Planning and Implementing a Digital Library Project

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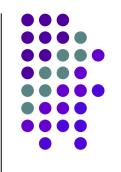
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Workshop Outline

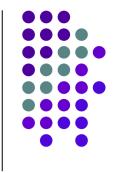
- Introductions/Review Handouts
- Background on IU Digital Library Program
- Statewide digital library planning: Indiana Digital Library Summit
- Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) funding for digitization: New standards and guidelines
- Define/Plan/Write Project Application
- Do the project
- Evaluate the project
- Workshop evaluation

Indiana University Digital Library Program



- A collaborative organizational unit campus wide and system wide – established in 1997, created to:
 - Provide financial support and human resources to support for existing digital library initiatives;
 - Provide infrastructure, financial support, and expertise to develop new digital initiatives across the campuses of Indiana University; and
 - Provide leadership in the development of digital libraries locally, nationally, and internationally.
- The partners: IU Libraries, University Information Technology Services, School of Library and Information Science, and School of Informatics

Mission



The Indiana University Digital Library Program (DLP) is dedicated to the production, maintenance, delivery, and preservation of a wide range of high-quality networked resources for scholars and students at Indiana University and elsewhere.

Major Activities

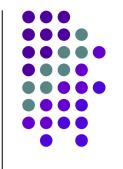


- Developing and maintaining digital library infrastructure – hardware, software, staff expertise
- Creation of digital resources for instruction (Variations and DIDO)
- Creation of digital resources for research (archival collections, indexes)
- Consultation with individuals and department who have ideas about potential digital projects

Sources of Funding

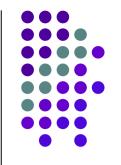
- Internal funding
 - Infrastructure hardware, software, staff
 - Services: Library Electronic Text Resource Service, Digital Media and Image Center
 - Instructional services: Variations, DIDO
 - Consultation
 - Projects: smaller, pilots, collaborative
- Grant funding
 - Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA)
 - National Science Foundation (NSF)
 - Institute for Museum and Library Services (IMLS)
 - National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH)

Definition of Digital Library



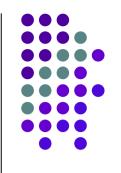
A digital library is a networked collection of digital objects – text, still images, moving images, sound, data – with arrangement, search features, and metadata that allow for discovery and presentation, supporting research and teaching, and with attention paid to architecture, persistence, longevity, and digital preservation.





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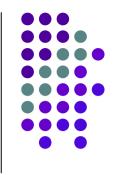
What is a Digital Library Project?



- Digital conversion for the purpose of online access to an information resource
- Creation of metadata for future digital conversion
- Tools for creating online resources

It is not only creating a web site. It is not only scanning to place photographs or other images on your web site. The goal to create and sustain "good" digital collections.

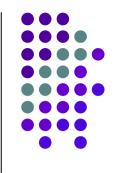
Building "Good digital collections"*



- Interoperable with the important goal of cross-collection searching
- Persistent reliably accessible
- Re-usable repositories of digital objects that can be used for multiple purposes

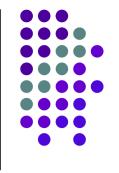
*Institute for Museum and Library Services. <u>A Framework of Guidance for Building Good Digital Collections.</u> Washington, D.C.: Institute for Museum and Library Services, November 2001. www.niso.org/framework/forumframework.html

Collection Defined



A collection can be defined as a selected and organized set of digital materials (objects) along with the metadata that describes them and at least one interface that gives access to them.

Achieving "Good Collections"



- Curated, cohesive group of materials
- Adherence to standards and best practices
- We must do things the way that others do them
- We must use commons systems or create metadata in ways that allow us to share

The Internet means that we are all in it together – large and small. Digital libraries are by nature collaborative and national/international.

Indiana Digital Library Summit



- Convened by Barbara Maxwell, Indiana State Librarian
- Goal: "To bring together representatives from all types of Indiana libraries, as well as archives, historical societies, and allied cultural organizations. The purpose was to begin discussing how those groups can work together on the common issue of digitizing unique Indiana resources."

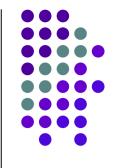
http://www.statelib.lib.in.us/www/isl/diglibin/

Digital Summit Activities



- First meeting: December 4, 2003
 - Andrea Hough and Kris Brancolini presented draft White Paper:
 - The State of Digital Libraries in Indiana and A Vision for the Future
- Representatives from 14 groups. See web site for list. Revised document and established a smaller working group to tackle next steps.

Mission Statement



The Indiana Digital Library, a collaboration of Indiana libraries, museums, archives, and related cultural organizations, enables access to Indiana's unique cultural and historical heritage through a variety of digital formats and free distribution over the Internet. The IDL seeks to support and enhance education and scholarship for all Hoosiers for increased understanding of Indiana's past and its role in preparing for Indiana's future.

-- Approved 5/19/2004

Principles



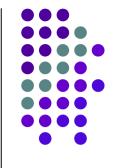
- Adherence to national standards and recommended best practices
- Leverage existing digital library expertise in the state
- Recognize that most smaller institutions cannot build their own digital library infrastructure; partners could offer hosting
- Explore regional digitization centers and centralized hosting of digital content

New LSTA Requirements



- Local, unique content with statewide interest
- Relates to existing digital content
- Follows standards and guidelines established by Indiana Digital Library working groups
- Has P-16 educational component or potential for development
- Collaborative projects given preference
- Our goal is to give you the tools to meet these requirements and recommendations.

Most important point --



Make sure that there is a good match between the components of the project plan you developed and the LSTA categories of funding, priorities, and evaluation criteria.

You may have an excellent idea for a digital project, but be sure that it fits the requirements for LSTA funding.

Proposal for Content Development



- Famous Hoosiers -- regardless of time period, particularly scientists, inventors, artists, religious leaders. Also needed information on politicians, soldiers, businessmen, women, Native Americans, and African Americans.
- Underground Railroad
- Native Americans of Indiana
- Transportation -- regardless of time period, including canals, railroads, National Road
- Indiana at War
 - Civil War -- all aspects
 - Indiana in World War I
 - Indiana in World War II
- Communication -- regardless of time period, including early newspapers
- Architecture -- regardless of time period

Adopted 5/19/2004

Define the Project

- Why you are undertaking the project?
- For whom you are undertaking the project?
- What you want the project to achieve?
- How you will achieve it?
- When you will achieve it?
- How will you measure success?

Plan the Project

- Plan activities that will help you develop and implement your project's solution
- Develop an evaluation approach to determine whether your project's goals are being met
- Create a schedule based on the activities and the evaluation approach
- Identify and assign appropriate personnel and material resources
- Develop a budget for your project
- Decide on appropriate sources of funding and inkind contributions to close any resource "gaps"

Planning Activities

- Selection of content
- Select appropriate standards and guidelines
- Write the proposal
- Timeline
- Budget preparation
 - Categories of expenses
 - Calculating costs
- Sustainability planning

Selection Basics



- Purpose
- Copyright/Intellectual Property
- Audience
- LSTA guidelines from the Indiana State Library
- Selection Priorities
- Other considerations for any project

Purpose



- You must be able to explain succinctly what you want to do and why.
 - Why is it desirable to digitize these materials?
 - Preservation
 - Access
 - Both
 - What will users be able to do with these materials that they cannot do now?
- What is the significance of the materials you want to digitize? Why these and not others?

Copyright



- What is the copyright status of this material?
 - Public domain
 - Pre-1923
 - Not renewed
- Unpublished material; author deceased <1932
- Controlled by your library/archive
 - Transferred by deed of gift
 - Copyrighted by your institution
- Permission secured
- Situation unknown or murky; not necessarily bad

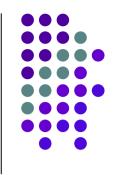
Audience



- Who currently uses these materials?
- Who is the primary intended audience?
- Is there a secondary intended audience?
- In general, do you anticipate that this resource will be used by a large number of people or a very specialized or small number of users?

Indiana Digital Library is interested in educational and cultural use.

Important Points/LSTA Priorities



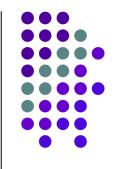
- All projects require a time commitment from permanent staff – even if you have external funding.
- Selecting one project means that others must be rejected.
- Digital projects require a long-term commitment to sustain the resource.
- Local, unique content with potential statewide interest.
- Develop some tentative ideas then see if you can partner with another library; this will strengthen the proposal for LSTA funding.

Selection Priorities



- Significant collection or materials
 - Current audience or potential audience
 - Popular collections
 - Can partner to create the collection
- Meets the Indiana Digital Library collection development guidelines
- Item-level information or metadata available
- Complements previous projects creation of a critical mass

Writing the Proposal



- Start with the selection criteria for the grant program, in this case LSTA Digitization Grants from the Indiana State Library
- Write about the significance of the project, then move to the technical plan
- Be prepared to change your project once you begin the planning process
- Assemble resources that can help you with your project planning and proposal writing

Example: www.dlib.indiana.edu/collections/steel/docs/proposal.html

Proposal Outline

- Description of the Project
- Goals and Objectives
- Plan of Work
 - Intellectual access
 - Digital conversion
 - Network delivery and access
 - Preservation and maintenance of files
- Evaluation
- Impact on the community
- Primary staff
- Timeline
- Budget and budget narrative (explain elements)

Purpose of the Proposal



- Communicate clearly regarding what you want to do and why it is important
- Persuade the selection committee that you have the qualifications and experience to complete the project as described
- Request adequate funding, with a budget that reflects the work you must do to complete the project

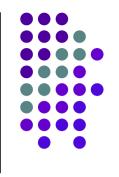
Project Timeline



- Leave time at the beginning of the project to organize
- If you need help estimating the time it will take to do the digitization, contact other libraries with experience or consult sample proposals
- Be sure to build in quality control
- Everything takes longer than you think it will
- Hiring people takes time

Budget Elements

- Equipment
- Software
- Supplies
- Training
- Personnel not appointed staff
- Services
 - Metadata creation
 - Digitization
 - Lesson plans or other services
 - Indiana service providers preferred



Benefits to Partners



- For a large and/or experienced partner
 - Access to complementary content
 - Opportunity to share what we have learned
 - Opportunity to learn from others
- For a small and/or inexperienced partner
 - Access to complementary content
 - Opportunity to share what we have learned
 - Opportunity to learn from others

Healthy Partnerships



- Be sure to develop a clear understanding of what each partner will contribute
- Contributions do not need to be equal
- The proposal may be your only written agreement or you may need a separate memorandum of agreement
- Be flexible and realize that the project may have to change to meet both partners' goals

Project Implementation

- Digitization
- Dealing with text
- Metadata

Digitization in context



- Can be one of the easier parts of digital projects but still requires careful planning
- You don't want to have to re-do digitization later – do it right the first time!
- If it's done poorly your whole project will suffer

Materials for Digitization



- Still Images
 - Printed text
 - Handwritten text
 - Photographic materials
 - Newspapers
 - Maps
 - Sheet music
 - Etc.!
- Audio
- Video

Capture once, use many

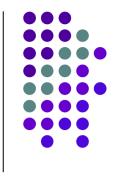


- Master file
 - Captures all "important" information
 - For long-term storage and later use
 - Little or no processing done
 - Sometimes called an "archival" file
 - Still images almost always use uncompressed TIFF
 - Captured from earliest generation practical
- Derivatives for specific uses
 - Web viewing
 - Printing
 - Publication

Quick technical primer

- Resolution
- Bit depth
- Color representation
- Reflectivity and polarity

Resolution (1)



- Often referred to as "dpi" or "ppi"
- RATIO of number of pixels captured per inch of original photo size
 - 8x10 print scanned at 300ppi = 2400 x 3000 pixels
 - 35mm slide (24x36mm!) scanned at 300ppi ≈ 212 x 318 pixels

Resolution (2)

- Higher is not always better
- Scan at highest resolution necessary to achieve your stated purpose, no higher

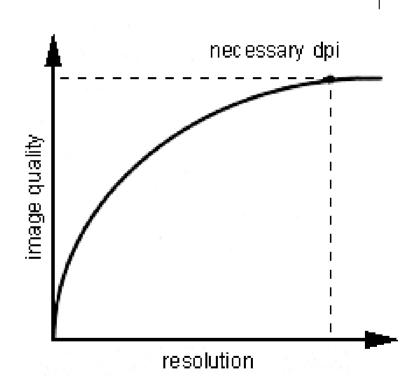
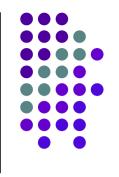


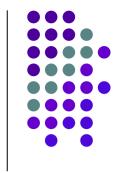
chart from Cornell's online digital imaging tutorial: http://www.library.cornell.edu/preservation/tutorial/conversion/conversion-03.html

Resolution (3)



- Common choices
 - Photographic materials: 4000 pixels on longest side
 - Text: 600 ppi
- Read carefully best practices documents listed on your handout before deciding what resolution you will scan at

Bit depth



- Refers to how many colors are represented in an image
- Common choices
 - 1-bit (bitonal), for printed text
 - 8-bit, for b/w photographs, handwritten text
 - 24-bit, for color materials

Color representation



RGB

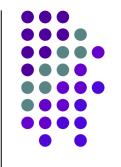
- Scanners generally have sensors for Red, Green, and Blue
- Each of these "channels" is stored separately in the digital file
- 8 bits for each of 3 channels = 24 bit color
- CMYK (Cyan, Magenta, Yellow and Black) is used for high-end "pre-press" printing purposes





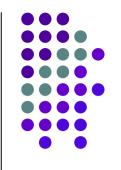
	Positive	Negative
Reflective	Paper Photographic prints	
Transmissive	Slide film	Negative film

Use the right equipment (1)



- There is no single piece of digital imaging equipment that can be used for all originals!
- Your goal is to produce high-quality, reusable images. A \$1000 flatbed scanner cannot do this for many types of originals.

Use the right equipment (2)



- Loose-leaf paper, 8.5" x 11" or smaller
- Paper sheets up to 11" x 17"
- Larger paper sheets
- Bound materials
- Brittle materials
- Negatives & slides

A good imaging workstation



- PC: \$750
 - 2.8GHz processor
 - 512MB RAM
 - 80GB hard drive
 - DVD+/-RW drive
- 17" or larger CRT monitor, good quality: \$750
- Flatbed scanner for medium- to large-format photographs & negatives: \$1000
- Scanning and image management software: \$500

Produce locally or outsource?

- Local production
 - With your own equipment
- With an experienced partner institution
- Outsource
 - To reputable vendor for a fee
- In any case, YOU manage the process

- Factors to consider
 - Nature of materials
 - Number of items
 - Condition of items
 - Value
 - Homogeneity of materials
 - Funding sources (if you are doing the project over time, with multiple funding sources, may not be able to outsource)

Quality control



- Essential part of every digitization project
- Objective criteria
 - Can be automated
 - Can check all items
- Subjective criteria
 - Require human checks
 - Must sample

Dealing with text

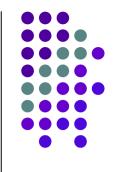


- Scanned page of text is just a picture; it's not searchable
- Methods of converting to searchable text
 - Optical Character Recognition (OCR)
 - Double-keying
- Text encoding (e.g., in TEI) is yet another level of processing

Metadata

- What is metadata?
- Types of metadata
- What you need metadata for
- Descriptive metadata
- How do I pick a metadata format?
- Crosswalks
- Good practices for metadata
- Metadata creation

What is metadata?



- "Data about data"
- "The term 'metadata' commonly refers to any data that aids in the identification, description and location of networked electronic resources."*

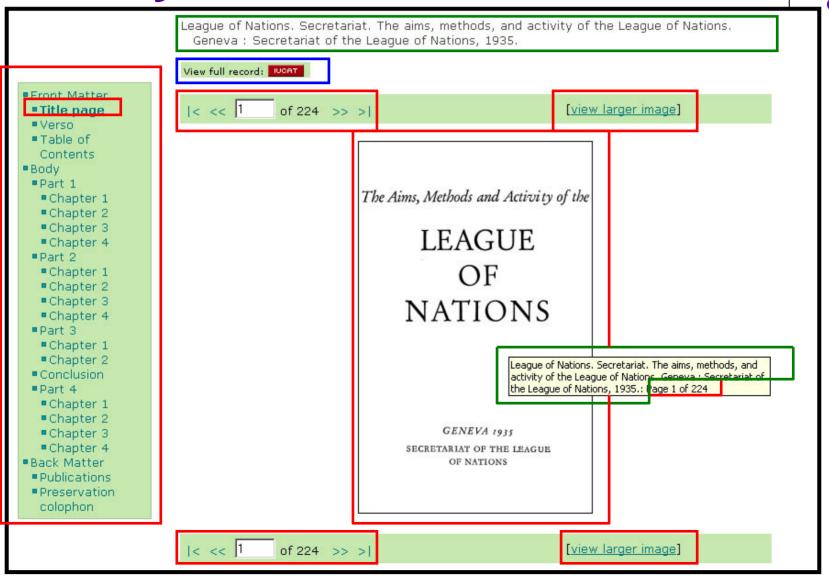
^{*}Hudgins, Jean, Grace Agnew, and Elizabeth Brown. 1999. *Getting mileage out of metadata: Applications for the library*. Chicago: American Library Association. p. 1.

Types of metadata

- Descriptive metadata
- Administrative metadata
 - Technical metadata
 - Preservation metadata
 - Rights metadata
- Structural metadata

Cataloging... AND MUCH MORE!

What you need metadata for



Descriptive metadata



- Purpose
 - Description
 - Discovery
- Some common general schemas
 - MARC
 - Metadata Object Description Schema (MODS)
 - Dublin Core
- LOTS of domain-specific schemas

How do I pick a metadata format?



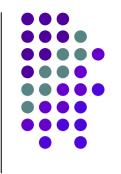
- Genre of materials being described
- Format of materials being described
- Nature of holding institution
- Robustness needed for the given materials and users
- What others in the community are doing
- Dublin Core can be a good choice, but consider all options
- More information on <u>handout</u>

Crosswalks



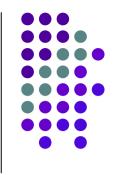
- For transforming between metadata formats
- Mapping from more robust format to less robust format effective; mapping from simpler format to more robust format less so
- Good practice to create and store most robust metadata format possible, then create other views for specific needs
- Often need to tweak a generic crosswalk for a specific implementation

Good practices for metadata



- Use library cataloging principles whenever possible
- Enter one value per field; repeat fields when necessary
- Clearly describing original vs. digitized item
- Clear relationships between records
- Plan for interoperability

Metadata creation



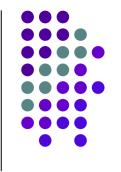
- Spreadsheets
- Databases
- XML
- Digital library content management systems

Storage



- Storage of master files
 - Local server hard disks (with backups)
 - May not have enough space
 - Optical media (CD-R, DVD-R)
 - Longevity questions
 - Need good file naming scheme and a way of keeping track of which files are on which discs
 - Digital preservation repository service
 - e.g. OCLC Digital Archive
 - Very new option, not much experience yet
 - Have partner institution store for you
- Storage of derivative files
 - Typically stored in whatever system is used for delivery

Access



- LSTA projects must produce content freely accessible to the public via the WWW
- Web design
 - Adhere to standards
 - User input
 - Look for models

Two approaches to delivery



- Basic web pages
 - Pros: Easy to do
 - Cons: Difficult to maintain, no searching, no dynamic browsing
- Digital library software
 - Pros: Powerful functionality for searching, browsing, and managing content
 - Cons: Can require high level of technical skill, can be expensive

Digital library delivery software options



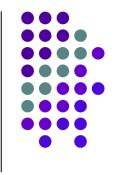
- Off the shelf software
 - CONTENTdm
 - Integrated Library System (ILS) vendors, e.g. Sirsi <u>Hyperion</u>
- Open source software
 - Greenstone
- Build your own
 - Web application on top of relational database such as FileMaker or Microsoft SQL Server
- Use a digital collection hosting service
 - e.g. ILS vendors, OCLC-hosted CONTENTdm
- Partner with another institution

Some characteristics of a good delivery system



- Easy to use and accessible interface
 - For patrons and catalogers/administrators
- Customizable user interface
 - Can integrate into your web site
- Persistent URLs for individual items
 - So that users can link to them
- Can easily import/export objects
- Can share information about collections with others
 - Support for Open Archives Initiative Protocol for Metadata Harvesting (OAI-PMH)

Evaluation



- In grant proposal
 - Outline evaluation plan
 - Cover how project will impact end-users
- At end of project
 - How well you met project objectives
 - How well your online resource meets the needs of users

Evaluation Activities



- Review of the project's goals
- Data collected from the project's evaluation approach
- Interpretation of the data
- "Lessons learned"
- Recommendations for improving future projects

More information



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