LONG TERM INTERDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH COLLECTIONS IN DIGITAL COMMONS

Presented for Northeast Institutional Repository Day

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Narragansett Bay, Rhode Island

- Many small, uninhabited islands in the bay of natural, historical and cultural significance.
- Public ownership for significant portions of each island.
- Currently, limited human visitation.
- Assess historical artifacts and documentation.
- Assess current flora and fauna and value to regional conservation strategies.
- Share these resources and information with the public.
Rose Island Lighthouse 1870

Fort Hamilton, Bomb-proof Barracks, Rose Island ca. 1800

Sketch showing Fort Hamilton as planned
George W. Cullum, *Historical Sketch of the Fortification Defenses of Narragansett Bay*, 1884
HISTORICAL DOCUMENTATION AND CATALOG OF ARTIFACTS
ROSE ISLAND NATURAL HISTORY SURVEY

Objectives

- Baseline documentation of plant communities
- Contribute specimens to herbarium collection
- Uncover historical information about vegetational change on Rose Island

Michaela Cartier '22 and Andrea Connors '22
Higher Survival for some species on Rose Island

Herbarium collection for all plant species on Rose Island
TECHNOLOGICAL ASPECTS

Collection organization according to project and geographical location (Digital Commons)

Exhibit of collection (Bepress Exhibits)

Use of add ins https://digitalcommons.salve.edu/exhibit/research/
  - Leaflet.js
  - Timeline.js
This is not so much a final product as a process, a workflow that builds on existing projects and provides a path forward for future projects.
ITEM TYPES

Multi page Document (article format)
Single page Document (display)
Single page guide
Lesson plans (not included)
https://digitalcommons.salve.edu/exhibit/research/
THE BACKEND CALLING LEAFLET.JS AND TIMELINE.JS
EXHIBIT ON THE LEFT DIGITAL COMMONS ON THE RIGHT
MANAGING EXPECTATIONS AND TEAM WORKLOAD: SALVE REGINA'S IR

**IR Mission:**
- Capture and store scholarly work of Salve Regina community
- Share scholarly work with global scholarly communities
- Demonstrate to students that their work has impact and that they participate in scholarly conversations as creators

**Work submission:**
- Voluntary, often through librarian outreach
- Except for theses, driven by faculty request: usually class projects.
- The Islands of Narragansett Bay Interdisciplinary Research Project is different:
  - All work is the product of internships (mostly summer)
  - Planned to continue over multiple years, drawing in faculty from different disciplines as research needs evolve but with Jim Chace as the core lead
PROJECT EXAMPLES

The Nature Cabinet Omeka
Nature Cabinet JSTOR
Sentinel Trees Omeka
Sentinel Trees Digital Commons
Sentinel Trees Instagram
Rose Island Research Digital Commons
Rose Island Research DC Exhibit
WORKFLOW MANAGEMENT: RESPONSIBILITIES

*Library team members* work with faculty to identify goals for the project and identify which tools for storing and exhibiting the research would best accomplish those goals.

- JSTOR Forum/BePress Digital Commons/Omeka hosted

*Faculty* identify interns, clarify their duties

*Library team members* work with students to develop workflow documentation, train students to use tools, upload and maintain research

*Faculty* drive the project over the long term, maintain research schedules, identify student interns, put them in contact with librarians, confirm that their work is at their standards
RESOURCE COMMITMENT

Subscriptions:
- Digital Commons (free 10 exhibits add-on, also participating in Alpha testing scrolling exhibits)
- Omeka Hosted Gold Plan (10 sites)
- JSTOR Forum

Dedicated Staff:
Digital Scholarship position eliminated
Director and Systems Librarian share responsibility for setting up sites, training students, documenting workflows with students
THANK YOU!

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