Researchers, Instructors, & Staff Scholarship

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Digital Case: 2020 Report

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Featured Image: Ain't Misbehavin'

Cleveland Play House production photograph from the 1994-1995 Season. The two actresses pictured are Barbara D. Mills and Fuschia Walker who play characters of the same names in Ain't Misbehavin'. View this image on Digital Case.

Table of Contents

Introduction

In support of the Kelvin Smith Library (KSL) and its mission as the knowledge and creativity commons of Case Western Reserve University (CWRU), Digital Case is dedicated to the long-term collection, production, maintenance, and preservation of unique digital resources with high scholarly and historical value for the CWRU community and beyond. Digital Case holds digitized collections from KSL and affiliated partner institutions as well as scholarly publications from CWRU's faculty, staff, and students.

Digital Case aims to

- Provide open access to our collections online
- Sustainably manage the preservation and access of digital collections

The success and maintenance of Digital Case requires a large quantity of labor that spans across multiple teams in the library. The following individuals make up the core of that labor alongside other colleagues not directly mentioned here:

- Roger Zender, Associate Director, Creation & Curation Services
- Jen Green, Team Lead, Freedman Center for Digital Scholarship
- Stephanie Becker, Digital Collections Manager, Freedman Center for Digital Scholarship
- Anne Kumer, Electronic Resources Metadata Librarian, Acquisitions & Metadata
- Marie Vibbert, Repository Developer, UTech
- Mark Clemente, Scholarly Communications & Copyright Librarian, Freedman Center for Digital Scholarship
- Eleanor Blackman, Special Collections Archivist, Scholarly Resources & Special Collections
- Naomi Langer, Digitization Technician, Freedman Center for Digital Scholarship

For more details, visit digital.case.edu.
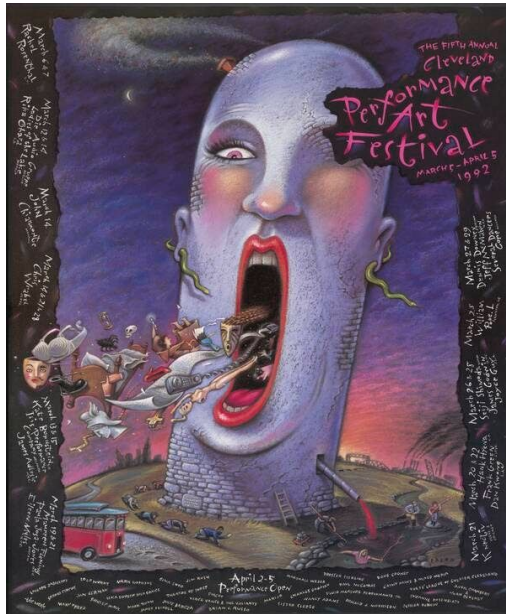
Digitized Collections

In the 2020 calendar year, we added **14 new collections** that consist of digitized and born digital materials from KSL's Special Collections and University Archives. The following are a list of those collections:

- (right) *Cleveland Bystander* - A monthly publication which covered social and cultural news from Cleveland's high-society residents in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

- *Cleveland Play House* - Founded in 1915 as America's first professional regional theatre.
  - *Board of Trustees* - Meeting minutes and correspondence.
  - *Individuals* - Photographs of actors, administrators, staff, and other individuals associated with the Cleveland Play House.
  - *Production Photographs* - Photographs of theater productions staged by the Cleveland Play House.
- *COVID-19: Tell Your Story* - Images, social media posts, textual documents, videos, and other items documenting the personal experiences of CWRU affiliates during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- *Howard J. Garber Letters* - Donated by CWRU alumnus Dr. Garber, the collection focuses on political, historical and literary figures in Great Britain.
  - *Autograph Letters* - Includes signatures of all the Prime Ministers and First Lords of the Treasury.

- (right) *Notated Music* – Rare books of sheet music.
- (below) *Performance Art Festival* *(PAF)* – Held annually in Cleveland from 1988-1999, PAF attracted performance artists from around the world.
  - *Posters* – Promotional posters for the yearly festival.
  - *Programs* – Yearly programs that detailed the festival schedule and artist line-up.

- *Thomas F. Peterson, Jr. Telegraphy* – Manuscript material, print items, photographs and artifacts related to the history of telegraphy.
- *Rare Books* – Digitized rare books from KSL's Special Collections.

Collection Highlight:
Cleveland Play House Production Photographs

An ongoing 2019 collaboration between Stephanie Becker, Anne Kumer, and Eleanor Blackman resulted in the addition of over 6,000 production photographs from the Cleveland Play House (CPH) in Digital Case. Acquired in 2012, the photographs are part of the larger CPH archive now held by KSL's Special Collections. Photographs are organized on Digital Case by season date range to allow for both the searching and browsing of objects. With the production photographs among the most requested items for access within Special Collections, making them available online, increases visibility to the collection for a wide range of researchers, provides accurate citations of collection objects for use, and provides researchers an access alternative to in-person reference appointments. The team received recognition for their accomplishments in a featured CWRU Daily article, published a detailed account of their work in the Society of American Archivist publication, *Performance*, and presented on the technical and intellectual decision making of their work at the annual meeting of SAA's Metadata & Description Interest Group.
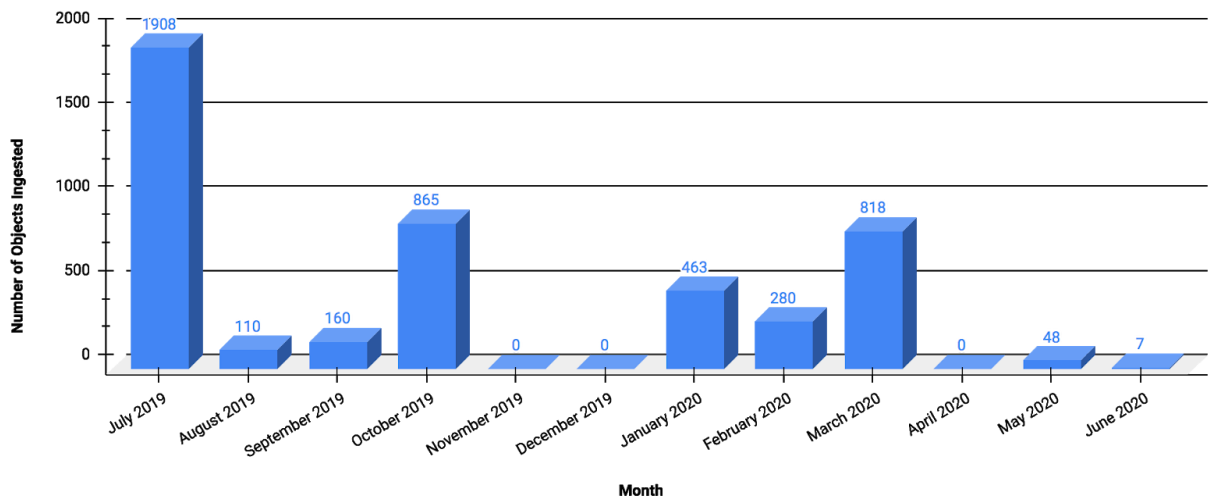

(above) Bernard Jackson, Olive Hale, & Toni Sorrel in Between Two Worlds
(right) Johanna Morrison & Crista Moore in The Guardsmen

Statistics

Digitized Collection Objects Ingested per Month in FY2020
Total Objects Ingested = 4,659

Scholarly Output Collections

Through a combination of self-submissions, department submissions, and harvesting Open Access publications through PubMed Central, we added **14 new departmental collections** to Digital Case.

- *Anthropology*
- *English*
- *COVID-19 Research*
- *Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences*
  - *Faculty & Staff Scholarship*
  - (right) *Begun Center for Violence Prevention and Education*
- *Dermatology Medical Education*
- *Medicine*
- *Molecular Biology and Microbiology*
- *Neurosurgery Medical Education*
- *Pathology*
- *Pharmacology*
- *Population and Quantitative Health Sciences*
- *Radiation Oncology Medical Education*

Collection Highlight:
COVID-19 Research Collection

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, Stephanie Becker, Mark Clemente, Jen Green, and Naomi Langer have worked to support our scholarly community by facilitating Open Access sharing of the vital research needed to understand the impacts of and aid in stopping this virus. The team conducted a search for OA papers affiliated with CWRU on PubMed Central and deposited those papers in a subject specific collection on Digital Case. While these articles are shared openly by individual publishers, the best way to ensure continued open access, long-term preservation, and CWRU affiliation, is to capture this research in Digital Case.

This project connected us with faculty, staff, and students in departments whom we had not previously worked with. Establishing those relationships is key to earning the trust of our campus community and can lead to further collaboration with us or other staff in the library. This was also the first harvesting project we have worked on, which gave us a better sense of that process and what resources it would take to establish a regular harvesting workflow.

Nicola Luigi Bragazzi [1,2,*], Haijiang Dai [1], Giovanni Damiani [3,4,5], Masoud Behzadifar [6], Mariano Martini [2] and Jianhong Wu [1,*]

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Abstract: SARS-CoV2 is a novel coronavirus, responsible for the COVID-19 pandemic declared by the World Health Organization. Thanks to the latest advancements in the field of molecular and computational techniques and information and communication technologies (ICTs), artificial intelligence (AI) and Big Data can help in handling the huge, unprecedented amount of data derived from public health surveillance, real-time epidemic outbreaks monitoring, trend now-casting/forecasting, regular situation briefing and updating from governmental institutions and

(above) Cover page from How Big Data and Artificial Intelligence can Help Better Manage the COVID-19 Pandemic

(right) Figure from Anticoagulation in COVID-19
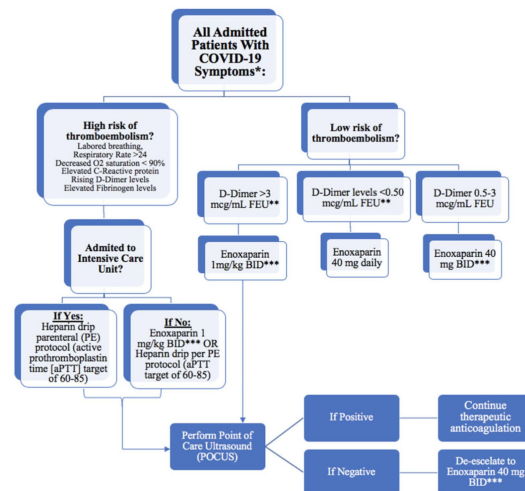
Statistics

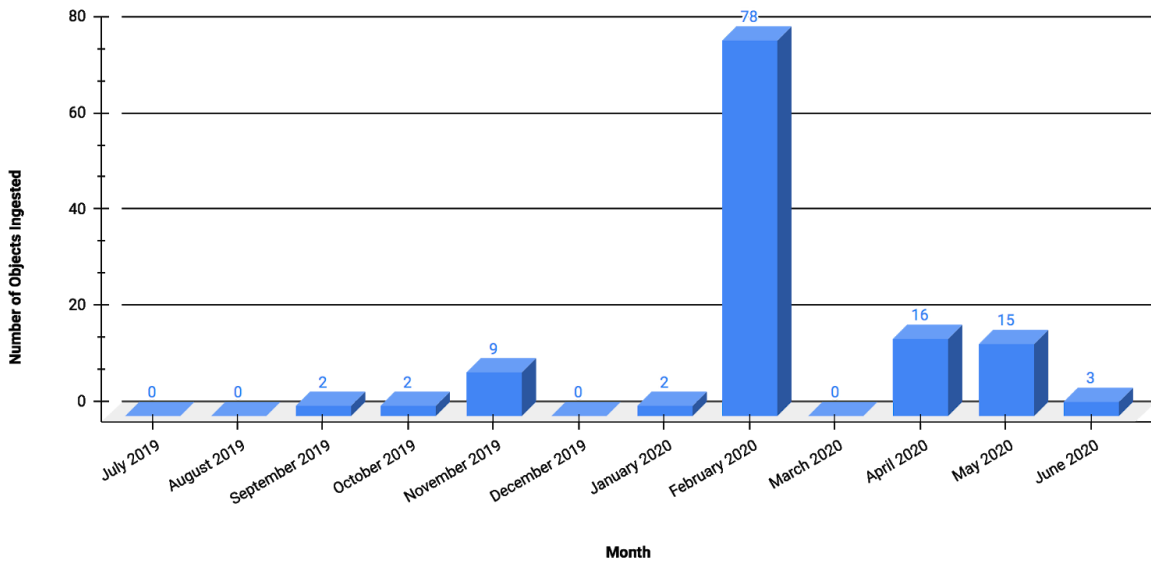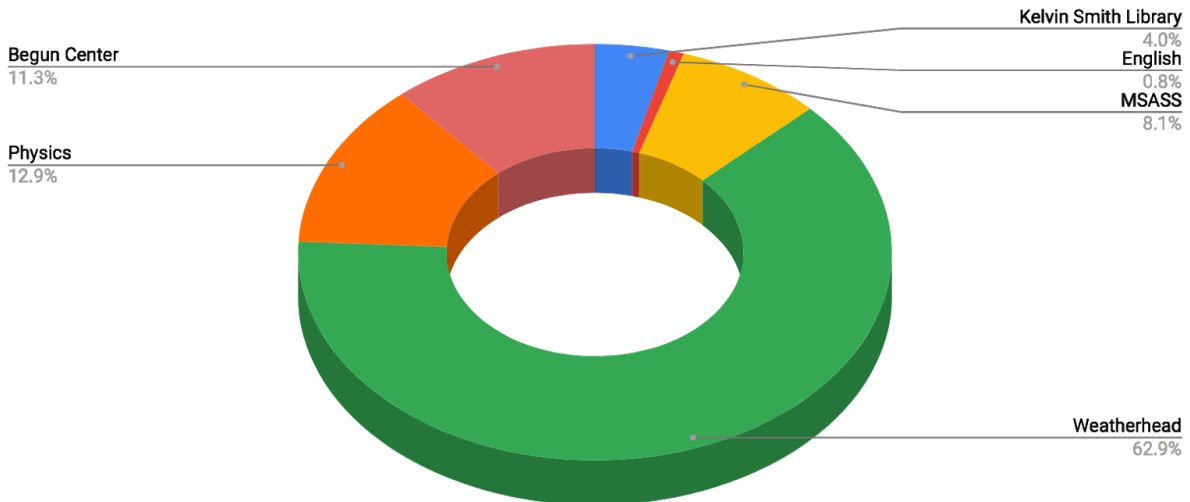**Scholarly Output Objects Ingested per Month in FY2020**
Total Objects Ingested = 127
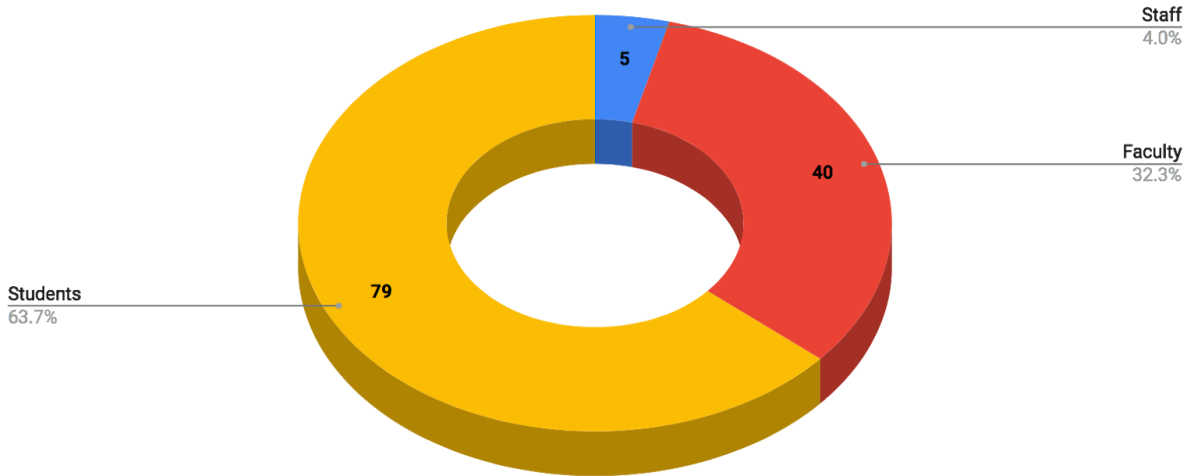

Ingested Scholarly Output Objects by Department in FY2020
Total Objects Ingested = 124

Ingested Scholarly Output Affiliations in FY2020
Total Objects Ingested = 124

Staff
4.0%
5

Faculty
32.3%
40

Students
63.7%
79

System Functionality, Maintenance, & Management

Digital Case is run on Islandora 7 which is an open source repository platform that leverages Fedora 3 as its database and Drupal 7 as its front-end. As a system, Digital Case requires continual maintenance and oversight to ensure the longevity and integrity of our data and public access to our front-end user interface. Stephanie Becker, Anne Kumer, and Marie Vibbert makeup the core group of individuals that carry out this work.

Descriptive Metadata

Anne Kumer's role is to implement metadata best practices in order to establish and maintain intellectual control of all our collection objects in Digital Case. For every object in Digital Case, Anne creates an accompanying metadata record using the Metadata Object Description Schema (MODS), a standard set by the Library of Congress. Outside of daily metadata creation she has led a number of projects to guide our approach to digital collections metadata:

- Established standardized MODS templates for both digitized collections and monographs; and scholarly publications
- Set policies for collection-level description and subject headings
- Ongoing integration of Digital Case records in KSL's library catalog
- Workflow creation to extract metadata from numerous library systems (e.g. ArchivesSpace, legacy spreadsheets, FilemakerPro, Sierra Integrated Library System) that employ a wide range of descriptive practices.
- Advises academic departments on metadata preparation for Digital Case submission

Developer Maintenance & Upgrades

Marie Vibbert's role is to support the development needs of Digital Case by monitoring and maintaining our technological infrastructure and enhancing the user experience through feature updates and expansion. She also supports staff workflows and processes by designing and

implementing tools for repository management tasks. This year, Marie has completed a number of projects that include but are not limited to:

- Wrote custom TWIG templates to generate MODS and Dublin Core (DC) records for both digitized collections and scholarly publications
- Display of forward facing usage statistics for faculty
- Added functionality to support A/V object transcriptions and captioning in order to comply with web accessibility standards
- Configured Solr settings to support mobile viewing and user breadcrumbs on search results
- Oversaw the implementation of a Digital Case ingest server to increase speed and usability on the front-end

System Highlight:
Batch Ingest Workflow Design

As an open source platform, there are multiple ways to ingest content into an Islandora repository. Stephanie Becker, Anne Kumer, and Marie Vibbert collaborated throughout the year to evaluate and test these methods in order to identify what would work best for KSL. We experimented with different ingest methods using the CPH production photographs as our pilot data. Since the recorded metadata for this collection was documented in spreadsheet format and the collection was large in volume, we concluded that using the Islandora Multi-Importer (IMI) tool would be best for our workflow. We also noted that spreadsheets were an easy way to collaborate between team members and allow for future student collaboration as well.

IMI is a module developed by the Metropolitan New York Library Council that allows for bulk ingest of objects into Islandora via a spreadsheet and complementary Twig template. The spreadsheet is used to record both descriptive and technical metadata which is then transformed into a MODS record through the Twig template. Twig is a flexible, fast, and secure template engine that leverages PHP principles with added functionality useful for templating environments. Marie designed a custom Twig template that maps each spreadsheet column to a MODS element. One of the columns points to a local server she set up where we temporarily host our digital files that are ready for ingest.

Islandora pulls from this server and pairs each file with its corresponding row of metadata. Throughout the year, we have tweaked this process to accommodate a large range of content types and MODS fields. Using the IMI tool, we ultimately created a streamlined workflow for ingest that allows for easy collaboration between collections, digitization, metadata and repository staff.
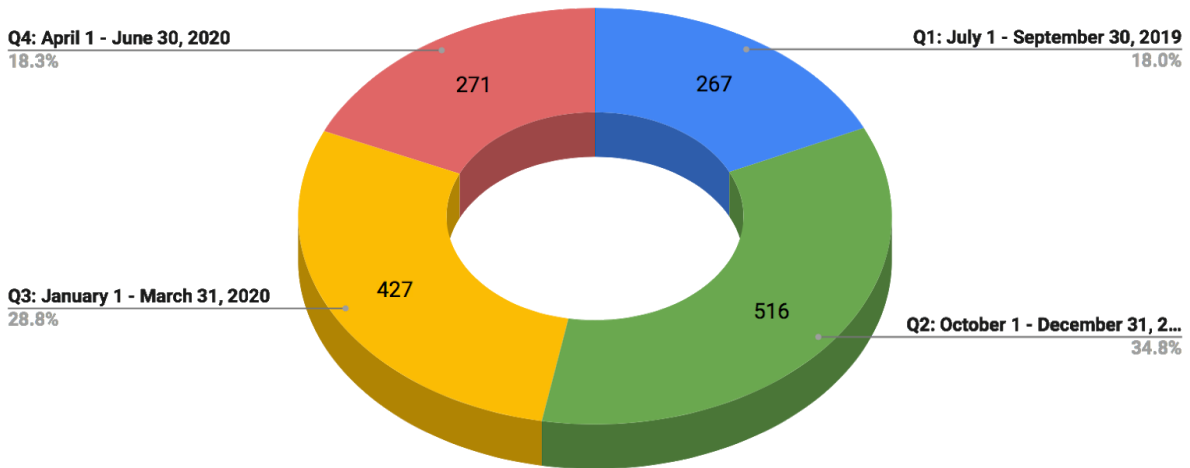
Additional Statistics

Number of Object Downloads per Quarter in FY2020
Total Downloads = 1,481

Q4: April 1 - June 30, 2020 — 18.3% — 271
Q1: July 1 - September 30, 2019 — 18.0% — 267
Q3: January 1 - March 31, 2020 — 28.8% — 427
Q2: October 1 - December 31, 2... — 34.8% — 516

Number of Page Views per Quarter in FY2020
Total Page Views = 398,752

Q4: April 1 - June 30, 2020 — 6.9% — 27,405
Q1: July 1 - September 30, 2019 — 25.8% — 102,760
Q3: January 1 - March 31, 2020 — 47.1% — 187,952
Q2: October 1 - December 31, 20... — 20.2% — 80,635