What is the Encoded Antiphoner?

It is an interactive and open access resource with a dynamic presentation layer through which content (metadata, music notation, textual incipits) and multimedia based on the encoded inventory and data from a 14th-century Franciscan antiphoner that can be queried and viewed. The manuscript has 119 parchment folios with text and notation for antiphons and responsories for the entire annual calendar of saints’ days.

We are using and developing open source applications and standards to structure and encode data with MEI/XML, to output data as IIIF manifests and JSON, to ingest and render data, with an IIIF image server and Lunr.js search index, and to present with user interfaces built on Diva.js and Jekyll. We aim to support further development in the OS community by sharing our documentation, code, and data in GitHub (github/bcdigschol/antiphoner-site), and have contributed our data to the scholarly community through collaboration with CANTUS Database (CDB). In addition, we will develop code and/or applications, workflows, and documentation that can inform our ongoing work and future projects using similar methods and technology.

This project is creating many data outputs to enable continued exploration and future work. Data outputted in JSON, including the IIIF manifests and incipit data will enable us to explore ways in which to re-arrange, search, and view images side-by-side for comparison of scribal hands and other unique features (on a multitouch table), as well as to create or view annotations, compare our source material against other manuscripts with IIIF manifests. Data encoded in MEI/XML will allow us to explore options for rendering neume notation using Verovio, rather than in Volpiano font.

More information can be found at library.bc.edu/digschol in the project portfolio section. This project is being funded through an Academic Technology Innovation Grant at Boston College and is in partnership with Boston College Libraries’ Digital Scholarship Group.