The UC Curation Center (UC3): Developing Tools & Services for Managing Research

Objectives:
As part of the California Digital Library, the UC Curation Center (UC3) provides resources, tools, and services to a wide range of researchers across the University of California system and beyond. We are working to create a comprehensive set of tools and services to assist researchers throughout the research and data lifecycles. These include the EZID identifier service; the Merritt Repository for preservation and access to digital assets; the DataUp tool for quality checking, documenting and sharing tabular datasets; the DMPTool web application for creating data management plans; the DataShare software tool for documenting and archiving datasets; and the Web Archiving Service (WAS) for preserving websites. Many of these projects involve partners both within the UC system and beyond, and represent successful collaborations with museums, libraries, researchers, and funders. Our future plans include making our software open and reusable, and collaborating with other tools and services such as ORCID, Databib, and altmetrics services.

On-going activities:
Because the field of data curation is evolving rapidly, we watch the landscape for strategic new content, technologies, and partnerships. This means supporting existing collections, functionality, and customers while enhancing our APIs and UIs to support new kinds of content and new features. The approach applies to multiple services and partnerships, including the Merritt and ONEShare repositories, WAS, DMPTool, EZID, and DataUp. For example, in the coming year DataUp will be enhanced in a new partnership with Microsoft Research Connections and the San Diego Supercomputer Center, and EZID content will be exposed to Thomson-Reuters' Data Citation Index while, thanks to a partnership with JISC, we will be replicating EZID's US-based resolver in the UK and adding support for URNs. We also hired new postdoctoral researcher for the sole purpose of investigating data publication. As usual we will continue to blog about and present our work in webinars and at professional conferences, as well as to maintain our partnerships with campuses, data centers, and major initiatives such as DataONE, DataCite, and the Research Data Alliance.

Results:
Our active pursuit of data curation support has paid dividends. We are founding members of the DataCite consortium, designed to establish the common practice of citing and obtaining credit for sharing and archiving data products. UC3’s Merritt and ONEShare repositories were among the first wave of NSF DataONE/DataNet nodes, the latter being the first open, low-barrier archive specifically designed for tabular data deposit by all comers. Moreover, our WAS service is the oldest and largest university-based web archiving service. Our collections comprise over 70 TB of content and our cost recovery programs enjoy over 75 paying customers from around the world. The EZID service is one of the few repository-agnostic, scheme-agnostic identifier services; as the fastest growing DataCite member, it currently supports over 800,000 DOI and ARK identifiers. The DMPTool is growing even faster, with over 5000 plans created and more than 100 partners. We have concluded or are engaged in a string of successful projects with funding from Microsoft Research, the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation, the Institute of Museum and Library Services, the Library of Congress, and the National Science Foundation.

URL: http://www.cdlib.org/services/uc3/