Digital Libraries and Archives Workshop

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AMICAL Annual Meeting and Conference
American University in Sharjah
April 6, 2012
Learning Outcomes

1. Define digital library.
2. Plan a digital library implementation.
3. Author mission statements and digital library policies.
4. Identify technical support needs.
5. Choose a digital library platform.
7. Design marketing strategies.
What is a digital library?

An organization, which might be virtual, that comprehensively collects, manages and preserves for the long term rich digital content, and offers to its user communities specialized functionality on that content, of measurable quality and according to codified policies.

SWOT analysis

Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats
Consider this

- What is your objective?
- Why are you undertaking this project?
- What are the outcomes you expect when the project is completed?
- How much do you estimate the whole project will cost?
- Will the proposed project reduce costs?
- How long will the project take?
- What productivity loss will occur during the development and transition period?
- What is the expected return on investment?
Getting started

1. Plan a digital library implementation.
2. Identify technical support needs.
3. Choose a digital library platform.
Plan a digital library implementation

- Secure administrative and technical support.
- Develop a committee or working group.
- Author a mission statement and policies.
- Assign responsibilities.
- Create a digital preservation plan.
- Design a marketing program.
- Set goals and assessments.
- Be transparent!
Identify technical support needs

- Software development
- Server operating platforms
- Web servers
- Database support
- Storage
- Back up schedules
Choosing software

Develop a list of features for a digital library platform at your institution.
Consider this

- What metadata schema does the system need to support?
- What end user experience features do you want? Faceted search?
- What kinds of formats will you need to include in your digital library?
- Do you need editing tools like watermarking and banding?
- Can you afford proprietary software?
- Do you have the personnel expertise and time to develop open source software?
- What workflows do you need to support?
Formulate digitization and description best practices

Digitization Standards
- Inform yourself.
- Create a local standards document.

Metadata Standards
- Decide on a metadata schema.
- Create a local best practices document.
- Use controlled vocabularies
Promoting your digital library
Design a marketing plan

- Work with your library’s reference staff.
- Collaborate with your institutional communications office.
- Take advantage of social networking.
- Develop social media.
- Register with open access directories and union catalogs.
- Integrate digital collections with events.
- Train and advertise with reference staff.
- Incorporate digital collections in pathfinders.
- Make announcements in listservs.
- Comment on articles and blog entries.
Assessment
Assess digital library impact

- Collect anecdotal feedback
- Conduct surveys and focus groups
- Gather Web site traffic statistics
Questions?

Ask me!
Resources

Selected references and Web resources for planning a digital library, selecting a platform, digital imaging standards, metadata best practices, controlled vocabularies, and registries and catalogs.
Getting started

Planning a digital library


Selecting a digital library platform


Digital library platforms

- CONTENTdm Digital Collection Management Software by OCLC.
- Drupal: Open Source CMS.
- DSpace.
- EPrints Digital Repository Software.
- Fedora Project.
- Greenstone Digital Library Software.
- Joomla!
- LUNA Software.
- MediaWiki.
- Omeka.
Digital imaging standards


Description best practices


Metadata schema

- Visual Resources Association. [VRA Core](https://www.vraweb.org/vracore).
Controlled vocabularies

- Dublin Core Metadata Initiative Limited. "DCMIType Vocabulary." Dublin Core Metadata Initiative (DCMI).
- Internet Assigned Numbers Authority. "MIME Media Types." Internet Assigned Numbers Authority.
Digital Preservation


Marketing and assessment


Assessment

- Oxford Internet Institute, University of Oxford. Toolkit for the Impact of Digitised Scholarly Resources (TIDSR).
- University of Michigan, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, and University of Toronto. Archival Metrics.
OAI registries and catalogs

- Online Computer Library Center. OAIster.
- Online Computer Library Center. WorldCat.
- University of Nottingham. OpenDOAR: Directory of Open Access Repositories.
- University of Southampton. Registry of Open Access Repositories.
Examples

- Claremont Colleges Library. [Claremont Colleges Digital Library](#).
- Indiana University Libraries. [Indiana University Digital Library Program](#).
- Texas A&M University Libraries. [Digital Library](#).
- University of Virginia Libraries. [Digital Initiatives](#).