CUACRL Digital Initiatives Task Force
FY2017 Work Plan Objectives
Quarterly Progress Report

Report Date: Friday, October 6, 2017
Task Group: CUARL Digital Initiatives Task Force
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OBJECTIVE TITLE
Third quarterly report to CUARL’s directors from CUACRL-DITF

ACTIVITIES
The group is currently requesting clarification for the desired output for the following goals:

1. We are respectfully asking the board to recommend if this task force should begin work on a joint digitization project or simply identify possible joint digitization projects, knowing that, due to subject matter, a joint project will not involve every campus.
2. We need advice from the board about how to proceed with goal number 2: Implement a scanning program, with materials to be scanned in support of faculty programs. Is there a desired outcome for this goal?

ACCOMPLISHMENTS 2nd QUARTER
We have advanced the goal 1; identify materials to be digitized from each UA campus by

1. Identifying the materials to be digitized per campus.

   The members reported potential digitization projects for their institution. The committee did not find a common theme that would stretch across every campus without being too broad. However, there are overlaps in collections which could result in a joint project with 2-3 campuses working together. Potential topics identified with overlaps include forestry/environmentalism, POW camps, and Fort Chaffee.

2. Identifying strengths and weaknesses per campus through a short capabilities survey.

   Of the five institutions that responded, all reported that they have some type of digitization program in place. This stretches the spectrum from a scanner set aside for digital projects to a separate digitization unit with full time staff. One respondent reported an obstacle - multiple projects competing for the same resources. Of the reported resources needed, 4 of the 5 respondents reported that their programs could be improved with additional people or equipment. Two respondents suggested people are needed for specific tasks: preparing materials, metadata creation, or digitizing. Three of the five respondents suggested better
equipment would help their program, with one respondent specifying a type of equipment – an automated microfilm scanner. One respondent reported the need of a display platform. Two respondents reported that grant money could aid their program. One reported that grant money could aid in processing large projects and another respondent reported that grant money could aid to acquire a display platform. One respondent suggested that negotiating for a group discount on CONTENTdm for U of A campuses would be beneficial.

NEXT STEPS

- The task force will review additional goals while awaiting further guidance.