Summary

- What led to the UNT digital scholarship (DS) endeavor, and campus planning effort
- Aims and different scenarios studied
- Next steps planned
Reasons UNT became interested

- Campus conferences demonstrated interest and engagement in the topic by multiple faculty members:
  - UNT Colloquium on Collaborative Digital Scholarship held in 2009 ([http://www.library.unt.edu/digital-colloquium](http://www.library.unt.edu/digital-colloquium))
  - UNT Open Access Symposia in 2010 and 2011 ([http://openaccess.unt.edu/content/symposia](http://openaccess.unt.edu/content/symposia))
- UNT faculty interests in digital scholarship surfaced in virtually all colleges (arts & sciences, professional schools, etc.)
2011 Planning Activities

- Planning Meetings held on Wednesday, July 13, 2011 involving following groups:
  - Digital Library Division team members
  - Faculty researchers in multiple disciplines
  - Academic Deans of (College of Arts & Sciences, College of Information, School of Merchandising & Hospitality Management)
- Subsequent discussions in August-December with campus planners, faculty, consultants, deans, provost, vice-president of research, and IT program managers.
Drafting Proposal for Transformative Leadership in Digital Scholarship

- Planning discussions undertaken by the Deans of Arts & Sciences and Libraries
- Now under internal discussion and revision with both Provost and Vice-President for Research
- Intended to:
  - Serve as a campus manifesto for digital scholarship
  - Identify likely levels of research funding that could be realized through synergistic collaboration (i.e. what would we be able to do that we can’t do now?)
  - Provide a practical framework for collaborative efforts across the campus and beyond
Key difference from other campuses: building a cooperative framework for shared investments

Two DSC scenarios discussed: robust and minimal

Articulates the immediate opportunity for UNT to position itself as a transformative leader in the rapidly solidifying digital scholarship arena

Proposes the creation of a scalable, sustainable, physical and virtual cooperative environment equipped with key staff, to expand and strategically leverage UNT’s scholars’ demonstrated capacity for producing, externally funding, and disseminating digital scholarship

Lays out options for governance, participation, return on investments, incentives, categories of needed staff and other resources
Robust DSC Scenario Funding Model: University Funding vs. Grants & Contracts
Robust DSC Scenario Funding Model: Specific Programmatic Elements

- Other grant funded activities & support
- Visiting Professors / Postdocs (sal + fringe)
- Graduate Research Assistants
- Technical Contractors
- Data Analyst (sal + fringe)
- IT Programmer Analyst III (sal + fringe)
- IT Specialist III (sal + fringe)
- Research Scientist (sal + fringe)
- Assistant Research Professor (sal + fringe)
- Research Professor - Director (sal + fringe)
- Facilities, Equip, Recruiting, Travel
Funding is obviously key to provide:
- Workspace for the DSC
- Startup funding to enable staff hires
- Equipment, travel, yadda yadda...

Research awards are received sporadically, and fill-in bridge funding is needed at unpredictable times to tide over project staff.

Successful projects require ongoing support staff, which are hard to fund from grants.

Difficult to justify speculative new investments when basic needs are going unmet.
Next Steps - 2012

- Continue the discussion with stakeholders
- Further popularize the idea of digital scholarship on campus through outreach: http://nttv.unt.edu/content/spectra
- Finalize the DSC minimal plan and bring in other academic deans
- Begin implementation of the DSC