

Digital TRLN Progress 2007 – October 2009

The following is the rationale for Digital TRLN from the 2006 Retreat.

The consortium is uniquely suited for a major digital library leadership initiative based on the size of our combined collections; our notable reputation for excellence in library cooperation, policy development, and innovative sponsored projects; the strong expertise of our staff; and the sustained commitment of resources from institutional leaders who see libraries as pivotal to achieving their vision for greatness.

Our libraries and institutions are undergoing dramatic and profound changes that affect how we will carry out our missions in this century, and the expectations of the networked academic communities that we serve are accelerating rapidly. While we have a strong record of accomplishment as a consortium, it is not enough to simply continue doing what we have done well, nor even to improve upon it incrementally. Instead, we must build upon our strong foundation of cooperation to forge a new and compelling vision: an integrated suite of digital services and content that will engage tomorrow's students and faculty as both users and creators of scholarly content.

Accordingly, TRLN proposes a major initiative to **build the digital TRLN**. Its aim is to design and create a digital knowledge and research environment characterized by intelligent, interactive user services and tools that facilitate access to large, multifaceted collections. These collections are growing to encompass greatly expanded digital content and a variety of disciplinary data, content that originates both within the universities and from external sources. TRLN will encourage sustainable publishing models and assist our faculty in managing their copyright. We also recognize the importance and necessity of preparing tomorrow's library leaders in a rapidly changing world, and we are committed to providing opportunities for professional learning and development that are informed by the consortium's shared initiatives.

TRLN makes this commitment to the future of integrated digital content and services with the recognition of the inherent ambiguity in such an endeavor. We will proceed opportunistically, pursuing grants and external resources where possible and engaging outside expertise where appropriate.

2006 DIGITAL TRLN INITIATIVES – *And what we've accomplished to date*

TRLN has a unique opportunity to lead in the creation of innovative digital collections and services for the twenty-first century. Our new direction will include several areas of emphasis:

Provide interactive user services and new tools to "Search TRLN"

We will explore using Endeca's® "faceted browsing" software across all TRLN collections to provide a seamless search and request environment for faculty and students on each campus

Completed: Endeca's faceted browsing software provides a seamless search and request environment for faculty and students on each campus. Three institutions have implemented local catalogs based on Endeca and integrated into Search TRLN. Enhancements have been made to the initial deployment, including handling of diacritics, enhanced content through Syndetic Solutions, and indexing of EAD-enriched records.

Ongoing: Maintenance and support of Endeca, Search TRLN, local skins and the hardware and operating systems are ongoing. Enhancements are focused on functionality that allows legacy OPACs to be retired if desired, and that are not Endeca-software-specific.

Potential: New interactive user services and new tools could be created or adapted. The request environment could be streamlined and more uniform.
2. "Search TRLN"

Archive efficiently and permanently

TRLN will sponsor an "opt-in" model for archiving a single print copy of long journal runs. TRLN also will support LOCKSS (Lots of Copies Keep Stuff Safe), Portico, and other initiatives to ensure a permanent archive of electronic scholarly content.

Completed: The TRLN Single Copy Archive has been established. Governed by a Memorandum of Understanding, the consortium has created a process for ensuring access to the last **print** copy of low-use journals that are available in electronic format. In the first year approximately 1600 titles have been added allowing over 50,000 volumes to be weeded and freeing up 11,000 linear feet of on-campus shelf-space. TRLN joined LOCKSS and Portico for archiving electronic scholarly content but no consortial projects have been started.

Ongoing: The Single Copy Program is an operational activity for TRLN. The archive will continue to grow and will likely include reference materials as well as journals.

Potential: Other than joining LOCKSS and Portico no other consortial efforts have focused on a permanent archive of electronic scholarly content. This could be addressed by TRLN. Additionally, TRLN can investigate joining regional or national shared print archives.
9. Archive Efficiently and Permanently and 6. Preservation of Digital Materials

Build large-scale digital collections

We will seek to expose the wealth of print resources in our collections by participating in one or more mass digitization efforts.

Completed: The TRLN Collections Council wrote a white paper articulating goals and standards for collaboration on large-scale digitization.

Ongoing: UNC is digitizing using OCA scribes and cooperating with other organizations within the state. NCSU has used a scribe to digitize parts of their collection and Duke has collaborated with UNC's OCA installation. Talks with Google have been periodically postponed and are currently stalled. The TRLN Collections Council is exploring funding opportunities for digitizing Southern Americana manuscript collections that would be outside of a Google project, but to date no consortial resources have been devoted to either collaborative digitization or fundraising.

Potential: Partnership with Google, HathiTrust and other possible funding bodies are possible. Large-scale storage capacity from the TUCASI project could house these materials.
4. Large-scale Digitization

Develop library leaders for the digital future

TRLN will develop and host a management training institute to address our common workforce planning issue--demographic data point to the necessity to prepare new leaders for this new environment.

Completed: TRLN worked with business and management faculty in the Triangle to develop and host two successful Academy classes, in 2007 and 2008, both facilitated by DeEtta Jones. By design, half the participants in each class were selected competitively from among TRLN applicants.

Ongoing: When libraries recover from the immediate impact of the economic crisis of 2008, TRLN expects to host ongoing academy classes.

Potential: Develop another institute; license the Academy to other organizations.
5. Leadership Training

Lead a national copyright education initiative

TRLN will play a leadership role in the Association of Research Libraries' (ARL) copyright education initiative, supporting our communities in asserting their full rights under the law.

Ongoing: TRLN is exploiting its local expertise of JD-MLS staff to host a popular and interactive series for librarians on interpreting difficult copyright scenarios in our service to patrons. However, the consortium has not implemented or played a leadership role on the ARL initiative.

Potential: Set a new direction for a copyright education initiative other than ARL, such as authors' rights, orphan works, open access, etc.
8. Copyright Education Initiative

Develop large-scale data storage and analysis through a RENCITUCASI partnership

TRLN will help to identify researchers on each campus and collaborate to develop and test a prototype digital asset environment to further share research strengths and increase our institutions' competitiveness.

Completed: TUCASI funding has been secured for a project among Duke, NCSU, and UNC.

Ongoing: Task Groups are working on Year One projects focused on Classroom Capture, Storage and Policy, and Future Data. There is no TRLN representation on these task groups as the projects are campus-based.

Potential: Year Two will result in large-scale shared storage capacity for the TRLN libraries, and offers the potential for collaboration among TRLN.
6. Preservation of Digital Materials

CORE VALUES AND PROGRAMS

TRLN (Duke University, North Carolina State University, the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and North Carolina Central University) is one of the oldest consortia in the country. The hallmark of cooperation among the four universities has been a highly successful cooperative collection development program. A recent analysis of collection overlap validated the continuing success of this program, demonstrating that there is little duplication across institutions and a high degree of uniqueness in the respective collections. With the licensing of electronic content, the cooperation has expanded to include electronic resources. These shared collections are made available to users from any TRLN library in person through reciprocal borrowing arrangements, and through electronic and hard-copy document delivery arrangements. Another of TRLN's strengths is the broad range of staff development, continuing education, and training opportunities that are offered locally and attended widely by all levels of staff.

Collections Council

The Electronic Resources Committee has continued to license e-resources collaboratively and has expanded its portfolio, including digital media. The Council regularly published an electronic newsletter. The Council oversees the Single Copy Program, and sponsors the Copyright Seminars. The Council organized a seminar on managing collection budgets in times of economic hardship, and facilitated sharing information about journal cancellations to minimize the impact on the shared collection. The Council recommended the endorsement of two statements to publishers and information providers regarding the current fiscal climate, and published a "TRLN Open Letter to Licensed Content Providers" to describe the impact of the economy on our collections budgets. The Council charged two task groups to reevaluate existing cooperative collection agreements for Southern Americana and to create one for the Middle East.

Human Resources Council

Members of the Steering Committee of this Council participate in the organization of the TRLN Management Academy. The Staff Development Committee conducts two staff enrichment series each year. The Council coordinates training events and continues to monitor demographic statistics. The Council will collect information on potential speakers and topics to facilitate expanded programming opportunities.

Services Council

The Council coordinates the Document Delivery Services Committee. The Council has been represented on several Search TRLN task groups. The Council sponsored a symposium on assessment of services featuring Susan Gibbons of the University of Rochester Libraries as the keynote speaker. The Council charged a task group to gather detailed data on direct borrowing and interlibrary lending within the consortium with the goal of improving borrower services.

Technology Council

The Council oversees the Endeca Operations Committee, and the management and enhancement of Search TRLN. The Council coordinated two local seminars around the issues relating to digital collections, and hosted two guest speakers on repository software and file management.