Archivists' Toolkit, Archon, and AT/Archon Integration Project Updates

ARCHIVISTS' TOOLKIT *(Brad Westbrook, Nathan Stevens, Annie Ross, Joseph Pawletko, Brian Hoffman)*

Development:

Sept 2009: AT 2.0 was released. The AT project is currently in maintenance mode (no new development). Efforts are constrained to answering user queries, addressing bugs, and when necessary, producing maintenance releases.

Oct 2009-July 2010: Six AT maintenance releases have been produced: the latest version is AT2.0, update 6 (download available at http://archiviststoolkit.org/download/release/2_0). Information on changes for update 6 at http://archiviststoolkit.org/node/189 Bug fixes are noted in JIRA and can be searched (https://jira.nyu.edu/jira/browse/ART)

Training:

CLIR grant-related workshops: Newberry Library, Folger Shakespeare Library
AT for SCA workshops: Northern and Southern
Northwest Digital Archives: Four webinars
 UCSD in Special Collections and Arts Libraries: formal training to support internal projects.
AT for SCA workshops (north and south) planned for October and digital object workshop planned for the spring.

User Queries/New Users:

Continuous stream of user queries on atug (listserve), AT forums, info@archiviststoolkit.org and to individual team members. Also new AT implementers during this maintenance period.

ARCHON *(Chris Prom, Scott Schwartz, Paul Sorenson)*

Development:

May 2010: Archon 3.10 was released. With the release of version 3.10, Archon development was completed. Team is in maintenance mode, concerned with user queries, addressing bugs and when necessary producing maintenance releases. Download of latest version at http://archon.org/

May 2010 – July 2010 Since the release of this final development, maintenance releases 3.11, 3.12 and as of July 28th, Archon 3.13 have been produced. By the end of September 2010, a stable 3.14 release will be provided. Subsequent to that release, maintenance will focus on steps necessary to transition Archon data to the new application (such as development of migration methods for digital content).

Training:

Archon staff will provide a workshop at the University of Miami at the end of August.

User queries/New Users:

Steady stream of queries posted on the Archon forum as well as queries to the Archon team. Forum discussions available at http://forums.archon.org/

AT/ARCHON INTEGRATION PROJECT: 'Building a Next-Generation Archival Management Tool'

Project Team:
University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign: Beth Sandore, Chris Prom, Scott Schwartz, Susan Harum
New York University: David Millman, Nathan Stevens, Joseph Pawletko, Brian Hoffman
University of California, San Diego: Luc Declerck, Brad Westbrook, Annie Ross

June 10, 2009 Archivists' Toolkit and Archon Merge agreement

August 2009: Project announced. NYU Libraries, UCSD Libraries, and ULUC Libraries agreed to submit a collaborative project proposal to Mellon Foundation combine the best features of the Archivists' Toolkit and Archon into a single hybrid application. www.archivesspace.org

Sept 2009: Development and submittal of planning phase proposal to Mellon.

Oct -Dec 2009: Drafting of high-level requirements and distribution to the community for comments. The document is available on the AT website at: http://archiviststoolkit.org/node/141

Dec 2009: Nearly forty AT and Archon users and other persons representing various standards bodies and consortial groups participate in two webinars to discuss the prioritization of the high-level requirements. Names and affiliations of participants are listed at http://archiviststoolkit.org/node/143. The webinars resulted in a prioritized list of requirements to guide the work of the integration team.

Results distributed; recordings were made available (download at: http://archiviststoolkit.org/node/148). The final hi-level requirements document, as well as pre-webinar and post-webinar surveys are available at: http://archiviststoolkit.org/node/161. Slides with no audio at http://archiviststoolkit.org/node/152

Jan-Feb 2010: Planning grant is award by the Mellon foundation. Progress of the planning process via the website: www.archivesspace.org. Three target areas form the phase of the project are the development of draft specifications; technical planning and sustainability.

Feb-Aug 2010: Development of draft specifications. Currently seven specifications are available on the website (www.archivesspace.org). Specs under development are for repository records, name records, digital object records, resource records, and collection management function

April 2010 CNI [Coalition for Networked Information] Spring Meeting (Baltimore) Beth Sandore (AUL for IT Planning and Policy, UIUC) represented ArchivesSpace on panel: Beyond the Silos of the LAMs: Time to Speak Up. Collaborative and Open Software Development Directions for Libraries, Archives and Museums (http://www.cni.org/tfms/2010a.spring/Abstracts/PB-beyond-farley.html)

Feb 2010-present Evaluation of possible sustainability and business models are being conducted by Beth Sandore (UIUC), David Millman (NYU) and Luc Declerck (UCSD).

June -Aug 2010: Technical planning, culminated in technical design meeting (June 3-4 in NYC). Meeting tied to high-level requirements document. Mark Matienzo was hired as technical consultant. Summary Report on the Technical Architecture from the Technical Design Meeting by Mark Matienzo is available on at http://archivesspace.org/documents/ArchivesSpace_Technical_Architecture_Report-FINAL-07302010.pdf

Drafting proposal currently for the software development phase of the project, to be submitted to Mellon in the fall. Ideally, development would begin in early 2011.