Digital Preservation Network and the Texas Digital Library

About the DPN

The Digital Preservation Network (DPN) is a long-term preservation solution shared collectively across the academy that protects local and consortia preservation efforts against all types of catastrophic failure.

The DPN is a planned “dark archive” for preserving materials that are not actively used or accessed, but can be made available for use at any time from multiple storage facilities. The DPN digital preservation service guarantees academic institutions that their scholarly resources will be available in the event of any type of change in administration or physical institutional environments.

How DPN Works

In the DPN ecosystem, local repositories become contributing nodes, which ingest new collections. The DPN creates several federated, replicating nodes, which are digital repositories for the contributing nodes with a specific focus on long-term preservation; one of these federated replicating nodes is the Texas Preservation Node located in Austin. Other replicating nodes in the DPN ecosystem are located in California (Chronopolis and Stanford), Michigan (Hathitrust), and Virginia (APTrust).

The replicating nodes contain redundant dark copies of all deposits that can be made available in cases of catastrophic loss. The diversity of the DPN nodes mitigates the risk of a single point of failure. Objects and metadata are replicated across nodes that embody organizational, technical, physical, and political diversity. A single point of failure cannot jeopardize centuries of scholarship. You can learn more about DPN at http://dpn.org.

Texas Preservation Node

The Texas Preservation Node, one of the replicating nodes of the Digital Preservation Network, is a partnership between the University of Texas at Austin Libraries, the Texas Digital Library (TDL, and the Texas Academic Computing Center (TACC). The Texas Preservation Node is one of five DPN preservation nodes, located throughout the United States. Storage for the Texas Preservation Node is located at TACC.

The Texas Preservation Node leverages the DuraCloud™@TDL service to ingest and monitor materials deposited to DPN. Members of the TDL have the opportunity to preserve content through the DPN Texas Preservation Node beginning in 2016.
Membership and Costs

At launch, TDL members may use the Texas Preservation Node to deposit content into DPN under one of two models:

1) Under their own full DPN membership
2) Under the TDL’s consortial DPN membership

If ingesting content under the TDL membership in 2016, a TDL member incurs no setup costs or additional membership fees. Members ingesting content will pay a one-time fee of $4,900/terabyte for the content they ingest, which will cover preservation services for 20 years.

Each member depositing content to DPN must sign a Deposit Agreement with DPN.

As we discussed at the members meeting last fall, the current agreement for TDL members to utilize DPN is a provisional one (for 2016), but TDL is actively working with DPN staff and its membership committee to develop a formal “consortial membership” category for DPN that will work for TDL’s members beyond the current year.

Getting Started

1) Contact the Texas Digital Library (TDL) at: support@tdl.org to request the DPN service.
   o A representative at your institution will need to be identified as the contact person who will be responsible for ingesting materials to the DPN.
2) Sign a DPN Deposit Agreement
   o TDL will facilitate communication with DPN staff.
3) Establish an account and receive training.
   o The TDL staff will work with your institution’s liaison to establish a DuraCloudTM @TDL account and arrange training.
4) Work with the TDL to establish integration tools.
   o TDL will work with your staff to install and test the DuraCloud Sync ingestion tools.

Additional information about the Texas Preservation Node and DPN is available at https://tdl.org/dpn/.