Guided by the vision of its founder, Lawrence J. Schoenberg, the mission of the Schoenberg Institute for Manuscript Studies at Penn Libraries is to bring manuscript culture, modern technology and people together to bring access to and understanding of our intellectual heritage locally and around the world.
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**Director's Report**

The goals of the Schoenberg Institute for Manuscript Studies are:

- To promote pre-modern manuscript studies at Penn.
- To create opportunities for scholarly material and digital research.
- To become a global leader in and exemplary resource for open data.
- To stay current with innovative digital access & research in a rapidly changing technological environment.

The Schoenberg Institute for Manuscript Studies is delighted to enter its sixth year under the wing of a new Vice Provost and Director of Libraries, Constantia Constantinou. Constantia is already setting the agenda for Penn Libraries in the years ahead. SIMS is at the center of her vision – one that emphasizes the importance of unique collections, one that promotes the democratization of knowledge through digital technologies, and one that promotes collaboration with peer institutions both in the United States and globally. The Schoenberg Institute is fully prepared to play its role in her vision for it to be a center of excellence in Penn Libraries.

Each year, SIMS strives to fulfill the goals set forth above, one of the most important of which is the promotion of pre-modern manuscript studies at Penn where SIMS has made real advances. Nick Herman has taught two undergraduate courses this year on manuscripts, one in collaboration with Professor David Kim. Dot Porter and Will Noel are currently co-teaching an undergraduate digital humanities course centered on the medieval book. Amey Hutchins, Nick, Will, and Dot teach a manuscript studies skills summer course, which attracts more graduate students from Penn and local institutions each year. Penn’s medieval and early modern faculty make extensive use of our collections. The Schoenberg Institute is playing its part to enrich the culture of medieval studies at Penn more broadly: Lynn Ransom along with Julia Verkholantsev, Associate Professor of Russian and Eastern European Studies and Founding Director of the Program of Global Medieval & Renaissance Studies at Penn, is co-chairing the Program Committee of the 94th Annual Meeting of the Medieval Academy of America. The meeting will bring scholars from around the world to the Penn campus in March 2019. Through these efforts, we are becoming an integral part of medieval and early modern studies at Penn.

We continue to build strong partnerships through many international collaborations and continue to be an exemplary resource for open data. The Schoenberg Database of Manuscripts is in the second year of a grant-funded linked data collaboration with the IRHT in Paris, Oxford University, and Aalto University. The OPENN digital portal, conceived by SIMS and executed by Doug Emery, now hosts data from 26 institutions across the globe and makes available more than 1,000,000 images of medieval manuscripts, including all those from the CLIR-funded Bibliotheca Philadelphiensis.

The international landscape, however, is changing; SIMS needs to position itself to remain both flexible and innovative to meet increasing demands and challenges. As the digital environment of manuscript studies matures, scholars and information professionals around the world recognize a need for systematic discovery and identification of primary resources. Certainly interest in manuscript studies is vibrant the world over. The Center for the Study of Manuscript Cultures at the University of Hamburg has just announced 55 (!!) positions for manuscript scholars as part of a three-year project “Understanding Written Artefacts.” This development represents both an opportunity and a challenge for SIMS. As we move forward, we should ask ourselves: what is SIMS place on this world stage?

William Noel,
Director, Schoenberg Institute for Manuscript Studies
2017-2018 Staff

- William Noel, Director
- Emma Cawlfield, SDBM Project Coordinator
- Erin Connelly, CLIR Fellow in Medieval Data Curation (to October 31, 2018)
- Jessie Dummer, Digitization Project Coordinator
- Doug Emery, Digital Content Programmer Analyst
- Benjamin J. Fleming, Indic Manuscripts Global Access Project Cataloger (to June 2018)
- Mitch Fraas, Curator, Special Collections
- Benjamin Heller, Project Programmer, SDBM (to June 30, 2018)
- Nicholas Herman, Curator of Manuscripts
- Amey Hutchins, Manuscripts Cataloging Librarian
- Aylin Malcolm, 2018-2019 Graduate Student Fellow & Editorial Assistant, *Manuscript Studies*
- David McKnight, Director, Rare Books and Manuscripts Library
- Dennis Mullen, Digitization Specialist
- Dot Porter, Curator, Digital Research Services
- Lynn Ransom, Curator, SIMS Programs
- Emily Shartrand, 2017-2018 Graduate Student Fellow
- Kelly Tuttle, Islamic Manuscript Cataloger, Manuscripts of the Muslim Worlds Project
Programs
SIMS continues to develop its roster of programs designed to engage our local, regional, national, and international constituencies. These include fellowships, our journal Manuscript Studies, now in its third year, and the Schoenberg Symposium, now in its 11th year.

Fellowships
Visiting Research:
The SIMS Visiting Research Fellowships encourage junior, senior, and independent scholars to conduct research at SIMS relating to our pre-modern manuscript collections. Fellows are encouraged to interact with SIMS staff, Penn faculty and students, and other medieval and early modern scholars in the Philadelphia area, and they are expected to present their research at Penn Libraries either during the term of the fellowship or on a selected date following the completion of the term.

2017-2018 Fellows:
- Toby Burrows, University of Western Australia Library, “Manuscripts of Sir Thomas Phillipps in Philadelphia” (May 2018) [moved from 2016-2017 program]. Outcome: Consultation on SDBM and proposal for interoperable manuscript metadata planning project.

2018-2019 Fellows:
- Catherine Innes-Parker, University of Prince Edward Island (September 17-30 2018 & March 6-20, 2019): “The Middle English Meditation A Talkyng of the Loue of God: Its Cultural and Manuscript Context”

Graduate Student Fellowship
2017-2018 Fellow:
- Emily Shartrand, “Integrating the John Frederick Lewis Collection at the Free Library of Philadelphia into the Fragmentarium Online Platform,” PhD Candidate, Art History, University of Delaware.
2018-2019 Fellow:


Schoenberg Institute for Manuscript Studies & Herbert D. Katz Center for Advanced Judaic Studies Distinguished Fellow in Jewish Manuscript Studies

After the success of the first three years, SIMS and the Katz Center agreed to continue the partnership for another three years. The fellowship brings a distinguished scholar to work with our Hebrew manuscript material. The fellowship provides up to $3500 in travel and accommodation and an honorarium of $2500. In exchange we ask the fellow to 1) be onsite for up to 9 days; 2) present a public lecture sponsored by the Jewish Studies Program, 3) film a short MOOC to be distributed on the Ed.X platform in the “History through Jewish Manuscript Studies” series, and 4) publish findings in either Manuscript Studies or the Jewish Quarterly Review.

- 2016-2017 Fellow: Alessandro Guetta, INALCO Paris, Professor of Jewish Intellectual History, Departement d'études hebraiques et juives. In residence from June 24-June 30, 2017. Public lecture held February 27, 2018 (rescheduled from the previous year): "'No Longer Alien Residents': Italian Jewish Texts in the Late Renaissance"


- 2018-2019 Fellow: Elisabeth Hollender, Professor of Judaism at the Department of Jewish Studies, Goethe University. In residence, March 12-22, 2019, with a lecture to be held on March 19. The fellowship will allow her to return to her study of the Maḥazor minhag Ashkenaz le-Yamim ha-nora’im ule-Sukot (see LKCAJS Rar Ms 382 for digital facsimile), produced in Ashkenaz, in the late 13th or early 14th century CE.

Schoenberg Institute for Manuscript Studies & Italian Studies Fellow in Manuscript Studies

Following the model of the SIMS-Katz fellowship and two successful lecture collaborations featuring Italian Studies speakers, SIMS entered into a partnership with the Center for Italian Studies at the University of Pennsylvania to create a fellowship for an Italian Studies scholar to conduct manuscript research on a topic of their choice. The first fellow will be Rhiannon Daniels, University of Bristol, who will examine the marginalia of Boccaccio’s cinquecentine. She will present her research on January 21, 2018 at a public lecture co-sponsored by the Center for Italian Studies.

Publications

Manuscript Studies: The Journal of the Schoenberg Institute for Manuscript Studies

Manuscript Studies continues to grow and attract high quality submissions, including two special issues submitted by outside editors: “The Syriac Galen Palimpsest” (eds. Ralph Rosen, University of Pennsylvania, and William Noel; Spring 2017); and “In the Age of Mechanical Reproduction: Manuscript
Variation in Early Modern South Asia,” (eds. Arthur Dudney, University of Cambridge, and Neeraja Poddar, University of Oxford; Spring 2019). The Fall 2019 open issue has been filled, and we are now accepting submissions for Spring 2020.

We continue to publish an open access version of Manuscript Studies on Scholarly Commons, Penn’s institutional repository for open access scholarly publications (see http://repository.upenn.edu/mss_simss/). The Articles and Annotations from the Spring 2016 to Spring 2017 issue are now available, and the Fall 2017 issue will be posted in November 2018. According to our agreement with Penn Press, Articles and Annotations are made open access one year after the publication date.

Readership Statistics:
Full statistics from Penn Press’s mid-year report are provided in the Appendix, but a few highlights may be useful here:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Print Subscribers (up to 6/1/ 2018)</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project Muse (articles accessed (up to 6/1/ 2018)</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>219</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scholarly Commons downloads (up to 11/6/2018)</td>
<td>1,820</td>
<td>328</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Schoenberg Symposium on Manuscript Studies in the Digital Age
Convened: The 10th Annual Schoenberg Symposium, “Intertwined Worlds,” held November 21-23, 2017. 17 speakers considered the confluence of expressions of belief, ritual, and social engagement emerging in technologies and traditions of the world’s manuscript cultures. For the full program, go to: http://www.library.upenn.edu/exhibits/lectures/ljs_symposium10.html

Organized: The 11th Annual Schoenberg Symposium, “Illuminations: Manuscripts, Medium, Message,” to be held November 15-17, 2018. 16 speakers will examine cases of intermedial exchange through the lenses of technique, style, iconography, social context, and cultural geography, while also posing broader questions about the deep connections between the craft of illumination and other arts more widelys. For the full program, go to: http://www.library.upenn.edu/about/events/kislak/SIMS/ljs-symposium11
Projects

Manuscripts of the Muslim World (New)
In January of this year, the Council on Library and Information Resources (CLIR) awarded the Penn Libraries, along with the Free Library of Philadelphia and Columbia University, a three-year $500,000 grant to digitize the manuscripts from the Muslim world in their holdings and in the holdings of area Philadelphia institutions. Following the successful model of the Bibliotheca Philadelphiensis project (see below), the Manuscripts of the Muslim World team will catalog, digitize, and make available on OPenn nearly 500 manuscript codices and several hundred leaves originating in the Muslim world broadly construed. These manuscripts include not just Arabic and Persian texts or those having to do with Islam, but Hindu works written in Perso-Arabic script, Christian texts in Coptic and Arabic, and manuscripts in Turkic languages. The vast majority of these manuscripts have never been formally cataloged and have been inaccessible to researchers. Penn, for instance, acquired one of the manuscripts in Morocco in 1889; it has yet to be made available to researchers or formally described. Because of the nature of the project and the intense cataloging demands, the grant includes funding for a full-time Arabic/Persian cataloger based at Penn for the duration of the project. Kelly Tuttle, an Arabic specialist and former cataloger, was hired in August as the cataloger. In her first three months, she has set a ferocious pace, cataloging 127 manuscripts from the three institutions (15 from the Free Library, 72 from Columbia, and 40 from Penn). Digitization began in April at Columbia and in June at Penn. To date, we have full image sets for 123 manuscripts (15 from the Free Library, 86 from Columbia, and 21 from Penn). We are hopeful that by the third year of the grant we can add a few regional Philadelphia manuscripts not originally included in the grant as well as additional manuscript material from both the Free Library and Columbia that we held back from the original application as of lower priority. The first manuscript records from the project are already live in the catalogs of the three main grant partners and the first images will go live on OPenn in December.

Principal Investigators: Mitch Fraas (SIMS), Caitlin Goodman (Free Library of Philadelphia), and Janet Gertz (Columbia University)

Fragmentarium
The Schoenberg Institute for Manuscript Studies is partnering with Fragmentarium, an international digital research lab for medieval manuscript fragments run by a research team at the University of Fribourg. Officially launched in Saint Gall, Switzerland, on September 1st 2017, the Fragmentarium platform enables libraries, collectors, researchers and students to publish medieval manuscript fragments, allowing them to catalogue, describe, transcribe, assemble and re-use them online. SIMS intends to be a long-term partner in this project. Over the course of the 2017-2018 academic year, SIMS Graduate Student Fellow Emily Shartrand (PhD Candidate, University of Delaware) worked on a case study of the roughly 2,300 fragments of western medieval manuscripts collected by John Frederick Lewis of Philadelphia and now housed at the Free Library of Philadelphia. She presented her findings at a Fragmentarium meeting at the University of Fribourg (with SIMS curator Nicholas Herman) in October 2018.
**Bibliotheca Philadelphiensis**
During 2018, we completed the second year and made it well into the third year of the three-year, CLIR funded project “Bibliotheca Philadelphiensis: Toward a Comprehensive Online Library of Medieval and Early Modern Manuscripts in PACSCL Libraries in Eastern Pennsylvania and Delaware.” The project aims to digitize the western medieval manuscripts in Philadelphia and make the images and metadata available online under open licenses (CCBY for the metadata, with the images in the Public Domain).

Principal Investigators: Lois Black, Lehigh University (Lead PI); Dot Porter (SIMS), and Janine Pollock (Free Library of Philadelphia).

The project started April 1, 2016. Through November 2018, the following goals have been met:

- 480 manuscripts have been photographed at Penn, Temple University and Lehigh University
- The BiblioPhilly page on OPenn went online in May: http://openn.library.upenn.edu/html/bibliophilly_contents.html; it currently hosts 355 manuscripts
- VisColl Collation models are being made for each manuscript for which collation can be determined, and these models will be incorporated into the official BiblioPhilly interface.
- The official BiblioPhilly interface, designed by Byte Studio of Milwaukee, WI, is set to launch during the SIMS Annual Meeting.

SIMS staff are central to this effort. Not only is Dot Porter the PI, but the technical infrastructure has been developed by Doug Emery. Amey Hutchins, Nick Herman, and Erin Connelly are providing manuscript descriptions.

**The Beehive**
The Beehive (Ms. Codex 726) is the commonplace book of Daniel Francis Pastorius, founder of Germantown. It is one of Penn Libraries’ great treasures. In 2016, SIMS began work in collaboration with Brooke Palmieri (Centre for Editing Lives and Letters at University College London and a Penn alumna), and Ben Albritton (Stanford University), to create a Mirador instance of the Beehive, with the aim of annotating it to provide an index to the entire text to make it work as Pastorius intended. In 2018, with a mature model for annotation for mapping the manuscript, Mariah Min took over project leadership to supervise the student workers who continue to make progress on the project. As part of that work, Mariah is creating a page-by-page table of contents for the Beehive, first as a finding aid for students working on the book, but also to publish -- perhaps for the first time -- a complete guide to the book's content. We have also begun discussing possible collaborations with new English Department faculty member Whitney Trettien. Last spring Mariah and John Pollack, Special Collections Curator of Research Services, spoke about the project to Dr. Trettien’s class on the Digital Lives of Books. This year, they were joined by Doug Emery, who spoke to the class about the technical side of the project. Work on the Beehive continues to lead to discoveries. The Beehive project continues to fascinate us, as we use digital tools to mine the Beehive's mental map, as it were, and to develop digital tools and methods for capturing and manipulating the networks of connections within a text and between it and its world.
**Schoenberg Database of Manuscripts (SDBM)**

The new SDBM—an online, user-maintained, open-access, collaborative research tool for finding and indexing the world’s manuscripts—has been fully operational for one year since the completion of the redevelopment in June 2017. Most activity for the past year has focused on developing the user community, including introducing the De Ricci Digitized Archive Name Game (https://sdbm.library.upenn.edu/dericci_games), which allows users to link cards from the Seymour de Ricci Britannica Manuscripta Digitized Archive to SDBM Name Authority records as a means to advance to high participation levels.

The SDBM is also benefiting from its participation in Mapping Manuscript Migrations (MMM), a multi-year, international project for the Trans-Atlantic Partnership’s Digging Into Data Challenge. The project aims to create a linked open data environment for manuscript research. Partner institutions include the Institut de Recherche et d’Histoire des Textes in Paris, the Semantic Computing Research Group in Helsinki, and the Bodleian Library and e-Research Centre at the University of Oxford. Involvement in the project has led to the publication of the entire SDBM dataset as linked open data, with an RDF triplestore and SPARQL endpoint hosted on the SDBM website.

Since the New SDBM beta launch on October 15, 2015, we can report the following statistics:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Registered Users</th>
<th>New Entries Created</th>
<th>Actions Performed</th>
<th>Public User Groups</th>
<th>Forum Posts</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>292</td>
<td>753</td>
<td>1941</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015-2017</td>
<td>197</td>
<td>9498</td>
<td>4890</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>150</td>
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**VisColl: Collation Visualization Project**

In the spring of 2013, Dot Porter, Doug Emery, Dennis Mullen, and Alberto Campagnolo (Library of Congress) developed a system for generating visualizations of a physical manuscript’s collation. The system, called VisColl, consists of the following:

- A data model for modeling of a manuscript, based on quires, leaves in quires, and typology for the leaves (original, missing, added, replaced)
- Software for building models in a tabular format, published online and expressed in a custom XML schema
- Software for generating visualizations from that model, via another online form
Goals met in 2018 include:

- An updated data model, which enables users to define taxonomies and then map terms onto quires, leaves, or sides of leaves
- Supports more sophisticated physical structures, specifically subquires, or quires nested within quires
- Successful collaboration with the Old Books New Science team at the University of Toronto, directed by Alex Gillespie, who used the VisColl data model in the design of their collation modeling software for a project on the Canterbury Tales manuscripts.

Kalendarium

Begun in March 2014, Kalendarium is an unfunded, international project to build a crowd-sourced tool for collecting and identifying the world’s medieval liturgical calendars. The project includes participants from the University of Pennsylvania, Stanford University, the Morgan Library, Radboud University Nijmegen, the University of Antwerp, and the University of St. Andrews in Scotland. Kalendarium will aid users in identifying their calendars and adding to a growing database of the world’s medieval calendars. In 2017, the project team developed a conceptual model for the application building on its previous research and experimentation. Since October 2017, part-time programmer George Gordon has been working on a prototype Kalendarium application and exploring the complexities of implementing our conceptual model. Our goal is to test a beta version of Kalendarium in 2019.

Current collaborators include: Roger Wieck (Morgan Library), Kathryn Rudy (University of St. Andrews), Johan Oosterman (Nijmegen), Mike Kestemont (Antwerp), Ben Albritton (Stanford), Rob Sanderson (Stanford).

DM

DM is a Mellon and NEH-funded project to create a digital environment for the study and annotation of images and texts that provides a suite of tools enabling scholars to gather and organize the evidence necessary to support arguments based in digitized resources. Previously known as Digital Mappamundi and hosted by Drew University, DM was originally designed by Martin Foys (formerly Drew University, now University of Wisconsin Madison) for use with medieval maps, but its functional flexibility has the potential to make it an excellent tool for all image-based objects. In 2018, development on DM 2.0, funded by the University of Wisconsin, is underway. SIMS will host four projects on a DM instance hosted at Penn. Those projects are:

- Virtual Mappa: A collaboration with the British Library, providing simple annotations for about 3000 inscriptions and features on a cohort of digital images of ten early English medieval maps of the world (currently hosted here: http://dm.performantsoftware.com/workspace/#965fe731)
- Four Anglo-Carolingian Mini-Editions from Cotton Vespasian MS D. xv (Martin Foys): a "deep edit" of three manuscript pages on a late tenth-century Anglo-Latin manuscript, and the four short texts
they contain (three of which have never been identified in Anglo-Saxon England before), along with associated marginalia and other features. (currently hosted here: http://dm.performantsoftware.com/workspace/#i2lptr1n

- Digital edition of Chronique Anonyme Universelle (Lisa Fagin Davis): a richly annotated digital edition of Chronique Anonyme Universelle, a lavishly illustrated scroll history of the world from Creation to the fifteenth century. Originally published as a DVD to accompany Davis’s book La Chronique Anonyme Universelle: Reading and Writing History in Fifteenth-Century France (Brepols, 2014)
Manuscript Digitization and Processing

New Manuscripts Processed
Amey Hutchins continues to move acquisitions through processing to make records available in the Penn Libraries online catalogue. The past year’s work included the following:

- 10 pre-modern bound codices for the Kislak Center.
- 8 pre-modern documents, leaves, or fragments for the Kislak Center.
- Collaborations with other Penn Libraries staff to create catalog records for Japanese and Hebrew manuscripts.

OPenn
OPenn: Digital Primary Resources Available to Everyone provides open access to selected digital assets in both human-readable and machine-readable formats. OPenn’s digital datasets consist of master TIFF files, web JPEG images, thumbnail images, and XML manuscript descriptions. All data sets are available as free cultural works and as such are released into the public domain or under Creative Commons CC0, CC-BY, or CC-BY-SA licenses. These licensing structures permit users to have unmediated access to any data we provide, from a single image to the entire data set. OPenn is an integral part of the Libraries’ strategic initiative to embrace open data and it is crucial to the mission of SIMS and the Penn Libraries to make these materials of great interest and research value easy to access and reuse.

OPenn by the numbers:

- **6,173** total manuscripts *with images and metadata*
- **1,000,000** unique pages of manuscripts
- **5,686** Penn Libraries manuscripts available for full access (includes 304 LJS manuscripts, 478 Cairo Genizah fragments, 33 pre-1601 from the Katz Center for Judaic Studies, and 2,787 Indic manuscripts)
- **531** manuscripts from other area institutions (37 from the Penn Museum, 462 from the Walters Art Museum in Baltimore, 7 from the Jay I. Kislak Foundation; 25 manuscripts from the John Rylands Library at the University of Manchester Library Special Collections)
- **$1,800,000** of taxpayer investment, matched by represented institutions participating 6 National Endowment for the Humanities digitization and access grants
- **70** terabytes of data

Grant activity
OPenn hosts the products of six National Endowment for the Humanities digitization and access grants. In simple financial terms, leaving aside the investment in unsponsored projects, OPenn represents $1,800,000 of taxpayer investment, which was matched by the institutions that made the data. In addition, OPenn is the destination for data from three projects awarded by the Council on Library and Information Resources, totaling $1.3 million: Bibliotheca Philadelphiensis, Manuscripts of the Muslim World, and Digitizing the Records of Philadelphia’s Historic Congregations. The Arts & Humanities
Research Council in the UK has also awarded the University of Manchester £809,165 to apply further computational methods to the processing of the multispectral images of the Syriac Galen Palimpsest available on OPenn.

For the ongoing SIMS project Bibliotheca Philadelphiensis, manuscripts have been and will continue to be added from 15 institutions across the Philadelphia area through March 2019. Currently there are 352 manuscripts available from eleven institutions, constituting 8TB of data and 106,411 page images.

**Data Preservation**
The preservation of the data on OPenn is paramount. Over the past year, we have started ingesting Penn manuscript data into Colenda, the new institutional repository of Penn Libraries. Over half of the Penn manuscripts on OPenn are now in Colenda, which provides direct access to and long-term preservation of these digital assets.
Exhibitions


Loans:

*Cultures in the Crossfire: Stories from Syria and Iraq,* held at Penn Museum, April 8-November 25, 2018.

Teaching & Outreach

SIMS staff continued to be actively involved in teaching and providing teaching support for faculty from Penn and other universities in the Philadelphia area in class visits to view collections.

Penn Courses

- ARTH999-024/COML998-012/ENGL998-002 (Independent Study Course with 3 PhD students from different departments): Curating the Medieval Manuscript. Fall Term, 2018. Instructor: Nicholas Herman

Local Elementary School Class Visits

Since 2015, Dot Porter has offered a program for young children to introduce them to the wonders of medieval manuscripts. Dot uses the well-known and beloved children’s book *Marguerite Makes a Book* by Bruce Robertson (*J. Paul Getty Museum,* 1999) as the “textbook” to introduce children to the concept of a hand-produced book and get them ready for seeing the real thing.

Schools served this year:

- Penn Children's Center (4-5 year olds, one class), Introducing Medieval Manuscripts (Books of Hours), May 2018 (Dot Porter)
- Southwark Elementary School (second graders, three classes), Introducing Medieval Manuscripts (Books of Hours), November 2017 (Dot Porter)
- Southwark Elementary School (second graders, three classes), Introducing Medieval Manuscripts (Books of Hours), October 2018 (Dot Porter)

Scribes of the Cairo Geniza Project

Amey Hutchins coordinated monthly lunchtime sessions in the Vitale Media Lab for members of the Penn community to participate in the Scribes of the Cairo Geniza Project, hosted by Zooniverse ([https://www.zooniverse.org/projects/judaicadh/scribes-of-the-cairo-geniza](https://www.zooniverse.org/projects/judaicadh/scribes-of-the-cairo-geniza)). Eight sessions from October to May drew a small but faithful group of staff from departments throughout the Penn Libraries.
SIMS Manuscript Skills Summer Course 2018

In Penn’s first summer session, SIMS staff Nicholas Herman, Amey Hutchins, Will Noel, and Dot Porter led the fifth offering of our six-week course introducing graduate students to hands-on work with medieval manuscripts. Students came from not only the University of Pennsylvania, but also Princeton University, Temple University, and the Schoenberg Database of Manuscripts, from the disciplines of Art History, Classics, Comparative Literature, English, French, and Hispanic Studies. Students appreciated the course:

- **It was helpful getting an intro to all the various aspects of manuscript studies. I thought the integration using digital technologies and practicing transcribing the various scripts were particularly fun and useful.**
- **This course exceeded my expectations. I learned very practical things: how to identify and describe a manuscript, what to look for, relevant terminology, etc.**
- **I really enjoyed the paleography, but it was all interesting.**
- **I saw new things every time I opened [my manuscript], and that was due in large part to what I learned to look for/appreciate in the class lessons.**
- **[Working with my manuscript] gave me the opportunity to go in depth with some new skills.**
- **This course was very relevant to my research. I need to know how to handle and describe manuscripts.**

A student from the 2017 summer course was accepted to the Mellon Summer Institute in French Paleography at the Newberry Library in Summer 2018.

**Non-SIMS Courses taught by SIMS staff**


**Course and student support by SIMS staff**

- Ralph Rosen (Classical Studies, Penn): Ancient Medicine, December 2017 (Amey Hutchins)
- Aylin Malcolm and Judith Weston (English and Comparative Literature, Penn): Digital Editing and the Medieval Manuscript Roll workshop, March 2018 (Dot Porter, Amey Hutchins)
- Germantown Friends School (Middle School level), Medieval Literature class, May 2018 (Nicholas Herman with John Pollack)
- Eric Pumroy and Catherine Conybeare (Classical Studies, Bryn Mawr): Forming the Classics, October 2018 (Nicholas Herman, Amey Hutchins)
- Kara McShane and Lori Daggar (English and History, Ursinus College), Bears Make History: Digital Entrepreneurship in the Archive & Online, September 2018 (Dot Porter)
• Lisa Fagin Davis (Library Science, Simmons College): History of the Medieval Book, October 2018 (Lynn Ransom and Emma Cawlfield)

Virtual Classroom Visits
No virtual classroom visits took place this year.

Sponsored Lectures & Collaborations
• Alessandro Guetta, INALCO Paris, Professor of Jewish Intellectual History. "No Longer Alien Residents": Italian Jewish Texts in the Late Renaissance” Lecture held February 27, 2018. Co-sponsored by the Jewish Studies Program and the Katz Center for Advanced Judaic Studies.
• Gothic Arts: An Interdisciplinary Symposium, held March 23-24, 2018. Organized by Sarah Guérin (Art History), Mary Channon Caldwell (Music), and Ada Kuskowski (History).

Collections Management

Manuscripts Inventory
In November and December 2017, Amey Hutchins worked with other staff members from SIMS and Kislak’s Special Collections Processing Center to conduct an inventory of the bound manuscripts in the Lawrence J. Schoenberg Collection and the Kislak Center’s Ms. Codex collection cataloged in 2017. A full inventory occurs at the end of even calendar years, with a mini-inventory in odd calendar years of all items cataloged and added to the collection within the previous year.

Acquisitions
• Astronomical Treatises and Tables, Germany, 1481, Ms. Codex 1881 (SIMS/Rosenthal/Cheyney/Judaica funds, plus a $40,000 grant from the Bernard H. Breslauer Foundation)
• Chirograph (two-part document) recording the resolution of a land dispute between Robert de Latham and Peter de Hepay in Anglezarke, Lancashire, Miscellaneous Manuscripts. Box 23 Folder 24, (Baugh fund)
• Leaf of Alcuin of York’s De fide Sanctae Trinitatis shaped into envelope, 9th century, Manuscript Fragment Collection. Folder 47 (Rosenthal fund)

Deaccessions: No manuscripts were deaccessioned in the past year.
Grants

Awarded:

Active:
- T-AP Digging into Data Challenge Grant. Submitted by Dr. Toby Burrows, University of Western Australia and Oxford University. Partner institutions: The Institut de Recherche et d'Histoire des Textes, the Semantic Computing Research Group at Aalto University, the Bodleian Library and the e-Research Centre at Oxford University, and the Schoenberg Database of Manuscripts. US funding agency: Institute of Museum & Library Services. Principal Investigator at Penn: Lynn Ransom. Amount: $175,000.


Completed:
- Council on Library and Information Resources. Grant to support a data curation fellow at the University of Pennsylvania, in order to develop emerging leaders in the field and to encourage permanent staffing solutions within academic libraries. Fellow: Erin Connelly. (July 1 2016-June 30, 2018). Amount: $154,800

Submitted:
- Digital Humanities Advancement Grant. “Advancing MESA. Partner National Endowment for the Humanities. Principal Investigators: Dot Porter (SIMS) and Timothy Stinson, Northern Carolina State University. Requested Amount: $133,149.
Website & Social Media
In addition to providing information about the Schoenberg Institute activities, the SIMS website offers dynamic content through blog posts, a tumblr site, a twitter feed, a calendar of SIMS-related events, and a link to the SIMS YouTube channel.

Web Site
2018
23,470 views (103,212 views since 2013)
241 blogposts
96 registered followers

2017
20,757 views (79,746 views since 2013)
217 posts
82 registered followers

YouTube Channel
2018
214 videos in 11 playlists
14,700 views
388 subscribers

2017
203 videos in 11 playlists
11,812 views
270 subscribers

Twitter
2018
2676 followers
6643 tweets

2017
2175 followers
6108 tweets

Tumblr.com
2018
3387 posts
11,767 followers

2017
2492 posts
9761 followers

Facebook
2018
1708 followers

2017
1451 followers
SIMS Staff Conference Representation and Professional Activity

Conference representation:

- Lecture, Tulane University, New Orleans, October 2, 2017 (Nicholas Herman)
- Collecting Medieval Art: Past, Present, and Future. Luhring Augustine Gallery/SVA Theater, New York, January 27, 2018 (Nicholas Herman)
- American Historical Association Annual Meeting, Washington, DC January 4-7, 2018 (Dot Porter)
- Mellon Digital Humanities Seminar, Price Lab for Digital Humanities, University of Pennsylvania, February 2018 (Dot Porter)
- Pre-concert Lecture Program for the Toronto Consort, Canada’s premier Early Music ensemble. Toronto, March 2-3, 2018 (Nicholas Herman)
- Gothic Arts: An Interdisciplinary Symposium. University of Pennsylvania, 24 March 2018 (Nicholas Herman)
- 16th Seminar on the Care and Conservation of Manuscripts. University of Copenhagen, April 14-16 (Lynn Ransom)
- New Light on Old Manuscripts: Recent Advances in Palimpsest Studies, Vienna, Austria, April 25-27, 2018 (Doug Emery)
- Planning Meeting, International Standard Manuscript Identifier, IRHT, Paris, April 23, 2018 (Will Noel)
- 53rd International Congress on Medieval Studies. Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, May 9-12, 2018 (Nicholas Herman. Lynn Ransom, Emma Cawlfield, Dot Porter)
- Collections as Data National Forum 2, University of Nevada Las Vegas, Nevada, May 2018 (Dot Porter)
- 2019 International Medieval Congress, University of Leeds, July 2-5, 2018 (Lynn Ransom)
- International Center of Medieval Art (ICMA) study days at the J. Paul Getty Museum (Los Angeles) and the Art Institute of Chicago, February and May 2018 (Nicholas Herman)
- Annual Conference of the American Library Association, Rare Books and Manuscripts Section, in New Orleans, LA, June 19-22, 2018 (Emma Cawlfield)
- Digital Humanities Seminar, University of Kansas, September 2018 (Dot Porter)
- The Past, Present, and Future of Libraries conference at the American Philosophical Society in Philadelphia, PA, September 27-29, 2018 (Emma Cawlfield)

Publications:


**Professional affiliations:**

• Digitizing Hidden Collections, Council on Library and Information Resources (Will Noel, Review Panel)
• Footprints Project: Jewish Books Through Time and Place, Columbia University (Mitch Fraas, Board Member)
• Digital Medievalist (Lynn Ransom, Member, Executive Board Member)
• Digital Scriptorium (Lynn Ransom, Secretary, Board of Directors)
• Delaware Valley Medieval Association (Dot Porter, President)
• Manuscripts Special Interest Group, Text Encoding Initiative (Dot Porter, Convener)
• Medieval Academy of America Digital Humanities and Multimedia Studies Committee (Dot Porter, Member)
• Medieval Academy of America Committee on Centers and Regional Associations (CARA) (Dot Porter, Executive Committee Member)
Affiliations
In addition to the above projects and programs, SIMS continues to form and maintain affiliations with several communities within the University of Pennsylvania and with one outside group. These affiliations provide opportunities and access to groups and events that have shared interests in aspects of manuscript studies.

Islamic Manuscript Association (new)
In the spring of 2015, SIMS became a member of the Islamic Manuscript Association. For more information on this group, visit http://www.islamicmanuscript.org/home.aspx.

Herbert D. Katz Center for Advanced Judaic Studies
Through Advisory Council member Arthur Kiron, Schottenstein-Jesselson Curator of Judaica Collections, we maintain ties with the Katz Center, which houses an important collection of Judaica in manuscript form.

History of the Material Text Seminar
SIMS staff participate in the weekly meetings of the Seminar, directed by Roger Chartier, John Pollack, Jerome Singerman, and Peter Stallybrass.
**Appendix: Manuscript Studies Readership and Distribution**

Readership Distribution and Full Text Downloads through 2018-10-31 for *Manuscript Studies* on Scholarly Commons ([https://repository.upenn.edu/mss_sims/](https://repository.upenn.edu/mss_sims/))

![Map of readership distribution](https://example.com/map)

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<tr>
<th>Title</th>
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<td>Will that Surrogate Do?: Reflections on Material Manuscript Literacy in the Digital Environment from Islamic Manuscripts at the University of Michigan Library</td>
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<td>The Materiality of South Asian Manuscripts from the University of Pennsylvania  MS Coll. 390 and the Rāmamālā Library in Bangladesh</td>
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<td>Manuscripts of Sir Thomas Phillipps in North American Institutions</td>
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<td>Transcription, Translation, and Annotation: Observations on Three Medieval Islamicate Medical Texts in UPenn MS Codex 1649</td>
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<td>The Handwritten and the Printed: Issues of Format and Medium in Japanese Premodern Books</td>
<td>103</td>
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<td>Towards a Universal Catalogue of Early Manuscripts: Seymour de Ricci’s Census of Medieval and Renaissance Manuscripts in the United States and Canada</td>
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<td>(In)Completeness in Middle English Literature: The Case of the Cook’s Tale and the Tale of Gamelyn</td>
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<tr>
<td>Joseph Holland and the Idea of the Chaucerian Book</td>
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<td>Citation and Alignment: Scholarship Outside and Inside the Codex</td>
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<td>The Bibale Database at the IRHT: A Digital Tool for Researching Manuscript Provenance</td>
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<td>From Sinai to California: The Trajectory of Greek NT Codex 712 from the UCLA Young Research Library’s Special Collections (170/347)</td>
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<td>Siamese Manuscript Collections in the United States</td>
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<td>Medieval Origins Revealed by Modern Provenance: The Case of the Bywater Missal</td>
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<tr>
<td>Broken Books</td>
<td>41</td>
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<td>Manifesto</td>
<td>38</td>
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<td>Illuminating Archives: Collectors and Collections in the History of Thai Manuscripts</td>
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<td>The Linked Collections of William Bragge (1823-1884) of Birmingham and Dr. Thomas Shadford Walker (1834-1885) of Liverpool</td>
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<td>The Chester Beatty Collection of Siamese Manuscripts in Ireland</td>
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<td>Canons, Huguenots, Movie Stars, and Missionaries: A Breviary's Journey from Le Mans to Reno</td>
<td>31</td>
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<td>Cultural Goods and Flotsam: Early Thai Manuscripts in Germany and Those Who Collected Them</td>
<td>29</td>
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<td>Manuscripts in Central Thailand: Samut Khoi from Phetchaburi Province</td>
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<td>Thai Manuscripts in Italian libraries: Three Manuscripts from G.E. Gerini’s Collection Kept at the University of Naples “L’Orientale”</td>
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<td>“Safe from destruction by fire”: Isabella Stewart Gardner’s Venetian Manuscripts</td>
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<td>&quot;The Butcher’s Bill”: Using the Schoenberg Database to Reverse-Engineer Medieval and Renaissance Manuscript Books from Constituent Fragments</td>
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<td>Henry D. Ginsburg and the Thai Manuscripts Collection at the British Library</td>
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<td>Collecting Histories</td>
<td>17</td>
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<tr>
<td>Manuscripts from the Kingdom of Siam in Japan</td>
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**Total Downloads** 1820
MANUSCRIPT STUDIES

A JOURNAL OF THE SCHOENBERG INSTITUTE FOR MANUSCRIPT STUDIES

PUBLISHER’S REPORT
MIDYEAR 2018
CIRCULATION AND FULFILLMENT

CURRENT PRINT CIRCULATION*

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*All figures through June 1 of each year.

** We mailed copies of Issue 1.1 to 530 individuals from a list purchased from Market Data Retrieval.

CURRENT ONLINE CIRCULATION

1st Half - 2018

- PROJECT MUSE: Articles accessed from Jan. 1 through May 30:
  - 2018 – 42
  - 2017 – 219

  - 2018 – 1,332
  - 2017 – 1,214
  - 2016 – 323

PRODUCTION

PRODUCTION AND MANUFACTURING

ISSUE PAGE-COUNT SUMMARY

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<th>2016</th>
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PRINT QUANTITIES

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PROMOTIONAL ACTIVITIES

PRINT EFFORTS

Magnets
MSS cover for distributing at conferences

Marketing Sheet
8.5 x 11 Color handout for publicity at conferences

Author Promotional Flyers
Customized pdf poster for each author in each issue

ONLINE & EMAIL EFFORTS

Online Form
Library Recommendation Form
Target Audience
Individuals looking for their institutional library to subscribe
Format
PDF form posted on the website

H-Net Listserv
Advertising Promotion
Table of Contents posted on listservs as each issue mails.
H-Net Material Culture

Facebook - Twitter
Posting of table of contents of first issue, tagging of article authors

GROUP PROMOTIONS

Whenever possible, Manuscript Studies will be included in Penn Press group ads. These ads are placed in key publications and meeting programs throughout the year.

Penn Press Catalog
Size
Quarter page
Estimated Distribution
15,000

Spring 2018
**Publishing and Professional Societies**

*Manuscript Studies* will become a member of the following publishing society and privy to the special promotional opportunities listed:

- **Conference of Historical Journals:**
  - Space provided for the display of sample issues and subscription flyers in the CHJ booth at the AHA Annual Meeting.
  - Journal listing on CHJ website. (upcoming)
  - Subscription to *Editing History*, the CHJ newsletter.

**Exhibits and Meetings**

*MSS* sample issues and subscription flyers were available at the Penn Press booth during the following conferences:

- Medieval Institute – Kalamazoo
- Modern Language Association (MLA)
- Medieval Academy of America (MAA)
- Shakespeare Association

In addition, *MSS* sample issues and subscription forms will be available at the Scholar’s Choice booth at upcoming conferences.

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<td>16-19 Association for Asian Studies</td>
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<td>March</td>
<td>8-10 New College Conference on Medieval-Renaissance Studies</td>
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<td>March</td>
<td>22-24 Renaissance Society of America</td>
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<td>April</td>
<td>20-22 American Research Center in Egypt</td>
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<td>June</td>
<td>18-20 Association of Jewish Libraries</td>
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<td>18-20 Symposium on Medieval &amp; Renaissance Studies</td>
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<td>The Codicology and Conservation of the Syriac Galen Palimpsest</td>
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<td>The Galen Palimpsest and the Modest Ambitions of the Digital Data Set</td>
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<td>Compilation, Collation, and Correction in the Time of Encyclopedism: The Case of UPenn LJS 55</td>
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<td>An Investigation of the Relationship Between Prince Shotoku’s Shomangyo-gisho and Two Dunhuang Buddhist Manuscripts: A Debate over Originality and Canonical Value</td>
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<td>Of Scribes and Scripts: Citizen Science and the Cairo Geniza</td>
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<td>2018</td>
<td>The Intricacies of Capturing the Holdings of a Mosque Library in Yemen: The Library of the Shrine of Imam al-Hadi, Sa’da</td>
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