Avalon Update

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Indiana University Libraries

Samvera Connect 2020
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What is Avalon Media System?

- Samvera solution bundle for audio and video access
- Jointly developed by IU and Northwestern; by IU since last year
- Supported by grants from the Mellon Foundation and IMLS
- Currently at version 7.1.1
Avalon Features

• Granular access control
• Playlists
• Batch Ingest
• API
• Structural metadata
• Permalink support
• Player embedding
Avalon Team

- Project Director: Jon Dunn
- Product Owner: Jon Cameron
- Scrum Master: Maria Whitaker
- Developers/DevOps: Phuong Dinh, Dananji Withana
- Metadata Specialist: Julie Hardesty

- Hiring for Lead Software Engineer position
- Vacation Software Engineer position
Who’s Using Avalon?

- 18 institutions in production
- Additional institutions evaluating and testing
- List at https://www.avalonmediasystem.org/partners
  – Currently being updated

- Let us know if you’re using Avalon! Take the survey at https://forms.gle/uTFS2VJ9cV34EqhF6
What’s New in Avalon
Avalon 7.0 – January 2020

• Collections landing pages and collections indexes
• Built-in transcoding pipeline (no more Matterhorn)
• Transcoding dashboard
• New homepage design
• Local user management via *Persona*
George T. Engelman, Jr. family movies

Unit: University Archives

George T. Engelman, Jr. was a graduate from Indiana University, attending IU from 1937-1941. He worked and raised his family for a few years in Bloomington while studying for his master’s degree in education in the 1940s and 50s and working for RCA. He was also a WWII veteran.

Contact email: archives@indiana.edu
Website: collections.ip193800
Avalon 7.1 – April 2020

• API Changes and Updates
  – REST API keys can be assigned to users, respect permissions of that user
  – API stores HLS URL
  – Fixed up JSON responses
• Styling and visual improvements
• Updates and bug fixes
• Removed ImageMagick dependency
Avalon 7.1.1 – July 2020

• Email and website contact fields can be configured for collections
• Added IIIF authorization support (Avalon has supported IIIF Presentation 3.0 manifests since 6.5)
• Improvements to structural metadata editor
Avalon 7.2 – October 2020

- Supplemental File Support
- Intermediate authentication page
- Apply new permissions to all items in collection
- Revamped Manage Files UI
- Run cron jobs via Sidekiq
- Manage jobs added to Manage navigation
Structural Metadata Editor

- Support for millisecond time values
- Support for items without available audio data
- Play/pause using the spacebar
- Finer precision available for time values
- Disable drag and drop during inline editing
Avalon Turnkey

- Docker-based turnkey deployment for AWS
- Terraform provisioning
- Utilizing Amazon Elastic Transcoder, S3, etc.
- Easy to get started with for simple use cases
- https://github.com/avalonmedia/system/avalon-terraform
The Year Ahead

• Avalon 7.3
• IIIF Media Player
• Avalon on Hyrax
Avalon 7.3

• Improved support for Google Analytics and Matomo
• Transcript Display Support
  – Transcript documents able to be viewed alongside media content (closed captions support already present in the Avalon player)
  – Standard file types such as DOCX and WebVTT supported for transcripts
IIIF Media Player

• Designed to consume IIIF manifests
• Meant for community use as well as within Avalon
• Upcoming community sprint (join us!)
• Will become the core media player within Avalon in the future
Avalon on Hyrax

• Still the future!
• Development focus will transition from 7.x to Avalon on Hyrax
• Avalon team upgraded models as part of testing for Valkyrie/Hyrax 3.0.
Support for Avalon Implementers

- avalon-discuss-l@iu.edu list
- #avalon channel on Samvera Slack
- Monthly Avalon User Round-table
- More at avalonmediasystem.org/connect

- Paid support by IU for startup/maintenance of Avalon Turnkey
  - Oberlin College
  - Emory University
Thank you!

avalonmediasystem.org