TDL Labs
Partnerships for Exploration

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The University of Texas at Austin
... support a fully online scholarly community for institutions of higher education in Texas...

- **Institutional Services**
  - Digital Institutional Repositories
  - ETD submission and management

- **Faculty Services**
  - Electronic Journals Scholarly Blogs
  - Research Wikis
  - Faculty Directory
  - Online Conference Management
This is a tall order
Challenges

• Resource constraints
• Breadth of expertise
  – Policy
  – Preservation
  – Evaluation
  – Privacy
  – Processes
  – Vision
  – Infrastructure
  – User Interfaces
  – Metadata
  – Info. Management
  – Technology (mobile phones)
• Changing landscape
Changing landscape

• Funding models
• Individual and institutional expectations
• Policies, procedures, and workflows
• Evolving technology
  – Innovation
  – Obsolescence
Need to look ahead

• Evaluate
  – Current services
  – User experience

• Assess
  – Technologies
  – Processes and workflows

• Develop
  – Support for collection management and use
  – Models for evaluation and assessment
  – Standards for representation, metadata, processes
Addressing challenges

• Soldier on with TDL staff
• Increase funding from participating units
  – Cash or kind (FTE)
• Attract external funding
  – Cash or kind (infrastructure)
• Partner with other units
  – On- and off-campus
School of Information

Preserve the past. Manage the present. Design the future.

- 250+ graduate students
- Faculty background and interests
  - Digital Libraries
  - Digital Archives
  - Metadata Issues
  - User Interfaces
  - Information behavior
  - Information retrieval
  - Evaluation
  - Policy
  - Preservation
  - Conservation
  - Privacy
  - Management
  - Gender and minority participation in IT
TDL Labs

Test bed for experimenting and assessing new technologies, policies, and services

• Partner with other units on TDL campuses
  – Academic units - departments, schools, colleges
  – Operational units - IT services, libraries
  – Administrative units - Presidents, Provosts, VPs, Deans
Advantages

• Buy-in from a broader audience
• Diversity of expertise
• Competitive grant proposals
• Low operational burden on TDL staff
• Minimal upfront commitment from units
• Access to a large student pool
• Students: experience and marketable skills
Limitations

• No immediate influx of money or resources
  – Minimal upfront investment
  – External funding

• Student work may not always be reliable
  – Supervision from faculty and staff

• Differences in vision and priorities
  – Periodic coordination between project groups
TDL Labs – Projects and Collaborations

- Infrastructure
- Collections
- Interfaces
- Standards
- Services
Projects – Infrastructure

- Next generation platforms for TDL
  – Survey of repository software

- Archimede, Laval University Library
- DAITSS, Florida Center for Library Automation
- Dienst, Cornell Digital Library Research Group
- DSpace, DSpace Foundation DuraSpace
- Enterprise-Wide Digital Repository and Archive, Sun Microsystems
- EPrints Free Software
- ETD-db, Virginia Tech University Libraries
- Fedora, Fedora Commons DuraSpace
- Greenstone, New Zealand Digital Library Project, University of Wankato
- Invenio, CERN Integrated Digital Library System
- IRPlus, University of Rochester.
- Keystone Digital Library Suite, Index Data. DLS is no" longer being actively developed."
- Omeka, Center for History and New Media, George Mason University
- OPUS, Stuttgart University Library
- eXtensible Text Framework (XTF), California Digital Library
- WEKO, National Institute of Informatics
Projects – Collections

• Instatiating DL for Selected Collections
  – Repository of Physical Culture
  The H.J. Lutcher Stark Center

http://www.starkcenter.org/
Projects – Interfaces

• Novel Designs
  – Mobile devices
  – Large format
  – People with disabilities

• Visualizations
  – Book viewers
  – Scientific data
  – Geo-spatial data
Projects – Standards

• Data sharing policies and support
  – NIH
  – NSF
  – ANDS
  – Journals
Projects – Services

- Scholarly publishing
  - JoDI
- Institutional repositories
  - ETD Vireo
- Preservation
  - Preservation Network
- Community generated metadata
  - Folksonomies
- Studies
  - impact of repositories on core business of universities
Projects – Looking ahead

• Participation from all TDL campuses
  – Meeting the needs of individual units
  – Identifying other units to collaborate
    • Your campus
    • Other campuses

• Matchmaking service
  – Unit competencies database
  – Proposed project database