Theology Cataloging Bulletin

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Theology Cataloging Bulletin (*TCB*), a publication of Atla, is published in January, April, August, and October. It contains information about new and changed Library of Congress Subject Headings (LCSH) and Library of Congress Classification (LCC) numbers compiled from the Library of Congress's monthly lists, upcoming training opportunities, bibliographies of recently published articles, and other information of interest to religion/theology catalogers. Each issue also contains a column entitled "Testimony," which is a first-person narrative of an experience, project, or training of interest to the technical services community.

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We Want to Hear from You

Theology Cataloging Bulletin (*TCB*) is a publication of Atla Open Press. Since its inception in 1992, the *Bulletin* has informed technical services librarians in the field of religion and theology of new developments and upcoming opportunities to support their work and professional development. In the past, *TCB* focused mostly on cataloging, but now we want to expand coverage to a broader range of technical services activities, supporting Atla's mission to be collectors and connectors in religion and theology.

The *TCB* editorial team invites you to participate in a survey that reviews the current publication and asks how it could be more valuable to you and your daily work activities. The responses will help guide the future direction of the *Bulletin* so we can offer the most helpful information to those who provide description of, and access to, library resources in religion and theology.

Please complete the survey by November 30, 2020. The TCB *editorial team thanks you for your feedback.*

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compiled by Christa M. Strickler

The new headings listed here reflect the most recent information available at the time of publication. Items in this list were selected from 2020 list numbers 6 (June 12), 7 (July 17), and 8 (August 14).

SUBJECT HEADINGS

150   Anansi (Legendary character) CANCEL HEADING   [sp 85004799]
      682   This authority record has been deleted because the subject heading is covered by an identical name heading (DLC)no2020051105

150   Andir (Dance)   [May Subd Geog]   [sp2020005562]
      053   GV1796.A69
      550   BT Dance--Indonesia

150   Basilicas (Roman architecture)--Greece   [sp2020001125]

110   Bethesda Pentecostal Church (New York, N.Y. : Building)   [sp2020001130]
      410   UF Bushwick Democratic Club (New York, N.Y. : Building)
      550   BT Church buildings--New York (State)
      550   BT Clubhouses--New York (State)

150   Borān kammaṭṭhāna (Buddhism)   [sp2020000601]
      053   BQ5630.B67
      450   UF Boran kammathan (Buddhism)
      450   UF Boran kammatthan (Buddhism)
      450   UF Borān yogāvacara kammaṭṭhāna (Buddhism)
      450   UF Dhammakāya meditation (Buddhism)
      550   BT Buddhism--Doctrines
      550   BT Meditation--Buddhism

150   Cataloging of music   [May Subd Geog]   [sp 85020869]
      550   RT Medium of performance thesaurus for music, Library of Congress ADD FIELD

150   Christian study centers   [May Subd Geog]   [sp2020000600]
      450   UF Study centers, Christian
      550   BT Community centers
      550   BT Religious facilities

Christa M. Strickler is Associate Professor of Library Science at Wheaton College.

150   Confucianism--Functionaries   [sp2020002251]
    450   UF Confucian functionaries
    450   UF Confucian religious functionaries
    450   UF Confucianism--Clergy
    550   BT Clergy

150   Duryodhana (Hindu mythology) CANCEL HEADING   [sp 85040064]
    682   This authority record has been deleted because the subject heading is covered by
        the name heading Duryodhana (Hindu mythological character) (DLC)n 2020240636

150   Duryodhana (Hindu mythology) in literature CANCEL HEADING   [sp2009030092]
    682   This authority record has been deleted because the heading is replaced by the
        heading Duryodhana (Hindu mythological character)--In literature, a heading for
        which a subject authority record is not made because it uses a free-floating subdi-
        vision.

150   Dvarasakhas   [May Subd Geog]   [sp2020005468]
    450   UF Dvara-shakhas
    450   UF Dvarashakhas
    450   UF Dwara-sakhas
    550   BT Buddhist architecture
    550   BT Doorframes
    550   BT Hindu architecture
    550   BT Jaina architecture

150   Elders (Indigenous leaders)   [May Subd Geog]   [sp2020006331]
    450   UF Aboriginal elders (Indigenous leaders)
    450   UF Elders, Aboriginal (Indigenous leaders)
    450   UF Elders, Tribal (Indigenous leaders)
    450   UF Indigenous leaders
    450   UF Leaders, Indigenous
    450   UF Leaders, Tribal
    450   UF Tribal elders (Indigenous leaders)
    550   BT Indigenous peoples
    550   BT Persons
    680   Here are entered works on indigenous persons whose wisdom about spirituality,
        culture, and life is recognized by their people, and who ensure that traditions are
        taught and maintained.

150   Elders (Indigenous leaders)--Alaska   [sp2020006625]

150   Elders (Indigenous leaders)--Canada   [sp2020006624]

150   Elders (Indigenous leaders), Aboriginal Australian   [May Subd Geog]   [sp2020005547]
    450   UF Aboriginal Australian elders (Indigenous leaders)

150   Elders (Indigenous leaders), Maori   [May Subd Geog]   [sp2020005548]
      450   UF Maori elders (Indigenous leaders)

151   Girirāja (India)   [sp 90002485]
      451   UF Govardhana Hill (India) ADD FIELD
      451   UF Govardhan Hill (India) ADD FIELD
      451   UF Mount Govardhan (India) ADD FIELD
      451   UF Mount Govardhana (India) ADD FIELD
      451   UF Royal Hill (India) ADD FIELD

150   Guardian angels in art   [Not Subd Geog]   [sp2020000634]

150   Healing of the deaf man (Miracle)   [sp2020000168]
      053   BT367.H37
      450   UF Deaf man, Healing of the (Miracle)
      450   UF Deaf-mute, Healing of the (Miracle)
      450   UF Healing of the deaf-mute (Miracle)
      500   BT Jesus Christ--Miracles

150   Hevel (The Hebrew word)   [sp 94002944]
      450   UF Hebel (The Hebrew word) ADD FIELD

150   Host of heaven   [sp2020005563]
      450   UF Heavenly host
      550   BT Angels
      550   BT Judaism--Doctrines
      550   BT Theology, Doctrinal

150   Hypostyle halls   [May Subd Geog]   [sp2020005893]
      450   UF Hypostyle rooms
      450   UF Hypostyles
      450   UF Pillared halls
      550   BT Rooms

150   Indian elders (Indigenous leaders)   [May Subd Geog]   [sp2020005527]
      550   BT Elders (Indigenous leaders)

150   Indian women elders (Indigenous leaders)   [May Subd Geog]   [sp2020005528]
      450   UF Women elders (Indigenous leaders), Indian
      550   BT Elders (Indigenous leaders)
      550   BT Indian women

150   Inuit elders (Indigenous leaders)   [May Subd Geog]   [sp2020005539]
       450   UF Elders (Indigenous leaders), Inuit
       550   BT Elders (Indigenous leaders)--Alaska
       550   BT Elders (Indigenous leaders)--Canada
       550   BT Elders (Indigenous leaders)--Greenland

150   Jaina relief (Sculpture)   [May Subd Geog]   [sp2020005462]
       450   UF Relief (Sculpture), Jaina
       550   BT Jaina sculpture

150   Jewish superheroes   [May Subd Geog]   [sp2020000616]
       550   BT Superheroes

110   Julian Basilica (Corinth, Greece)   [sp2020001112]
       410   UF East Building (Corinth, Greece)
       550   BT Basilicas (Roman architecture)--Greece
       551   BT Greece--Antiquities

150   Liaison librarians   [May Subd Geog]   [sp2020005933]
       550   BT Librarians

150   Lokapālas (Buddhist deities) in art   [Not Subd Geog]   [sp2020005788]

150   Makara CANCEL HEADING   [sp 85079987]
       682   This authority record has been deleted because the subject heading is covered by
               the name heading Makara (Hindu mythological character) (DLC)no2020068587

150   Medium of performance thesaurus for music, Library of Congress   [sp2020000928]
       450   UF LC medium of performance terms for music
       450   UF LCMPT (Library of Congress medium of performance thesaurus for music)
       450   UF Library of Congress medium of performance terms for music
       450   UF Library of Congress medium of performance thesaurus for music
       450   UF Medium of performance terms for music, Library of Congress
       450   UF Musical medium of performance terms, Library of Congress
       550   BT Authority files (Information retrieval)
       550   RT Cataloging of music

150   Métis elders (Indigenous leaders)   [May Subd Geog]   [sp2020005538]
       450   UF Elders (Indigenous leaders), Métis
       550   BT Elders (Indigenous leaders)--Canada

150   Mut (Egyptian deity) CANCEL HEADING   [sp2007008918]
       682   This authority record has been deleted because the subject heading is covered by
               an identical name heading (DLC)n 2020021031

150   Pendentives   [May Subd Geog]   [sp2020005425]
     550   BT Architecture--Details

150   Phaethon (Greek mythology) CANCEL HEADING   [sp 85100542]
     682   This authority record has been deleted because the subject heading is covered by
         the name heading Phaethon (Greek deity) (DLC)no2020068619

150   Phaethon (Greek mythology) in literature CANCEL HEADING   [sp2012000004]
     682   This authority record has been deleted because the heading is replaced by the
         heading Phaethon (Greek deity)--In literature, a heading for which a subject au-
         thority record is not made because it uses a free-floating subdivision.

150   Relief (Sculpture), Hindu CHANGE HEADING
150   Hindu relief (Sculpture)   [May Subd Geog]   [sp 88000323]
     450   UF Relief (Sculpture), Hindu [Former heading]
     550   BT Hindu sculpture

150   Saint Lucy's Day   [May Subd Geog]   [sp2020005534]
     450   UF Saint Lucia's Day
     450   UF St. Lucia's Day
     450   UF St. Lucy's Day
     550   BT Fasts and feasts
     550   BT Holidays

150   Triton (Greek deity) CANCEL HEADING   [sp2002011037]
     682   This authority record has been deleted because the subject heading is covered by
         an identical name heading (DLC)no2020057800

150   Uddhava (Hindu mythology) CANCEL HEADING   [sp2009030073]
     682   This authority record has been deleted because the subject heading is covered by
         the name heading Uddhava (Hindu mythological character) (DLC)n 2019243697

150   Uddhava (Hindu mythology) in literature CANCEL HEADING   [sp2009030074]
     682   This authority record has been deleted because the heading is replaced by the
         heading Uddhava (Hindu mythological character)--In literature, a heading for
         which a subject authority record is not made because it uses a free-floating subdi-
         vision.

150 Xiezhi [May Subd Geog] [sp2020005866]
   450 UF Haechi
   450 UF Haetae
   450 UF Haitai
   450 UF Jiezhì
   450 UF Justice animal
   450 UF Kaichi
   450 UF Shenyang
   450 UF Shin'yō
   450 UF Unicorn-lion
   450 UF Xie zhi
   450 UF Zhi (Mythical animal)
   550 BT Animals, Mythical
   550 BT Mythology, East Asian

GENRE/FORM TERMS

155 Easter poetry [gp2020026052]
   555 BT Poetry

LCC from June 2020–August 2020 Lists

compiled by Christa M. Strickler

The new classification numbers listed here reflect the most recent information available at the time of publication. Items in this list were selected from 2020 list numbers 06 (June 15), 07 (July 20), and 08 (August 17).

CLASS BF

	Occult sciences
	Special topics, A-Z
BF1442.C87	Cursed objects
	Witchcraft
	Special topics, A-Z
BF1572.W38	Water

CLASS BL

	Religions. Mythology. Rationalism
	Religion
	History and principles of religions
	European. Occidental
	Other early European religions
	By ethnic group
	Celtic
	Special topics, A-Z
BL915.M67	Morrigan
	African
	By ethnic group, etc., A-Z
BL2480.T47	Teso
	Rationalism
[BL2700-2790]	Cf. BQ4570.S43 Buddhism and secularism

CLASS BM

	Judaism
	Relation of Judaism to special subject fields
	Other, A-Z
BM538.V42	Veganism

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CLASS BQ

Buddhism
  Doctrinal and systematic Buddhism
    Special topics (nondoctrinal) and relations to special subjects, A-Z
BQ4570.S43   Secularism

Practice of Buddhism. Forms of worship
  Religious life
    Devotion. Meditation
      Special topics, A-Z
BQ5630.B67   Borān kammaṭṭhāna

CLASS BS

The Bible
  General
    Texts and versions
      Modern texts and versions
        Non-European languages
          Languages of Oceania and Australasia (Austronesian, Papuan, and
          Australian), A-Z
BS335.C35   Caluyanun TABLE BS5

Old Testament
  Works about the Old Testament
    Topics (not otherwise provided for), A-Z
BS1199.H67   Host of Heaven

CLASS BT

Doctrinal theology
  Christology
    Life of Christ
      Special topics
        Public life
          Miracles
            Special, A-Z
BT367.H37   Healing of the deaf man

CLASS BV

Practical theology
  Ecclesiastical theology
    Sacraments. Ordinances
      Baptism
[BV803-814]   Cf. BV873.D43 Dedication of infants

                     Other, A-Z
BV873.D43   Dedication of infants

            Missions in individual countries
              Asia. The Orient. The East
                Southeast Asia
                  Malay Archipelago
                    Indonesia
                      By ethnic group, A-Z
BV3373.D39   Dayak

            Pastoral theology
              Practical church work. Social work. Work of the layman
                Church work with special classes
BV4437.6   Transgender people

            Practical religion. The Christian life
              Movements to promote the Christian life, A-Z
BV4487.S78   Study centers

CLASS BX

           Christian denominations
              Other Protestant denominations
                Pentecostal churches
                  Individual branches
BX8768.57   Gereja Sidang Jemaat Allah TABLE BX3

CLASS DT

            History of Africa
             Egypt
                Local antiquities, A-Z
DT73.D73   Dra Abu el-Naga Site

CLASS E

           America
            Indians of North America
             Other topics, A-Z
E98.E43   Elders (Indigenous leaders)

CLASS GV

        Recreation. Leisure
          Dance
            Special dances, A-Z
GV1796.A69   Andir

Professional Development Opportunities

compiled by Cynthia Snell

Delivering Services in a Pandemic

Whether working remotely, on-site or in some hybrid form, information organizations and institutions found that many basic services had to be managed and delivered in new and different forms. From providing remote support to customers, to delivering seamless online access to content, to meeting the needs of scattered students and faculty, everyone's workflows had to be adapted. Standard access services that are normally taken for granted had to be rethought. This webinar will address what these changes meant for all those who provide information services of any sort.

October 28, 2020; 11:00 am – 12:30 pm
Free (NISO member) / $135 (non-member) / $49 (student)

Developing a Website Content Strategy

In this four-week course, you will learn the process of developing a website content strategy, from the first phase of conducting an audit of your content, to the second phase of analyzing your current environment, to the final phase of establishing a sustainable strategy that will ensure your content is useful, usable, and findable.

November 2–29, 2020
$175

Ethics and Sustainability for Digital Curation

It's not just about digitizing or capturing unique born-digital material to preserve it and put it online for unfettered access in an institutional repository or digital special collections platform. The responsible information professional needs to approach their task within a framework that supports ethical curation of digital collections and also includes the necessary component of financial and preservation sustainability. This course will explore ethical frameworks in various disciplines, from radical librarianship, to archives, and to community-centered and human rights documentation initiatives, in order to lay a working framework for stewarding digital collections in a responsible manner, no matter the setting, institution or purpose.

November 2–29, 2020
$175

Key Concepts in Quantitative Analysis for Librarians

This class will provide a broad overview of quantitative methods and the focus will be on understanding terminology and concepts used by quantitative researchers. We'll discuss some of the most commonly used statistical tests, outlining the types of research questions they address and the basic mechanics of the tests. T-test, correlation, chi-square test of independence and regression will be briefly explained. Along the way we'll touch upon variables, level of analysis and the role of theory in quantitative methodology. This course is accessible to those without a math background as it focuses on providing a broad overview of quantitative methods concepts. This class can help

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library staff who are planning to conduct quantitative research to show value, assess library services and student learning, and better serve communities.

November 3, 2020; 1:30 pm – 2:30 pm EST (GMT -5)
$50 (LYRASIS member) / $75 (non-member)

Fundamentals of Electronic Resources Acquisitions

This four-week online course provides an overview of acquiring, providing access to, administering, supporting, and monitoring access to electronic resources. The course offers a basic background in electronic resource acquisitions including: product trials, licensing, purchasing methods, pricing models. An overview of the sometimes complex relationships between vendors, publishers, platform providers, and libraries is also provided.

November 11, 2020–December 11, 2020
$109 (ALCTS member) / $139 (non-member)

Creating a Collections Cataloging Manual

Arrowhead or projectile point? Inches or centimeters? Circa or ca.? If you've ever torn your hair out about data inconsistency across your collections management system, creating a cataloging manual is a great first step toward gaining better intellectual control over your art, artifact, and object collections.

November 17, 2020; 2:00 pm – 3:00 pm EST (GMT -5)
$50 (LYRASIS member) / $75 (non-member)

Using MarcEdit

This four-week course will provide hands-on instruction to build, edit and manipulate library data using MarcEdit. This course will cover both basic functionality as well as more sophisticated uses making it appropriate for both new and experienced users of MarcEdit.

December 7, 2020–January 3, 2021
$175

Rethinking Spaces

Some organizations and institutions in the information community have now started to return to a form of face-to-face operations, requiring even more planning and adaptation on their part in order to safely bring their workforce back to an office setting. How can available spaces be reallocated in order to accommodate social distancing? Where are plexiglass shields needed? How many workers could or should continue to work remotely and how many will only be in the office part-time? This discussion will look beyond narrow issues such as managing shelving or foot traffic, to focus on how we need to rethink the functional space and shared environments of 21st century knowledge workers.

December 9, 2020; 11:00 am – 12:30 pm
Free (NISO member) / $135 (non-member) / $49 (student)

Copyright and Open Licensing Issues

The question of copyright comes up frequently in librarianship, and issues surrounding copyright limitations pervade all aspects of library work including publishing, acquisitions, electronic resources management, metadata, resource sharing, and patron interactions. In this course, you will

learn the foundations of copyright law, the types of resources that both are and are not covered by copyright restrictions, exceptions and limitations to copyright such as fair use and the TEACH Act, and open licensing options, including an overview of Creative Commons licenses. By the end of the course, you will have a better understanding of how copyright law applies in multiple library settings and scenarios and be able to handle copyright questions from your community with more confidence and ease. Note: this course primarily focuses on United States copyright law.

January 4–31, 2021
$175

Grant Writing for Digital Collections in Libraries & Museums

This course discusses local, regional, and national grant planning and writing, for the purposes of digital collections creation. Emphasizing the granular detail needed for successful grant submissions, this course will include sections on digitization explanation, metadata description, digital preservation and maintenance, harvesting and interoperability requirements, and specialized, user-friendly research applications that will make your application stand out, in order to secure funding.

January 4–31, 2021
$175

Preservation of Photographic Materials

Photographic materials present significant preservation concerns in cultural heritage collections. They are often heavily used and are fragile and susceptible to damage due to improper handling and storage conditions. Visual examples of photographic processes and deteriorated photographs will be identified and discussed. Taught in two two-hour sessions over the course of two days, topics covered will include: early photographic through contemporary print processes; issues with prints, color, film, glass, and albums; environment and storage guidelines; handling, housing, and security guidelines.

January 26 & 27, 2021; 2:00 pm – 3:30 pm EST (GMT -5)
$125 (LYRASIS member) / $150 (non-member)

Metadata and Description for Digital Special Collections

Methods and standards for metadata and description for unique digital collections are varied and present digital curators, catalogers and metadata librarians with a wide array of options, which can at times seem daunting. This course is designed to give the student an overview of current standards, schemas and applications of medatada models designed for the description and organization of digital collections, whether they be materials in an institutional repository or digital special collections.

March 1–28, 2021
$175

Report on the CC:DA Summer Meeting 2020

by Donna J. Wells

Like all conferences and meetings scheduled for the summer of 2020, the CC:DA met virtually using Zoom. There were three meetings of two hours each, all very well attended. Introductions were repeated at every get together. The [full reports from each reporting committee](#) are available online. In summary:

MEETING 1

July 9, 3:00–5:00

The first gathering covered Zoom logistics, approval of minutes, and two reports, one from the task force to review the proposal on changing procedural guidelines for revised romanization tables and the other from the Library of Congress.

The discussion concerning the romanization tables was quite lively. Obviously, this is a very complex procedure and demands specialized expertise. Basically, it was decided that LC needs to be much more involved in setting up this process and spearhead this project.

The Library of Congress reported on their response to the coronavirus. The library building is closed and all employees are working remotely. The process for reopening is detailed but no dates have been set. LC has also been hit with a large number of retirements resulting in much shifting and reorganization. The LC report details many of the cataloging and classification changes made since January.

MEETING 2

July 13, 2:00–4:00

Reports were given from the representatives from the North American RDA Committee, the CC:DA 3R task group, the MARC Advisory Committee representative, and the PCC liaison.

NARDAC met five times between ALA Midwinter in January and this July. They continue work to develop a set of user-friendly display labels for RDA elements and supply the exhibition curator proposal (with the 3R task force), among many other projects. They work closely with the RDA Steering Committee, which is the international group spearheading RDA.

The 3R Task Force worked to define terms more clearly for RDA. They proposed to add the element sets "curator agent of work" and "curator agent of work of" as narrower elements to "related work of agent" and "related agent of work" to describe curators who play a role at the work level.

The MAC passed five proposals:

- alter the existing make-up of field 856,

- provide a mechanism for recording illustrative content in field 340,

- provide a mechanism for recording aspect ratio in field 345,

- add a new field, 881, for the new RDA element "Manifestation Statement," and

- add a new field, 335, for the element "Extension Plan for Bibliographic Works."

Donna J. Wells is Associate Director and Head of Technical Services at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary. She currently serves as the Atla liaison to the CC:DA.

PCC continues to update the NACO manual, make policy statements for the new RDA toolkit, issue guidelines for the minimally punctuated MARC bibliographic records, provide training on FAST headings, and form a task force to consider expanding language codes.

MEETING 3
July 15, 1:00–3:00

This meeting was dedicated to future plans and areas of work. With the uncertainty of current conditions under COVID precautions, to meet again virtually was a viable option. Midwinter is supposed to be held in Indianapolis in January. However, no decision was made; it was agreed to wait and see, as we all are doing in this bizarre year of 2020.

Social Media

compiled by Anna Appleman

Hale, Meredith L. 2020. "Tweeting Tennessee's Collections: A Case Study of a Digital Collections Twitterbot Implementation." *Code4Lib Journal* 48.

Michael, Brinna and Myung-Ja Han. 2020. "User Tagging Behaviors in an OPAC: An Analysis of Seven Years of I-Share User Tags." *Library Resources & Technical Services* 64, no. 1: 4–14.

Samanta, Kalyan Sundar and Durga Sankar Rath. 2020. "User-Generated Social Tags Versus Librarian-Generated Subject Headings: A Comparative Study in the Domain of History." *DESIDOC Journal of Library & Information Technology* 40, no. 3: 176–84. doi.org/10.14429/djlit.40.03.15413.

Zhan, Ming, Qin Yu, and Ji Wang. 2020. "Effectively Organizing Hashtags on Instagram: A Study of Library-Related Captions." *Information Research* 25, no. 2.

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Open Access
compiled by Anna Appleman

Bruner, Rhiannon and Danielle Bromelia. 2020. "Managing Open Content Resources from Discovery to Delivery." *Serials Librarian* 78, nos. 1–4: 234–8.

Dalton, Elizabeth D., Carol Tenopir, and Bo-Christer Björk. 2020. "Attitudes of North American Academics Toward Open Access Scholarly Journals." *Portal: Libraries and the Academy* 20, no. 1: 73-100.

Moore, Samuel A. 2020. "Revisiting 'the 1990s Debutante': Scholar-led Publishing and the Prehistory of the Open Access Movement." *Journal of the Association for Information Science & Technology* 71, no. 7: 856–66.

Schleicher, Caitlin A., Christopher A. Barnes, and Ronald A. Joslin. 2020. "[OER Initiatives at Liberal Arts Colleges: Building Support at Three Small, Private Institutions](.)." *Journal of Librarianship and Scholarly Communication* 8. dx.doi.org/10.7710/2162-3309.2301.

Tavernier, Willa. 2020. "[COVID-19 Demonstrates the Value of Open Access: What Happens Next?](.)" *College & Research Libraries News* 81, no. 5: 226–30. doi.org/10.5860/crln.81.5.226.

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The Problem of Describing Digital Ephemera

by Brinna Michael

In the fall of 2019, preparations began to ramp up for Pitts Theology Library's winter exhibition, *Thy Kingdom Come: American Evangelicalism from George Whitefield to Contemporary Politics*, an exploration of the historical, social, and political complexities of the American Evangelical movement. The goal of curators Brandon Wason and Eric Moore (2019) was to "[problematize] monolithic portrayals of evangelicalism in the media in order to demonstrate the significant role this movement has played within the broader American culture." To accomplish this, they drew on a variety of resources, including original compendiums of George Whitfield's sermons, publications by proponents of Christian fundamentalism, ephemera reflecting the everyday Evangelical life, and books on the state of contemporary American Evangelicalism. In addition to these more traditional, physical representations of embodied history, Wason and Moore also made the decision to include something altogether different for Pitts: a curated selection of tweets to accompany the section on American Evangelicalism and Contemporary Politics.

But why tweets? Pitts Theology Library's Special Collections department specializes in collecting a variety of historical materials largely focused on the Reformation and Wesleyan periods, and it is rare that exhibitions engage so directly with current events. However, Wason and Moore's collaboration presented an opportunity to display a truly contemporary example of the current state of politics and religion, one which could only be captured through social media. Throughout the exhibition's three-month run, Wason, Moore, and Library Director Bo Adams, curated a selection of tweets that were added to a running feed in the gallery, giving a near real-time look into the living Evangelical experience. In fact, the screen on which the feed was running quickly became the section of the exhibition most frequently engaged with by visitors.

In response to the exhibition, some in the Atla community posed the question: amidst cases full of painstakingly preserved and described physical materials, were there plans for preserving and describing the tweets? The short answer is no. A selection of the tweets were included in the [official exhibition catalog](#), but, overall, there was not a plan for any long-term preservation or description of the tweets. This decision was made largely because the displayed tweets constituted an incredibly small and highly curated subset of the social media record of Evangelical engagement with contemporary politics specifically gathered for this exhibition. Rather than attempting to take on a project outside the scope and technical capability of the library, the decision was made not to preserve them outside of their context as a supplemental element of the exhibit itself. Additionally, the preservation of tweets, and social media posts broadly, is an incredibly complex and imprecise process, one that should not be taken on in an ad hoc, one-off fashion.

As the technology we use to communicate and express ourselves continues to develop, it is becoming quite clear that the cultural heritage community must shift our established practices in order to preserve and describe these new forms of cultural communication artifacts. Many are familiar with the often-arduous process of describing physical ephemera or other types of obscure and challenging information artifacts, but digital ephemera present an even more complex undertaking. Tweets and other types of social media posts exemplify the intricacy of such artifacts: interactive by design and ephemeral by nature, it is practically impossible to capture a suitably de-

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scriptive context of a collection of tweets through the means available to archivists and librarians now.

WHAT IS A TWEET? WE JUST DON'T KNOW

Twitter currently has a very robust selection of application programming interfaces (APIs), which enable developers to do everything from create and edit tweets and direct messages to retrieve dumps of tweet and public user account metadata in JSON format (Twitter Developer, "Introduction"). These APIs and associated endpoints (applications which perform a specific function, like searching based on a string) were largely designed with business and industry uses in mind, but could potentially be adapted for preservation and description. Still, simple access to the data is not a success in and of itself. There are a number of challenges that pose a particularly tall barrier to any useable process by which to reliably and regularly record and preserve tweets.

The prime example of this is the Library of Congress' attempt to build a Twitter archive through a partnership with Twitter. Beginning in 2010, The Library of Congress and Twitter reached an agreement in which Twitter would provide an archive of public tweets from 2006–10 as well as establish a continual transfer of tweets on an ongoing basis moving forward. That project abruptly stalled, as announced in a white paper by the Library of Congress (2017), which stated that the library "will continue to acquire tweets but will do so on a very selective basis" and that those tweets will be "thematic and event-based, including events such as elections, or themes of ongoing national interest, e.g. public policy." Since then, almost nothing has been heard from the project. Elisabeth Fondren and Meghan Menard McCune (2018), however, provide an excellent analysis of the social, technical, and cultural challenges that impacted the Library of Congress's decision in their article, "Archiving and Preserving Social Media at the Library of Congress: Institutional and Cultural Challenges to Build a Twitter Archive."

Based on Fondren and McCune's observations, let's break down one aspect of the technical issues facing institutions attempting to preserve Twitter content: the challenge of processing and organizing a set of raw data. When a tweet's data is received from Twitter, either by request for a certain account or through an endpoint query, it arrives in the form of metadata encoded in Tweet JSON format. This means that the tweets have been stripped all their original visual and interactive context, calling into question how we even want to define what a tweet "is." Is it the 140 (or 280) characters composing the "text" element of the "Tweet object" (Twitter Developer, "Tweet Object")? Is it the entire set of metadata enclosed in the "Tweet object" itself? Or does it also include the visual rendering of the information as well? This distinction is important when considering the purpose of preserving the information artifact and the method of description to be used for providing access and context. For example, the tweets collected and displayed as part of the *Thy Kingdom Come* exhibition were displayed as they would be seen as part of a Twitter feed, relying on their interlinked visual and textual aspects to engage users in a way that could not be achieved if they were displayed as raw data or even as a more standard metadata "record" view.

TO COLLECT OR NOT TO COLLECT

In addition to such technical issues, there are the ethical and social ones. Privacy is a major concern for social media users, although their behaviors may not align with these concerns (Yerby,

Koohang, and Paliszkiewicz 2019). As cultural heritage institutions, we have the complicated job of trying to balance the responsibility of recording cultural history with respecting the wishes and privacy of creators who may not have intended or wished for their content to be preserved long-term or exposed for research purposes. This is not a new concept. Archives regularly broker access restrictions as part of donor agreements, particularly in regards to living creators and potentially controversial materials. The same considerations should be given when contemplating preserving social media posts:

- What is the purpose of collecting and preserving these posts?

- Are we undermining the creators' privacy and potentially endangering them by collecting and preserving these posts?

- Are we taking appropriate measures to ethically and accurately describe the full context of these posts?

This final question poses perhaps the greatest hurdle to preserving this new wave of digital ephemera. As Fondren and McCune (2018, 41) note, "the permanent and long-term nature of the Library's Twitter Archive has challenged the widespread notion of social media as ephemeral content... [and] may also alter cultural practices on Twitter, as users react to the knowledge that their tweets are now part of history." If the act of collection could affect established cultural practices surrounding social media, how will descriptions and presentation of those collected tweets and posts? Our current methods and systems of description, specifically MARC, have historically been built around concepts of tangible information artifacts, and have thus struggled to be flexible enough to fully contextualize more complex examples of cultural history, such as film, music, performance, physical ephemera, and unpublished works. It only stands to reason that the same level of ingenuity will be called on to fully contextualize something as massive and complex as a social media site.

Additionally, we must remember that the act of curating content being collected by cultural heritage institutions is, in and of itself, a biased act, imposing a particular lens though which cultural and public history will be interpreted for generations to come. The proposal by the Library of Congress (2017) Twitter Archive project to further narrow the collecting parameters moving forward shifts social media into this conversation of collection bias, reinforcing the need for fully fleshed-out methods of contextualization as part of preservation and description.

CONCLUSIONS

The inclusion of tweets in Wason and Moore's exhibition, *Thy Kingdom Come,* exemplified the engaging and dynamic ways in which current and historical methods of cultural communication can interact. While no plans were made to preserve or describe the curated tweets, their inclusion provokes an important discussion for cultural heritage institutions: how are we going to move forward so that future generations will have full, minimally-biased access to the normalized cultural exchanges represented by social media posts and interactions? As with all shifts to the format of cultural exchange, there is no simple answer to this question. While technical challenges present a very concrete hurdle to this goal, we must also carefully consider the ethical and social impact of collecting digital ephemera. Current and widely used methods and standards of description (e.g., MARC, Dublin Core, etc.) cannot accurately define and describe the complex relationships and con-

text of a platform like Twitter. As such, our first goal must be to break free of conventional definitions of information artifacts and clearly answer the question, "What is a tweet?" Until we can define with surety what we are describing, we cannot move forward with designing a descriptive standard.

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