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# Raise All Ships

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COOPERATIVE REPOSITORY STRATEGIES IN A BOOT-STRAP CULTURE

RYAN STEANS, DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS

TEXAS DIGITAL LIBRARY

# Case Study Subject A - Powerhouses

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## Digital Library Team

- Repository Librarians
- Metadata Librarians
- Digital Archivists
- Digital Humanities

## Digitization Department

- Document scanning
- A/V digitization

## Technology Support

- Software Development Team
- System Administration
- User Experience Experts
- Hardware infrastructure

## Special Projects Staff

Special archives on campus with digital teams

Research and Development

Grant Writing Staff



# Case Study Subject B – Lone Rangers

A 2<sup>nd</sup> year librarian asked to “take care of repository/digital stuff”. Acts as:

- Repository librarian
- Metadata librarian
- Has a scanner bought with a grant in 2009
- Required to work the reference desk 20 or more hours per month
- Lay-offs within library



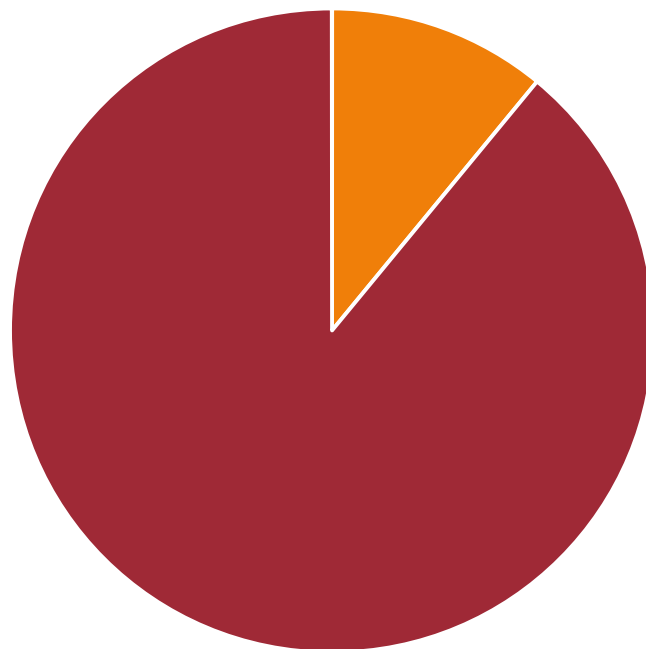


# Far Fewer Case Study A's Than B's

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In Texas:

Number of Institutions



■ Power houses ■ Lone Rangers

# What are we developing in Open Source software?

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# What are we developing in Open Source software?

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Expectation of:

- Staffing
  - Software requiring: integration, customization, development of add-ons
  - System administration
  - Repository
    - Metadata management
    - Outreach
    - Collections Management
- Ongoing funding
- Moving to new platforms

Who can run this? Who is this software for?

# Who is here?

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Case Study A – Powerhouses?

Case Study B – Lone Rangers?

# Issue: What is the goal of Open Source?

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Is Open Source software for the Common Good? Or is it developed to be used by those that can afford to pay?

As we develop Open Repositories, where is the representation for the schools who cannot afford:

- Staffing?
- Infrastructure?
- Conference costs?

Are we looking beyond our own institutions when we develop software? Or only recognize institutions that look like us?

Are we doing this as an exercise in software development or solving a problem?



# Implications

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## Smaller library programs

- Locked into contracts with lowest-cost commercial vendors
- Running open source software in an unsustainable/ inefficient manner

## Little or no Digital Library work

- Digital content not being managed/ curated
- Archives and collections of born-digital and digitized collections stand to be lost



# Some Options

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## Consortia

- GALILEO Knowledge Repository (Georgia, USA)
- California Digital Library (State Mandated, California, USA)
- Mountain West Digital Library (central search portal, Western USA)
- Texas Digital Library

## Projects

- Portal to Texas History
- Digital Public Library of America

## Services

- DSpace Direct



# Texas Digital Library

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17 Members

TDL-Managed DSpace (12 installations)

## Staffing

- 1 Software engineer
- 2 System Administrators
- Director of Operations
- 2 PTE helpdesk staff
- Scheduled and On-Demand training

Also offer: Open Journal & Conference Systems, WordPress, Vireo Thesis & Dissertation Management System

DuraCloud Preservation as service no later than Fall 2014

Helping Develop DuraCloud

Vireo ETD software management, hosting, community

# Challenge:

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Do we care about the users/ institutions not at this conference?

Who are you cooperating with?

Who are you reaching down to in order to help them up?

Are the decisions you're making in design and architecture going to be of use to The Lone Rangers?