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Please Note: This Page Has Been Archived

Archiving the Compendium was a project to figure out how to deposit an archive of the Globalization Compendium. These pages reflect our thinking in 2008, **not necessarily** how we finally implemented the archive. This and other pages were archived so changing them won't affect the project.

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Globalization Compendium Project: Archiving Research Text and Code

With the planned termination of the Globalization and Autonomy MCRI approaching, Shawn Day was engaged in August 2007 to conduct an environmental survey and recommend a best practises approach to archiving the research products of the project. This document is intended to detail the scan process, the formulation of best practises, and to serve as a repository for materials relating on how to carry out of the recommended process. These documents discuss how to archive the following research - [Globalization and Autonomy Compendium](#).

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Statement of Problem

As the Globalization & Autonomy MCRI nears its completion, efforts must be made to ensure continued and long-term access to its research products. A series of print volumes have been produced containing select articles created under the project. Additionally, participants in the project have published work in journals and volumes independently of the project. In the past, long-term preservation of research materials was under the auspices of the author and the publishers. Research libraries are increasingly bringing new resources to preserve digital materials for long term access. Institutions face challenges hosting material which is 'born digital' and which require a

digital infrastructure to enable access. Technical obsolescence of host systems is one of the major obstacles to the long-term accessibility to digital objects. Evolving standards and practice concerning data formats further challenge data accessibility. There are a variety of initiatives underway to address these challenges from a technical perspective. However, research in this area suggests that focus on the technical challenges is less rewarding than the precept that the best way to preserve something is to ensure it has ongoing relevance to a substantial audience that demands its preservation.

In a perfect world, the Globalization Compendium would be situated in a perpetual hosting environment to continue access to its valuable research products.

However, in the immediate term, we need to determine and execute an archival scheme to preserve the code, the content and the processes inherent in the Compendium object.

The project will be fully documented to allow for its perpetuation as well as for appraisal and resurrection/recreation should that be in the interests of its participants. The raw material must be archived into a form that will meet criteria for long term preservation and the live digital object will serve as the primary archive ensuring its propagation through popularity.

[Code](#)

This section details the composition of the code base of the Compendium.

[Content](#)

This section defines the content contained within the Compendium.

[Process](#)

This section asks the following questions:

- How is information prepared?
- How is information stored?
- How is information served?
- [How is the information used?: Documenting Interactivity on the Globalization Compendium](#)
- How is process documented?

Archives

What archives are out there that would accept our digital research data? What conditions do they set? [Discussion of Archives](#)

Recommendation

For preservation's sake, all components of the Compendium should be carefully and fully documented using industry standards. This has been the intent and practice of the project since its inception. As part of the long term preservation strategy for the research products of the Compendium, the components should be treated as separate

components and preservation strategies applied which are agnostic to the long term interoperability of the components. The current cohesion of the project should be seen as a point in the digital life of the components and appropriate to its current state and intentions.

Long term access to the research products is mandated under the funding agreement under which the research was created. This agreement stipulates that the research outcomes be preserved and made available to the research community. Although specific practises for maintaining digital repositories remain nascent and fluid, anecdotal evidence suggest that there are specific actions and practises that can contribute to meeting these objectives.

1. Pursuing multiple means and modes of digital archival storage
2. Adopting multiple documentary means to capture not just the product, but the means by which the product has been created, stored and presented.

To Do

- Document code
- Find archive for paper and for data
- Run the archive process and deposit
- How do we do the bibliographic database
- Update this document

Steps to Carry out an Effective Digital Archival Process

These steps detail the actual activities that will be undertaken to carry out the archival of the Globalization Compendium commencing January 2008 (at which point there will be no further additions to the body of published research as advised by the editor Nancy Johnson). This date was pushed back to 28 February 2008, after some late submissions were received.

-- [JoyceYu](#) - 13 Sep 2010

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