Conversation 3: The Library Supply Chain for News

Bernard Reilly, Moderator
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Patrick Reakes
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Investing In The Persistence of News

The Shifting Landscape of Library News Acquisition

Patrick J. Reakes, Associate Dean for Scholarly Resources and Services
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Forces At Work

- High acquisition costs in the context of stagnant or reduced library materials budgets—and related high costs to digitize in-house or purchase either microfilm or commercially digitized newspapers.

- Impact of reduced library purchasing on the commercial film industry in the past decade: loss of major suppliers and policy changes relating to film acquisition (ex: Brill, Adam Matthew, FamilySearch, LC)

- Newspaper production processes, replacement of print publication with web only or mixed print/online editions, demise of newspapers and news organizations
Newspaper Subscriptions Film/Print (UF) 2006 - 2017

The chart shows the number of titles on microfilm and in print from 2006 to 2017. The titles on microfilm are represented by blue bars, and the titles in print are represented by red bars. The y-axis represents the number of titles, ranging from 0 to 100.
Current State of Affairs

• Shared/collaborative film collecting

• Born digital ingest/digitization efforts

• Serious issues for researchers (confusion over content, defining “news”, loss of paper of record, etc.)

• Archiving the 24-hour news cycle

• Newspaper publishers and monetizing archives (or not)
University of Florida: Case Study

- Long history of newspaper collecting and preservation at UF
- Evolution of acquisitions approaches, formats and processes
- Funding sources
- Platform & storage
Challenges of News Capture: Independent Florida Alligator Example
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Mark Sweeney
Associate Librarian for Library Services
Library of Congress
News Preservation Roadmap at the Library of Congress
An Enduring Commitment

**LC leadership in newspaper cataloging, preservation and union lists**

- United States Newspaper Program
- National Digital Newspaper Program
- Large scale preservation reformatting (4M+ page per year)
- Foreign newspapers collecting for other libraries by LC’s Overseas Offices
Selective yet extensive

- **United States**
  - 400 titles; every state covered
  - Most microfilm received via Copyright Office
- **Foreign**
  - 874 newspapers from 155 countries/geographic areas in 81 languages
  - Most microfilm of those titles not available commercially
  - $2,500/paper avg. annual cost (subscription + film)
From Microfilm to Digital

• United States
  ➢ Copyright Office proposes to accept newspaper ePrints instead of film; public notice to be issued soon
  ➢ Publishers see microfilm production as a burden and want a digital deposit

• Foreign
  ➢ Pilot program to have vendors digitize current foreign newspapers
  ➢ Probably will not be great cost savings
Collecting from the Web

- **Standard web archiving** approach is problematic for capturing huge, constantly-changing news sites.
- **General U.S. News on the Internet collection**
  - 47 sites being archived (several via RSS feed), including Breitbart, Huffington Post and Detroit Free Press.
  - Crawling started in 2014; brief embargo period; user access planned for 2018.
  - Where permission has been granted, content will be available openly via loc.gov.
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Dorothy Carner
Head of Journalism Libraries, University of Missouri School of Journalism
Extracting data only from responses related to digital news content, we will discuss:

- Which countries have legal deposit laws
  - If the legal deposit law includes digital deposit
  - If publishers in the respondent’s country are required to deposit digital content
    - If born digital news is included in the legal deposit law
      - If included, what is the frequency with which born digital news deposits are made?
  - Levels of access to the e-legal deposited digital content in respondent countries
- The implications of using e-legal deposit content for academic research
- Signs of progress with e-legal deposit
- Other issues concerning scholar access to digital news content
Does your country/state have a legal deposit law?

**Yes**
- Australia
- Austria
- Belgium
- Chile
- Croatia
- Denmark
- Estonia
- Finland
- France
- Germany
- Ireland
- New Zealand
- Norway
- Poland
- Portugal
- Russian Federation
- Singapore
- Slovenia
- Spain
- Sweden
- United States
- Luxembourg
- Netherlands
- Switzerland

**No, but my organization collects digital publications anyway (please comment)**
- Czech Republic
- Netherlands

89% **Yes**

11% **No**
Does the legal deposit law cover digital works?

- **Yes**: 83%
  - Australia
  - Austria
  - Belgium
  - Chile
  - Croatia
  - Czech Republic
  - Denmark
  - Estonia
  - Finland
  - France
  - Germany
  - Iceland
  - Ireland
  - Luxembourg
  - Netherlands
  - New Zealand
  - Norway
  - Poland
  - Portugal
  - Russian Federation
  - Slovenia
  - Spain
  - Sweden
  - Switzerland
  - United States

- **No**: 16%
  - Finland
  - Ireland
  - France
  - Singapore

**7 countries qualified their “Yes” answer with “sometimes”**

- **Austria** – only when there is no print version
- **France** – audio visual content deposit is required; publishers allow the library to harvest websites
- **Luxembourg** – digital deposit is fulfilled if the NL has free access to the publication and metadata
- **Portugal** – only requires the digital deposit of theses and dissertations
- **Latvia** – online publications must be deposited; websites will be harvested by the library
- **Russian Federation** – no explanation to the qualified answer
- **United States** – for online only serials, publisher must deposit works when demanded by the Library of Congress
If your library harvests digital news websites and pages, how frequently does it harvest?

- Harvests once per day: Austria, Chile, Croatia, Denmark, France, Spain
- Harvests multiple times per day: Estonia, Germany, Slovenia, United States
- Harvests hourly or whenever content is updated: Sweden
What type of access do you provide to e-legal deposit digital content?

- **No**: 55%
- **Onsite & Offsite Immediately**: 15%
- **Onsite Only**: 5%
- **Onsite and Offsite Access after Embargo Period**: 25%

- Australia
- Chile
- Finland
- France
- Some German states
- Latvia
- Netherlands
- Singapore
- Spain
- Switzerland
- United States
- Luxembourg
- Portugal
- Estonia
What are the Implications of E-Legal News Deposit for Academic Research?

- **Not every country collects digital news even if they have e-legal deposit laws**
  - Those collecting digital news may do it in a variety of ways
    - Crawling or scraping websites (frequency varies & provides only “snapshots” in time)
    - Physical delivery of content (CD/DVD, external drive), often based on publisher decisions
    - RSS feed – capturing content at article level

- **Access to digital content is varied due to several issues**
  - Publisher’s agreements
  - Quality of metadata and cataloging for indexing and discovery
  - Technology, expertise, funding

- **Access to e-legal deposit content is varied with “onsite only” access the norm**

- **The most advanced Library in the area of e-legal deposit ingest and discovery (Sweden) can provide leadership in capture, indexing and discovery, but they have no provision for access.**

- **Conclusion: Probably several years away from scholars having access to “born digital” news content for scholarly research**
Signs of Progress in e-Legal Deposit Legislation

New laws addressing e-legal deposit
- Several National Libraries have new e-Legal deposit laws or are anticipating changes in current law
  - Australia, Estonia, Croatia, Norway, etc.
- Sweden (2015) addresses born digital content, including news

New research on impact of e-legal deposit on the academy
- Digital Library Futures: The impact of E-Legal Deposit in the Academic Sector
  [https://www.uea.ac.uk/e-legal-deposit/](https://www.uea.ac.uk/e-legal-deposit/) (United Kingdom Arts & Humanities Research Council Funded Project)
  - Will study how legal deposit collections are accessed and used and how these collections should support contemporary research in academic libraries.

Access to “digitized” national content is available from most national libraries
- Library of Congress Digital Collections [https://www.loc.gov/collections/](https://www.loc.gov/collections/)
- Many more
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Discussion and Questions