

Going deeper The case for multiple repositories at UChicago

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What's the issue?

Through a mix of opportunistic funding, incoherent open scholarship requirements and varying institutional demands, institutions find themselves managing multiple repositories.

Can a single repository meet all of an institution's needs?

If not, why not?

If not now, when?





Institutional support for open scholarship has grown steadily over 20 years



Domain standards



Institutional requirements

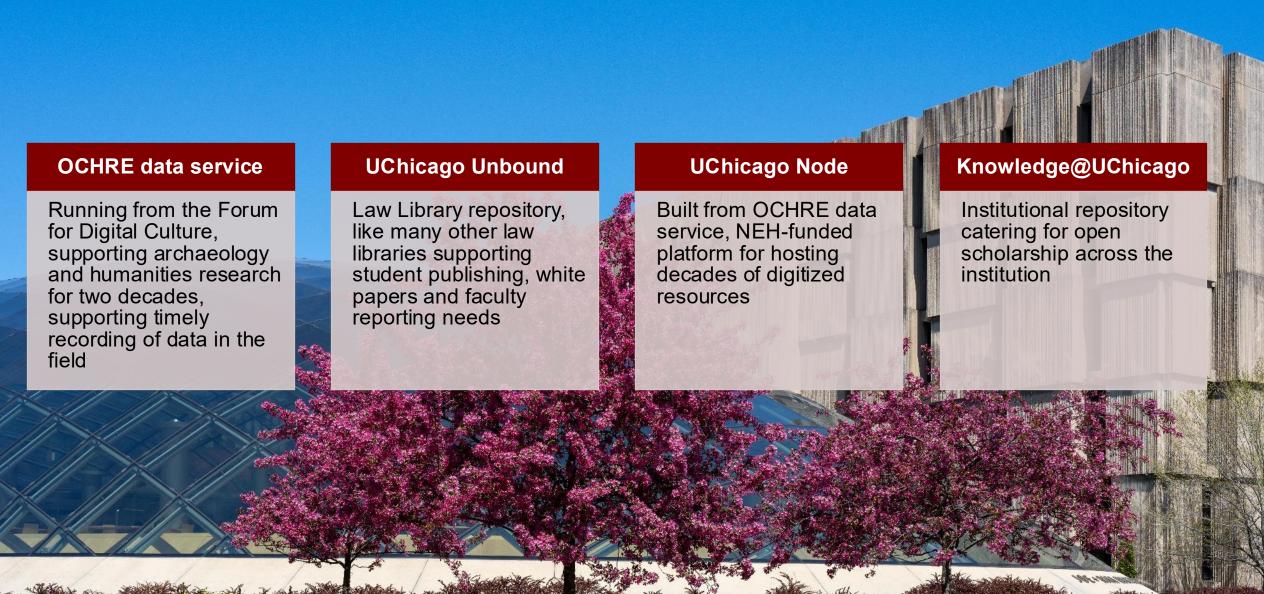


Funder mandates

Very few examples of national infrastructure



UChicago is no exception









Enables access and preservation to scholarly outputs across the university Metadata for discovery and reuse Is about breadth and capturing as much volume as possible



UChicago Node (and OCHRE)

Access to deep and granular data

Object-level metadata and collections as data

Collaboration with faculty over weeks/months to develop structure and ingest material

What don't DOMESTIC (yet)



These are the core commitments, the non-negotiable aspects of delivering repository services



Preservation

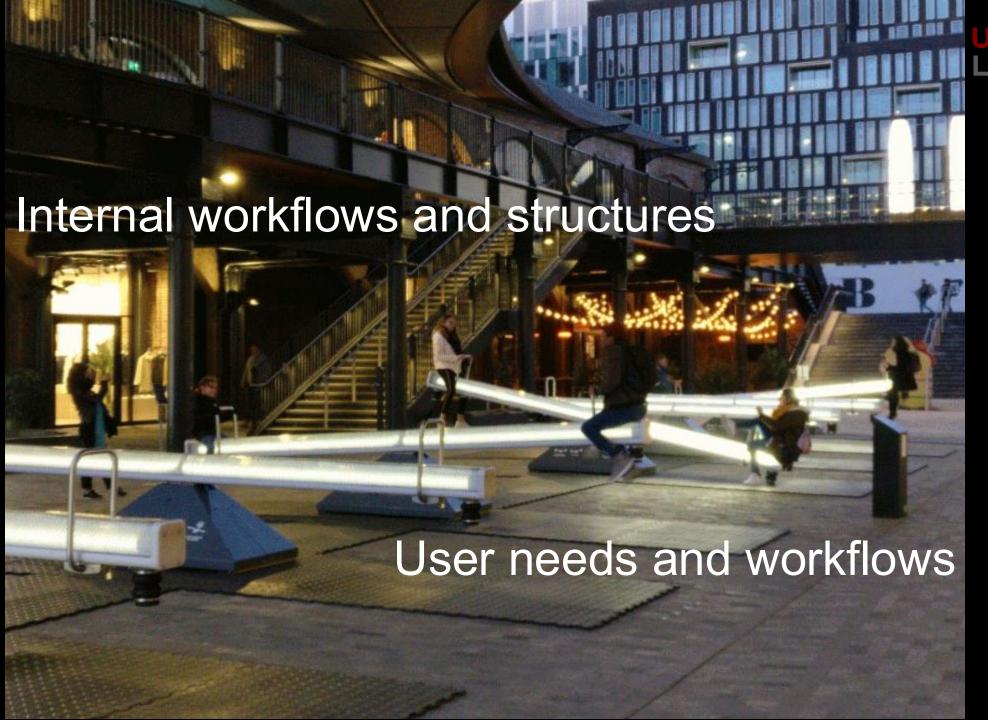


Discovery



Access (including access controls)

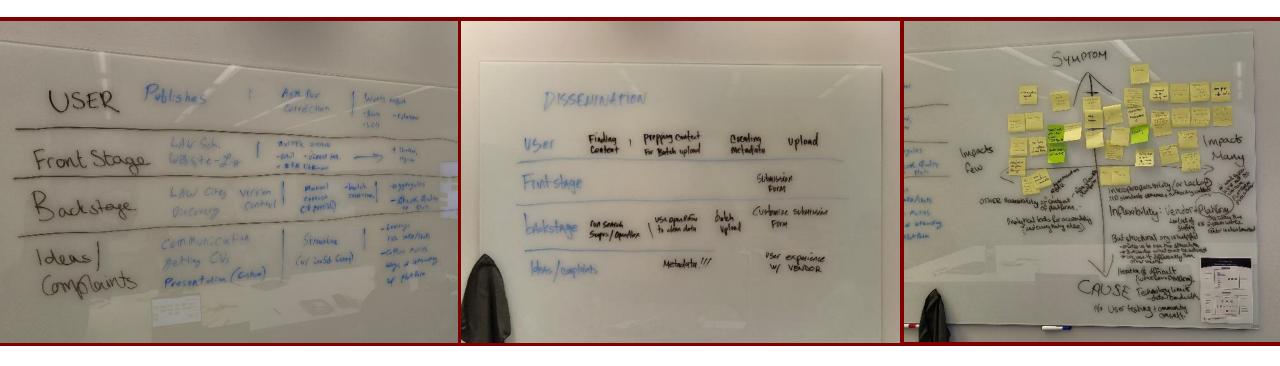
But how we deliver them does evolve



Chicago ibrary

Understanding our workflows





To understand the differences between Knowledge and Unbound:

- Mapped out a user interaction, and the various actives that happen front of stage (visible to the user) and backstage (invisible to users, staff operations).
- Also looked at various complaints or suggestions received by staff, mapping them
 against symptoms and causes, and those that impact many vs impacting few.



Checkpoints for change

- Continuing surveillance of needs
 - Increased desire for deeper data documentation
- Monitoring of resources
 - Development and staffing resources to enable Node extension
- Discerning scope creep from appetite for change
- Surveillance of new technologies and opportunities





Sources of inertia

- Budget not yet so tight we'd need to consolidate, but also not enough resources to document everything in the depth Node requires
- User need not changing in a way that leads us to rethink
- Needing a strategic plan for repository and data services

We don't know what we'll find, or what the future holds





Building a strategy

We want to stop being reactive and be more contemplative.

A long-term strategy for repository services will build on:

- All the elements as previously described (preservation, discovery, access, workflows, user needs)
- Flexibility for the future unknowns
- Sustainability
- Collaboration





Continuing to collect evidence on service requirements







Surveys, interviews and focus groups on data support across the institution

Planning further evidence gathering in the fall

Awareness raising

Perennial issue: resources!



Consolidation across institutions?

- What are we consolidating?
- Who do we trust?
- What (if anything) still needs to be done locally?

The idea of Node is that it can become a single platform for multiple organizations—that isn't scope creep!





In summary:

- · Running multiple repositories is not the issue per se: lack of strategy is
- Strategy, plus continual evidence gathering will be our approach for a sustainable suite of repository services
- We need to identify who we trust, both on- and off-campus, with our data





Thank You

Questions?

