

Minutes
DISC/KB Committee
Meeting 7 February 2007
Ackerman 5826

Present: Beth Black (by telephone), Tschera Connell, Tom Cetwinski, Nena Couch, Leta Hendricks, Sarah Murphy, Dan Noonan, Nancy O'Hanlon, Beth Whittaker, Sally Rogers, Maureen Walsh (guest)

Agenda

1. Agenda review
2. Minutes (Nena)
3. Digital projects web site (Nancy)

There is nothing new to add. Nancy has heard from almost everyone she has contacted to ask to look at the web site, so everything is o.k.

4. IMLS grant idea (Sarah)

Everyone (Columbus Museum of Art, King Arts Complex, WOSU) Sarah has called has returned her calls, so there is interest in collaborating, but they need details on what the project will be. Sarah is not clear on which grant we are pursuing, and how we will benefit from it. It is an outreach engagement project. All the players have to be in agreement on the objective. Each player might have a different idea of what they hope to get out of it. The largest challenge is trying to explain what we are trying to get out of it.

Dan noted that IMLS is looking for innovation and that projects should be interoperable, scalable for others, also that there are learning outcomes. He described the New Jersey project for the Digital Highway Repository. So the question is, what is the unique thing that we can bring to the table in collaboration with the Columbus Museum of Art?

Nena suggested that we look at the CMA annual report which described several areas of interest including "Art of Concern" which could be a broad content topic that all the interested parties might be able to buy into. Tom noted that WOSU has the infrastructure and ability to deliver data. WOSU and CMA both have experience with IMLS grants. Tschera suggested that we might come up with things that we would like to do in digitization and then go to the possible collaborators to determine their interest. The Cleveland project was about building a collaborative learning community. Digital delivery infrastructure for works of art has been less than satisfactory – might we want to explore use of Media Manager to bridge infrastructure gap? Media Manager is not intended for long term preservation. What is CMA using for its accessions database? Beth would prefer to see us go in direction of building infrastructure. Dan found that one difficulty in working with museums is the difference in what metadata is used in libraries

and museums. We would need to look at previous IMLS grants to see if anyone has done it before. We have been struggling with infrastructure issues and have discussed JPEG2000, and this would really help us. We need to look at multiple funding sources.

Sarah has people talking, so doesn't want to wait to call them back. Tschera suggests telling them that we are leaning toward looking for a structural way to present our materials, and ask them to come to a brainstorming session. Sally noted that if we are leaning toward a non-digitization project, then DISC may not be the appropriate group to follow up, or that it might be broader than a digitization project, and we might need to bring other OSU people in. Tschera thinks that focus can start here because DISC has had delivery problems. The grant committee is there to evaluate ideas but not to accomplish projects. Dan suggested that we consider what we can do for three-dimensional delivery (costumes, etc.) which might be the kind of innovative project that IMLS would like. Sally noted that the Baggs collection would be good for 3D. Nena suggested bringing in ACCAD at some point for 3D. Sarah will schedule a meeting with DISC volunteers (Beth W., Nena, Wes, Sarah) and CMA and WOSU.

Mary Stewart at UIUC called regarding their IMLS grant for digitization of college newspapers. They are using Olive and need to come up with IMLS match, and would like to include others as part of match. However, Olive might not be the successful vendor for our RFP, so Mary S. will need to talk with Amy to see where we are with the RFP.

5. Large format scanning (re problem submitted by Mary Scott)

We are trying to obtain a large format scanner for Amy's area. The problem that Mary Scott identified is that some pieces are delivered in four parts which makes it unusable for her researcher needs who really needs access to full map. Mary said it would be better to do a single full scan. Amy noted that if it had been done that way, it would be too small. Tschera asked if you make a policy on your first case or do you fix this one and then wait and see? Beth B. suggested looking at what other map libraries have done. We will go back to Mary to give her options and see what works best for her community. Beth B. will send a question to the DLIOC list and Sally will forward it to the OhioLINK ETD list as well.

6. PDF Webcast Feb. 5: Implications for our digital initiatives

Dan has extra copies of the presentation, and Betty Sawyers will put it on the web. PDF-A is a vetted ISO standard, so works as an open source framework. Adobe has put the whole reference for the PDF format as open source. Both of these are good news. One can be fully in conformance with PDF-A or light conformance.

TIFF or JPEG2000 are still better way to go for images, for text PDF-A is good for preservation. Adobe 8 has capability for creating PDF-A. Some people in the library have Adobe 7. PDF-A currently is based on reference to 1.4 to Adobe which goes back to Adobe 5. The next phase of the standard is to deal with conformance and

compatibility. Fonts have to be imbedded to be truly conformable, but at same time some fonts are proprietary and can't be imbedded. Probably PDF-A is not good for databases or spreadsheets if one is interested in functionality, but is good for text.

Sally will follow up with Trisha regarding creation of PDFs for older OSU theses and dissertations. Beth asked whether we should encourage anyone submitting to the KB to use PDF-A, and Dan said yes, especially if they have the capability of doing it. Tschera feels that most of KB contributors don't. Beth asked about the difficulty in our converting them. Dan felt that we could, but the concern would be whether they have put imbedded fonts or not. We could set up a test. There was discussion of who has Adobe 8 and who needs it. Sally will add this to her list for discussion with Jason. If we have it, then KB contributors can give material to us in Word and then we can convert it.

PDF-A doesn't have a different extension which, Beth noted, may be a problem for KB. There are three other standards being worked on – PDF-X for exchange of publishing materials, PDF-E for engineering materials, and PDF-UA for accessibility. Regardless of what one does with PDF-A, keep the original.

7. Criteria DISC could propose to CAC to use in deciding if to fund digitization
Sally thinks it would be most useful to give them something to react to.

Criteria discussed:

- lasting research and teaching value
- material that is interdisciplinary
- connections to the curriculum
- subject areas that have had a lot of digitization versus areas that have little or no digitized resources
- how it complements other resources
- potential for collaboration and availability of expertise in departments
- physical condition of originals
- ability to deliver digitized material successfully
- intended audience
- is it technically possible for us
- availability of outside funding/support
- rights availability or what it would take to get rights

8. Open Repositories conference issues (Beth B)

See Beth's report on the Open Repositories Conference which was 4 days [report was e-mailed to libdisc 2/7]. The major themes were interoperability, information to keep, eScience and eResearch, open access, collaboration, and preservation. There was discussion on the future of dSpace including the development of Manakin. We will have to upgrade our DSpace before we can implement Manakin. Other topics included discussion of the issues that we and other universities have had regarding repositories. Dan will look at the OpenOffice and will report at the next meeting, including whether it is a standard. Tschera asked when do we convert to OpenOffice and when to convert to

PDF-A. In OpenOffice it would be possible to tamper with the document, whereas PDF fixes it at a point in time. Tschera sees an advantage in putting data into the KB in OpenOffice so users can download it and work with it.

Beth's recommendations for action:

- upgrade dSpace to 1.4 as soon as possible after VM upgrade on server
- install Manakin
- fill Andrew's position focused on dSpace, repositories and possible publishing
- explore METS

9. Other

Tim Smith (College of Humanities IT) is arranging for XML training on campus. Tschera has expressed an interest. Dan noted that there will be a pre-ALA session on PREMIS.

Peter at OhioLINK has a new title as they try to reinvent OhioLINK. They are folding development of the Digital Media Center (DRC) into regular development. Anita Cook is in charge. Hopefully we will hear more soon.

10. Next meeting: Feb. 21