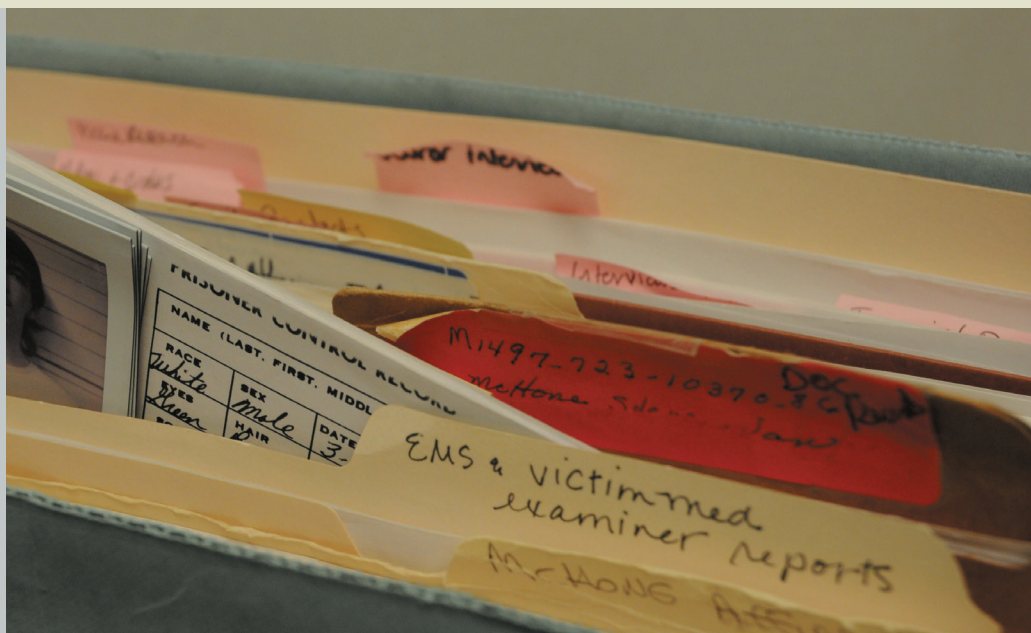


CRL Primary Source Awards

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Death penalty case file, from the records of the Center for Death Penalty Litigation. Courtesy of David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library, Duke University.

In This Issue

This issue of *FOCUS on Global Resources* highlights the projects selected for recognition in the 2016 Center for Research Libraries Primary Source Awards program. CRL created the program in 2009 to promote awareness and use of primary historical evidence in research and teaching. Identifying and recognizing innovative uses of primary sources helps CRL better understand the practices and the needs of scholars today.

The projects featured here were selected from a competitive pool nominated by faculty and librarians at CRL institutions. CRL's Collections and Services Policy Committee reviewed all submissions and identified the top projects in three areas: teaching, research, and access. The projects cited illustrate a variety of approaches to mining the primary evidence of history. This year we also recognize three projects for honorable mention.

We hope that the projects described here better enable librarians to support the excellent research and teaching being done throughout the CRL community. Please consider nominating a deserving colleague (or yourself) for the 2017 awards. Nominations are now open; the [CRL website](http://www.crl.edu) has details.

—Bernard F. Reilly, Jr.
President

CRL Primary Source Awards

2016 CRL Primary Source Awards



Poster for 2016 awards. Graphic courtesy of Northeastern University, from the Guantánamo Public Memory Project.

The Center for Research Libraries first created the CRL Primary Source Awards in 2009 to recognize innovative uses of primary source materials by faculty, librarians and library staff, students, and other researchers in the CRL community. Nominations are accepted in three areas: access, research, and teaching. This year the CRL Collections and Services Policy Committee selected the following for recognition.

2016 Primary Source Awards

2016 Award for Access

“Explore Chicago Collections”

**Tracy J. Seneca, Digital Services Librarian and
Clinical Associate Professor, University of Illinois at Chicago**

Nominated by: Scott Walter, University Librarian, DePaul University

2016 Award for Research

“Using Primary Sources: Hands-On Instructional Exercises”

**Anne Bahde, Rare Books and History of Science Librarian, Special
Collections and Archives Research Center, Oregon State University**

*Nominated by: Annelise Sklar, Social Sciences Collection Coordinator, University
of California, San Diego*

2016 Award for Teaching

“Memory Bandits: Preserving and Interpreting Knowledges of the Past”

**Patrick Stawski, Duke University Archivist for Human Rights, David
M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library, Duke University**

*Nominated by: Kristina Troost, Department of International & Area Studies,
Duke University Libraries*

2017 CRL Primary Source Awards

[Nominations for the 2017 awards](#) are now open; the CRL website has details. Faculty and staff at CRL libraries are encouraged to consider other staff, faculty, or colleagues as candidates for these awards; self nominations are welcome. ♦

2016 Award for Access



“Alley Rats,” c. 1910, Chicago near west side. Seven Settlement Houses—Database of Photos, University of Illinois at Chicago. Library. Special Collections and University Archives.

“Explore Chicago Collections”

2016 Award for Access

Tracy J. Seneca, Head, Digital Programs and Services and Clinical Associate Professor, University of Illinois at Chicago

Nominated by: Scott Walter, University Librarian, DePaul University

Documentation on the range of political and cultural experiences in the sprawling metropolis of Chicago is extensive, making a tool that offers centralized access to a heterogeneous group of archival collections an invaluable resource for scholars and general readers alike. It is for this achievement that Tracy J. Seneca, Head of Digital Programs and Services at the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC) and team leader for *Explore Chicago Collections (EXPLORE)*, is the recipient of the 2016 CRL Primary Source Award for Access.

EXPLORE is a digital initiative supported by over 20 members of the [Chicago Collections consortium](#), a collaboration of public, special, and academic libraries including UIC, the University of Chicago, and DePaul University, with initial funding provided by a grant from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. Since its launch in October 2015, the EXPLORE portal has drawn over 23,000 digital visitors from all 50 states and over 105 countries. From this single shared platform, researchers currently can access over 104,000 digital images and 4,300 archival collections from 18 institutions.

Access to the archival collections is provided through fully searchable finding aids in EAD, MARC and PDF formats. An administrative tool, the Metadata Hopper, allows ingestion of content with disparate XML standards into a common metadata output, and the integration of varied descriptive terms into a shared lexicon. Users can then browse the archival descriptions by topic, name, neighborhood, and city, and can easily browse and view selected images digitized from the various archival collections.

The benefits of EXPLORE are already being felt by both librarians and patrons. Ellen Keith of the Chicago History Museum notes how this initiative is bridging gaps and making it easier for readers to find what they need: “We are frequently asked ‘well, if you don’t have this, who does?’ That’s been a difficult question to answer until now. Within weeks of the launch of EXPLORE, our staff have been able to direct a History Fair student to a collection at Northwestern University,

“Chicago Dwelling Association,” slide
photo by Mildred Mead, 1950s.
University of Chicago Photographic
Archive, apf2-09760, Special Collections
Research Center, University of Chicago
Library.



point a graduate student from Princeton to a collection at UIC, and lead a student in New York to Polish collections across the consortium. Not only are we helping researchers, but we're also finally able to increase our own knowledge of member holdings.”

Ms. Seneca has been singled out for her project leadership, dating from initial planning efforts through to the launch. But work on analysis, design, and assessment was distributed among various institutions in the Chicago Collections consortium. Credit also goes to: co-chair Charles Blair, Director of the Digital Library Development Center at the University of Chicago; Kate Flynn, Portal Manager, UIC; and developers Esther Verreanu and Allan Berry of UIC. ❖

2016 Award for Research



Students examining a type case. Photo by Mary Knox Merrill, courtesy of Northeastern University.

“Using Primary Sources: Hands-On Instructional Exercises”

2016 Award for Research

Anne Bahde, Rare Books and History of Science Librarian, Special Collections and Archives Research Center, Oregon State University

Nominated by: Annelise Sklar, Social Sciences Collection Coordinator, University of California, San Diego

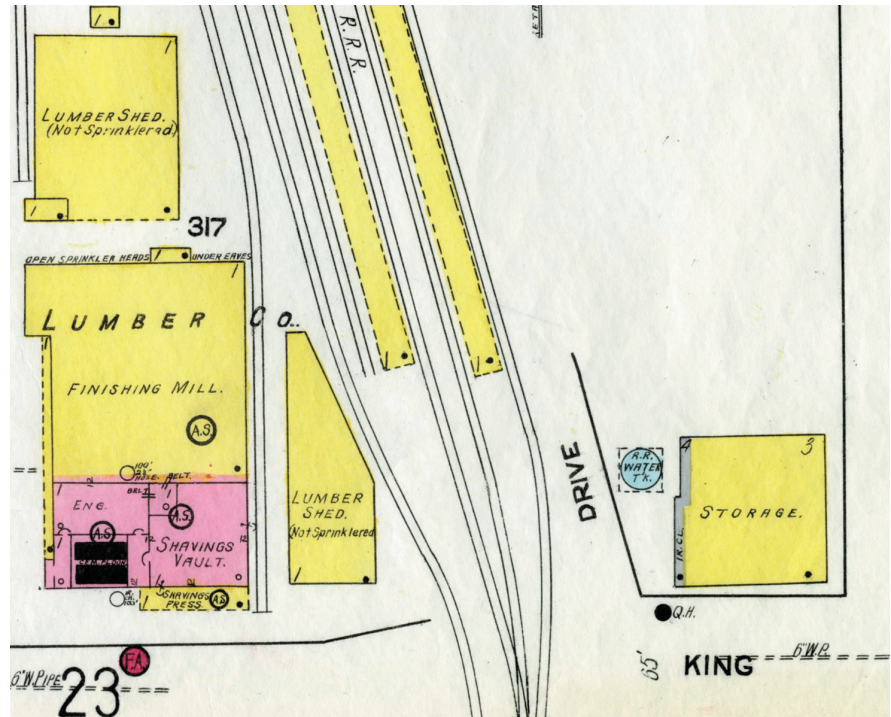
The 2016 Primary Source Award in Research recognizes the book *Using Primary Sources, Hands-On Instructional Exercises*, published by Libraries Unlimited in 2015. The book was co-edited by Anne Bahde, Oregon State University, Heather Smedberg of the University of California, San Diego, and Mattie Taormina, previously at Stanford University and now at the Sutro Library in San Francisco. This monograph, aimed at special collections librarians, archivists, faculty, and museum professionals, surveyed innovative methods to promote the successful use of primary sources in student research.

After noticing a dearth of tools to assist in effectively teaching the use of special collections, the three academic librarians solicited a broad range of examples from their peers. They selected 30 exercises for this study, representing a variety of materials formats (including postcards, maps, legal documents, and digital files), designated audiences (K–12 to college students), and instructors’ roles (librarians, professors, museum professionals). The book is divided into two sections: the first part provides examples of “classic” primary source materials (asking students to identify the type of primary source, its provenance, and intended audience); and the second part explores innovative exercises “that delve deeper into the sources.”

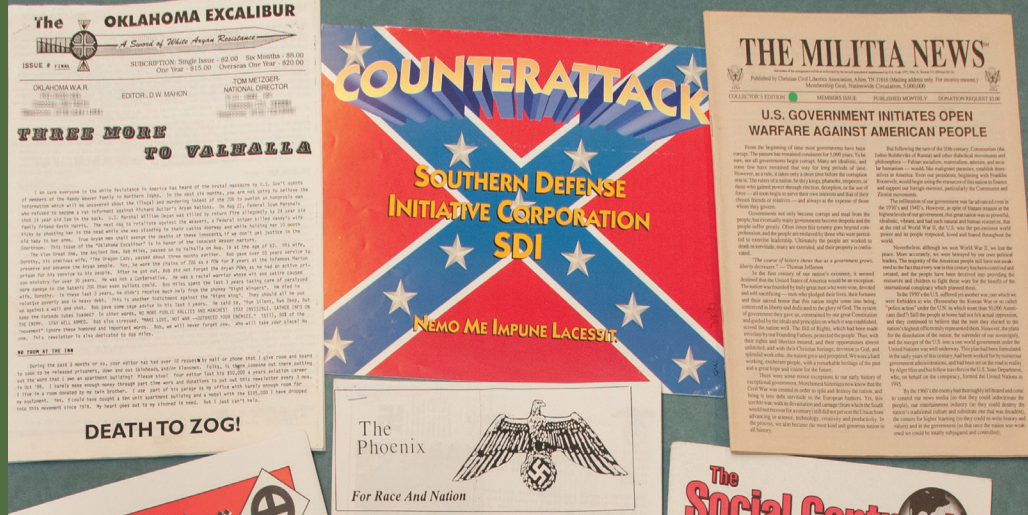
An important criterion for selecting the case studies was their demonstrated capacity to promote student-centered learning. For each example the editors include specific learning objectives, suggestions for customizing the exercises, and guidelines for assessment. Issues explored include research ethics, the role of privacy in archives, and the uses of surrogates (facsimile copies). Ultimately the editors acknowledge two core values desirable for students of all ages to develop: “archival intelligence” and “artifactual literacy.”

One CRL award reviewer noted: “This is a work of scholarship into the pedagogy of using primary source collections. It was developed using a rigorous methodology to surface and describe best practices within the community. It is of high value to anyone seeking to integrate primary sources, especially special collections, into teaching and learning environments.” ♦

Detail from Sanborn Fire Insurance Map of Burlington, Vermont, 1919. Courtesy of Prudence Doherty.



2016 Award for Teaching



Literature from the collections of the Southern Poverty Law Center Intelligence Project.
Courtesy of David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library, Duke University.

“Memory Bandits: Preserving and Interpreting Knowledges of the Past”

2016 Award for Teaching

Patrick Stawski, Duke University, Human Rights Archivist, David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library, Duke University

Nominated by: Kristina Troost, Department of International & Area Studies, Duke University Libraries

Patrick Stawski, Duke University Archivist for Human Rights, is the 2016 recipient of the CRL Primary Source Award for Teaching for his project “Memory Bandits.” A special recognition goes to Robin Kirk, Director of the Duke Human Rights Center, who co-taught the course and whose efforts helped to see this project come to fruition. “Memory Bandits” is an interdisciplinary research seminar for undergraduate students in Anthropology, History and International Comparative studies, originally planned in 2014, team-taught in spring 2015, and slated to be offered in an evolved version in the fall 2016 semester. The central goal of the course is to challenge the students’ perception and use of primary sources, with a focus on human rights themes. The instructors aim for students to “think critically about knowledge of the past and how that knowledge is constructed,” while learning how different disciplines approach primary sources.

The term “Memory Bandit” was coined by Verne Harris, Archivist for Nelson Mandela’s papers. Robin Kirk of Duke University conducted an interview with Harris where he compared himself to a “memory bandit,” a Robin Hood of the archiving world who “redistributes the rich seam of memory in the service of the oppressed.”

During the initial offering of the course modern technology entered the classroom, allowing Kirk and Stawski to use Skype and Google Hangouts to enable class discussions with faculty and archivists from the Central European University (CEU) in Budapest, Hungary. CEU houses the Open Society Archives, one of the largest human rights collections in Europe. The CEU resource provided students access to documentation on the rise of anti-Semitism in Europe from the 1920s and 1930s up through the later twentieth century. For the second seminar the instructors will collaborate with the Pauli Murray Project, bringing the history of slavery and segregation in Durham, North Carolina, the home of Duke

University, to the forefront. The course will encourage an in-depth review of related archives to openly evoke hidden histories, and to “assist the University in a deep examination and public acknowledgement of its complex history.”

Other resources suggested by the instructors for developing focused student research projects include the Densho Japanese American Legacy Project, Duke University’s Human Rights Archive at the Rubenstein Library, and the Digital Archive of the Guatemalan National Police.

Award reviewers noted: “This project is timely and could easily be replicated;” “Students were encouraged to understand that primary source materials are open to different interpretations;” and “The inclusion of Skype lectures by scholars from the Central European University enhanced the classroom experience, giving students the opportunity to learn that using foreign archives can be a much different experience than working in a local archive.” ♦

2016 Honorable Mention

Three additional nominated projects are recognized for their outstanding qualities:

2016 Honorable Mention for Access

“Women in Print: Primary Source eBooks by Women”

**Valerie Hotchkiss, Director of the Rare Book and Manuscript Library,
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign**

Nominated by: Willis G. Regier, Retired Director, University of Illinois Press

2016 Honorable Mention for Research

“Canterbury Tales: Bodley 686 Project”

Andrew Kraebel, Assistant Professor, Trinity University

Nominated by: Anne Jumonville Graf, First Year Experience Librarian, Trinity University

2016 Honorable Mention in Teaching

“World War II: a Global History”

Edward Gitre, Visiting Assistant Professor, Virginia Tech

*Nominated by: Kurt Piehler, Director & Associate Professor of History, Institute on
World War II and the Human Experience, Florida State University*



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