

Hands-on Digitization Course

This spring Buley Library has been hosting a Library science class taught by Nancy Florio: Cultural Memorials and Digital Archives. Paul Holmer from Special Collections and digitization librarian Jackie Toce have been collaborating with Ms. Florio.

Nancy originally developed the course in 2010 in conjunction with the VOICES of September 11. This year students are working with materials from Buley Library's Special Collections.

The class combines theoretical and hands-on approaches to creating web-based digital archives in lectures, discussions and labs. Students learn the underlying theories as well as the workflow processes in order to ensure successful design and implementation from initial selection through final creation of online collections.

Class processes include capturing true digital surrogates of interesting items from Special Collections, creating metadata using the Dublin Core schema, and finally making them accessible through Omeka open source software and OCLC's CONTENTdm.

With the increasing popularity of digital collections, our students will enter the market with current and valuable skills. Professor Mary Brown, who won the initial grant from the Department of Education Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education, and Director Christina Baum, who opened Buley's Technical Services, have shown great foresight.

Nancy Florio is currently the Library Director & Archivist at Canterbury School in New Milford and an alumna of Southern's MLS program. Good work Nancy!

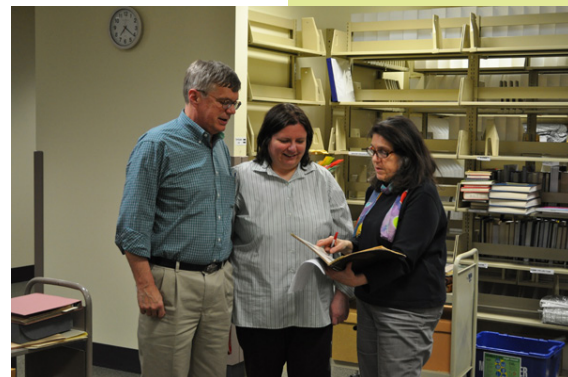
Paul Holmer, Special Collections and Archives



Students digitizing at the scanner.



Is the library really finished? No, sorry, it was just an April Fools joke.



Student (right) consulting with librarians Paul Holmer and Jackie Toce.