



# Rethinking digital preservation

## Looking beyond the repository

CRKN 2020 Conference | 15 October 2020

Corey Davis

Digital Preservation Librarian, University of Victoria

Visiting Program Officer, Canadian Association of Research Libraries

# Territorial acknowledgement



# Overview of the session

- What is digital preservation?
- Why are libraries struggling?
- What are some solutions?
- Discussion

# What is digital preservation?

- “Digital preservation consists of the processes aimed at ensuring the continued accessibility of digital materials. To do this involves finding ways to re-present what was originally presented to users by a combination of software and hardware tools acting on data.”
  - UNESCO  
<https://en.unesco.org/themes/information-preservation/digital-heritage/concept-digital-preservation>

# CARL Digital Preservation Survey

- “96% of the respondents indicated that they provide access to digital materials under their care [and] 79% ... use a digital object repository or discovery platform.”
  - Hurley, G., & Shearer, K. *Final Report of the Survey on Digital Preservation Capacity and Needs at Canadian Memory Institutions, 2017-18*. Canadian Association of Research Libraries.

# CARL Digital Preservation Survey

- “Only a small proportion of respondents are confident in their abilities to preserve their holdings...”  
– *Ibid.*

# An issue of priorities and attention

- “...memory organizations...have not yet prioritized digital preservation within their operations and do not direct significant resources towards these activities.”  
– *Ibid.*

# Collective action to increase capacity

- Portage Preservation Experts Group
  - “Advise on developing RDM infrastructure and best practices for preserving research data and metadata...”
- CARL Digital Preservation Working Group
  - “Assessing digital preservation capacity, available resources, and funding opportunities within the Canadian research community, and identifying and promote relevant approaches, standards, practices, and technologies...”



# What we'll be talking about today

1. Its difficult to connect individual repositories to shared preservation services
2. The current repository ecosystem privileges near-term access (via repositories) over long-term access (i.e. preservation)

COPPUL's WestVault

# CASE STUDY

# Case study: WestVault

- COPPUL Private LOCKSS Network for distributed preservation storage was underutilized
  - Hard to create repository plug-ins for LOCKSS
  - Each LOCKSS box had to grow to accommodate large deposits
  - Lack of service-level agreements

# Case study: WestVault

- Reboot!
  - Drag-and-drop deposit
  - Virtual Machines at large data-centres
  - Robust policies, user manuals and training, dedicated staff at COPPUL

# Case study: WestVault

- Results
  - Getting stuff out of repositories for deposit still requires lots of attention and manual intervention

# Case study: WestVault

- What needs to be done
  - Create capacity locally and through regional consortia and national organizations
  - **Scale repositories like we've scaled preservation services, and connection the two**
  - **Maybe rethink how we do access and preservation!**

Looking at exemplar systems for solutions to the problem

# SCALING REPOSITORIES

BC ELN and COPPUL

# **EXEMPLAR INFRASTRUCTURE 1**



# BC ELN and COPPUL

- Arca
  - “...shared platform provides organisations with open-access repositories.”  
<https://bceln.ca/services/shared-services/arca>
- WestVault
  - “...a high-redundancy, independently-administered peer storage network spread across all 4 Western provinces.”  
<https://bceln.ca/resources/westvault>

# Lightweight policy framework...

## BC ELN and COPPUL working together: Arca Collaborative Digital Repository and COPPUL Digital Preservation Network

 [Printer-friendly version](#)

**VANCOUVER, B.C., November 30, 2016** — The [British Columbia Electronic Library Network](#) (BC ELN) and the [Council of Prairie and Pacific University Libraries](#) (COPPUL) announced today the signing of an agreement that will enable COPPUL members to join the [Arca Collaborative Digital Repository](#) while providing existing Arca members access to COPPUL's emerging suite of digital preservation services.

Both BC ELN and COPPUL have a common interest in ensuring that the high-value digital materials of their member institutions are accessible to their communities over the long term. By leveraging their respective expertise and service infrastructures in the areas of institutional repositories and digital preservation, both BC ELN and COPPUL members will benefit from this agreement.

Under this agreement, COPPUL members will be able to participate in the [Arca Collaborative Digital Repository](#), which is based on a shared instance of the open source [Islandora Digital Repository Framework](#). At the same time, Arca participants will have access to an emerging set of digital preservation services being developed as part of the [COPPUL Digital Preservation Network \(COPPUL DPN\)](#), including preservation storage in [COPPUL's Private LOCKSS Network](#), and preservation processing services such as [Archivematica-as-a-Service](#).

# E·COLLECTIONS

AT EMILY CARR

[Home](#) | [Browse](#) | [About + Contact](#) | [Submit](#) | [ECU Library](#) | [Login](#)

Explore Emily Carr University's eCollections

Search Emily Carr University's Institutional Repository. Find scholarly research materials and other digital assets from our archives and the Wosk Masterworks Print Collection.

[Search All Collections](#)



[Advanced Search](#)

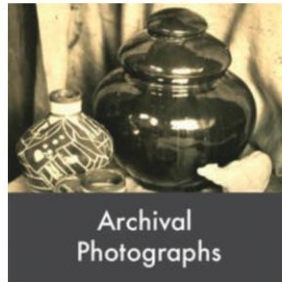
[Browse Collections](#)  
[Browse All Materials](#)

[About](#)

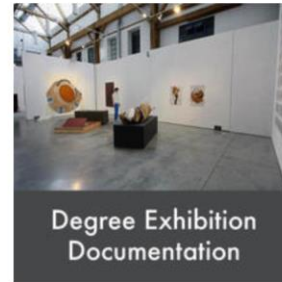
Heinz Laffin in ceramics studio, circa late 1950's - early 1960's.



Academic Calendar  
Archive



Archival  
Photographs



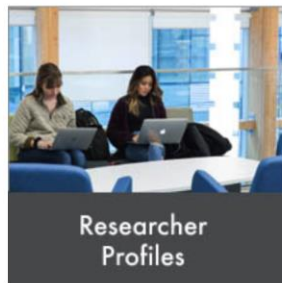
Degree Exhibition  
Documentation



Graduate Student  
Theses



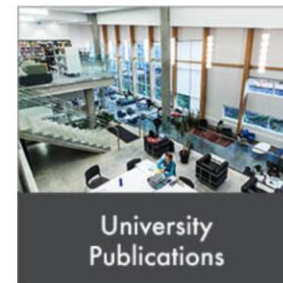
Research + Creation



Researcher  
Profiles



Student Publication  
Archive



University  
Publications



Wosk Masterworks  
Print Collection

[Home](#) > [Browse Repository](#) > [Graduate Theses](#)

# Aurora

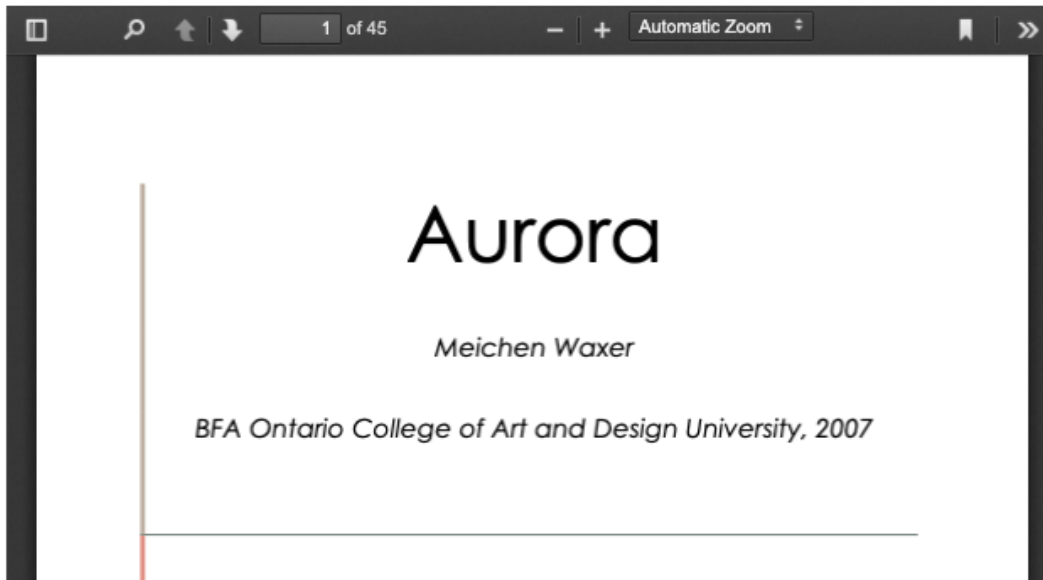
[View](#) [IP Embargo](#) [Manage](#) [Edit metadata](#)

## Style

APA

Choose the citation style.

Waxer, M. (2016). Aurora. doi:10.35010/ecuad:8455



**Part of: Aurora (10 objects)**  
[manage parent](#)

[Next](#)

Aurora



Untitled (Evenlode)



Bird of paradise, tree of life

Preserve this object?

Checking this box creates a PRESERVATION datastream, which will flag this object for preservation on the next cron run. Un-checking this box will delete the PRESERVATION datastream, which will not delete the preserved objects, but stop the preservation of updates to the object.

Save Configuration

Part of: Aurora (10 objects)

Preserve this object?

Checking this box creates a PRESERVATION datastream, which will flag this object for preservation on the next cron run. Un-checking this box will delete the PRESERVATION datastream, which will not delete the preserved objects, but stop the preservation of updates to the object.

New children of this collection (excludes current children)

All children of this collection (existing and new)

Current children only - new objects will not be preserved

Child collections. Child collections must be configured individually.

Save Configuration

# Preservation integration at scale...

- It cost COPPUL \$3000 to support BC ELN's development of Islandora WestVault
- Arca = \$5100/yr (150Gb allocation)
- WestVault = \$200/yr per 100Gb



# Extending access across the GLAM sector...



## Hosting Initiative Expands Access to Province's Historical Treasures




**Burnaby, B.C., August 24, 2020** – Past, present, and future BC History Digitization Program (BCHDP) grant recipients have access to free, sustainable, standards-based hosting for their online collections into 2025 thanks to an extension of the BCHDP-Arca Hosting Initiative. A renewed 5-year commitment by the British Columbia Electronic Library Network (BC ELN) and the Irving K. Barber Learning Centre (IKBLC) at the University of British Columbia Library builds on an established 3-year partnership that has allowed BCHDP grant recipients to host their digitized material on Arca, BC's collaborative digital repository, at no cost.








Ten GLAM sector (Galleries, Libraries, Archives, and Museums) organizations – groups like the Potters Guild of BC and grunt gallery – have taken part in this initiative over the preliminary 3-year pilot period, and several more are in discussions to add their collections to Arca. They join a growing number of post-secondary institutions and GLAM organizations that are making their local digital assets openly available via the Arca website ([arcabc.ca](http://arcabc.ca)).

IKBLC's continued funding, along with BC ELN's dedicated administration of the initiative and of the award-winning Arca platform, ensures that the BCHDP-Arca Hosting Initiative remains an ongoing and sustainable option for grant recipients. The successful partnership advances both BCHDP's goal of promoting access to British Columbia's unique historical materials and Arca's vision of sharing digital scholarship and heritage and building communities in British Columbia and beyond.



# Extensible to other repository services

 **bondjimbond** Merge pull request [#46](#) from bondjimbond...  2a5c2cb on Aug 26, 2019  **117** commits

 includes	Add maximum filesize check	14 months ago
 .travis.yml	Change travis php dist	13 months ago
 LICENSE.txt	Get started	2 years ago
 README.md	Update Readme with config rules	16 months ago
 islandora_westvault.drush.inc	Remove debug line	13 months ago
 islandora_westvault.info	Setup paged and compound for use with islandora_bagit_c...	16 months ago
 islandora_westvault.module	Change compound child preservationto foreach loop	16 months ago

README.md

## Islandora Westvault

---

### Introduction

---

Islandora Westvault lets you flag individual objects, newspapers, books, or whole collections to be preserved in COPPUL's Westvault LOCKSS service or another OwnCloud-based service.

Scholars Portal and COPPUL

# **EXEMPLAR INFRASTRUCTURE 2**



# Scholars Portal and COPPUL

- Dataverse
  - “...a publicly accessible data repository platform...hosted completely on Canadian servers at the University of Toronto Libraries.”  
<https://dataverse.scholarsportal.info/>
- Archivemática-as-a-Service
  - “...an open-source digital preservation system [that can be used] without installing and locally managing Archivemática.”  
<https://coppul.ca/archivematica>

# Working together in Ontario...



[News](#) [Contact](#)

[About](#)

[Community](#)

[Services](#)

[Resources](#)

[Vendors](#)

[Log In](#)

[Home](#) » [Dataverse-Archivematica Integration Now Available for Testing](#)

## Dataverse-Archivematica Integration Now Available for Testing

**Posted on:** 5 March 2019 **By:** Kaitlin

The Ontario Council of University Libraries (OCUL) and Scholars Portal are pleased to announce that the first version of the Dataverse-Archivematica integration for long-term dataset preservation is now available for community testing and feedback.

For the past several years the Scholars Portal team has been working with Artefactual Systems Inc. to create an integration between the preservation processing tool Archivematica and Dataverse. This technical integration enables users of Archivematica to select and copy datasets from Dataverse instances and process them for long-term access and digital preservation. The Archival Information Packages (AIPs) include metadata and all files stored by Dataverse, and are packaged for long-term storage and management using Archivematica's standards-compliant workflow. Integration between Archivematica and Dataverse expands capacity to preserve research data, opening up new avenues for librarians and archivists to make valuable research outputs accessible into the future.





**University  
of Victoria**

UVic Research Data  
Collection



Ocean Networks Canada



Canada Health **Infoway**  
Canada Health Infoway

[Advanced Search](#) **Dataverses (4)** **Datasets (40)** **Files (291)**

### Dataverse Category

Organization or Institution (4)

### Publication Year

2019 (21)

2018 (13)

2020 (10)

### Author Name

1 to 10 of 44 Results

Sort ▾

Data from: How far have we come? A review of MPA network performance indicators in reaching qualitative elements of Aichi Target 11



Sep 15, 2020 - CHONe

Miller, Mairi; Ban, Natalie; Devillers, Rodolphe; Singh, Gerald; Claudet, Joachim, 2020, "Data from: How far have we come? A review of MPA network performance indicators in reaching qualitative elements of Aichi Target 11", <https://doi.org/10.5683/SP2/FPYIVC>, Scholars Portal Dataverse, V1, UNF:6:RpVEXjI4EVf/w858NYQ3Gw== [fileUNF]

This dataset is based on a systematic literature review to identify indicators used to assess MPA network effectiveness in achieving the qualitative elements. Web of Science core collection database (1900 to April 2019) and Elsevier's Scopus database (1995 to April 2019) has been...

Staging path:

/var/archivematica/storage\_servi  
ce

Absolute path to a staging area. Must be UNIX filesystem compatible, preferably on the same filesystem as the path.

Host:

dataverse.scholarsportal.info

Hostname of the Dataverse instance. Eg. apitest.dataverse.org

API key:

2a4c8992-e710-4c56-ba0c-df12!

API key for Dataverse instance. Eg. b84d6b87-7b1e-4a30-a374-87191dbbbe2d

Agent name:

University of Victoria Dataverse

Agent name for premis:agentName in Archivematica

Agent type:

Dataverse

Agent type for premis:agentType in Archivematica

Agent identifier:

https://dataverse.scholarsportal.i

URI agent identifier for premis:agentIdentifierValue in Archivematica

Edit Space

Standard



Transfer type

Transfer name

Accession no.

Access system ID

Browse

Start transfer

Approve automatically

Transfer

UUID

Transfer start time





Dataverse



Transfer type

Transfer name

Accession no.

Access system ID

Browse

Start transfer

Approve automatically

The University of Victoria Dataverse



- 72612 (2014 National Survey of Canadian Community Pharmacists: Use of Digital Health Technologies in Practice)
- 72603 (2014 National Survey of Canadian Nurses)
- 72614 (2014 National Survey of Caregivers)
- 72621 (2016 National Survey of Community-Based Pharmacists: Use of Digital Health Technology in Practice)
- 72617 (2017 National Survey of Canadian Nurses: Use of Digital Health Technology in Practice)
- 75038 (2018 Canadian Physician Survey)
- 105311 (Algal lipids in the Canadian arctic)
- 74061 (B.C. Ministry of Environment Environmental Quality Information System (EQUIS) Database)
- 71772 (Compiling and mapping global permeability of the unconsolidated and consolidated Earth: GLObal HYdrogeology MaPS 2.0 (GLHYMPS 2.0). [Supporting Data])
- 77377 (Data from: A climate-associated multi-species cryptic genetic cline in the northwest Atlantic")
- 93020 (Data from: An hypoxia-tolerant flatfish: Consequences of sustained stress on the slender sole *Lyopsetta exilis* (Pleuronectidae) in the context of a changing ocean)
- 96763 (Data from: Biodiversity and habitat assessment of coastal benthic communities in a sub-Arctic industrial harbour area)
- 72090 (Data from: Composition and functional diversity of macrofaunal assemblages on vertical walls of a deep northeast Pacific fjord)
- 111204 (Data from: Continental margin sediments underlying the NE Pacific oxygen minimum zone are a source of nitrous oxide to the water column)
- 93083 (Data from: Food and initial size influence overwinter survival and condition of a juvenile marine fish (age-0 Atlantic cod))

Add

Transfer

UUID

Transfer start time



# Test\_Dataset\_for\_UVic\_Dataverse Archival Information Package

<b>UUID</b>	cd64bee3-0fe8-47c1-bd95-ae36956f1f59	
<b>Size</b>	12.03 MB	
<b>Date stored</b>	2020-05-12 17:57	
<b>Status</b>	Stored	
<b>Encrypted</b>	False	
<b>Location</b>	<input type="button" value="Download"/>	[...] / Test_Dataset_for_UVic_Dataverse-cd64bee3-0fe8-47c1-bd95-ae36956f1f59.7z
<b>Pointer file</b>	<input type="button" value="View"/>	

## Actions

### Metadata-only DIP upload to AtoM

Insert slug \*

Only compatible with AtoM 2.4 or newer.

# Portage Preservation Expert Group...

- Recommendations for a national preservation strategy

Its not just about preservation!

# **OTHER BENEFITS TO SCALE**

# Encouraging investments in infrastructure

- When was the last time you got grant funding to enhance your repository?

## **CANARIE Awards up to \$3.2M in Funding to 9 Research Teams to Develop Research Data Management Software Tools**

Posted on [November 27, 2018](#) in [Press Releases](#)

The ability to reuse research data helps accelerate discovery, allows for reproducibility of scientific results, and maximizes return on investment of research funding



**Funded software tools aim to strengthen  
Canada's capacity to manage research data**

# Building 'Trust' with research communities

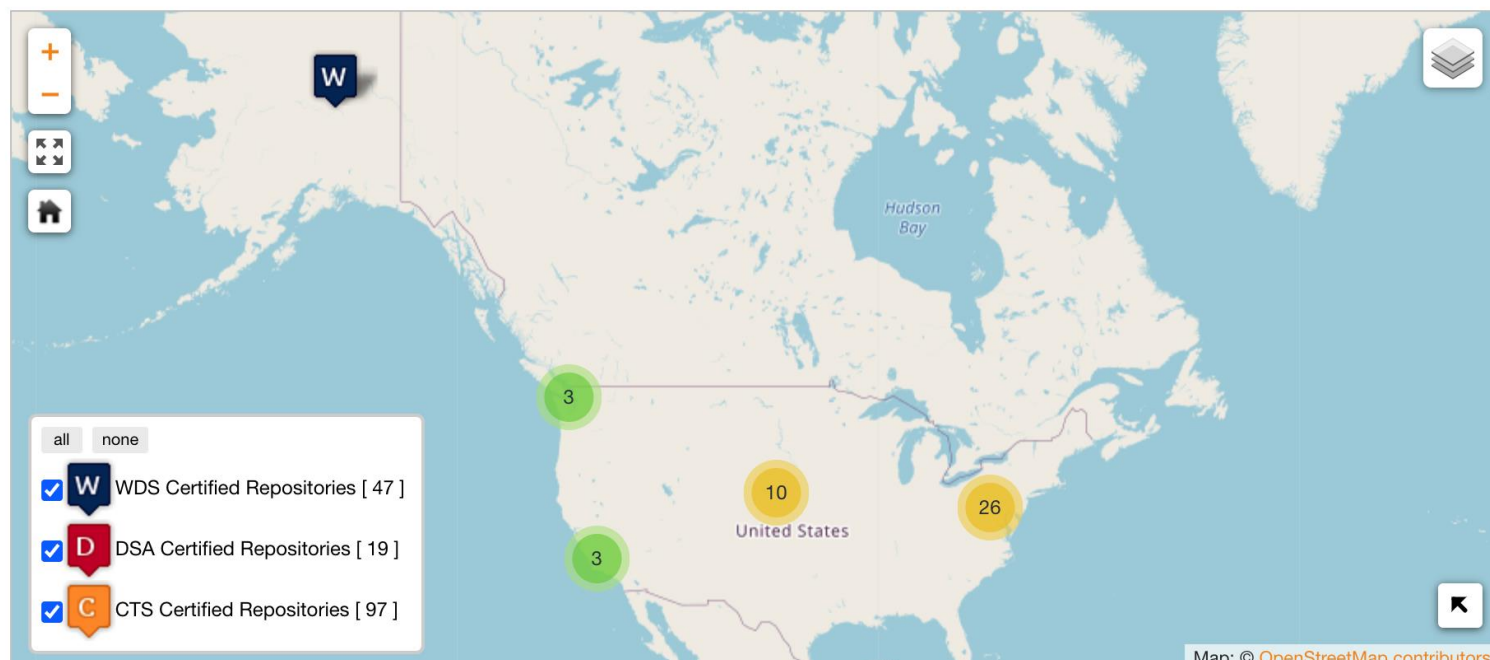
- “Repositories must earn the trust of the communities they intend to serve and demonstrate that they are reliable and capable of appropriately managing the data they hold.”
  - Lin, D., Crabtree, J., Dillo, I. *et al.* The TRUST Principles for digital repositories. *Sci Data* **7**, 144 (2020).  
<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41597-020-0486-7>



## Core Certified Repositories

[Home](#) > [Why certification](#) > [Core Certified Repositories](#)

Applications are made public only once certification of a data repository has been approved by the CoreTrustSeal Board. Certification is against the version of the Core Trustworthy Data Repositories Requirements named in the link to the public application (e.g., 2017–2019). The CoreTrustSeal for Data Repositories is valid for three years from the certification date listed within the public application.



# Pooled developer resources mean more agility

- “We must prepare for the rapidly evolving technological landscape needed to support scholarly communication. Agility is essential.”
  - Arlitsch, K., & Grant, C. (2018). Why so many repositories? Examining the limitations and possibilities of the institutional repositories landscape. *Journal of Library Administration*, 58(3), 264-281.



## And more...

- Enhanced discovery through more consistent metadata
- Integration w/ other systems at scale (e.g. the PID graph, ORCHID, etc.)
- Network effects amplify impact

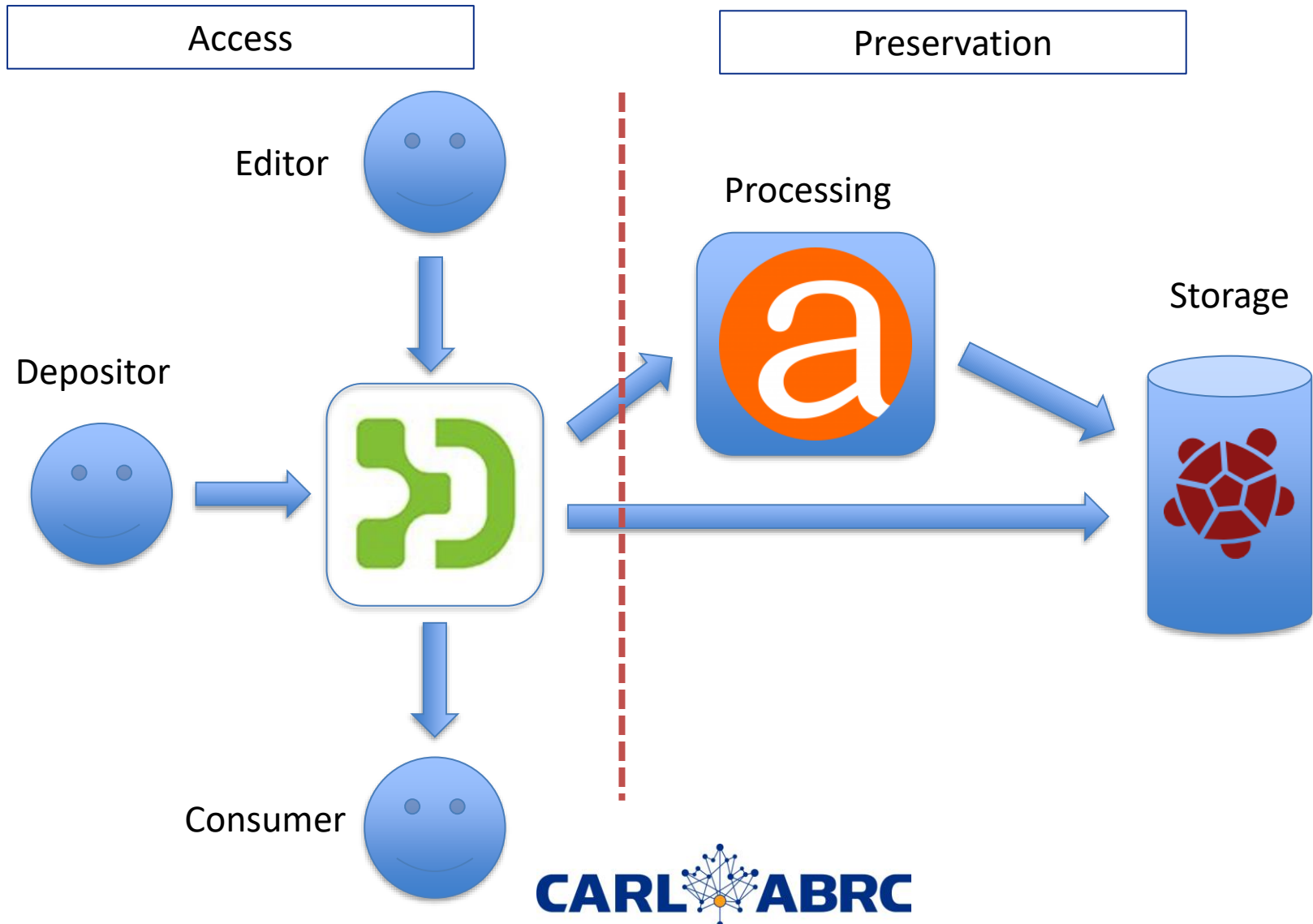
Thinking outside the repository box

# RETHINKING ACCESS AND PRESERVATION

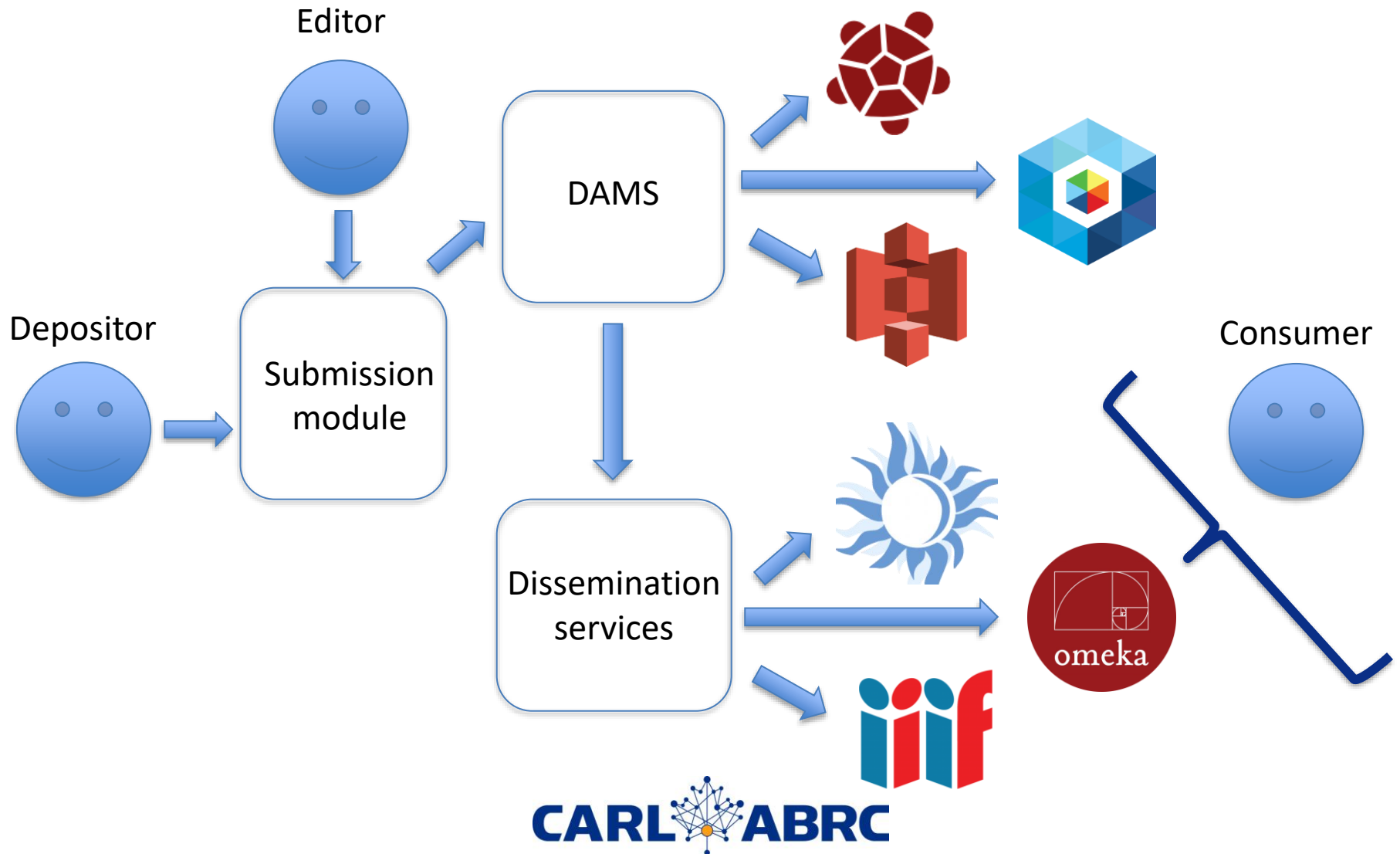
# Inspired by the folks at U of T and Scholars Portal, UBC, and others...

- What if we rethought our workflow and put preservation first!

# Traditional repository preservation workflow



# Thinking beyond the repository



# Open Archival Information System

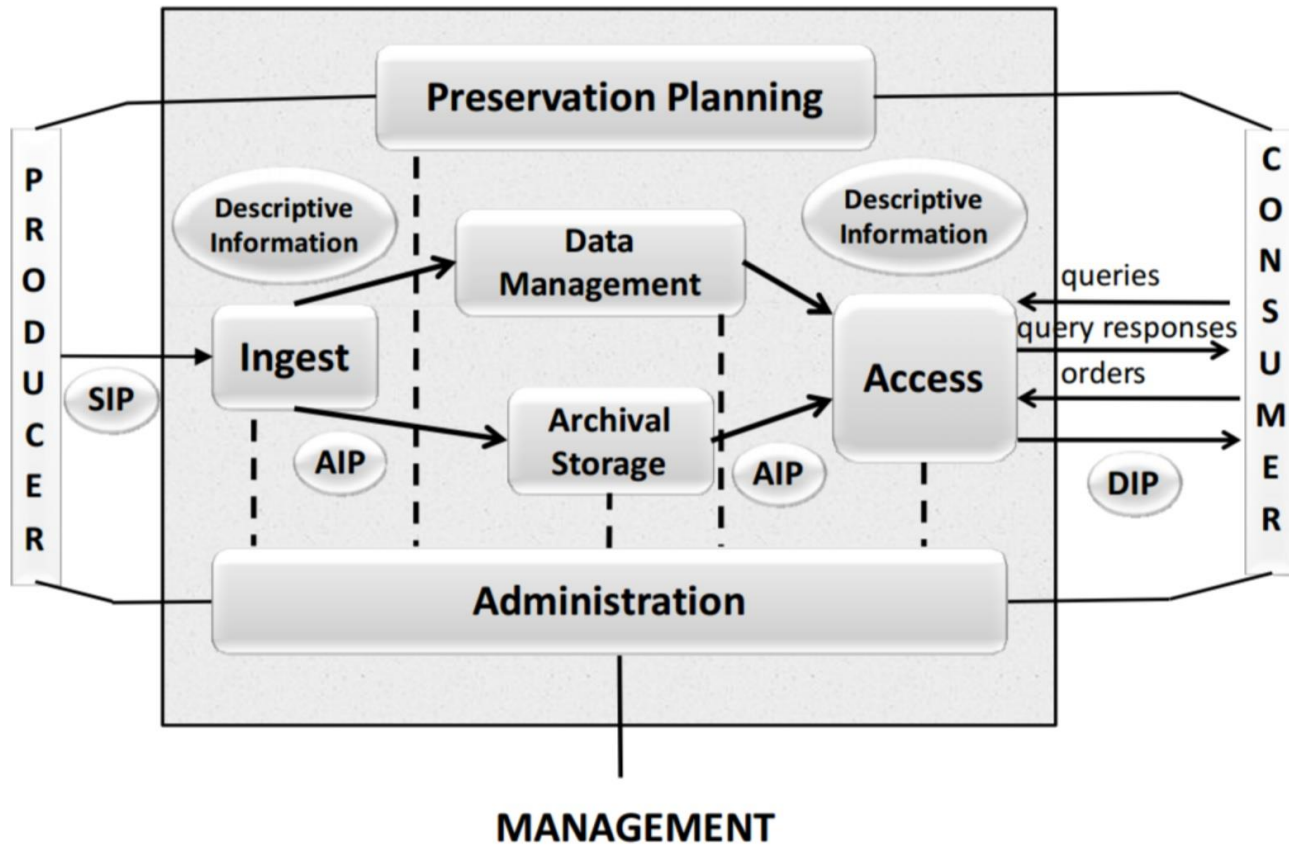


Figure 4-1: OAIS Functional Entities

# The archival advantage

- Libraries have always privileged access
- Archives have made preservation a part of access (and were decades ahead of libraries in terms of digital preservation)
- Library thinking privileges repositories at the expense of preservation

# OAIS

- OAIS provides a path to a more service-based, researcher-focused, preservation-friendly approach to access
- Librarians and archivists need to work together



# DISCUSSION

# Questions and comments

- Diversity vs. scale: What's the right scale? Institution, region, nation?
- How unique are local repository needs?
- What are the switching costs?

# Thanks!

- [coreyd@uvic.ca](mailto:coreyd@uvic.ca)