

OCLC Research TAI CHI ArchiveGrid Webinar Chat Transcript
3 November 2011

This is an edited version of the chat room discussion during the ArchiveGrid webinar. A copy of this transcript is available at <http://www.oclc.org/research/events/20111103chat.pdf>.

from Jennie Knies to Everyone:
How does ArchiveGrid rank/order the search results?

from Michele Combs to Everyone:
question for discussion period at end: Robbins Family shows a link to catalog record, how is that produced (i.e. what EAD encoding will make such a link show up in AG) ?

from Valerie Addonizio to Everyone:
What are the other options to narrow down the search on the left-hand side?

from Lucy Barber to Everyone:
It seems like a lot of web real estate devoted to map, did you test to see if this was important to users?

from Melissa McCarthy to Everyone:
What browser requirements are there for users?

from Susan Lugo to Everyone:
Are you interested in collection records from outside the US?

from Sherri Berger to Everyone:
Sorry if I missed this, but I'm unclear if ArchiveGrid will still require a subscription for users, or no?

from Adrian Turner to Everyone:
The topical browse list on the homepage is a really nice feature. Assuming that the terms are targeting records based on keywords and/or controlled vocab headings present in the MARC or EAD encoding: is OCLC remediating or enhancing indexed records (in cases where they don't have terms in the encoding), to facilitate access to those records?

from j to Everyone:
i like the embedded contact us link in the catalog record, seems like this should be embedded in the finding aid too so you don't have to back up.

from Hilary Henkin to Everyone:
Can the search use Boolean and other connectors?

from Jane Stevenson to Everyone:
Have you thought about how your search will scale up to representing 'the world's archives' i.e many thousands of contributors?

from Jennifer Schaffner to Everyone:
sheri - it's free to all users and free to all contributors

from Merrilee Proffitt to Everyone:
It's true that finding aids should have contact info in them, but over 90% of the records are MARC records, which don't typically contain the contact info.

from Matt Gorzalski to Everyone:
How is OCLC indexing finding guides by topic?

from Merrilee Proffitt to Everyone:
Hillary, you can use Boolean. Go ahead and kick the tires.

from theresa perkins to Everyone:
What are the options for contributing records?

from Michele Combs to Everyone:
Are there plans to add ability to search and/or sort by date?

from Susan Hamburger to Everyone:
When I was searching in the beta version yesterday, I noticed that one of my collections is listed twice, once with the direct name, Edward J. Nichols Papers, including the buttons to the catalog record and finding aid, and once later down several screens for the Guide to the Edward J. Nichols Papers that points to the old version of the finding aid (broken link). Do I need to search through all of our collections and check for dups and broken links? The correct URL is in the catalog record.

from Valerie Addonizio to Everyone:
How about user tagging to improve subject access?

from Sherri Berger to Everyone:
Thanks Jen for the clarification! In that case I'm wondering if any thought has been given to search engine optimization for the records? Can users arrive at a record from an open web search?

from Jennie Knies to Everyone:
I'm wondering if you've thought about a way in which institutions can mark their collections as "master" collections in some way? For example, one institution may be the primary repository for Scooby Doo's papers, but others might have one letter written by Scrappy to Scooby, and so on. It would be helpful to see the size of the collections up front in the search results to have an idea of the bulk of the collections in the results

from Jane Stevenson to Everyone:
Do you provide standard APIs like SRU? We would be interested in that, but less so in a bespoke API.

from Susan Hamburger to Everyone:
Rather than only offering the option of contributors and their locations, can you limit the search by date, subject, form/genre?

from Jennifer Schaffner to Everyone:
Susan Lugo - we are absolutely positively interested in finding aids from all over the world. Check out the University of Amsterdam's materials, for example.

from Krystal Appiah to Everyone:
How does ArchiveGrid minimize broken web links over time for finding aids harvested from member websites?

from Michele Combs to Everyone:
Susan H. - subject is the subject terms down the side, but I agree that date/genrefom would be really useful

from Melissa McCarthy to Everyone:
There had been a mention that the software will be "free and open" - does that mean open-source?

from j to Everyone:
i like the limit by location, but maybe think of styling it in a form less intimidating than a precoordinated search string--i.e. philadelphia, pa not united states-pennsylvania-philadelphia.

from Eric M. to Everyone:

Will there be a way for contributors to track the use of their collections on ArchiveGrid? Google Analytics integration?

from Valerie Addonizio to Everyone:

You probably mainly receive questions on this, but let me just say I'm deeply impressed and will definitely use and recommend this new interface.

from Karen Buckley to Everyone:

Is there digitized content on ArchiveGrid?

from Merrilee Proffitt to Everyone:

Valerie, thanks! That's a great endorsement!

from Susan Hamburger to Everyone:

How will ArchiveGrid display collections in CONTENTdm?

from Michele Combs to Everyone:

Where/how is AG harvesting/getting the digital images displayed on righthand side of main page?

from Jennie Knies to Everyone:

Yes, I also like the interface, and overall like having a site/database devoted to finding aids

from Merrilee Proffitt to Everyone:

I don't think date/genre form would be useful -- not enough standard encoding (plus we include HTML and PDF so false drops for those).

from Valerie Addonizio to Everyone:

I like those images and questions on the right as a way to demystify what archival documents are and the info they can provide.

from Susan Hamburger to Everyone:

From the demo of the CA researcher, is it possible to select several repositories to search simultaneously rather than one at a time?

from Lucy Barber to Everyone:

I agree with Valerie, I think that why's I question the use of the map in the center.

from Merrilee Proffitt to Everyone:

Jennie, that would be great because as you know, judging relative importance of a collection via a vis a topic is really difficult to do given the data we have!

from Valerie Addonizio to Everyone:

Ooo, Stories!

from Marisol Ramos:

Will ArchiveGrid be included in WorldCatLocal result sets?

from Karen Smith-Yoshimura to Everyone:

Note that even though form/genre terms are used most often in mixed collection World Cat records, not all of them do - ca 22% don't have them at all. So using form/genre facet would skip more than a fifth of the content...

from Sherri Berger to Everyone:

I think Jennie's idea is great, plus the Scooby/Scrappy example is truly inspired!

from Amanda Focke to Everyone:

Feels like we are inching our way to a *real* and free national repository of finding aids / MARC records - so exciting! Curious about how people who have trouble posting finding aids on their own can still contribute...

from Merrilee Proffitt to Everyone:

Thanks, Karen, you always have the numbers at hand!

from OCLC Research to Everyone:

from Amanda Focke:

Feels like we are inching our way to a *real* and free national repository of finding aids / MARC records - so exciting! Curious about how people who have trouble posting finding aids on their own can still contribute...

from Jane Stevenson to Everyone:

Is this common ground and helping with processes more a US based thing? I mean, not really so relevant to potential contributors outside of US?

from Merrilee Proffitt to Everyone:

Amanda, we are just coming to that! My current interest!

from Amanda Focke to Everyone:

:0

from Michele Combs to Everyone:

What about de-duping (e.g. we have records for some collections in Worldcat but we also have our EAD harvested directly, resulting in two listings).

from Adrian Turner:

Does OCLC envision eventually hosting EAD files for contributors to ArchiveGrid?

from Jane Stevenson to Everyone:

Very interested in entity extraction - I hope ArchiveGrid share their approaches to this.

from Krystal Appiah to Everyone:

Will AG facilitate EAC-CPF sharing?

from Lucy Barber to Everyone:

Hmm, I wonder if this means that regional search sites may be on their way out -- i.e. OAC, NWDA, or is it just going to be a reference site to those collaborations (which also provide a lot of support in creating ead that is obviously outside the scope of Archive Grid)

from Merrilee Proffitt to Everyone: Lucy, I don't think so. I think those organizations play an extremely important role in giving real help to smaller organizations particularly.

from Michele Combs to Everyone:

To Lucy's point, can/will AG harvest from other aggregators like NWDA?

from Merrilee Proffitt to Everyone:

We rely on those regional aggregators for content, in large part.

from Merrilee Proffitt to Everyone:

Michele, yes, if contributors agree to it.

from Amanda Focke to Everyone:
Nice artwork on this slide. :)

from Merrilee Proffitt to Everyone:
If you doubt the importance of the regionals, read our paper, "Under Over Around and Through." They are critical!

from Valerie Addonizio to Everyone:
Love it

from Jennifer Schaffner to Everyone:
Jane, OCLC Research definitely wants to explore shared interests in NER with the SNAC project and would love to work with the Archives Hub and other institutions and aggregators who are wrestling with it.

from Michele Combs to Everyone:
Love the scanning idea - could be great help to smaller repositories

from Diane A Fagen to Everyone:
So, for example, I have recently completed a list of the >25,000 obituaries we have published since 1863, naming veterinarians and the year/vol/issue in which the obituary was published. I could send a pdf of this index and have the document appear on AG?

from Merrilee Proffitt to Everyone:
Thanks, Michele, I'm interested in exploring this in concept with all who are interested!

from OCLC Research to Everyone:
You can find the report, *Over, Under, Around, and Through: Getting Around Barriers to EAD Implementation*, here: <http://www.oclc.org/research/publications/library/2010/2010-04.pdf>

from Christina Zamon:
I have my finding aids online in PDF because that is the only way my institution will allow me to post them at this point so if I could get those into ArchiveGrid that would be fantastic!

from Jane Stevenson to Everyone:
Jen - great, sharing expertise very important I think.

from Cheryl Gunselman to Everyone:
Will there be an advanced/expert search option to support fielded searching?

from Tamar Chute to Everyone:
How does AG overlap with Worldcat?

from Adriana to Everyone:
How about "rescuing" MARC records for our collections that have been historically contributed to OCLC?

from Diane A Fagen to Everyone:
Is there a limit to the "type" of institution allowed to contribute? For example, can a public library contribute finding aids to their local history collection, or is this limited to "true" archives?

from Melissa McCarthy to Everyone:
Will this system work with RAD descriptions from Canada?

from Merrilee Proffitt to Everyone:
Susan H, no need to check every link, just send us a note and get us to reharvest. That should fix it.

from Lucy Barber to Everyone:

As to regionals, I wonder if there would be a way for some places that don't have regionals could present a facet of ArchiveGrid for their state (i.e. like a State Archives could provide a link which would let researcher search repositories just in their state)? Or some other set up like a regional archival organization

from Marianne Cavanaugh:

The Archives of the St. Louis Art Museum contributed MARC records, but not finding aids to the RLG archives system. Are they now in ArchiveGrid? Can we add the PDF finding aids?

from Amanda Focke to Everyone:

Is it easy to change where a repositories' finding aids are harvested from? (regional vs directly from the repository's website)?

from Jennifer Schaffner to Everyone:

Tamar and Adriana - Bruce has worked hard to include all the WorldCat MARC records in ArchiveGrid. Check it out and tell us how it works for your users...

from Rich Bennett:

Will we be able to request several archives to be included as a group (e.g. all state universities in the state of Florida)?

from Michele Combs to Everyone:

Once an institution signs up, will harvesting take place on a regular schedule, or only "on request"?

from Dean DeBolt:

I gather that I can send my researchers and genealogists to the beta site to do research, right?

from Dean DeBolt to Everyone:

Rich, I think we can request archives florida harvesting and then perhaps individual univ sites.

from Jennifer Schaffner to Everyone:

Amanda - get in touch with Ellen about harvesting your finding aids. She's working hard to get ArchiveGrid harvesting from all the right places.

from Jennifer Schaffner to Everyone:

Rich - absolutely! We're collaborating with CDL's OAC and the NWDA. Get in touch.

from Amanda Focke to Everyone:

Jennifer -- thanks!

from Amanda Focke to Everyone:

Great job, you all - I love how this is coming together!

from Nancy Sparrow:

can the map be used to visually communicate holdings content?

from Matt Gorzalski to Everyone:

I was unclear on if an open web search will yield archives grid results?

from Rachel Grove Rohrbaugh to Everyone:

In cases where a finding aid is available, is it searching the full-text of the finding aid or just title and scope and content as displayed in the search results?

from Jane Stevenson to Everyone:

I'd love to know if you've thought about explicitly open licences for the metadata, like Europeana have been grappling with. Maybe US law quite different though.

from Jennifer Schaffner to Everyone:

Dean DeBolt - go ahead and send your researchers and genealogists to this beta ArchiveGrid. We are particularly interested in feedback from your users, especially at this formative stage. Have your users kick the tires, and get back to us. Ellen's dad already found one thing we fixed right away.

from Tim Binkley to Everyone:

If I update a previously harvested finding aid and post it on my regional EAD repository, will ArchiveGrid catch the update? Or can I initiate an update?

from Jennie Knies to Everyone:

I second Rachel's question. What is ArchiveGrid searching, specifically? (Selfishly, I want to know because there is a glitch in our own local system where the full-text is not entirely searchable...)

from Rebecca Johnson Melvin to Everyone:

U Delaware Library shares archival collection descriptions in HTML, XML, PDF, and MARC records via OCLC. What will be harvested?

from Dean DeBolt to Everyone:

the florida unviersities have a common EAD portal called ArchivesFlorida and you could harvest that.

from Jennie Knies to Everyone:

Thank you!

from Michele Combs to Everyone:

Thanks Bruce et al for this -- great enhancements and excellent discussion!

from Lucy Barber to Everyone:

thanks!!! Very cool!

from Adriana to Everyone:

Thank you! It's looking great!!!

from Rachel Grove Rohrbaugh to Everyone:

Thanks! Looks exciting!

from OCLC Research to Everyone:

We'll post the webinar recording, slides and chat transcript on our website here

<http://www.oclc.org/research/events/webinars.htm#archivegrid>.

When the files are posted we'll announce it in the Weekly Partnership Update e-mail, post it on our news page here <http://www.oclc.org/research/news/default.htm> and on our RSS feed here

<http://www.oclc.org/research/news/feed.xml>.

from Cheryl Gunselman to Everyone:

Thanks!

from Loren Scherbak to Everyone:

Thank YOU! It is great progress.

from Diane A Fagen to Everyone:

Thanks! I'm very excited about this project!

from Valerie Addonizio to Everyone:
Thanks!

from Matt Gorzalski to Everyone:
thanks!

from Susan Hamburger to Everyone:
If our Lit Mss workshop happens in Dec. we'll be using the beta version to demo.

from Loren Scherbak to Everyone:
Love the new look! Thanks for the presentation.

from Eric M. to Everyone:
Great presentation. Thanks!

from Rodica Tanjala Krauss to Everyone:
thanks.

from OCLC Research to Everyone:
Thank you very much for attending. This concludes today's webinar.