

TDL Spotlight: Baylor saves rare materials with digital collections



With their digital collections, Texas Digital Library member Baylor University and the Baylor Electronic Library are preserving rare and fragile cultural materials, while at the same time making them widely available to scholars, researchers, and the public.

The Electronic Library, headed by director Tim Logan, features a wide range of digitized collections, available for the viewing, reading, studying, and listening pleasure of people all over the world. Among its holdings are digitized collections of Civil War Letters, vintage American sheet music, artifacts of Christian persecution in Soviet Russia, and local oral histories.

The Electronic Library is perhaps most famous, however, for its unique set of black gospel music recordings, known as the Royce-Darden Gospel Music Collection. The collection aims to protect a vanishing cultural resource – black gospel music produced

from 1940 through 1970 that has not enjoyed the mainstream studio backing to ensure its preservation.

The Royce-Darden Collection began with the passionate advocacy of Baylor professor Robert Darden, who in 2005 wrote an opinion piece in the *New York Times* calling attention to the impending loss of large amounts of classic gospel music. The music, largely produced by small and independent labels and church groups, was of little interest to mainstream music companies and didn't generate much interest in reissues. The consequence, according to Darden's op-ed, is that "irreplaceable master tapes deteriorate, get lost, or are simply tossed out."

As a result of the article, Darden found help from Connecticut businessman Charles Royce, who funded a project to collect and digitize the rare and at-risk music. The staff of the Baylor Electronic Li-

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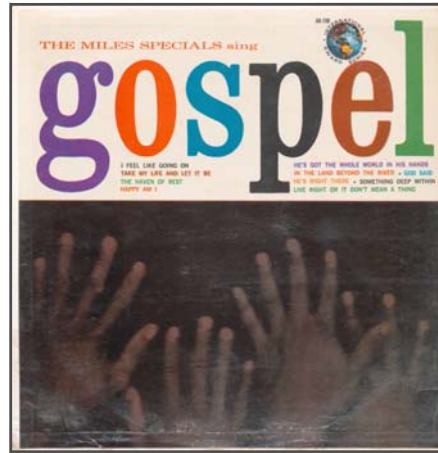
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TDL Spotlight: Baylor Electronic Library (cont.)

brary have been busy ever since – collecting, digitizing, and cataloging recordings, as well as album covers and sleeves, collected from all over the world.

The Royce-Darden Gospel Music Collection, gathered from more than 20 private collectors, includes recordings of LPs, 45s, 78s, and cassettes, and, in one case, fragile radio transcription discs. A prototype collection of about 200 items went live in the summer of 2009, and currently 900 are available online. Another several hundred recordings have been digitized and will receive descriptive metadata before being made available.

The aim is to preserve these cultural artifacts before they are lost: “Every time you play a record, you damage it,” said director Tim Logan. “You need to



An album cover from the Royce-Darden Gospel Music Collection.

take a snapshot at the earliest possible moment to preserve them. The point is to capture the material the best way we can with current technology.”

The Texas Digital Library has assisted Baylor Electronic Library with these preservation efforts by providing off-site backup storage in the form of a dark archive.

“Large volume storage is a real issue at Baylor and elsewhere,” said Logan. Currently, the TDL is storing about six terabytes of data, which includes archival copies of

the gospel music files, as well as items from other Baylor collections.

For more information about the Royce-Darden Gospel Music Collection, visit the Baylor website at <http://www.baylor.edu/lib/gospel>. ◇

TDL to develop Texas Water Digital Library with state’s researchers

On February 17, the Texas Digital Library and several prominent water researchers met to plan the creation of a new collaborative resource for sharing water data across the state of Texas.

The Texas Water Digital Library (TWDL) will federate water research currently housed at several institutions of higher learning throughout the state. A model for the cooperative efforts of the Texas Digital Library, the TWDL will harvest these resources from cooperating institutions using OAI-ORE and deposit them in a TDL-hosted DSpace repository.

“TWDL will bring together existing collections of data that are out there and available, but dispersed,” said TDL program coordinator Ryan Steans. “This federated repository will create a single place for researchers to search for water data.”

The TWDL project involves the efforts of several uni-

versities, including the University of Texas at Austin, Texas Tech University, and Texas A&M University.

Participants in the February 17 meeting included: Dr. David Maidment, Director of the Center for Research in Water Resources at UT Austin; Dr. B. L. Harris, Director of the Texas Water Resources Institute at Texas A&M; and Dr. Ken Rainwater, Director of the Texas Tech University Water Resources Center. Members of the TDL organization and university library staff also attended.

The group met via teleconference and used Adobe Connect for data sharing. The meeting served to determine a plan and protocols for the federated repository.

Additionally, the TWDL planners will participate in a panel discussion about the project at the Texas Conference on Digital Libraries in May 2010. ◇

TDL development team prepares release of Vireo 1.0.1

On Tuesday, February 16, The TDL development team held a demonstration of the Vireo 1.0.1 release at the TDL headquarters at UT Austin. Lab instances of the new version have been made available for testing by all TDL member institutions.

About Vireo 1.0.1

Changes coming in the new release of Vireo include the following:

- The capability for automated deposit of theses and dissertations into an institutional repository (via [SWORD](#))
- Automated harvesting of ETDs (via [OAI-ORE](#)) from member repositories into the TDL federated repository
- Full compliance with metadata standards
- User interface enhancements

A complete list of bugs and requested features logged by the TDL development team, including those addressed in this release, can be found at: <http://tools.tdl.org/tracker/browse/ETD>.

The Vireo 1.0.1 project was led by Jade Lindquist. Other team members included Otto Fox, Dan Galewsky, Scott Phillips, William Sidney, and Dan Zappone, as well as chief technology officer Peter



Vireo Project Team: (back row, from left) Dan Zappone, Dan Galewsky, Alex Maslov, Scott Phillips, Lance King; (front row, from left) William Sidney, Otto Fox, Jade Lindquist

Nürnberg. Alexey Maslov of Texas A&M University Libraries was also a key contributor to the project.

Testing Information

TDL members will test the Vireo release for two weeks, during which the development team will address any issues that arise. A full release of the new code, with documentation, is scheduled for early March.

Testing environments for the new version are available for each TDL institution and can be found in the TDL Wiki at: http://wikis.tdl.org/tdl/Vireo/Sprint_1.0.1_Release. ◇

More about TDL software development

Texas Learning Object Repository (TxLOR)

Following the completion of the Vireo sprint, the TDL development team will turn its attention to TxLOR, in preparation for a demonstration at the Texas Distance Learning Association Conference on March 12.

Preservation Network (PresNet)

Beginning in mid-March, the TDL development team will begin dedicated work on the Preservation Network. Between now and then, TDL will be gathering information from stakeholders within the TDL membership about preservation needs.

DSpace Statistics

TDL is developing a statistics package for DSpace via an outside contractor. The package will provide usage statistics at various information levels, including at the level of collection, item, and author. Tentative completion date for this project is Summer 2010. ◇

Texas Conference on Digital Libraries set for May 17-18, 2010



Texas Conference on Digital Libraries

Mark your calendars for the 4th annual **Texas Conference on Digital Libraries**, to be held May 17-18 in Austin.

The conference will take place at the AT&T Executive Education and Conference Center located on the UT Austin campus.

What to Expect

This year's theme is **Collaboration**, and presentations will focus on issues of partnership and cooperation in the service of advancing scholarly communications.

The TDL is developing a program packed with expert speakers, and we are excited about providing a rich and informative experience for those who attend.

To cover the costs of the move to the AT&T Center, a full-service conference, dining, and hotel facility, TCDL 2010 will, for the first time, charge a nominal registration fee of \$50. This fee will cover all conference materials, an evening reception on the first day of the conference, and breakfast and snacks both days. Attendees will also have the opportunity to stay at the conference center hotel at the state rate.

For information about reservations at the AT&T Center Hotel, visit the [conference website](#). And stay tuned for messages announcing the opening of registration for TCDL 2010.

Call for Participation

The two-day conference will include a poster session to close the first day, as well as a series of

workshops and forums on the afternoon of day two.

For information about presenting a poster or holding a workshop, please see the Call for Participation on the [TCDL 2010 website](#). ◇

TCDL 2010: Staying Connected

In the spirit of the conference theme of **Collaboration**, the TDL has set up online venues for networking, staying informed, and interacting with others even before the conference begins.

- **TCDL 2010 on Crowdvine:**
For the first time, the TDL has set up a Crowdvine community for TCDL that will allow attendees to network and interact before, during, and after the conference. The TCDL Crowdvine network is located at <http://tcdl2010.crowdvine.com/>.
- **TCDL 2010 on Twitter:**
TCDL 2010 has come to Twitter. Attendees and others can get the latest updates about this year's conference and discuss the conference by following us at [TCDL2010](#).

The TDL will be using the hashtag [#TCDL2010](#) to mark all tweets about the conference. Join the conversation by posting tweets with this hashtag.

- **TCDL 2010 on Facebook:**
Become a fan of the [Texas Digital Library](#) and check out the [TCDL 2010 event page](#) on Facebook. ◇

Attention Vireo Users: Access new and existing resources for Vireo support

In an effort to assist members as they deploy Vireo at their institutions, the Texas Digital Library has developed several resources for training and technical help.

Video Tutorials

The TDL has created a set of online training videos covering a range of topics relevant to both student and administrative users of Vireo. The series is intended to supplement in-person training sessions offered by the TDL throughout the year.

The tutorials can be found on [YouTube](#) and are accessible via the [Vireo section of the TDL Wiki](#).

Vireo Users Group Listserv

The TDL has created a new Listserv for communicating Vireo updates and other information to inter-

ested users. If you would like to join, please contact the TDL Program Coordinator at info@tdl.org.

Vireo on the TDL Wiki

The Texas Digital Library Wiki, located at <http://wikis.tdl.org/tdl/>, has a growing library of Vireo resources, including documentation on planning for Vireo deployment and configuring administrative settings. Members are encouraged to submit Vireo documentation, videos, and other resources that they have created for their institutions to the wiki.

TDL Training Sessions on Vireo

The TDL is offering several classroom training sessions on Vireo during the spring 2010 semester, with the next course offering on February 23 at Baylor University. Check out the [TDL training page](#) for more information on those courses. ◇

Texas Tech helps patrons go digital—and green—with KIC Scanners

In 2007, through a generous grant from the Helen Jones Foundation, the Texas Tech Libraries purchased the first of several Knowledge Imaging Center (KIC) Scanners. Since that time, Tech has hosted representatives from other universities, while also fielding numerous inquiries via e-mail, regarding guidance on the implementation of the technology. And because of ever-growing usage, today the Texas Tech Libraries system offers six KIC Scanners for patrons.

While most students seem to intuitively know how to operate the KIC Scanner, seasoned library patrons may think of it as a fancy copier, only with more bells and whistles. The scanner's customer-friendly technology and touch-screen monitor with large buttons provide ease for patrons in converting materials from hard copy to electronic or digital format. In following the simple on-screen instructions, patrons scan an item and have the convenience of either e-mailing it to any e-mail account or downloading it directly to a USB drive, all right from the scanner.

With the KIC Scanners, the library is not just provid-



Texas Tech Libraries is saving paper and money by going digital with its Knowledge Imaging Center Scanners (above).

ing an outlet for patrons wishing to “go green” through the use of its paperless research option (at no charge). It's also supporting the Libraries' effort to save a little green. In today's economic crunch, the KIC Scanner allows the Texas Tech Libraries to practice good stewardship of available resources, as the scanner eliminates the expense of paper and ink. ◇

For more about Texas Tech University Libraries, please contact Kayley Daniel, Director of Office of Communications & Marketing at TTU Libraries.

Sign up now for spring training classes with the Texas Digital Library

The Texas Digital Library welcomes faculty and staff from all TDL member institutions to participate in training courses covering the full range of TDL services.

Please visit the [TDL Web site](#) for more information about location, registration, and cost. All sessions listed above are held at Baylor University in Waco.

March 25, 2010

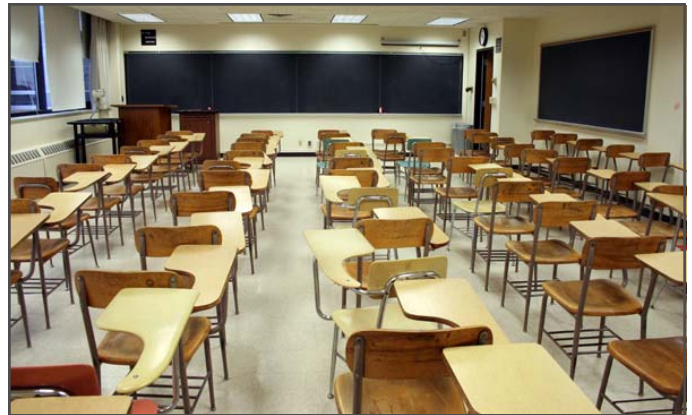
- ETD Management with Vireo (9 AM – 4 PM)
- Open Conference Systems (9 AM – 4 PM)

April 22, 2010

- DSpace Customization (9 AM – 4 PM)

May 27, 2010

- DSpace Systems (9 AM – 4 PM)



Because of inclement weather in the Waco area, the TDL cancelled both courses that were to be held on February 23. An announcement about makeup times for these courses will be forthcoming. Registrants wishing to obtain a full refund of their course fees can contact the TDL at info@tdl.org to do so. ♠

About the TDL

The Texas Digital Library is a multi-university consortium providing the digital infrastructure to support a fully online scholarly community for institutions of higher education in Texas and to promote the widespread availability of their enormous intellectual capital.

Services provided by the TDL to its members include:

- ◆ Institutional repositories
- ◆ Electronic Journals
- ◆ ETD Submission and Management software
- ◆ Scholarly Blogs
- ◆ Research Wikis
- ◆ Faculty homepages
- ◆ Online conference management

Contact the TDL

Texas Digital Library
P.O. Box P
Austin, Texas 78713-8916
Ph. 512-495-4129
Fax 512-495-4347

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TDL Member Institutions

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Texas A&M University at Qatar
The Texas A&M Health Science Center
Texas State University
Texas Tech University*
University of Houston*
University of North Texas
The University of Texas at Arlington
The University of Texas at Austin*
The University of Texas at Brownsville
The University of Texas at Dallas
The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas
The University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston
The University of Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer Center

* *founding institution*