Love the One You Use: CONTENTdm and Oral History Collections

Integrating Digital Media Asset Streaming into CONTENTdm for Oral History Collections

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Archives and Special Collections
Ball State University Libraries
FEATURED COLLECTION

Ball State University Campus Photographs

This collection provides online access to over 20,000 digitized photographs documenting the history of Ball State University. Images in the collection depict events, activities, students and faculty, and the growth and development of Ball State from normal school to university.

NEW COLLECTIONS

- Snider & Rotz Engineering Records
- Charles W. Brown Planetarium Collection
- Muncie High School Consolidation Oral History Project
- Beneficence: A History of Ball State Teachers College

Digital Media Repository (DMR)  http://libx.bsu.edu
Institutional Context

• Organizational Structure
  • Ball State University → Office of Information Technology → University Libraries

• Library Units Involved
  • Archives and Special Collections
  • Metadata and Digital Initiatives (MADI)
  • Library Information Technology Services (LITS)

• Digital Media Repository Working Group
BSU Digital Library Program Milestones

• 2002: Arthur Hafner hired as Dean of University Libraries
• 2004: CONTENTdm purchased; new positions created
• 2005 Feb: First digital collections (5,000 photographs)
• 2005 Apr: First digital video collection (WWII films)
• 2007: First audio oral history collection
• 2009: First video oral history collection
Oral Histories

- 12 collections
- 561 interviews
  - 337 audio
  - 224 video
- 1969-2015
- Ball State faculty & alumni
- Military veterans
- Labor unions
- Local African American, Catholic, & Jewish communities
- Significant community events

**376th Heavy Bombardment Group Oral Histories**

The 376th Heavy Bombardment Group Oral Histories includes audio and video oral histories with veterans serving in the 376th Heavy Bombardment Group during World War II.

**Ball State University African American Alumni Oral Histories**

The Ball State University African American Alumni Oral Histories collection provides online access to 20 interviews conducted with African Americans who attended or worked at Ball State University between 1950 and 2010 regarding their lives, careers, and college or graduate school experiences. Interviews were conducted and recorded by Ball State University Honors College and Public History Program students enrolled in the Oral History Workshop Immersive learning course during the spring of 2015 under the direction of Dr. Michael Doyle, Director of Public History Program and Associate Professor in the Ball State University Department of History.

**Ball State University Faculty Oral Histories**

The Ball State University Faculty Oral Histories collection provides access to audio recordings and transcripts of 27 interviews with retired Ball State faculty and administrators regarding their experiences at and the history of Ball State University.

**Ball State University Oral History Workshop**

The Ball State University Oral History Workshop was established in 2003 by Dr. Michael Wm. Doyle, an associate professor of history and director of the Public History Program. Its mission is to instruct and supervise students in an immersive-learning course on how to record long-form interviews with eye-witnesses to significant events in the past for the sake of posterity.

**Cantigny First Division Oral Histories**

The Cantigny First Division Oral Histories digital collection includes high definition video oral history interviews with veterans of the U.S. Army's First Infantry Division, commonly known as the 'Big Red One.'

**Crowder, Daniel B. Oral Histories**

The Daniel B. Crowder Oral Histories digital collection provides online access to 16 taped interviews from the United Automobile, Aerospace and Agricultural Implement Workers of America (UAW-CIO) Local 287 members of Muncie, Indiana.

**Grant County (Indiana) Veterans Oral Histories**

The Grant County (Indiana) Veterans Oral Histories collection provides online access to digitized audio recordings and transcripts of 64 oral history interviews with U.S. military veterans from Grant County conducted by Marion High School students between 1998 and 2004.

**Hooten, Mary Ann Peace Movement Oral Histories**

The Mary Ann Hooten Peace Movement Oral Histories digital collection includes 8 audio files with accompanying transcripts that document the peace movement at Ball State University during the late 1960s and into the 1970s.

**Indiana Academy Oral History Project**

This collection includes 91 audio recordings, video recordings, and transcripts of oral history interviews conducted by students of the Indiana Academy for Science, Mathematics, and Humanities with fellow students as well as with Academy faculty and staff. The interviews document the interviewee’s experiences at and reflections of the Indiana Academy; topics discussed include academics, student life, and school administration.

**Middletown Digital Oral Histories**

The Middletown Digital Oral History digital collection consists of audio and accompanying transcriptions for oral history interviews conducted with African American, Jewish and Catholic communities of Muncie, Indiana.

**Muncie High School Consolidation Oral History Project**

The Muncie High School Consolidation Oral History Project digital collection consists of videos and transcripts for twenty-five oral history interviews focusing on the consolidation of Muncie Southside High School and Muncie Central High School. In the fall of 2013, the Muncie Community Schools Board of Trustees decided to combine the two schools and implemented that change in August 2014. At that time, Muncie Central became the district’s sole public high school. The collection includes interviews with school board members, community leaders, and members of the community at large.

**Vietnam Era Veterans Oral Histories**

The Vietnam Era Veterans Oral History Project includes interviews with WWII veterans conducted by Ball State University student Michael Whisler.
Digital Oral History Collection Workflow

The Muncie High School Consolidation Oral History Project digital collection consists of videos and transcripts for twenty-five oral history interviews focusing on the consolidation of Muncie Southside High School and Muncie Central High School. In the fall of 2015, the Muncie Community Schools Board of Trustees decided to combine the two schools and implement that change in August 2014. At that time, Muncie Central became the district’s sole public high school. The collection includes interviews with school board members, community leaders, and members of the community at large. They highlight perceptions of the process that led to the consolidation and the initial impact of this change. Significantly, the interviews help contextualize this change within the broader scope of Muncie’s economic and social history. This collection captures an important event in local history and creates a resource for scholars studying economic and social change in the nation’s “Middletown.”

The Muncie High School Consolidation Oral History Project was directed and supported by Ball State University’s Center for Middletown Studies and funded by The Community Foundation of Muncie & Delaware County. C. Warren Vander Hill and Rich Uzdowski conducted the interviews between September 2014 and June 2015.

The project also facilitated the collection of archival materials related to the consolidation and the history of Muncie Community Schools. The Muncie Community Schools High School Consolidation Records are available to researchers in the Ball State University Libraries Archives and Special Collections.
# Oral History Collection Workflow:

## 1. Selection and Description (Archives)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Video Identifier</th>
<th>Transcript Identifier</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Interviewer</th>
<th>Interviewee</th>
<th>Original Date</th>
<th>Description</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MSS0003_BrunsmannInterview.mov</td>
<td>MSS0003_BrunsmannInterviewTranscript.pdf</td>
<td>Brunsmann, Aaron video oral history and transcript</td>
<td>Uzdowski, Rich</td>
<td>Brunsmann, Aaron</td>
<td>2015-04-06</td>
<td>Interview with Aaron Brunsmann, a resident of Muncie Southside.</td>
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<td>MSS0003_FieldsInterviewTranscript.pdf</td>
<td>Fields, Bill video oral history and transcript</td>
<td>Uzdowski, Rich</td>
<td>Fields, Bill</td>
<td>2014-10-01</td>
<td>Interview with Debbie Feick, member of the Muncie Community Schools Board of Trustees.</td>
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<td>MSS0003_FoxInterview.mov</td>
<td>MSS0003_FoxInterviewTranscript.pdf</td>
<td>Fox, Timothy video oral history and transcript</td>
<td>Uzdowski, Rich</td>
<td>Fox, Timothy</td>
<td>2015-02-07</td>
<td>Interview with Bill Fields, a resident of Muncie's south side and parent of a Muncie Southside High School graduate.</td>
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<td>MSS0003_KelleyInterviewTranscript.pdf</td>
<td>Kelley, Beverly video oral history and transcript</td>
<td>Vander Hill, C. Warren, 1937-1982</td>
<td>Kelley, Beverly</td>
<td>2014-11-13</td>
<td>Interview with Bev Kelley, member of the Muncie Community Schools Board of Trustees. Kelley was one of the board to vote against the closure of Muncie Southside High School and Wilson Middle School.</td>
</tr>
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</table>
# Oral History Collection Workflow:

## 2. Metadata Conversion, Enrichment, and Ingest (MADI)

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Video Identifier</th>
<th>Media Identifier</th>
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<td>2015-04-16 2015-04-16</td>
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<td>&quot;Brunsmann, Aaron&quot;</td>
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<td>&quot;Vander Hill, C. Warren, 1937.&quot;</td>
<td>&quot;Burkhardt, Mark&quot;</td>
<td>2015-01-08 2015-01-08</td>
<td>&quot;Interview with Mark Burkhardt, Emeritus Chief Financial Officer for Muncie Community Schools (1955-2010).&quot;</td>
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<td>&quot;Usdowski, Rich&quot;</td>
<td>&quot;Collins, Dave&quot;</td>
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<td>&quot;Interview with Dave Collins, a 1989 graduate of Muncie Southside High School.&quot;</td>
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<td>&quot;Feick, Debbie video oral history and transcript&quot;</td>
<td>&quot;Vander Hill, C. Warren, 1937.&quot;</td>
<td>&quot;Feick, Debbie&quot;</td>
<td>2014-10-30 2014-10-30</td>
<td>&quot;Interview with Debbie Feick, member of the Muncie Community Schools Board of Trustees.&quot;</td>
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<td>2014-10-01 2014-10-01</td>
<td>&quot;Interview with Bill Fields, a resident of Muncie's south side and parent of a Muncie Southside High School graduate.&quot;</td>
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<td>&quot;Usdowski, Rich&quot;</td>
<td>&quot;Fox, Timothy&quot;</td>
<td>2015-02-07 2015-02-07</td>
<td>&quot;Interview with Tim Fox, Chair of the Department of Modern Foreign Languages and Cultures at Anderson University and parent of a Muncie Central High School student.&quot;</td>
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<td>&quot;Gregory, Connie&quot;</td>
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<td>&quot;Interview with Connie Gregory, a 1964 graduate of Muncie Southside High School.&quot;</td>
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<td>&quot;Harless, Kenya&quot;</td>
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<td>&quot;Interview with Kenya Harless, a 1996 graduate of Muncie Southside High School.&quot;</td>
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<td>&quot;Johnson, James video oral history and transcript&quot;</td>
<td>&quot;Usdowski, Rich&quot;</td>
<td>&quot;Johnson, James&quot;</td>
<td>2015-03-05 2015-03-05</td>
<td>&quot;Interview with James Johnson, a 1985 graduate of Muncie Central High School.&quot;</td>
<td>MSSD003_JohnsonInterviewTranscript.pdf</td>
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Oral History Collection Workflow:
3. Audio/Video Files Uploaded to Mediasite (MADI)
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Oral History Collection Workflow:

4. Mediasite Links Added to Metadata (MADI)

“http://mymediasite.bsu.edu/bsu40/Play/2222c31bb55f41cb93e61572f587641f1d”
How Mediasite Links Work in CONTENTdm (HTML <iframe/>)

```html
<!-- ITEM_VIEWER -->

<div id="tabs" class="tabs spaceMar306" thistab="tabdiv">
  <div style="width:324px; height: auto; border:0px solid #000; overflow:hidden; margin:auto;" id="container1">
    <iframe style="width:324px; height:399px; margin-left:-8px; margin-top:-101px; border:0 solid;" src="http://mmmediasite.bsu.edu/bsu40/Play/2222c31bb55f41cb93e61572f587641f1d" scrolling="no"></iframe>
  </div>
</div>
```
Why Mediasite Links Work in CONTENTdm (Customization of PHP configuration files)

//Creates an array called $mediasite_collections that contains aliases for all mediasite-enabled collections
include("E:\OCLC\CONTENTdm\Content6\server\conf\bsumediasite.php");

//Default width of player
$mp_width="324px";

//Height of player changed if item is a Sound file
if(strpos($this->itemInfo->type, "Sound") !== false){
    $mp_height="399px";
}else{
    $mp_height="auto";
}

//If this item is in a mediasite-enabled collection AND has a mediasite URL in its media field, then put the iframe here
if(in_array($this->collection,$mediasite_collections) && $valid_mediasite_url){
    ?><div style="width:<?=$mp_width; ?>; height: auto; border:0px solid #000; overflow:hidden; margin:auto;" id="container1">
     <iframe style="width:<?=$mp_width; ?>; height:<?=$mp_height; ?>; margin-left:-8px; margin-top:-101px; border:0 solid;" src="<?=$this->itemInfo->media; ?>" scrolling="no"></iframe>
    </div>
Current Struggles with CONTENTdm

- Incompatibility between Microsoft Silverlight plugin and Google Chrome browser
  - Post-September 2015 problem
  - HTML5 video player available in new version of Mediasite

- Limited customer support from OCLC for self-hosed CONTENTdm sites
  - “Keep calm and migrate to hosted”
Moving Forward

• Hosted CONTENTdm instance?
  • Reduce need for local IT resources
  • May fix performance problems
  • Mediasite audio/video streaming may still be possible

• Uncertain future of Mediasite
  • Ball State University moving away from Mediasite
  • Exploring other options
    ➢ YouTube, Vimeo, Internet Archive...?
Thank You!

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btpiezckko@bsu.edu