**PG Monthly Meeting 4/8/15**

**Attending:** MOBOT (Trish Rose-Sandler, Mike Lichtenberg, William Ulate, Mike Blomberg), Cornell (Marty Schlabach, HollyMistlebauer,), Harvard (Joe DeVeer), NYBG (Andrew Schinkel)

**Absent:** Susan Lynch, Doug Holland, Connie Rinaldo, Patrick Randall

Cornell (Marty)

Added more catalogs into BHL – process complete. 73 catalogs in BHL, 84 in IA. Working on deduping from Holly’s list. Talking to copyright advisors at Cornell about digitizing trade catalogs non-US but haven’t come to an agreement yet. Still haven’t gotten 3rd shipment back from scanner,

Marty did a Mann Library presentation last month – repeat from Heirloom Gardening seminar in abbreviated form. He felt Garden stories was a big success and good visibility for seed catalogs.

Marty will be attending Council on Botanical and Hort Libraries June 15th and was thinking of proposing a presentation on our project. If game is available we could setup a computer or laptop and have folks play it.

NYBG (Andrew)

Scanning mostly ended for now. Volunteers uploading to Macaw.

One staff doing transcriptions . Susan will attend F2F in May

Harvard

Transcription (Joe)

ALA (DigiVol) – Brewster journals 100% complete and diaries 100% complete (2818 pages); Joe has been doing QA on them and Noticing several volumes need to be reformatted e.g. Excessive spacing etc. Transcribers interpreted guidelines differently. Joe is about to export them and send to Mike.

FromThePage – journals 63% complete and diaries 48% done

Seed catalogs progress? Joe Uploaded 15 catalogs and created guidelines. Only 2% complete. Why so low? Noticed people started with first page and then quit probably too much text to transcribe after cove page. Trish was reviewing the OCR for seed catalogs and noticed in many cases the text was interpreted correctly but just put into the wrong order. It would be great if we could somehow utilize the existing OCR so that using either FromThePage or TILT someone could just align where the text fits on the page rather than spending time transcribing from scratch.

Problems with uploading catalogs to FromThePage. Page images not rendering properly for some. Joe will meet with Ben Brumfield this week to look into. 9am CST tomorrow. Video call. Joe will send me a link.

Communications - Patrick is talking with Harvard communications about promotion of game external to Harvard audience. He is also, setting up mechanical turk to test how effective it will be to use.

Harvard also committed to doing an online exhibition for transcriptions and is looking into using the exhibition tool that BHL Europe created. <http://www.biodiversityexhibition.com/en>

MOBOT

Scanning (Mike B.) No updates other than Doug contributed content for Garden campaign

OCR outputs (Mike) no updates – waiting for Tiltfactor to let us know when they need more data

TILT2 update (Trish) continue to work with Desmond on his TILT tool for getting coordinates for handwritten manuscripts. He didn’t meet our April 6th deadline but are hoping he can complete it by early May.

Tiltfactor progress (Trish) They have done a lot of work on the gamer game Smorball (see latest video here <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RUw9OHo5ALc&feature=youtu.be>

Not much progress on Beanstalk other than some graphic improvements. Expect to do more testing mid April

Other

Face to face meeting May 12th in St Louis. Who is attending?

Doug, Mike B., Trish, William, Mike L., Susan Lynch, Marty, Holly, Joe, Patrick.

Trish suggested we don’t need the monthly call May 13th since we are doing our face to face meeting.

Webwise Focus conf Nov 16th & 17th Charlotte NC. Anyone think they will go? Conflicts with BHL staff meeting? Let Bianca know.

Marty mentioned he has been playing around with a data visualization tool called CartoDB <http://cartodb.com/>. He is using it to trace the history of seed and nursery companies in New York. It is a Commercial tool but has a free level of access before you have to pay.