

Preservation Planning Meeting, May 22, Montana State Library

Recommendations to the MSL Network Advisory Council for a statewide preservation (“long term access”) tool:

(The following “questions and values” were used to assist in discussion of these recommendations)

- What is our designated community?
- Is local hosting versus 3rd party hosting an important decision?
- Are open source alternatives an option?
- To what extent is the OAIS model relevant to Montana’s long-term preservation needs?
- What types of partnerships are valuable to pursue?
- To what extent are multiple copies of digitized objects valuable and necessary?
- Is a truly “dark archive” valuable?
- Is distribution of copies geographically and administratively valuable?
- Is there a value placed on maintaining necessary technical expertise locally?
- What should be the goals of any local cost sharing formula?

Recommendations:

- Our designated community would include institutions utilizing the statewide CONTENTdm license (the current Montana Memory Project), local CONTENTdm licenses (hosted or local instances) and other digitization access options
- All types of institutions (libraries, archives, museums, schools, government agencies) would be able to utilize the statewide option
- The tool must be affordable, flexible, proven and scalable
- An assessment of risk is needed: should the NAC do this?
- Statewide, organized preservation planning that is OAIS compliant is essential and is viewed as a separate but related task
- A hosted solution is preferable
- Distribution that is OAIS compliant is required (meaning, in part, that the material is stored in 2 separate locations)
- The approach to statewide digital preservation should be collaborative and developmental

- A consideration of offering both a LOCKSS and an OCLC Digital Archive option is requested (interested institutions could choose between participating in a regional LOCKSS network or utilizing a statewide subscription to OCLC's Digital Archive or they could do both)
- If LOCKSS is either the sole or one of two solutions, the recommendation is to wait to find out about MetaArchive West grant in September. Those interested in LOCKSS prefer the approach being proposed for the MetaArchive West. There is no significant interest in a state based private LOCKSS network.