U.S. libraries, archives and museums have accepted responsibility for preserving a total of 4.8 billion items
The Problem

U.S. Collections in Unknown Condition & in Need

- Books/Bound Volumes
- Unbound Sheets in linear feet
- Unbound Sheets in items
- Microfilm/Microfiche
- Photographic Collections
- Moving Image
- Recorded Sound
- Digital Materials
- Online Files
- Art Objects
- Historic Objects
- Archaeological Collections, individually cataloged
- Archaeological Collections, bulk cataloged
- Natural Science Specimens

In Unknown Condition
In Need
The Response

Connecting to Collections: The IMLS Conservation Initiative

www.imls.gov
A Call to Action

- Conservation Summit in Summer 2007
- Four Regional Conservation Forums in 2008
- Conservation Bookshelf available in 2007
- Statewide Conservation Planning Grants available in 2007
A New Look at Stewardship

WebWise 2007

Stewardship in the Digital Age: Managing Museum and Library Collections for Preservation and Use
March 1-2, 2007, Washington, DC

Summary of proceedings coming soon

Full papers published in FirstMonday in June at http://www.firstmonday.org
“In addition to preserving tangible objects, we need digital repositories for collections that are physically vulnerable, on fragile or unstable media, or born digital.”

Anne Radice
IMLS Director
“The use of digitization for preservation reformatting is inevitable because analog processes and materials are disappearing from the marketplace. Microfilm will be phased out as a preservation option over the next 5 years.”

Steve Puglia
NARA
What is digital stewardship?

- **Stewardship** = **Preservation** + **Use**

- **Preservation** includes preserving the content by continual migration and reformatting, in addition to [sometimes instead of] the original object

- **Digital preservation** will likely be based on standards and redundancy
“Technology is a moving target... There is a growing concern among producers and archivists that much information is being ‘lost’ because it is not readily available online.”

Selma Thomas
Watertown Productions
“Good documentation is essential so that researchers know what is available and can find a particular segment quickly. It is important to have collections in more than one format and to reformat to the current technology to maintain accessibility. Institutions that cannot or do not want to undertake the costs of converting fragile formats, upgrading to new formats, and creating search mechanisms to help researchers find the material they need should make these decisions before they start collecting and perhaps reconsider their acquisitions policies.”

Jennifer Locke Jones
National Museum of American History
“The most important thing is to plan for the long-term from the outset rather than to opt for short-term solutions that can inhibit preservation and use at a later stage.”

Nate McQueen
Digital Well
The ResearchChannel
IMLS Funding Opportunities

- **National Leadership Grants for Libraries and Museums**
  
  - Proposals to investigate ways to enhance the archiving, preservation, management, discovery and use of digital assets and resources [RESEARCH & DEMONSTRATION]
  
  - Projects to support the creation, use, preservation, and presentation of significant digital resources as well as the development of tools to manage digital assets [BUILDING DIGITAL RESOURCES]
IMLS Funding Opportunities

- Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian Program
  - Data curation and digital asset management programs in graduate schools of library and information science
  - Continuing education programs in cultural heritage
National Leadership Grants for Libraries and Museums

Categories of Funding

- Research & Demonstration Projects
- Building Digital Resources
- Library and Museum Collaborations
- Collaborative Planning Grants — NEW!
NLG Research & Demonstration

University of Rochester
River Campus Libraries
(2006)

Tools for writing dissertations in the university’s open-source DSpace-based institutional repository system
Model preservation repository based on the Open Archival Information System (OAIS) reference model

http://www.cdlib.org/
Florida Center for Library Automation (2002)

Dark Archives in the Sunshine State, a working preservation repository based on format migration, accepts most digital AV formats; application software freely available

http://www.fcla.edu/digitalArchive/index.html

State-based networked repository based on the LOCKSS model for preserving digital content created by academic institutions, state agencies and cultural heritage organizations

http://www.lockss.org/lockss/Alabama_Digital_Preservation_Network
University of North Carolina Chapel Hill (2006)

Partnership with Folkstreams.net
Provides online access to digitally reformatted films & preserves original films offline

http://www.folkstreams.net/vafp/
University of California, Santa Barbara (2003)
Online access to digital copies of more than 6,000 wax cylinder recordings

http://cylinders.library.ucsb.edu/
Collaborative Digitization Program project to develop a shared statewide infrastructure for audio resources, including centralized streaming services and storage of audio files for institutions lacking archiving and storage capacity.

http://www/cdopheritage.org/digital/audio/resources.cfm
National Leadership Grants for Libraries and Museums

- Maximum award 1,000,000
- 1:1 cost sharing required < $250,000 (except research)
- 1/3 cost sharing encouraged > $250,000
- Deadline February 1, 2008
Insights

- Preservation of digital content can be assured by reformatting and storing in trusted digital repositories

- Providing online access to digital content creates an opportunity for its preservation

- Collaboration is essential for economies of scale and expertise
National Leadership Grants for Libraries and Museums

Collaborative Planning Grants  NEW!

• Up to $30,000 for 12 months

• Partnership required

• No conditions or commitments for future

• Deadline February 1, 2008

http://www.niso.org
More Information

Visit IMLS at www.imls.gov

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