

# ReCAP

THE RESEARCH COLLECTIONS AND PRESERVATION CONSORTIUM

# DISCOVERY TO DELIVERY

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# HISTORY OF ReCAP

- The Research Collections and Preservation Consortium was founded by three partner libraries:

**Columbia University**

**Princeton University**

**The New York Public Library**

- ReCAP is a high-bay high-density preservation repository that:
  - Holds over 11 million items at a TWPI of 200+
  - Circulates an average of 15,000 items per month
  - Adds 50-60,000 items per month
  - **Never misplaces anything**





## ReCAP IN WINTER

OUR NEW ENTRYWAY, SINCE THE ADDITION OF MODS 8-9



## MODULE 2: AISLE 12

THE OBLIGATORY GLAMOUR SHOT



## MODULE 9: AISLE 74

A SHOWOFF PICTURE, SHOWING THE SCALE OF THE NEW MODS

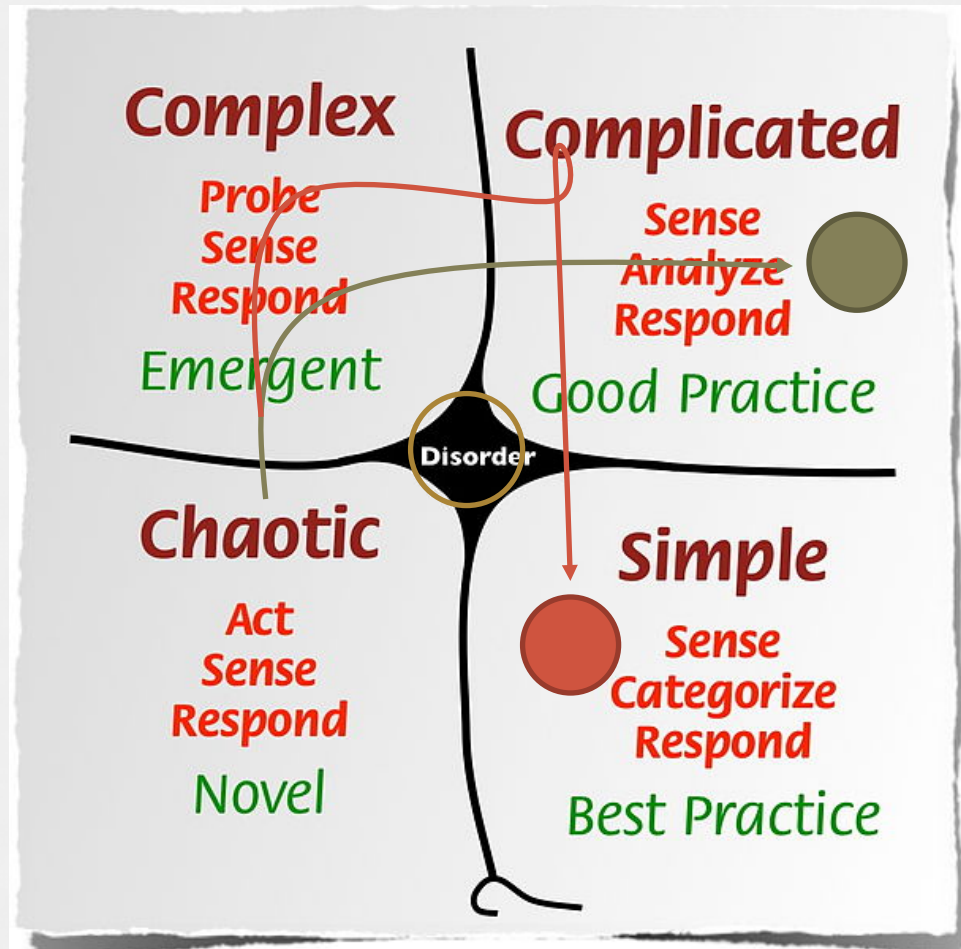
# ReCAP AT PRESENT

- Partnership shares costs of building and operating
- Effective core operations and financial plans
  - With tremendous credit due to Eileen Henthorne,  
ReCAP's founding Executive Director*
- Three collections in a shared building, supported by shared services
- Independent policies for selection, acquisition, circulation, and management of collections
- Capital Projects done until approx. 2020



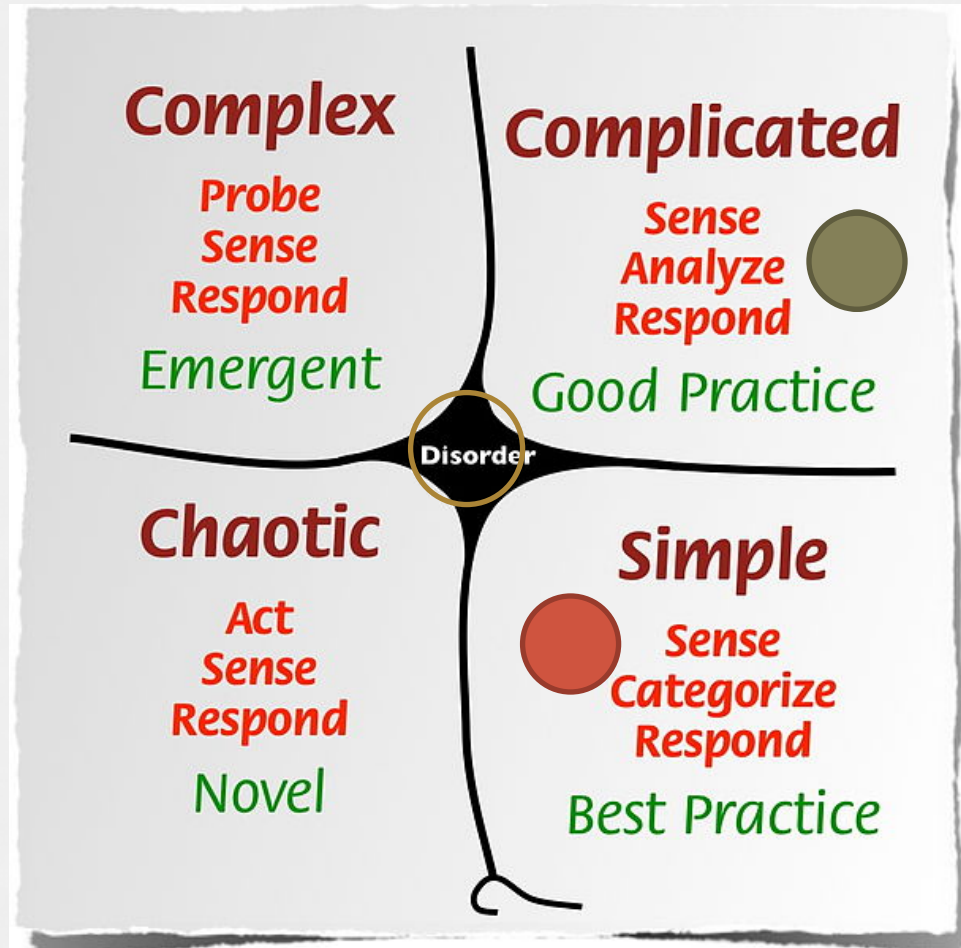
## DEVELOPMENT CYCLES

- 2000-2012: ReCAP launches and develops its core services
- 2012-2014: ReCAP explores new directions
- 2014 on: ReCAP implements new services and refines core operations



## DEVELOPMENT CYCLES

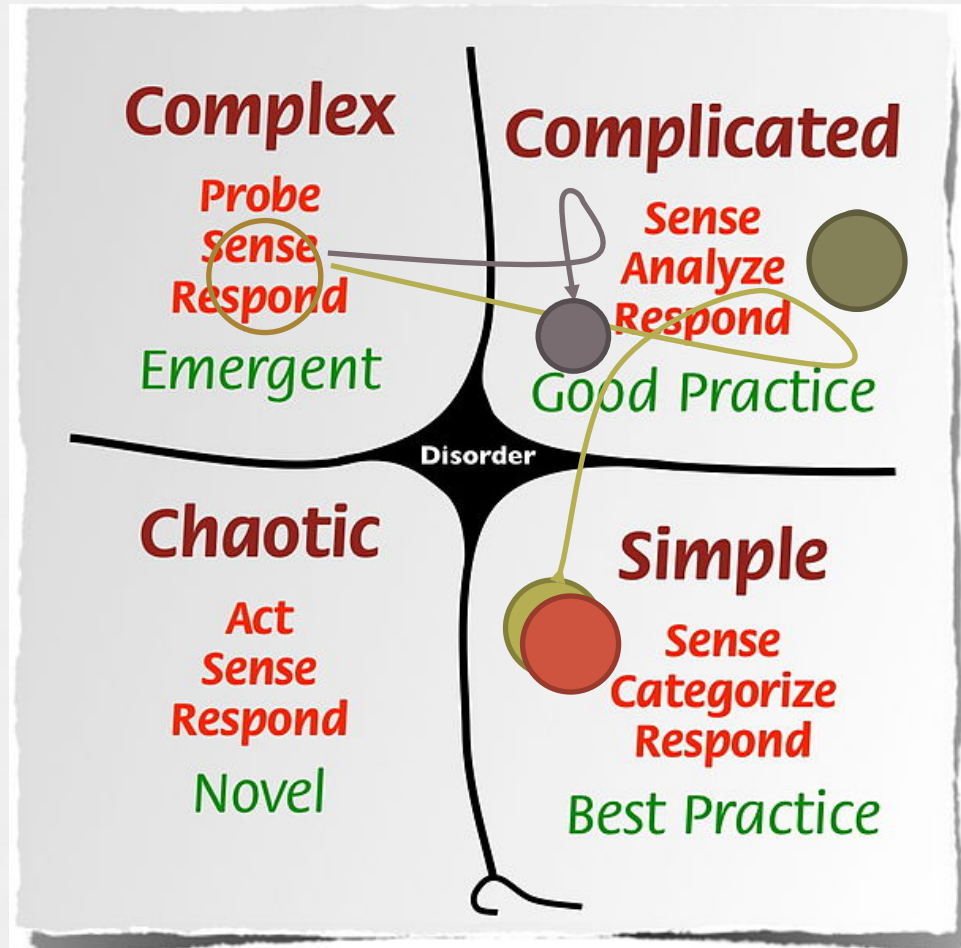
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## DEVELOPMENT CYCLES

- 2000-2012: ReCAP launches and develops its core services
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# NEW DIRECTIONS

- With support from Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, ReCAP investigated three opportunities:
  - **Shared collections among the partners**
    - *Makes more resources available to each partner, more quickly*
  - **Cooperative collection development**
    - *Lowers cost to each partner, for access to more comprehensive collections*
  - **Long-term preservation commitments**
    - *Ensure that the costs sunk into collections and the facility will create long-run value for the partners*
- And the tools (mostly software) and services required or desirable to realize those opportunities



# SHARED COLLECTIONS

- ReCAP holds over 11 million items in trust
- Equitable distribution of space:
  - 24% PUL, 38% CUL, 38% NYPL
- And annual accessions:
  - 246,369 PUL, 203,041 CUL, 182,102 NYPL\*
- Majority of items are unique within ReCAP
  - Approx 10% are duplicates; 1% triplicates
  - Approx 10,000,000 unique items
- Each partner gains access to over 4 million items

\* Five-year average



# OBSTACLES TO SHARING

- Three ILS installations, using two different systems
  - Adding 4 million records to any ILS involves prohibitive costs in labor, project fees, and license fees
- No common, pre-existing resource-sharing network
- Different circulation policies
- Different patrons



# POLICY SOLUTIONS

- Reframe existing ReCAP collections:
  - **Shared:** Available to all partners and subject to a retention commitment and other agreed policies
  - **Open:** Available to all partners but *not* subject to a retention commitment or other Shared Collection policies
  - **Restricted:** Available only or primarily to the owning library (often special collections material)
- New accessions to be Shared by default. Open or Restricted status must be specifically set.

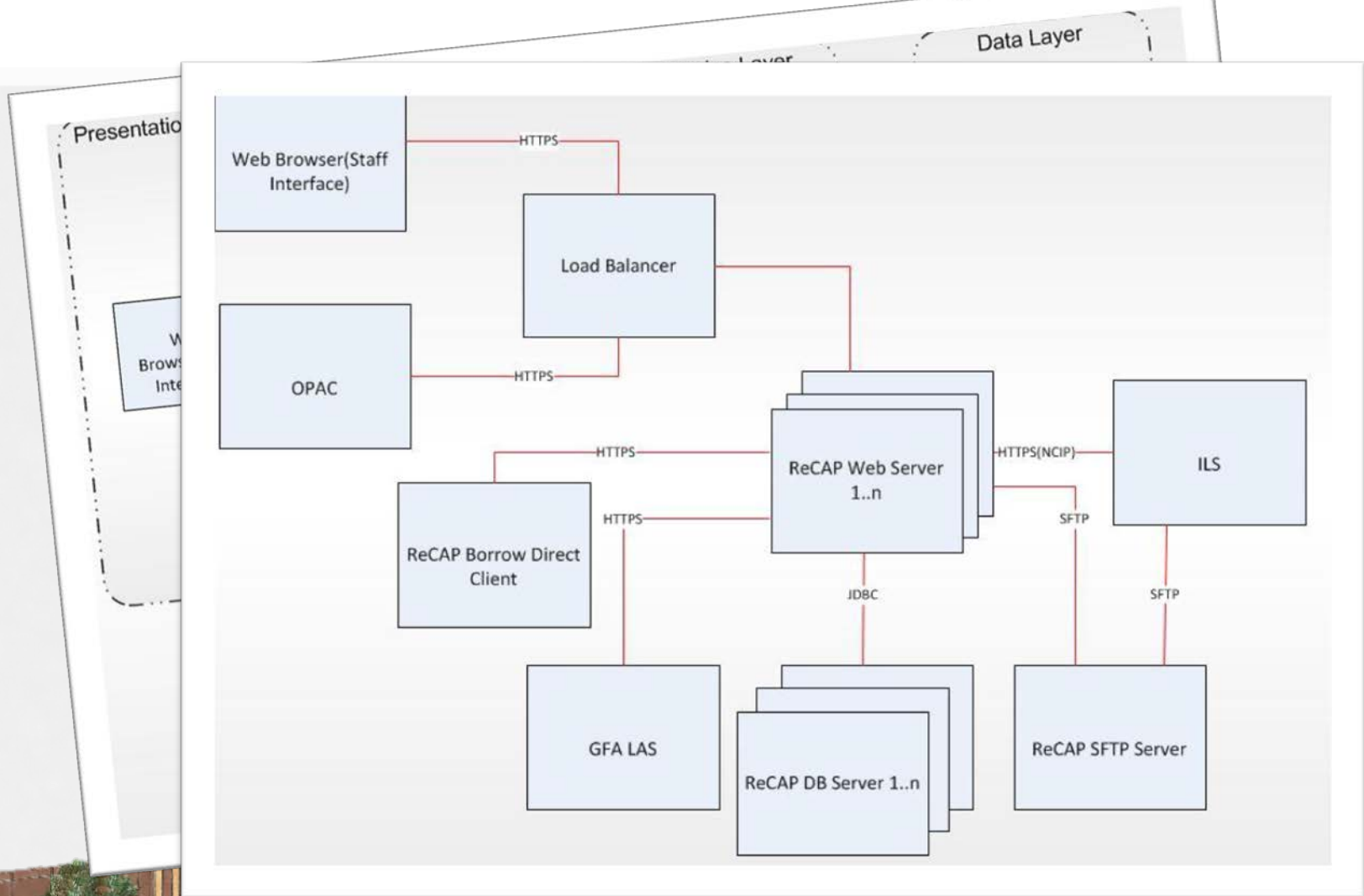


# TECHNOLOGY SOLUTIONS

- Middleware system high-level architecture, developed by HTC Global, Inc.
- Middleware pulls metadata from ILS and LAS, normalizes, and exposes to discovery environments
- Allows ReCAP Shared to be searched alongside the library's other collections and licensed resources
- Patron initiates an order using discovery environment's handlers
  - Middleware translates this to a retrieval request in LAS and creates on-the-fly item records to establish a hold in the ILS



# MIDDLEWARE ARCHITECTURE 1.0



# WHICH MEANS

## Now

- Batch Data Exchange
  - (Known) periods of mismatch between item state and reported status
  - Hard cutoff times for transactions
- ILL between partners
  - Highly expedited, but still adds 1-2 days of administrative action

## Then

- Real-time Data Availability
  - (On query) State and status are the same
  - Operations optimized to match patterns in transaction data
- Partners have immediate access to shared collection
  - Fulfillment schedule is the same as the partners owned materials





# COOPERATIVE COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT

- Selectors at all three partners have hand-shake agreements to avoid prospective duplication
- Substantial interest in a deeper collaboration, but this is in principle, not in practice, because:
- *Middleware is needed to create interfaces for cross-collection evaluation*
  - Bibliographic data across ReCAP holdings is needed for discussions about assigning cataloging and collecting responsibilities, and developing shared approval plans
  - Bib data in three ILS; ReCAP holdings in LAS; Middleware treats LAS as a connector between stores of Bib data.



# RETENTION COMMITMENT

- **Forever is not a useful planning horizon**
  - $x\$ / \infty \text{ yrs}$  is not a meaningful way to do ROI, but does reflect the commitment being made.
- **Other retention periods make functional sense, but don't reflect partner intention**
  - $x\$ / 25 \text{ yrs}$  is workable math, but begs questions about the commitment in year 26



# RETENTION COMMITMENT

- **Shared Collection Plan decouples intent and operations**
- An agreement (made according to ReCAP's bylaws) records the intent:
  - To retain Shared Collections for the life of the corporation (ReCAP, Inc., a New-Jersey not-for-profit) which lives on indefinitely
  - That agreement is in turn supported by layers of law and policy regarding the dissolution or transfer of assets: Partner and ReCAP bylaws and charters, State and Federal law, etc.



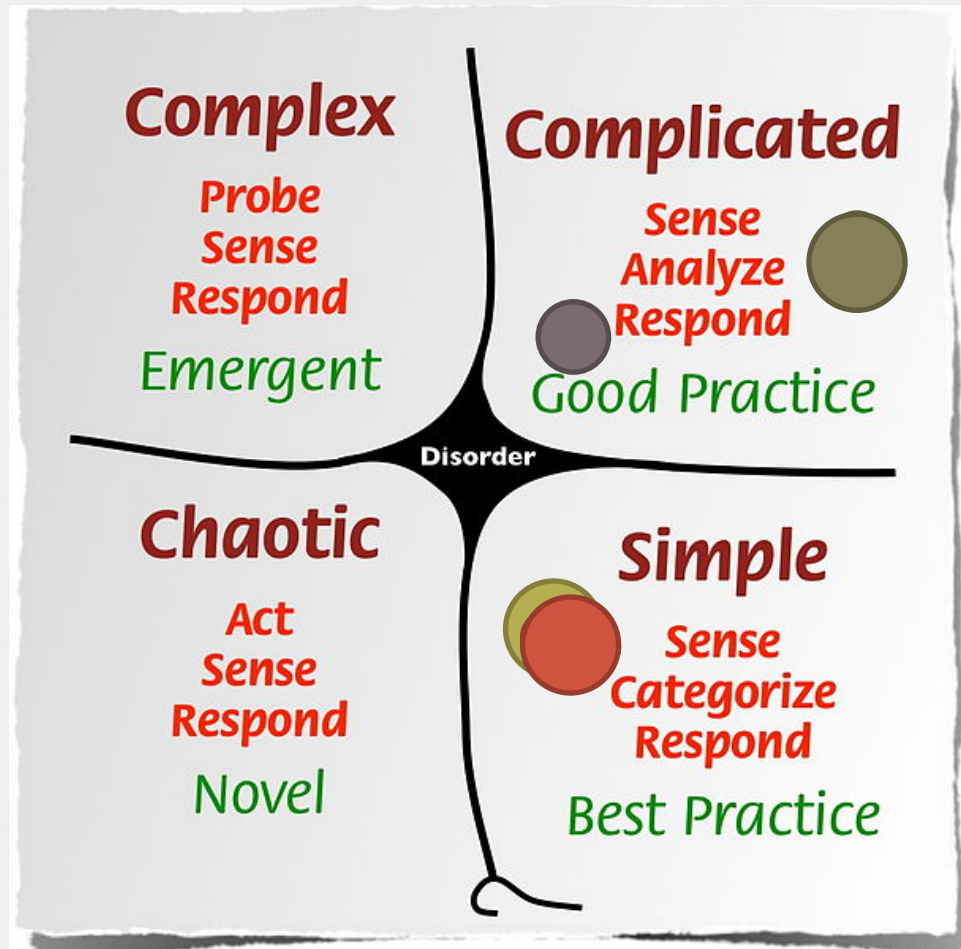
# RETENTION COMMITMENT

- **Shared Collection Plan decouples intent and operations**
- The corporation continues capital and operating efforts using the best available means
  - Operating and capital decisions are more accountable:
    1. do they measurably compromise or advance intent, then
    2. what are the costs, benefits, and timelines involved, and
    3. are those competitive
  - Supported by over a decade of local operating and capital data, and a nation-wide knowledgebase of other repositories and allied professions



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# ALL THIS AND MORE

- Discovery to Delivery Report:
  - <http://recap.princeton.edu/>
  - <http://t.co/w6WLE36tqO>
- This project was funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, and the report is issued as CC-BY 4.0



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