10-22-2012

Open Access Week 2012: Digital Asset Management Systems (DAMS)

Lisa Zillinski
University of South Florida, ldz@andrew.cmu.edu

Sonia Lorenz
University of South Florida, sswade@usf.edu

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.usf.edu/tlar_scpub

Using data profiles to select Digital Asset Management Systems (DAMS)

Lisa D. Zilinski, lzilinski@usf.edu
Sonia W. Lorenz, sswade@usf.edu
University of South Florida in Lakeland Library

Introduction

Digital curation is no longer bound to preservation techniques that require data to be stored in a vault with only one or two authorized users [1]. Digital Asset Management Systems (DAMS) offer many efficient solutions that incorporate metadata and in so doing, DAMS help to increase access for all users. The question is: how can libraries select a DAMS that will meet the needs of their researchers, universities and funding institutions while providing sustainable digital preservation and access?

Method

The Digital Asset Management (DAM) project team completed two sections for this research: data curation profile development and digital asset management system (DAMS) selection.

Developing the data profiles:
The first step was to identify researchers who were in need of developing data management plans.   Interviews were conducted using the Purdue University Data Curation Profile Toolkit [2]. All interviews were recorded and used to build the data profile.

Data profiles:
- Details of the dataset
- Details of how the dataset is currently managed

The interviews allowed the researchers to openly and thoroughly discuss their data, as well as provided opportunities for the DAM team to ask questions to further identify the unique needs of each researcher.

DAMS Matrix:
The data collected from the data curation profiles were examined to determine the main data needs of the researchers. The facets were further disseminated and placed into a matrix using MS Excel. Twenty-four digital asset management systems were cross-examined in the matrix. The DAM project team narrowed the field to 4 systems and further analyzed the costs, systems requirements, start-up time and feasibility.

DAMS Solutions Matrix

Solution Capabilities	Solution 1	Solution 2	Solution 3	Solution 4
Meta-Data	DC and Custom	Y	DC and Custom	DC and Custom
File Types	Any	Any	Most	Any
Streaming Video	3rd party	Y	Y	Y
Structured Authoring	Y	Y	Y	N
Personalized Dashboard	Y	Y	N	N
Customized Permissioning	Y	Y	Y	N
Workflow Management	Y	Y	Y	Y
Microsites/Portals	Y	Y	N	Y
RSS Feed Generation	Y	Y	Y	Y
Mobile	Y	In development	N	3rd party
Modular/Scalable	Y	Y	Y	Y
Web 2.0	Most	Y	Some	Y
Multi-Language Support	Y	Y	Y	Y

DAMS Solutions Reviewed

Discussion

This method involves the researchers and reviews their needs prior to selecting a digital asset management system.

Benefits:
- Increased communication between researchers and data curators [3]
- Data profiles can be used to develop controlled vocabulary
- Raw data is given context, relevance and increased searchability
- Increase data reusability[4].
- Guide for developing data management plans
- Manage and preserve materials

Limitations:
- Buy-in and participation
- Time
- Resources

Future Research:
We would like to investigate the gaps in communication between researchers and data curators. While we did find that researchers were enthusiastic and positive about the library's ability to assist them with their data management needs, it is also apparent that researchers' data needs in this area have been overlooked in the past. Exploring this area will help libraries bridge the gap between researchers and data curators.

References
[1] Higgins, S. (2011). Digital curation: The emergence of a new discipline. The International Journal of Digital Curation, 2(6).
[2] Purdue University Libraries. (n.d.). Data curation profiles toolkit. Retrieved December 15, 2011 from http://datacurationprofiles.org.
[3] Witt, M., Carlson, D., Brandt, S., & Cragin, M., (2009). Constructing data profiles. The International Journal of Digital Curation, 3(4).
[4] Heidorn, B. P. (2011). The emerging role of librarians in data curation and e-science. Journal of Library Administration, 51(7-8), 662-672.

USF UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA *libraries*