A Practical Approach to Digital Preservation Planning at a Mid-Sized Academic Library

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Robert W. Woodruff Library
Atlanta, GA
The AUC Woodruff Library serves as the center of the academic village of the AUC, providing the highest level of information resources and services in support of teaching learning, scholarship, and cultural preservation of the Atlanta University Center.

- Clark Atlanta University
- Interdenominational Theological Center
- Morehouse College
- Spelman College
“Premier Destination Archives”
ARC is a cultural asset and active participant in teaching and scholarship, providing collaborative leadership in the preservation, access, and collection development of archival resources.

- Nearly 8,000 linear feet of archival materials and rare books
- Collections document Atlanta University Center institutions and the African American experience primarily in Atlanta and Southern United States
- Digital collections include Morehouse College Martin Luther King Jr. and Tupac Amaru Shakur Collections, photographs, audio and moving image materials
Digital Services Department

- **Digitization Services**
  - Patron requests
  - Mass digitization projects (grants)
  - Exhibits

- **Repository Management**
  - DigitalCommons, CONTENTdm, omeka

- **Archival Systems Support**
  - ArchivesSpace
  - XTF

- **Library ILS Support**

- **Digital Preservation Planning**
Digital Initiatives and Archival Collections

- Archival Systems Support
- Digital Humanities Projects
- Mass Digitization Projects
- Digital Preservation Planning
- Digital Exhibits
- Grants
- Born Digital Collections
In-house Digital Collections

• Morehouse College Martin Luther
  King Jr. Collection
  Approximately 13,000 items (over 50,000 pages)

• Tupac Amaru Shakur Collection
  1,500 images available onsite
  Images are primarily from the Writings by Tupac
  and Writings by Others Series.

March on Washington, 1963, Courtesy of Associated
Press

Promotional image of Tupac Shakur, undated.
Online Digital Collections

- HBCU Library Alliance, 
  http://hbcudigitallibrary.auctr.edu/cdm/

- Digital Commons @ AUC Woodruff Library, 
  e-Scholarship IR, 
  http://digitalcommons.auctr.edu/

- Digital Exhibits, 
  http://digitalexhibits.auctr.edu/
HBCU Library Alliance Digital Collection

http://hbcudigitallibrary.auctr.edu/cdm/

- Collaborative digital initiative funded by The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation starting in 2005
- Subject focus: founding documents
- Role of HBCUs in the history of African American higher education
- Early 1800s – present
- Photographs, publications, letters, programs, memorabilia
- Platform: CONTENTdm; harvested by Digital Library Georgia
Digital Commons@AUC Woodruff Library

- [http://digitalcommons.auctr.edu/](http://digitalcommons.auctr.edu/)
- Hosted open access institutional repository software from bepress
- Over 5,396 digital items accessible
- Total downloads: 474,816
- Downloads this year: 192,655
- Metadata harvested by DLG, DPLA, GKR, Global ETD Search
Digital Exhibits

• Seeking to Tell A Story: Political Action from Slavery to Civil Rights
  focus on Atlanta Student Movement
  OMEKA
  http://digitalexhibits.auctr.edu/

• Finding A Way: The Black Family’s Struggle for an Education
  HTML web exhibit
  http://findingaway.auctr.edu/

Exponentially Growing Digital Content
Content Management Working Group Goals

• Consolidation of digital collections
• Interoperability with existing library systems
• Digital asset management for master, access files and metadata
• Long term preservation needs
## Systems Functionality Matrix

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>System</th>
<th>Functionality</th>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hydra</td>
<td>presentation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Designed to work with a front end for Fedora repositories. New IMLS funded initiative to develop an out of the box solution.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>repository</td>
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<td></td>
<td>preservation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Islandora</td>
<td>presentation</td>
<td></td>
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<td>Islandora is a Drupal-friendly front end to Fedora 3. LYRASIS has used it to build a repository with hosting.</td>
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<td>preservation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Duracloud</td>
<td>presentation</td>
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<td>A managed, cloud based service from DuraSpace for preserving digital content. Provides backup, syncing, and integrity checking.</td>
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<tr>
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<td>repository</td>
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<td>preservation</td>
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<tr>
<td>DSpace</td>
<td>presentation</td>
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<td>Intended to be a turnkey institutional repository tool.</td>
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<td>preservation</td>
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<tr>
<td>CONTENTdm</td>
<td>presentation</td>
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<td>CCLC has not released a preservation repository product.</td>
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<td>repository</td>
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<tr>
<td>DigiTool</td>
<td>presentation</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Produced by ExLibris; designed to manage and provide online access to digital assets that compliments Rosetta</td>
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<td>repository</td>
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<td>preservation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rosetta</td>
<td>presentation</td>
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<td></td>
<td>See above</td>
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<tr>
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<td>repository</td>
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<td></td>
<td>preservation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Omeka</td>
<td>presentation</td>
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<td>Specializes in online exhibits, numerous plug-ins available.</td>
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<tr>
<td>LOCKSS</td>
<td>presentation</td>
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<td>Dark preservation tool</td>
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Working Group Recommendations

• Continue to monitor and evaluate the content management landscape.

• Consider future consolidation and migration of digital collections to a Fedora-Hydra repository.

• Develop digital preservation policy framework.

• Advance in-house expertise in open source platform development and maintenance and digital preservation.
HBCU Photograph Preservation Project, Round III

- Mellon funding via LYRASIS
- Conservation treatment of Class Composites
- Digitized audio, video and photographs identified as priorities in prior grants
- Mentoring and training interns
- Career Roundtable Event
- Staff training and consulting
- Outreach to faculty
Knight Foundation/Digital Library of Georgia

• Collaboration with Digital Library of Georgia
• Digitization of 350 pre-1925 photographs from Atlanta University Photographs and Clark College Photographs
• Images posted on DLG portal, http://dlg.galileo.usg.edu/Institutions/auu.html
• Metadata harvested by DPLA

Atlanta University Track Team, 1903, Atlanta University Photographs, Atlanta University Center Robert W. Woodruff Library, Presented in the Digital Library of Georgia.
Spreading the Word: Expanding Access to African American Religious Archival Collections

- NEH Preservation and Access, July 2015-June 2018
- Fully process 14 archival collections
- Digitize and provide access to 1,100 audio and video assets, and 2,100 photographs
- Incorporate resources into training and outreach
- Project blog: https://aucwoodruffarchives.wordpress.com

Anna E. Hall, ca. 1925, Anna E. Hall Collection, Photographs, Image16, Atlanta University Center Robert W. Woodruff Library.
Digital Content Tidal Wave

https://www.flickr.com/photos/intersectionconsulting/7537238368/
Digital Preservation Planning Goals

- Form a working group (DPWG)
- Identify key resources, best practices and training opportunities
- Establish workflows for born digital content
- Conduct a digital assets inventory
- Draft digital policy framework for the library
Assumptions

• Consider organizational viability, technological and resources
• Not all content can or should be preserved at the same level
• Long term digital preservation planning necessitates ongoing institutional support
• Look for opportunities for collaboration
DPWG Accomplishments

• With IT set up sandbox environment to test Bit Curator, Fixity and other digital preservation tools

• Began to run Fixity on large collections (server transfers or received from vendor)

• Expanded digital assets inventory to include born digital (archival and institutional records)

• Solicited and received master images from HBCU LA members for MetaArchive ingest
Coding Interest Group

• Cross departmental participation
• Took online courses together
  • Code Academy, edX
• Library support for resources and certification in HTML 5
• Using skills to customize LibGuides, library webpages, web based digital exhibits, style sheets for online finding aids
DPWG Future Goals

• Complete Digital Collections Policy and Digital Collections Plan that establishes priorities and maps them to levels of preservation.

• Ensure that donor agreements include language that ensures the ability to care and provide access for digital objects.

• Set up dedicated workstation for acquisitions and appraisal of born digital content.

• Ensure that digital masters are replicated and stored at a minimum of two locations, one off site.
Sustaining Digital Preservation = Collaboration

• Internally
  Working groups
  Interest groups
  Administration buy-in

• Externally
  Stakeholders
  Statewide and local organizations
  National organizations
THANK YOU!

Questions?

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