Establishing Preservation Practices for Born-Digital Art Collections and Projects at Penn

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PROPOSALS
Relating to the
EDUCATION
OF
YOUTH
IN
PENNSYLVANIA.

PHILADELPHIA:
Printed in the Year, M.DCC.XLIX.
The Resident’s Universe at Penn
Libraries
15 Locations
6.38 million book volumes (print)
4.24 million microform items
188,604 serials received
1.16 million e-books
182,257 e-journals
2.88 million digitized images
37,677 videos

Donor Support
• Venturi Scott Brown Library & Studio
• Neff Woodblock Collection
• Gilbert, Shirley and Marilyn Luber Fund for Japanese studies
• Hundreds of Endowed Funds
Making the case for a Residency
Who am I?

Coral Salomón

- Mayagüez, Puerto Rico
- MSLIS, Pratt Institute
- Previously:
  - Web Archiving Fellow at the The Frick Art Reference Library
  - Library & Archives Research Assistant at the Center for Puerto Rican Studies
- Worked as a project manager in the translation industry for 3 years.
NDSR Project Goals

- Research acquisition challenges/strategies for digital publications served through non-traditional platforms such as apps, YouTube, etc...
- Create an arts related web-archiving program.
- Develop recommendations for including arts-related born digital assets into Penn’s repositories.
What I’ve accomplished
Fugitive Digital Publications Research & Interviews

UbuWeb
All avant-garde. All the time.
Web Archiving Research
Findings
Born-Digital Assets @ Penn Environmental Scan

- No long-term repository for fine arts student works.
- Need for dedicated DAM manager or digital archivist.
  - Ex: Architectural Archives @ Penn
    - Small staff (2 full-time employees).
    - Starting to acquire digital file types (Revit, CAD, Rhino, Grasshopper).
    - 4.5 terabytes of data from Venturi, Scott & Brown.
  - Ex: Slought Foundation
    - Google Drive used as official repository.
    - Website serves as archive for exhibits.
- Access is a concern.
  - What does it mean to have the institution archive student work.
  - Protective of artist intent, suspicious of what digital preservation entails.
  - How can we be better partners?
- Interest in web archiving
- Repository/Discovery platforms at Penn.
  - Small staff.
  - Different priorities.
Digital Publications Interviews (Penn Library)

- No established best practices.
- What does access and discovery look like?
- Is it helpful to catalog apps and blogs
  - Where would we host this content?
  - Would users search for an app in a catalog?
- Vendors do not have a subscription model for large academic libraries:
  - Restrictive licensing agreements.
  - How do we provide access to the entire Penn community?
- How do we preserve this content?
  - Is it our responsibility?
  - Would creators give us the source code?
- How to handle content that’s fleeting?
  - What’s the point of cataloging a YouTube video that might disappear?
- Conflicting attitudes.
  - Shouldn’t this content be in a libguide?
  - Open to web archiving program.
Digital Publications Interviews (Content Creators)

**Apps**
- Art Swipe
- Daily Art Pro

**Databases**
- Ubu web
- Queer Cartoonist Database
- Cartoonist of Color Database

**Web publications**
- Creativz
- Gauss
- *Haute Food* [*Has a print component*]

**Podcast**
- textsound

**Hybrids**
- GIPHY Arts/Electric Objects
- Art21
What I am up to now
Acquired Skillset

- Time management.
- Communicate expectations.
- Don’t be afraid to reach out.
- Re-asses progress.
  - Be realistic.
  - Don’t look for answers, look for strategies.
- Interview skills.
- Synthesize information.
  - Still working on this skillset.
Talk to me!

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