UI's Center for Digital Inquiry and Learning (CDIL) Highlights
cdil.lib.uidaho.edu

History

The Center for Digital Inquiry and Learning (CDIL) began in 2015 as a series of meetings convened by Andrew Kersten, Dean of the College of Letters, Arts and Social Sciences (CLASS). These meetings brought together faculty from CLASS and the Library who were interested in advancing digital scholarship on campus and exploring collaborative research and teaching opportunities. In 2016, President Chuck Staben selected the CDIL as one of five campus projects, chosen from a pool of 43 applicants, to be awarded a Vandal Ideas Project (VIP) grant. The CDIL used these funds, under the direction of Devin Becker, UI Library's Head of Data & Digital Services and the CDIL's first director, to outfit the physical center in the UI Library—2nd Floor, Room 211—and to fund two different digital scholarship fellowship programs and two graduate research assistantships.

Facts

- Awarded $80,000 Vandal Ideas Project (VIP) grant in 2016
- Total # of UI faculty involved: 20
- CLASS Units represented: 6
  - Department of History, Department of English, Lionel Hampton School of Music, Department of Modern Languages and Cultures, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, and the School of Journalism and Mass Media (JAMM).
- The grant funded six research fellows & two graduate student research assistantships
  - *Spring 2017 Fellows*: Denise Bennett (Assistant Professor, JAMM) is collecting and publishing Idaho LGBTQA Oral Histories for a documentary film and an online portal; Stacey Camp (Associate Professor, Sociology & Anthropology) built a smart-phone based augmented reality (AR) application for the local Moscow Cemetery.
  - *Summer 2017 Fellows*: Denise Bennett (Assistant Professor, JAMM), Matthew Fox-Amato (Assistant Professor, History), Kristine Levan (Assistant Professor, Sociology & Anthropology) and Adam Sowards (Professor, History).
  - *Graduate Student Research Assistants*: Lauren Westerfield and Corey Oglesby
- UI Library workshops led by CDIL faculty: 20, with more than 200 attendees
- Digital Scholarship Projects in Production or Development: 5
- Total # of External Grants for CDIL projects: 7 → more than $47,000 total in awards
- Total # CDIL computers available: 15
- Total # Virtual Reality systems available: 3

Future

Several online projects are set for release this coming academic year including:

- The CCC in Idaho Digital Collection - an online portal of over 2,000 primary historical items documenting the activities of the Civilian Conservation Corps in Idaho, collected from across the state by Patricia Hart (Associate Professor, JAMM) and Ivar Nelson.
- Ghana Story Map Project - an online exhibit of student narratives and photographs from a summer 2017 Ghana study-abroad trip led by Barry Bilderback (Associate Professor, Music).
- CTRL-Shift – an interactive website that presents recordings, visualizations, and analyses from a series of interviews Devin Becker conducted with prominent poets focused on how writing practices changed with the advent of the personal computer.