

# **From Technical to Metadata Services in the Digital Era**

## **The Story of University of Oregon's Metadata & Digital Library Services**

**Presented by Mary Grenci \*\***

**Interim Head, MDLS, University of Oregon**

**At the ACTSS President's Program**

**California Library Association**

**2006 Annual Conference**

**\*\*Almost all content extracted from a presentation by  
Carol Hixson, Dean of Libraries  
University of Regina at Saskatchewan**

**That presentation is available at:**

**<https://scholarsbank.uoregon.edu/dspace/handle/1794/3020>**

# Catalog Department in 2000

- **20 people organized into cataloging teams**
- **AACR2/MARC cataloging**
- **LCSH and LC classification**
- **Quality control and database maintenance**
- **PCC (NACO, SACO, CONSER Enhance)**
- **Clean database**
- **Limited retrospective conversion**
- **Quick cataloging**

# Expansion and redefinition

- **Expanded PCC participation (BIBCO, full CONSER)**
- **Expanded retrospective conversion**
- **Manuscript cataloging**
- **Map cataloging**
- **Collection-level cataloging**
- **Vendor-supplied records**
- **Increased productivity**

# Expansion and redefinition

- **New services and approaches**
  - **Different levels of cataloging**
  - **Different types of metadata (EAD, modified Dublin Core)**
  - **Non-library collections in library catalog**
  - **Non catalogers supplying metadata**
  - **New ways to measure success**

# Expansion and redefinition

- **Preservation Dept. merged in February 2001**
- **Institutional repository in place 2003**
- **Digital collections work started 2003**
- **Name change in December 2003**
- **Image Services Center merged in July 2004**

# Other changes in the digital era

- **Huge increase in electronic journal subscriptions**
- **Increased cancellation of print journal subscriptions**
- **SFX implementation**
- **III's Electronic Resource Module implementation**
- **Team delineations are fuzzy**

# New Skills

- **New metadata schema**
  - **Dublin Core, EAD**
- **New vocabularies**
  - **TGM I & II, FAST, local**
- **New standards**
  - **Library application profile, NISO Z39.87, PREMIS, etc.**



# New Skills

- **Scanning of text and images**
- **Use of optical character recognition software**
- **Harvesting web pages**

# **New Orientation and Focus**

- **Project orientation**
- **Commitment to continuing education**
- **Cross-functional initiatives and projects**
- **Outward focus**

## Metadata and Digital Library Services

**Mary Greci**, Interim Head, (541) 346-3064

1299 University of Oregon

Eugene, OR 97403

T: (541) 346-3064

[Image Services Center](#) (541) 346-1805

[Metadata Teams](#) (541) 346-3064

[Materials Processing and Conservation Unit](#) (541) 346-0708

---

Metadata and Digital Library Services (MDLS) provides a wide array of services to assist members of the University of Oregon community with organizing collections of materials or making them more widely available.

[Contact us](#) if you need help:

- ◆ designing a digital project;
- ◆ [creating digital or photographic reproductions of materials](#);
- ◆ [creating posters or exhibits](#);
- ◆ choosing an appropriate metadata schema, subject list, or classification system;
- ◆ evaluating software to help organize and provide access to materials;
- ◆ caring for and preserving digital or print materials;
- ◆ determining appropriate security and use policies for your collections;
- ◆ [providing access to your collections through the the Libraries' catalogs](#), or;
- ◆ developing grant proposals related to any of the above topics.

Metadata and Digital Library Services also maintains the [University of Oregon's Scholars' Bank](#), an online archive of the scholarly output of the campus community. Contact the [Scholars' Bank Steering Committee](#) if you have questions about Scholars' Bank.

# MDLS Today

[libweb.uoregon.edu/](http://libweb.uoregon.edu/)

[catdept/home/](http://catdept/home/)



In addition to these direct public services, Metadata and Digital Library Services provides intellectual, virtual and physical access to the Libraries' collections. We maintain the [online public access catalog](#) for traditional library materials and a [catalog of digital collections](#). We preserve the physical collections through microfilming, digitizing, and

carrying out book repair and conservation. We define policies and procedures necessary to provide responsive, high-quality patron access to an ever-growing array of materials available through traditional and emerging systems. To this end, we endeavor to build strong partnerships within the Libraries, on campus, and regionally and to contribute with increasing effectiveness to local, regional, and international metadata and preservation efforts.

Click [here](#) for more examples of our digital collections.

**MDLS Today**  
**[libweb.uoregon.edu/  
catdept/home/](http://libweb.uoregon.edu/catdept/home/)**

# How Did We Get There?

- **Gradual evolution**
- **Working to acquire new skills (making time)**
- **Taking on new work when asked**
- **Seizing opportunities**
- **Promoting a wider role for ourselves**
- **Following through**
- **Changing focus**
- **Discussion of new ideas, trends**
- **Flexibility**

# Making Connections

- **Links from IR to subject searches in catalog**
- **Catalog records pointing to IR version of resource**
- **Links between IR and digital collections**
- **Link from IR to OAIster**
- **Addition of purchased digital content to digital collections**

# Future Connections

- **Links between digital finding aids and digital collections**
- **MetaIndex implementation**

# Contact Information

Mary Grenci

[mgrenci@uoregon.edu](mailto:mgrenci@uoregon.edu)

phone: (541) 346-3064

fax: (541) 346-3485



# Acknowledgements

Thank you to Carol Hixson, who gave me permission to use content from her July 2006 presentation:

**Transforming Technical Services Staff and Librarians into Digital Library Specialists: The Continued Evolution of the University of Oregon's Metadata and Digital Library Services**

available online at:

<https://scholarsbank.uoregon.edu/dspace/handle/1794/3020>