

NEWS

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UCI Libraries Completes NEH-funded Project Piloting Linked Open Data for Artists' Books

Irvine, Calif, August 01, 2016 – The UCI Libraries have released an innovative online discovery tool for its Artists' Books Collection which allows searchers to visualize connections between works in ways not possible with a traditional library catalog. The National Endowment of the Humanities (NEH) funded project, "Piloting Linked Open Data for Artists' Books," allowed the Libraries' to create procedures for enhancing description and access to 41 digitized items from the collection housed in the Libraries' Special Collections and Archives. The graphical interface shows connections between materials used, techniques applied, and publication locations while providing multiple digital views of each piece of unique sculptural art.

Visual arts librarian Emilee Mathews says she anticipates working with arts faculty to encourage students to use the tool as part of their course work. "The project sparked faculty interest in integrating the collections with curricula," said Laura Smart, project lead and Head of Digital Scholarship Services. Project documentation and code are openly available at the project web site. "An important part of the project was to create a framework that can be adopted by others," said John Renaud, project principal investigator and Associate University Librarian for Research Resources. "This project will continue to bring benefits to the Libraries, partners across UCI and the UC system, and academic and cultural heritage institutions worldwide."

Visit <http://www.lib.uci.edu/artists-books> for further information about the project.

About UCI Libraries:

As one of the founding academic units on campus, the UCI Libraries connect users—faculty, researchers, scholars, students, staff, or community members—to information resources, facilitating the creation, preservation, and sharing of knowledge in all disciplines. The Libraries support the research needs of UCI and the community through the Libraries' website and at four library facilities: the Jack Langson Library, the Francisco J. Ayala Science Library, and the Libraries Gateway Study Center on the UCI campus, and the Forest J. Grunigen Medical Library in Orange. For more information on the UCI Libraries, visit <http://www.lib.uci.edu/>

About the University of California, Irvine: Founded in 1965, UCI is the youngest member of the prestigious Association of American Universities. The campus has produced three Nobel laureates and is known for its academic achievement, premier research, innovation and anteater mascot. Led by Chancellor Howard Gillman, UCI has more than 30,000 students and offers 192 degree programs. It's located in one of the world's safest and most economically vibrant communities and is Orange County's second-largest employer, contributing \$5 billion annually to the local economy. For more on UCI, visit www.uci.edu.