DIGITAL SCHOLARSHIP

U-M Library Digital Scholarship Report 2021-2022

Summary

The 2021-2022 academic year marked the 2nd year in a three-year digital scholarship service pilot by the University of Michigan Library. This was also the second year of the COVID-19 pandemic, which saw continued disruption to on-site programming and increased demand for digital scholarship services and platforms. Despite the continuing challenges of the pandemic, the DS hub in Learning & Teaching continued to support instruction, online exhibits, provide workshops and consultations, pilot new initiatives, and host a number of large public events. Throughout, we saw sustained support for a values-oriented service (for more details see below) with expanded partnerships, namely with LSA and the National Center for Institutional Diversity.

Among our accomplishments, we piloted two new initiatives that allowed us to test our capacity and further highlight our commitment to DEIA and anti-racist principles, including the Anti-Racist Digital Research Initiative and Digital Scholarship Certificate. The former was designed to provide early-stage project support for social justice-oriented digital research projects, and the latter was developed to provide graduate students with an additional avenue to gain competencies in digital tools and methodologies. A full summary of activities is also offered in the appendix in a chart with links to additional documentation.

This coming year will be focused on assessing the DS service pilot as we shift towards moving into a more stable high-capacity stage for our service. The pilot, which focused on establishing a new program infrastructure for digital scholarship, was integral in allowing the U-M Library to develop new service offerings and test capacity. The assessment work of FY23 will focus on the following goals: 1) sustainably expanding our support offerings to a broader range of researchers, 2) growing a community of critical digital scholars and support partners, 3) and cohering institutional support for digital scholarship at U-M Library with our institutional partners.

For now, digital scholarship remains a strategic objective of the library, and we anticipate it will remain so until we reach a more stable "high capacity" level within the institution (see Appendix for definitions).

Detailed Report

Regular activities and current status

Since 2019, Digital Scholarship has been one of the U-M Library's strategic objectives:

> *We will advance our digital scholarship service through strategic cross-divisional collaboration to develop infrastructure, policies, and best practices that work towards just, equitable, and inclusive outcomes.*

This past year saw the DS Service continue in a primarily virtual capacity. Monthly meetings of the DS Service Team (DSST) were held on the second Wednesday of each month, and included members of LSA Technology Services, every division of the U-M Library at Ann Arbor, and the Mardigian Library at Dearborn. Representatives from Flint remain on the mailing list, but were largely unable to participate in synchronous meetings because of conflicts.

Digital Scholarship Office Hours, jointly hosted by the U-M Library and LSA TS, continue to be offered twice monthly on the first and third Tuesdays of each month, at 3:30. Attendance at these has been fairly steady, as many consultations are scheduled during this time.

Activity within the DSST subcommittees has decreased from early bursts of activity as the committees have worked in a sort of maintenance mode to give us capacity to pilot new initiatives, maintain the current level of service, and assess ongoing needs. The implementation of two new initiatives has been time and labor intensive, especially as we are developing and improving program infrastructure as we go. These new initiatives will also serve an important role in helping conduct assessment about researcher needs and interest across U-M.

In addition to monthly meetings, members of the DS Hub have served in leadership and consulting capacities within the U-M Library on the Library Diversity Council, the Instructor College Steering Committee, the Digital Repository Services Steering Committee, the Digital Preservation Steering Committee, and in committees related to the redesign of the Digital Collections Platform. Members of the DS Hub also maintain strong working relationships with partners in LSA TS and participate in weekly project coordination meetings on top of consultations, instruction, liaison roles, and virtual office hours.

We have continued to build upon cross-divisional collaboration, though we saw decreased participation from representatives at the U-M Flint and Dearborn campuses that had much to do with individual capacity at home institutions, personal care responsibilities, and ongoing conflicts that made attending monthly meetings challenging. These recurring challenges affect personnel at U-M Ann Arbor to a different degree, but contract negotiations for the new LEO-GLAM union have underscored ongoing inequities across the University of Michigan that have direct implications on the amount of support that we can provide to various faculty, and the librarians and staff available to provide that support. They have also highlighted the need for us to spend the next (and final) year of the pilot assessing and evaluating priorities, service needs, and capacity.

New pilot initiatives

FY22 saw the launch of two major initiatives, the [Anti-Racist Digital Research Initiative](#) (ARDRI), a partnership with LSA Technology Services and the National Center for Institutional Diversity Anti-Racism Collaborative, which offered seed funding to early stage anti-racist digital projects, and the [Digital Scholarship Certificate](#), designed to provide mentoring and training to graduate students in the area of digital scholarship and digital humanities. (More information is detailed below.)

Changes in U-M Library Digital Scholarship Staffing

The Learning & Teaching division, where the DS Hub staff is situated within the organization, encountered several very large changes toward the end of FY22. Below, we summarize some of the major changes and the resulting transitions.

Personnel transitions

- In June 2022, Meghan Sitar, long-time Director of Connected Scholarship left the University of Michigan
- Later in June 2022, Miranda Marraccini (Digital Pedagogy Librarian) left the institution to accept another position
- In light of Meghan Sitar's departure, the Learning and Teaching division distributed supervision of the different areas that formerly represented Connected Scholarship into several new departments and Anne Cong-Huyen (previously Digital Scholarship Strategist) was promoted to Director of Digital Scholarship, and Digital Scholarship became a separate department in L&T. The DS staff in L&T will be referred to as the "DS Hub."

Organizational transitions

- In June 2022, the "Digital Scholarship Service Team" collectively agreed to move from being a service team to becoming the "Digital Scholarship Advisory Group," to better reflect the work of the group and the expectations of representatives who serve on it.
- We officially launched the "Digital Scholarship Service," as it will be known internally. This service will be overseen and managed by the Digital Scholarship department, with insight and additional functional support by members of the DS Advisory group who serve on subcommittees.
- Public communications have also been updated to reflect these changes.
    - On the U-M Library website, the "Digital Projects and Planning" pages have been revised and now read "Digital Scholarship."
- Renovations of the Clark Commons on the 3rd floor of Shapiro are also underway, and will eventually be home to the DS Hub staff. Completion of this work is anticipated for Winter 2023. Currently, Anne is serving on the Clark Commons Research and Scholarship Service Design Team to facilitate conversations about a service model in the new space.

Digital Scholarship Service Status

Service Strengths

As currently staffed and structured, the Digital Scholarship hub has developed strengths in the following key service areas:

Consultations

In FY 22, the DS hub held roughly ~74 consultations with faculty, staff, students, and community partners of campus researchers. Many requests for consultation are coming directly to the library-ds@umich.edu email address, but we are also seeing referrals from faculty and library partners who are directing researchers in their disciplines, and also requesting consultations for their own research projects.

Instruction

Members of the DS Hub regularly provide course-related instruction, often co-taught with subject liaisons, in the areas of: digital curation, digital archives, online exhibits, metadata and reparative approaches to description, Wikipedia editing and public scholarship, introductions to digital humanities/digital scholarship, and others.

Workshops

Under the leadership of Caitlin Pollock and Joe Bauer, the DS Advisory Group completed its second full year (first un-interrupted year) of Digital Scholarship 101 workshops in virtual form, which welcomed over 300 attendees. This core set of workshops introduces researchers to important competencies related to developing and

- **Conceptualizing Your Digital Project** (11/9) taught by Joe Bauer (LSA TS), Anne Cong-Huyen (Digital Scholarship - L&T), Scott Witmer (Digital Preservation - Collections)
- **Planning Your Digital Project** (11/30) taught by Caitlin Pollock (Digital Scholarship - L&T), Miranda Marraccini (Digital Scholarship - L&T), and Meghan Musolff (Deans' Office)
- **Managing and Planning Data** (1/25) taught by Matt Carruthers (Digital Scholarship - L&T) and Rachel Woodbrook (DBRRDS - Publishing)
- **Understanding Accessibility for Projects** (2/16) taught by Stephanie Rosen (Accessibility - L&T) and Maria Laitan (LSA TS)
- **Advocating for Your Digital Project (3/29)** taught by Whitney Dye (LSA TS),

Rebecca Welzenbach (Research)

Public Programming

As with previous years, the DS Hub and our partners across the library and campus have continued to host our popular public digital scholarship events.

- **Frederick Douglass Day** (2/14) was virtual this year, with over 90 registrants. Organized and hosted by Caitlin Pollock, the event featured Professor Su'ad Abdul Khabeer (American Culture) as our keynote speaker, and her talk was followed by a crowdsourced transcription event of the Colored Conventions papers.
- **Art + Feminism** (3/25-4/1) (with LSA and the Stamps), like our other events was virtual, and featured two keynote speakers, and a Wikipedia edit-a-thon. This series of events was co-hosted by Miranda Marraccini and Jennifer Junkermeier-Khan of the Stamps Gallery with many additional collaborators.
  - Keynote speakers
    - Alisa Yang, 3/25 (93 registrants)
    - Ellie Mitchell, 4/1 (60 registrants)
  - Wikipedia Edit-a-thon, 3/30
- **Demystifying Digital Scholarship** (5/26) (with LSA), organized and hosted by Caitlin Pollock and Joe Bauer, featured Lorena Gauthreau (USLDH), who gave a talk on "Digital Archives and Recovery" and then followed up her talk with a hands-on workshop Introduction to Omeka S. (Registration capped at 30, 25 attendees)
- **Project Management Symposium** (6/28), organized and hosted by Caitlin Pollock and Joe Bauer, was an informal roundtable featuring Jessica Cruz (Crafting Democratic Futures) and Nora Krinitsky (Prison Creative Arts Project), who spoke about their experiences and lessons learned as coordinators of large digital projects with numerous team members, stakeholders, and partners. (34 registrants)

Service Challenges & Gaps

Online exhibits

The U-M Library offers a tightly scoped online exhibits service staffed by Caitlin Pollock (L&T) as the Service Lead and Heymo Vehse (LIT) as Technical Lead. This service is built on the Omeka platform, which is maintained by the Technical Lead in LIT.

Prior to 2020, we supported roughly two online exhibits a year with the additional support of Kristine Greive, Exhibits Librarian in the Special Collection Resource Center. With the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, demand for online exhibit support more than tripled, and with Kristine's departure in 2020, the sole
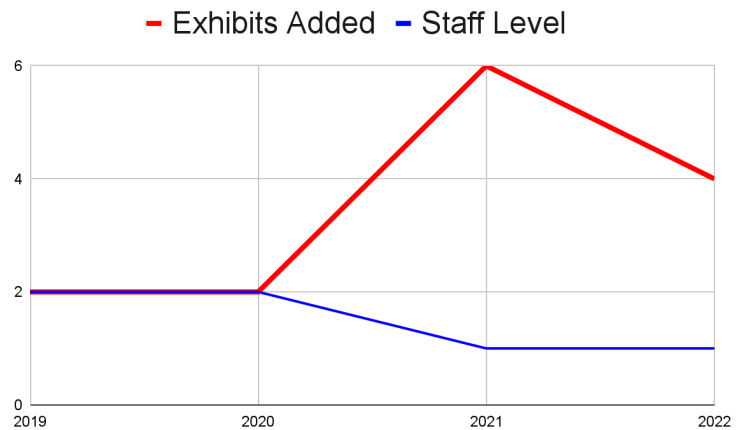
responsibility of providing exhibit creators with training, guidance, and support has fallen entirely to Caitlin. This support includes Omeka platform training, reviewing proposals, assistance in planning and structuring exhibits, reviewing and revising copy, developing metadata, captions, descriptions, and planning for accessibility.

Despite the challenging increase in demand, over the past year, Caitlin supported 10 online exhibits, six of which were published, and four are currently in progress.

In addition to supporting the creation of online exhibits, Caitlin has also been working to revise our workflows to simplify the process for exhibit creators and make the work more manageable for our limited staff. This work has included the development of a new proposal form, an exhibit template, a template statement for exhibits containing sensitive and racist materials, and documenting recommended practices designed to help exhibit creators address DEIA goals and better employ the values of the library.

"Caitlin taught the [Michigan Library Scholars] interns how to use Omeka, the importance of writing styles and accessibility, and answered random questions along the way. She also went above and beyond helping us publish the exhibit when we missed the deadline because of my unforeseen absence. The interns and I truly appreciate her efforts—thank you, Caitlin!"

-Zach Quint, Librarian for Classical Studies and Modern Greek

In the coming year, Caitlin and Jamie Vander Broek will be leading an Online Exhibits Service Design Team, a subcommittee of the DS Advisory Group, to scope a more cohesive,

mission-aligned service strategy, including policies and documentation. (Please note that selecting a new exhibits platform is not currently in scope for this project.) We are currently working with AULs to identify members for this team.

As an important venue for library staff to engage in public scholarship, we're taking great care in evolving the online exhibits program. These exhibits often require a great deal of time, energy, and intellectual labor, and we appreciate the mindfulness of our colleagues in working with Caitlin on these projects and acknowledging their various collaborators.

Text and Data Mining (TDM)

An ongoing challenge for the U-M Library has been the provisioning of services and access to library purchased data for researchers. The service model has historically been ad hoc and distributed. Long-term challenges to providing TDM support have included acquisition practices and policies, storage of purchased data, discoverability of data, providing access to that data, and offering instruction and support to researchers looking for support in text and data mining tools and methods.

Currently, organizational leadership is provided by Caitlin Pollock, who chairs the [Text and Data Mining Advisory Group](#), which also includes Kathleen Folger (Collections), Sam Hansen (Research), Catherine Morse (Research), Chris Powell (LIT), and Rebecca Welzenbach (Research). The TDM Advisory group is charged with developing high-level strategic work related to the library support of TDM services. Last year, the advisory group completed work on an electronic Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to help researchers access data collections quicker and relieve one area of bottlenecking. For the 2022-2023 academic year, the group will prioritize the following: the implementation of the clickable MOU, along with TDM service communication protocols; a policy around usage statistics that we receive from content providers; and pilot investigating the operationalizing of data collections with [Great Lakes](#), U-M's high-powered computing service.

Additionally, in the coming year, the TDM Service Design team, a subcommittee of the DS Advisory Group chaired by Sam Hansen (Research) and Rachel Woodbrook (Publishing), will work to identify gaps in service and develop documentation, workflows, and policies.

Major Activity and Accomplishments

Anti-Racist Digital Research Initiative

A partnership between U-M Library, LSA Technology Services, and National Center for Institutional Diversity's Anti-Racism Collaborative, the Anti-Racist Digital Research Initiative is a mini-grant program that supports early-stage digital scholarship projects that advances anti-racism and social justice in the humanities, arts, and humanistic social sciences. The program provided six teams with $5,000 in start-up funding, membership to the NCID Anti-Racism Collaborative, hands-on help to develop digital

> "We're all geeked about this new partnership... The list of projects supported by this initiative in the first cycle is so impressive, innovative and socially impactful."
>
> -Dr. Tabbye Chavous, Vice Provost for Equity & Inclusion, and Chief Diversity Officer
> (Feb. 2022, ARDRI Kickoff Meeting)

research project prototypes, and planning support from LSA TS and U-M Library for the lifecycle of their projects.

In Fall 2021, the DS team hosted office hours and consultations with dozens of researchers about the program and application process, and ultimately received 33 applications from eight schools, and 16 different departments. Grants were awarded to six projects, and the list of awardees can be found on the U-M website. The grant term officially launched in Winter 2022 with an introductory kick-off meeting in February, where we were received opening remarks by Cathy Curley, CIO of LSA, Laurie Alexander, AUL for Learning & Teaching, and Tabbye Chavous, then-Director of the NCID and current Vice Provost for DEIA. The recording of that meeting can be found on MiVideo.

In June, the ARDRI team hosted an extended project management intensive workshop for project teams to help give teams guidance and time to develop project charters and work plans. The teams were introduced to concepts and practical considerations for project management along with recommendations for applying anti-racist principles to that work. This meeting was not recorded, but slides can be found here.

Online Exhibits

Nation Building and the Lives it Changed Forever: A Reflection on the 100th Anniversary of the Greco-Turkish War
Curated by Elaina Ryan, Bennett Lowe, and Zachary Quint

Some highlights among the exhibits created this year, include "The Code of Presence: Belarusian Protest Embroideries and Textile patterns," created through a cross-institutional collaboration with Belarusian scholar and curator Sasha Razor (UCLA) and facilitated by Jamie Vander Broek; "Nation Building and the Lives it Changed Forever: A Reflection on the 100th Anniversary of the Greco-Turkish War," curated by Michigan Library Scholars Elaina Ryan and Bennett Lowe, in partnership with their library mentor, Zachary Quint; and the "History of the William Monroe Trotter Multicultural Center at the University of Michigan," curated by Charles Ransom and Edras Rodriguez-Torres.

Caption: Screenshot of the "Nation Building" online exhibit curated by Michigan Library Scholars with the support of their library mentor, Zachary Quint.

Rackham Public Engagement Graduate Intern

Caption: Marisol Fila, PhD Candidate, Romance Languages and Literature.

This past summer, the Digital Scholarship hub hosted its second Rackham Graduate Intern, Marisol Fila, PhD Candidate in Romance Languages, who continued with the team on an hourly basis into the Fall. Over the summer, Fila worked with the DS librarians and met with a number of additional experts across the library to gain new skills needed for a number of projects: to assess and improve the Digital Scholarship Certificate, begin accessibility assessments of digital scholarship tools, update the Digital Scholarship

Research Guide, and began developing a Canvas course related to the U-M Library online exhibits. She then joined a number of subcommittees in the Fall to continue this work.

> *"Having the opportunity to be an intern at the UM Library Digital Scholarship hub was an extraordinarily rewarding learning experience. Since my first year as a doctoral student, I have been learning digital humanities tools and methodologies and have gradually incorporated them into my research and practice. Within and beyond the university, I have participated in programs and workshops that have offered me the opportunity to get to know different digital projects and have a sense of the affordances and limitations of doing digital scholarship.*
>
> *The UM Library, and in particular the Digital Scholarship team, have been essential in this learning process. I have taken workshops on digital scholarship tools, participated in and contributed to events and initiatives, and consulted regularly with Digital Scholarship librarians. In this regard, applying to be a summer intern at the Digital Scholarship hub was, to me, an opportunity to get to know more about the internal dynamics of the team, its workflows, projects, and future initiatives.*
>
> *However, my expectations of having a hands-on experience of what it means to be part of a digital scholarship team and to work collaboratively with faculty, students, and librarians across the university were incredibly exceeded throughout the summer. From the very beginning, I found a fantastic team that allowed me the opportunity to participate and contribute to their different projects, but to likewise use their time, space, resources, and support to develop projects related to my research interests and work. As such, I was able to identify areas in which I could contribute while also learning new skills, and doing that by knowing that I would have the support and feedback from the team at all times. Throughout the summer, I was able to work on updating the existing Library Research Guide on Digital Scholarship, learn and contribute to the Library Digital Exhibits, the Digital Scholarship Certificate for Graduate Students, the Anti Racist Digital Research Initiative, and get started with accessibility testing in collaboration with the Digital Accessibility team.*

Throughout all of these projects and spaces, I was able to strengthen and deepen my knowledge and digital scholarship skills and have extraordinary hands-on experiences. I cannot thank the team enough for their expertise, patience, and support at all stages, and I very much look forward to continuing this journey and working experience as a graduate student intern this 2022-2023 academic year."

- Marisol Fila

Big Data, Big Problems Reading Group

The Big Data, Big Problems discussion series arose as a proposed collaboration between the Informatics Interest Group and the Digital Scholarship Service Team. Scott Martin and Samuel Hansen represented the two groups, mapping out the themes for discussion and selecting articles, podcasts, and videos to support them. Over four sessions, we discussed the roots of statistics and its relationship to eugenics; privacy, surveillance, and data collection; bias in artificial intelligence and machine learning; and impact and accountability in big data. Discussions were held on Zoom, and generally drew 6-12 participants. We also collected all of our materials in [a shared document](#) for later reference by the community. Reactions from our colleagues were uniformly positive, with several requests for a "second season" in the near future.

-Sam Hansen & Scott Martin

Digital Research Projects

A major element of DS work is supporting researchers engaged in digital research projects. These activities are primarily undertaken in collaboration with LSA Technology Services' recently formed [Digital Scholarship Studio](#). The library DS staff offer consultations related to research project design, tool and platform choice, project management, metadata, grant funding, advocacy, and pedagogy. LSA TS provides similar support with additional technical services including web hosting and UX design. In the past year, much of this project support

has been concentrated within the Anti-Racism Digital Research Initiative and the six projects funded by that grant program.

To facilitate consentful[1] coordination of the project labor across multiple teams (spanning Library and LSA) we created a [Trello board](#) for tracking details and a weekly 20-minute standup meeting for quick updates and to share where there may be issues. Each project gets a card and team members who are interested are assigned to them. It's important to note that team members often come and go from a project as the nature of needed work evolves. The project cards move from column to column as work progresses and we take a moment to celebrate the success of each progression. After using this system during the pilot years we've been able to establish our project throughput capacity at about 14 projects per year. The numbers associated with the card column labels are "Work In Progress" (WIP) counts. For example, we know that we can't work on more than four provisioning tasks simultaneously, so we try to avoid overloading our teams by keeping no more than four project cards in that column at a time. This approach keeps balance, but also allows us to set generally accurate expectations with project teams.
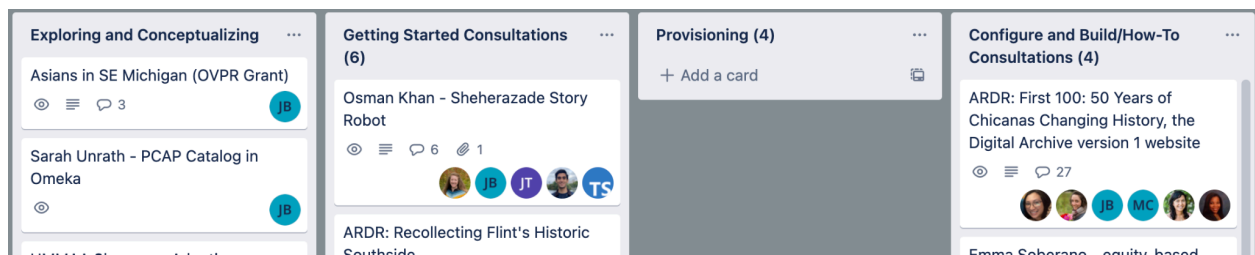

Image: A cropped screenshot of our Trello board showing the four most common phases a project takes and the cards which represent projects.

Sample Projects

The First 100: Chicanas Changing History

One of the projects funded by the Anti-Racist Digital Research Initiative, this project brings together a multi-generational team of Latinas to document the field of Mexican American history by interviewing the women who have lived and shaped it. The beta version of the

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[1] The Digital Scholarship Advisory Group uses the term "consentful," drawn from larger discourses about consent. In particular, we refer to the [Consentful Tech](#) project's definition of consent as: freely given, reversible, informed, enthusiastic, and specific. We obtain consent before including individuals on projects, teams, etc.

project site went live in October 2022. The project's lead investigators, Lorena Chambers (postdoctoral fellow in History and American Culture at U-M Ann Arbor) and Dr. Margaret Salazar Porzio (curator, National Museum of American History, Smithsonian Institution), obtained an additional $190,000 from the Smithsonian Institution. The project team included Matt Carruthers, Edras Rodriguez-Torres, Maria Laita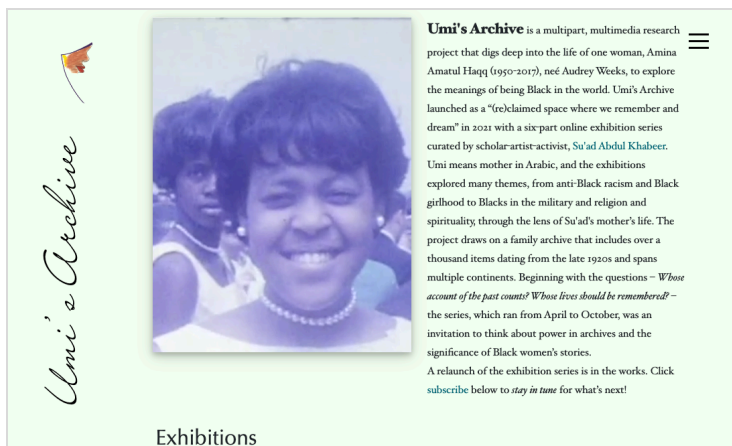n, and Caitlin Dickinson, who created visualizations and interactive maps for this new digital space, a living resource that will expand as the project progresses.

Caption: Screenshot of the First 100 project beta site, featuring the project title and a large banner image of abstracted mountains in a blue and purple gradient.

Umi's Archive

An independent research and archival project of Dr. Su'ad Abdul Khabeer (American Culture), this project includes digitized materials from Dr. Khabeer's mother's personal archives. Members of the DS Hub and LSA have provided extensive consultation related to technical infrastructure, metadata and description, and provided course-related instruction for Dr. Khabeer's "Black Women in the Archive" course. Caitlin Pollock led a session introducing students to the Digital Humanities and Black DH. Stephanie Rosen led a session on Access and Accessibility for digital projects, and Matt Carruthers and Jackson Huang delivered a session on metadata Methods and Ethics, looking specifically at Anti-Racist description practices.


Caption: Screenshot of the introductory web page for Umi's

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Archive, featuring a picture of Umi, Amina Amatul Haqq as a young Black woman with a short bob, in a white dress and pearls. The background is green and there is text introducing the archive.

Activism, Organizing, and Leadership within U-M Asian American + Pacific Islander Communities and Spaces

Originally proposed in 2019, this digital collection was initiated and stewarded by undergraduate students from the United Asian American Organizations. These students worked with members of the DS Advisory Group who provided consultation and coordination support with Digital Content and Collections. The students digitized materials collected by, Marie Ting, Assistant Vice Provost for DEI; worked closely with U-M Library faculty, including Matt Carruthers and Jackson Huang, to develop metadata and descriptions; worked with Anne Cong-Huyen to create documentation and continuity plans; and collaborated with faculty in Asian Pacific Islander/American Studies to establish related

curricula and succession plans.
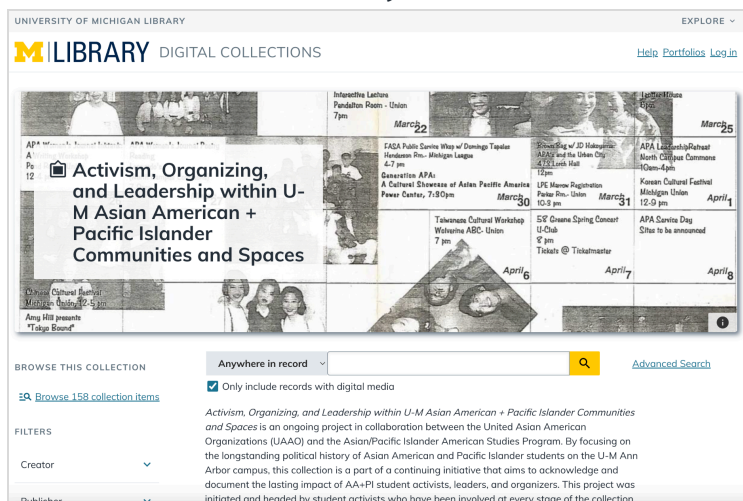
Caption: Screenshot of the UAAO digital collection hosted by U-M Library, featuring a banner image of a programming calendar, "Portraits of Our Community," that includes images of Asian American students at U-M from March/April 1995.

Crafting Democratic Futures
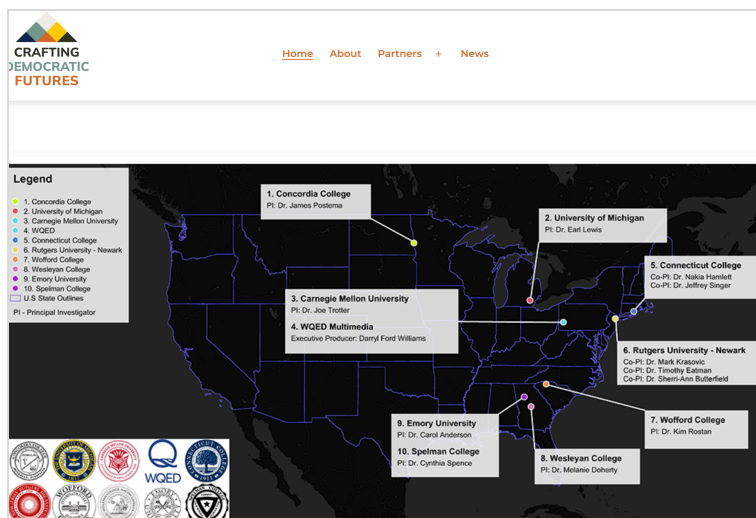
Led by Earl Lewis (PI) and Jessica Cruz (Managing Director), this project grew out of a $5 million Mellon Just Futures grant, and brings together teams across eight institutions addressing issues of reparations for Black and Indigenous communities at the local

level. Anne Cong-Huyen, Joe Bauer, Charles Watkinson, Sara Cohen, Matt Carruthers, Miranda Marraccini, and Maria Laitain have consulted on this project, developed principles for project technical infrastructure, helped created a controlled vocabulary, and offered instruction on Zotero for a shared bibliography. We've launched the first version of the project site, and a second version is in the works.

Caption: Screenshot of landing page for the Crafting Democratic Futures website, featuring a map of the project sites across the Midwest and Eastern seaboard of the U.S.

Planning activities & looking forward

The current pilot has allowed us to develop a fairly clear and sustainable model for consultation, curriculum, and public programming. This work depends heavily on our partners across the library and in LSA. As we offer this ongoing support, members of the DS Hub and the DS Advisory group more broadly, engage actively with researchers using digital scholarly methods to keep up with academic research trends. By assessing our existing support capacity through the ARDRI and the DS Certificate, there is now a documented need for project and grant-related activity support that is largely beyond our current ability. To further understand broader campus needs, we'll also be working with Craig Smith, the U-M Library Assessment Specialist, to develop and include questions related to digital scholarship on the campus survey.

Our services as outlined in our DS Framework and on our pages on the website are currently fairly limited and narrowly scoped to align with our current staffing, but it is clear that the University of Michigan needs to invest in technological infrastructure to host digital projects, and to increase staffing and capacity to better support digital research (training and educating faculty, students, and staff; hosting community spaces, etc.).

DS@U-M

Along with partners in LSA, we are in the process of planning a Provost request and seeking additional funding to centralize DS support by proposing a joint 3-year expanded pilot between U-M Library and LSA TS services. This request names this collaboration as DS@U-M and highlights the ongoing partnership and the importance of the library as the

central home for DS services at U-M. After two full years, we have gathered data (also detailed in the above section under [Major Activities and Accomplishments](#)) about the growing need for DS support for scholars. Because of our own staffing and infrastructure constraints, extensive support for digital projects beyond consultation and instruction has been limited to faculty affiliated with LSA. Applications from our recent Anti-Racism Digital Research Initiative (see [details below](#)) suggest that there is need for this support for researchers beyond LSA, however, and this expanded pilot would allow us to further test capacity, selectively expand our service offerings, and increase outreach and opportunities to faculty and students through fellowships. Anne Cong-Huyen and Joe Bauer have worked closely with leadership in the Library and LSA, including with Finance and HR partners, to develop pitch documents for this joint request.

As a first step, and to demonstrate existing efforts to cohere disparate services and offerings into a legible space, we are working with partners in LSA to establish a central website and hub for digital scholarship services, activities, and programming across the university: *digitalscholarship.umich.edu*. Work is already underway on this project, which is taking place primarily within the Communications subcommittee of the DS Advisory Group, chaired by Matt Carruthers, Metadata Engagement Librarian, and Maria Laitan, UX Designer in LSA Technology Services. Ultimately, we hope this site will serve as a reference point to communicate services available across U-M, events and opportunities, to publish announcements, and highlight digital projects.

Clark Commons

In Winter 2023, the DS Hub anticipates relocating to the Clark Commons, the renovated 3rd floor of the Shapiro Library, which will be home to a "Digital Scholarship pilot spaces." Leading up to this move, we've been engaged with Library Facilities and other partners to inform decision making around furnishings and technology, and have been actively engaged in research and scholarship service design, which includes other partners from the Clark Library, Publishing, Research, and Learning & Teaching. Ultimately, we hope this space will be home to DS@U-M and allow us to host DS community events, incubate collaborative digital research, and provide space for us to work with our institutional partners.

Appendix

Background

1. [Report on Digital Scholarship Support at U-M (2019)](#)
2. [U-M Library Digital Scholarship Report (2020-2021)](#)
3. [Digital Scholarship SDTF Recommendations (2018)](#)

Summary of Activity

[Anti-Racist Digital Research Initiative](#) (ARDRI)	$31,000 in funds from the Dean's Strategic Opportunity fund and DEI funds, the ARDR Initiative supported 6 project teams led by faculty, graduate students, and postdocs working with community and institutional partners.
	
	Total of 33 applications received from Ann Arbor and Flint campuses:
	- 10 LSA departments,
	   - 5 schools (Ross, Stamps, Education, School of Information, Law School, LSA)
	   - 2 research centers (NCID, ICPSR).
	
	The final [six funded projects are listed on the U-M Library website](#).

[Digital Scholarship Certificate](#)	- Launched in Fall 2021 - Accepted an initial cohort of 11 students (one dropped because of challenges related to being overseas) - Received 20 applications from 7 schools, and 13 different departments
[Digital Scholarship 101 Workshop series](#)	Completed second full year (first un-interrupted year) of DS 101 workshops in virtual form. 300+ attendees. - Conceptualizing Digital Projects (11/9) - Planning Your Digital Project (11/30)

	- Managing and Planning Data (1/25) - Understanding Accessibility for Projects (2/16) - Advocating for Your Digital Project (3/30)
Additional Digital Scholarship workshops	Gentle Introduction to Tropy (4/12)
Virtual Digital Scholarship Office hours	Co-hosted with LSA TS, twice monthly
Public Programming **[Link to recordings in report]** **[Link to spreadsheet list of events]**	**Douglass Day Celebration** (2/14) (with Art Alliance) - Keynote: Su'ad Abdul Khabeer **Art + Feminism** (3/25-4/1) (with Stamps Gallery) - Keynote speakers: Alisa Yang (3/25), Ellie Mitchell (4/1) - Wikipedia Edit-a-thon (4/30) **Demystifying DS**: Lorena Gauthreau (USLDH), Introduction to Omeka S **Project Management Symposium** (6/28) - Keynotes: Jessica Cruz, Crafting Democratic Futures; Nora Krinitsky, Prison Creative Arts Project
Consultation	Between early August 2021-August 2022 we received and accommodated ~75 requests for consultations

Online Exhibits in Omeka	• 10 exhibits supported
	  ○ 6 exhibits published
	  ○ 4 exhibits in progress
	• new workflows and proposal forms implemented to address DEIA goals and better employ the values of the library

TDM Advisory Group	Identifying gaps in service and developing processes, workflows, and policies.
Big Data, Big Problems Reading Group Big Data, Big Problems Materials List	Co-hosted with the Informatics Interest Group, convened by Scott Martin and Sam Hansen (DS representative) this group met 4

	times in spring of 2022 to discuss issues related to big data, informatics, machine learning, and the ethical problems inherent therein.

DS Service Documentation

Document	Status
DS Service Framework	Last revised July 2022
Joint Digital Scholarship Mission & Vision (U-M Library and LSA TS)	2020-2023
Community Agreement	Under review
How We Work	Under Review
Glossary	Draft (ongoing)
DS Practitioners - MCommunity - Registry - Slack	
Project Documents - Project Charter Template - Gantt Chart Template - RACI Matrix Template	
Digital Scholarship Research Guide	Revisions are in-progress by Marisol Fila
Digital Scholarship Tools: Accessibility Evaluation	Digital Accessibility Subcommittee (a collaboration with the Digital Accessibility Team) currently evaluating tools

Grant-Related Activity

[[Link to grant-funded projects supported by U-M Library DS and LSA TS]]

Our Capacity

We estimate that we are currently in the "established" stage according, as described below, in the development of our digital scholarship services, and our goal is to move toward the "high-capacity" stage.

Our Capacity

Early Stage	Established Stage	High-Capacity Stage
• Grassroots • Ad-hoc • Catch-as-catch-can • Siloed • Focus is on individual project leads	• Processes emerge • Institutional champions emerge • More collaboration • Formal commitments of resources • Attempts at forming advisory committees • Recognition that decisions and priorities would benefit from coordination	• Full support • Grant application support • Infrastructure in place • Physical spaces available • Highest-level administration support • Institution holds events • Formal support and governance for projects at institutional level

Last Update   Now   (Anne, et al., 2017)