Preserving Podcasts: An Institutional Repository Pilot Project

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University of Minnesota
SAA Research Forum
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Institutional podcasts

- The Osterholm Update: COVID-19
- The Moos Room
- Health In All Matters
- UMN EXT Youth Development Podcast
- The Field Guide Podcast
- Minnesota Crop News
- Strategic Farming: Field Notes
- What's Killing My Kale?
Institutional podcasts as university records

"Because most of the podcasting content focuses on classroom lectures, outreach, and student recruitment, the content falls mostly under the following functions: confer credentials, convey knowledge, sustain the institution, and provide public service…

Podcasts represent a new way to document this function."

Systematic effort to ingest as an electronic record

Lecture series as an institutional podcast documenting a function of the university
Student services produced podcast documents another function of the institution—fostering socialization.
Institutional podcasts as serial publications

Episodic podcasts are a serial publication with informational value leveraging the expertise of the academic program to engage the community.

What's killing my kale?

In "What's Killing My Kale?", get research based solutions to pest issues affecting fruit and vegetable crops from University of MN Extension. Learn how to manage weeds, insects, diseases, and more. Each month we'll have a three part podcast exploring one main issue from three different perspectives. "What's Killing My Kale?" is a part of the UMN Fruit & Vegetable News. Subscribe to their updates here.

To listen to an audio podcast, mouse over and click on the episode title. The podcasts are also available on iTunes and Stitcher.
Podcast response to a pandemic

March 19, 2020

Goodbye, for now: Daily temporarily halts podcasting after COVID-19 outbreak

This episode from the student newspaper’s podcast documents the halt of both print production (still ongoing) and podcasting (now resumed)
Survey of University Related Podcasts

The University of Minnesota Archives is conducting a survey to identify and locate University produced podcasts for long-term preservation. Podcasts have become an important digital publishing tool for the University to publicly share information and document activities.

Although easy to create and access via online players or apps, podcasts are highly vulnerable to loss due to the ease of which digital files can be changed, corrupted, or deleted. Likewise, podcasts that are platform-dependent for access can be more difficult to preserve when the hosting platform does not allow for podcast episodes to be downloaded.

From this survey, the University Archives seeks to document current as well as inactive podcasts produced by departments, offices, and student organizations affiliated with the University of Minnesota. From this survey, Archives staff expect to provide options for podcast producers to ensure the long-term preservation of their work and include recordings in the University Archives.
Number of episodes

Approximate number of episodes available in May 2020

Minimum: 2

Average: 19

Max: 163
Episode release schedule

- 31.4% weekly
- 31.4% occasionally
- 22.9% monthly
- 11.4% new episodes no longer produced
- 2.9% more than once a week
Access to the digital audio files

- 55.6% audio files available online
- 30.6% audio files saved to cloud
- 13.9% audio files not online but available on local network
Gathering files and metadata

MN Daily News: In The Know
https://feed.podbean.com/mndaily/feed.xml

Episode 84: Meet the new regents
April 1, 2021

In this episode, we talk to three newly elected regents about their backgrounds and goals for their six-year terms. The Minnesota State Legislature voted to elect four new regents: James Farnsworth, Kodi Verhalen, Ruth Johnson and Doug Huebsch. These four regents replaced Michael Hsu, Tom Anderson, Richard Beeson and Randy Simonson. In this episode, we get to know university student James Farnsworth, engineer and lawyer Kodi Verhalen and internal medicine physician Ruth Johnson.
Gathering files and metadata

MN Daily News: In The Know
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Episode 1: How We Got Here
Osterholm, Michael; Dall, Chris (2020)

Title
Episode 1: How We Got Here

Authors
Osterholm, Michael
Dall, Chris

Issue Date
2020-03-24

Type
Audio

Abstract
In the first episode of Osterholm Update: COVID-19, Dr. Osterholm and co-host Chris Dall discuss how we got here and what to expect in the weeks and months to come. We also discuss potential immunity after infection with the coronavirus, testing shortages, and finally, how we can support each other and be good neighbors in this new world.

Appears in collections
The Osterholm Update: COVID-19 Podcast [47]

Description
Runtime 46:02

Suggested Citation
Keeping up with a moving target

Through January-March 2021, we uploaded the 752 episodes from 23 podcasts for which we had gathered metadata and files. This represented the full run of those series, at the time.
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...but 6 of these podcasts actively produce new episodes on a weekly basis
Initial observations on use

Episodes that cover high-profile current events are being downloaded

Transcripts are more likely to be downloaded than the audio file
Some closing thoughts

Introducing "It Takes a Village: Child Welfare in a Pandemic"
Barry, Korina (2020)

Abstract
In the midst of this pandemic, CASCW (Center for Advanced Studies in Child Welfare) has begun a new series that highlights how COVID-19 is shifting the everyday lives and work of frontline child welfare professionals and the children and families they serve across the state of Minnesota. To protect one another, we must practice social distancing. But what does that mean for those of us in child welfare? Korina Barry speaks with professionals at all levels of the child welfare workforce to answer that question. Aside from insight and advice offered in each episode, what we find is that to continue the work of protecting children and families it takes all of us. It takes a village.

Appears in collections
CASCW Podcast [18]

Series/Report Number
It Takes a Village: Child Welfare in a Pandemic

Description
Runtime 01:46
Thank you!

Questions?

Contact us at moore144@umn.edu