Library Lab 501 - Archives and Special Collections Class Request Tool Development

Our project, to create a tool that will allow instructors to request class times, spaces and materials in Harvard's archives and special collections repositories, and provide library staff with a centralized means of managing such requests continues to progress positively. In the three months following our first progress report we have:

- Launched the tool in a development environment;
- Tested and explored the tool extensively, logging bugs and issues in Redmine and with our developer;
- Added an automated teaching and learning assessment component and drafted a survey;
- Pursued the possibilities for integration of this request tool with existing systems and procedures; specifically Aeon and Google Calendars;
- Drafted specifications which have been shared with developers at Atlas Systems to create addon/addons that will link class requests from our system with Aeon's event creation and material requests processes;
- Created test Google Calendars for three rooms in the g.harvard.edu instance, logged test data and explored issues involved in implementation; and
- Met four times with members of other Special Collections and Archives repositories at Harvard to collaboratively review and refine the tool in its development environment.

We plan to soft launch the tool at the end of June and still feel confident of meeting our goal of testing with "real live" class requestors at the beginning of the fall semester.