Context Matters
Capturing Research and Advocating the Role of Archives in Data Management

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#saa15, #s607
Libraries and Archives are uniquely positioned to provide cross-disciplinary engagement with data.
Creating Data Dialogues

Subject and functional specialists at the University of Illinois Library (Area studies, Preservation, Archives)

- eResearch Task Force, April-December 2012
- eResearch Implementation Committee, April 2013-March 2015
- Research Data Service Committee, April 2015-Present
  - Research Data Service Interest Group
  - DOI-minting pilot program
  - Research Data Appraisal Group

- framework for appraising and processing scientific research records
- importance of provenance, original order, respect des fonds
- advocates evidential and informational values of research records
- importance of collecting many genres of documentation, including “data-processing records”
Collaborating to Appraise and Select

“Army Signal Corps,” ca. 1942, courtesy of the University of Illinois Archives
What are “Data”?

- Records?
- Scholarly publications?
- Something in-between??
Between Records and Data

Data Management

Data Records Management?

Records Management
Appraising Research

To capture:

- a “universe of interconnected documentation”
- research in its social, material, and intellectual context
- the activities and functions that generate data
Preserving Scientific Memory

Microbiologist Carl Woese, courtesy of the University of Illinois Archives
Clark Elliott on Experimental Data

“the data of measurement by itself and out of its theoretical context is of no interest...compilations of raw data and calculations would be considerably less useful without supporting theoretical documentation.”

Wayne Grover (Archivist of the U.S., 1948–65)

“No document, left in context, stands alone, complete in itself. It is part of a sequence that forms a series, and the series is part of a larger whole, all the parts of which are related. This whole, if kept together, is greater and more meaningful than the sum of its separate parts.”

Thanks!

Any questions?
You can find me at:

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Select References

- Maynard Brichford, Scientific and Technological Documentation, Urbana: University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, 1969
- Christopher Prom, Bethany Anderson, Thomas G. Padilla, et al., “Constructing Scientific Archives that Support Humanistic Research,” Digital Humanities 2014, Lausanne, Switzerland
Credits

Special thanks to all the people who made and released these awesome resources for free:

◇ Presentation template by SlidesCarnival

Images:

◇ University of Illinois Archives
hello.

Purr: Collaboration for Preservation

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Archivists have always been in the “raw data” business.
preservation, appraisal, rights & usage, description, donor relations, authenticity, access, provenance
Building a Service
The Purdue University Research Repository (PURR) is a research collaboration and data management solution for Purdue researchers and their collaborators.
the team.

librarians, ARCHIVIST, data curator, repository specialist, software developer
On the Job
PURR’s Digital Archivist is responsible for developing policies and practices to support long-term digital object management/preservation.
#LoneArrangerProblems

the challenge.
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bye.
Images

- University Library. 1912. Purdue Buildings and Campus Scenes. Virginia Kelly Karnes Archives and Special Collections, Purdue University. ark:/34231/c6fq9v83. http://earchives.lib.purdue.edu
- Professor and computer programmer. ND. Purdue Colleges and Departments. Virginia Kelly Karnes Archives and Special Collections, Purdue University. ark:/34231/c6z0377b. http://earchives.lib.purdue.edu

Text

- Mullins, James, personal communication, July 9, 2015.
UC Davis University Library
Archives
& Institutional Assets Program

Society of American Archivists
Saturday, August 22, 2015
Gail Yokote
AIAP Introduction

- Context
- Program Scope
- Program Elements
- Program Implementation
- Sample Program Outcomes
- Eye on the Prize
AIAP Context

- Library Redesign/Reorganization
- Proactive Archives Goal
- *Campus Readiness*
AIAP Initial Scope

- UC Davis created/commissioned content
- Format agnostic
- Material describing UC Davis content
AIAP Elements

- Library client-driven activities
- Library infrastructure activities
AIAP Elements: Library Client

- Academic career workflow support
- Granular control of UC Davis created content views and uses
- API development based on stakeholder use
AIAP Elements: Library Infrastructure

• Archivist:
  • Reviewer/analyst of campus created content
  • Creator of processing plans

• Content Support Services Department:
  • Processing hub

• Librarian Subject Liaison:
  • Communications conduit
  • Consultant
AIAP Implementation Activities

- Hire University Archivist
- Identify program member roles, tasks, workflows
- Identify processes to coordinate, to integrate within/among library and relevant campus units
- Select program staff
- Develop campus unit partnerships (e.g. Office of Academic Affairs, IET, Office of Research)
AIAP Implementation
Activities

- Develop outreach strategies to engage campus units and individuals (e.g. faculty, researchers, alumni, public)
- Conduct pilots and experiments
- Develop assessment and evaluation metrics
AIAP Implementation Outcomes

- *Tangible wins within the library and with campus units*
- Practices and policies established and vetted
- Sustainable model identified
Eye on the Prize

- Faculty, Researcher Engagement
- Library as Essential Team Player (stewardship for UC Davis created content)
More Information

- Contact Gail Yokote
  - AUL for Collection Services
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Thank You!