Into the Bright Sunshine of Civil Rights: Accessing the Legacy of Hubert H. Humphrey through Digitization

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MHS received a 1 year NHPRC grant to digitize the speech text files of Hubert H. Humphrey, former Vice President of the United States.
Humphrey Speech Files finding aid
Definition:

A systematic effort to consider complete collections, rather than being selective at the item level—as has been the norm in many digitization projects—and using production methods that are as streamlined as possible while also accounting for the needs of special material.

Jackie M. Dooley and Katherine Luce, ‘Taking Our Pulse: The OCLC Research Survey of Special Collections and Archives,’ p.50
Methodology: More Product Less Process

MPLP Inspired Digitization Mechanics

• Using finding aids as a coat hanger to preserve, manage and provide public access to the digital objects
• Identifying entire series or collection for digitization, not cherry-picking items from collections that are more important
• Digitization as a vehicle for access
• Retention and preservation of original documents, not for digital preservation purposes

MPLP: More Product, Less Process: Revamping Traditional Archival Processing, by Mark A. Greene and Dennis Meissner
Digitization Methods

Scanning

Hardware:
• Epson Expression 10000 XL (flatbed scanning for large and oddly shaped materials)
• Fujitsu fi-6230 (sheet feeding normal and legal sized documents)

Software:
• Adobe Acrobat Pro
Standards and Content

• 8-bit gray-scale at 300 dpi (dots per inch)
• No modification by application of de-screening or filtering
• Scanned into PDF file format
• OCR (optical character recognition) processing: no character correction is done due to high costs
• Document compression done using PDF optimizer (Acrobat v. 7.0 and later compatibility, JBIG2 schema with lossless quality)
• Minimal metadata added to document properties using template form: Title; Author; Keyword; Copyright Status, Notice and URL
• PDF/A (Portable Document Format/Archival)
Results

Humphrey Speech Text Files
Finding Aid Pageviews
FY2012-FY2013 Comparison

- FY2013
- FY2012
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>FY2012</th>
<th>FY2013</th>
<th>% Change</th>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>217</strong></td>
<td><strong>530</strong></td>
<td><strong>59%</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Monthly Average</em></td>
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Future Trends

Scan on Demand

• Interest in special collections will drive digital reproduction
• User needs and access to collections drive digitization
• Streamlined workflows provide cost effective way to use institutional resources while maximizing output
• Linking digital objects to finding aids or catalog record eliminates time intensive metadata creation

Scan and Deliver: Managing User-initiated Digitization in Special Collections and Archives, Jennifer Schaffner, Francine Snyder and Shannon Supple
Additional Questions, To Contact

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Collections Management Toolkit:
http://www.mnhs.org/library/findaids/CMToolkit/CMToolkit.htm
References


