

**ACC Digital Repository Subcommittee  
Report on Digital Repositories at MSU  
November, 2007**

At its May 7th meeting, the Academic Computing Committee charged the Digital Repository Ad Hoc Committee with looking at existing digital projects at MSU and different digital repository systems that might be implemented on a campus-wide basis and reporting back to the ACC with its recommendations in the Fall.

The Ad Hoc Digital Repository Subcommittee of the MSU Academic Computer Committee met on May 17th, 2007, and conducted an informal email questionnaire of MSU ACC members and IT staff, asking for information on current digital repositories, perceived need, and possible future plans for purchasing digital repository systems. See Appendix A for the survey email and definition of "digital repository."

The following are the questionnaire results divided into three sections: 1) Reported Digital Repositories at MSU; 2) Respondents' Plans for DR systems; and 3) Respondents' Recommendations, followed by the ACC Subcommittee's Conclusions.

**Reported digital repositories at MSU**

Library

- 1) Montclair Electronic Text Archive (META) open-source system, which uses Deja-vu file formats for classical texts and The Spectator Project at <http://meta.montclair.edu>
- 2) The Montclarion Student Newspaper Archive, which uses ContentDM system software on a linux server, and can be browsed at: <http://meta.montclair.edu/montclarion/>

CHSS

- 1) Montclair Electronic Language Database (MELD) corpus linguistics project at CHSS, directed by Eileen Fitzpatrick, which "collects English text written by English as a Second Language (ESL) students" and is online at: <http://www.chss.montclair.edu/linguistics/MELD/>
- 2) Other linguistics research projects are described online at: <http://www.chss.montclair.edu/linguistics/linguistics.research.html>
- 3) We do use FileMaker Pro, which has the capability to hold things other than flat text (such as PDFs and photos), but we use this almost exclusively for administrative means.

IT

- 1) BlackBoard Content Management System (CMS) at <http://montclair.blackboard.com>
- 2) Medical Missions Digital Video Library Project Using VideoBank at: <http://www.mmissions.org/news/pr/msupartnership.html>

Communications and Marketing Dept.

MSU Photo Gallery

[http://communications.montclair.edu:16080/res/sites/msu\\_imagegallery\\_media/](http://communications.montclair.edu:16080/res/sites/msu_imagegallery_media/)

Language Learning Technology (LLT) Department

LLT uses Apple's QuickTime, Real's RealMedia, and Microsoft's WindowsMedia formats for content distribution. These are delivered using Apple's QuickTime Streaming Server (QTSS), Real's Helix server, and Microsoft's WindowsMedia Services. We deliver these on Mac OS X Server, Solaris, and Windows 2003. LLT secures permissions for redistribution from copyright holders

ADP Center for Teacher Preparation and Learning Technologies

The ADP Center has been using some basic free online tools (box.net) to house many of our technology documentation (tutorials, podcasts, video's etc). But it is cumbersome to upload and has limited space. We also manage an instructional media design lab where students and faculty use a networked hard drive to archive and access digital video, audio and other files that they create for teaching and learning purposes or to include in their electronic portfolios. Faculty and students have also been uploading some of these files to the Blackboard content system to be included in online course materials or an electronic portfolio.

We are also currently developing a series of online workshops that integrate video, blogs, wiki's and podcasts. We are housing them on free distribution and publishing tools such as TeacherTube.com, EduBlogs and MediaWiki but would love to use a tool that doubles as a repository so we could repurpose some of our content in other workshops.

### **Respondents' plans for DR Systems**

Library:

I would like to see a campus digital repository system based on Fedora, which is open source. This way Departments and Units would not have to buy different proprietary systems, we would have one for all which would allow better access to the content. At the present it is difficult to find out exactly what digital content is available at MSU.

CHSS

This need cannot be calculated - I can think of a large number of faculty who use a variety of items repeatedly each semester. Works of art, pictures, music, slides, etc.... Classics and General Humanities, Archeology, Anthropology, Psychology researchers, the list of those who could make use of something like this, if they knew about it and it was easy enough to use (and possibly integrate into BlackBoard), is probably quite long.

IT

IT is currently trying out the BlackBoard Learning Objects Catalog, which could function as a digital repository.

#### LLT

As faculty create more content, and as LLT works to implement a TV over IP solution, we anticipate that we will have self-made content, possibly with subcomponents (i.e. set of activities centered around a news clip). We may also have content that we use in digital form (scans of photos or other artifacts). We, of course, recognize that there is another copyright holder, and, if the content was to be used beyond the 10-15 days that is recognized as fair use, then we would obtain permissions for extended use.

#### ADP Center for Teacher Preparation and Learning Technologies

Our curriculum library has also experimented with Patty Kahn and John O'Brien in OIT to upload some of our most highly requested professional education videos using their video server- but we ran into some copyright issues and the streaming speed was not very effective for viewing over wireless internet connections.

In short, we would need a system that not only houses and organizes a variety of searchable file types but also attaches them to a specific user while providing opportunities for sharing among users as well as the world at large.

#### **Respondents' Recommendations:**

1) Some areas where a digital repository would be useful on campus include:

- \* photo archives
- \* art images
- \* e-journal publishing
- \* database storage
- \* podcasting and videoconference archives, and
- \* born-digital Web resources.

2) To cut costs and enable better access to materials in current systems, investigate implementing a campus-wide institutional repository system.

3) Examine other models for campus-wide institutional repository system, such as:

#### **\* RUCore: The Rutgers Community Repository**

**<http://rucore.libraries.rutgers.edu/>**

#### **\* Ball State Digital Media Repository:**

**<http://libx.bsu.edu>**

#### **Subcommittee's Conclusions:**

The ACC Digital Repository Subcommittee believes that the above responses give an accurate snapshot of digital repository efforts on campus at this time, though this report by no means represents a comprehensive listing of all digital asset repositories on campus. These reported activities make it clear that MSU has many isolated repositories

of digital assets, and there is a need for a consolidation of these repositories into a single institutional repository and for a clear policy on digital asset storage and preservation at MSU.

Therefore, the Subcommittee recommends that the Faculty Senate and the Office of Information Technology convene a working group that will be responsible for:

- 1 investigating a repository infrastructure for MSU, including issues of advocacy, process and ingest, and developments in resource discovery and use.
- 2 developing a policy environment where digital asset production will flourish. These policies would manage the creation, supply, access to and preservation of digital images, multimedia, research papers, etc. for the purposes of education or research.
- 3 finding and exploiting synergies across MSU and beyond, gathering scenarios and use cases from projects, establishing liaisons with faculty and staff and other national and international institutional repositories.

Respectfully submitted by:

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ACC Digital Repository Subcommittee members:

- \* Mary Mallery (Chair), Library Administration
- \* Lynda Hong, Dept. of Art and Design
- \* Patricia Kahn, OIT
- \* Anthony Pemberton, CART Faculty
- \* Sofya Poger, CEHS Administration
- \* Susana Sotillo, CHSS Faculty
- \* Brian Hancock, Library Faculty