Developing an Online Digital Repository for a Campus Archives

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Abstract: This poster presentation addresses the process for developing an online digital repository for the campus archives at San Joaquin Delta College Library in Stockton, California. The timeline for this project began in Spring of 2016. First established in 1935, the College has a rich variety of documents that are in the process of being digitized and made available through the publicly accessible and searchable digital repository. Items such as college yearbooks extending back to 1935, sabbatical reports, board meeting minutes extending back to 1963, course catalogs, and scrapbooks, are now freely available through the repository’s online platform. With great improvements in OCR technology, most documents with text are also text searchable upon download.

In summary, this poster illustrates the process of setting up the archives’ information structure and workflows, choosing a digital repository platform, implementation of the platform, and ongoing maintenance of the digital repository and digitization program, including the negotiation process for digital storage and backups. It is hoped that this project might inspire other information professionals towards establishing a digital repository and digitization workflows in order to preserve and promote unique local collections.

About the Author:

Mary Weppler-Van Diver is the public services librarian at San Joaquin Delta Community College, in Stockton, California, where she also manages the campus’s archives. She has been working in archives for close to 7 years, with previous experience as the archivist for the campus architects and construction team at the University of California, Merced.