SCAMeL Speedy Startups Final Report
2018

The South Central Academic Medical Libraries Consortium (SCAMeL) graciously awarded the Moody Medical Library at the University of Texas Medical Brach at Galveston (UTMB) $5,095.00 to reformat and digitize 16mm reel-to-reel films from the Charles A. Berry, M.D. History of Medicine Collections (Berry Collections). Thirty-one films have been reformatted and are now available to view using present technology.

Selection

All of the 16mm films from Dr. Gaume's collection and from Dr. Berry's collection were selected to be reformatted.

Dr. Thornton's collection contains numerous 16mm films. We based our selection mainly on title. In a few cases, either no title existed or the title, as written on the canister, was not a good indicator of what would be seen on the film. For example, while the title "C813" may have meant something specific to Dr. Thornton, it did not provide any descriptive information to us. Along with untitled films, we selected those that specifically related to Dr. Thornton's two spaceflights and those having to do with his inventions (treadmill, waste collection).

The number of films reformatted from each collection:

Berry: 16
Gaume: 2
Thornton: 13

Reformatting

Before contacting the videographer to schedule the first drop-off, we created a spreadsheet listing the titles of the films to keep track of each film's movement in and out of the department. The first group of films (10 from Dr. Thornton's collection) were transported to the videographer in early May 2018. This batch took the longest to reformat because of the time of year. The videographer was also busy with graduation ceremonies. However, he sent us the first completed file for quality control purposes. Then films from Dr. Berry's collection were transferred in July. The final 11 films (some from each of the 3 collections) were transferred in August. When these were returned, we also received the discs containing the large digital files. It was easier for the videographer to create all of the discs/mp4s at the same time so they weren't created until all 31 of the films were complete. This delayed viewing and uploading the files. Of the 31 films sent, three were unable to be reformatted; one because of deterioration and the other two because the film type was mislabeled-they were not 16mm film and would have required equipment that UTMB did not own to reformat. All three of those films were from Dr. Thornton's collection. We replaced them with three others and transferred those in late August. In September, the smaller, web-ready mp4 files were downloaded using a file sharing program. The large files on the discs and the small mp4 files were backed up onto an external hard drive used to hold all of our Berry Collections files.

Metadata and Uploading to UTMB Health SHARED

Before uploading the mp4 files to UTMB Health SHARED, we watched the videos to gather metadata. We included the video run time, noted if the video was in black and white or in color, noted whether the video had sound, and added names of astronauts or missions if applicable. We found that some of the film canisters were labeled incorrectly. For example, a film from Dr. Thornton's collection labeled "STS-32 Treadmill" featured astronauts who were not on the STS-

32 mission. Through research, we were able to determine which astronauts and/or missions were actually in the film.
Twenty-nine of the 31 films were uploaded to UTMB Health SHARED. After reviewing the two films from Dr. Gaume's collection, the archivist decided against uploading them as they may contain HIPAA violations.

Exhibit
We are preparing an exhibition of materials from the Berry Collections for this spring to coincide with the 50th anniversary of the lunar landing. Parts of the exhibit will feature QR codes, which will link to the online videos creating an interactive experience. This is the first time that we have done this in an exhibit.

Conclusion
We believe that this project was enormously successful. We have added the films to existing online collections which now hold approximately 8,000 items (over 38,000 pages) in total. These online collections feature materials in a variety of formats (film, photographs, slides, handwritten and printed documents, etc.) that are freely accessible for researchers around the world. Because of the success of this project, we are prepared to reformat and digitize films from other archival collections and any future donations with confidence. The SCAMeL Speedy Startups award enabled us to complete our project and provide access to rare footage to those interested in the history of space medicine.