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

ReCAP IN WINTER
MODULE 2: AISLE 12

THE O BLIG A TO RY G L A M O U R SHO T
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
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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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 acquisitions:
  - 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
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**
  - $x / \infty$ 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**
  - $x / 25$ yrs is workable math, but begs questions about the commitment in year 26
RETFENT 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 tum 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

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