Application Programming Interface for UDN

Harish Maringanti – Associate Dean of IT & Digital Library Services
Dhanushka Samarakoon – Assistant Head of Software Development

CHANGING LANDSCAPE

Web interfaces for GLAMs are currently designed for humans. And invariably digital collections end up being silos.

“Collections as data” is gaining traction in the libraries and it will enable research scholars to query historical information in unimaginable ways.

TECHNOLOGICAL ADVANCEMENTS

- At the hardware level, computing power and storage is getting cheaper and cheaper.
- At the software level, Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Machine Learning tools are getting easier to use.

UDN ARCHIVE

- UDN launched in 2002
- UDN Statistics
  - 2.35 Million pages
  - 22.5 Million articles
  - 159 Newspaper titles
  - Average of 3 million Page Views Per Year

At the University of Utah, as a part of our ongoing efforts to leverage technology and enhance the digital collections, we are adding machine-friendly interfaces (API) to the digitized content.

USE CASES

- Displaying “On this day” feature on the UDN website pulls information via API
- Simplified content access for data mining, and digital humanities research and teaching
- Distributed tool development

CONCLUSIONS/NEXT STEPS

- Terms of agreement
- Expand API for other digital collections
- Promotion & Outreach

https://api.lib.utah.edu/docs/

HOW DO YOU SEE IT?

Human View

Machine View

Machine View (through API)

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Project funded by the Office of VPR, University of Utah
Jayabrata Chandra, Nathaniel Nelson, Leah Donaldson