

Digital Futures

**Draft Document from the University of Florida
By Erich Kesse, Stephanie Haas, and Mark Sullivan**

With comment from FCLA's Priscilla Caplan

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This document represents the University of Florida Digital Library Center's action list for development of the shared digital library, the PALMM Collaborative. It should be understood to reflect a point in time.

- **Action Item:** Conduct strategic review of digitization services in the areas of both collections and technology, supplemented by stake-holder driven use-models (i.e., education modules).
 - **References:** PALMM/DDAC founding documents have been archived at <http://www.fcla.edu/csul/digit/digitpgnew.shtml> - cf, *Florida Heritage Collection*.
 - **Background:** PALMM was established as a collection of Floridiana. DDAC was established as the body responsible for its administration. [PC: not exactly, see my email on this.]

Collections

Secondary Action Item: Update collection development plans

While PALMM has remained largely a collection of Floridiana [PC: I'd prefer to phrase this, "While most PALMM collections focus on Floridiana"], the SULs have added other content in order to share resources. While DDAC representatives recently share digital project interests, it generally attempts to focus on specific areas, e.g., Electronic Theses and Dissertations. A general comprehensive review of digital collections development has not been concluded since before PALMM's initiation (cf, the Millennium Project proposal, <http://www.fcla.edu/csul/digit/pdf/flmill.pdf>).

Each SUL should contribute individually and collectively to the creation of a growth plan. Individual plans should identify institutional strengths and priorities envisioned for long term development.

Collection development without attention to collections use is ill-planned development. The primary missions of the state universities is teaching and research. Service to mission should be explicit in the growth plan(s).

Collection development plans should be three to five year projections, annually reviewed and updated. Annual assessments together with development information should be used as a public relations tool and to document achievement milestones taken from development plans.

Technology

Secondary Action Item: Update technology development plans

While FCLA and self-selecting SULs have attempted to keep the PALMM technology plan updated, documentation has not been updated since PALMM's inception and a general, comprehensive review has not been concluded since that time (cf, Three year plan [undated, circa 2000] at <http://www.fcla.edu/csul/digit/PALMMplan.shtml>).

Each SUL should contribute individually and collectively to the creation of a growth plan. Individual plans should identify institutional strengths and priorities envisioned for long term development.

Technology development without attention to collections use is ill-planned development. The primary missions of the state universities is teaching and research. Service to mission should be explicit in the growth plan(s).

Technology development plans should be three to five year projections, annually reviewed and updated. Annual assessments together with development information should be used as a public relations tool and to document achievement milestones taken from development plans.

[PC: I think it would be very helpful to have an FCLA/DLS technology plan developed with input from and approval by the DDAC. We do submit our development goals to CSUL quarterly, but these don't tend to be formally or systematically reviewed by DDAC, which might be a good idea. However, I'm not sure that the individual technology plans of the various SUL institutions are within the purview of an internal UF recommendation. Is the argument that, since PALMM collections may be hosted by individual libraries, the technologies used by the individual libraries are now the concern of the whole?]

Education Modules & Educational Technologies

Secondary Action Item: Develop educational uses plans

Granting agencies have tied the value of digital collections to education.

Our digital collections maintain traditions of traditional library service: they are resources to be consulted. But, they are used only when researchers come to them. They have not yet endeavored, in large part, to proactively support education.

PALMM Collections supporting education modules are few, currently limited to:

- PALMM *Aerial Photography : Florida* (cf, <http://www.uflib.ufl.edu/digital/collections/FLAP/Education/Index.htm>)
- PALMM *Florida Environments OnLine* (cf, <http://palmm.fcla.edu/feol/curric.html>)
- PALMM *Linking Florida's Natural Heritage* (cf, <http://palmm.fcla.edu/lfnh/currmat/EdModindex.html>)

Few PALMM collections support education modules and the majority of our major and most heavily used collections lack education modules entirely. Planning documents and well-intentioned effort have tied digital resources to the K-12 Sunshine State Standards for education in Florida. But, we've never proactively engaged the education community to use the PALMM collections for the development of educational grants for development of learning modules or to feed development of new educational technologies.

[PC: Just to be Devil's Advocate: We have reason to believe tying digital collections to K-12 makes them more attractive to the legislature. We're also good people who care about public education. So we really want to build education modules for K-12. But our collections are (in general) poorly suited to this use, schools teach to the FCAT, and our primary mission, as noted above, is teaching (13+) and research. Maybe we should look instead to building closer ties to our universities' own undergraduate curricula.]

Commercial Value of Digital Assets

Secondary Action Item: Develop guidelines for commercial reuse plans

Our digital assets have commercial as well as education value. Neither DDAC nor any individual SUL have official stated policies outlining their commercial interests. For example, there are no general tests or thresholds governing full public release of digital masters or for the commercial sale of off-prints and secondary products.

The number of PALMM collections with some sort of commercial plan are few, limited to:

- PALMM *Aerial Photography : Florida* (cf, <http://web.uflib.ufl.edu/digital/collections/FLAP/RequestforUse.htm>)

- PALMM *Mile Markers* (cf, <http://palmm.fcla.edu/mile/reproductions.shtml>)
- PALMM *Reclaiming the Everglades* (<http://everglades.fiu.edu/reclaim/repro.htm>)

[PC: This could be an interesting discussion. On the one hand, the individual libraries are the holders of the rights or permissions to their own materials, so you could argue there's no role for the collective here. On the other, common policy, pricing and sales infrastructure might be advantageous to everyone. Caveat, the only major study of charging models in cultural heritage institutions (the 2003 Mellon study) found that selling objects (images or products made from them) themselves barely recovered costs; the only money to be made was in selling rights for use in commercial publications.]

PALMM Contractual Relations

Secondary Action Item: Establish contractual relations for PALMM member institutions and for PALMM partners.

Review of UF proposed contract terms for partnership with non-SUL institutions revealed that the general PALMM partnership has no contractual terms. (The general contractual terms of the Florida Digital Archive should be investigated as a model for PALMM.)

Functional relations are generally worked out by SUL Directors on questions such as “*Should PALMM content be contributed to AmericanSouth.org, RLG Cultural Materials, the International Digital Children’s Library, or the Open Content Alliance?*” But, there are no formal restrictions on the use of materials by FCLA or other SULs once contributed to PALMM.

The PALMM *Literature for Children* collection illustrates two divergent attitudes toward the commercial value of resources and the limits on (accidental) unauthorized secondary uses of contributed content.

- UF ships digital masters together with Internet distributable copies to PALMM. It assumes that FCLA will not accidentally or unintentionally redistribute the masters. And, UF maintains a separate agreement with a vendor for the resale of its children’s literature. This agreement contractually limits redistribution of its digital master.

Should FCLA accidentally or unintentionally duplicate the masters (for example, should it send them to the Open Content Alliance), UF would be in violation of its contract. But, deposit of masters with FCLA ensures asset preservation.

- FSU, reportedly, ships only Internet distributable copies to PALMM for this collection.

Retaining its masters – preventing their accidental or unintentional redistribution beyond FCLA – ensures that they retain their full economic potential. But, retaining its masters locally, or, even sharing them under limiting contractual relations with FSU’s LOCKSS partners places the asset at risk. Loss of the masters or obsolescence of the copy masters would represent a loss not only to FSU but to all of the SULs.

Establishing contractual relations (individual SULs to FLCA per PALMM) would eliminate both risks by elaborating conditions of use, both re-use and secondary uses such as text or mark-up enhancements that might accidentally obviate original intent. At least one (benign?) case of the latter has already occurred, as UF replaced a FIU page image resource with a text searchable version.

- **Action Item:** Replace current FCLA Digital Library systems, supporting basic needs and facilitating connections to local SUL digital library systems.

- **Background:** Current systems are dated.
- **Background:** FCLA privately [PC: not that privately!] reports looking into three systems of differing levels of cost and difficulty to program and maintain. Greenstone is not among them. There is, as yet, no DDAC discussion of this item as the result of other DDAC discussions and tight schedules.

[PC: This is something FCLA is already engaged in, and we've invited participation of DDAC. So this item sounds a little odd as a recommendation. Also, I have a bit of an issue with "supporting basic needs," see my comment below.]

Secondary Action Item: Investigate user preferences and use of existing digital resources, particularly teaching and research uses.

We do not know exactly how our patrons are using our digital resources. Selection of new technologies, therefore, may be baseless with regard to user interests.

Qualifying the value of collections in teaching and research should be attempted through personal interviews, surveys, etc. Mechanisms to collect and assess qualitative information should be developed. Collection and assessment should be scheduled and periodic, perhaps delegated to Educational Technology programs at the various state universities or by a certified educational technology consultant.

Secondary Action Item: Build performance specifications for vending.

FCLA is currently trying to engage the SULs in their product reviews. However, there is no published draft set of performance specifications. Review, therefore, may be biased. DDAC has not yet address the issue. [PC: but presumably will next meeting.]

- **Desired Requirements:**

1. **Action Item:** Base systems should support basic needs of SULs not running their own (or contracted) digital library or Institutional Repository (IR) systems.

A base system is defined as offering support for single-image and related page-images. [PC: FCLA does not intend to limit collections we host to only "base system" functionality. We are committed to hosting images, text, audio and video. We may not offer certain very specialized services, such as GIS support.]

The following table outlines digital product types that UF believes the SULs are creating; the list is non-exclusive.

| SUL | Image | Text | Audio | Video | GIS |
|------|-------|------|-------|-------|-----|
| FAMU | ■ | ■* | | | |
| FAU | ■ | | ■ | | |
| FGCU | ■ | | | | |
| FIU | ■ | □† | □ | □ | ■ |
| FSU | ■ | ■*** | | | |
| NC | ■ | | | | |
| UCF | ■ | ■**† | | | |
| UF | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ |
| UNF | ■ | ■* | | | |
| USF | ■ | ■†† | ■ | ■ | ■ |
| UWF | ■ | | | | |

Image includes single-image items (e.g., maps, photos, etc.) and related page-image items (e.g., books, serials, etc.)

Text is fully searchable text with variable accuracy.

GIS relates to geographically referenced digital objects specifically not just to (numeric) data in a geographic information system

■ Data producer

□ Probable data producer, or, plans to produce data

* Produced by UF for another SUL

** Primarily *Florida Heritage Quarterly*

*** Primarily Electronic Theses and Dissertations

† May be produced by UF via *Digital Library of the Caribbean* (dLOC) partnership

†† Primarily oral history transcripts

■ Normally contributed to PALMM

■ Normally mounted locally

2. Action Item: Build broad metadata support for published local data structures.

SULs may need to use their data in ways not supported by FCLA. Some have already built or are in the process of building independent systems.

Systems should facilitate data (metadata, image, text) exchange to and from SULs running their own (or contracted) digital library or IR systems. It should not dictate local data elements or data structures (though it should exercise constructive advice in these areas). It should support mapping of local SUL to centralized SUL (i.e., FCLA, i.e., PALMM) metadata and vice versa.

- FIU..... May also be using contracted ProQuest Digital Commons Institutional Repository Service
- FSU DigiTool [primarily implied by system; if local data structure exists, it has not yet published]
May also be using contracted ProQuest Digital Commons Institutional Repository Service
- UCF CONTENTdm [local data structure not yet published], currently for Central Florida Memory only.
- UF..... Greenstone w/ UFDC (local) schema [published]
- USF CONTENTdm [currently procuring; local data structure not yet published]

[PC: I'm not sure what "broad metadata support for local data structures" entails. It seems to me as long as individual institutions make sure that the metadata they implement locally can be mapped to common interchange standards, data mapping among them should be possible.]

3. **Action Item:** FCLA should become an aggregator of all state financed (and grant facilitated) SUL created digital metadata and, optionally, other digital objects (e.g., images, text, etc.).

Currently, FCLA/PALMM proactively aggregates only the SUL's *Floridiana* – and largely under the rubric of the PALMM *Florida Heritage Collection*. A larger aggregate of *Floridiana* is also created by FCLA for the Florida Electronic Library as its *Florida on Florida* interface. FCLA has indicated that there may be more appropriate higher level aggregators outside Florida for other content.

Rationale: The existence of external higher level aggregators is true, but PALMM – through publicity to public schools and libraries in Florida – has made PALMM a frequently consulted resource. The increasing numbers of patrons, K-12 and beyond, who regularly consult PALMM believe that the SULs hold only what is in PALMM or their own local collections. Forcing patrons to find and look into the freely available digital collections of the other SULs is a disservice. Our institutions, for all of their overlap, maintain unique strengths and are building divergent collections that otherwise will not be shared.

PALMM should adopt a two uber-umbrella collections strategy: *Floridiana* and General Collections. The latter should hold freely available, locally digitized content of the SULs.

General Collections should be aggregated by any means necessary, including the Open Archives Initiative (OAI) protocols. Ideally content contributed to the Florida Digital Archive would be multi-purposed, with a copy of archived documents joining the PALMM collections.

[PC: Right now, anything cataloged in QF is aggregated via PALMM's "Search all PALMM collections" button. PALMM *Floridiana* is also aggregated with all other digital *Floridiana* in the state in *Florida on Florida*. The question of whether to aggregate other metadata at the SUS level is a good one that is squarely within DDAC's purview to recommend. One could argue as this does that PALMM users are well-trained and expect to find any digital resource held within the SUS in PALMM. On the other hand, one could argue that to users, "anything digitized in the SUS" is as meaningless as "anything published by Elsevier" – they look to thematically aggregated collections and don't care if the resource they want was digitized by FSU or by the Leon County Public Library. Since it is reasonably easy to aggregate metadata via OAI, this is really a question of services rather than technology. The question of whether to centrally aggregate content that is also stored locally is different from the question of aggregating metadata because it has some major cost implications. The cost/benefit analysis might be a hard sell.]

Secondary Action Item: Methods of collecting localized text, geographic information, and name authority records from the SULs maintaining their own digital collections should be a particular concern.

SULs may mount collections in local/institutional digital library systems for purposes of branding. But, they also do so to build and support services, e.g., geographic referencing and particular forms of data mining, not supported by FCLA.

Though this peculiar data may not be particularly supported by the current interests of DDAC/ other SULs, it is likely to become important as they mature. FIU and UF, for example, has spend considerable state, national and private resources to establish "ground truth" for their digital projects, so their digital objects can be associated with specific places as well as specific dates and authors. These projects in Florida and the Caribbean are likely to be of interest to the other SULs. UF, FIU, USF, and their local partners outside the SUL, in their Ephemeral Cities, project have dedicated considerable effort to building name and place authority records that support data mining from name rich resources such as newspapers and archival collections. Because people move and events do not always remain localized, this data will eventually become useful to other SULs.

Secondary Action Item: Concurrently, PALMM should relax its graphic interface design rules for PALMM collections contributed by a single SUL.

SULs' parent institutions are increasingly demanding institutional branding. And maturing digital programs at individual SULs increasingly need brand recognition to assist their individual applications for grant funds.

Creation of secondary graphical schemes represents unnecessary allocation of expenditure. Models of loose confederation and graphical representation may be found in the California Digital Library (<http://www.cdlib.org/> and <http://californiadigitallibrary.org/>) and the Colorado Digitization Program (<http://www.cdpheritage.org/>). DDAC has discussed relaxing standards to allow confederation, using the PALMM palm trees to indicate association; discussions were inconclusive.

Examples of PALMM Collections on an individual SUL's server(s) include:

- UF's GIS interface and search systems for PALMM *Aerial Photography : Florida* (<http://web.uflib.ufl.edu/digital/collections/FLAP/>)
N.B. SID format Images currently reside on FCLA servers but will be replaced by JPEG 2000 images residing on UF servers in 2006.
- USF's PALMM *Floridiana on the Web* (<http://www.lib.usf.edu/lds/digitalcollections/F03/html/>)
- FIU's PALMM *Miami Metropolitan Archive* (<http://miami.fiu.edu/index.htm>)
- FIU's PALMM *Reclaiming the Everglades* (<http://everglades.fiu.edu/reclaim/>)
This example is now not fully compliant with PALMM guidelines for collections.
- UF's PALMM *Ringling Collection* (<http://web.uflib.ufl.edu/digital/collections/theatre/ringling/index.htm>)

- UF's indexing & search systems for the PALMM *Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps of Florida* (<http://palmm.fcla.edu/sanborn/>)
N.B. SID format Images currently reside on FCLA servers but will be replaced by JPEG 2000 images residing on UF servers in 2006.
- UF's PALMM *University of Florida Herbarium Collections Catalog* (<http://www.flmnh.ufl.edu/natsci/herbarium/cat/>)
The Florida Museum of Natural History, a UF administered unit, recently mandated changes that move the interface beyond strict PALMM guidelines.

Several PALMM collections demonstrate institutional web pages in addition to PALMM pages:

- Mile Markers, a project of the Monroe County Public Library in collaboration with FIU.
PALMM version:<http://palmm.fcla.edu/mile/>
MCPL version:<http://www.mile-markers.org/>
- The United States Virgin Islands History and Culture collection, a project of the University of the Virgin Islands and its USVI partners in association with the University of Florida
PALMM version:<http://palmm.fcla.edu/usvi/>
UVI version:<http://uvial.uvi.edu/ims/project2002/2000.shtml>
The UVI version contains additional content, not yet available in PALMM.

4. Action Item: Revise ingest assumptions to support contribution of supplemental versions of a single item by more than one SUL.

Currently, ingest rules (i.e., programmed actions) assume that the original contributing SUL will be the contributor of all subsequent versions. Moreover, rules do not assume multiple versions such as a searchable text version supplementing a previously existing page-image version.

Rules should recognize that the interests of one SUL in any particular title may differ from those of another SUL and that a result may be the creation of versions with alternate uses. In this case, contrary to current rules supplemental versions should not replace previously existing version.

5. Action Item: Revise statistics for ingest and use of digital resources.

Production of statistics currently requires configuring a request. Statistics now available support reporting on gross collection numbers and use. They may be configured to report institutional use. They do not fully support ingest: ingested items, ingest volume, etc. If ingest to the Florida Digital Archive and PALMM are not simultaneous or concurrent, separate ingest data for each should be provided.

Canned and archived monthly reports should document ingest and use within collection and across all collections with individual and aggregate institution subsets; and, ingest and use by institution and across all institutions, including PALMM partners, with collection, umbrella and other subsets. Statistics should be configured for monthly and annual reporting with rate of change data for easy comparison with the previous month, the same month in the previous year, and the previous years. Statistics should be configured with graphical features for quick interpretation.

Reports should be sent automatically to the institutional DDAC representatives as well as being posted & archived online.

Statistics packages are notoriously unreliable. This task may require FCLA programming.

[PC note: At FCLA we've been thinking about making all statistics SUSHI/COUNTER compliant. That means the same stats would be available for licensed commercial resources, stuff in our Citation Server, stuff in the PALMM collections, etc.]

Secondary Action Item: Statistical data should be reported by PALMM collections residing on an SUL's server(s).

Currently, this data is not reported, largely due to the unreliability of statistics packages. This task likely will require programming at the SULs supporting their own digital collections.

Secondary Action Item: Report of items loaded should be sent to the SUL's digitization program as well as to its Catalog Department.

Both FCLA and the SULs need to work out more automatic means of verifying load. Methods of reporting items journaled off as the result of error also need to be assessed.

[PC: This is very easily done for the PALMM stuff. Just give us the emails who should get the notification.]

6. Action Item: Implement graphical branding of contributed content.

PALMM is the product of the SULs and FCLA. Outside Florida, while some of our colleagues have difficulty differentiating the UF Libraries from UF administered FCLA, FCLA is regarded as the owner of PALMM. SUL content shared with the AmericanSouth.org project, for example, illustrates the case, cf, <http://www.americansouth.org/archives.php>

[PC: This is a different problem from the one below. Some services built on OAI harvesters do not support the About element, so they have a one-to-one correlation between the broker from which they got the data and the source displayed. In other words, the problem, dear Brutus, lies not with the stars but with the AmericanSouth.]

The DDAC supports two approaches to graphical branding. The first approach is seen in PALMM Archival Collections (<http://findaid11.fcla.edu/cgi/f/findaid/findaid-idx?page=browsecolls> [click institutional *collection home* links]. This approach replaces the PALMM banner with the institutional banner. The second approach would have added linked institutional logos to the item level banners in other PALMM Collections but was never added. This second approach should be implemented.

[PC: as a recommendation from the author (Erich) to his director (Dale) this is fine, so long as it is not taken as a global recommendation from DDAC. You might want to add a sentence that DPPC considered this earlier and decided not to.]

The SULs draw on the recognition that branding creates to build support for grant projects and to cultivate funding.

7. Action Item: Update the PALMM standard and standard practices.

Standards change over time. It has been approximately five years since its standards have been reviewed in their entirety.

Some local (implementations of) standards are in need of creation, among these standards and practices for the creation of digitized audio and digitized

video. Previous DDAC discussion was inconclusive. SUL directors asked DDAC members to devise a grant application to implement these formats. We first need agreement on standards before moving into data production.

[PC: YES!]

▪ **Action Item:** Devise and adopt methods to reward granting that builds collections and experience.

- **Background:** Though not reflected in founding documents, one of PALMMs originating presumptions was that the Florida Heritage Project (FHP) would give the SULs experience and funds that would seed granting to enlarge digital content available to SUL communities and citizens of Florida.

The following is an incomplete list of digitization grants procured by the SULs and their partners both in and beyond Florida. The list does not include grants submitted but not funded. Every institution with SUL funding has contributed to PALMM *Florida Heritage Collection*. Institutional projects are listed in order of succession.

- FCLA... • IMLS funding to construct and implement the *Florida Digital Archive*. This effort does not build collections but will archive them to ensure their long-term availability.
- SUL..... • Two LSTA proposals of the general partnership submitted by FCLA to build and strengthen PALMM *Archival Collections*.
- FAMU.. • none to date
- FAU..... • FAU fundraising and FAU funds outside PALMM/FHP to produce PALMM *Yiddish Children's Books*.
- FGCU.. • Several environmental granting funds together with FGCU funds to produce PALMM *Southwest Florida Environmental Documents Collection*.
- FIU • Participating institution in IMLS-funded PALMM *Linking Florida's Natural Heritage*.
 - LC/Ameritech funding to construct PALMM *Reclaiming the Everglades*.
 - LSTA support and FIU funds outside PALMM/FHP for a PALMM Everglades Digital Library.
 - Participating (reference service providing) institution in PALMM *Eric Eustace Williams* collection.
 - FAU and Miami-Dade government funds to build PALMM *Miami Metropolitan Archive*.
 - Participating institution in IMLS funded forthcoming PALMM *Ephemeral Cities*.
 - Lead institution in partnership with UCF, UF and the University of the Virgin Islands to build the *Digital Library of the Caribbean* (dLOC) (US Dept. Ed. TICFIA). This project has several international partners contributing content.
- FSU..... • Partner institution with other southeastern institutions to build and test LOCKSS as part of the National Digital Infrastructure Project (NDIP). This effort does not build collections but does inform archival concerns.
- NC..... • none to date

- UCF • LSTA and IMLS funding for multiple phases of UCF and partners' *Central Florida Memory*, which is *not yet* a PALMM Collection.
 - Participating institution in US Dept. of Education TICFIA funded *Digital Library of the Caribbean*. This project has several international partners contributing content.
- UF • Lead institution in IMLS funded construction of PALMM *Linking Florida's Natural Heritage*.
 - UF funds outside PALMM/FHP to produce the PALMM *Ringling Collection* and PALMM *Psychological Study of the Arts*
 - UF Levin College of Law funding to construct PALMM *Florida Historical Legal Documents*.
 - UF fundraising to digitize the *Papers of Governor C. Farris Bryant*, part of PALMM *Archival Collections*.
 - Two LSTA grants to produce PALMM *Aerial Photography Florida*. NEH funding in multiple phases to build PALMM *Literature for Children*.
 - Continuing UF funds outside PALMM/FHP to produce the PALMM *University of Florida Herbarium*, PALMM *Eric Eustace Williams* collection, and the PALMM *World Map Collections*.
 - UF funds outside PALMM/FHP to enhance PALMM *Sanborn® Fire Insurance Maps of Florida* with location indexing; IMLS and environmental granting agency funds to georectify map sets.
 - Lead institution in IMLS funded forthcoming PALMM *Ephemeral Cities*.
 - UF Levin College of Law fund-raising to build the forthcoming PALMM *Florida Water Law*.
 - Florida House funding to digitize the (forthcoming) *Florida House Journal*, joining PALMM *Florida Historical Legal Documents*.
 - Participating institution in US Dept. of Education TICFIA funded *Digital Library of the Caribbean*. UF is the lead technology institution. This project has several international partners contributing content.
- UNF • none to date; though UNF is contributing newspaper content to the UF NDNP grant.
- USF • Verizon (GTE) funding to produce PALMM *Floridiana on the Web*.
 - Participating institution in IMLS funded forthcoming PALMM *Ephemeral Cities*.
- UWF • none to date; though UWF is using UWF funds currently to produce a proposed PALMM *West Florida Photograph Collection*.

Sharing of expertise and general partnerships have added grant funded contributions from non-SUL institutions.

- MCPL • LSTA funding for the construction of PALMM Mile Markers. Monroe County Public Library is a FIU partner.
- SWFLN .. • LSTA funding contributing three regional collections to PALMM *Florida Heritage*. SWFLN is a FGCU and UF partner.
- UVI • IMLS funding for the construction of PALMM *United States Virgin Islands History and Culture*. UVI is a UF and FIU partner.
 - Participating institution in US Dept. of Education TICFIA funded *Digital Library of the Caribbean*. This project has several international partners contributing content.

- UWI..... • Participating institution in PALMM *Eric Eustace Williams* collection. The University of the West Indies (St. Augustine, Trinidad & Tobago) is a UF and FIU partner. UVI, itself, partners with other content providing institutions in the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Other institutions in partnership with individual or multiple SULs include, among others, the following content providing institutions:

- Florida Association of Architects
- Florida Geological Survey
- Florida House
- Florida National Guard
- International Conference in Literature and Psychology
- Institute for Psychological Study of the Arts

[PC: Nice inventory. Would be nice to have this available in some form on our swiki.]

Secondary Action Item: Require SULs to mount their grant proposals online and submit the URLs to an FCLA registry.

The most difficult part of writing a grant is getting started, followed quickly by budgeting and narrative flow. Availability of successful grants will be a resource for institutions seeking new grant funds. (UF currently maintains the narratives of several grants on-line and has digitized and is preparing to mount others retrospectively in the near future.)

Secondary Action Item: Concurrently, the SUL's FHP funds should be released to leverage grants (as cost-share) regardless of the grant subject.

If a grant project is designed to build digital collections freely available to all of the SULs, the project merits this small amount of fiscal support, particularly when the subject of the grant is Florida.

Secondary Action Item: Further, remove regional politics from the process of garnering SUL support.

If a grant project builds collections for one SUL, it builds them for all SULs. And, while typically the subject matter added may not support local or regional interests, it builds expertise that can be shared and might expand to incorporate an excluded region's interests (e.g., the UF NDNP grant : grant guidelines [type of source document and date ranges] excluded much of south Florida; the resulting infrastructure and subsequent calls for proposals likely to release restrictions will include south Florida).

▪ **Action Item:** Invert the rationale for the Florida Heritage Project funding model.

- **Background:** Florida Heritage builds digital library systems skills at FCLA and self-selecting SULs. It builds collections that support individual or all SULs. At the same time, we do not ensure retention of value via asset archiving.

Secondary Action Item: For centrally funded locally created digital resources, require contribution to the *Florida Digital Archive* rather than to the centralized user interface, PALMM.

Our real collective asset is not the presence of digital resources in PALMM, but the preservation of those assets in the *Florida Digital Archive*. Currently, we require deposit in PALMM but make deposit in the *Archive* optional. The inverse should be true.

[PC: An interesting point. If the asset was created with SUS funds, shouldn't we require it be archived?]

Secondary Action Item: Determine criteria for decentralized public presence for Floridiana.

It does not matter where digital resources reside, as long as

- (a) masters have been appropriately preserved and documents in accord with CLIR recommendations and growing national consensus, and
- (b) user interfaces are reliably available.

Assuming other reasons for aggregating other collections, it ultimately does not matter where individual items reside as long as they can be brought together through metadata and a set of common, user-predictable behaviors can be applied across an aggregate. There is no reason to require that the digital objects (beyond metadata about those objects) be centralized. USF, for example, has demonstrated that it can maintain PALMM *Floridiana on the Web* remotely from FCLA digital library services. And, FCLA has demonstrated that it can bring metadata together from several Floridiana collections to aggregate them to meet user expectations.

[PC: Metadata aggregation is good, but not perfect. Since the harvested metadata is dumbed-down to the lowest common denominator, richness is lost, along with certain search capabilities. Different controlled vocabularies and data entry practices add to incompatibility. And you can't make full text search available without the full text. So a centrally stored collection (no matter where it is stored) will always offer a better user experience than a high-level metadata aggregation. That said, there are things we could do, along the lines of common standards and practices, that would ameliorate some of these problems. (See the guidelines the DLF is developing in relation to the Aquifer project.)]