

# Diving Into the Unknown:

Perspectives on Overcoming Digital Preservation Barriers

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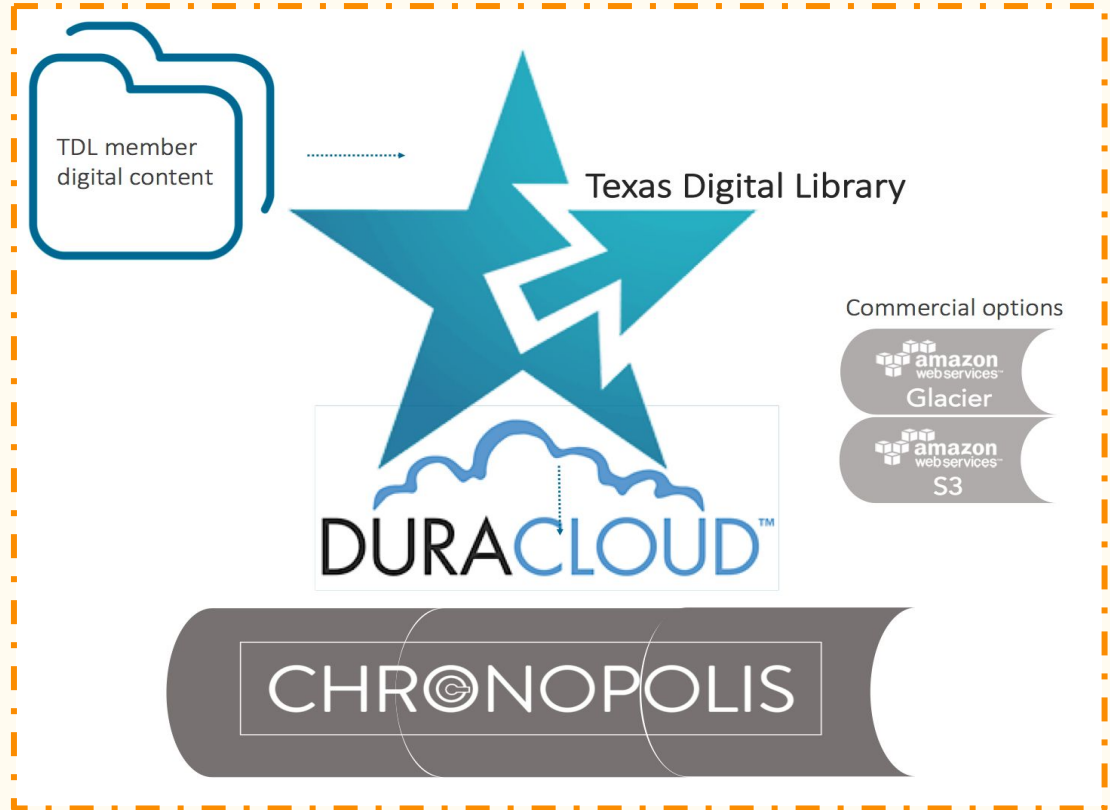
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Valley

# Overview

- Intro to TDL DPS & DPS UG
  - Panelist answers to:
    - Local DP needs
    - Barriers & challenges
    - Programs and workflows
  - Open discussion & Q&A
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# TDL Digital Preservation Services (DPS)

- Consultation support for local workflow integration and content prioritization
- Resource sharing
- Education and training (tools, methods, emerging theory)
- Storage infrastructure



# TDL DPS Activities



## TDL DPS User Group

- Shared representation on NDSA, etc.
- Strengthen & formalize monthly meetups

## Web Archiving Texas #WATX19

- November 6, 2019, at Baylor
- <https://www.tdl.org/2019/04/web-archiving-texas/>

## Digital Preservation Services Collaborative

- <https://github.com/dpscollaborative>

## Chronopolis

- Expand & strengthen partnership
- Preservation store for TDR - Dataverse

## Private & sensitive data advancement

- (HIPAA/FERPA; TACC, UCSD, IMLS)

## Scaling Emulation and Software Preservation Infrastructure (EaaSI)

- Advisory Board
- <https://www.softwarepreservationnetwork.org/eaasi/>

Q1 What digital things  
do you need to  
preserve?

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# ASU

Worthy to post in repository? Worthy of DP.

- IR (ASU's scholarship; University Archives)
- West Texas Collection
- Common, open, and stable file formats
- Simple digital objects and datasets
- About 1 TB, 9K items on deck

# UTRGV

Both Special Collections and University Archives

24,000 digital assets, ~450 oral histories

~200 Collections

Focusing on **already digitized** and **born digital materials** for now

Can't back up every single thing - working on making it a part of new digital items, then tackling the backlog.



# UT

- Defining the scope
  - Organizational history
  - Stewarding vs preserving
- Mostly special collection materials
  - digitized and born digital

# TAMU

- Publications/Serials
  - Student newspapers, dissertations, yearbooks, journals, System pubs, etc.
    - Digitized, image-based, item-level, 15-20 TBs
- Collections/Archives
  - Special Collections: rare books, manuscripts, “legacy”, include born-digital, A/V
  - IR, gov docs, University dept/org, web, 3D
- Data
  - Datasets in TDR, perpetual access copies, purchased e-resources (Portico)
- Future (?)
  - Online exhibits, University Press, George R.R. Martin, System-wide

Not exhaustive list / not all collections equal / tiered approach

Q2 What are barriers  
to preserving your  
digital things?

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# ASU

Is it a trusted digital repository? Not yet.

- Other IR management priorities
- Lack of background in DP
- Stepping into DP darkness among peers
- DPN failure

# UTRGV

Lack of staff time and expertise

Split campuses

Communications with IT

Necessary paperwork for long term digital preservation

- UTPA and UTB combined - each have their own collections/paperwork
- Not all paperwork was properly documented/transferred to UTRGV

# UT

- Scale of data
- Diversity of data
- Size of organization
- Legacy workflows

# TAMU

Preservation as a component within a digital ecosystem:

- Scope - collection sizes, legacy content, University size and breadth
- Staff - hours, expertise and knowledge, communication, time management
- Workflows - documentation, coordination, variation, human error
- Technical - change, failures, delays, misunderstanding

Resources don't provide immunity

Sustainability not merely a funding issue

Q3 What are you doing  
to preserve your digital  
things?

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# ASU

Plugging forward ... get real, get skills, then be positive

- Recontract for Chronopolis
- Work with expert (C. Mumma)
- Organize items for pre-ingest
- Set up work for graduate intern
- Connect with DP folks and lit

# UTRGV

Born digital collections go through Chronopolis as part of their ingest

- All new collections are being backed up as part of the accession and access workflows

Backlog: handled collection by collection

Mandating more robust paperwork as part of accessions/acquisitions

Must have finding aid before they can be backed up (unless special circumstance)

- Ensures both preservation and access to collections

# UT

- Building on legacy practices
- Increasing automation where possible
- Moving away from mass and toward selection
- Access-focused projects' positive effects on metadata

# TAMU

- Establish tiered approach to digital preservation: tiers 1, 2, and 3
  - Higher the institutional value, higher the tier
  - Higher the tier, greater the preservation investment
- Archivemata → Chronopolis (~~DPN~~) or Glacier via DuraCloud@TDL
- Local storage - multiple copies
- Create committees to oversee stewardship activities
  - Digital Project Management Team (DPMT)
  - Digital Stewardship group (DigiStew)
- Leverage regional and national expertise and user communities
  - National Digital Stewardship Alliance (NDSA) and subgroups; Archivemata Forum
  - TDL: DPS, DPSUG, Archivemata Users Group (A-Tex)
  - Artefactual: Contract technical support

# Discussion and Audience Q&A



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