DIGITAL LIBRARY SERVICES

ibali
Digital Collections UCT

omeka s

iiif

Ibali: Digital Collections UCT
Developing Showcase Sites
with Omeka S and IIIF at UCT Libraries

UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN
IYUNIVESITHI YASEKAPA · UNIVERSITEIT VAN KAAPSTAD
LIBRARIES

DLS Team

05th March
12:00 - 12:30
Open Data Day

Dr. Sanjin Muftic
(Digital Scholarship Specialist)

Digital Library Services

- Showcasing: one platform, many needs, even more stories

- A tour of Ibali: https://ibali.uct.ac.za

- Status and Future Plans

Showcasing:

one platform, many needs, even more stories

- **University User (researcher/group) Demand** for

  – Showcasing collections of digital objects

  – "Cool" looking websites

- **Institutional Demand** for

  – Managing online resources of the university

  – Showcasing certain digital objects in special collections

  – A sustainable platform to engage with an audience for

     digital collections

- Support a central location for showcasing collections of digital objects through infrastructure and guidance

- Support members of the UCT community and affiliates to build and *enhance the showcasing* of collections towards **L**inked **O**pen **D**ata (LOD) and FAIR (***F**indable **A**ccessible **I**nteroperable and **R**eusable*) data practices.
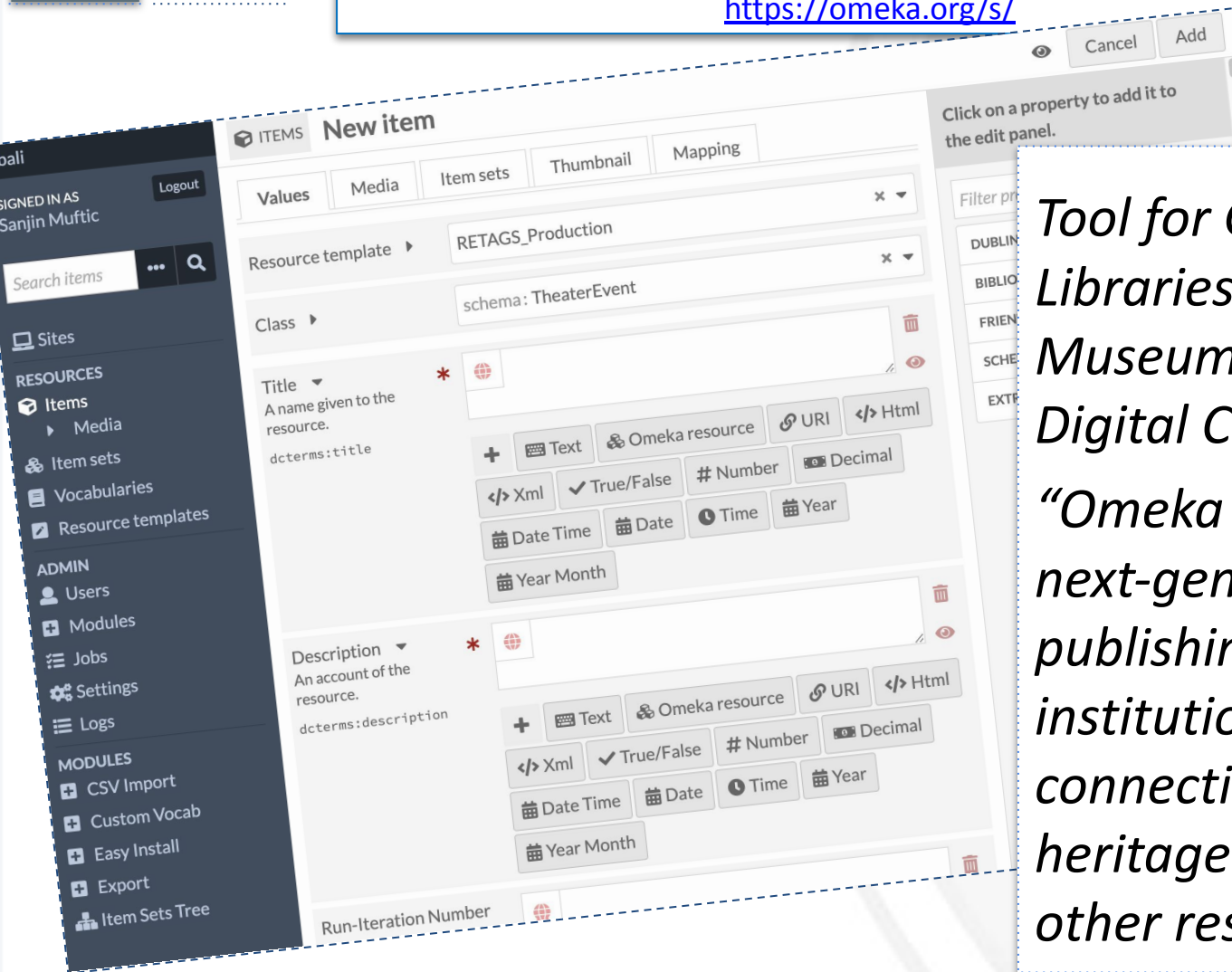
- **SHOWCASE** media and digital objects in a structured manner
  - Adhering that all collections are enhanced with basic metadata
  - Housing it under the university umbrella
  - Enhancing digital objects towards FAIR practices to enable linking with external sites (*F*indable *A*ccessible *I*nteroperable *R*eusable)
- Outsource collection building to the researcher groups who want to showcase collections

- Showcase platform running **Omeka-S** and **IIIF**
- isiXhosa for story (selected by library staff)
- Visitors "write" their own **stories** through exploring collections
- Not only about the content, but how well *the site weaves the content*.
  – How many useful **links and connections** within and across collections can be built?
- Digital Media Objects part of a digital planetary network

Omeka S

https://omeka.org/s/

Tool for GLAM (Galleries Libraries Archives and Museums) to showcase Digital Collections

"Omeka S is a next-generation web publishing platform for institutions interested in connecting digital cultural heritage collections with other resources online.'

INSTALL ONCE

Create and manage many sites with a streamlined installation of Omeka S.

CONNECT TO THE SEMANTIC WEB

Publish items with linked open data.

SHARE WITH DPLA

Describe items with DPLA-ready resource templates.

EXTEND AND BUILD

Extend functionality of Omeka S sites with modules to map, collect, import, ar...

DESIGN WITH EASE

Style each Omeka S site with a different fully-responsive theme to fit any scr...

Omeka S's primary focus is on organizing elements of a collection such that the links in between items and the greater elements of the internet are strengthened.

All items "tagged" through a form.

Items - many different kinds

- **Climate Change & Sustainability Resources**

  A repository of open access educational support materials focusing on climate change and related topics

- **Reimagining Tragedy in African and the Global South**

  Comprising of oral histories, archival productions, practice-as-research productions and publications, this digital site showcases the living archive of the 5-year research project: Reimagining Tragedy in African and the Global South.

- **Works of Art Collection**

  Showcase site of the Works of Art Collection of UCT promoting a vibrant and dynamic visual arts presence by building a collection of works of art in line with the University's vision and mission

Status and Future Plans

Digital Curation Workflow

Adapted from: Constantopoulos, P and Dallas, C. (2006). Aspects of a digital curation agenda for cultural heritage. [online] Available at: http://www.dcu.gr/wp-content/uploads/2016/10/Aspects-of-a-digital-curation-agenda-for-cultural-heritage.pdf

What we like so far?

- Separation between Items and Sites/Pages

- Ability to reformat and relabel your metadata properties

- Connection to Linked Open Data Vocabs/Properties

- Ability to customize and enhance through modules

- Site "Look and Feel" limited to themes
  - to customize requires a bit of development
- Setting up an Institutional Instance (showcase repository)
  - answering future forward organizational questions
  - different levels of advocacy / engagement
- Requires Interdisciplinary Partnerships
  - liaison with IT department is crucial

- Not just an unstructured WEBSITE

- Focus on the **digital objects**, how to *describe them* and how *their descriptions can create connections* and relationships.

  - Requires a level of curation before showcasing

- The linked data structure allows users to explore those connections.

- **Pages** can highlight the connections a user wants to expose and tell their stories

1. Users can create collections and describe items a**s they wish** using a combination of **structured metadata properties**

2. Items can be "showcased" in sites in a *multitude of ways* allowing for countless stories and different views

3. Partnerships between users (and their **Data Stewards**) and DLS offers *guidance* and *support* towards a showcase site and builds a *community of practice*

If **digital tools and methods are to become a more integral and iterative** part of scholarly work, traditional modalities may simply not suffice as they do not allow integrated dynamic content and access to data and media environments – an **increase in alternative types of academic production**, pushed by accessibility to digital production and interest in experimental modes of expression, as well as a connection to art-based research practices.

These modes of production, the digital ones, affect the fields of humanities.

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...the 'glocalisation' of culture that becomes possible through the use of digital technologies has given us unprecedented access to voices, stories, ideas and views from cultures other than our own, thus resisting cultural hegemony and homogenization. [...] **digitization has the potential to make Africans producers and exporters of indigenous information, rather than merely passive consumers of imported knowledge**. Digital art has enabled African cultures to affirm their creative identities in a global space.

(Bischoff, 2017)

LIBRARIES

DIGITAL LIBRARY SERVICES

Monthly Meetings 2021 sharing the collections, sites and progress on the Ibali Platform: Register here

Ibali Indabas @ UCTL GLAM Lab

online workshops introducing Omeka S

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🐦 @DigitalUct

uct-dls.slack.com

Data Stewards Community

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http://www.digitalservices.lib.uct.ac.za/

UCT DMP   omeka s   arkivum   ZivaHub
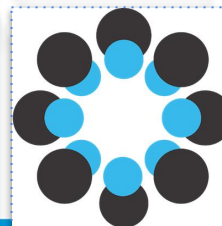   Bringing archived data to life   Open Data UCT

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