Characteristics and Challenges
of a
National Digital Archive

Canadian Initiative on Digital Libraries
www.nlc-bnc.ca/cidl/

Open Meeting
November 1, 2002

Examples

- ❑ Denmark
- ❑ Netherlands
- ❑ European University Institute
- ❑ U.S. – LC, NLM, NAL

Common characteristics/challenges

Implications for Canada

Denmark's electronic research library plan 1998 – 2002

- ❑ information society for all – the Danish model - government IT action plan 1996
- ❑ DKK 200 million
- ❑ national infrastructure
- ❑ library infrastructure
- ❑ digital resources
- ❑ user facilities
- ❑ concept development

DEF status 2002

❑ 31 libraries fully participating, all 12 large, 19 smaller and medium sized

❑ access to 700 electronic networked resources (catalogues & databases)

❑ access to 9,000 e-journals through 71 licenses

❑ 111 libraries participating in cooperative licenses and 194 other hospitals/institutions covered by licenses

❑ 11 subject gateways of 24 planned underway

DEF (continued)

- ❑ 35 libraries participating in 20 development projects – user instruction, skills development, user studies, digitization, e-learning, web archives

- ❑ retro-conversion of 2.5 million catalogue cards in 14 research libraries being carried out

- ❑ 10 user driven projects funded - Danish songs, sports history, fungi portal, teaching portal

- ❑ 3 libraries and 10 publishers participating in 5 digitization projects

DEF (continued)

- ❑ Danish Art Dictionary – information on 37,000 art works, 6,000 Danish and international artists at 55 museums

- ❑ illustrated art journal – 65 volumes, 58,000 pages, 4,000 illustrations

- ❑ classics of Danish literature

DEF (continued)

❑ single sign-on authentication for students, public

❑ long-term archiving to be done by major research libraries

❑ joint funding by Federal government, local institutions

❑ motivation – improve research capability, democratize access to information

Royal Library of the Netherlands Deposit of Dutch Electronic Publications

❑ 1996 started deposit and storage of off-line publications

❑ 1999 reached general agreement with Dutch Publishers Association regarding deposit of all e-publications – online and offline

❑ K.B. guarantees permanent storage under optimum conditions

DNEP – Deposit of Netherlands Electronic Publications

❑ publishers include Elsevier, Kluwer

❑ formats include anything digital

❑ using IBM digital library software

❑ large investments by all parties

❑ e-deposit

  ❑ stage 1 – loader functionality

  ❑ stage 2 – retrieve and management

  ❑ go live Jan 1, 2003

K.B. Netherlands Digitization Projects

- ❑ Memory of the Netherlands – main audience general public, educational resources

- ❑ other projects support the research community in history of the Netherlands and Dutch language and literature

  - ❑ history of printed book in the Netherlands

  - ❑ digital historical atlas

  - ❑ watermarks, etc.

European University Institute

❑ graduate programs in social sciences and research on key issues for Europe

❑ founded by European Commission – 25 years old

❑ library's mandate includes responsibility for Institute's website and e publications, providing integrated, personalized access, enabling the shift from print to electronic dissemination of research

European University Institute Library

❑ aims to become the main gateway for European social science research information

❑ long-term archiving of its e-publications, theses, policy papers, working papers will be maintained by National Library of Italy in Florence

LC: National Strategy for Preservation of Digital Information

- ❑ $100M project if phase 1 plan approved
- ❑ principal areas
  - ❑ large web sites
  - ❑ electronic books
  - ❑ electronic journals
  - ❑ digitally recorded sound
  - ❑ digital film
  - ❑ digital television

National Library of Medicine

- ❑ policy framework: get needed information, make it available, keep it available

- ❑ PubMed successful over the last 25 years

- ❑ set de facto standards

- ❑ digital collections have different levels of permanence

National Library of Agriculture

- ❑ very limited financial resources

- ❑ one person preservation staff

- ❑ publicizes current standards

- ❑ promotes use by webmasters and publication staff in related agencies through workshops, personal outreach

- ❑ remarkably successful partnerships

University and Other Research Libraries

❑ digital archiving pilots – institutional and subject repositories

❑ MIT DSpace

❑ Cornell mathematics and physics

❑ Virginia electronic texts

❑ Stanford Highwire Press and LOCKSS archiving

❑ Michigan, Ohio

Common Characteristics

- ❏ infrastructure

- ❏ interoperability

- ❏ digital resources representative of cultural heritage

- ❏ public education supported

- ❏ research capability improved

- ❏ integration of all formats: text, image, audio/visual, GIS – born digital and reformatted

Common Challenges

- ❑ funding

- ❑ cooperative relationships

- ❑ how to get started

- ❑ formulating a plan

Implications for Canada

❑ much has been done in many areas by diverse institutions

❑ grass roots approach, fragmented

❑ missing major portions of Canadian heritage, material needed to support research

❑ define what is needed, develop a plan

CIDL's Role

❑ could CIDL develop the plan?

❑ who else could/would take leadership?

Thank You

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