PROVIDING BIBLIOGRAPHIC ACCESS TO ARCHIVAL SOUND RECORDING COLLECTIONS

A Case from the J. David Goldin Collection of Transcription Discs at UMKC

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Sandy Rodriguez
University of Missouri—Kansas City
Outline

- Importance of bibliographic access
- Importance of standards
- Introduction to the J. David Goldin Collection
- Decisions and considerations
- Examples
- Addressing the future
Importance of Bibliographic Access

- Cannot rely on lore or word-of-mouth
- Democratizes information
- Describes materials sufficiently to promote use
- Accesses knowledge even if not physically present with the item
- Connects the information seeker to the information they are seeking!
Results of Providing Access

- Blogs
- Websites/Databases
- Digital collections
- Articles
- Books
- Discographies/Directories
Importance of Standards

- Consistency!
- Vetted by larger group of users (many times perpetually so)
- More easily updated or transferred to other information platforms or programs
- Cost effective
# Hidden Collections

### Table 1.8. Catalog records (Q. 41-47)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Format</th>
<th>n</th>
<th>Online</th>
<th>Offline</th>
<th>No Records</th>
<th>Described within Archival Collections</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Printed volumes</td>
<td>154</td>
<td>85%</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>8%</td>
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<td>Archival collections</td>
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<td>56%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Audiovisual materials</td>
<td>128</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>36%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Visual materials</td>
<td>136</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>35%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Audiovisual materials</td>
<td>128</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>36%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Born-digital materials</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>40%</td>
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</table>

OCLC. *Taking Our Pulse: The OCLC Research Survey of Special Collections and Archives.*  
J. David (Dave) Goldin

Then...

And now...

Photograph courtesy of Mark Mattison
Donated to UMKC 1995-2001
Comprised of 16 in. recordings, each of which are 30 min. in length (15 min. each side), produced for broadcast between 1935 and 1960
Efforts to Provide Access

Andrew W. Mellon Foundation grant:
Jan. 1, 2008-Dec. 31, 2010

1 Special Project Cataloger
3 Library Information Specialists
2 Students

GOAL: Eliminate barriers for discovery by providing a description of each disc and its contents online.
A Collection of Transcription Discs

Decisions and Considerations
DECISIONS

- Unit of description
  - Item, Series, Collection

- Content standards
  - IASA Guidelines (International Association of Sound and Audiovisual Archives)

- Controlled vocabularies and thesauri

- Structural standards

- Delivery platform
CONSIDERATIONS

- Format stability
- Available resources
  - Staff, equipment, infrastructure
- CONTEXT
  - Historical, Manufacture, Issuing body, Provenance
- Available information
  - Accompanying and Collected
  - Quality
Title: Excursions in science. Program no. 55, Superchargers [sound recording]; Excursions in science. Program no. 56, Biography of a bivalve.

Published: Schenectady, N.Y. : General Electric, [1943?]

Persistent record link: http://laurel.lib.missouri.edu/record=b6663042-s3

<table>
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<tr>
<th>LOCATION</th>
<th>CALL #</th>
<th>STATUS</th>
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<tr>
<td>UMKC Nichols Library Marr Sound Archives</td>
<td>Goldin: 39,002</td>
<td>LIB USE ONLY</td>
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</table>

Description: 1 sound disc : analog, 33 1/3 rpm, mono. ; 16 in.

Subjects: Science radio programs, Educational radio programs, Nonfiction radio programs, Radio serials.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Series Title</th>
<th>Performers</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>J. David Goldin collection</td>
<td>Howard Tupper, host; Emerson Markham, science authority.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Summary: Program no. 55: A discussion about turbo superchargers which allow airplane engines to breathe normally at any altitude. Based on a research paper by Reginald G. Standerwick. Program no. 56: A discussion on the bivalve mechanism within the oyster that allows it to filter large amounts of water each hour for nutrients. Based on a research paper by Dr. Thurlow C. Nelson.

Notes: Radio broadcasts of a science program. Includes questions from listeners answered by the hosts.

Provenance: J. David Goldin collection.

Pressured transcription disc.

Duration: ca. 14:10; ca. 14:10.

Broadcast date handwritten on label: Dec. 31, 1943 (Program no. 55).

Reference number on paper finding aid: 39,002; reference numbers on Goldin’s website: 53518 (Program no. 55), 53518 (Program no. 56).

Cataloging project funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation presented to the UMKC University Libraries Marr Sound Archives.


Airplanes -- Motors -- Superchargers.

Bivalves.

Oyster culture.
Audition

Donor

Online source

Audition

Donor/Audition

Donor/Online source

Donor
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Subjects</th>
<th>World War, 1939-1945.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Popular music -- United States -- 1941-1950.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Genre/Form</td>
<td>Radio commentaries.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Radio news programs.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Public affairs radio programs.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Variety shows (Radio programs)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Radio comedies.</td>
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<td>Popular music radio programs.</td>
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<td>Radio station identifications.</td>
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<td>Radio announcements.</td>
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<td>Livingstone, Mary, Performer.</td>
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<td>Stanwyck, Barbara, 1907-1990, Performer.</td>
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<td>Goldin, J. David, Donor.</td>
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<td>Marr Sound Archives.</td>
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<td>Includes</td>
<td>Jack Benny program (Radio program)</td>
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<td>Other Titles</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Jack takes two cadets to Barbara Stanwyck's house. Part 2.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>I've got a gal in Kalamazoo.</td>
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<td>Music/Publisher Number</td>
<td>40,030b Goldin</td>
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THE VOICE OF AMERICA

SYMPHONIC

N. Y. PHILHARMONIC-SYMPOSYN

ORCHESTRA

Dimitri Mitropoulos, Conductor
Beatrice Krebs, Mezzo-Contralto

Women’s Chorus of the Westminster Choir
Dr. John Finley Williamson, Director

Mahler: Symphony No. 3, D minor
VI. Slowly; tranquilly; with deep feeling
(begning)
(Continued on S-191)
(Cut No. 2)

VOA - 1230

Lateral Cut ★ 33 1/3 R.P.M. ★ Outside Start

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COLUMBIA RECORDING CORPORATION
799 Seventh Ave.
New York, N. Y.
Supplied Titles

[Kraft music hall. 1942-03-05, part 2]
[NBC news. 1941-12-08]

[Bob Dixon personal recording. 1942-04-18, Class reunion at Allegheny High School, Pa.]
What We’ve Learned

- Allow time to get familiar with the collection
- Gather helpful resources
- Set parameters
- Identify and utilize expertise
- Evaluate your processes
Columbus Philharmonic Orchestra; Izler Solomon, conductor

Roy Harris’ Symphony no. 3
“Wake up, America!”

Wake up, America!, Program 342 “What do we mean by un-American activities?” (1946)


Photograph courtesy of the Library of Congress.
Max de Schauensee, music critic

“E lucevan le stelle”
VD Radio Project, Program no. 6, “Crossroads Ballad” sung narration by Tom Glazer (1948)
“I’m an American!” program, Program no. 7 (1944)

“Science has provided the possibility of liberation for human beings from hard labor, but science itself is not a liberator. It creates means, not goals…

…the fate of humanity is entirely dependent upon its moral development.”


Photograph courtesy of the Library of Congress.
Addressing the Future

- Digitization of content
- More robust web presence
- Written transcription of verbal content
- DACS (Describing Archives: a Content Standard)
Contact Information

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