The Oregon State University Libraries and Press Community Interviewing Project

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Library Administrative Briefing
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We want to collect your story

Why?

• To build community within OSULP
• To collect and preserve institutional knowledge about OSULP

• Emerged out of In-Service feedback indicating interest in deeper engagement with ideas related to digital storytelling
• Funded by the Gray Family Chair for Innovative Library Services ($3,000)
  • Funding will be used to hire a student assistant
How are we going to do this?

With minimal anxiety:

- Interviews will be audio recorded (not video)
- Interviews will be conducted by a student (neutral party)
- Questions will be made available well in advance and will not be deviated from during the interview
- About a 1-hour time commitment, give or take
- Participants will be asked to sign SCARC’s standard permissions form, which will also be made available in advance
- Narrators from branch campuses may be interviewed via phone
Qualtrics survey will go out tomorrow

- Reaching out to all OSULP faculty and staff. Also plan to include retired OSULP colleagues as best as we can, and a sampling of current student assistants as well.

- **Qualtrics Survey Questions:**
  1. What is your name?
  2. Choose one of the following three options:
     1. Yes, I would like to participate
     2. I may want to participate, please contact me later
     3. I do not wish to participate.

- Non-responders will get lumped into bin #2.
Timeframe

• Hiring student assistant soon
  • Student will be charged with arranging all logistics as well as conducting interviews.

• Anticipating first interviews in mid- to late-August

• Expecting the project to run into Winter term
The questions that we’ll be asking (1 of 2)

• Where were you born? Where did you grow up?
• Do you have a significant library memory from your childhood? If so, please tell us about it.
• Talk about your years as a high school and college student.
• What path did you take to a career in libraries/academic publishing?
• What path did you take to the OSU Libraries/OSU Press?
• How long have you worked at OSU Libraries/OSU Press?
• How has your work shifted or evolved over the course of your career here?
The questions that we’ll be asking (2 of 2)

• Tell us about a person who has been important to your work during your career at OSULP.
• Tell us about one or more accomplishments that you are proud to have achieved during your career here.
• Tell us about a professional goal that you hope to achieve in the future as an OSULP employee.
• Tell us about your interests/passions outside of work.
• What is your dream for OSULP?
• What is your dream for OSU?
• Is there anything else that you would like to add to this interview?
What will happen to your interview once it is completed?

• Uploaded to OSU MediaSpace and made public with a very brief description
• Linked in two ways off of a simple webpage that will be hosted on the SCARC website
  1. Link from the webpage to the OSU MediaSpace item
  2. Link to a Box account that will permit download of the interview (.mp3)
• Availability of new interviews will be announced in the weekly OSULP newsletter
• Interviews will also be described in a dedicated archival finding aid and preserved in the same way as all other born digital records administered by SCARC
• Interviews will not be transcribed or described on a granular level
The outcomes to which we aspire

• Build community and reduce organizational silos by creating a resource for you to learn more about your colleagues and about the history of OSULP
  • The primary audience for this project consists of the same people who are contributing to the project.

• Collect and preserve a significant set of historical documents for the use and benefit of future researchers
The pitfall that we’re hoping to avoid

• Non-participation
  • There is no project without you.
  • We want people to feel safe and comfortable by tailoring the interview setting in the way that we have proposed.
  • We have asked LAMP and Library Admin to act as “early adopters” and allow their stories to be collected early in the process.
Questions?