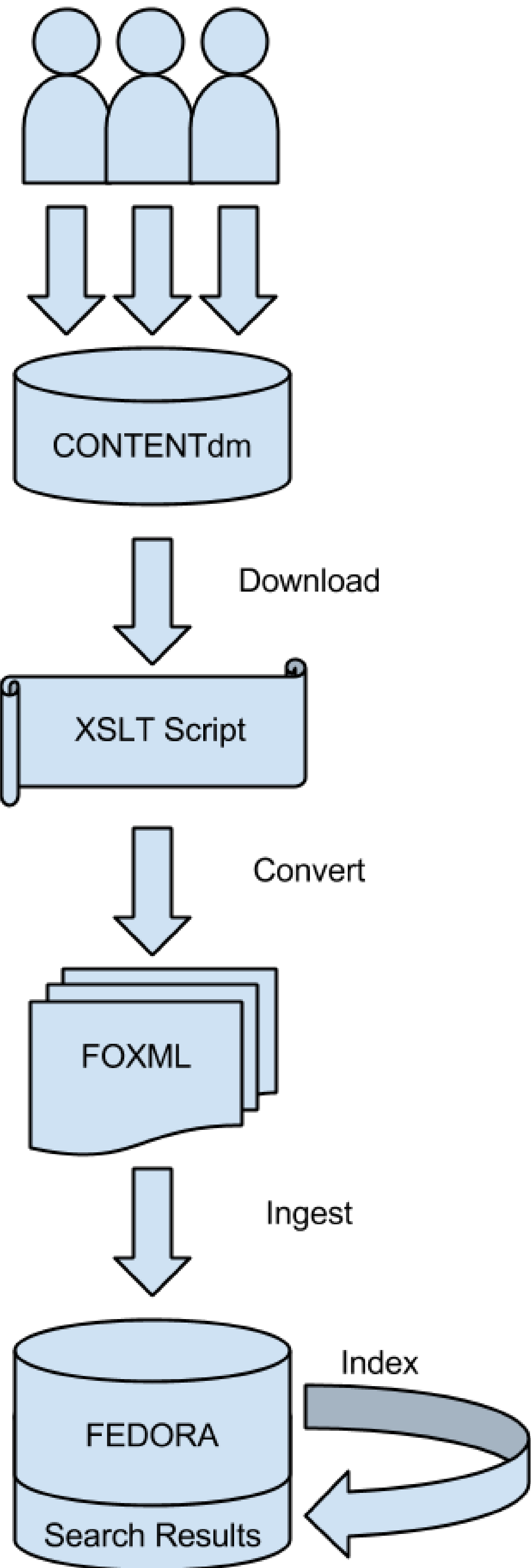# Oral Histories in Hydra at Temple University Libraries

Temple University Libraries' Digital Library Initiatives (DLI) Team have just completed the first phase of development on an Oral Histories Hydra head to deliver Oral Histories materials from the Special Collections Research Center (SCRC). The goal is to use this Hydra head to deliver many Oral Histories from the Special Collections, each Oral History being composed of a mix of possible elements like textual transcripts, audio, video, and images. For the first phase we are focusing on two collections: the Walter Massey Phillips Collection of Mid-20th Century Philadelphia City Government Oral Histories and Civil Rights in a Northern City: Philadelphia. Conceptual objects displayed in Blacklight are composed of multiple single Fedora objects of different content models, represented using helper methods that look up related objects based on a master identifier field and render just-in-time simulated compound objects, referred to as "composed objects," utilizing field templates.

For object creation, this head leverages the CONTENTdm desktop client used by SCRC staff for back-end content creation/administration. A seamless integration layer is built in to harvest metadata and file pointers from CONTENTdm automatically, convert to FOXML, ingest metadata to Fedora, and index in Blacklight's discovery and access layers. This feature has been programmed to work across any CONTENTdm-based public collection at Temple, and can be used to reindex changed objects on a scheduled basis, thereby allowing SCRC staff to continuously manage objects.

CONTENTdm
Download

XSLT Script
Convert

FOXML
Ingest

FEDORA
Index

Search Results
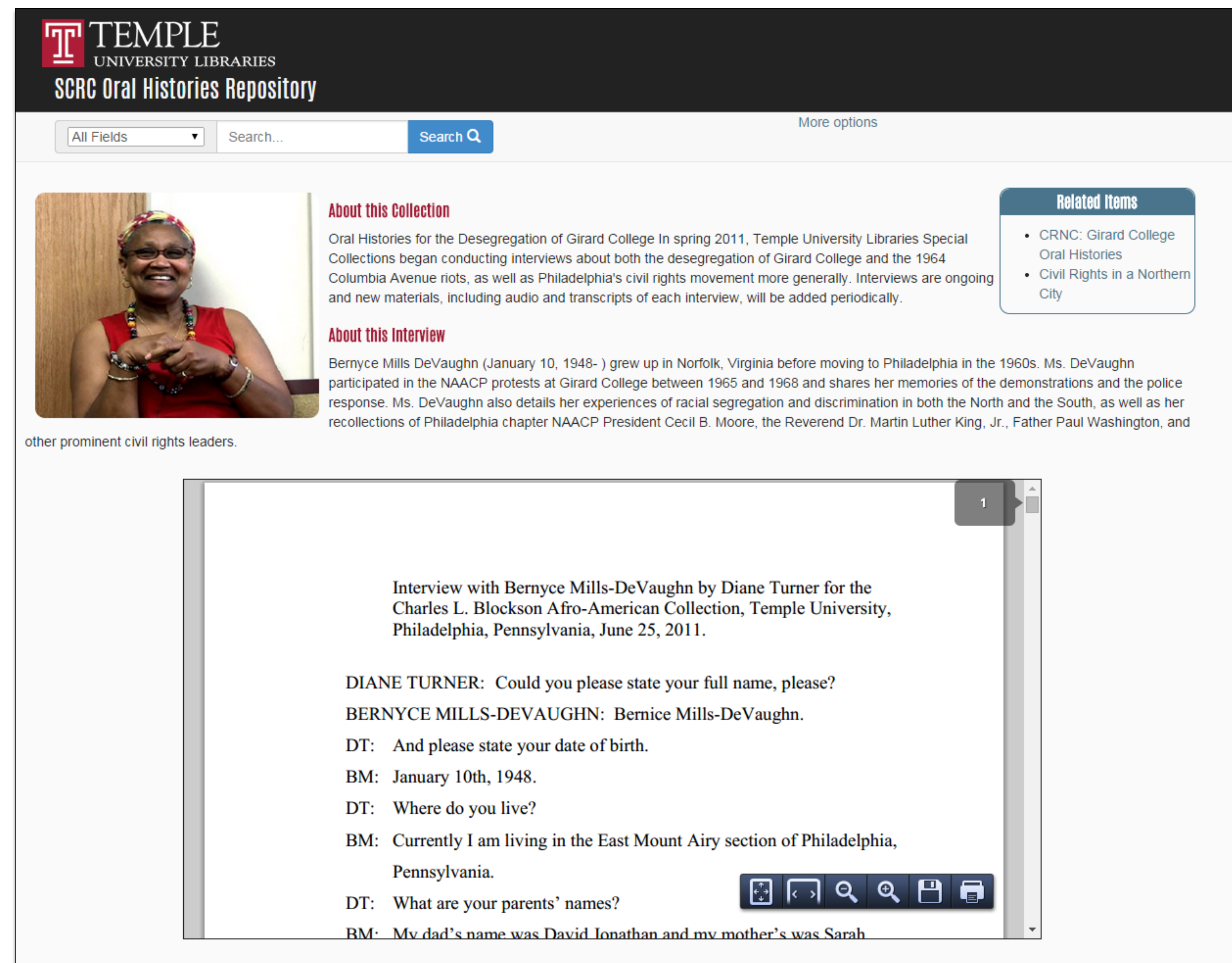
The Temple Team on this Project

Digital Library Initiatives (DLI)
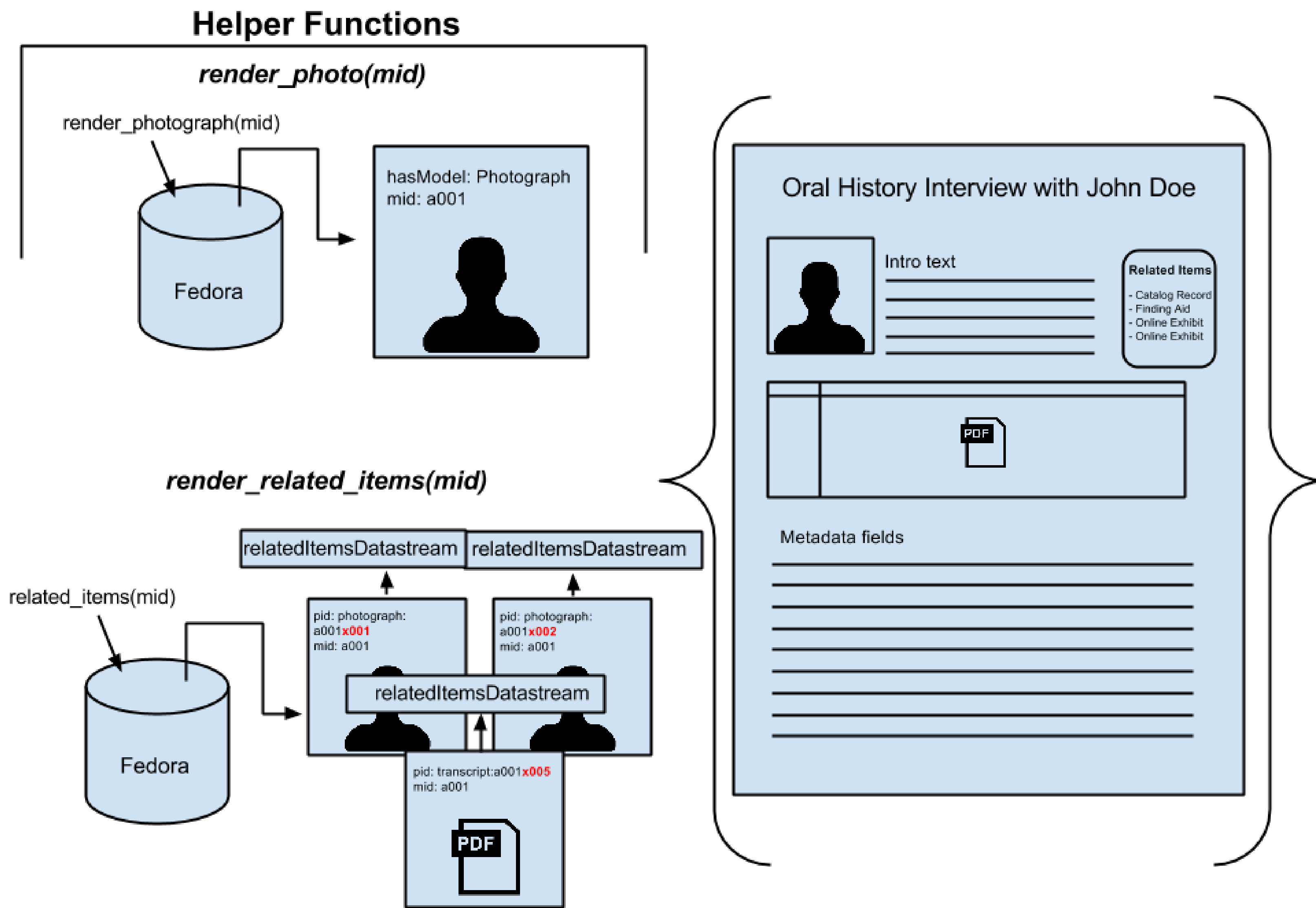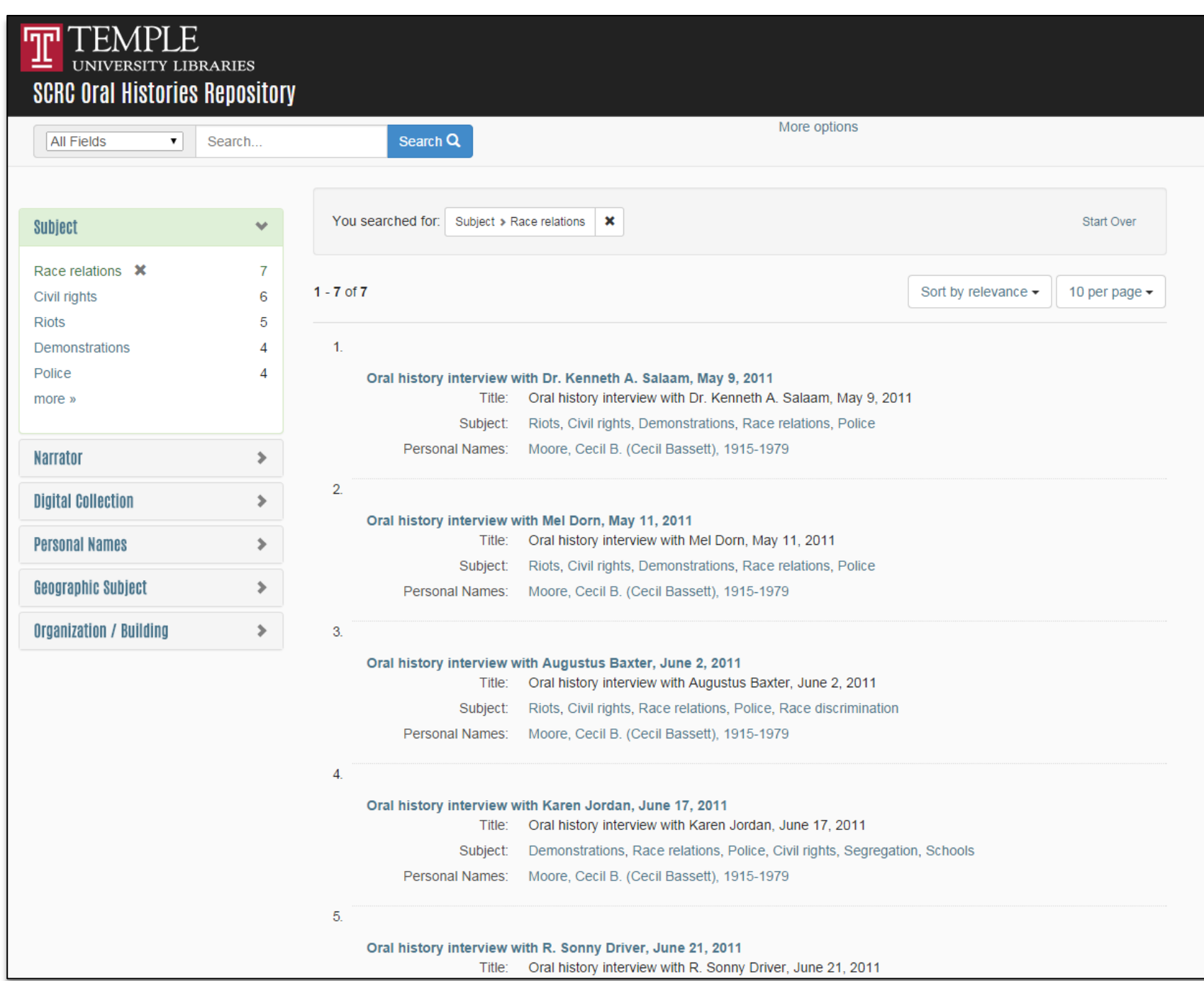
- **Delphine Khanna**
  Head of Digital Library Initiatives
- **Doreva Belfiore**
  Digital Projects Librarian
- **Katherine Lynch**
  Senior Digital Library Applications Developer
- **Steven Ng**
  Digital Library Applications Developer
- **The Digitization Practices Group**
  Temple University Libraries

Steven was hired on to Temple after meeting Katherine at the first Hydra Connect in January 2014. If you're looking to do Hydra for a living, it pays to network at conferences!

Click-Through Agreement Workflow

A requirement of this project was that all items in this repository require a passive, EULA-style click-through agreement across the board to allow users to access materials beyond the search results page. Agreement text is stored at the per-item level in a datastream (populated by archivists when the content is added/edited in CONTENTdm), and is then extracted on the search results page to populate the click-through screen. Text for the accept/decline buttons is configurable through a custom locale YML file. Additional checks can be configured on the item-level display screen to prompt the user again to accept the item's click-through agreement if it has not already been accepted.

Helper Functions

render_photo(mid)
render_photograph(mid)
hasModel: Photograph
mid: a001
Fedora

render_related_items(mid)
related_items(mid)
relatedItemsDatastream
pid: photograph:
a001x001
mid: a001
pid: photograph:
a001x002
mid: a001
relatedItemsDatastream
pid: transcript:a001x005
mid: a001
Fedora

Oral History Interview with John Doe
Intro text
Related Items
- Catalog Record
- Finding Aid
- Online Exhibit
- Online Exhibit
PDF
Metadata fields

Future Hydra Initiatives at Temple Libraries

- **CONTENTdm front-end "Reskinning" with Hydra**
  Temple University Libraries currently uses a hosted instance of ContentDM to feature digitized materials in our Special Collections. In an effort to improve usability and conform to University-enforced web accessibility standards without having to rebuild the entire staff interface, the DLI development team are undertaking the task of providing a sleek, accessible, easy-to-use front-end interface to the digitized file assets and metadata stored in CONTENTdm. Leveraging the ingest process perfected in the Oral Histories head, this Hydra head will import metadata and file pointer data from the OCLC-hosted server and convert it for ingest/indexing to a flexible/configurable front-end interface.

- **Assessment Data Repository for Library Metrics**
  Supporting Temple University Libraries' focus on Assessment-based evaluation of the impact of Library services on-campus, the DLI Development Team will use Hydra to create a staff-only repository of quality metrics datasets, including machine-based web analytics and human-recorded library service statistics. This will provide a private searchable interface that staff can use to keep track of ongoing statistics collection in various areas of Library services. We plan to allow these datasets to be inserted into the repository by staff, either by providing a Sufia-like administrative interface or leveraging Fedora 4's file system projection capabilities to interact with a secure share on networked storage. Phase 2 for this project may also include some simple data visualization tools to allow users to generate correlation graphs and other dataset visualizations.

- **Proof-of-Concept DPLA Aggregator**
  Supporting Pennsylvania Libraries' interest in participating in the Digital Public Library of America (DPLA), Temple University Libraries is conducting preliminary investigation into creating an easy-to-set-up Hydra head that can function as a DPLA metadata aggregator. Functionality includes OAI-PMH metadata harvesting ability, administration of metadata providers from a web-based GUI, XSLT transformation from OAI-PMH to FOXML for Fedora ingestion, and crosswalked MODS indexing for local discoverability.