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New Fellowship to Shape Research Services for Future Scholars

PHILADELPHIA, PA — The Penn Libraries announce the creation of the Judith and William Bollinger Fellowship in Library Innovation. Established by Library Board member and University Trustee, Judith Bollinger (WG'81, PAR'14), and her husband, William (PAR'14), the Fellowship will offer talented recent Ph.D. recipients the opportunity to help shape library research services that keep pace with the rapidly changing scholarly ecosystem.

“We are very grateful to Judy and Bill for sharing our vision for a postdoctoral fellowship program,” said H. Carton Rogers, Vice Provost and Director of Libraries. “The Libraries look forward to the energy and new approaches these Fellows will bring to our strategic efforts.”

The goal of the Fellowship is to improve the Libraries’ support of scholarly inquiry by better integrating library technology and collections into the work styles and research practices of Penn’s many academic communities. Bollinger Fellows will survey research and teaching methods of scholars at Penn, with particular attention to the use of digital tools and the creation of digital content.

“The Penn Libraries are already a center of excellence for linking traditional scholarship with digital tools,” Mrs. Bollinger said. “We believe that these Fellows will continue to forge these links, thus helping Penn scholars from all disciplines pursue cutting edge research.”

Bollinger Fellows will propose and help to direct projects that cut across the emphases of the Libraries’ Strategic Plan (<http://www.library.upenn.edu/docs/publications/ivyLeaves/IvyLeavesFall2010.pdf>) with a focus on innovation in digital humanities, library outcomes and performance assessment, and instructional technologies and their pedagogical implications.

The Penn Libraries have selected Arthur Mitchell Fraas as the first Bollinger Fellow in Library Innovation, beginning this July, in partnership with the Council on Library and Information Resources (Washington DC). Mr. Fraas received his Ph.D. in History from Duke University. Previously he worked as an intern in the Duke University Rare Book, Manuscript, and Special Collections Library and as an Associate and Teaching Assistant at the Haiti Lab, an interdisciplinary program of the John Hope Franklin Humanities Institute at Duke.

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