

Session 7 overview notes

Digital Public Library of America (DPLA)

DPLA is a portal for discovery, a platform to build upon and a strong public option. All DPLA collections are geo coded. Content types are collected in content hubs. Holdings consist of metadata that is normalized. The hubs retain the digital object. DPLA cultivates a peer-to-peer relationship with libraries in trying to gather content that represents "the whole range of human expression".

Service hubs are like many DPLAs in their native geographic areas

pond > lake > ocean is the metaphor for relationship between service hubs and the DPLA.

On DPLA's one-year birthday they hold about 6 M items from 1200 contributing institutions. Content hubs have shown increases in use of the materials and DPLA provides stats on usage to partners.

The goal is to partner with everyone.

Q: What is the funding model?

A: Right now DPLA is funded by "Blue chip funders". Looking to find a long-term sustainability model.

Q: What are the strong use cases?

A: Innovative interfaces including a virtual bookshelf.

Q: Value of public library materials versus research library materials??

A: Projects that bring research materials into the light are helpful.

Q: What about web-based resources?

A: Getting materials from IA currently