



State of Digital Preservation @ COPPUL Libraries

University of
Lethbridge



Rhys Stevens -- April 20, 2012

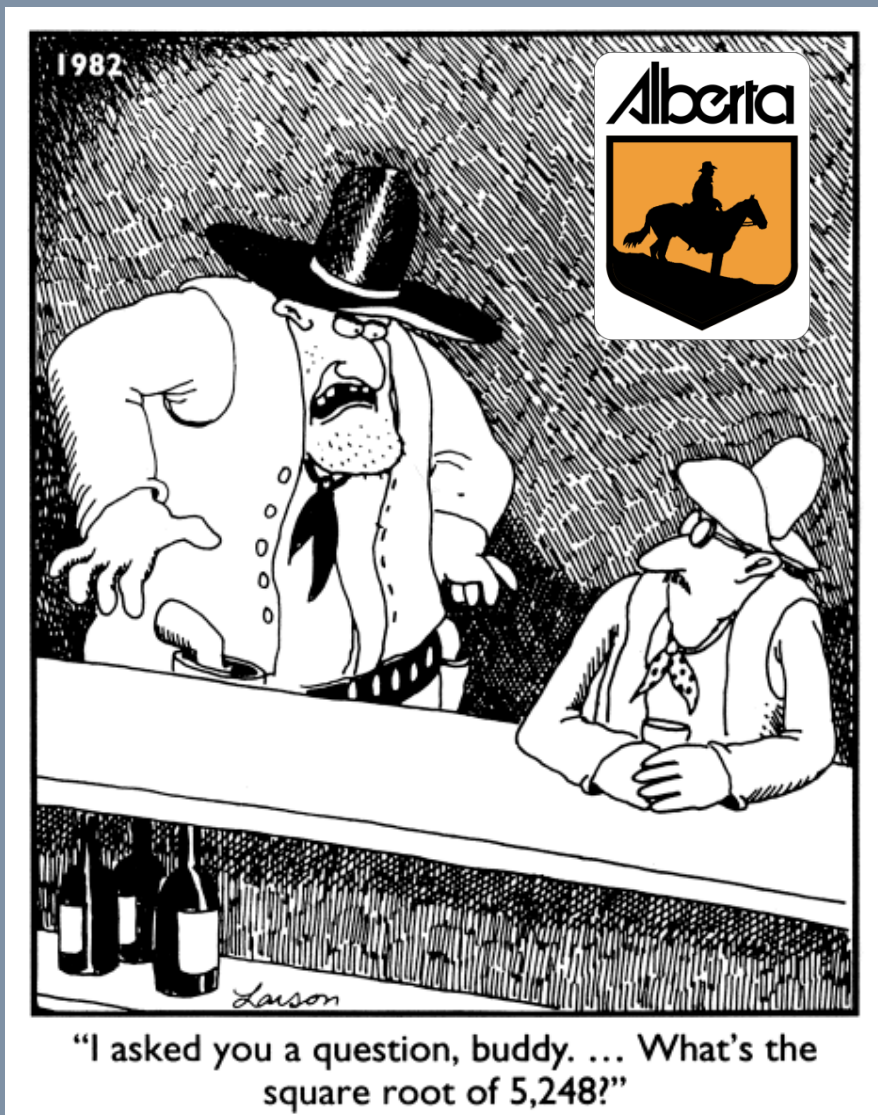


Why Bother?

- Learn from others' experiences
- Identify challenges
- Awareness of options, opportunities, and potentially important areas of focus
- Find out about COPPUL developments
- Improve understanding of processes
- Establish a “baseline” measure



Surveys



Recent COPPUL Member Surveys



- COPPUL Preservation Investigation (2010)
- [COPPUL Digitization Initiatives and Practices](#) (2011)





COPPUL Preservation Investigation

- 39-Question survey based on the [Digital Preservation Self-Assessment Tool](#). Topics covered include: mission & goals; policies & procedures; staffing; finances; digital content; technology; access & metadata; **digital preservation**, and; rights management.
- Questions #30-38 are specifically related to the nuts & bolts of digital preservation implementation.
- Summer 2010; 6 universities reporting – ranging in size – “a good representation of COPPUL members”



COPPUL Preservation Investigation

9 Preservation-Specific Questions (Questions #30-35)

30. Have you undertaken a risk assessment of your digital collection? Do you plan to undertake a risk assessment?
31. Which digital preservation strategies has your institution implemented?
32. Have you implemented a digital repository into your program, and, if yes, is it a commercial, open source, or homegrown solution?
33. Are you outsourcing your digital preservation activities to another organization? Which activities in particular are being outsourced? If yes, to whom? What responsibilities does this organization have?
34. What content are you placing in your repository?



COPPUL Preservation Investigation

9 Preservation-Specific Questions (Questions #35-38)

35. Has the repository been through a self-audit using the Center for Research Libraries/OCLC Trustworthy Repositories Audit & Certification (TRAC)?
36. Do you or your vendor have a digital preservation plan? Has your vendor been through an audit or a self-audit based on the CRL/OCLC TRAC?
37. If you are locally managing your preservation activities, what media are you using for storage?
38. If you backup your files, where are they stored? At what frequency do you back-up your files?



COPPUL Preservation Investigation

Preservation Implementation Themes in Survey Results

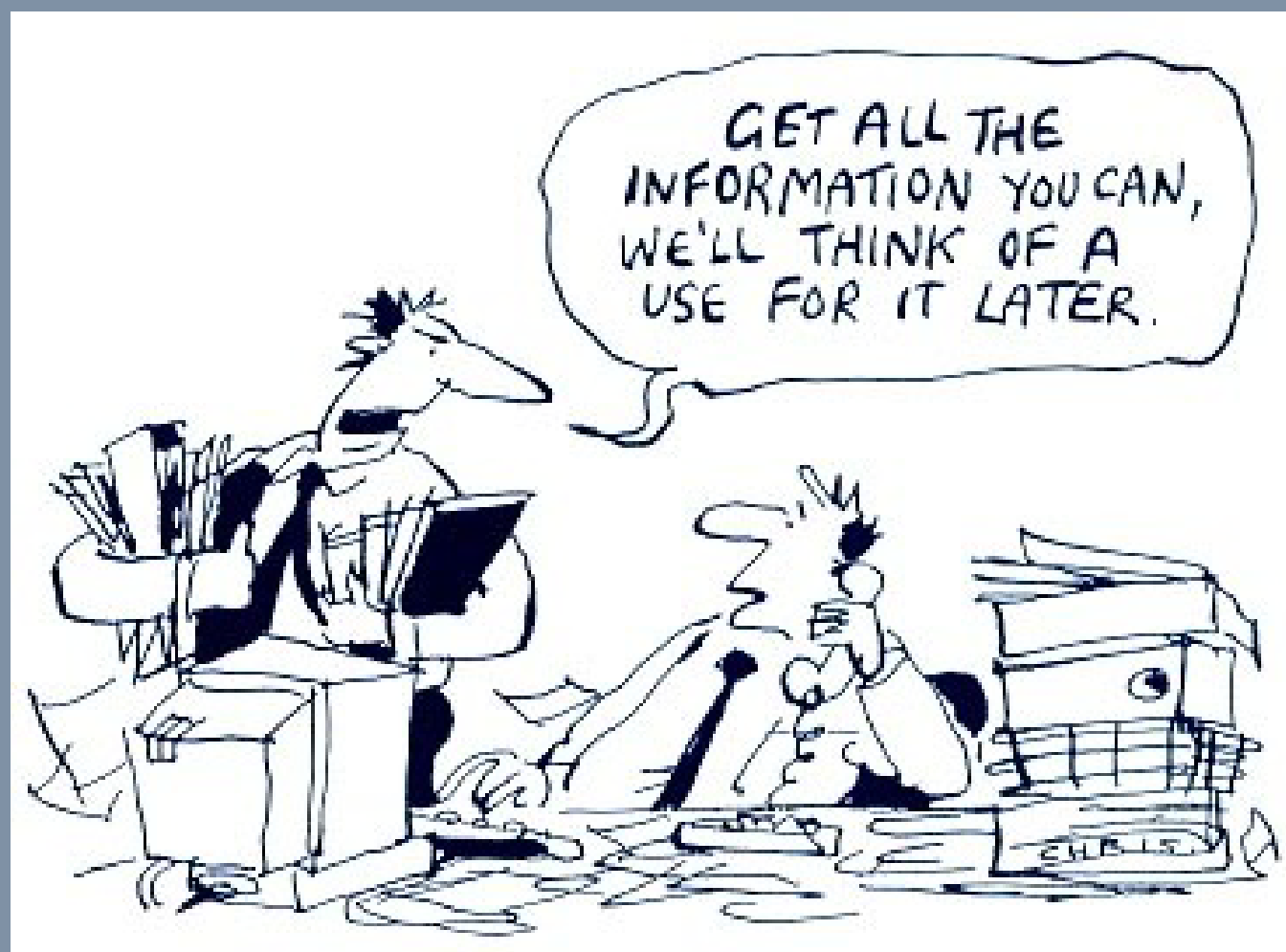
- Nobody had done a **TRAC Audit**
- Only one library reported starting a **risk assessment** for the digital collection
- “Preservation” was mostly defined in terms of **file/data backup**, redundancy, etc.
- Respondents participated in preservation “**collaboratives**” where available (e.g., COPPUL, LOCKSS, CLOCKSS, Portico)
- Digital preservation **wasn’t broken out as a separate activity**, but part of Collections or Systems consideration
- Documentation on vision, goals, objectives, policies was still being created. **The policies were following the projects.**



COPPUL Preservation Investigation

Other Relevant Themes in Survey Results

- Everyone (6/6) was **creating digitization projects** – both in-house and outsourced.
- 5/6 depended on operating **budget** to support projects; half also used grants/donors.
- Most of the **staff training** was in-house and ad-hoc.
- CONTENTdm & DSpace were most commonly used **digital library software tools**.
- **Copyright** was an issue for all respondents.





COPPUL Digitization Survey

- 47-Question online survey which utilized the [LimeSurvey](#) tool to collect responses.
- Question topics: completed & in-progress projects; project management; funding; selection; legal issues; metadata; interoperability, and; **preservation**.
- Fall 2011; 14 universities responding; ranging in size from small to large based on FTE students.





COPPUL Digitization Survey

5 Preservation-Specific Questions (Section 8)

- Developed specific steps or strategies to ensure the preservation of your locally-digitized resources? (Y/N)
- Does your organization have a comprehensive, campus-wide digital preservation strategy or set of guidelines? (Y/N)
- Is your organization affiliated with a “Preservation Network” (e.g., LOCKSS) to provide mutual redundancy, interoperability, standards and perpetual preservation? (Y/N)
- Preserve "born digital" materials? (Y/N)
- Aware of other departments within your organization that preserve their own digitization-related content? (Y/N & Comment)



COPPUL Digitization Survey

Preservation Implementation Survey Results

- **8/14** had developed specific steps or strategies to preserve locally-digitized resources.
- **8/14** were affiliated with a “Preservation Network” (e.g., LOCKSS).
- **9/14** preserved “born digital” materials.
- **0/14** indicated their organization had a campus-wide digital preservation strategy or guidelines.
- **7/13** were aware of other departments that preserved their own digital content.



COPPUL Digitization Survey

Other Relevant Themes in Survey Results

- Everyone (14/14) is **creating digitization projects** – both in-house and outsourced (13/14).
- 12/14 depend on national grants to **fund** digitization projects; 12/14 internal collections budgets; 10/12 faculty/research grants.
- **In-house staff** dedicated to digitization (12/14).
- CONTENTdm (8/14), DSpace (10/14) and locally-developed (5/14) are most commonly used **digital library software**.
- Obtaining **copyright permissions** is an issue for 12/14 respondents. 7/14 involved a copyright officer.



Survey Comparison

- The surveys asked different questions and looked at different aspects of digital initiatives at COPPUL libraries.
- There was some content overlap / similar questions.
- Opportunities & Challenges



What Next?

*“A comprehensive, campus-wide **digital preservation strategy** is high on our list, and currently a work in progress. We have strong institutional commitment to such a strategy. The [local university] has a deep commitment to both digitize and preserve outputs of our digitization services. Continued growth in the area is expected.” – Comment from survey participant*

