

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

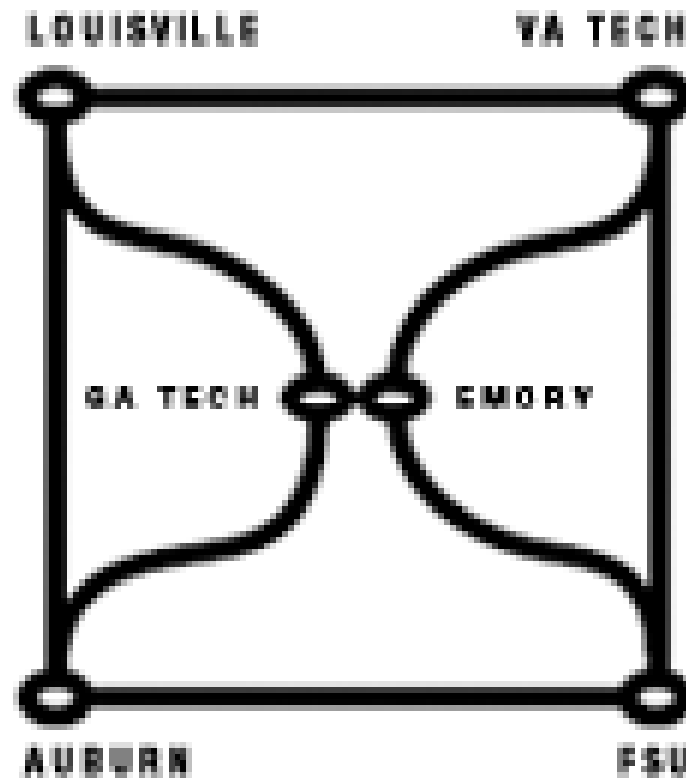
- LOCKSS (Stanford)
- MetaScholar Initiative (Emory)
- “Exposing Hidden Collections” conference (ARL)

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://doodle.com> for scheduling meetings
- <http://oovoo.com/> for videoconferencing

For more information...

- MetaArchive - <http://www.metaarchive.org/>
- LOCKSS – <http://www.lockss.org>
- NDIIPP - <http://www.digitalpreservation.gov/>