Collaborating Over the Long Haul,
For the Long Haul:
The MetaArchive Experience

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National Digital Information Infrastructure and Preservation Program (NDIIPP)

- Government funding to:
  - Build and support a national network of partners working together to preserve digital content.
  - Identify and preserve at-risk digital content.
  - Support development and use of tools, models, and methods for digital preservation.
  - Develop a national digital collection and preservation strategy.
- Overall effort involves more than 130 partners
Components of the Collaboration

- LOCKSS (Stanford)
- MetaScholar Initiative (Emory)
- “Exposing Hidden Collections” conference (ARL)
Establishing the MetaArchive Cooperative

- Distributed digital preservation network for critical and at-risk content relating to the history and culture of the American South.
- Develop a prioritized conspectus to ensure preservation of the digital materials most vulnerable to loss and in formats considered most at risk.
- Use LOCKSS to harvest digital content from each other.
- Create cooperative agreement for sustainable collaboration
Lots of Copies Keeps Stuff Safe
Sustainability and governance

- Flexible organizational model
  - Charter broadly defines mission, goals, and activities of the Cooperative
  - Membership Agreement details responsibilities of members of Cooperative
  - Establishment of nonprofit organization, MetaArchive Services Group, to administer Cooperative
    - Minimal overhead.
Membership types and fees

- All membership types presuppose membership in the LOCKSS Alliance (rates based on Carnegie classification) and a 3-year commitment

- Sustaining Members
  - Leadership role
  - Operate a node
  - Contribute more of content/year to be harvested
  - Cost: $5K/year or $12K/3 years

- Preservation Members
  - Operate a node
  - Contribute some content/year to be harvested
  - Cost: $1K/year

- Contributing Members
  - Contribute 1 collection(plugin) to be harvested (can buy more)
  - Cost: $300/year
Expansion and adaptation

- Improving and expanding existing collaboration
  - Evolving standards and guidelines to offer as a model for new networks and collaborations
  - Enhancing technology, tools, and services
  - Wide applicability to a range of institutions and digital content
- Adding new networks
  - Electronic Theses and Dissertations Network
  - Transatlantic Slave Trade Network
- Advising other Private LOCKSS Networks (PLNs)
  - Alabama Digital Preservation Network
  - Arizona Persistent Digital Archives and Library System (PeDALS)
  - Data Preservation Alliance for the Social Sciences (DataPASS)
- Ongoing exploration of projects to investigate and advance digital preservation
Committees within the Cooperative

- Steering Committee
- Content Committee
- Preservation Committee
- Technical Committee
- Ad hoc committees
Communication tools

- Conference calls (1/week)
- Steering Committee meetings (2/year)
- Participation in NDIIPP meetings
- Listserv(s)
- Wiki for document development
- [http://www.freeconference.com](http://www.freeconference.com)
- [http://doodle.com](http://doodle.com) for scheduling meetings
- [http://ooovoo.com/](http://ooovoo.com/) for videoconferencing
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