

**Wednesday, March 27, 2024**

Dear CRL Global Collections Stakeholders -

Greetings from CRL and from Chicago!

Last week was another whirlwind of meetings and community engagement. Friday, as I headed into the weekend, I told Greg and the CRL team how excited I am about the energy, creativity, and passion in the AMPs and GRNs. Here are some highlights:

The CRL Global Collections Advisory Task Force met this week, and [the community notes website](#) has been updated.

Also, I was able to meet with four groups last week, including CAMP, LARRP, SEEMP, and CIFNAL. Each group is unique, and I enjoy getting to learn more about each of their activities and priorities.

Yuusuf Caruso, current chair for the Cooperative Africana Materials Project (CAMP), convened their Executive Committee for a conversation with me that included a focus on processes around newsprint: presented as routine, ongoing work not specifically tied to a “project.” I was particularly intrigued by their model of having a Chair serve two years as Chair-elect, two as Chair, and two as Immediate-past-chair.

Thank you to Seonaid Valiant and the Latin Americanist Research Resources Project (LARRP) Advisory Committee for a thorough overview of LARRP’s work. I came away with an appreciation for the inter-institutional collection partnerships that LARRP supports apart from CRL’s collections, and the importance of LARRP’s work.

I enjoyed meeting the Slavic and East European Materials Project (SEEMP) Executive Committee. This meeting was notable not only for allowing me to learn more about SEEMP, but it also got me thinking about the “collective collection” in new ways. Special thanks to Kirill Tolpygo (current chair) for his leadership in SEEMP and the CRL community.

On Friday, I attended the annual meeting for the Collaborative Initiative for French Language Collection. CIFNAL stands out from many groups in a few ways, in their public programming, their support for travel, and the work they do in international licensing. CIFNAL's licensing work is something that I am keen to understand better to see how we might scale that into a larger global licensing operation at CRL. My appreciation to Claude Potts, current CIFNAL chair, and the CIFNAL community for a productive engagement.

Please continue to ask questions and offer suggestions. In addition to these meetings, I am still holding [open office hours](#) for individuals and small groups. Thank you for all the support and information you've shared. I am encouraged and energized by your collective optimism and dedication to our work.

Have a wonderful week, everyone.

Kevin