CLIR’s Cataloging Hidden Special Collections and Archives Program: a Final Report

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Abstract: Over the period 2008-2014 and with the generous support of The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation through its Cataloging Hidden Special Collections and Archives program, CLIR awarded nearly $27.5 million to a wide variety of GLAM institutions in the United States and Canada to catalog collections of rare and unique materials. Now, ten years after the first awards, CLIR is conducting a final review of the program. This presentation will share cumulative results of the program, insights learned from recipients, and questions meriting further analysis. The data collected includes results of 128 projects that took place in more than 170 institutions. CLIR is interested in connecting with other organizations who may wish to evaluate and/or manipulate the data in new ways to better understand how intensive cataloging programs can change institutions. CLIR is also considering the development of new grant programs in the future and would like feedback on how the lessons learned from the Cataloging program could inform new funding opportunities. As an organization, CLIR continues to seek new ways to engage conversations and build collaborations between all types of collecting organizations.

About the Author:

Joy M. Banks is a Program Officer at CLIR where she helps manage the Recordings at Risk and Digitizing Hidden Special Collections and Archives regranting programs. Prior to joining the CLIR grants team, she worked in library, archive, and museum settings in academic, public, and non-profit organizations focusing on cataloging, metadata creation, and special project management. She holds an MLS from Clarion University of Pennsylvania and a BA in English from Florida Southern College.