Sustainable Collection Services SCS

Overview

The Virtual Library of Virginia (VIVA) is the consortium of non-profit academic libraries within the Commonwealth of Virginia. Members include all of the 39 state-assisted colleges and universities as well as 39 independent institutions and the Library of Virginia. Seven of the largest members seek to analyze their video collections – to determine the extent of overlap and to compare local holdings with state and national holdings.   The overall goal is to ensure that all currently held content is retained by at least one of the six libraries. Retention commitments will be made according to an algorithm which is to be determined. The libraries are seeking third-party assistance in compiling and analyzing this data. SCS proposes to provide that assistance.

Current Situation

 The combined collection of videos is estimated to be around 130,000.

Institution	OCLC Holding Symbol	ILS	# of videos
JMU	VMC	Innovative	21,000
UVA	VA@	Sirsi/Symphony	40,000
VCU	VCU	Alma	15,750
University of Richmond	VRU	Voyager	Est. 10,000
Virginia Tech	VPI	Innovative	14,234
George Mason University	VGM	Voyager	19,143
William & Mary	VWM	Sirsi	Est. 10,000
Total Records			**Est. 130,000**

Project Design

One way to approach the project would be for SCS to load records from the two largest libraries (UVA and JMU). SCS would then compare these holdings with those of the other project libraries, to determine the extent of overlap; to identify unique titles within each collection; and to identify those titles that are held by 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 or 7 of the libraries. Depending on exactly what's wanted, SCS can then generate lists of retention candidates, for example:

- Titles held by just one library – so that retention commitments can be made and recorded
- Titles held by just two libraries
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As may be obvious, this approach would yield an incomplete picture of the "collective collection." Unique holdings at VCU, Univ of Richmond, George Mason, William & Mary and VPI will not be revealed. Likewise, if two, three, or four of the smaller libraries have overlapping titles that are not held by JMU or UVA, this approach cannot identify them.

The only way to achieve a complete picture will be to load the video records from all seven libraries. The overlap analysis would then be comprehensive, and would allow us to identify titles that are held by only one or two libraries across the group of seven. The methodology adopted will affect the overall cost of the project, as described below.

As we understand it, VIVA is not interested in circulation data for this project, as the primary focus is the development of last-copy retention guidelines. Neither is format of particular interest; the comparisons will be focused at the title level, regardless of whether the copies held are cassettes or discs, etc.

SCS Processes and Deliverables
In order to provide the analysis and decision- support described above, SCS must first obtain bibliographic and item data, and configure it for matching against holdings in other libraries. Once this data environment has been built, SCS can produce retention and/or withdrawal candidate lists in many variations. There are multiple steps to the process, and it is expected that SCS and the Libraries will confer as needed at various points in the process.

Data Delivery and the SCS Collection Summary

- *Data Discovery & Delivery:* The first phase would involve assembling the data. SCS will load records (from two or more libraries) for non-streaming videos including full bibliographic records and item data such as location and barcode. The Libraries will provide SCS with a key to field mappings – and will identify those data elements that should be included on retention lists. The Libraries will also provide SCS with rules about which OCLC # to use for matching purposes, when a record contains more than one.

- *Technical Call re: Data (if needed):* The initial data extract is critical to the success of the project. SCS will work with the Systems Librarians or relevant staff to minimize the time involved in creating the extract. SCS will provide the Libraries with an FTP directory for delivery of both bibliographic and item data.

- *Data Normalization & Validation:* SCS staff will then validate, categorize, count, filter and structure these raw files to facilitate matching against the WorldCat™ database. The intent is to assess the validity of control numbers, make corrections, and to plan the most effective matching strategy. The filtered and structured data would constitute the General Candidate File.

- *Match General Candidate File against WorldCat™:* Once the candidate file has been compiled, SCS will gather additional data about each title by comparing it to other libraries' holdings. For each item, SCS will determine:

  - How many other US libraries hold this title
  - How many other Virginia libraries hold this title
  - Which of the project libraries hold this title

- *Deliver an SCS Collection Summary:* Based on these findings, SCS will produce a Collection Summary, similar to the one below. This Summary will provide a statistical overview of the collective video collection.