Primary Applicant(s): Daniel C. Tsang
Campus: Irvine
Email: dtsang@uci.edu
Telephone: 949 824 4978

TITLE OF PROJECT: “Web Archiving to Excavate Hidden Collections.” (Presentation Grant)
Amount of Award Received: $750

Original Abstract as Submitted:

It is well known that web sites do not last forever and unless they are digitally captured and preserved, what was once online can disappear overnight. Open Access initiatives such as Internet Archive, are important, but no one entity can capture everything. The California Digital Library has for some years rolled out WAS – its Web Archiving Service – that aims to provide the technical means for academic libraries and research institutions to capture and curate web content systematically. This presentation uses lessons learned from utilizing WAS at University of California, Irvine, Libraries to capture hidden collections locally, regionally and internationally. The talk highlights the archiving issues and provides a checklist of emerging “best practices” in the collection development and archiving of online content. Given that the web traverses the globe issues of copyright and fair use are complicated. Should, for example, a U.S. library capture content posted online in Singapore, Hong Kong, Macau, or China? As Arab Spring and the Occupy Movement have demonstrated, the use of social media and web postings have proliferated and web archiving is one way to ensure that such content is preserved and made accessible to current and future researchers.

I. ACCOMPLISHMENTS and EVALUATION

• Describe what was achieved during the time period of the grant.

This was a presentation grant for travel so it enabled partial support for travel to University of Macau for attending the PRDLA conference in December 2014.

• What aspects were completed as proposed? If your study could not be completed as proposed, explain how your plans were altered.

All travel was completed.

• Did the project accomplish what it intended? Did it make a difference?
  o Include any relevant quantitative data, if applicable (e.g. How many individuals have benefited from this project? In what way? This may include various output measures such as circulation, reference transactions, program attendance, survey responses, etc. as appropriate.)
  o Include any anecdotes, if applicable.

About 50-60 attendees heard the presentation at the conference. There was great interest as many, especially librarians from Hong Kong and China, approached me individually to thank me for the presentation. I did follow-up talks at the IASSIST conference in Minneapolis in June. And will give a talk at University of Hong Kong in September 2015 as well as at the
University of Michigan in November 2015 as follow-ups, so there is lots of interest in web archiving.

- What would you do differently next time, if anything?
  
  Nothing

- What advice do you have for others applying for LAUC research grants?
  
  Apply for it as early as possible!

II. IS YOUR PROJECT COMPLETED?  Yes_x__ No__
If No, what is needed to complete the project?  Is more time needed?  Or more funds?

III. FINANCIAL STATEMENT
Please explain how the funds received were spent.  Attach your original budget and indicate how well your estimates matched with actual expenditures.  Receipts are not necessary.

Estimates were exact cost of air travel to Hong Kong which is next to Macau (I then took a Ferry to Macau and back to Hong Kong).  Estimates for air travel matched exactly. Original budget attached.

IV. SHARING YOUR PRODUCT/RESULTS
What are your plans for disseminating the results of your work? If it will be a web page or product, or published article or book, when will it be available to the public? Include citations/URLs if known.


V. NOTE
Information included in this report may be reprinted or posted on the web for dissemination to UCOP, other UC Libraries, and future potential LAUC grant applicants.