Preserving electronic records from labor union organizations at the University of Maryland

47th Annual Conference of the International Association

Of Labour History Institutions (IALHI)

September 9, 2016

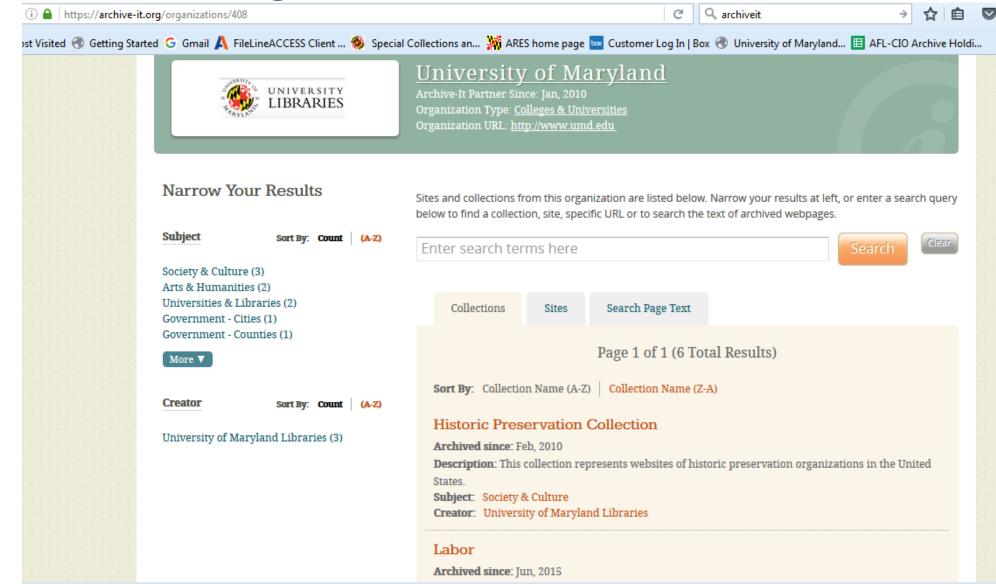
Helsinki, Finland

Presented by Jennifer Eidson, University of Maryland, USA

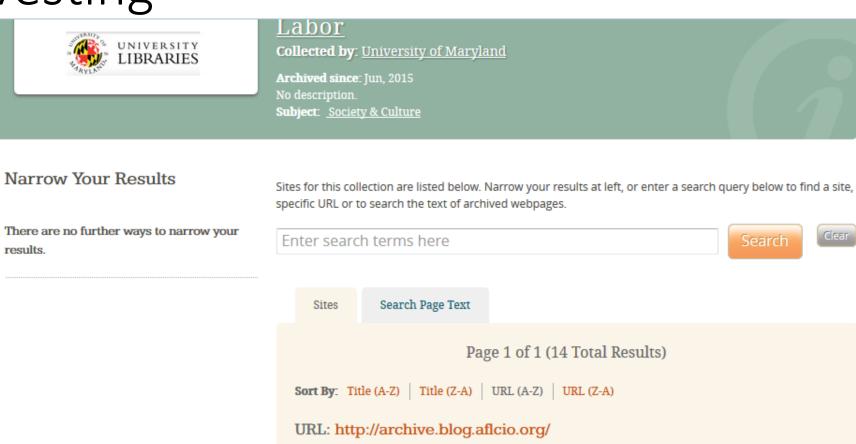
Digital Systems and Stewardship (DSS) at University of Maryland

- Digital Programs and Initiatives
 - 1. Website harvesting (Archivelt)
 - 2. Mass digitization projects, vendor (Internet Archive)
 - 3. Digital Conversion and Media Reformatting
 - Analog Records Digitization, in-house
 - 4. Born Digital (Email, file migration, disc imaging)
 - 5. Social media harvesting (Social Feed Manager)

Website Harvesting



Website Harvesting



No Captures were found for this URL

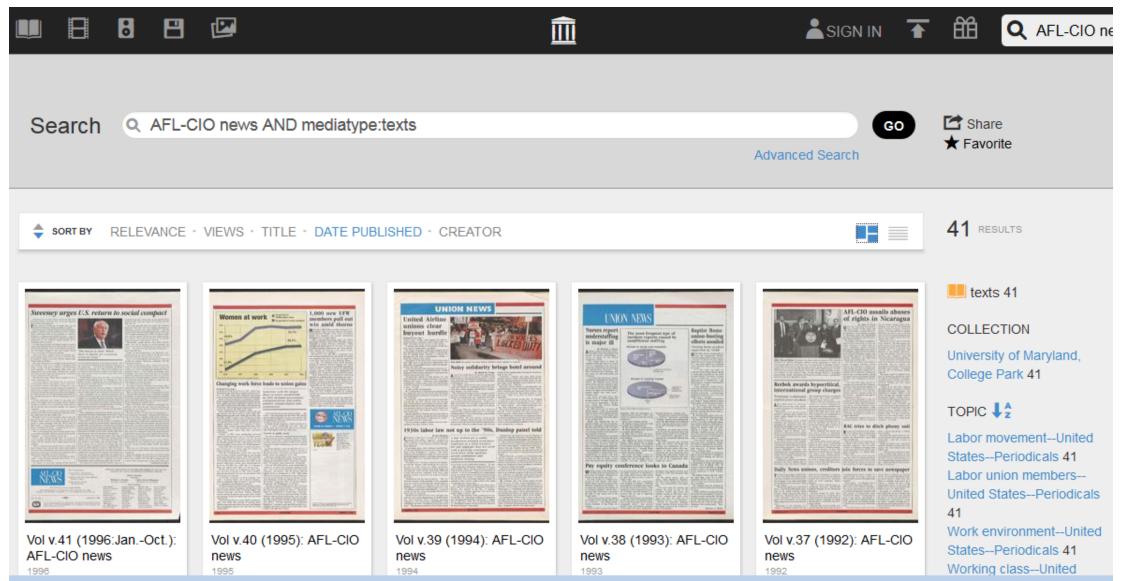
URL: http://dpeaflcio.org/

Captured once on Nov 9, 2015

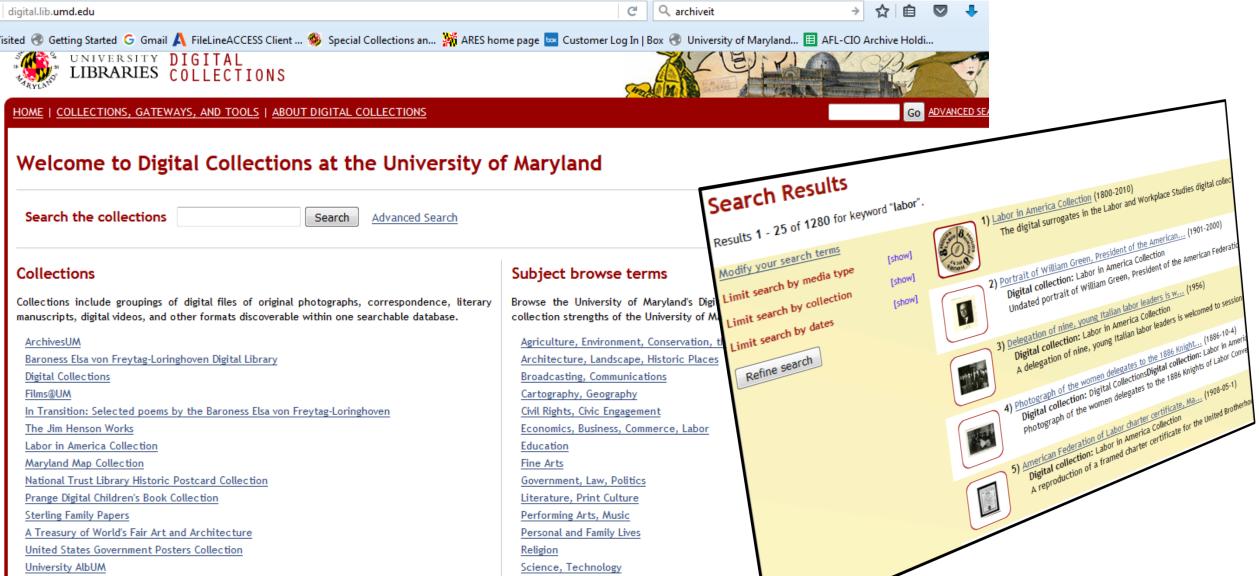
URL: http://maritimetrades.org/

Captured 2 times between Nov 13, 2015 and Nov 13, 2015

Mass Digitization of Analog Records



Analog Records Digitization, in-house



To cite or link to this item, use this identifier: http://hdl.handle.net/1903.1/31508

1940-1949 · 12.5 x 9.9 cm · Photograph, documentary · monochrome · <u>Jump to full details</u> · <u>Request from Special Collections</u>



Summary: European representative for AFL-CIO Irving Brown speaks into a microphone during a Radio Free Europe (RFE) broadcast in this undated photograph, circa 1940s. He later served as director of the International Affairs Department.

Century: 1901-2000

Place of origin - Continent: Europe Temporal subject: 1941-1950

Topical subjects: Radio Free Europe.

Microphones

ArchivesUM location: AFL-CIO, International Affairs Department, Irving Brown Files, 1943-1989

- series 2
- box 3
- folder 42
- item N1106
- accession 2014-001-RG96-001

Repository: Historical Manuscripts

Browse terms: Broadcasting, Communications

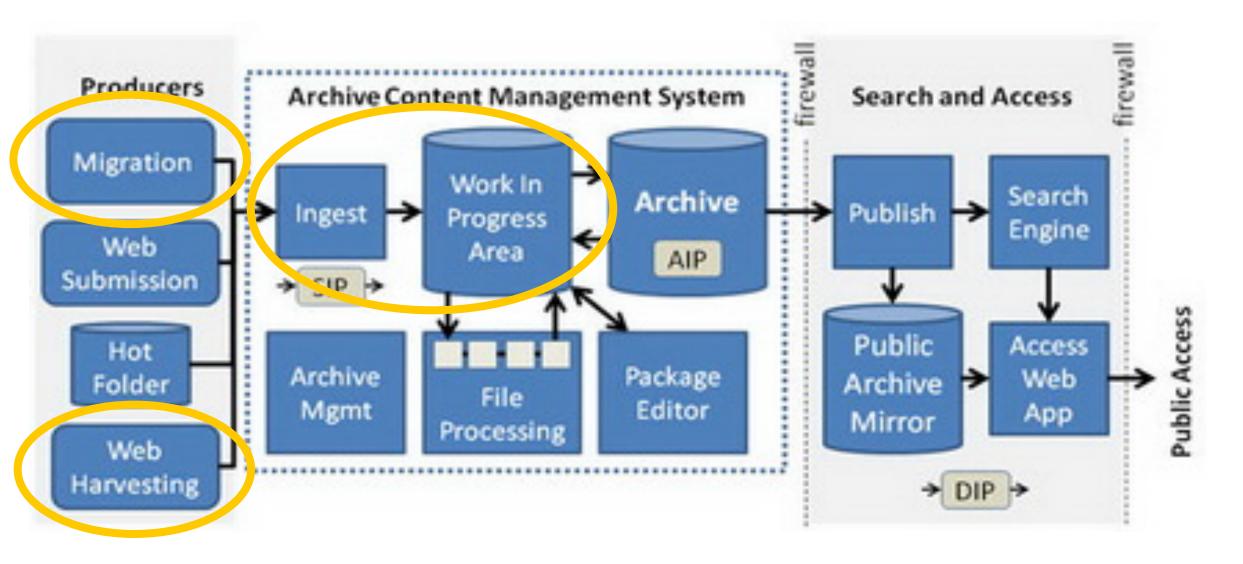
Copyright holder: Unknown

Collection: Labor in America Collection

Born Digital

- Born Digital Manual (working draft)
 - Following Open Archival Information System (OAIS) model
- Able to accession via migration and web harvesting
- Preliminary inventory via disc imaging
- Experimenting with social media feeds
- Experimenting with email

Open Archival Information System (OAIS)



Strategy 1: Test phase

- Observe how peer institutions implement born digital programs
- Donor relations: Creating workflows to accept the digital files
- Experiment with new electronic records accessions
- Pilot projects

Strategy 1: Test phase

- Learning FRED (Forensic Recovery of Evidence Device)
 - Digital forensics workstation
 - Accession digital material
 - Checksum process for fixity
 - Disc imaging software on FRED, options:
 - Windows (forensic toolkit imager)
 - Linux (bit curator toolbox includes Guymage for data from disc image)



Strategy 1: Test phase

- Pilot project with the University Provost Office
 - Survey started
 - Needs identified
 - More robust records management at UMD, including electronic records
 - Plans to hire Electronic Records Archivist

Strategy 2

- Accept offered born digital records into Special Collections following minimum best practices.
 - Digital records covered in deed of gift
 - Educate donor about electronic records
 - Coordinate transfer of electronic files via portable hard drive

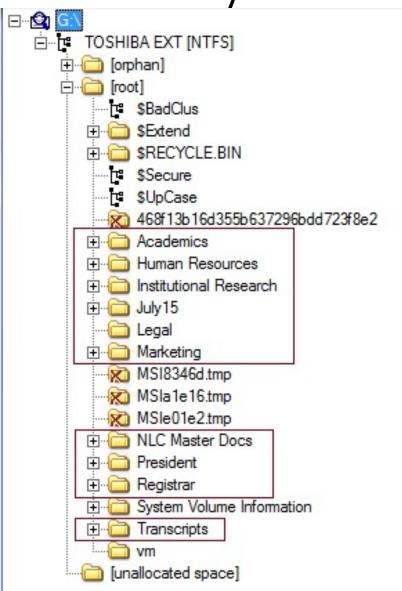
- Test bed
 - Case study: National Labor College
 - Case study: Page One Photography, Inc.

- New accession prompted by closure of organization in 2014
 - Paper records
 - Electronic records
- Limited organizational staff to help identify electronic records and transfer to hard drive media
- No disc image possible

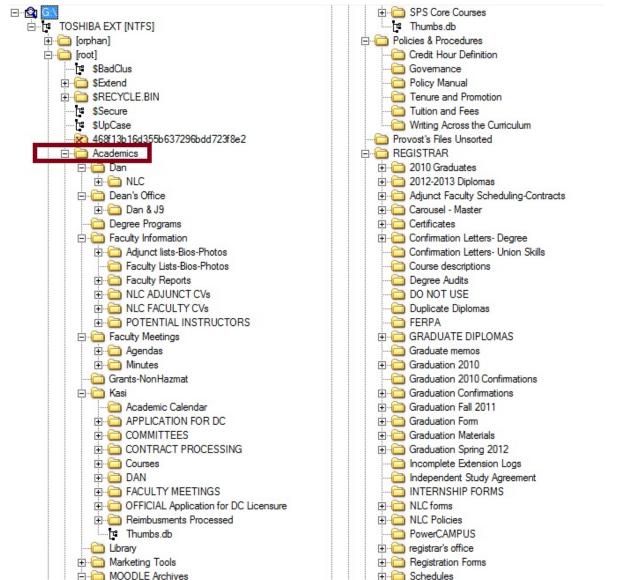


- Hard drive transfer delayed 4 months
- IT systems not monitored after March 5, 2014
- Computer of President experienced virus that deleted entire server
- Hard drive was shared with AFL-CIO to recover files
- Hard drive received by University of Maryland, July 2014

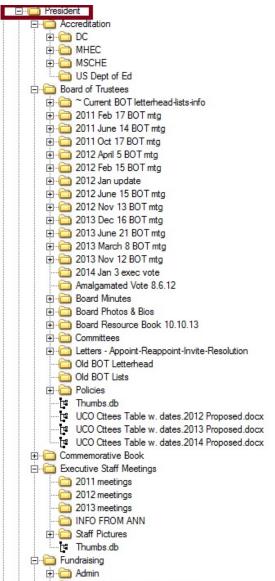








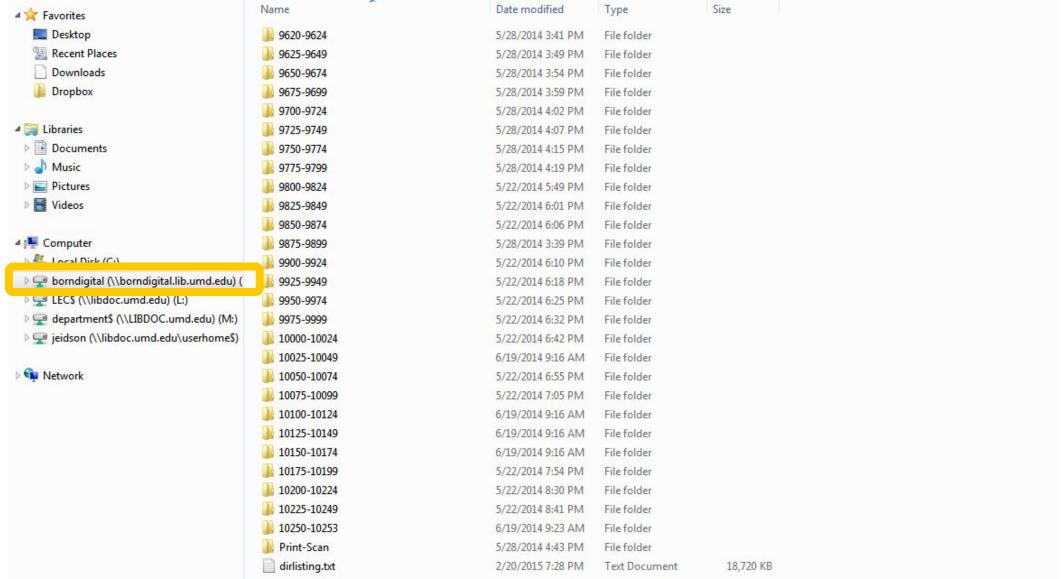
Union Skills Forms
Living Labor History 2012
Spring 2014
□ □ SENIOR PROJECTS
2011 Fall Senior Projects
⊕ □ 2012 fall senior projects
⊕ □ 2013 spring senior projects
⊕ · C PROCESS 2012
- Carrier Special Academic Projects
⊕ · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
Workers Memorial
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Writing Lab
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Dean's List Mailing Spring 2012	
Fall 2012 Postcard	
⊕ Friends List Mailing	
Fundraising for Presidents monograph_serve2.pdf	
⊕ — 🛅 Galas	
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Grants	
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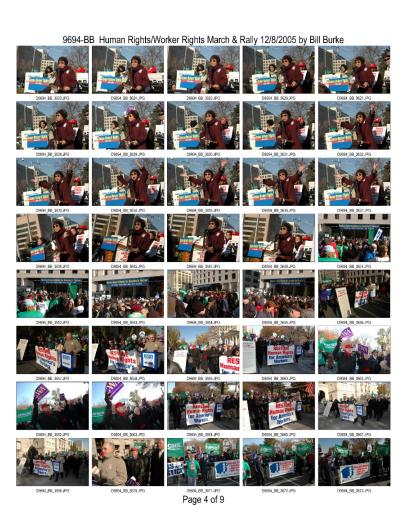
- A collection of over 10,000 photo events/jobs from 1982-2015
 - 113 Boxes of negatives
 - 2.9 TB digital images starting in 2000
- Enough planning time to determine their needs and our needs
- Discussion of their workflow of digital image creation
 - Original files had already been altered
 - Disc image not necessary
- Digital files transferred to 3 hard drives
 - 2014-2015 drive: 283 GB, 26,628 Files, 182 Folders
 - 2009-2013 drive: 1.80 TB, 297,609 Files, 1,723 Folders
 - 2005-2008 drive: 832 GB, 232,061 Files, 1,338 Folders

- Challenges:
 - Erased hard drive, asked donor to upload 2009-2013 again
 - Empty folders
 - Annual accession planned, not consistent















Strategy 3

- Begin ongoing conversations and planning with existing donors who plan to archive their born digital records in UM's Special Collections.
 - AFL-CIO
 - American Center for International Labor Solidarity (Solidarity Center)
 - Bakery, Confectionery and Tobacco Workers International Union
 - United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America (UBCJA)

Conclusion

- Keep experimenting and developing our Electronic Records Program
- Encourage donors to keep their e-records for a period of time in case we encounter problems
- Disc image from donor is not always realistic
- Maintaining authenticity is not always possible
- Ensuring timely transfer of files is important
- Document and refine

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Labor History Subject Guide: http://lib.guides.umd.edu/labor