Hyrax and Archivematica: Central to Implementing Digital Preservation Workflows

Chris Awre, University of Hull
Laura Giles, University of Hull
Rory McNicholl, CoSector

Samvera Virtual Connect
May 14th 2020
The UK City of Culture

The UK Government awards the title of UK City of Culture every four years

➢ In 2017 the title was awarded to Hull

The title is conferred for a four year period, but there is a focus in the first year on showcasing the culture of the city and using culture as a means to stimulate re-generation and growth.

➢ Over 2,800 events across the city throughout the year
The records

- Various depositors, including the university and artists, with the Culture Company being the biggest
- Almost exclusively digital
- Main systems we are harvesting records from:
  - Asset Bank (DAMS) c18,000 HQ photos and videos
  - SharePoint c80,000 organisational records
  - Box
  - Email
- Over 150,000 files in total
Building a solution

1. BitCurator
2. Box
3. Metadata
4. Archivematica
5. Archival store
6a. Hyrax
6b. CALM
7. Blacklight catalogue
8. Spotlight online exhibition

Workflow

Hullsinc
User uploads files and CSV files to box

Messages on progress written back to text file in box folder

Check collection exists in Calm

Create item level record in Calm

Create package and Digital Archival Objects

Transfer to synchronizer started by sharing folder with special user

Check validity of transferred material

Transfer Bag to Archivematica and track progress of AIP and DIP creation

Create “Bag” containing dissemination material for submission to Hyrax

Sword Deposit of Bag to Hyrax

Administrator has view of process via a simple web UI

EAD from Calm (including Hyrax work ids) imported to blacklight
Putting it into practice

User doesn’t have to leave the History Centre Catalogue

They don’t know (and don’t need to know that) these files are derivatives, managed by Hyrax, with preservation copies stored elsewhere by Archivematica
Lessons learned

• Archivematica and Hyrax do what they do very well
• Focus of attention has been on the joins, through Hullsync, and making effective use of different gems to serve the overall need
  • Willow-SWORD, hydra-derivatives, dogbiscuits, boxr
• Commercial elements (CALM, Box) had flaws in their documentation
  • But were good to responding to calls for help
White Paper

- Captures the background and work undertaken
- Describes the technical infrastructure
- Outlines the digital preservation services that can be offered around this solution

- [https://hydra.hull.ac.uk/resources/hull:17757/content1](https://hydra.hull.ac.uk/resources/hull:17757/content1)

- Contact us to discuss further...
Onward

• Continue implementation and development of the City of Culture Digital Archive – leading into City of Culture 2021 in Coventry
• Apply the solution to University digital archiving needs
• Engage with partner organisations around ways the University can support their digital archiving requirements
• Develop use cases for Hyrax and Spotlight
Thank you
For more information
visit www.hull.ac.uk