20 Years of Open Source at UVA

Community Lessons

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with help from the residents of Greycliff Prairie Dog Town

first, stand up and look around

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Starting a new way of doing things can feel like this. Maybe the Fedora team at Cornell felt this way in 1997.

then find at least one friend

By 2001, UVA had joined Cornell, with First Mellon Fedora Project grant to Cornell and UVA; Fedora "alpha testbed" at UVA (2001).

- Fedora 1.0 public release, UVA instance (2003)
- Second Mellon grant (2004)
- Fedora 2.0 public release (2005)
- Fedora Commons funded by Moore Foundation; Blacklight at UVA (2007)

build locally on community infrastructure

Stanford, Hull, UVA – build on top of Hydra. Collections. Only UVA wanted an IR then.

http://fedorarepository.org/about

- Institutional repositories are good, we should have one at UVA. Should we adopt: DSpace|Digital Commons|Sakai|Greenstone|Eprints |iTunes U|CDSWare?
- Extend: UVA Library Digital Collections Repository (Fedora)
- Build: locally-developed, custom application

try to convince local partners of value

- 2009: Open Access is good, we should have some at UVA.
  MIT Open Access Policy passes
  UVA Faculty Senate discusses OA
- 2010: "Each Faculty member at the University of Virginia is encouraged to reserve a nonexclusive, irrevocable, non-commercial, global license to exercise any and all rights under copyright relating to each of her or his scholarly articles, in any medium, and to authorize others to do the same. To enable public access to and preservation of scholarly articles, each faculty member is encouraged to provide an electronic version of the article as to which the necessary rights have been retained, to the University Library for deposit in a repository at such time as the Library might make such services available to faculty. The University Library's continued development of a digital repository for the University is strongly endorsed. The University Library is encouraged to enable deposit of faculty works for which sufficient rights have been retained in the repository and to continue to offer information services relating to author's rights and copyright to University faculty in support of open access."
- Perception library drove this conversation hurt adoption.
- (Hydrangea was multi-institution IR head that fit no one.)

sometimes available tools are an awkward fit

- By 2011, our hydra head Libra begins taking deposits of
  Open scholarship
  "small data"
  Student scholarship (ETDs)

  Meanwhile, in the community…
  ETDs were "low-hanging fruit" for open access
- Hydra image: By Ssire*Image created for the Blazon Project of the French Wikipedia. - CC BY-SA 3.0, https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=7761287

it can be easy to grow too quickly.

- By 2014: Graduate theses and dissertations (ETDs) as a degree-granting requirement
  Not much faculty scholarship or open data.
- Locally, too many kinds of formats, needed to split repositories into multiple functions.

- In the community: Hydramata Project – discontinued involvement in this 5 institution project due to project not achieving results aligning with UVa goals for adoption and not progressing to meet needs for Fall 2014. Institutions were:
    - University of Notre Dame
    - Northwestern University
    - Indiana University
    - University of Cincinnati
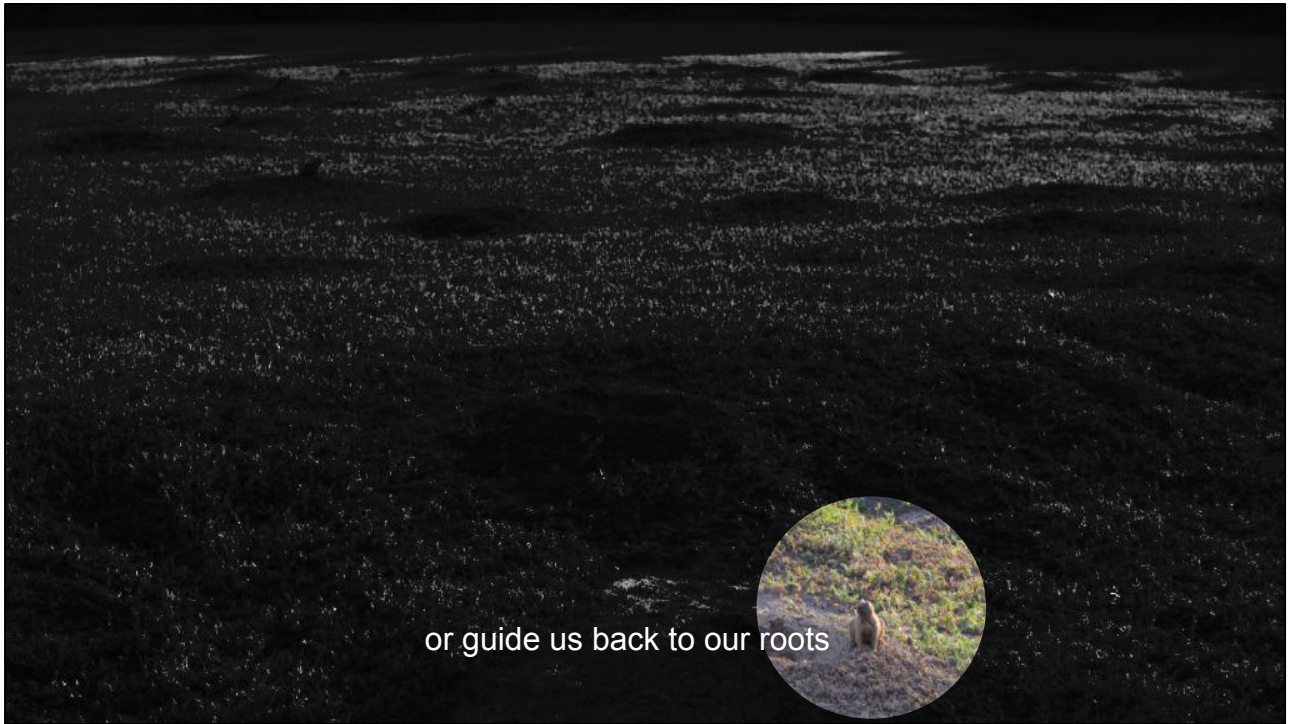   - University of Virginia

and get worn out

- Aging code
- Many developer departures
- Fatigue with keeping up with open source expectations and updates

fortunately the community has room to expand

- Separate containers for OA, ETD, Data
- Growth into open publishing
- Samvera evolution
- Non-Fedora options?

or guide us back to our roots

Our origins were with Blacklight, and that is what we are working with for our next project.
(Resurgence of blacklight at UVA)

Prairie Dog Wisdom

- It can be easy to feel alone, don't forget you are surrounded by friends with similar concerns.
- You don't always need to dig your own path, but sometimes you do need to branch off.
- Infusion of DNA from outside groups makes a healthy colony.
- Listen when others sound alarms about potential threats, but include your local situation when deciding the best course of action.

Resources

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