

Digital Preservation Projects, Challenges, and Questions
iRODS project at the DUMC Library & Archives
russell.koonts@duke.edu

1. Are you working on a digital preservation project? Provide a brief description of your project and its goals.

Our pilot project to assess iRODS was developed around the idea of collecting posters presented by Library & Archives staff at professional meetings. The submission form is a perl/cgi form developed by VTLS (it is their open source valet product for submitting ETDs into fedora). This form sits in front of a fedora repository, which, in turn sits in front of our iRODS instance. The submitter enters information into the Valet form, our staff validates and adds MeSH/LCSH terms, and then publishes the item into fedora. Once published into fedora, iRODS stores 1 copy in its vault and creates a check sum and then creates 2 additional copies on our targeted backed up mounts. What I would like to do is to make at least 1 of the 2 backups immutable, but I haven't worked on that aspect yet.

2. What is the status of the implementation (planning, just started, in production, etc.)?

It is in the testing phase. It works on my machine (my laptop). I've deployed it on one of my production servers, but have only had 2 people in the Library & Archives submit test items.

3. What digital preservation challenges are you facing?

Getting the backlog of electronic files submitted on various disks and making sure there are the correct access points so that the data can be located if needed.

4. Does iRODS currently play a role in the project? If so, please describe how you are using iRODS.

Yes, see above

5. What challenges have you faced using iRODS?

None at this time.

6. What questions do you have for the DICE group about iRODS?

None at this time.