Yang Li, Sarah McKee, Kylie Smith
Library Publishing Forum, 2020

Making Digital Monographs:
Rethinking Relationships and Collaborative Models
Presenters

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Digital Publishing in the Humanities (DPH)

DPH is a five-year initiative (2016-2021) supported by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation with two main objectives:

1. To encourage conversations about open access and digital publishing across Emory’s humanities community.

2. To support the development and formal publication of open access and digital monographs by Emory faculty.
TOME Initiative at Emory

TOME (Toward an Open Monographs Ecosystem) seeks to advance the wide dissemination of scholarship by humanities and humanistic social sciences faculty members through open access editions of peer-reviewed and professionally edited monographs.
Digital Monographs—Three Pathways

1. Open access (OA) monograph (w/print counterpart)

2. Enhanced OA monograph (w/print counterpart)
   
   *Jim Crow in the Asylum: Psychiatry and Civil Rights in the American South,* by Kylie Smith

3. Interactive/multimodal OA monograph (likely no print counterpart)
The Author's Process

• The nature of the story and supporting sources
• Public and ethical responsibility

Alabama Insane Hospitals, Annual Report to Trustees 1954, Reynolds Findley Library
UAB
The Author's Process

- Institutional and funding support and collaboration
- My own career trajectory & skill set
- Fit with editor and press
- The nature of the platform
Jim Crow in the Asylum

Psychiatry and Civil Rights in the American South

The Civil Rights movement of the 1950’s and 60’s sought to end racial segregation in all U.S. public institutions, including hospitals. Psychiatric hospitals became political battlegrounds over segregation and patients’ rights, setting the scene for disparities that continue today.

This project explores the process of desegregation and deinstitutionalization in state psychiatric hospitals in Georgia, Alabama and Mississippi. It draws on original records, court cases and personal testimony to expose the racist ideas that underpinned the treatment of African Americans with mental illness and saw psychiatric hospitals used as dumping grounds for some of the south’s most vulnerable people.

The result of this research will become a book published by UNC Press, available in both paper and digital Open Access format. You will be able to read that book here, and the online text will include video, audio and imagery that I collect along the way.

In the meantime, you can follow my progress through the Texts and Resources below. I look forward to sharing this forgotten history with you.

Dr Kylie M. Smith
Assistant Professor
Andrew W. Mellon Faculty Fellow for Nursing and the Humanities
Reflections

Why I chose Open Access and Manifold.

Background to this project And a note on positionality

Supporting Publications

How Bigotry Created a Black Mental Health Crisis Washington Post OpEd

"A Rather Straightforward Problem"
Unravelling networks of segregation in Alabama's psychiatric hospitals 1966-1972
Why I chose Open Access for this project

When people ask me how I came to this project, I usually reply that it came to me. I was working in archives in Atlanta on my previous book when the enormity of the untold southern psychiatry story walked across my desk. A huge advantage to working in a School of Nursing is access to past clinicians, and suddenly I was talking to all sorts of people who had been part of the very system I was researching. And being an outsider also helped. I got to ask all sorts of stupid questions simply because I didn’t know any better. But I specifically remember sitting with Mr. James Tucker, who runs the Alabama Disability Advocacy Project, in the back of a vegetarian restaurant in Tuscaloosa, and he was talking about some of the people he’s represented—and I realized that this project was far bigger than me, that those voices needed to be heard, and that it was going to be my job to make that happen.

From there, everything seemed to fall into place. Again, the advantage of being at Emory meant that I was aware of a new grant from the Mellon Foundation that sought to support digital publishing projects in the humanities. I didn’t really know what “digital humanities” meant (and I still think not many people really do!) but after my first conversation with Sarah McKee, who implements the Digital Publishing in the Humanities initiative at Emory’s Fox Center for
Next steps...
Thank you!

Jim Crow in the Asylum
https://manifold.ecds.emory.edu/projects/jim-crow-in-the-asylum

Emory Center for Digital Scholarship
http://digitalscholarship.emory.edu/

Digital Publishing in the Humanities
http://fchi.emory.edu/digitalpublishing/index.html