

BRENT: We would like to share with you a pilot project for a University Library utilizing special collections to make OERs. At the end we will appreciate your guidance and suggestions, as we are very much at the beginning of this effort.



I'm Brent Purkaple, a graduate student in HSCI Department, AND

a GA in the Library for the History of Science Collections. I found the program via online course...



KERRY: I'm Kerry Magruder, Curator of the History of Science Collections in the Library. As a faculty member in the History of Science Department, I have frequently taught the online course Brent mentioned, often lamenting the dearth of quality OERs for the history of science.



BRENT: We should also mention Stacy Zemke, a past participant at this conference who could not make it this year. We thank her for encouraging us to come and share our story, although if she were here, you would hear a better talk.



BRENT: Let's look at some of the open educational resources being developed alongside OU's Galileo's World exhibition.



KERRY: The theme of Galileo's world is • "bringing worlds together. We are connecting the • World of OU with • the World of Galileo.



Galileo's World is an exhibition without walls. It is appearing over the course of the academic year in 21 galleries in 8 locations across the OU campuses of Norman, Oklahoma City, Tulsa and even Arezzo.



We can't take time to introduce all the different galleries, but here are some Exhibit Guide screenshots for a few. (Read titles)

















So the overall purpose of the Galileo's World exhibition is to explore Connections – between the world of Galileo and our world today, and across the natural sciences and humanities.



BRENT: What are our goals for making OER's? • First, we want to model an OER role for special collections.



OER Librarians are among the innovators and early adopters, recruiting special collections curators who are straddling the chasm or wondering if physical items still matter. Yet special collections offer distinctive resources, opportunities for undergraduate research, and immense potential for library-based creation of oers.



KERRY: The Galileo's World exhibition features 350 rare books on display, selected from nearly 100,000 volumes in the History of Science Collections.



These are amazing books — here is Galileo's Starry Messenger, the first report of observations made with a telescope. The OU copy is the only extant copy with Galileo's handwriting. OU has all 12 Galileo first editions, 4 of which contain his own handwriting.



The exhibit includes dozens of first editions...



But the 350 books are not dusty tomes sealed up in cases to be admired as treasures. • They are displayed because they tell stories in the thousands!



Let's look at three quick stories. First, consider this book, bound and cased in a typical Asian style.



Johann Schreck was a friend of Galileo's who assisted him during his telescopic discoveries. A few years later, Schreck went to China, where he wrote this work on engineering in Chinese.



Galileo's world extends to Asia, focusing on how European and Chinese astronomers collaborated for over a century.



Here's a second story. This book, by Francisco Hernandez, is the most important early natural history of the Americas. Hernandez spent a decade with the Aztecs in central Mexico. Galileo and his colleagues in the Academy of the Lynx published it in 1651.



Native American biology and medicine shaped European science in the age of Galileo. We tell this story with an exhibit at the OU Natural History Museum.



Consider a third story: Johann Hevelius was the leading European telescopic observer in the mid-17th century. This massive book was the first comprehensive lunar atlas. It accurately mapped the Moon less than 40 years after Galileo's telescopic discoveries.



On the frontispiece, Hevelius portrays Ibn al-Haytham, a leading medieval Islamic astronomer and optical theorist.



On the right, holding a telescope, is Galileo. Who would have guessed that one of the most impressive works of the scientific revolution would portray Galileo in Middle Eastern dress as a tribute to medieval Islamic science? So with three quick stories, we've seen that Galileo's world brings together worlds as far removed as Asia, America and the Middle East.



Here are some top 10 books for particular cross-cutting themes. • Here are a few more... The top 10 tours go across all the galleries. • For example, every gallery has something to say about women and science.



BRENT: This leads us to our second goal, which is to increase awareness of how the history of science provides multidisciplinary impact, making connections with cross-cutting resources. No matter what the subject area, OERs in the history of science have the potential to enhance learning across the curriculum.



KERRY: The history of science helps us envision a circle of subject areas and recover connections that may have been lost in our overspecialized training. • For an example, let's look in particular at the worlds of astronomy and music.



In the Music of the Spheres gallery, visitors see that Kepler's third law, presented in every astronomy textbook today, was originally expressed in musical notation!

Terrim Atraham, Quatar Evangelifle. Nihi

Kepler achieved a synthesis of his new astronomy with recent polyphonic musical theory.



Jonathan Annis, an OU graduate student in music composition, has composed a suite for harp, flute and oboe entirely based upon musical themes from Kepler's book. Jonathan arranged the themes, but they're all from Kepler's musical description of the universe as a cosmic dance. • [listen to a sample]


We will perform the entire suite sometime this year, and make a recording widely available as an OER.



Galileo's father, Vincenzo Galilei, published a Dialog on music theory in 1581.



Vincenzo was one of those responsible for the birth of Italian opera.



When Galileo conducted his inclined plane experiments, he measured the times of the balls to "within a 10th of a pulsebeat." Friends who were not musicians, were not able to successfully replicate the experiment. It's still difficult to replicate today! Galileo's science was made possible because of his skill in music.



Two weeks ago, the School of Music presented an opera by Monteverdi that reflects Vincenzo's influence. OERs include more than just information in text form. This artistic performance will soon be posted online. The history of science is not just for scientists, but embraces both music and astronomy together.



BRENT: According to Robert Fludd, a London physician contemporary with Galileo, the universe itself is a monochord, a musical instrument.



In the Music of the Spheres gallery, visitors explore the connections between mathematics and music with a duochord. Here a bridge divides a string into two equal halves. The long string and the half string are an octave apart.



Divide the string into three equal segments, and the 2/3rds string and the original string produce the harmony called a perfect fifth.



Divide the string into four equal segments, and the 3/4ths string and the original string produce the harmony called a perfect fourth.



Each stand-up activity is connected to specific exhibit objects. In this case, Pythagoras, Fludd and Vincenzo Galilei.



Many contain an open-ended question, such as "Can you identify any intervals?" These questions may prompt reflection on an original image from a book.



In addition to the duochord, the Music of the Spheres activity station offers stand-up activities for the celestial sphere, and • an introduction to telling time by the stars with the nocturnal dial. There are two dozen such stand-up activities in the 5th floor exhibit hall, each of which we are preparing as an OER.



BRENT: Our third goal is to increase the visual impact of oers. Are open textbooks beautiful and compelling, with a high visual impact?



Images are not just *ornamental*. • Often they summarize EVIDENCE presented in visual form. • **Didactic** images help clarify thinking. • And they serve as **icons** of larger meanings. We are not just serving up web-quality images, • but providing high resolution images, wrapped with authorized context.



KERRY: For some examples of images worthy of high resolution, and being wrapped in context, let's look at some connections between astronomy and art.



In 1610, Galileo discovered mountains on the Moon.



Galileo's discoveries were made not by optics but by the artistic training of his eyes. Galileo's sensational telescopic discoveries would have been impossible were it not for Galileo's training and experience in Renaissance art.



What appears as an isolated peak one night, \Box may become a chain of mountains the next night, \Box or converge in a circular structure after that. He was not mapping the moon, or implying that a crater of that size is present in that location, but showing how to detect real lunar topography.



This image demonstrates true perspective and a mastery of light and shadow. This and other similar diagrams were drawn by Leonardo da Vinci. They were the only materials ever published in print by Leonardo during his lifetime. Geometrical figures like these were used to train artists over the following century.



This work on perspective drawing is in the same tradition, published in Venice almost a century later, when Galileo was a young man. Consider the spiked donut at the bottom of the page. Careful study of the spikes on this ring and the shadows they cast prepared Galileo's eyes to interpret what others regarded merely as the "strange spottedness of the Moon" as in fact shadows cast by real mountains.



When Galileo peered through his telescope and discovered the shadows of mountains on the Moon, he did so only because he was seeing with the eyes of an artist. He made his telescopic discoveries as much through art as through optics.



In a gallery this spring at the OU Museum of Art, we will explore "what it was like to be an astronomer" when "art and mathematics were intertwined" in the astronomy of Galileo.



These are some of the images we will provide with stories that put them in context. Images like these were not merely ornamental, but didactic in the way they helped to clarify thought. Scientists often think visually, beyond the reach of text alone. The close relationship of science and art makes it crucial to consider visual impact as one criterion in any study of OER quality, particularly in the sciences where spatial reasoning is prominent and 3–D instruments and operations are frequent.



This story also illustrates our 2d goal, the multidisciplinary character of history of science. Students in astronomy and art have much to talk about.



BRENT: So our three goals are to model an OER role for special collections, to increase awareness of the multidisciplinary potential of OERs in the history of science, and to increase the visual impact of OERs. These are specific and distinctive goals in which we think a local effort may have wide-ranging impact.



Our first strategy depends on the library as an intellectual commons for the University.

University Collaborators

- Academic programs: History of Science Department, Education, Engineering, Sciences, Humanities...
- Center for Teaching Excellence Adam Croom
- K20 Center
- Athletics, Natural History Museum, Art Museum
- OU Libraries
 - History of Science Collections
 - DigiLab

Special collections are at the crossroads of academic departments. We are collaborating with partners across the university. Within the University Libraries, the GW exhibit has served as a focus for the entire library organization to retool itself toward the end of making Open Access resources.



Every book will be available in its entirety online, each page in high resolution files for free download.

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- DigiLab
- Repository Islandora, analytics, version control (spring 2016)
- Edition Open Sources

The Repository is being built on the Islandora platform and will support analytics, version control, and a • new peer-reviewed academic publishing effort called Edition Open Sources. The Digital library will launch this spring.



The second aspect of our strategy is inspired by the theory of the web as "Small pieces loosely joined."



Back in 2002, David Weinberger famously defined the essential character of the web as small pieces loosely joined. This characterization aptly describes learning objects, both physical and virtual. We are not aiming to create full textbooks, not even in the history of science! Rather, we are focusing on smaller chunks which may be used in wideranging and unexpected ways.



In special collections, we, our faculty, and our students, create Small Pieces. • Then, Joiners will construct meaning by connecting the dots according to their own context and interests. • The joiners may be Faculty, K12 teachers, students in classes, informal adult learners, or even publishers.



Our small pieces are learning leaflets. We'll collaborate with K12 educators to join them together at OER Commons.



Learning Leaflets are brief learning activities, designed to be useful in a variety of teaching situations. They are "Small Pieces," adaptable to support lessons in multiple subject areas and age levels.



This learning leaflet is from a series called Women in Science. • Every learning leaflet features a main image to prompt reflection and discussion.



Beneath the main image is a caption • and an indication of one or more exhibit objects in the exhibit related to the leaflet.


The back side usually has a question for discussion: (read)



Elisabeth Hevelius: Observational Astronomer

Elisabeth Hevelius, wife of Johann Hevelius, was an astronomer in her own right. They worked together in the observatory of their Gdansk home to measure angular widths and distances with a great sextant, which required two observers at a time. The Sextant was among the new constellations they proposed in *Uranographia* (1690), the most detailed and influential celestial atlas of the 17th century. The *Uranographia* contains 54 beautiful double-page engraved plates of 73 constellations, and 2 oversized folding plates of planispheres.

Tragically, in 1679 their observatory burned. Fire destroyed manuscripts, books and instruments, including the sextant. Johann was 67 years old, and passed away six years later. Later, Elisabeth published the star catalog and celestial star atlas.

The frontispiece shows Johann bringing gifts before a tribunal of great figures in the history of astronomy. These gifts are their proposed new constellations: the shield and sextant he carries, and the animals trailing behind him. Of the 12 constellations they created, 7 are still recognized today.

The text tells an interesting story related to the images. In the case of the most influential star atlas of the 17th century, the person responsible for *much* of the content, and *solely* for its publication, was a woman, Elisabeth Hevelius.



At the bottom, we have the CC license indicating permission to share it. As a result of conversations here at OpenEd, we are now thinking we'll drop the non-commercial restriction and just go with either cc-by or cc-share alike. The same content will be posted to the blog, the repository and OER Commons, both text and the image files.



Other series we're working on right now are "Iconic images"



This one describes how Kepler used the Platonic solids to prove Copernicus, constructing the blueprints of the universe, in his first book published in 1596.



Another series is on classic instruments and experiments.



Leaflets for these instruments are in preparation. Images can help us move beyond the printed page, into the student's physical world, with replicas and even 3D models.



Here's a leaflet about Galileo's law of free fall and his inclined plane experiment, which also describes the design of our reconstruction of Galileo's inclined plane.



Not all of our images are from rare books; this one features a cartoon for physics classes we are making available cc-by. The cartoon explains a thought experiment in which a cannon ball is dropped from the mast of a moving ship. According to Aristotle, the cannonball would land safely in the wake behind the ship. The cartoon explains why there were no reports that Aristotle's theory was wrong — if Galileo was right, the cannonball would sink the ship.



The cartoon is in the Starting Points series; there are also primary source excerpts and 2-minute stories, among others. Anyone may print these leaflets off for classes, remix and revise the content, include them in course packets, and use them in making their own OERs.



This leaflet shows Fludd's depiction of the universe as a monochord on the front, and leads you through the activity with the monochord on the back.



This leaflet introduces the properties of the 5 regular Pythagorean solids.



This is the book which made clear to many, including Newton, that Kepler's laws are correct. It was written by a woman, Maria Cunitz.



Madame du Chatelet translated Newton's Principia into French, and popularized the idea that women should be taught science in order to discuss Newtonian physics while strolling in the garden.



Here's one about Ada Lovelace, who wrote the first computer program, before the computer existed



This one introduces the constellation cards in a boxed set from 1825



Catherine Whitwell combined astronomy and creative writing, using an innovative pedagogy, for a Scottish school in the early 19th century



And this one in the iconic images series describes the source of a famous image that conveys the excitement of science as a quest to boldly explore where no one has gone before.



The OU Academy of the Lynx is our new umbrella organization for collaborating in exhibit-based learning.



Until the Digital library launches, find learning leaflets on the oulynx blog. • Click on the OER link at the top. At present, they exist as pdfs, to print front and back. Once the repository launches in the spring semester, the pdfs will be hosted there, organized and tagged.



For now, on the lynx blog, they are listed by series...



If there are no links, then they're already in an iPad Exhibit Guide and will soon appear in the leaflet format.



After the name of an OER, you'll see links for the formats in which it is available. This one is for Orion the Hunter. The first link takes you to the Learning Leaflet

Orion the Hunter





In Greek mythology, Orion the Hunter boasted that he would slay all animals on earth. To prevent this, Gaia sent Scorpius to kill him first. Now they move eternally on opposite sides of the starry sky. Bayer (first published 1603) showed the star pattern

Bayer (first published 1003) showed the star patterns as they appear from the Earth (rather than from the outside, as on a celestial globe). However, he sometimes reversed the constellation figures, drawing them as seen from the back, which created potential confusion. For example, the star Rigel, described by Prolomy as the left foot of Orion, became Orion's right foot in Bayer's figure, even though the star ttern remained the same as seen from Earth.

parties remained us ania as seen their failure. When Galileo observed the belt and sword of Orion the Hunter, and the Pfeideds star cluster on the back of Tauras the Bull, the background of night gave way before his eyes: Its belecope resolved an azonikhing number of unexpected stars never seen before, including 80 new stars near the belt and sword of Orion.



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#galileosworld Boulynx

Which looks like this.



The second link takes you to OER Commons.



which looks like this. OER Commons is a repository for educators to share activities and learning resources. Learning resources may be tagged according to specific educational standards in multiple subject areas and age levels for each state. Educators may customize existing activities to fit their own needs. Here is where we move from our "small pieces" into the "joining" effort, by collaborating with educators to serve multiple contexts.



Visit the OU Lynx pages at OER Commons to download related materials, along with the original images, in order to remix them for your own use.

What do	you hunt, Orion,					
This star	rry night?					
And the	Great Bear says Orion	,				
With my	starry quiver and beaut	iful belt				
I am tryi	ing to find a good thick p	pelt				
To warn	n my shoulders tonight,					
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At OER Commons we can offer slightly longer versions of the leaflet text,

and links to OER's from other sources.

We are recruiting educators who will work with us to develop longer versions of these activities and resources, and as we do so we will add links to the matrix at the bottom of each OER page.

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We've only just started, beginning this semester. Many more OERs will be added over the course of the year. • Subscribe to the oulynx blog for updates, or contact me by email.



KERRY: To conclude, I'd like to mention the exhibit in Tulsa on the Scientific Revolution.



Its emblem comes from the motto of Tycho Brahe, "looking up, I look down." Tycho coordinated the study of astronomy (looking up) with the study of medicine, chemistry and geology (looking down). This emphasis on connections between different disciplines encourages us all today to consider the lessons we might learn from the history of science.



BRENT: Many of you have piloted a project like ours. Please tell us what we will wish we had known! We welcome your suggestions and advice. In particular, we would like to know if any of you have had experience with OER Commons.



Q & A

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