

Digitization Transforms Teaching and Learning

The Library's Faculty Grants Initiative is revolutionizing the way research is presented and archived in the humanities and social sciences.

Grant recipients David Bathrick, a professor of German studies and drama, and Timothy Murray, a professor of comparative literature and English, are transforming teaching and learning, fusing traditional academics and digitization technology.

Bathrick's project to digitize twenty-two interviews with playwright Henier Müller by filmmaker Alexander Kluge is now in its final phases. The Web site will include streaming video of the interviews, complete with transcriptions, translations, and subtitles for all the films.

Bathrick, in collaboration with Professor Rainer Stollman of the University of Bremen in Germany, as well as a host of graduate students, is providing extensive annotations for each of the interviews, which will be integrated into the streaming mechanism for the online films. The site is anticipated to have a wide-reaching impact, aiding in scholarship in diverse fields such as drama and theater studies, German language studies, and avant-garde filmmaking. Two graduating doctoral students from Cornell, Erica Doeroff and Jamie Trnke, have plans to develop courses utilizing the site in their new teaching positions at the University of Missouri and the University of Pennsylvania, Scranton, respectively.

Murray's grant project to digitize material from the Rockefeller Collection is equally impressive. The material consists of artistic proposals, cv's, slides, and reviews made in application to the prestigious Rockefeller Foundation and National Video Resources' New Media Fellowship. Given the range of nominators and the prominence and diversity of applicants, this collection serves as a superb benchmark of American developments in the emergent field of new media art. The collection is part of the Goldsen New Media Archive in Rare and Manuscript Collections (curated by Murray), and comprises one of the only known repositories for this fascinating new trend in contemporary art. Providing an exciting platform that merges teaching, research, and artistic production, this faculty grant project permits Cornell faculty and students, as well the public, to access online information pages about the artists and their fellowship proposals, along with supporting visual materials. They can then consult the full dossier and additional multimedia materials in the Division of Rare and Manuscript Collections.

Launched in 2004, the grants program encourages faculty in the humanities and social sciences to transform their unique teaching and research materials into digital collections. By providing funding and support for their efforts, and guidance and technical backing from the Library's Digital Consulting and Productions Services (DCAPS), more than a dozen faculty members have now converted their research into globally accessible, online digital resources.
dcaps.library.cornell.edu/facultygrants



A still image of playwright Henier Müller taken from an interview in the film *Queen of Hearts on Judgment Day*. Faculty grant recipient David Bathrick is digitizing twenty-two interviews with Müller conducted by filmmaker Alexander Kluge.

The Faculty Grant Project has provided me with an exciting platform for building new digital teaching resources as well as for enhancing the public accessibility of existing analog collections. The online prototype of [the] Rockefeller/NVR project already has attracted significant numbers of international users to the Library portal while providing Cornell students and faculty with immediate access to invaluable artistic resources in their classrooms and studios.

-Timothy Murray