

SAG3 Collaborative Collection Development via Digitization (CCDD) Task Force October 2013 – March 2015

SUMMARY & RECOMMENDATIONS

Summary

The CCDD Task Force was charged by SAG3 to plan for collaborative digital collection building across the UC libraries by developing and proposing a number of digitization projects demonstrating paths for funding and models for accomplishing digitization of UC collections.

The Task Force met from October 2013 to March 2015 and generated two project proposals: a proposal for a digitization partnership with a licensed content vendor that was endorsed by CoUL, and a proposal for a grant-funded project that was not supported by CoUL.

In developing the proposals, the Task Force:

- Reviewed thematic collections identified in a report by the former Collection Development Committee (CDC) - the list was out of date and rights information on many of the collections was lacking
- Conducted a survey to identify additional collections
- Identified strengths of the given subject areas, issues, and potential “pitches” to vendors and/or funders
- Formulated the vendor partnership proposal on Food and Beverage based on mutual libraries’ and content vendors’ interest
- Secured model license agreement from UCLA
- Reviewed potential funders and RFPs
- Compiled UC water-resources collections from CoUL survey and OAC and pitched grant-funded proposal based on multi-campus research initiative as well as researcher interest
- Chartered a Digitization CKG to facilitate exchange of expertise and development of potential collaborations

The group was thoughtful about collaborative digitization and identified a number of issues and ideas that merit further consideration.

Recommendations

1. Lack of information about collections (digitization targets) across campuses is a barrier to collaborative projects. It was a challenge to identify appropriate campus representatives to survey, and took quite a bit of time and effort from the CCDD Task Force to create a survey, survey participants, and gather the information to characterize collections. Despite careful attention to crafting the survey, the information received was still incomplete and not entirely actionable. The Task Force conveyed potential requirements to the UCLDC development team so that

- this kind of characterization of collections might be included in the UCLDC Collections Registry. In the long term one-off surveys are not a viable approach. We recommend that the UCLDC Collections Registry path be pursued further.
2. Programmatic funding remains a barrier to scaling up collaborative projects, and digitization in general. Substantial resources are spent on trying to develop and secure external funding for digitization projects at each campus. There are also significant overhead costs to managing such projects. We have posited but have not yet tested and evaluated workflows that would enable economy of scale across the system, and recommend continuing work in this area.
 3. For campuses planning projects, a “needs” and “offers” mechanism would enable access to a wider network of UC digitization capability and greater awareness of collection synergies across campuses. We recommend that the UC Libraries develop a way to match “needs” (collections needing digitization) and “offers” (digitization capability & capacity) to advance collaborative approaches to digitization.
 4. The model vendor agreement created by UCLA is a useful tool in and of itself. All UC campuses can benefit from use of this agreement, and campus collection development and management staff should be aware of it. CoUL has endorsed the working version. The CCDD Task Force recommends championing it widely, and monitoring and communicating regarding its successful use.