

**2009-2010 Smathers Libraries Mini Grant
APPLICATION COVER SHEET
Application due: Thursday, October 1, 2009, 5:00 PM**

Principal Investigator (PI) Name: Dina Benson
 Department: Digital Library Center
 Email address: dbenson@uflib.ufl.edu

Phone: 273-2910

Check here if this is your first grant application as PI.

Title of grant application project: University of Florida Institutional History Project

Check here for Emerging Technologies (ET) Funds

Check here if any IT support is necessary

Project abstract (no more than 100 words):

The UF Institutional History Project will use an emerging technology, the Encoded Archival Context (EAC) metadata schema, to encode historical information about UF's colleges, departments, and administrative units. Released in August 2009, EAC is an international standard for encoding contextual information about "individuals, families and corporate bodies that create, preserve, use and are responsible for and/or associated with records in a variety of ways." This proposal requests funds to hire two students to gather data from digital and print sources and to encode this data using EAC, and funding for a third student to program code for an EAC editor.

Funds requested (Limit of \$5,000):

Emerging Technologies (ET) (Limit of \$10,000): \$10,000

Describe how the 10% mandatory cost share will be met (be specific):

Please list the library resources to be used in this project and the name/and initials of the person authorizing the intended use and date authorized. If you need more room, continue on a separate page.

Resources Required for Project as applicable including cost share contributions	Authorizing Individual Initials	Date Authorized
DLC-Digitization	Laurie Taylor	
Special & Area Studies Collections	Rich Bennett	

Submitted by:

PI Signature

Date

Approved by:

Dept. Chair Signature

Date

Project Description

The University of Florida Institutional History Project will document the evolution of UF's organizational structure from its founding to the present. The project will take advantage of an emerging technology, the Encoded Archival Context (EAC) metadata schema, to encode historical information about UF's colleges, departments, centers, and administrative units. Released in August 2009, EAC is an international standard for encoding contextual descriptive information about "the individuals, families and corporate bodies that create, preserve, use and are responsible for and/or associated with records in a variety of ways."

Project funds will be used to hire two students to gather historical contextual data about UF units. The students will collect data from a variety of print and digital sources including University Archives finding aids, departmental histories, organization charts, faculty handbooks, annual reports, accreditation documents, and yearbooks. Much of this information is accessible in the University Archives, and some current information is maintained by the Office of Institutional Planning and Research. This project will not produce a comprehensive, detailed institutional history of UF. Rather, the students will capture data documenting the organizational structure over time. Important data sources will include titles of units and offices, title changes, begin/transition/end dates, hierarchical structures, etc.

Project funds also will be used to hire one student to write the code to allow EAC instances to be read and written into data structures within the .Net environment. Thus, the project will produce: 1) programming code for an EAC reader/writer and 2) EAC records for each UF unit, documenting creation dates, name changes and similar transitional events, relationships, and other contextual descriptive information over time.

Project Significance/Rationale

To assist researchers in interpreting records, we provide information describing the circumstances under which records were created and/or used by their creators. This contextual information not only includes the identification and history of the agents responsible for creation but also the relationships that exist between agents. By collecting and encoding this contextual information about UF we enable a more complete description and understanding of all of the records and digital objects created or maintained by UF. We also support enhanced discovery of records based on provenance.

For several years, the Libraries and others in Florida have needed a metadata schema to describe complex contextual information about the creators of records. In 2006-07, staff from multiple departments in the Libraries participated in statewide discussions regarding the need for a "life events" metadata schema for encoding information about people, corporate bodies, places, events, relationships, and links with physical records and digital objects. Members of a special Life Events Standards Task Group charged by the Digital Development and Access Committee of the Council of State University Libraries evaluated several metadata standards but concluded that no existing standard met the wide variety of needs.

Until now we have created authority records to standardize the names of persons and corporate bodies to facilitate the discovery of resources. However, authority records are insufficient because they do not allow us to encode detailed, complex information about agents. We need to encode information about specific activities or events - when they occurred, where they occurred, what other agents were involved, etc. MARC lacks the ability to properly handle important contextual elements such as geography (e.g., places of life events), functions, legal statuses, affiliations, relationships, etc.¹ Some of this information can be included in notes fields, but this reduces the usability of the data. Although more recent standards like MADS (Metadata for Authority Description) do

¹ Kathleen D. Roe, Director of Archives and Records Management for New York State Archives explains: "EAC is the whole context, not just the authoritative version of a corporate, personal or family name. It gives one the capacity to provide a lot of information [...] on the functions of that organization, its predecessor and successor names/organizational structure, leaders of the organization, and so forth.[...] We have sometimes tens, if not hundreds of series created by one agency. Rather than embed the contextual [...] information on the agency in each finding aid (what a waste of time to do and manage), [we] have 'agency history' records that we connect to the individual series [...] EAC-CPF gives us the structure to provide this information in more useful and productive ways, and [offers] possibilities for sharing contextual information across repositories." (Email to EAD@listserv.loc.gov, in email discussion "Re: Implementing EAC-CPF, Sept. 25, 2009)

include some of the elements missing in MARC (e.g., affiliations),² they still lack the richness and flexibility of EAC. Even more recent standards like FOAF (friend of a friend), which is used in connecting individual identities and relationships for social networking software, offer little more than a traditional MARC authority record. Unlike those standards, EAC offers a standard for including full contextual information to define entities and their relationships within multiple ontologies. As the more encompassing standard, EAC would also be able to be “dumbed-down” into standards like FOAF for use in other semantic systems.

The EAC schema is based on the Extensible Markup Language (XML), which enables the display, discovery and sharing of contextual information. The standard is maintained by the Society of American Archivists in partnership with the Berlin State Library, and is compatible with ISAAR(CPF), the International Standard Archival Authority Record for Corporate Bodies, Persons, and Families. EAC allows us to encode contextual information about the creation and use of historical records by agents including individuals, families, and organizations. In addition to basic biographical and historical data, the contextual information may describe functions, activities, geographic places, events, and relationships to other agents.

The richness and flexibility of the EAC schema makes it possible to enhance all digital services based on provenance. EAC supports the linking of contextual information about record-creating agents to digital object metadata or to descriptions of library and archives holdings. It also supports the linking of contextual information about one agent to contextual information describing other agents, based on defined relationships between the agents and/or their records. EAC can be used for authority file encoding either as a standalone schema or in combination with other standards. For example, EAC can be used in conjunction with the Encoded Archival Description (EAD) schema for encoding and delivering archival finding aids. EAD would be used to encode descriptive information about archival records, and EAC would be used to encode contextual metadata about the agents responsible for creating the records.

As the example EAC record from the National Library of Australia shows (Appendix A), the EAC format allows for robust authority records. However, those records must be tied to other information sources in order to enrich the overall information environment by providing additional context. Authority records created with contextual information in a standards-based form can provide additional information, thus enriching existing information sources, and can enable enhanced functionality.

The process to create and support EAC records for UF entities will add support for linked data as a whole, in addition to showing immediate benefits. The programming support for an EAC reader and writer in .NET will make the addition of EACs and EADs into the UFDC System much simpler and it will greatly simplify the general flow of metadata between the digital objects and archives, which in turn will ease processing and increase usability for patrons. The eventual full integration with the UFDC System and other systems in the Libraries will greatly enhance ease of use by patrons. For instance, the JISC *Names Project* to implement similar contextual record connections states that one of its goals is to allow for the “reliable retrieval of all materials provided by a particular individual or department (and not those of others with similar names).”³ The *Names Project* goes on to note that the increased search reliability and accuracy would allow for further improvements, including the enabling of “navigation between identities. For example X collaborates with Y, so retrieve everything by Y.”

Like the *Names Project*, which correctly anticipates needing to use multiple standards (MARC, EAC, and FOAF) and needing to augment those with additional data, this project recognizes the need to use, support, and enhance multiple standards. For instance, future projects will need to utilize the existing linked data resources from the Library of Congress,⁴ Open Library,⁵ and the many others.

² The design principles for MADS remain limited for the foreseeable future: <http://www.loc.gov/standards/mods/design-principles-mods-mads.html>

³ “Names Project Plan,” August 2009: http://names.mimas.ac.uk/documents/Names_project_plan_v4_Aug09.pdf

⁴ <http://id.loc.gov/authorities/sh85001725>

⁵ <http://blog.openlibrary.org/2009/08/11/api-with-rdfxml-output-available/>

Resources Needed/Impacts on Other Departments

In addition to the funding requested to hire three student assistants, the project will require existing computer equipment in Special Collections and the DLC, and access to resources available in Special Collections. Carl Van Ness and John Nemmers will supervise the students as they identify resources and capture data. Dina Benson (PI), Laurie Taylor, and Mark Sullivan in the DLC will supervise the students in formatting the captured data. Mark Sullivan will supervise a student in creating the .Net programming for the open-source EAC metadata editor.

Plan of Action

Nov.-Dec. 2009	Advertise three student positions: two data positions and one programmer position. Create list of organizational data sources (Van Ness and Nemmers). Repurpose existing contextual data encoded in EAD finding aids by programmatically transforming EAD elements to corresponding EAC elements (Nemmers).
Jan 2010	Hire and train the two data gathering students (Van Ness and Nemmers). Students begin formatting the data: Depending on the nature and format of the resources, the students will either key in the information or scan and convert to text using Optical Character Recognition (OCR) technology (Benson and Taylor). Hire programmer student and explain programming requirements (Taylor and Sullivan).
Jan.-May 2010	Data students collect contextual data. Programmer develops the .Net programming to create an open-source metadata editor to facilitate the creation and editing of EAC metadata.
May-June 2010	Programmer submits EAC editor, and Sullivan completes testing/revision of EAC editor.
June 2010	Data students complete data gathering and formatting.
July-Aug. 2010	Data students create EAC instances using editor (process includes input of contextual data).
Sept.-Oct. 2010	Revision of existing EAD files using revised EAC contextual data (Nemmers). Publication of EAC instances online in both XML and HTML.

Measures of Success and Implications for the Future

The project will be successful if 1) we are able to create code for an open-source EAC editor, and 2) we are able to create an EAC instance for every college, department or unit that has existed at UF since its founding. Of course, some units have changed names, merged, etc., so there will not be a one-to-one relationship between the number of UF units and the number of EAC instances. The project will demonstrate that EAC is the best schema for managing contextual metadata at UF. Specifically, it will prove that EAC can support and enhance the discovery and sharing of contextual data about individuals and corporate bodies responsible for creating records. The EAC instances created during the project period will be made available online in both XML and HTML. Following the grant, the EAC files will be available for use with metadata for digital objects in UFDC and the Institutional Repository, to enhance provenance-based discovery in the GatorScholar tool, and to link with EAD finding aids describing holdings in the University Archives. For example, the project will build toward showing the additional functionality from the EAC records in the IR. In the future, this will serve to increase usability and better highlight the IR and the resources it contains.

Not only will this proof of concept project demonstrate existing uses for EAC, but it allow the project team to discover in a short period of time how to best implement EAC to support a wide variety of potential uses relating to digital services at UF and partner institutions. Once the concept is proven in this pilot project using UF's corporate units, future expansion will focus on the creation of EAC instances for individuals and families. As UF will be an early adopter of EAC, the project team also will seek to disseminate information about the project via listservs, journal articles, presentations and other venues.

Although immediate future activities will focus on the agents responsible for creating records held by UF, the ultimate goal will be to establish UF as maintainer of the primary EAC database for contextual information in Florida and the Caribbean. This project will serve a basis for the development of the larger IMLS or LSTA grant project where UF will collect, preserve and disseminate metadata about people and corporate bodies harvested from contributors in the state, region, and worldwide.

Appendix A: EAC Example from the National Library of Australia

<https://wiki.nla.gov.au/download/attachments/32189/oliphant-BrSp.xml?version=1>

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
```

```
<!--
```

Mapping of Bright Sparcs data to EAC for Oliphant

Creator: Basil Dewhurst

Manager, Resource Discovery Services

p: +61 2 6262 1046

e: bdewhurst@nla.gov.au

Date: 2007-10-22

Issues:

1. eacgrp element not in schema

2. multiple eacid fields required for

```
<eacid>http://www.asap.unimelb.edu.au/bsparcs/biogs/P000683b.htm</eacid> <eacid>P000683b</eacid>
```

3. existdate needs scheme eg ISO8601

4. eac/condesc/identity/persgrp:corpgrp/pershead:corphead/nameadd TYPE title/termsOfAddress

5. bibunit needs further work - the fields should either a) be aligned with MARC/RDA (disadvantage if MARC/RDA changes) or b) records could be described using MARCXML and importing the MARCXML namespace (issue sis complexity for implementers here)

```
//-->
```

```
<eac type="persname" xmlns="http://jefferson.village.virginia.edu/eac"
```

```
xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance"
```

```
xsi:schemaLocation="http://jefferson.village.virginia.edu/eac
```

```
http://jefferson.village.virginia.edu/eac/shared/eac/eac.xsd">
```

```
  <eachheader status="edited">
```

```
    <eacid>P000683b</eacid>
```

```
    <mainhist>
```

```
      <mainevent maintype="create"/>
```

```
    </mainhist>
```

```
  </eachheader>
```

```
  <condesc>
```

```
    <identity>
```

```
      <persgrp>
```

```
        <pershead authorized="BrightSparcs" type="common">
```

```
          <part type="surname">Oliphant</part>
```

```
          <part type="forename">Marcus Laurence Elwin</part>
```

```
          <nameadd type="title">Sir</nameadd>
```

```
          <existdate calendar="gregorian" form="closedspan" scope="begin-
```

```
end">1901-10-08-2000-07-14</existdate>
```

```
          <place type="birth">Kent Town, South Australia, Australia</place>
```

```
          <place type="death">Canberra, Australian Capital Territory,
```

```
Australia</place>
```

```
        </pershead>
```

```
        <pershead type="pseudonym">
```

```
          <part type="surname">Oliphant</part>
```

```
          <part type="forename">Mark</part>
```

```
          <nameadd type="title">Sir</nameadd>
```

```
        </pershead>
```

```
      <sourceinfo>
```

```
        <sourceinfo>
```

<note><http://www.asap.unimelb.edu.au/bsparcs/biogs/P000683b.htm></note>

</sourceinfo>

</sourcerel>

</persgrp>

</identity>

<desc>

<bioghist>

<didentifier><http://www.asap.unimelb.edu.au/bsparcs/biogs/P000683b.htm></didentifier>

<p><![CDATA[(Sir) Marcus Laurence E. Oliphant was Director of the Research School of Physical Sciences, Australian National University 1950-63, and first President of the Australian Academy of Science 1954-56. He continued as professor at ANU 1964-67 and was Governor of South Australia 1971-76.]]></p>

<p><![CDATA[Born 8 October 1901. Died Canberra, 14 July 2000. KBE cr 1959, AC 1977. Educated University of Adelaide and Cambridge. Messel Research Fellow, Royal Society 1931, lecturer and Fellow, St John's College 1934, Assistant Director of Research, Cavendish Laboratory, Cambridge 1935, Australian Representative of Atomic Energy Commission 1946, Poynting Professor of Physics, University of Birmingham 1937-50, Vice-Principal 1948-49, Director, Research School of Physical Sciences, Australian National University 1950-63, Professor of Physics of Ionised Gases, Honorary Fellow, Institute of Advanced Studies, Australian National University 1964-67, Governor of South Australia 1971-76. Fellow, Royal Society 1937, Hughes Medal, Royal Society 1943, Silvanus Thomson Medal, Institute of Radiology 1946, Trasenoter, l'Association des Ingenieurs, Liege 1947, Faraday Medal, Institution of Electrical Engineers 1948, Foundation Fellow, Australian Academy of Science 1954, President of the Australian Academy of Science 1954-57, Bakerian Lecture, Royal Society 1955, Rutherford Memorial Lecture, Royal Society 1955, Galathea Medal, H.M. The King of Denmark 1956, Australian Institution of Production Engineers Medal 1958, Matthew Flinders Medal, Australian Academy of Science 1961, James Cook Medal, The Royal Society of New South Wales 1974, Foundation Fellow, Australian Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering 1975, ANZAAS Medal 1979.]]></p>

</bioghist>

</desc>

<resourcerels>

<resourcerel reltype="subject">

<bibunit>

<name><http://www.asap.unimelb.edu.au/bsparcs/scripts/bs-bib.php3?pubid=BSOL00569></name>

<title>'Oliphant, Marcus Laurence Elwin - Ms 31', in Listing of Adolph Basser Library holdings</title>

<edition/>

<imprint>

<publisher>Australian Academy of Science</publisher>

<date>1994</date>

</imprint>

<bibseries/>

<descnote/>

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</resourcerel>

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<bibunit>

<name><http://www.asap.unimelb.edu.au/bsparcs/scripts/bs-bib.php3?pubid=BSOL00400></name>

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<edition/>

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        <edition/>
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        <edition/>
        <imprint>
            <publisher/>
            <date>2000</date>
        </imprint>
        <bibseries/>
        <descnote/>
    </bibunit>
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    <bibunit>
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        <edition/>
        <imprint>
            <publisher>Australasian Science</publisher>
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        <descnote/>
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        <name>http://www.asap.unimelb.edu.au/bsparcs/scripts/bs-
bib.php3?pubid=ASBS00480</name>

```

```

<title>Science and the making of Victoria</title>
<edition/>
<imprint>
  <date>2001</date>
</imprint>
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<descnote/>
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</resourcerel>
<resourcerel reltype="subject">
  <archunit>
    <repository>Adolph Basser Library, Australian Academy of
Science</repository>
    <unittitle>Marcus Laurence Elwin Oliphant - Records</unittitle>
    <unitid>MS 31</unitid>
    <descnote>Tape recording of 'Looking Back' a series of six programmes
broadcast by the Australian Broadcasting Commission (Corporation) in 1977; address entitled 'A Physicist's
Concept of God' 1963; press-cuttings 1964, 1976; typescript of the Australian Broadcasting Commission
programme 'Insight', no.354 on Oliphant 1971; 19 files relating to the Australian Academy of Science 1953-67;
various reprints to 1982 [26 cm, MS 31].</descnote>
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  </funactrel>
</funactrels>
</condesc>
</eac>

```

MINI GRANT PROGRAM DOCUMENTATION

Mini Grant Budget Form

Please add lines to table as needed. If you need help completing this form, please contact Bess de Farber, PH# :

1. Salaries and Wages (no fringe benefits required)

Name of Person	Salary times % of effort	Grant Funds	Cost Share
Data Collection Student	\$8/hr x 32 weeks x 0.25 FTE	\$2,880.00	\$0.00
Data Collection Student	\$8/hr x 32 weeks x 0.25 FTE	\$2,880.00	\$0.00
Programming Student	\$15/hr x 16 weeks x 0.375 FTE	\$3,600.00	\$0.00
Carl Van Ness (SASC)	\$60,075 x 32 weeks x 0.025 FTE	\$0.00	\$924.23
John Nemmers (SASC)	\$52,163 x 32 weeks x 0.025 FTE	\$0.00	\$802.51
Mark Sullivan (DLC)	\$\$ x 32 weeks x 0.025 FTE	\$0.00	\$0.00
Laurie Taylor (DLC)	\$\$ x 12 weeks x 0.025 FTE	\$0.00	\$0.00
		\$0.00	\$0.00
SUBTOTAL		\$9,360.00	\$1,726.74

2. Equipment

Item	Quantity times Cost	Grant Funds	Cost Share
		\$0.00	\$0.00
		\$0.00	\$0.00
		\$0.00	\$0.00
		\$0.00	\$0.00
		\$0.00	\$0.00
SUBTOTAL		\$0.00	\$0.00

3. Supplies

Item	Quantity times Cost	Grant Funds	Cost Share
		\$0.00	\$0.00
		\$0.00	\$0.00
		\$0.00	\$0.00
		\$0.00	\$0.00
		\$0.00	\$0.00
SUBTOTAL		\$0.00	\$0.00

4. Travel

From/To	# of people/# of days	Grant Funds	Cost Share
		\$0.00	\$0.00
		\$0.00	\$0.00
		\$0.00	\$0.00
		\$0.00	\$0.00
		\$0.00	\$0.00
SUBTOTAL		\$0.00	\$0.00

5. Other (services vended, etc.)

Item	Quantity times cost	Grant Funds	Cost Share
		\$0.00	\$0.00
		\$0.00	\$0.00
		\$0.00	\$0.00
		\$0.00	\$0.00
		\$0.00	\$0.00
SUBTOTAL		\$0.00	\$0.00

MINI GRANT PROGRAM DOCUMENTATION

	Grant Funds	Cost Share
Total Direct Costs (add subtotals of items 1-5)	\$9,360.00	\$1,726.74

MINI GRANT PROGRAM DOCUMENTATION

273-2519.

Total
\$2,880.00
\$2,880.00
\$3,600.00
\$924.23
\$802.51
\$0.00
\$0.00
\$0.00
\$11,086.74

Total
\$0.00
\$0.00
\$0.00
\$0.00
\$0.00
\$0.00

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Total
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\$0.00
\$0.00

MINI GRANT PROGRAM DOCUMENTATION

Total
\$11,086.74

Potential default tree view:



The *Institutional Repository at the University of Florida* is the digital archive for the intellectual output of the University of Florida community, with research, news, outreach, and educational materials.

SELF-SUBMITTAL TOOL

Submit your own research papers and reports

The University of Florida Libraries founded and support the *IR@UF* in order to offer a central location for the collection, preservation, and dissemination of scholarly, research, and creative production alongside historical materials from the University of Florida. The historical materials provide context for research and researchers, providing insight into the history, nature, and culture of the University.

Browse by unit

[Collapse all](#) | [Expand all](#)

- + College of Agricultural and Life Sciences
- + College of Business
- + College of Dentistry
- + College of Design, Construction and Planning
- + College of Education
- + College of Engineering
- + College of Fine Arts
- + College of Health and Human Performance
- + College of Journalism and Communications
- + College of Law
- + College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
- + College of Medicine
- + College of Nursing
- + College of Pharmacy
- + College of Public Health and Health Professions
- + College of Veterinary Medicine

Potential partially-expanded tree view:



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Browse by unit

[Collapse all](#) | [Expand all](#)

- + College of Agricultural and Life Sciences
- + College of Business
- + College of Dentistry
- + College of Design, Construction and Planning
- + College of Education
- + College of Engineering
- + College of Fine Arts
- + College of Health and Human Performance
- + College of Journalism and Communications
- + College of Law
- + College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
- College of Medicine
 - + Gainesville
 - Jacksonville

[Anesthesiology](#)

[Community Health & Family Medicine](#)

[Emergency Medicine](#)

Medicine
Neurology
Neurosurgery
Obstetrics and Gynecology
Ophthalmology
Orthopaedics and Rehabilitation
Pathology and Laboratory Medicine
Pediatrics
Psychiatry
Radiation Oncology
Radiology
Surgery

- + College of Nursing
 - + College of Pharmacy
 - + College of Public Health and Health Professions
 - + College of Veterinary Medicine
-

Potential Departmental landing page:



Current department name: Department of Infectious Diseases & Pathology

Current college: College of Veterinary Medicine

Previous department name(s): Department of Pathobiology (1999-2005)

Previous department(s) included: Department of Infectious Diseases (????-1999)

Department of Comparative & Experimental Pathology (????-1999)

[View authors of current publications](#)

[View current departmental publications](#)

[View authors of historic publications](#)

[View historic departmental publications](#)

[View authors of previous and current publications](#)

[View historic and current publications](#)