Web Archiving for Collection Development: Capturing Event Data on the Umbrella Movement

Daniel C. Tsang, Distinguished Librarian
Data Librarian & Politics, Economics & Asian American Studies Bibliographer, UC Irvine

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3 June 2015
Welcome to Archive-It!
Attend a live informational webinar and demo to learn more about the service.

Contact Us to sign up for an upcoming session:
Jun 02 2015, 11:30 AM PDT
Jun 16 2015, 11:30 AM PDT

Explore Collections

Smithsonian Institution Websites
By Smithsonian Institution
Over 200 websites archived related to Smithsonian museums, galleries, and programs.

Mormon Blogs Collection
By Brigham Young University
Features the lifestyle and culture of Mormons through self published blogs.

Virginia's Political Landscape, 2010
By Library of Virginia
A collection of Web sites that document Virginia's 2010 Congressional elections (primary and general). All 11 members of Virginia's Congressional Delegation were...
According to Jinfang Niu (University of South Florida): “Existing web archiving efforts use the following selection criteria to determine what to preserve: domain (such as .gov or .edu), topic or event, media type and genre. Many European countries archive the web in their country domain. The library of the NASA Goddard Space Flight Center (GSFC) captures pages in the Goddard domain…

“The Library of Congress has created various event-based web collections, such as the September 11, 2001 web archives, the election web archives and the Iraq War 2003 web archives…

“Media-type based selection includes or excludes certain media types. The Goddard library, for example, avoids crawling large video files and software products …The web archiving project conducted by Chirag Shah and Gary Marchionini (2007), on the other hand, focused on preserving election videos on Youtube. Some web archives select based on genres such as blogs, newspapers, virtual worlds, etc. The National Library of France created a web collection of e-diaries…The Internet Archive has a software archive and an archive of videogame videos…”

UC Irvine Libraries’
Digital Scholarship Services

Web Archiving Service (WAS) for Library Liaisons

Daniel C. Tsang & Matthew McKinley
October 27, 2014

Source: https://escholarship.org/uc/item/1sr2w7vs
Web Archiving Service for what use?

Why use WAS?

**Bibliographers**
- Capture(s) as collection development
- Preserve ephemeral or at-risk sites

**Researchers**
- Capture(s) as class learning tool
- Capture(s) for research use

Source: [https://escholarship.org/uc/item/1sr2w7vs](https://escholarship.org/uc/item/1sr2w7vs)
IIPC: Collection Development Policies

COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT POLICIES

IIPC members

- Bibliothèque nationale de France
- Library of Congress - 2013
- British Library - 2014
- The National Archives (UK) Records Collection Policy and Operational Selection Policy 27: UK Government Web Estate
- National Library of Finland - 2011
- Portuguese Web Archive
- Swiss National Library
- Austrian National Library
- Columbia University Libraries
- Stanford University Libraries

Source: http://netpreserve.org/collection-development-policies
Other institutions

> Tamiment Library, NYU - 2010
> Bentley Historical Library - 2011
> North Carolina State Government Website Archives and Access Program
> University of Texas San Antonio
> University of Alberta Library
> University of California Los Angeles (UCLA)
> Chesapeake Digital Preservation Group

Source: http://netpreserve.org/collection-development-policies
Collection development

Our collection development guidance is intended to fulfill the following objectives:

- complement discipline-specific collection development policies;
- help curators decide what and, more importantly, what not to collect; and
- ensure that comparatively limited web archiving resources are deployed only for the most valuable content.

Focus on at-risk content

All web content is in some sense at-risk; this is, in fact, the raison d'être for web archiving. Particular categories of web content are more at-risk, however, because they are of time-limited interest or purpose, subject to government censorship, disseminated by immature organizations, or for other reasons. Spontaneous events, including disasters, revolutions, and trending social topics may briefly occupy the public spotlight, then fade from view. This unique and ephemeral content is especially deserving of our attention.

Complement existing collecting strengths

We have collecting strengths in particular areas, reflected by the research we support, our staffing for different subjects, our Special Collections, our relationships with donors and alumni, our geography and our institutional history. We provide added value when we consider web archiving as a potential component of a broader collecting plan and create web archives to complement other extant and prospective collections.

Observe resource constraints

A format-agnostic collection development policy will more than likely designate a broader range of web content as in scope for collecting than is practically feasible, given available web archiving resources. We should be mindful of collection dimensions that are most likely to increase costs. This includes not just the number of nominated websites but also their complexity (i.e., demanding additional staff time for crawl configuration and quality assurance) and contents (i.e., large files like video balloon storage requirements).

Consider what others are collecting

We are a member of an international community whose collective goal is collecting, preserving, and providing access to the historical web. Considering the cumulative and growing volume of information that has ever existed on the Web, even our aggregated efforts represent but a small fraction. We should therefore strive to identify existing web archives that overlap with areas where we intend to archive the Web ourselves and minimize duplication of effort. An enhancement to this approach is finding ways to provide seamless access to those external resources to our users, such as through topic guides, SearchWorks, or Memento.

Web archive holdings are not documented systematically, in terms of subject area, temporal coverage, language, top-level domain, or other identifiers, though research is underway that should simplify this. In the meantime, places to consult to discover existing web archives include: Archive-It's collections portal, California Digital Library's Web Archive Service collections portal, the International Internet Preservation Consortium's list of member archives, the Wikipedia List of Web archiving initiatives, the Internet Archive Wayback Machine, and the UK Web Archive Memento aggregator service. Curators may often learn about and/or contribute to planned web archives through their discipline-specific communities of practice. If overlap with another web archive is discovered, we should additionally consider the depth and frequency of their archiving to determine whether it is still worthwhile for us to archive it.

Consider the access conditions of what others are collecting

National libraries, in particular, create web archives under legal frameworks that only permit limited access (e.g., on-premise, for designated research, etc.). While generally we should avoid duplicatively archiving web content that has already been preserved by another organization, the prospect of their not making it accessible should count in favor of our archiving it, as well.

Assess value to researchers

A fundamental challenge for selecting content is that its potential utility increases over time, as the risk of change to or loss of the original content increases and the archive takes on historical context. Through their relationship with faculty and awareness of the web resources that have been vital to research within a given subject area, curators are best positioned to identify the content that matters for future research.

Here are some of the key selection criteria you might include:

- Complement collection strengths OR weaknesses
- Focus on more at risk online content
- Do not duplicate unless necessary
- Assess potential research value
- Asses content language
- Keep in mind resource limits
- Be cognizant of copyright issues
- Be aware of what is accessible for crawling
Case Study: Hong Kong

- Hong Kong is a semi-autonomous Special Administrative Region of the People’s Republic of China
- Hong Kong never had an archives law and still does not
- There is no transparency of government deliberations as records are not required to be retained
- An Archives Action Group has called for the government to enact such legislation and to give public access to public records
- Umbrella Movement developed last Autumn to protest for genuine universal suffrage
Arts & Culture Group Seeks to Preserve Umbrella Movement’s Artwork

Group wants to save Occupy protesters’ artwork

Lawmaker urged to ensure police don’t destroy pieces that have drawn worldwide attention

Vivienne Chow
vivienne.chow@scmp.com

An arts and culture group wants to make sure Hong Kong police do not destroy the creative works of Occupy protesters.

The group - including representatives from the Umbrella Movement Visual Archives and Research Collective, Hong Kong Shield, copyright concern group Keyboard Frontline and theatre artists - raised the issue with Ma Fung-kwok, a lawmaker representing culture and sports, in a meeting yesterday.

Artist Wen Yau, a member of the collective which wants to archive the items, said the group urged Ma to talk to the government and police to urge them not to demolish the works when they are clearing protest sites.

“We asked him to tell the police that these works are worth keeping,” said Wen.

Source: South China Morning Post, 21 October 2014.
What to Archive?

Users, Use Cases and Adapting Web Archiving to Achieve Better Results

May 8, 2015 by Butch Lazorchak

The following is a guest post from Michael Neubert, a Supervisory Digital Projects Specialist at the Library of Congress.

In a blog post about six months ago I wrote about how the Library of Congress web archiving program was starting to harvest "general" internet news sites such as Daily Kos, Huffington Post and Townhall.com, as well as newer sites such as news.vice.com and verge.com.

Many of these sites are extremely large. How large? While not an exact count (and in fact, far from it), use of the "site" limiter in Google will provide a count of digital objects found and indexed by Google (which is a far larger number than the number of web pages, but gives some sense of relative scale to other sites). A "site:huffingtonpost.com" search in Google returns “about 3,470,000 results.”


That is large.
Event Archiving - Exhibit A:
South China Morning Post

Behind firewall?

http://www.scmp.com/topics/occupy-central
Exhibit B: Scholarism

https://twitter.com/scholarismhk/
Exhibit C: Occupy Central

Note: English page available

和平佔中籲港府尊重學生表達自由

http://oclp.hk/
Exhibit D: Occupy Central

Alternative site

Hong Kong protesters carry out ‘yellow ribbon’ march

Posted on November 10, 2014

Hundreds of pro-democracy protesters in Hong Kong have marched to the office of China’s top representative in the city.

Activists are angry about a decision by China to screen candidates for Hong Kong’s 2017 leadership election. They want direct talks with Beijing. Continue reading →

Posted in Era of Peaceful Resistance | Tagged Beijing, CY Leung, March

http://oclphkenglish.wordpress.com/
Exhibit E: SocREC

Facebook site: https://www.facebook.com/socrec
A cartoon timeline: Harry's View on Occupy Central | South China Morning Post
Exhibit G: Real Hong Kong News

THE REAL HONG KONG NEWS

The news about Hong Kong you don't get to read in world's press

ABOUT

There are only two local English-language daily newspapers in Hong Kong – The Standard and The SCMP. Given the number of expatriates in this international city, this is simply not enough. Some of them who see Hong Kong as their home want to know what is really going on in Hong Kong, but the English dailies available in the market don’t seem to reveal the truth objectively often enough...

We feel that these newspapers don’t really cover the matters that Hongkongers (including the non-ethnic-Chinese community in HK) care about, and very often they write from China’s perspective and the news is simply China centric. Shouldn’t local papers focus more on home affairs?

http://therealnewshk.wordpress.com/about/
On the Scene @ CUHK
22 September 2014

Photography by Sam Tsang
Thank you very much!
I welcome emails at:
dtsang@uci.edu