Preserving Your Institutional Repository in a Distributed Environment

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Areas of Discussion

- Preservation and the Institutional Repository
- Why Preserve?
- Methods of Preserving
- What We Selected and Why
- A Newcomers Perspective
Preservation and the Institutional Repository

- How many people do some type of preservation at your institute?
- How many do some type of digital preservation?
- How many have an institutional repository?
Why Have an Institutional Repository?

- For those who have an IR, what are some reasons for having one?
- Share your work with researchers around the world without having to manage a server yourself
- Links live in perpetuity so cited work never has broken links
- Archive is secure, organized, and regularly backed-up
- Archived work is migrated over time
Why Preserve?
Just a Storm

- Tropical Storm Allison
- 5 days (June 5–9, 2001)
- 37 inches of rain
Just a Tropical Storm
Rice University Campus
Houston’s Medical Center

- 10 million gallons of water in basement UTHSC
- 5,000 research animals and cadavers lost
- Basement walls and doors crushed in
- $2 billion in damage
But I Don’t Live Along the Coast...
Natural Disasters

- Earthquakes
- Hurricanes/Storms
- Wildfires
- Tornadoes
- Blizzards/Avalanches
- Tsunamis
- Volcanic eruption
- Mine subsidence
Current Methods of Preserving

- Stored to servers and backed up
- Stored in IR and backed up
- LOCKSS
- CLOCKSS
- GPO LOCKSS
- MetaArchive Cooperative
Preserving Our IR: What We Selected and Why

- MetaArchive Cooperative
- Existing relationship w/Program Director
- Already member of LOCKSS
- Sounded intriguing, realistic, and cost effective
- Distributed
A Newcomers Perspective

- Definitely NOT plug and play
- Been very slow (1 yr and counting) with a learning curve
- Legal issues
- Small community of users to date but growing
Newcomers Perspective (cont.)

- Issues harvesting other’s data because of security features at their institution
- Dspace site (Georgia Tech other Dspace user)
- Issues with LOCKSS software
Newcomers Perspective (cont.)

- Weekly phone calls give sense of community
- MetaArchive very responsive and helpful
- The community is growing and the concept is scalable
- Worth the growing pains to be in at the beginning and molding the cooperative
We Believe In It!!!
In Case You Need Reminders

Right: Galveston before & after
Above: I-45 leading to Galveston
Thank you!