

# Sharing Space Between Neighbors: Toward Local Frameworks for Library/Faculty Collaboration on Digital Collections Projects

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**Abstract:** As academic libraries have increasingly become content creators, emerging faculty research dissemination needs have defined a shared domain of interest. The Oviatt Library at the California State University Northridge has experienced a growth in inquiries involving the creation, management and promotion of digital primary sources used for research. Though collaboration between libraries and faculty seems natural enough, negotiations however, can be protracted and challenging. Such collaborations require that libraries revisit digital collections policies and that both parties communicate their positions on issues including copyright, funding, staffing, systems, best practice and custodianship. To lay this groundwork, academic librarians and archivists should know something about *which* faculty members are collecting, *what* they collect and *how* this knowledge maps to the disciplinary needs, resources and perceptions of those among this constituency. Library/faculty partnerships will ultimately benefit from the development of local (institutional) frameworks that illustrate the praxis of librarianship and disciplinary scholarship in order to best negotiate digital collections projects. As a step toward this goal, a survey of the faculty at CSUN is being conducted to understand the prevalence and contents of primary source collecting and production, and to render their information needs and perceptions regarding collaboration with the library. Additionally, interviews with current and former faculty collaborators are planned. This poster illustrates the challenges, considerations and progressive steps toward defining a framework informed in part by updating digital collections policies, understanding aspects of faculty Personal Information Management (PIM) and assessing the needs of disciplinary curricula. Such a framework will help archivists and scholars to identify and describe appropriate resources and explore new models for digital collections as well as form a valuable component of archives and digital collections outreach programs.

## About the Author:

*Steve Kutay* is a Digital Services Librarian at the California State University Northridge where he oversees digital projects involving collections held by Special Collections and Archives. He is currently working with faculty on collaborative digital collections to utilize expert knowledge and increase community involvement in primary source collections. Steve has twelve years' experience working in libraries and archives at UCLA, Cal Arts and the LA Philharmonic Association. In addition to digital heritage, his professional interests include archives and manuscripts, identity and media, and assessment. Steve earned his MLIS from UCLA.