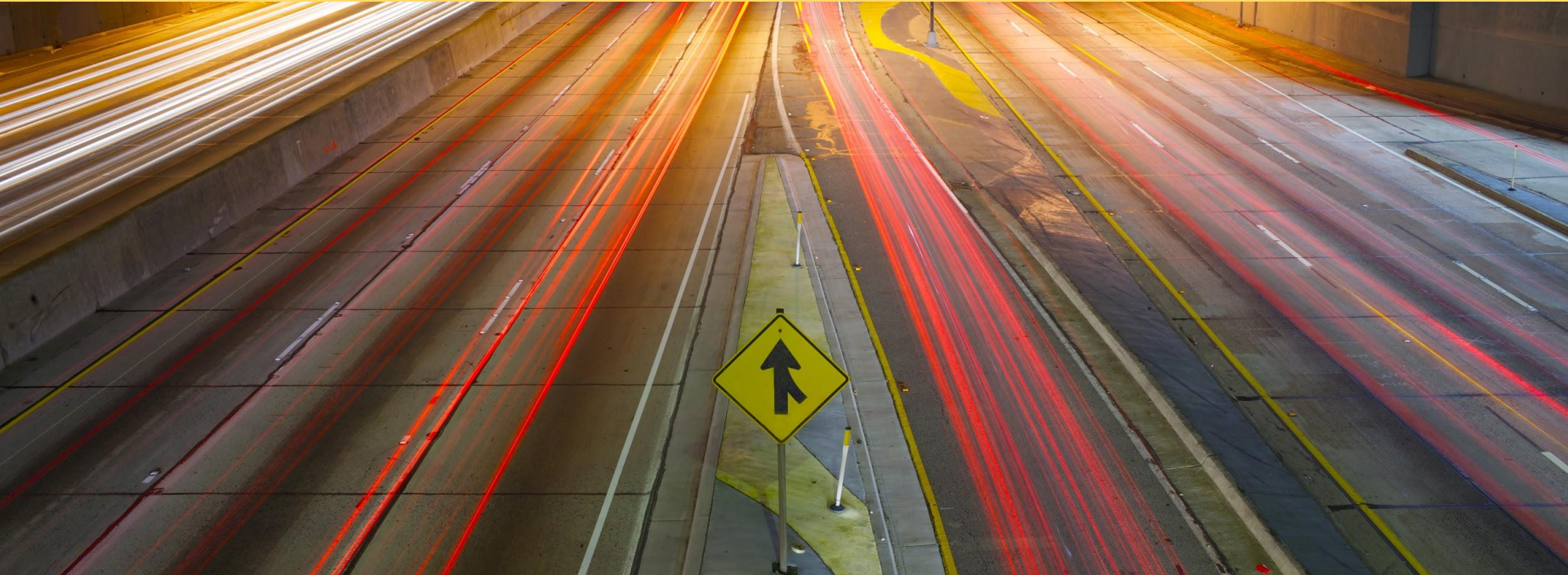


# Using the Internet Archive and Theological Commons as an On-Ramp to Digitization and Access for Local Collections



Premise

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Theology libraries have important undigitized collections, unique materials

Public domain (or copyright-cleared)

Would like to provide online access, openly

Don't have in-house equipment/staff for digitization

Don't have in-house digital platform to provide online access

One option: Internet Archive + Theological Commons = digitization and access for local collections

Internet Archive

# Internet Archive



Non-profit organization, values/mission: “Universal Access to All Knowledge”

Founded 1996, best known for archiving the Web (Wayback Machine)

In 2006, also began operating scanning centers across US and internationally

Digitize books, manuscripts, photographs (not negatives), microforms (Indiana only), etc.

From hundreds of research libraries/archives

# Internet Archive



Each library pays for digitization

Digital image of each page, OCR full text for printed/typewritten materials

Cost includes storage in perpetuity, online discovery/access at [archive.org](https://archive.org)

# Internet Archive: Costs



\$3 setup fee per “item”

10¢ per page for standard size volumes (max. 11.5" x 15" and 4" thick)

25¢ per page for oversize/folio volumes or loose sheets (even if standard size)

\$2 per foldout (any size)

Archival materials, loose photographs, newspapers: consult with IA; will not exceed 60¢ per image

Typical example: 300-page, standard size book:  $(300 * .10 = \$30) + \$3 \text{ setup} = \$33$

# Internet Archive: Metadata



Excel file (saved as Comma Separated Values), one row per item

Minimum: title, language

Various predefined fields (IA has a template), including “description”

If you provide OCLC number (or ISBN), IA can utilize WorldCat record

Alternative: your MARC records — if 500+ items

Ask IA to set up Z39.50 connection to your catalog

You provide bib record IDs; IA harvests MARC records, derives metadata



# Theological Commons

# Theological Commons

PTSem partnered with IA in early 2008 for large-scale book digitization

Established IA scanning center in PTTsem Library (equipped, staffed, operated by IA)

Partnership goals:

- Provide free, worldwide access to PTTsem public domain books

- Contribute to representation of theology and related fields within a mass-scale, global, online digital library

# Theological Commons

By 2011, PTSem + IA digitized 23,000 books, available online at [archive.org](http://archive.org)

Fulfilling original goals, but ...

In context of several million other texts (not to mention audio, video, images)

On every subject

Both academic and popular

New goal branched out:

In addition to digitization/access as an end in itself

provide alternative, focused discovery for content in theology/related fields  
to serve a specialized audience

# Theological Commons

1. Select content from IA based on subject
2. Build a web interface for search/navigation of that subset

Publicly released in March 2012 as “Theological Commons” ([commons.ptsem.edu](http://commons.ptsem.edu))

Spearheaded by:

Cliff Anderson

Steve Crocco

with support of Iain Torrance

# Theological Commons: Content

## Selection:

PTSem content, downloaded/imported from IA

Imported content from other libraries, based on LCSH (over 150 libraries)

## Attribution:

Browse by Contributor

Item-level page

FAQ

## Formats:

Books, periodicals, theses, mss, photos, postcards, maps (digitized via IA)

Audio/video — not digitized by IA, currently only PTTSem

# Theological Commons: Features

Mobile-friendly (Responsive Web Design, not a separate mobile version)

Full-text + metadata searching for texts (books, periodicals, theses, typewritten manuscripts, audio/video transcripts)

Metadata only searching for media (photographs, postcards, audio/video without transcripts)

Facets for filtering search results

- Allow selection of multiple values simultaneously

- Also provide browsing

Read online at [archive.org](http://archive.org)

# Theological Commons: Collaborations

Established platform, workflow for importing content from other libraries

Set up Featured Collections

Payne Theological Seminary and A.M.E. Church Archive

Small project: digitized 86 items, incorporated 56 items digitized elsewhere

Missionary Research Library Pamphlets (Burke/Union/Columbia)

Ongoing

IA + TC + Your Library



# IA + TC + Your Library

Digitization workflow exists (IA), platform exists (TC)

Platform includes Featured Collections

Established model for other libraries to have their own featured collections

Opportunity for any library to bring its materials online via same model

Digitize via IA

Additional metadata we request:

Identify any multi-volume sets (powers “View All Volumes” links)

Subject term from our list, or LC call number (powers Subject facet)

PTSem Library sets up featured collection, imports your content (at no cost)

No technology staff needed

# IA + TC + Your Library

No added cost to contribute content to TC

Your materials enhance the content of TC

A service to theological community

Necessity of grant funding for digitization

Key to focus on unique materials

IA is one of eight finalists for MacArthur Foundation's "100 & Change" grant

If awarded, libraries would apply to IA directly for digitization funding

# IA + TC + Your Library

This model provides two complementary means of discovery/access:

IA: wide reach, in context mass digitization online library, millions of users

IA will feed your content into DPLA if you authorize that

TC: focused, specialized for targeted audience

Both serve theological community

Both support core mission of our libraries