Archives Preppers:

It’s Not the End of the World as We Know it! How to Survive an Anniversary Through Digital Projects.

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Library Technology Conference 2018
Macalester College, St. Paul MN
March 15, 2018
It’s not TEOTW but...

- Minnesota State University, Mankato turns 150 on October 7, 2018
- Campus planning began in spring 2016
- Archives planning began 2014
Survival Checklist aka List of Topics

• It’s not TEOTW but...
• Survival Pre-Assessment
• MAG: Mutual Aid Group
• Sesquicentennial Projects
• Fallout
Survival Pre-Assessment
Before SHTF

Who are our Stakeholders?
- Alumni
- Faculty/Staff
- Students
- Community

What do people want to see?
- Yearbooks
- Student Newspapers
- Catalogs/Bulletins
- Oral Histories
- Timelines

Role of Archives
Staffing
Committee Roles
Assembling our Prepper Team

We’re not going it alone

• Hired additional Archives technician
• Ramped up Archives student worker staffing
• Included library student workers from all areas
• Strategic Stealth Sesquicentennial Committee deployment
Survival Cache

Essential MSU history documentation for Sesquicentennial committee members to view and use.

Cornerstone (IR)
- *Out of Chaos: Reflections of a University President and his Contemporaries on Vietnam-era Unrest in Mankato and its Relevance Today*
- *Mankato State College: An Interpretative Essay*

Shared OneDrive Folder
- University history documents
- Timelines
Prepper Gear

What equipment did we already own, or could feasibly acquire to initiate digitization projects now.
### Alpha Strategy

A survival strategy which involves generating and sharing digital objects in preparation of the Sesquicentennial event.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In House</th>
<th>Vendor</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Katonian Yearbooks</td>
<td>Student newspaper 1998-2008 paper</td>
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<td>Catalogs/Bulletins</td>
<td>Student newspaper 1987-1997 mf</td>
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<td>Student Newspaper 1976-1986 mf</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tell Your MSU Story Oral Histories</td>
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*MSU Reporter, Tuesday, August 22, 2017, page 2*
Prepper Checklist
Sesquicentennial Preparedness

Yearbooks

Student Newspapers

Catalogs & Bulletins

Oral Histories

Timelines
MAG: Mutual Aid Group

MAG: made up of individuals in a specific geographic area. These individuals meet for the purpose of discussing, sharing ideas and planning for emergencies in their area.

OR Collaboration makes it possible
MAG: Mutual Aid Group

• Have a Plan
• Identify Partners
  • Within Library
  • On Campus
  • Off Campus
• Define role of archives
  • Research questions

City of Mankato bus with MSU 150th wrap, 2017
Collaboration of Parking, Integrated Marketing, Printing Services, and University Archives.
Have a (Survival) Plan

- Identify who can/will initiate project.
- Ask to be involved.
- Keep asking.
- Determine opportunities for participation.

Scrutinizing Building Plans. December 13, 1968
Mankato State College.
Library Partners

• Dean of Library Services
  • General support
  • Funding
• Assistant to the Dean
  • Book support
• Student Supervisors
  • Lending students
• Other employees
  • Understanding we are busy with 150th work

Library student workers from Administration and Circulation, 2017
Campus Partners

- Integrated Marketing
  - Project collaboration
  - Fact checking
- Printing Services
  - Project collaboration
  - Fact checking
- Webmaster/Web Team
  - Update the 150th website
  - Social media
- Intercollegiate Athletics

City of Mankato bus with MSU 150th seat back historical snippets, 2017
Community Partners

• Blue Earth County Historical Society
  • 150th Exhibit
  • Historic walking tour of former campus
  • Book support

• Dancing with the Mankato Stars
Define role/scope of the Archives

• Research aka “Will the Archives write our department history?”
  • What will the Archives do?
  • What won’t the Archives do?

• Sesquicentennial Committees
  • How does the Archives fit in?
Collaboration is key!

- Projects and accomplishments only possible through collaboration.
- Library Vision: Will lead in campus collaboration.
- Library Value: Collaboration: We value collaboration, cooperation, and teamwork among ourselves and others.
- [http://lib.mnsu.edu/about/mission/missvision.html](http://lib.mnsu.edu/about/mission/missvision.html)

Mankato State Teachers College Marching Band, 1953
Sesquicentennial Projects

• Portable Exhibit
• Postcard Book
• Facts of the Day
• History Book
• Brock/Otto Hall of Champions
• Sesquicentennial Presentation

Duevel, Casey. 2017. Photograph of Librarian Evan Rusch looking at the Heritage Panels of the Sesquicentennial Portable Exhibit at Memorial Library’s 50th Anniversary Celebration on October 2, 2017 at Minnesota State University, Mankato.
Portable Exhibit

• 27 panels
• 3 ft x 6 ft
• Four major themes:
  • Heritage (7)
  • Academics (8)
  • Student Life (5)
  • Athletics (5)
• Introduction (left)
• Conclusion (right)
Minnesota State Mankato is known as a university where people expect to go further than they thought possible by combining knowledge and the passion to achieve great things.

The foundation for this vision is our heritage of both dedicated teaching and the direct application of knowledge to improve a diverse community and world.

The heritage of the University has shaped the Minnesota State University, Mankato you see today.

www.mnsu.edu/150/

LIBRARY SERVICES
MINNESOTA STATE UNIVERSITY MANKATO

www.mnsu.edu/150/

LIBRARY SERVICES
MINNESOTA STATE UNIVERSITY MANKATO
When Mankato State Normal School opened in 1868, its focus was strictly to train students—many without high school diplomas—to become school teachers. Tuition was free to those who pledged to teach for two years in Minnesota public schools. Minnesota’s Normal Schools became State Teacher Colleges in 1921 and continued to provide teacher training. Over time the curriculum expanded to include a liberal arts education as well as graduate studies. This prompted a few more institutional name changes and several reorganizations of areas of study to programs then Divisions, Schools, and finally its current structure as Colleges.

Varsity athletics as we know it began at Mankato State Teachers College in 1921-1922 with the formation of the men’s basketball program and the hiring of coach C.P. Blaklesee. Hugh Jameson joined the following year as the first director of athletics and football coach. Early women’s sports included basketball, indoor baseball, volleyball and soccer. While some early games were played against outside teams, women’s athletics remained mostly intramural until 1964.
FROM NORMAL SCHOOL TO UNIVERSITY:
Celebrating 150 Years
We are now MSU Authors!
#Prepping for #MNSU150
aka Social Media Facts of the Day for each day
August 2017 – December 2018

Team: Non-Archives library student workers and MSU History Club

How: shared one-drive folder that includes a powerpoint presentation, excel spreadsheet, suggested hashtags, additional resources and documentation.
History Book:

• First 150\textsuperscript{th} activity
• Research began 2016
• Final content delivered 2018
• Publication date is TBD

Minnesota State University, Mankato, 1868-2018: A Sesquicentennial History
History books are a lot of work

• Digital Collections needed for:
  • Research
  • Image Selection
    • Includes: ARCH and Minnesota Reflections
    • Identified metadata issues

• Challenges
  • Injured author
  • Not yet digitized years of school newspaper
  • Time
    • Research support
    • Editing/Image selection
150th History PowerPoint

- Asked (and volunteered) to speak about history of the university
- Revised existing presentation
  - Updated content
  - Increased use of materials from digital collections

From Normal School to University: Celebrating 150 Years

University Archives
Minnesota State University, Mankato

Big ideas. Real-world thinking.
Hall of Champions

- 6 exhibit cases with a LOT of traffic
- How to sesquicentennialize?
- Reuse content!

Jim Chalgren

Jim Chalgren, a then graduate student in the Counseling and Student Personnel program, founded the Alternative Lifestyles Office in 1977, the second center of its kind on at a U.S. college or university. His tireless efforts to challenge prejudice, educate students, and fight for change built the foundation for the vibrant present the LGBT Center has ultimately established on campus and in the community.

Dedicated in Jim Chalgren’s honor in 2008, the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Center at Minnesota State University Mankato provides support, advocacy, referral, and a sense of community to LGBTIQA+ (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, questioning, and allied individuals) students.

Until his death in 2000, Jim lived a heroic life as an activist, garnering state and national attention and continuing to push for gay rights despite battling AIDS. In Jim’s memory, the Jim Chalgren Award is presented annually to honor one staff or faculty person who has acted as a visible and courageous supporter of the LGBT community and the LGBT center.
Sesquicentennial Projects Made Possible by...

Digital Collections!

Fallout

This is not a drill...

- Increased Collaboration Across Campus
- Increased Workloads
- Beautiful Things
- Monetary Costs ($$$$)
- Increased Awareness
- Inconsistent Crediting
- Unexpected Fact Checking
- Ran out of Time
- The more you know – the more you realize you don’t know

Image from The Reporter, 1986-07-16, Page 02.
https://arch.lib.mnsu.edu/islandora/object/MSUrepository%3A100030
Questions?
CONTACT US!

- [archives@mnsu.edu](mailto:archives@mnsu.edu) or 507-389-1029
- ARCH = [https://arch.lib.mnsu.edu/](https://arch.lib.mnsu.edu/)
- Cornerstone = [https://cornerstone.lib.mnsu.edu/](https://cornerstone.lib.mnsu.edu/)
- University Archives = [http://lib.mnsu.edu/archives/](http://lib.mnsu.edu/archives/)
- Sesquicentennial page = [http://www.mnsu.edu/150/](http://www.mnsu.edu/150/)