Press and Library Partnering to Support Digital Scholarship at University of Michigan

P2L Lightning Round
June 20, 2018

Charles Watkinson
Director, University of Michigan Press
Associate University Librarian, Publishing
We committed to producing this
We knew it would be complicated. How would a reader discover and acquire all the components of this work?

How do we peer review and quality assure this kind of new-form work?

How can we structure this data so it can be linked with other data?

How do we preserve something like this 3D model?
We all worked together internally (w/cookies)

1. Lead Author, Classics
2. Acquisitions Editor (UMP)
3. Publishing Technologist (UMP)
4. Digital Preservation Librarian (UML)
5. Data Librarian (UML)
6. Writing Consultant (Writing Center)

Not shown:
7. Copyright Specialist (UML)
8. Accessibility Specialist (UML)
9. Research Impact Librarian (UML)
10. Diversity specialist (UML)
We tried to persuade people we knew to help

- EBSCO
- ProQuest
- OCLC

DISCOVERY

PRESERVATION

Samvera Fedora

Academic Preservation Trust / Digital Preservation Network
We learned some things

• Faculty members turn up and engage when the talk is about “publishing” in a way they don’t when it is about “scholarly communication”

• Faculty members generally don’t know what they want when designing a digital scholarship product – they need help making choices from the smorgasbord of digital affordances.

• The concept of “constraint” is important when talking about digital scholarship projects, and faculty members are more amenable to hearing “no” from a publisher than a librarian.

• Like when the dwarves first meet Bilbo in The Hobbit, it’s important to introduce specialists to faculty members one-by-one or in small groups, not all at once.

• Role and responsibilities between libraries and publishers in the digital scholarship space are blurring. Engaging with real case studies help work these out.
It all turned out fairly well