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SI 640 Digital Libraries and Archives

Week 3 – Content Landscapes

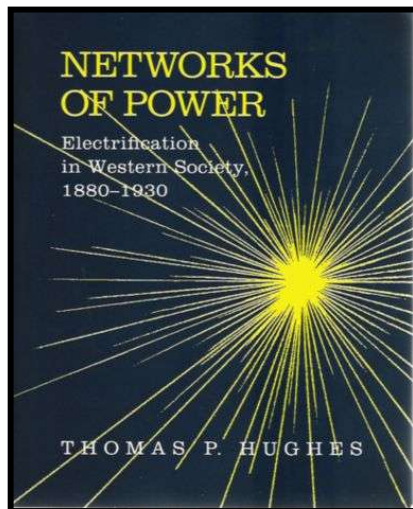
Pre-history

1 Themes

2 Definition

3 History

4 International



- Networks and mainframes
- Moore's law
- Collaborative work: Doug Engelbart
- Business-government-academic

Thomas Hughes, *Networks of power: electrification of western society, 1880-1930*. Johns Hopkins, 1983.

SI's own history as an educational program is tied up in the evolution of the pre-history of digital libraries.

History – scanning and storage

1 Themes

2 Definition

3 History

4 International

- Xerox PARC 1978 – first scanner
- IBM – storage and workflow
- BellCore – image and text



Building on existing infrastructures, the search for new markets for emerging technologies focused on digital content in “business practices.”

History – govt./business early adoption

1 Themes

2 Definition

3 History

4 International

- Business efficiency – paperless office
- Govt. effectiveness – paperless govt.
- National Archives and Library of Congress – early experimenters
 - ODISS
 - Federal guidelines
 - American Memory pilot

• DLF. <http://www.diglib.org/>

History – university library experiments

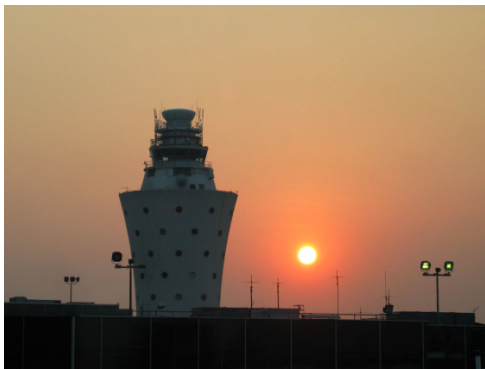
1 Themes

2 Definition

3 History

4 International

- Michigan and Cornell, 1989
- LaGuardia Eight
- Digital Library Federation
- National leadership; little funding



Research libraries have a long and distinguished history of technology experimentation and adoption.
[CLR, CPA, CLIR]

BY: Geoff Stearns

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History – university research efforts

1 Themes

2 Definition

3 History

4 International

- Fox and computer scientists
- NSF DLI1
- NSF DLI2
- Patents and trademarks as an issue



Image of Digital Libraries Initiative website header removed

DLI1: <http://www.dli2.nsf.gov/dlione/>

DLI2: <http://www.dli2.nsf.gov/>

Themes of this week

Themes

- Overview
- How much information
- Content form and formats
- Institutional context
- Uniqueness

“Storage of new information has been growing at a rate of over 30% a year.”

How Much Information, 2003

Overview

1. Themes

2. Overview

3. How much information?

4. Form and formats

5. Institutional context

6. Uniqueness

Multiple perspectives

- Where is information?
- What is information?
- Values assigned?
- By whom?

How much information

1. Themes

2. Overview

3. How much information?

4. Form and formats

5. Institutional context

6. Uniqueness

■ Scope of the study

■ Interesting findings

■ Implications for the digital libraries

How Much Information:

<http://www2.sims.berkeley.edu/research/projects/how-much-info-2003/>

Forms and formats

1. Themes
2. Overview
3. How much information?
- 4. Form and formats**
5. Institutional context
6. Uniqueness



Image available at:
http://www.cartoonbank.com/product_details.asp?sid=45095

Forms and formats

1. Themes
2. Overview
3. How much information?
- 4. Form and formats**
5. Institutional context
6. Uniqueness

- **Format: information structure**
 - Discuss (image, text, multimedia)
- **Form: Definitions**
 - OED
 - Information as thing

Buckland, Michael. “Information as Thing.”
Journal of the American Society of Information Science 42:5 (June 1991): 351-360.

<http://www.ischool.berkeley.edu/~buckland/thing.html>

Information-as-Thing

1. Themes
2. Overview
3. How much information?
- 4. Form and formats**
5. Institutional context
6. Uniqueness

- Tangible entity (touch or measure)
 - Representation of knowledge
- Information as evidence
 - Symbol, fact, legal standing
- Evidence in the **form** of documents or “informative things”
- Representations are a transformation, necessarily incomplete, form shifting, summarized, derived, retaining properties
- Situational and predicted value of information-as-thing.

Forms and formats

1. Themes
2. Overview
3. How much information?
4. Form and formats
5. Institutional context
6. Uniqueness

■ Form: Definitions

- OED
- Information as Thing
- Business applications (use specific)
- Diplomatics (components)

SAA Glossary of Archival Terminology

<http://www.archivists.org/glossary/index.asp>

Institutional context

1. Themes
2. Overview
3. How much information?
4. Form and formats
- 5. Institutional context**
6. Uniqueness

- Creators, managers, users
- Institutional loyalties
- Choices and priorities

Content Landscape

1. Themes
2. Overview
3. How much information?
4. Form and formats
- 5. Institutional context**
6. Uniqueness

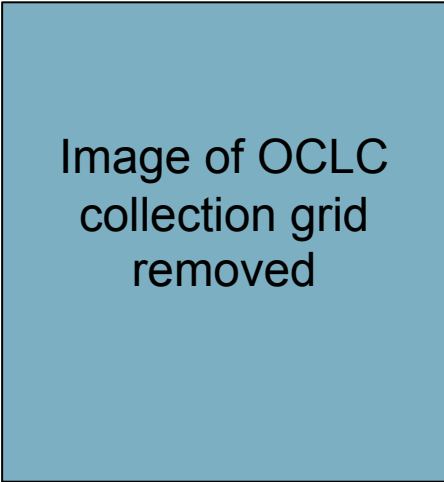
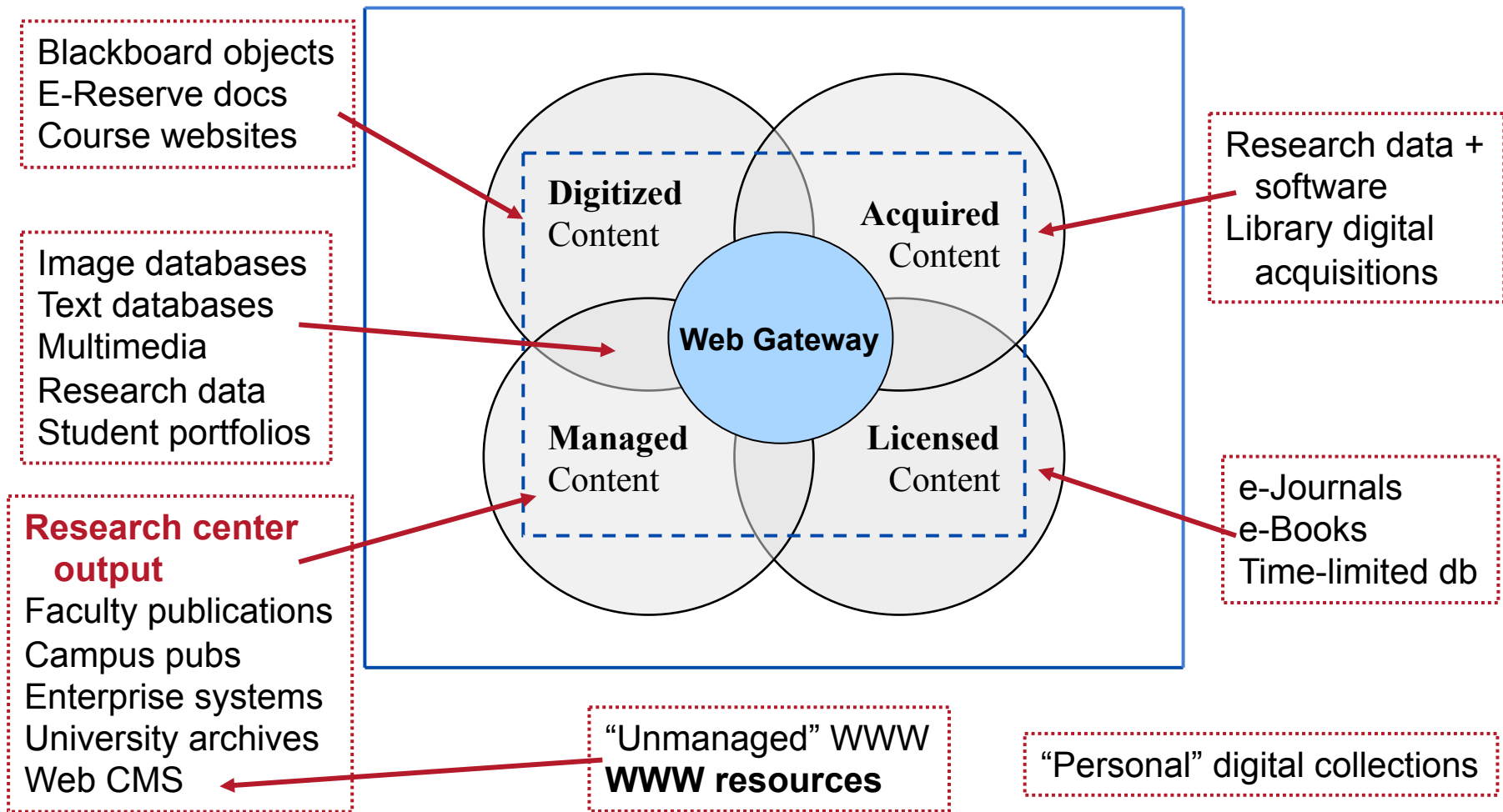


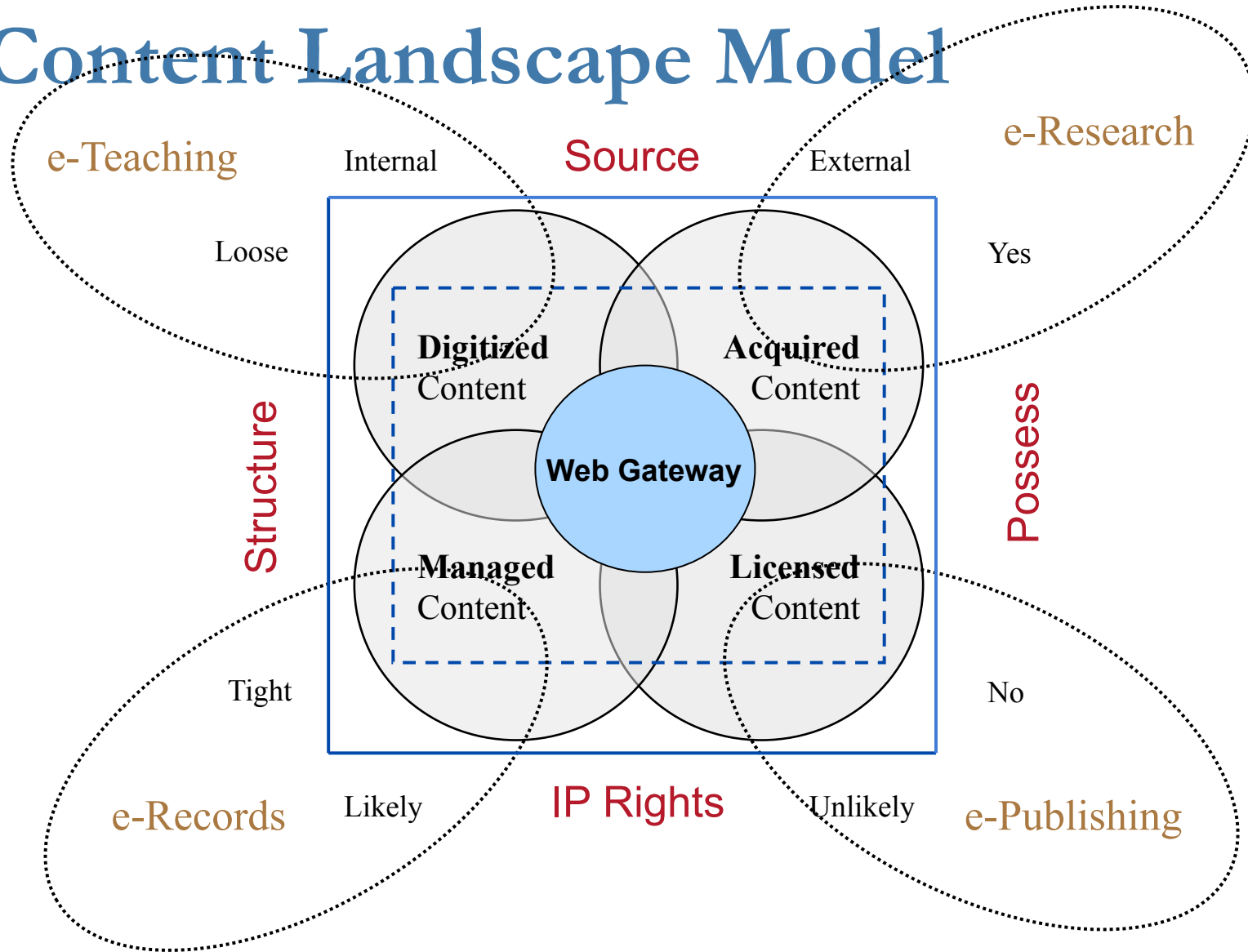
Image of OCLC
collection grid
removed

Image can be found at: (<http://www.oclc.org/reports/escan/images/collectgrid.gif>)

Content Landscape



Content Landscape Model



Content Domains

1. Themes
2. Overview
3. How much information?
4. Form and formats
- 5. Institutional context**
6. Uniqueness

Lingering Questions:

- Is “**format**” a meaningful construct?
- Is web **context** preservable in any meaningful way?
- Content (value neutral) or assets (value laden)?

Idea of Uniqueness

1. Themes
2. Overview
3. How much information?
4. Form and formats
5. Institutional context

6. **Uniqueness**

- Records (artifacts)
- Information (duplication/publication)
- Processes (functional view)
- Aggregations (distinct assemblages)

Idea of Uniqueness

1. Themes
2. Overview
3. How much information?
4. Form and formats
5. Institutional context
- 6. Uniqueness**

- Intangibility
- Mutability
- Readers and writers
- Connectability

Idea of Uniqueness

1. Themes
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4. Form and formats
5. Institutional context
- 6. Uniqueness**

- Does uniqueness have any value today?
- How much of this idea uniqueness is associated with copying?
- How do we document uniqueness?

Thank you!

Paul Conway

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www.si.umich.edu