

Mellon Report | Princeton Prosody Archive

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1. Objectives (*A brief review of the project objectives and any changes that have occurred*):

We are happy to report that all objectives set out for the AY 2012-2013 in our initial grant proposal have been completed. Most importantly, we compiled the first data set for the Princeton Prosody Archive (PPA): 8,742 full text books on poetry, poetics, and the measure of language. While we initially planned to gather texts from a number of resources (including Google Books) and digitize the remainder ourselves, we decided to work with HathiTrust digital library to collect, organize, and download all of our data. Using HathiTrust's "collection" feature and negotiating a Google Distribution Agreement between Princeton University Library, Princeton Counsel, and HathiTrust allowed us to access, download, and host all of this data on our own servers. Once we received all of our data from HathiTrust, we set up a web portal using the content management system Drupal and a Solr search module.

On May 13, 2013, we hosted an international group of literary scholars and technologists (see the attached agenda) to provide input on the PPA in its early inception. These twenty-four participants were the first to test our search interface, help us plan our next steps, and think about access issues and long term maintenance for the next five years.

2. Deliverables (*Clear, concise description of the expected outcomes and benefits of the project*):

- Collect every record in Terry Brogan's annotated bibliography English Versification, 1570-1980 for versification in English between 1750-1923.
- Collect multiple editions of each of the most important grammars of the English language
- Assemble the first ever comprehensive historical collection of writings on English prosody, poetics, and versification

- Use the latest techniques in topic modeling to discover machine connections in this collection of texts
- Launch beta version of a web interface
- Host a summit of technologists and scholars of historical poetics

3. Accomplishments (*A brief summary of progress made towards realizing those deliverables since the last reporting period*):

At the Summit, the group was able to test-drive the Archive for the first time. There was unanimous agreement that a key strength of the Archive is its curation: Comprising more than 8,500 texts on English versification published between 1750 and 1923 (including reproductions and revisions), the Archive possesses immense potential for tracking prosodic discourse. Using Terry Brogan’s definitive *English Versification, 1570-1980* and the research records of Meredith Martin as a guide, project manager Grant Wythoff organized the following four collections digitized by HathiTrust:

- Brogan’s *English Versification* (578 works collected by Terry V. F. Brogan)
- Prosody Archive (1308 works collected by Meredith Martin)
- PPA Subject Search (6991 works categorized under the keywords that librarians have been using to index texts on versification)
- Graphically/Typographically Unique (26 works set aside as possessing especially troubling or interesting page images that would be misread by OCR)

A spreadsheet of all texts hosted by the Archive can be found [at this link](#).

Taking the Archive for a spin was also incredibly helpful in looking for ways to improve it. One of the key issues, and one that drives the methodology for the archive, is the OCR output of texts. Not only are we dependent upon the scans of HathiTrust’s partner institutions, but Hathi’s OCR as well. When dealing with versification this becomes especially problematic, as the small groups at the Summit experienced firsthand. How do you render musical annotation, scansion, line spacing, or iambic markings, for example, into plain text? And how can we correct and then implement these corrections back into Hathi’s collection?

One idea that emerged during the Summit that we are currently working on is a “case study” of a few pages of Coventry Patmore’s *English Metrical Law*. This initiative stems from the expressed desire to visualize/connect a network of prosodic discourse. We are looking for methods by which we can showcase the self-referential nature of prosody as well as implement pedagogically helpful tools — e.g. translations from passages in foreign languages, links to referred texts, audio that would read back given musical annotation/scansion, etc. These more interactive features are things we would be looking at much further down

the line. However, in the near future, Clifford Wulfinan, Coordinator of Library Digital Initiatives at Princeton, will be helping us begin to tag our own scans of the different versions of Patmore's essay using Text Encoding Initiative (TEI) standards.

4. Challenges (*Any setbacks or challenges since the last reporting period*):

This summer, our developer Travis Brown (see personnel changes, below) dealt with a setback due to a change in the new Drupal 7, the Archive's platform. In a nutshell, the updated version of Drupal introduced a new model, Entity API. This model conflicted with the Bibliography module the development site was running in Drupal 6 in that Bibliography module items were not formatted as "entities." For this reason, and because of limited access to Travis's time as an independent contractor, the fully indexed site that we had desired to release by the end of summer 2013 was not available. Travis is working on reconciling the change by rendering Bibliography items as entities with some creative maneuvering, but we are still in the process of uploading the site unto Princeton servers. In short, this change has set us back a few months, but an accessible version of the collection will have been migrated from our development site to <http://prosody.princeton.edu> in the coming months.

5. Project Personnel (*Significant board, management, or staff changes since the last reporting period*):

In addition to the Advisory and Technology boards listed in the grant proposal, there have been two significant additions to our team. Meagan R. Wilson, a PhD student in the Department of English at Princeton, has taken over as project manager for Grant Wythoff, who began a postdoc at Columbia University in September 2013. Second, Travis Brown, Assistant Director of Research and Development at the Maryland Institute for Technology in the Humanities (MITH), has taken on a very prominent role in helping us develop the Archive. Brown was first hired to help us incorporate the collections of text we received from HathiTrust into a Drupal-based web platform, a task which was beyond our immediate expertise. It is important to note that all of Brown's work was paid for using existing funds from a Princeton University grant we received from the [David A. Gardner '69 "Magic" Project](#).

6. Publications (*A description of any recent publications, new articles, or other grant-related materials*):

Martin, Wythoff, Wilson, and Brown have submitted a long paper proposal to the Digital Humanities 2014 conference in Lausanne, Switzerland. This long

paper will reflect on the outcomes of the grant year, as well as some of the challenges and opportunities presented by launching a large-scale digital archive at an institution with no digital humanities infrastructure. We are waiting to hear back from conference organizers.

7. Intellectual Property (*Projects subject to an intellectual property agreement should include with the final report the codes, license or related technologies developed during the project, or explain how they may be obtained by the Foundation*):

All software used by our team in the development of the Archive was open source, including our content management system (Drupal) and search library (Apache Solr). Because, as stated in the intellectual property agreement, “‘Digital Content’ does not include content neither created by nor for Princeton in connection with this Project, but made available to Princeton by organizations such as Google, HathiTrust, etc.,” the texts made available to us by HathiTrust and originally digitized by them do not fall under the purview of our Intellectual Property agreement with the Mellon Foundation.

Travis Brown, who was hired using funds from another grant (David A. Gardner Magic Project), has released all of the code he wrote for our project under an open source [Apache License, v. 2.0](#).

8. Future Plans (*Plans and goals for the upcoming grant year*):

Though our Mellon award period has ended, we detail future plans below. In discussing next steps, we have been looking at crowdsourcing tools such as TypeWright, which allows users to correct OCR on 18th Century texts, discussing a potential to enlisting students for help cleaning up the Archive’s OCR. Documentation for search syntax and perhaps suggested keywords and/or a prosody glossary was suggested. And because prosody criticism is exceptionally visual, many users asked for a way to see thumbnails in addition to plain text in the search results window.

Users have suggested that we might incorporate case studies, editorials, blog entries, or other means for modeling pathways through the Archive, hosted directly on the Archive site. Several ideas for tracing versification networks were also proposed. A few gathered around visualization: This would be extremely effective in tracking the frequency of prosody terms across time and/or region. Other users suggested a “cite-back” tool: This would work like a bibliographic network whereby a user could track which critics cited other prosodists. Because

this would be fairly challenging, it was recommended that perhaps this could be managed within a closed network of around 40 texts.

We will continue to work with Travis Brown and MITH to address the incredibly helpful feedback we received at the Summit. We are most excited by the possibility of standardizing a workflow for future users of HathiTrust data, wherein those individual users' curation of that data can be fed back into the larger HathiTrust ecosystem.

The first big push will be to improve the Archive's HathiTrust-dependent meta-data. In his capacity as a software developer at MITH, Travis has been working on automated corrections for punctuation standardization and keyword unification. As each item in the Archive has a HathiTrust record created by its partner institutions, keywords can be idiosyncratic in nature. This step aims at freeing the Archive from some of these idiosyncratic keywords that HathiTrust partners used for cataloging texts, providing richer/more standardized descriptions in a given text's record. Travis will also be working on text correction and filtering. As we found during the Summit, the Archive is composed of items with uncorrected OCR output, which distorts search results. To modify this, we will perform simple dictionary-based text correction and filtering of pages that pass an error threshold to be determined experimentally.

After working on these interface enhancements, Travis will begin experimenting with named-entity recognition and topic modeling in an effort to demonstrate output and visualizations. Once implemented, we will be tapping on all of you for feedback, having the test site up and running with these additions. Travis and Kirsten Keister, a designer for MITH, will be integrating user feedback and finalizing user design. We envision this happening in early 2014, including the production of a final site design mockup. Travis and Kristin will begin translating the design mockups into Drupal, incorporating additional metadata corrections, and, very importantly, documenting the work performed.

9. Financial Narrative (*A financial section commenting on actual expenditures during the current reporting period as they relate to the proposed budget, and an explanation of any significant variance between projected spending and actual spending in each budget category*):

There were no significant variances between projected and actual spending during the year. The majority of the grant went toward personnel (graduate student research assistant salary, faculty summer salary, and fringe faculty benefits). The remainder went toward airfare, train, and hotel accommodations for those summit participants traveling from out of town.

Remaining Balance: \$0.00 Interest Credited to Date: \$23.87

10. Endowment Reporting (*For endowment grants, grantees should report on the market value at the start of the reporting period, the market value at the end of the reporting period, the status of any matching requirement, expenditures on the spendable portion, and a general statement on investment strategy*):

n/a

Princeton Prosody Archive Summit
Humanities Resource Center, East Pyne, lower level
May 13, 2013

9:00a - 10:00

Welcome address by Meredith Martin and Grant Wythoff
Introductions & Objectives
History of the Princeton Prosody Archive
Brief walkthrough of the archive as it stands now

10:00 - 11:00

Scavenger hunt questions & open play
Groups of 2 or 3, discuss results

11:00 - 11:45

Group check-in

12:00p - 1:30

Lunch: **Joseph Henry House porch**

1:30 - 2:45

Planning the future of the PPA: assemble breakout groups on:
Content / Technology / Governance / Misc.

2:45 - 3:00

Coffee break

3:00 - 3:45

Breakout groups discuss issues & prioritize the next three years

3:45 - 4:15

Full group reassembles and reports back on breakout conversations

4:15 - 4:45

Next steps & closing remarks

5:00 - 6:30

Happy Hour, **Joseph Henry House porch**

7:00

Dinner at **Agricola**, 11 Witherspoon Street



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Scavenger Hunt Prompts

- Do discussions of poetic genres reflect their print formats? Is there any special relationship between (for instance) the “ballad” genre and material specificities like “broadside”, “chapbook”, “print”, “street”, or “seller”?
- Can we find a history of appropriation, theft, or piracy in a poetics context? How are questions of quotation written about?
- Locate unique systems of English prosody that do not refer to classical scansion (Greek and Roman models).
- What lines have manuals identified, for the purposes of instruction, as dimeter, trimeter, tetrameter, and pentameter verse over the two hundred year period of the archive?

User Experience Feedback

- Overall, would you use this tool? (Substantial improvement or no improvement over current research tools, e.g. Google Books)
- What did you like most? Least?
- How would you like to see the search results displayed?
- Search limitations (based on metadata, tags, collection)
- What suggestions for improvements do you have?

Keywords for “Subject Search” collection

English language rhythm

e.l. grammar 1151

e.l. rhetoric 616

e.l. composition and exercises 453

e.l. etymology 241

e.l. orthography and spelling 241

english literature 210

e.l. study and teaching 209

e.l. history 160

e.l. Rhetoric 156

e.l. pronunciation 134

e.l. pronunciation 113

e.l. versification 113

English language versification

English language phonology

English language rhyme

rhyme

english language

english language etymology

el terms and phrases

el rhyme

el versification

rhetoric 106

English language pronunciation

pronunciation 425

English language phonetics

phonetics 376

phonology 125

English language grammar

English language early modern

english poetry early modern 1500-1700 history and criticism 301

english drama early modern and elizabethan history and crit 226

english literature early modern bibliography 178

english literature early modern history and criticism 150

english poetry 18th century history and criticism 88

romances, english history and criticism 56

Poetics

poetics 35

English language 25

english language versification 13

- poetry 12
- versification 10
- english poetry 8
- comp lit 6
- comp lit classical and modern 6
- comp lit modern and classical 6
- american poetry 5
- english lang terms and phrases 5
- eng lang versification 5
- poetry history and criticism 5
- rhetoric 5
- aesthetics 4
- american poetry history and criticism 4
- english poetry history and criticism 4
- literature modern 4
- Versification
 - versification 376
- English poetry history and criticism
 - english poetry 1112
 - english language 218
 - english poetry history and criticism 204
 - english poetry history and criticism 202
 - english poetry early modern 1500-1700 187
 - poetry 182
 - poetry 128
 - english poetry 18th c history and criticism 119
 - english poetry 19th c history and criticism 114
- American poetry history and criticism
 - american poetry 151
 - poetry history and criticism 99
 - criticism 63
- Singing diction
 - singing diction 16
- Elocution
 - elocution 694
- Voice culture
 - voice culture 89
- Rhetoric
 - rhetoric 1036

Bios

Daniel Braun joined Princeton's English department in 2010 after receiving his B.A. from the University of Michigan, in 2009. His research and teaching focus on Modern Anglo-American poetry, and the history of poetics, as linguists, philosophers, critics, and poets have construed it. He also co-convenes IHUM's "Post-Hermeneutical Reading Group," an inter-institutional (Princeton, Columbia and NYU) group that pursues the overlap of interpretative practice in the humanistic and technical communities.

Travis Brown is Assistant Director of Research and Development at the Maryland Institute of Technology (MITH), University of Michigan. He holds an M.A. in English from the University of Texas at Austin and is beginning a dissertation on the use of digital tools and methods in literary studies. While at the University of Texas he worked as an editor for the Walt Whitman Archive and was the lead developer of eComma, a web application for collaborative textual annotation. He also participated in a range of projects in UT's Computational Linguistics Lab, where he developed tools for dependency parsing, semantic role labeling, and toponym resolution. He is particularly interested in using techniques from computational linguistics and natural language processing to aid in the exploration and visualization of large collections of literary and historical texts.

Allison Chaney is a PhD student in the Department of Computer Science at Princeton University who works on building graphical browsers for topic modeling -- dividing documents according to their topics and using a suite of algorithms to uncover hidden structures and similarity between documents. Chaney has built the Topic Model Visualization Engine (TMVE), and a browser of 100,000 Wikipedia articles that uses TMVE. <http://code.google.com/p/tmve/>
<http://www.princeton.edu/~achaney/tmve/wiki100k/browse/topic-presence.html>

Jay Dominick is vice president for information technology and chief information officer at Princeton University. Previously, Dominick previously served as CIO at UNC-Charlotte and Wake Forest. He also worked at the Research Triangle Institute in Research Triangle Park, N.C., and served as an officer in the U.S. Air Force. During his career, Dominick has taught courses in IT and telecommunications. Dominick earned a Ph.D. in information and library science at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, which is his undergraduate alma mater. He holds a master's degree in national security studies from Georgetown University and an MBA from Wake Forest.

Natasha Ermolaev is Project Manager for Blue Mountain, a freely available digital repository of important, rare, and fragile texts that both chronicle and

embody the emergence of cultural modernity in the West. Drawing on Princeton University's exceptional collections and curatorial and academic expertise, the Blue Mountain Project is a digital thematic research collection of art, music and literary periodicals published between 1848, the year of the European Revolutions, and 1923 – a functional boundary for works presumed to be in the public domain. Natasha holds a PhD in Russian Literature from the Columbia University Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures, and a Masters in Library and Information Science from Rutgers University. She has worked at the Bakhmeteff Archive at Columbia as well as the Center for Russian Culture at Amherst College, two of the best collections of Russian archival material in the United States.

Ben Glaser is Visiting Assistant Professor at Skidmore College. His research and teaching focus on 19th and 20th Century Poetry, Modernism, Poetics and Prosody, Literary Theory and Hip-Hop Studies. His dissertation, "Modernism's Metronome: The Historical Prosody of Modernist Poetry," explores modernism's vibrant debates over prosody and their impact on modernist verse, focusing on both the rejection and afterlife of "traditional" meters like iambic pentameter.

William Gleason specializes in American literature and culture. His research and teaching interests range from the 18th century to the present, with particular emphasis on the late 19th/early 20th century, and include American Studies, African American and multi-ethnic U.S. literatures, material culture, popular culture, children's literature, architecture, literature and environment, popular romance, and leisure. He is the author of *The Leisure Ethic: Work and Play in American Literature, 1840-1940* (Stanford University Press, 1999) and *Sites Unseen: Architecture, Race, and American Literature* (New York University Press, 2011), which was named one of three runners-up for the 2011 John Hope Franklin Publication Prize for the Best Book in American Studies by the American Studies Association.

Natalie M. Houston joined the University of Houston Department of English in the fall of 1998. She specializes in literature and culture of the Victorian period, with a strong focus on material textuality and cultural studies. She teaches courses in Victorian literature, literary theory, women writers, and the history of the book. Natalie is Project Director for The Visual Page, a prototype software application to identify and analyze visual features in digitized printed books, and Co-Director of The Periodical Poetry Index, a research database of citations to English-language poems published in nineteenth-century periodicals, including texts by nineteenth-century British and American poets, poets from earlier periods, and poems in English translation.

Simon Jarvis is the Gorley Putt Professor of Poetry and Poetics at the University of Cambridge. He was awarded his doctorate by the University of Cambridge in 1993, and has also taught at Newcastle, Cornell and Johns Hopkins. Jarvis works on the poetics of verse. His book publications include *Wordsworth's Philosophic Song* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2007), *Adorno: a critical introduction* (Cambridge: Polity Press, 1998), and *Scholars and Gentlemen: Shakespearean textual criticism and representations of scholarly labour, 1725-1765* (Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1995).

Ben Johnston is Senior Educational Technologist of the Educational Technologies Center and Manager of the Humanities Resource Center at Princeton University.

Brian Kernighan is Professor of Computer Science at Princeton University. Kernighan worked at the Bell Labs and contributed to the design of the pioneering AWK and AMPL programming languages. He is most well-known for his co-authorship, with Dennis Ritchie, of the first book on the C programming language.

Joshua Kotin is Assistant Professor in the Department of English at Princeton. His research and teaching focus on poetry and poetics, modernism (especially American, British, Russian), nineteenth- and twentieth-century American literature, and literary theory. He is currently completing a book on the efficacy of utopian and quixotic literary projects, with chapters on Henry David Thoreau, Osip and Nadezhda Mandel'shtam, Anna Akhmatova, Wallace Stevens, Ezra Pound, and J.H. Prynne. He is also beginning a second book, tentatively titled, *Coteries and Manifestos*, which examines the formation and dissolution of literary communities in the twentieth century. He received his PhD from the Department of English Language and Literature at the University of Chicago in 2011. From 2005 to 2008, he was editor of *Chicago Review*.

Meredith Martin specializes in anglophone poetry from 1830 to the present, with special interests in historical poetics, poetry and public culture, and disciplinary and pedagogical history. Her book, *The Rise and Fall of Meter: Poetry and English National Culture, 1860-1930*, came out in May 2012 from Princeton University Press. Currently, Martin is working on articles about decadent meters, Georgian poetry and the "genteel" tradition, and an article for *BRANCH* on the phonotypic alphabet. Her most ambitious project is in the digital humanities: the Princeton Prosody Archive, an archive of writing on prosody between 1750-1923, currently funded by the Mellon Foundation, that includes thousands of searchable manuscripts, manuals, articles, grammar books, and materials; she has been editing and overseeing this project since 2007. Her next book *The Invention of English Poetry* is about the various non-English (both nationality and academic discipline) valences of English poetry.

Meredith L. McGill is Associate Professor of English and Director of the Center for Cultural Analysis at Rutgers University. She is the author of *American Literature and the Culture of Reprinting, 1834-1853* (2003), a study of nineteenth-century American resistance to tightening control over intellectual property. This book charts the effect of a decentralized mass-market for print on the development of a national literature, with particular focus on the writing and careers of Charles Dickens, Edgar Allan Poe, and Nathaniel Hawthorne. She recently edited a collection of essays, *The Traffic in Poems: Nineteenth-Century Poetry and Transatlantic Exchange*, in which a variety of scholars seek to model ways of understanding nineteenth-century poetry within a transatlantic frame. She is currently working on a study of the circulation of poetry in the antebellum United States. Her research interests include the history of the book in American culture, American poetry and poetics, law and literature, literary theory, new media and the history of media shift.

David Mimno is a postdoctoral researcher in the Department of Computer Science at Princeton University. Mimno received his PhD from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst and served as Head Programmer at the Perseus Project before attending graduate school. He is a recipient of the CRA Computing Innovation Fellowship. David is currently chief maintainer for the MALLET Machine Learning toolkit. He organized the NorthEast Student Colloquium on Artificial Intelligence (NESCAI) at UMass in 2010 along with Sameer Singh, ran the UMass Machine Learning and Friends lunch series for two years, and is currently organizing the Princeton Machine Learning lunch series.

Yopie Prins is Professor in the Department of English at University of Michigan. Her book *Victorian Sappho* was Winner of the 2001 Sonya Rudikoff First Book Prize of the Northeast Victorian Studies Association, and an Honorable Mention for the First Book Prize of the Modern Language Association. Professor Prins is also involved in the following two initiatives: Contexts for Classics <http://www.umich.edu/~cfc/> Nineteenth Century Forum <http://www.umich.edu/~ncf/>

Mark Ratliff, Princeton's new Digital Repository Architect, will work with members of the University community to understand their digital content management needs and to ensure that the University's digital repository architecture is designed to meet those needs. He will help to develop overall strategies for the development and management of digital repositories and their content. Mark was one of the original developers of JSTOR.

Jesse Sheidlower is currently the President of the [American Dialect Society](#) and Editor at Large (North America) of the [Oxford English Dictionary](#), where he has

been since 1999. His current responsibilities focus chiefly on the revision of American and Canadian entries for the *OED*. He is also the author of *The F-Word*, a detailed historical study of the word fuck. He has been profiled on the front page of *The New York Times* and on *60 Minutes*, and *New York Magazine* has named him one of the 100 smartest people in New York. Before he joined the *OED*, he was an editor in the Random House Reference Department, specializing in slang and new words. While there he was also project editor of the *Historical Dictionary of American Slang*. He has written about language for a wide range of publications, including *The New York Times*, *The Atlantic Monthly*, *Harper's Magazine*, *Lingua Franca*, *Playboy*, *Esquire*, *Bookforum*, and various scholarly journals, including *American Speech*, *Dictionaries* (journal of the Dictionary Society of North America), and *The Journal of English Linguistics*. He is a regular contributor to *Slate*, and is frequently quoted in the press on language matters. He has given talks at universities, conferences, and bookstores around the world.

Danny Snelson (PhD Student, University of Pennsylvania Department of English) is a writer, editor, and archivist. His online editorial work can be found on UbuWeb, PennSound, and Eclipse. He works with James Hoff as No Input Books, with Alejandro Crawford as Ex Libris, and lives in collaboration with Mashinka Firunts. Screenings, readings, lectures, and performances at Semiospectacle, Centre Pompidou, Dispatch Bureau, Ontological Hysteric Theater, Subtext Series, Gallery D21 Leipzig, Capricious Space, CRG Gallery, Lisa Cooley Gallery, and with free! 03point9 Transmission Arts. Recent projects include Simultaneously Agitated Space (Mimeo Mimeo #3), Endless Nameless, my Dear coUntess, Equi Nox, The Book of Ravelling Women, No-Body Zone, Noise! 2010, and Edit: Performing Network Publishing (with Tan Lin).

Andrew Stauffer is an associate professor of English at the University of Virginia, where he also directs NINES (<http://nines.org>), a digital scholarly organization focused on nineteenth century studies. He is the author of *Anger, Revolution, and Romanticism* (Cambridge, 2005) and the editor of works by Robert Browning (for Norton), H. Rider Haggard (for Broadview), and -- in progress -- Lord Byron (for Oxford). He has published widely on Romantic and Victorian literature, and his current research focuses on book history and the nineteenth-century archive, with reference to digital technologies.

Jon Stroop is the Metadata Analyst in the Library Systems Office. He is responsible for the ingest of digital content from Princeton into the HathiTrust and is a member the Library's Google Project Steering Committee. Jon is also a co-chair of the Library's Metadata Committee and serves on the Library of Congress' MODS (Metadata Object Description Schema) Editorial Committee.

Meagan Wilson Dinneen is a PhD student in the Department of English at Princeton University. She received her B.A. from Wellesley College and an M.A. in English from Boston College, where she focused on 20th century book history and print culture. Her research interests focus on American culture and literature, and her archival work clusters around collective memory and forgetting; social waste and the valuation of trash; pop-cultural ephemera and other material scraps.

Clifford Wulfman holds a PhD from Yale University in modern literature and an MS in computer science from the University of Pennsylvania. He has published work on modernism and humanities computing, and is currently the Coordinator of Library Digital Initiatives at Princeton University.

Grant Wythoff is a doctoral candidate in the Department of English and the Program in Media and Modernity at Princeton University. His dissertation is a cultural history of that alternately functional and fictional device, the gadget. He currently serves on the steering committee of the Princeton Digital Humanities Initiative, as project manager of the Princeton Prosody Archive, and is preparing a critical edition of Hugo Gernsback's writings on media and science fiction. Beginning Fall 2013, Grant will join the Columbia University Society of Fellows in the Humanities.