 Decades	1 Language
19 Counties	17 States	3 Countries
21,447 Usage	7 months, 3 weeks ago Collection Created	4 months, 4 weeks ago Last Updated

As of July 7, 2020 from
https://digital.library.unt.edu/explore/collections/TRAMC/#at-a-glance
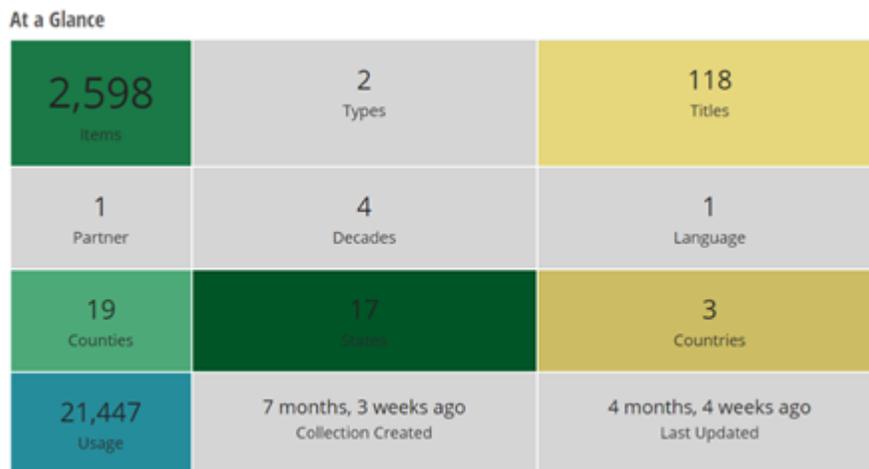
Processing Update

Perhaps not surprisingly, processing of TRAIL materials has been significantly impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Virtually every organization associated with the processing of TRAIL content was closed to staff for many weeks, with most still closed and off limits to staff. "Central" staff at the University of Arizona, although unable to process physical materials since mid-March, turned instead to creating catalog records for the 1000 reports in the microcard digitization pilot, which preceded the larger microcard project mentioned elsewhere in this newsletter. That work was mostly completed by the end of June. Arizona was able to ship 30+ boxes of microcards to UNT and 40 boxes of print reports to the University of Michigan / Google in mid-May.

However, the Google digitization center at UM is closed at present, so there will be a delay in having those reports digitized. Similarly, because the University of Arizona Library is closed at present, they cannot accept donated reports from outside institutions at present. That situation is likely to persist through the summer, at the very least. In lieu of processing physical materials, "Central" will

instead work on cataloging and metadata creation for other materials, will work with UNT Digital Library staff on developing processes and procedures for dealing with the digitized microcards, plus other clean-up and quality control work.