Building the iSchool Digital Archives Lab (iDAL)

Sonia Zettle, MI and Micaela Evans



Purpose:

- To build an ever-growing digital repository of record collections, links, and files to support teaching and learning at the University of Toronto's Faculty of Information.
- To provide access to records in a variety of states, from raw sets of organizational records to exemplar archival collections that have been appraised, arranged, described, digitized, and made available to the public.
- To provide users with a wide variety of research materials, resources, and a place to sort and view these items to encourage discovery.



Unprocessed Records



Other Record Sets



Archival Records



Other Collections

Intended Benefits/Requirements: Students:

- Interact with, use, & learn from a variety of digitally born and/or digitized record sets;
- Showcase exemplary archival collections for reference & general interest;
- Is free, easy to access, and easy to use.

Instructors:

- Freely available digital record sets in one location;
- Exemplary digital record collections; and
- Potential in-class activities & student assignments.

iDAL provides links to open-source digital records tools that are widely used in archival contexts. We have been able to purchase an instance of AtoM for students to use in two courses.



Future Plans: with the support of the Instructional Technology Innovation Fund we will transform the repository into a virtual lab space where students can use integrated tools to practice managing, appraising, arranging, describing, preserving, and making available digital records.

Special thanks to our Record Set Partners:









Instructional Technology Innovation Fund (ITIF)