Using Islandora multi-sites to sustain faculty digital humanities projects: Collections U of T
Kelli Babcock, Digital Initiatives Librarian
Information Technology Services, University of Toronto Libraries

What are DH faculty needs?*

- < 40.1% always use electronic resources
- 30.4% always use databases >
- < 39.2% always use software
- 30% always use webpages >
- < 23.8% always use digital manuscripts
- 15% always use bibliographic software >

*Sustainable tools to meet DH faculty needs

Our solution: Collections U of T, a repository multi-site service using the Islandora platform.

What Collections U of T offers

- < extensive Drupal modules; Islandora solution packs for various types of digital objects
- Drupal MySQL database; FedoraCommons; SOLR search >
- < image annotation; OCR; RSS search results; and many more Islandora micro services
- Drupal web publishing tools; front-end content ingest forms (single item and batch) >
- < OpenSeadragon viewer; Internet Archive Bookreader; djatoka image server
- Islandora Bookmark; Islandora Scholar>

How Collections U of T fulfills the digital curation life cycle...

Transform: built in XSLT, re-purpose objects into digital exhibits, timelines, and maps through Drupal, Omeka, and other tools.
Create or Receive: create or receive digital objects through metadata ingest forms or batch import options.
Appraise & Select: manage digital objects through Islandora administrator user interface, delete or edit object data-streams.
Preservation Action: Built in community-developed preservation tools, such as Checksum, Checksum Checker, PREMIS, and BagIt.

Collections U of T: the parent site

Collections U of T is the Islandora “parent site” of the Collections U of T service. The site enables the preservation, management, and discovery of collections from library and archives departments at U of T, as well as DH projects managed by faculty and librarians. Digital collection objects range in format - from images, video, audio, books, manuscripts, and binary data. All digital object content is stored in one FedoraCommons repository.

http://collections.library.utoronto.ca

Library multi-sites

Collections U of T allows us to leverage one repository to build multi-sites for library digital collections, such as the Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library and the Canadian Necrology sites, as well as DH research projects. Drupal multi-sites allow our department to re-use Drupal theming work, such as the U of T branded theme displayed on the Fisher site and edited for use on the Canadian Necrology site:

http://necrology.library.utoronto.ca/
http://fishercollections.library.utoronto.ca/

DH project multi-sites

The Project for the Study of Dissidence and Samizdat is a repository of Soviet Samizdat Periodicals. It is currently under development by U of T faculty member, Ann Komaromi. The Collections U of T service enabled our department to provide repository services for the project. It is now sustainably preserved through the Collections U of T digital curation life cycle. Development of DH assets, such as an interactive timeline, are made possible for the project through the use of Drupal and Islandora tools.

kelli.babcock@utoronto.ca
@Kellib
http://its.library.utoronto.ca/staff/kelli-babcock