

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

Soliciting Participation

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?