

This is a transcript of the video clip "Getting IRB Approval for the DALN" from the interview with Dr. Cynthia Selfe in Samuel Head, "A Scholarly Legacy: Professor Cynthia Selfe and the Digital Archive of Literacy Narratives" published in *Kairos: Rhetoric, Technology, Pedagogy*, 22(1), available at <http://kairos.technorhetoric.net/22.1/interviews/head>.

**Sam:**

Tell me about a story about an early experiencing creating the DALN.

**Dr. Selfe:**

Well, I can tell you a couple of stories, I can tell you about the hardest time we had creating the DALN was getting the Institutional Review Board, the IRB, approval for that particular project. We had to get a project IRB so that the project of the digital archive could be done at various sites. And that was a very difficult effort; it was an effort I think that challenged my own impatience. And I am not good at persevering when I think people want me to go through certain set steps. I'd rather do an end run or, you know, something that would get there quicker. I'm impatient when I do projects Louis Ullman is the antithesis of that: he is absolutely patient and systematic and very cool and collected. And during that first year, it took us an entire year to get IRB approval, and there were times when I was about to leap across the table and, you know, grab a hold of the lapels of the people on the other side: attorneys and people in the IRB office. I was just not ready to hear "no" for this project or do this first that second. I was ready to roll. So Louis, fortunately, took us in a much more systematic way toward the final conclusion. And it was a good thing he was there, and he was such a terrific co-director of this project. It wouldn't exist today without Louis Ullman's insight and perspective and tenacity and intellectual like approach to the whole thing. I would have been banned from the University I'm sure within a week of trying. So that was one story, it was the difficulty of getting IRB.