



UNIVERSITY OF OREGON

January 20, 2015

TO: Oregon Newspaper Microfilm Subscribers and Publishers

FROM: Karen Estlund, Head, Digital Scholarship Center, UO Libraries

SUBJECT: Oregon Newspaper Project update

We have been busy working to transition from microfilm archives to digital archives as follows:

This fall we have:

- Sought willingness from our publishers to submit PDFs of their publications to us for online access and digital preservation
- Developed a new license agreement for digital preservation and online access
- Developed an interim workflow to receive PDF files from publishers beginning in January 2015
- Eliminated the option to provide a fee- or subscriber-based service due to experience from other states and lack of ability to cover costs of managing such a program
- Estimated storage space and costs based on publishers' PDF files

Our next steps are to:

- Finalize new license model with publisher partners
- Develop tools, workflows, and processes for intake of PDF files from publishers
- Create a full in-house print-to-digital newspaper workflow for scanning from print copies, including international best practices for ALTO and OCR specifications
- Develop processes and priorities if newspaper issues are not received at UO
- Modify the Historic Oregon Newspapers website (<http://oregonnews.uoregon.edu>) to ingest and display born digital content

Archiving Oregon newspapers with the UO Libraries will enable access for the general public from everywhere. We plan to make all newspaper content full-text searchable, which means that Google and other search engines may index the text, and search results from full text may appear in online searches.

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The UO Libraries' History Librarian, David Woken, has taken on the role of curator for the current newspaper collection, so he will be assessing the collection and prioritizing content. Ultimately, the newspapers included in the collection will depend on publishers' license agreements and willingness to provide content.

During 2015, we will continue to microfilm Oregon newspaper content received through December 2014. The UO Libraries will be taking no additional microfilming projects or contract work.

We also wanted to share the good news that we have received a Library Services & Technology Act grant for Next Generation Newspaper Preservation, which includes funding for a large format planetary scanner. We will be able to digitize print newspapers and other large format items without using microfilm. This scanner will also be instrumental to fill in any potential content gaps that might occur in the online newspaper collection. Our grant begins in February 2015, so it will still be several months before our workflow and cost model for scanning from print will be in place.

Thank you for your patience as we work to make this transition. We will be in touch with more updates as soon as possible.