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# The Schoenberg Institute for Manuscript Studies

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University of Pennsylvania Libraries

## Annual Report

June 1, 2013 to August 30, 2014

*Guided by the vision of its founder, Lawrence J. Schoenberg, the mission of the Schoenberg Institute for Manuscript Studies at Penn 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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## Introduction

In the first full year of its existence, the Schoenberg Institute for Manuscript Studies (SIMS) came out swinging. SIMS received two large grants from the National Endowment for the Humanities this year, became host to a third, and laid the groundwork for several new digital humanities projects to be realized in the coming year. SIMS staff forged partnerships with institutions and scholars around the world and engaged the academic community locally, regionally, and internationally through a new website, a YouTube channel, and an active Twitter feed. Along more traditional routes, SIMS hosted workshops, lectures, and conferences, and staff presented papers and projects at national and international conferences. In partnership with the University of Pennsylvania Press, SIMS signed contracts for the first two volumes in the Schoenberg Studies in Manuscript Culture series, to be published under the imprint of University of Pennsylvania Libraries. Moreover, SIMS has become an integral component of the Penn Libraries' infrastructure, playing a major role in defining open access data and digitization policies and management, and has already begun offering its data on open access platforms. We have thus not only established ourselves as a player in the field of manuscript studies, we have also positioned ourselves as a "Research and Development" wing of the Penn Libraries.

For the purposes of this first SIMS Annual Report, we extend the year ending August 30, 2014, to begin June 1, 2013. It was at this point that SIMS really began to take shape with the addition of two key staff: Dot Porter (hired April 2013) and Doug Emery (hired July 2013). Dot Porter is the Curator of Digital Research Services for Special Collections, but her primary work centers around SIMS projects. Similarly, Doug Emery is the Special Collections Digital Content Programmer, but a majority of his software development is dedicated to SIMS projects. With Dot and Doug in place, SIMS solidified its expertise and was able to gain traction on ideas and projects proposed in the months prior to their appointments.

What follows are summaries of SIMS activities for the "long" 2013-2014 academic year. This report is intended to provide a basis for discussion of the priorities and goals in the coming year and beyond. One initiative that is not included below but has been formative this past year was the carrying out of a formal strategic planning process under the guidance of Michael B. Toth. Through this process, we identified goals and methods of implementation that largely grew out of the work accomplished this past year. These goals will be discussed more thoroughly at the SIMS Advisory Council meeting on November 6, 2014. This report supplies the groundwork for that discussion.

## 2013-2014 Staff

**Alexander Devine**, Schoenberg Database of Manuscripts Researcher

**Jessie Dummer**, Digitization Project Coordinator

**Doug Emery**, Digital Content Programmer

**Mitch Fraas**, Curator, Digital Research Services

**Amey Hutchins**, Manuscripts Cataloging Librarian

**David McKnight**, Director, Rare Books and Manuscripts Library

**Dennis Mullen**, Digitization Specialist

**Will Noel**, Director

**Dot Porter**, Curator, Digital Research Services

**Lynn Ransom**, Schoenberg Database of Manuscripts Project Manager

**Marie Turner**, SIMS Graduate Student Fellow

## Projects

### **Schoenberg Database of Manuscripts**

The Schoenberg Database of Manuscripts (SDBM) is a cornerstone project of SIMS. Begun in 1997 by Larry Schoenberg as a personal resource for tracking manuscripts, it has grown into an internationally recognized resource for the study of provenance and the history of collecting. This year the SDBM received further recognition when it was awarded in April 2013 a \$300,000 Humanities Collections and Reference Resources implementation grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities, Division of Preservation and Access. The grant will allow us to redevelop it into a user-driven, community-built, open access tool to create a “metacatalogue” for finding and indexing the world’s manuscripts. The new SDBM will employ a variety of strategies to build, maintain, and encourage a vibrant and proactive user community, including opening it up to the user community to contribute and maintain data. We will also seek partnerships with other similar, online resources to strengthen accessibility to both the content of the SDBM and our partners’ content by allowing cross-searching capabilities across a number of platforms.

The project officially began September 1, 2014, with the appointment of a dedicated, full-time programmer, Jeffrey Chiu. Prior to Jeff’s arrival, Lynn Ransom, the Principal Investigator, worked closely with Doug Emery, Mitch Fraas, Dot Porter, and Michael Gibney (Penn Libraries, iTaDD) to design the theoretical underpinnings of the new data model and to institute quick fixes in preparation for the implementation of the New SDBM. These included 1) creating links in each record for users to notify SDBM administration of errors or to suggest current locations and identify duplicate matches and 2) providing a means to download the entire dataset in Excel and CSV formats. Although seemingly small adjustments, these fixes are the groundwork for engaging our user community. Since embedding the email links in the records in October 2013, we have, for example, received 53 error reports and suggestions from scholars, students, curators, and genealogy researchers, as well as 57 emails from one user, Max Schmitz, with entries from online and current print catalogues for us to enter on his behalf. Additionally, a group of Swarthmore College students used our data to develop an app for a class project that shows graphically the movement of individual manuscripts across time. Even by opening up access in these small ways, it is clear that we are set to build an active, engaged, and diverse user community.

In addition to this preparatory work, Lynn Ransom began promoting the New SDBM project. She contributed a write-up of the project for the October 2014 issue of the *Art*

*Libraries Journal* (see Publications below). Additionally, she attended several conferences and professional meetings in the US and abroad (see Representation at Conferences and Professional Meetings below). A direct result of these meetings were two requests, one from the Special Collections Librarian of University College London and the other from the director of the Eisenbibliothek (Iron Library) of the Georg Fischer Foundation in Switzerland, to enter their respective collections into the SDBM.

While the grant has been the major news regarding the database this past year, the usual work for which the database is known has continued apace. From June 1, 2013, to August 30, 2014, approximately 13,000 new records were added. Of these, the large majority were entered from the online catalogue of the Bibliothèque nationale de France.

Other developments this year relate to staffing. We have streamlined our non-project needs to two positions: one 20 hr/wk research position for data entry, currently held by Alexander Devine, and another 20 hr/wk project assistant position to assist Lynn Ransom in maintaining data entry standards, responding to user queries, and assisting with new SDBM development strategies. The project assistant position is currently held by Emma Cawfield who works remotely from Tampa, Florida. Barbara Schoenberg currently employs on a part-time basis in Longboat Key one data entry assistant, Sarah Tew, who is responsible for current sales entry.

### **Kalendarium**

In March 2014, Will Noel invited a group of international medieval calendar experts and digital humanists to design a crowd-sourcing tool to identify and record the world's medieval liturgical calendars. The purpose of the project is to collect data on medieval calendars the world over and to allow for a far greater granularity in their analysis than has been possible heretofore. The data is structured already, and will work well in a crowd-sourced environment. Users, from manuscript catalogers to research scholars, will be able to identify saints and grades of feast days, and to localize their calendars. Working with programmers at the University of Antwerp, at Stanford University, and in Washington, DC, the team has begun to build distributed, open services for manuscript data collection, calendar transcription, and delivery of the saint and feast data critical to calendar identification.

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

### **Collation Visualization Project**

Since the spring of 2013, Dot Porter, Doug Emery, Dennis Mullen, and Alberto Campagnolo (Vatican Library) have been developing a system for generating visualizations of physical manuscript collation. The visualization system includes both diagrams and bifolia views and allows users to reconstruct the collation of manuscripts. Currently in version 0.1, the Collation Visualization Project uses a collation formula to generate a visualization website. Dot has created sample visualizations using version 0.1 of several manuscripts, including LJS manuscripts and manuscripts from other institutions. These sample visualizations are publicly viewable on the development site <http://dorpdev.library.upenn.edu/collation/>. The code, which is open source, is also available on GitHub: <https://github.com/leoba/VisColl>. Both Dot and Alberto have presented publicly on this work, and recordings of two of Dot's presentations have been posted online.

The team is currently working on version 0.2, which will generate visualizations from an online form (rather than depending on a collation formula), and will also generate collation formulae.

### **DM**

This year, SIMS took on the hosting of [DM](#), 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 (see website for full description). Previously known as Digital Mappaemundi 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 makes it an excellent tool for all image-based objects. The project brings with it close to \$86,000 in NEH funds to continue work for the next twelve months. Performant Software, a software development company with extensive digital humanities experience, is the developer for the project. We estimate that only four more months are needed to finish development. The remaining funding will be

dedicated to testing and tool-enhancement. DM is co-directed by Dot Porter and Martin Foys.

Currently, SIMS is hosting two DM projects:

### **Virtual Mappa Project**

This project, initiated by Martin Foys in partnership with the British Library, will make available digital images of a selection of medieval world maps to audiences for the purposes of annotation using DM software. High-resolution images of these maps will be available online for public use, with transcribed and translated text, notes, links to outside resources, and other tools for understanding these mappamundi. SIMS is the host for this project.

### **Penn Roll Project**

The first SIMS DM project is the Penn Roll Project. Led by the 2013-2014 Schoenberg Graduate Student Fellow Marie Turner, the project will provide a digital hub for the study of fifteenth-century genealogical rolls. When it goes live, the project website will function as a portal for the collaborative study of genealogy rolls and will include general background on their development and use, an extensive bibliography, and an archive of open access digital images of rolls from libraries around the world. The images will be sorted into various groupings with descriptions based on shared features, provenance, and language. A principal objective is to develop scholarly practices for the study and understanding of non-codex manuscripts. In line with this goal, an important aspect of the project website is the creation of a digital workspace where researchers and scholars can view images from multiple rolls simultaneously.

The project partners with seven institutions from the US and around the world: Harvard University, the Huntington Library, the Free Library of Philadelphia, the University of St. Andrews, Trinity College of Cambridge University, the John Rylands Library (Manchester, UK), and the University of Canterbury (New Zealand). All institutions have granted access to high-resolution images of their rolls, several of which have been digitized or made widely available for the first time.

### **Penn Parchment Project**

In summer 2013, SIMS collaborated with a team from the Archaeology Department of the University of York on a project (“Books and Beasts”) analyzing collagen samples taken without damage from parchment manuscripts in order to identify the animal

species from which the parchment was made. Using kits provided by the project team, the Special Collections Processing Center obtained samples from nearly 200 manuscripts, about 25% of which were Schoenberg manuscripts on parchment. The results categorized the Penn manuscripts as cow, goat, or sheep, with one outlier thought to be from Seville turning out to be made from deerskin! During the sampling process, Dot Porter created several videos about the project, which appeared on the SIMS blog and YouTube channel. An extension of this project, "Biology of the Book," will continue the work, starting with a workshop held at Penn in September, 2014.

## Manuscript Digitization and Processing

Prior to the creation of SIMS, the Schoenberg Center for Electronic Text and Image (SCETI) had developed a digitization program for manuscript material. The result of this program was the website [Penn in Hand](#), created to display full digital facsimiles of and bibliographic information on the manuscripts. Due to staff departures and internal reorganizations, SIMS assumed responsibility upon its creation for continuing the work SCETI had begun in regard to the medieval manuscript collections.

SIMS' priority this year was to complete the digitization and cataloging of the [Schoenberg Collection](#). The cataloging was accomplished (minus two framed objects that remain in Florida) under the leadership of Amey Hutchins. Of the 300 manuscripts in the collection, 294 have full digital facsimiles in Penn in Hand.

In addition to the Schoenberg Collection, SIMS has oversight of two other digitization projects. The first is the NEH-funded Indic Manuscripts Global Access project to digitize the holdings of Penn's collection of Indic manuscripts, the largest in North America (see Grants below), and to make the holdings available in Penn in Hand. The project began July 1, 2014.

The second project is the digitization of Thai manuscripts in the Penn Libraries and the University of Pennsylvania Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology. In collaboration with the Penn Museum and Professor Justin McDaniel of the Department of Religious Studies, Amey Hutchins has created catalog records for and SCETI has digitized 15 manuscripts (9 from the Penn Libraries, 6 from the Penn Museum) and has made agreements with the Penn Museum to borrow 35 more manuscripts in the coming year for processing. As a condition of participation in the project, the Penn Museum agreed that the images of its manuscripts would appear in Penn in Hand under a CC BY license along with the Libraries' manuscripts.

### **Managed Masters**

In an effort to secure our digital assets and prepare them for ingestion into the Penn Libraries' digital repository, SIMS has created a system of digital asset management called "Managed Masters." In the past, master TIFF files of digitized items have been stored in a variety of network locations provided by iTaDD; thus they have been spread across networks and stored according to space priorities, not organizational priorities. Managed Masters allows us to establish intellectual and organizational control over our digitized manuscripts, books, and other digital objects, and will facilitate ingestion of these materials into a digital repository for their long-term curation and preservation.

The Managed Masters processes and software facilitate administration behind the addition of objects to Managed Masters to ensure complete and accurate coverage of all assets and to maintain their integrity through digital signatures, in the form of “checksums,” and their connection to critical catalog and page-level metadata. Jessie Dummer manages the selection, vetting, and processing of each asset, using software developed by Doug Emery. Since January 2013, we have ingested 1,263 medieval and Renaissance manuscripts out of a total of 1,989. As of September 1, 2014, Managed Masters has ingested 254,000 TIFF images.

Although initially created for SIMS purposes, Managed Masters will encompass all Special Collections digital assets.

### **OPenn**

In January 2013, SIMS embarked on a project to build a website that will provide open access to selected digital assets in both human-readable and machine-readable formats. The dataset of digital assets will consist of master TIFF files, publication-quality TIFF files, JPEG images, thumbnail images, and XML manuscript descriptions. Starting with our Schoenberg manuscripts and moving on to all other Kislak Center medieval and Renaissance manuscripts, we will make our cultural assets open to the world. The data will be available to the public on a static website with a directory-style listing and it will be available under one of three Creative Commons licensing options: CC0, public domain, or CC BY. These licensing structures will permit users to have unmediated access to any data we provide, from a single image to the entire dataset, and will allow them to use the data for any purpose with the only possible restriction being attribution for copyrighted works.

To date we have purchased a server and a storage unit through ISC’s Penn Data Center, which will be responsible for managing our server environment following our specifications. We will store copies of our master images and derivatives on the storage unit and host the OPenn website on the server. This set-up will allow us to serve up our images to the public on a website that we design. The server has now been configured to our project specifications. Doug Emery has been writing code that will turn our master TIFFs into the derivative images we need, create technical metadata, generate TEI XML manuscript descriptions, and generate HTML pages. The next steps are to finish coding, to generate the derivatives, to run the scripts, and to design the website.

Our first targets for OPenn are our medieval and Renaissance manuscripts. We want to promote the use of our materials by the public for scholarship and innovative digital projects; however, we see potential beyond this group of digital assets. There is the potential to put any culturally significant dataset up on OPenn if it is identified as desirable and can meet our standards of openness

## Programs

SIMS has begun to formalize a roster of programs designed to engage, enhance outreach to, and create research opportunities for local, regional, and international constituencies. Some programs were in existence prior to the creation of SIMS, but many others are new to the Penn Libraries and have allowed us to reach out more broadly than had been possible before.

### Fellowship Program

2013-2014 marked the institution of our Graduate Student Fellowship with the appointment of Marie Turner, a PhD student in the Department of English. Marie's primary role was to lead the development of the Roll Project (see Projects above). During her tenure, she made substantial progress in consultation with Dot Porter on the Roll Project website, fostered relationships with the institutions named above, and presented her work at the International Medieval Congress at Leeds in July 2014.

The 2014-2015 Graduate Student Fellow will be Isabella Reinhardt, a post-baccalaureate student in the Department of Classics. Isabella's project relates to her work on the transcription of LJS 225, the presentation copy for Pope Callistus III of the Italian cryptographer Michael Zopello's *Litterarum simulationis liber*. The transcription will be made available online through the SIMS website.

### Conferences

The 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Schoenberg Symposium on Manuscript Studies in the Digital Age, "[Thinking Outside the Codex](#)," was held on November 21-23, 2013.

Attendance: 104 registered & guest attendees.

### Publications

*The Lawrence J. Schoenberg Collection of Manuscripts*. Handlist compiled by Alexander Devine. (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Libraries, 2013). Published in conjunction with the exhibition *A Legacy Inscribed: The Lawrence J. Schoenberg Collection of Manuscripts*, February 2013 to August 2013.

Forthcoming:

Justin McDaniel and Lynn Ransom, eds. *From Mulberry Leaves to Silk Scrolls: New Approaches to the Study of Asian Manuscript Traditions*. The Lawrence J. Schoenberg

Studies in Manuscript Culture, vol. 1 (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Libraries, 2015)

Emily Steiner and Lynn Ransom, eds. *Taxonomies of Knowledge*, The Lawrence J. Schoenberg Studies in Manuscript Culture, vol. 2 (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Libraries, 2015)

SIMS staff publications:

Lynn Ransom, "Viewpoint: A case for a universal finding aid for the world's manuscripts." *Art Libraries Journal* 39 (2014): 3-5.

### **Lectures**

[Pergamena Parchment Makers](#), presentation led by Stephen Meyer. September 11, 2013.

"Advanced Digital Imaging for Accessing Ancient Textual Heritage," by Katherine Piquette. January 29, 2014.

"Manuscripts: The Archaeozoology of Animal Skin," by Matthew Collins, Sarah Fiddyment, Caroline Checkley-Scott. April 22, 2014.

"Digital florilegia: the Manipulus florum and Compendium moralium notabilium Projects...and beyond," by Christopher Nighman. June 3, 2014.

### **Exhibitions**

*A Legacy Inscribed: The Lawrence J. Schoenberg Collection of Manuscripts.*

Online exhibition curated by Lynn Ransom, with web design by Dennis Mullen. Launched April 2, 2014: <http://sceti.library.upenn.edu/legacy>.

Prepared traveling exhibition to the Ringling College of Art and Design, Selby Gallery (Sarasota, FL). To be held January 12-February 18, 2015

## Teaching

SIMS staff were actively involved in teaching or providing support to a number of courses and workshops. SIMS staff taught two Rare Book School classes at Penn Libraries; a paleography course was offered by another SIMS staff member; and various faculty in the School of Arts and Sciences relied on the knowledge of SIMS staff in support of their courses.

Courses taught by SIMS staff:

- Rare Book School Course: 15<sup>th</sup>-Century Books in Print and Manuscript. July 2013. Instructors: Will Noel and Paul Needham (Scheide Library, Princeton University)
- Rare Book School Course: Medieval Manuscripts in the 21st Century. July 2014. Instructors: Will Noel and Dot Porter
- Introduction to Manuscripts (ENGL 016, freshman seminar). Fall 2013. Instructors: Will Noel and Peter Stallybrass
- Introduction to Bookhand Paleography (9<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> Centuries). May 20 – June 26, 2014. Instructors: Alexander Devine and Amey Hutchins
  - 19 students, comprising undergraduates, graduate students, staff, and faculty from a range of disciplines and institutions
  - Guest Speakers: Dot Porter (SIMS), Emily Steiner (UPenn, English), Eva Soldato (UPenn, Italian), & Dennis Ruud (Calligrapher)

Course and student support by SIMS staff:

- Rita Copeland (Classical Studies & English), Rhetoric (graduate course), manuscripts session, September 2013 (Amey Hutchins)
- James Ker (Classical Studies), Latin 3 (undergraduate course), manuscripts session, October 2013 (Amey Hutchins)
- James Ker (Classical Studies), Consolatio (graduate course), manuscripts session, October 2013 (Amey Hutchins)
- Post-Bac student group, transcription of LJS 225, Spring 2014 (Amey Hutchins)
- Graduate student in Rita Copeland's Rhetoric class, transcription of Ms. Codex 1629 (new acquisition last year), term project, May 2014 (Amey Hutchins)
- Carolyn Brunelle (Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations), History of the Middle East (undergraduate class), manuscripts session, June 2014 (Amey Hutchins)
- Ralph Rosen (Classical Studies), Ancient Medicine (undergraduate course), manuscripts term project, Spring 2014 (Dot Porter and Amey Hutchins)

## Website & Internet Presence

One of our more dynamic vehicles for outreach has been the Schoenberg Institute's [website](#), created in April 2013. In addition to providing information about the Schoenberg Institute, the website offers dynamic content through blog posts, a twitter feed, a calendar of SIMS-related events, and a link to the [SIMS YouTube channel](#). As of September 1, the website had 11,680 views, 43 blog posts, 30 registered RSS followers; and the SIMS Twitter account had 537 followers. The SIMS YouTube channel has offered a total of 106 videos since its inception in April 2013. It has had a total of 5,992 views and has 74 subscribers.

The video program has been especially productive, developing creative approaches to online manuscript discussion, research, and display. These include

- 23 video orientations to Schoenberg Manuscripts
- 12 final presentation videos created by the Rare Book School class
- Video coverage from the September 2013 Delaware Valley Medieval Association meetings, which featured talks on Penn manuscripts
- Videos from the Penn Parchment Project
- A video presentation of Penn Ms. Codex 201 (Wycliffite translation of the New Testament) by the Fall 2013 seminar Introduction to Manuscripts, taught by Will Noel and Peter Stallybrass (Department of English)

SIMS videos are also posted now to Penn's ScholarlyCommons repository and linked to catalog records of relevant manuscripts in Franklin, the Penn Libraries' online catalog. As of September 2, videos have been downloaded from ScholarlyCommons 10 times in the 30 days previous, with a total of 51 downloads in the lifetime of the SIMS account: [http://repository.upenn.edu/sims\\_video/](http://repository.upenn.edu/sims_video/).

In the spring of 2013, Dot Porter began developing "video facsimiles" of Schoenberg manuscripts. These are cover-to-cover videos of manuscripts with annotations added. Early examples can be viewed on the development site <http://scalar.usc.edu/works/video-facsimiles/index>.

## Affiliations

In addition to the above projects and programs, SIMS has formed and maintained 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.

### **Penn Paleography Group**

The Penn Paleography Group is a self-directed association of graduate students from a variety of disciplines who meet regularly to further their interests in and study of paleography. It is currently under the leadership of SIMS member Alexander Devine. The group became an affiliate of SIMS in June, 2013. It now meets in the Kislak Center and includes SIMS and other library staff as well as undergraduates from a variety of disciplines among its participants. They have also initiated a lecture program to invite senior scholars to speak to the group on paleographic topics. This year's speakers were Elaine Treharne, Stanford University, and Tom Waldman, University of Pennsylvania, (November 21, 2013, and April 23, 2014, respectively). Under SIMS sponsorship, the Penn Paleography Group also hosted a workshop at the 49<sup>th</sup> International Congress of Medieval Studies 2014, Kalamazoo, Michigan, to provide a space for discussing the methodology and practice of paleography and the value of collaborative reading.

### **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**

Directed by Advisory Council member Peter Stallybrass, SIMS staff participate in the weekly meetings of the Seminar.

### **Sinai Palimpsests Project**

Prior to his appointment as Programmer for the Kislak Center, Doug Emery held a position as the data manager and technical lead of the Early Manuscripts Electronic Library's ([EMEL](#)) project to digitize and identify 130 palimpsest manuscripts at Saint Catherine's Monastery in the Sinai, Egypt. Doug remains on this project, now as a representative of SIMS.

## Other Activities

### Acquisitions

SIMS acquired one manuscript that staff felt fit particularly well with the Schoenberg Collection as well as within the teaching and research interests of several Penn faculty. The manuscript is an early 14<sup>th</sup>-century copy of Thomas of Ireland's *Manipulus florum*, produced in England or northern France in the 14<sup>th</sup> century. Thomas of Ireland (ca.1265- after 1329) compiled 6000 extracts from the writings of the Fathers and Doctors of the Church on a wide variety of moral and ethical topics. These are arranged according to an innovative alphabetic reference system. Completed by 1306, this florilegium was intended as a handbook for sermon-writing. Over 180 manuscripts survive, mostly in French and German libraries, but our copy is the only known one in an American collection. It is believed to be among the earliest extant, from within the author's own lifetime or the decades immediately following.

See also the SIMS blogpost on the manuscript:

<http://schoenberginstitute.org/2013/10/22/classroom-debut-of-a-new-manuscript/>.

## **Grants**

SIMS was particularly successful this year in securing two grants from the National Endowment for the Humanities for the implementation phases of the Schoenberg Database of Manuscripts redevelopment and the Indic manuscripts digitization project. SIMS also took on responsibility for another NEH grant to fund the development of DM.

### **Grants awarded:**

1) National Endowment for the Humanities, Department of Preservation and Access, Humanities Collections and Reference Resources. Implementation grant for “The New Schoenberg Database of Manuscripts: A Research Tool for Tracking the Current and Historic Locations of Manuscripts” (September 1, 2014, - September 30, 2017).

Principal Investigator: Lynn Ransom

Amount: \$300,000

2) National Endowment for the Humanities, Department of Preservation and Access, Humanities Collections and Reference Resources. Implementation grant for “Providing Global Access to Penn’s Indic Manuscripts, ca. 1527-1930 (bulk 1700-1850)” (July 1, 2014-June 30, 2017).

Principal Investigator: David McKnight

Amount: \$230,000

### **Grants Active:**

National Endowment for the Humanities, DM Project: \$86,000 (transferred from Drew University).

Principal Investigator: Dot Porter

Amount: \$86,000

## Conference and Professional Meetings Representation

SIMS members traveled far and wide this past year, presenting research and projects to a variety of audiences, from medieval scholars to conservators and digital humanists.

- Digital Humanities Conference, Lincoln, NE, July 2013 (Dot Porter)
- Global Digital Libraries Symposium, sponsored by the Rare Book School, the Scholars' Lab, and the Buckner W. Clay Endowment for the Humanities at the Institute of the Humanities & Global Culture, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA, October 2013 (Dot Porter)
- Early Modern Studies Institute, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA, March 2014 (Dot Porter)
- 15<sup>th</sup> Conference on the Care and Conservation of Manuscripts, University of Copenhagen, Denmark, April 2014 (Lynn Ransom)
- Medieval Manuscripts Seminar, Senate House Library, University College London, April 2014 (Lynn Ransom)
- 49th International Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo, MI, May 2014 (Alexander Devine, Dot Porter, Lynn Ransom)
- International Medieval Congress, Leeds, UK, July 2014 (Amey Hutchins, Dot Porter, Marie Turner)
- DH2014, Université de Lausanne, Switzerland, July 2014 (Dot Porter)
- "History of Librarianship," satellite conference of the International Federation of Library Associations (IFLA) Annual Meeting, held at L'École nationale supérieure des sciences de l'information et des bibliothèques, Lyon, France, August 2014 (Lynn Ransom)