RUTGERS

RUTGERS
University Libraries

Report

WINTER 2010/2011 ISSUE

A FEW WORDS FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT FOR INFORMATION RESOURCES AND UNIVERSITY LIBRARIAN

The Libraries got off to an ambitious start of the academic year despite the budget setback experienced by the loss of state funding. The $1.1 million cuts were less onerous than originally expected, but we have lost 15 librarian and staff positions that will challenge our ability to move aggressively to improve our web presence and virtual services. Librarian positions lost in environmental sciences, general sciences, and instructional support will be taken on by existing library faculty.

While the loss in collections funding is less severe than the past two years, it has meant the cancellation of some subscriptions and databases to stay within budget and meet the inflationary costs on existing subscriptions. We have looked carefully at usage statistics and overlap of disciplinary coverage so that decisions made will have the least negative impact. We will purchase fewer monographs and we will depend more on our gift and endowment funds. The cut in general operating funds translates to the loss of hourly hires to support access services, technology development, and cataloging.

At the same time that we are dealing with the challenges of the state budget, we are off to a good start on the public phase of the university's $1 billion capital campaign. Our goal is $9.5 million and we have

LIBRARIES RUCORE SERVICE CELEBRATES 50,000TH DOWNLOAD

The Rutgers University Libraries invested a lot of time and effort to create RUcore, the Rutgers Community Repository — a broad web-based infrastructure that preserves and makes broadly accessible the research of Rutgers community members and resources digitized by the Libraries. Judging from the numbers, more and more people across the United States are noticing the resource and finding it quite valuable.
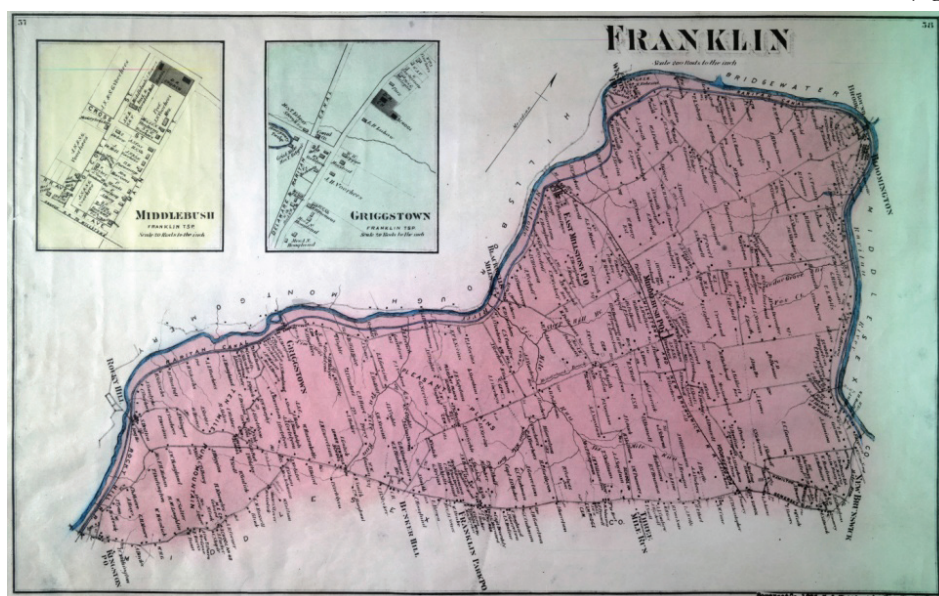
In January 2010, RUcore reached 50,000 downloads.

RUcore catalogs resources submitted by Rutgers researchers and indexes and displays these resources so anyone may search and retrieve materials. RUcore also allows personalized access by providing a customizable webpage and script enabling a submitter to display their work on their or their department's website.

RUcore collaborates with the Faculty Survey, to add a search box to "My Web Page" (their customizable personal website). RUcore provides statistics and reports by allowing submitters to log in to document the impact of their work and that of their department. Finally, RUcore makes the resource permanently available by assigning a permanent URL and digital signature.

The Libraries received a grant from The Institute of Museum and Library Services in 2004 to create and maintain a statewide repository. The Libraries initiated the creation of its own repository using a similar platform and system of the grant-funded model. RUcore launched in 2006 and has progressively grown in activity and gained prominence as an integral service of the Libraries. Currently

A map of Franklin Township, New Jersey, created in 1873. This map, from the New Jersey Maps collection in Rutgers' Special Collections and University Archives, has been downloaded from RUcore over 150 times in 2010 alone and over 275 times since the repository was established.

reached 36 percent of that total. Major gifts have come to support the processing and digitization of the Institute of Jazz Studies collections, the creation of group study rooms and a seminar room in the Kilmer Library, a named endowment for Special Collections and University Archives, a charitable gift annuity to support the Preservation Fund, and artwork for the Libraries. A gift from the Class of 1981 added to the funds from the Vice President for Student Affairs and the Libraries to fund a café in Alexander Library that should be completed in the spring 2011 semester. The primary goals of the Libraries campaign are to build endowments for the general collections, for archival processing and digitization of our unique and rare collections, for preserving collections, and gifts for the renovation of spaces in all our Libraries. Named positions, such as the Vice President for Information Resources and University Librarian, are also being sought.

This issue of our report highlights some of our recent activities, resources, and accomplishments in the Libraries. I hope you find our news both encouraging and relevant to your work!

500,000TH DOWNLOAD

RUcore has over 3,000 submissions from faculty and graduate students, and from the Libraries' collections, which are permanently available for scholars and researchers.

Examples of some of the most popular holdings in RUcore, each of which has been downloaded over 100 times, include:

• Letter from Mary Garvey, Irish immigrant to the US, to her mother, October 24, 1850. Source of original document – Special Collections and University Archives, Rutgers University Libraries.

• *Phylogenetics and homology modeling* – Ph.D. Dissertation by Allen Watkins Smith, Graduate Program in Microbiology and Molecular Genetics; January 2008.

• *What algorithms could not be* – Ph.D. dissertation by Walter Dean, Graduate Program in Philosophy; October 2007.

There are many university repositories throughout the country including University of California eScholarship Repository, Purdue e-Pubs, and DigitalCommons@ University of Nebraska—Lincoln. Rutgers University has the distinction of maintaining the only university repository in the state of New Jersey.

For more information on RUcore, contact Rhonda Marker at 732/932-8573 (x195) or rmarker@rci.rutgers.edu

NEW RESOURCES IN THE LIBRARIES

USC Shoah Foundation's Visual History Archive

The University of Southern California's Shoah Foundation's Visual History Archive allows Rutgers community members to view the videotaped testimonies of thousands of Holocaust survivors as well as witnesses to the atrocities. The Visual History Archive will also support research and study of autobiographical narratives, foreign languages, and life in Europe before and after World War II.

The USC Shoah Foundation's Visual History Archive contains nearly 52,000 video testimonies in 32 languages (without subtitles) from 56 countries. The Shoah Foundation interviewed Jewish survivors and

Rutgers faculty members listen to a panel discussion on how to use the USC Shoah Foundation's Visual History Archive, at a half-day faculty seminar in October. Held in Alexander Library, the seminar was sponsored by the Rutgers University Libraries, The School of Arts and Sciences (SAS), and the Allen and Joan Bildner Center for the Study of Jewish Life.

other persons with experience of the Holocaust. Each interview consists of a single witness speaking about his or her life before, during, and after World War II, guided by questions from a trained interviewer. The interviews average two and a half hours in length, including a display of materials, such as photos, supplied by the interviewee that are explained by him or her.

All personal names (1.5 million total) and place names mentioned in the testimonies (cross-listed with variant name forms) are linked in the search engine to segments (a minute in length) in individual testimonies that can then be viewed. Users can also select from a pick-list of subject headings (keywords) to select testimony segments for retrieval, filter their searches by language, gender, and experience group, and create their own subcollection of testimonies called projects. Roughly 5 percent of all testimonies are available immediately, and any of the others can be requested through the database for viewing within 48 hours.

Smithsonian Global Sound

Smithsonian Global Sound provides over 2,900 online audio recordings (over 42,000 tracks) of American folk, blues, bluegrass, jazz, spoken word, and world music. It includes the published recordings owned by the nonprofit Smithsonian Folkways Recordings label and the archival audio collections of the legendary Folkways Records, Cook, Dyer-Bennet, Fast Folk, Monitor, Paredon, and other labels. It also includes music recorded around the African continent by Dr. Hugh Tracey for the International Library of African Music (ILAM) at Rhodes University, as well as material collected by recordists on the South Asian subcontinent from the Archive Research Centre for Ethnomusicology (ARCE), sponsored by the American Institute for Indian Studies.

Ethnographic Video Online

Ethnographic Video Online covers hundreds of films from several regions of the world. It offers videos broadly related to the social sciences disciplines and on themes such as language and culture, kinesthetics, body language, food and foraging, cooking, economic systems, social stratification and status, caste systems and slavery, male and female roles, kinship and families, political organization, conflict and conflict resolution, religion and magic, music and the arts, culture and personality, and sex, gender, and family roles. It offers semantic-based indexing of the videos and searchable transcripts that correspond to the video.

You can browse and search Ethnographic Video Online to compare footage by theme, cultural group, geographic location, date of filming, filmmaker, type of behavior, etc. Further, you can also create annotated playlists and clips with an embedded video player for a particular presentation or for a class.