Digital Initiatives Symposium

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Migratory Patterns in IRs: CONTENTdm, Digital Commons and Flying the Coop

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Migratory Patterns in IRs: CONTENTdm, Digital Commons and Flying the Coop

Presenter 1 Title  
Digital Repository Coordinator

Presenter 2 Title  
Coordinator of Scholarly Communications & Electronic Resources

Presenter 3 Title  
Digital Curation Librarian

Session Type  
45-minute concurrent session

Abstract  
What is the importance of institutional history and special collections in a digital environment? Should these pieces of history have their own digital platform or be merged with the institutional repository? What role do repositories play in the institutional environment? What impact do digital historical collections have on the stakeholder contingent as well as the global community? The speakers will discuss the rationale behind migrating collections from CONTENTdm to institutional repositories (all using bepress’s Digital Commons platform). Reasons range from subscription costs to file format concerns to increased search optimization. The migratory act will be covered in terms of method used (Excel spreadsheets, bepress add-on service, and manual) along with suggestions and lessons learned. Comparisons in usage statistics between CONTENTdm and Digital Commons demonstrating increased access to collections will also be discussed. Ultimately, the speakers hope to engage in a dialogue on the initial questions of this abstract.

Location  
Room EF

Keywords  
Digital Commons, CONTENTdm, migration, archival collections, institutional history, special collections, usage statistics, platform analysis, archives, digital materials

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Migratory Patterns in IRs: CONTENTdm, Digital Commons and Flying the Coop

Elizabeth Chance, Fort Hays State University
Michele Gibney, University of the Pacific
Kristin Laughtin-Dunker, Chapman University
CHAPMAN & PACIFIC

- Launched an institutional repository using Digital Commons (DC) platform
- Rising dissatisfaction with CONTENTdm, where digital Special Collections and Archives were housed
- DC supports text & image files - the bulk of Special Collections – therefore, combining was cost-effective

FORT HAYS

- Acknowledged that CONTENTdm and Digital Commons do different things
- CONTENTdm cost is shared with other departments so decision was made to maintain both platforms but audit collections to determine which platform was the best choice for the content.
Workflows & Usage Differences

Fort Hays - Targeted collections – on our own
Chapman - All of it – on our own
Pacific - All of it – bepress paid service
Fort Hays State University

Elizabeth Chance, MLIS
Digital Curation Librarian
Fort Hays
Targeted collections
Rationale

CONTENTdm
- Does well with image galleries
- Allows for in-depth description of complex items like scrapbooks
- Has native streaming abilities for audio and video
- Can easily present a variety of file formats in a single collection
- Has a hard time with large .pdf files
- New responsive website doesn’t have a page-flip view for .pdf
- Difficult to embed third-party content

DIGITAL COMMONS
- Great for text-based items
- Requires less metadata to get the discovery job done
- Better integration for OCR and in-text searching
- File formats other than .pdf require extra steps
- Can easily embed third-party content like book readers and YouTube videos
- No mechanism for handling compound objects like front and back of a photograph or items in a scrapbook
Identified qualities that warranted moving a collection

- Text-based collections
- .pdf collections
- Anything that would benefit from better integration of OCR
- Anything that would be better presented in a “book reader” format
- Scholarly works that would benefit from inclusion in the Digital Commons network
Fort Hays
Targeted collections

Collections Moved

- Journals
  - Academic Leadership: The Online Journal
  - Journal of Business & Leadership

- Archival Collections
  - Reveille Yearbooks
  - Athletics Programs

- Graduate Student Works
  - Master of Liberal Studies Research Papers
  - Masters Theses Collection (In Progress)
Fort Hays
Targeted collections

**General Workflow**

- Used Bepress batch upload process
  - pdf’s were reduced in size to get them under 100mb
    - This allowed us to use the first page as the cover image
  - Re-ran OCR on all the files
  - Uploaded files to our library upload server using Filezilla
  - Created new metadata where necessary and cleaned up old metadata where possible
  - When required objects were uploaded to the Internet Archive so we could embed the book reader

- Took the opportunity to inventory all of the master scans so they could be accessioned into our formal preservation system
  - Standardized file names
Fort Hays
Targeted collections
The Reveille

The Reveille

- Official Yearbook of Fort Hays State University
  - Published from 1914-2003
- Initially Digitized in 2009: Reveille 1.0
  - Presented as its own collection in CONTENTdm
  - Volumes were photographed and .pdf files were created
  - Re-mastered in 2014 to mixed results
- Library leadership expressed a desire to get more out of this collection
  - Wanted to see increased usage
    - Access and discovery were difficult due to metadata issues and loading times
  - Wanted to see improved user experience
Fort Hays
Targeted collections
The Reveille 3.0

- Book Gallery highlights cover art
- Uses the collections tool to create decade sorted sub-galleries
- Embedded book reader
Fort Hays
Targeted collections
Usage Differences

Average Views Per Item

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Collection</th>
<th>CONTENTdm</th>
<th>Digital Commons</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ALJ</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JBL</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reveille</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Athletics Programs</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- CONTENTdm
- Digital Commons
Step 1: Export metadata spreadsheets from CONTENTdm

Step 2: Recreate collection structures in DC

Step 3: Convert CONTENTdm spreadsheets to DC Batch Upload Excel sheets

Step 4: Missing URLs to the objects in CONTENTdm...

Step 5: Piece together FrankenURLs
The Problems of CONTENTdm URLs

- The metadata exports from CONTENTdm contained the URL for the record for each item.
- However, in order to import an item, Digital Commons needs a direct URL to it, not the record.
- Right-clicking the download button in CONTENTdm and copying the link address also did not work.
- Thus, we had to come up with a system to generate direct URLs to each item ourselves.
For each FrankenURL, the following pieces of information from ContentDM are needed:

- **Instance Identifier**: the unique numeric identifier for your university/instance
- **Collection Identifier**: the unique numeric identifier for the collection
- **Item Identifier**: the unique numeric identifier for each individual item
- **Width and Height** (for images, optional)
- **Filename** (for PDFs or other non-image documents)
The general formula for PDFs is:


- Chapman’s Instance identifier = 15046.

For the item “116.pdf”, which was item 115 in collection 20, the FrankenURL would be:

If you can get all of the separate pieces of information into an Excel sheet, it is easy to use the Concatenate function to create the FrankenURLs.

- Column B: the collection identifier
- Column C: /id/
- Column D: the item identifier
- Column E: /filename/
- Column F: the file name and file extension

You could then concatenate columns A-F together to create the FrankenURLs in column G, then “Paste Values” to add the text of the URLs to your batch upload sheets.
FrankenURL format for image files:


FrankenURL for item 20 in collection 1:

- http://cdm15046.contentdm.oclc.org/utils/ajaxhelper/?CISOROOT=p15046coll1&CISOPTR=20&action=2&DMSCALE=100&DMWIDTH=9999&DMHEIGHT=9999
FrankenURL format for image files:

- Tip! Put 9999 for the width and height, rather than trying to look up the width and height of each image. Digital Commons will import them at their correct size.
  - However, if you put in a number that’s too small, Digital Commons will only import part of that image and cut the rest off.

- You can also use the Concatenate function to build the FrankenURLs in a spreadsheet, then Paste Values into your batch upload sheet:
  - Column B: the collection identifier
  - Column C: &CISOPTR=
  - Column D: the item identifier
  - Column E: &action=2&DMSCALE=100&DMWIDTH=9999&DMHEIGHT=9999
Exceptions

- These tips will work for most instances of ContentDM, especially if the collection identifiers are numeric.
- However, if your instance uses alphabetical or Quick Start collection identifiers, you may have to tweak the FrankenURLs a bit.
- In the base URL, use the following section as the collection identifier in your FrankenURLs:
  - https://[instanceidentifier].contentdm.oclc.org/cdm/ref/collection/[collectionidentifier]/id/[itemidentifier]
  - For alphabetical collection identifiers, it will be a string of letters.
  - For Quick Start collections, it may include the instance identifier, and will end with “qs”.
Exceptions

- Once you have found your collection identifier, plug it into the FrankenURL after the /collection/ portion for PDFs or the CISOROOT portion for images:
  - PDFs
    - http://cdm[instanceidentifier].contentdm.oclc.org/utils/getfile/collection/[collectionidentifier]/id/[itemidentifier]/filename/[filename].[fileextension]
  - Images
- Note that you do not need to put “p[instanceidentifier]” before the collection identifiers here, as in earlier examples.
Exceptions

- For images: we did experience a few instances where after clicking on or pasting the FrankenURL, we could not view the image on our computers. However, they did import successfully into Digital Commons.

- This workaround was only discovered in consultation with two other institutions in January and February 2018, so it has not been tested on ContentDM instances with purely numeric collection identifiers (like Chapman’s were).
On ContentDM, usage had peaked at about 5,000 utilizations (page hits) per month in 2012, and had declined to about 2,300 utilizations per month in 2014.

Digital Commons usage:

- First year (September 2014-August 2015):
  - About 5,100 objects
  - 6,381 page hits (531/month)
  - 4,874 downloads (406/month)

- Second year (September 2015-August 2016):
  - About 5,700 objects
  - 16,623 page hits (1,385/month)
  - 63,892 downloads (5,324/month)

- Third year (September 2016-August 2017):
  - About 7,800 objects
  - 21,276 page hits (1,773/month)
  - 70,764 downloads (5,894/month)

- First five months of fourth year (September 2017-February 2018)
  - About 8,000 objects
  - 11,927 page hits (2,385/month)
  - 41,825 downloads (8,365/month)
Numer of Objects vs. Page Hits and Downloads Per Month

- Chapman
- All of it
- Usage
Special Collections objects account for about 40% of our content and 40% of our downloads.

4 or 5 of our Top 10 Downloads are consistently Special Collections objects that had been in ContentDM.

- 2 of these are photos of Miss Universe 1970, who is still a television personality in Puerto Rico. When people Google her, they are finding our photos, often as the top result.

- We have gotten many reproduction requests for our Japanese propaganda poster and United Press International photo collections.
University of the Pacific

Michele Gibney
Digital Repository Coordinator
“Some one else does the work? SIGN ME UP.”
Pacific
All of it
bepress paid service

35,000+ items
216 structures
bepress requires:

- Structure collection (type of structure, URLs, titles, Grouping, etc.)
- Metadata fields for each structure (double check all spellings)
- Administrators
- OAI-PMH URLs from CONTENTdm with UNIQUE Dublin Core mapping for each field for each structure
- Migration mapping chart of fields from CONTENTdm to DC FOR EACH STRUCTURE (I’ll say it again: double check all spellings)

And then you sit back and wait

- And wait
  - And wait
  - And wait....
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Field name</th>
<th>DC map</th>
<th>Data type</th>
<th>Large Search</th>
<th>Hide</th>
<th>Required</th>
<th>Vocab</th>
<th>add field</th>
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</table>
Problems

- **COMPOUND OBJECTS** (DC doesn’t handle these well)
  - Empty top level rows
  - Copy/paste nightmare
  - Massive # of items = search and revision difficulties

- Certain fields
  - Circa dates/original dates
  - Author standardization

- JPEG2000 image files
  - Download/Access
  - Naming structure

- Embedded audio/video

- Needs of harvesters
Pacific
All of it
Compound Objects
Pacific
All of it
Embedded A/V

CONTENTdm hosted

Digital Commons
does not host
All of it
Partial Manually

- Multi image records VS PDFs (preservation VS ease of use)
- Multi-format type collections

Led to...

- Manual migrations
  - Metadata export
  - Capturing full text URLs in CDM
  - Conversion to single PDFs
  - Batch uploading
Pacific
All of it
Usage

Usage Comparison

Content added to Digital Commons in May 2017
CONTENTdm subscription ended in October 2017
Pacific
All of it
Usage

Download Map for all collections in Digital Commons
Discussion
Discussion

- **Discuss factors affecting migration**
  - File preservation
  - Historical metadata preservation
  - Preserving historical usage data

- **Determine the pro/cons of migrations**
  - Migrate targeted collections
  - Consolidate platforms
  - Consider labor involved: DIY vs. paid service options

- **Do your research**
  - Look at collections from similar institutions
  - Talk to librarians who have done migrations
  - Document your process to act as a resource in the future
THANK YOU

Questions?

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