

Portico

An Electronic Archiving Service

Eileen Fenton

Executive Director, Portico

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The Need

- “Digital preservation represents one of the grand challenges facing higher education.”*
- If we are to meet this challenge, all parties engaged in scholarly communication – publishers, libraries, and archives – must contribute to the solution.
- Cooperation and collaboration are critical.
- Diversity of approach – technological, organizational, economic – enhance the probability that long-term preservation can be successfully achieved.

* “Urgent Action Needed to Preserve Scholarly Electronic Journals”
www.arl.org/osc/EjournalPreservation_Final.pdf



Portico's History

- In 2002, JSTOR initiated a project known as the Electronic-Archiving Initiative, the precursor to Portico.
- The goal was to facilitate the community's transition to secure reliance upon electronic scholarly journals by developing a technological infrastructure and sustainable archive able to preserve scholarly e-journals.
- Portico was launched in 2005 by JSTOR and Ithaka, with support from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.



Portico's Mission

To preserve scholarly literature published in electronic form
and to ensure that these materials remain available
to future generations of scholars, researchers, and students.



What Portico Is

- Portico is a not-for-profit organization with a mission and singular focus to provide a permanent archive of electronic scholarly journals.
- A collaboratively developed, cooperative archiving model which addresses the technological, organizational and economic components of the long-term preservation challenge.
- A highly managed, operational archive with geographically distributed replication.



Portico Advisory Committee

- John Ewing, American Mathematical Society
- Kevin Guthrie, Ithaka
- Daniel Greenstein, University of California
- Anne R. Kenney, Cornell University Library
- Clifford Lynch, CNI
- Carol Mandel, New York University
- David M. Pilachowski, Williams College
- Rebecca Simon, University of California Press
- Michael Spinella, JSTOR
- Suzanne E. Thorin, Syracuse University Library
- Mary Waltham, Publishing Consultant
- Craig Van Dyck, John Wiley & Sons, Inc.



Portico's Approach to E-Journal Archiving

- Portico preserves the intellectual content of the journal, including the text, images, supplemental files and limited functionality such as internal linking.
- The full functionality offered by a publisher's delivery platform is not preserved; nor is the exact look and layout of the online journal.
- Publishers deliver to Portico the "source files" of electronic journals (SGML, XML, PDF, etc.) shortly after initial publication.
- Portico converts or "normalizes" the source files to an archival format based on the NLM Archiving DTD and deposits the content in the Portico repository.
- Once deposited, content remains in the archive. To date more than 181,000 are preserved in the Portico archive.



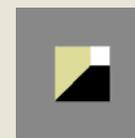
Portico's Access Model

- Portico offers access to archived content to only those libraries supporting the archive financially.
- Access is offered only when specific trigger event conditions prevail **and** when titles are no longer available from the publisher or other sources.
- Trigger events include:
 - When a publisher ceases operations and titles are no longer available from any other source.
 - When a publisher ceases to publish and offer a title and it is not offered by another publisher or entity.
 - When back issues are removed from a publisher's offering and are not available elsewhere.
 - Upon catastrophic failure by publisher delivery platform for a sustained period of time.



Portico's Access Model

- For all libraries supporting Portico, trigger events initiate campus-wide access regardless of whether a library previously subscribed to the publisher's offering.
- Until a trigger event occurs select librarians at participating libraries are granted password-controlled access for archive audit and verification purposes.
- Libraries may also rely upon the Portico archive for post-cancellation or "perpetual" access, **if** a publisher chooses to name Portico as one of the mechanisms designated to meet this obligation.



Sources of Support

- Support for the archive comes from the primary beneficiaries of the archive - publishers and libraries.
- Contributing publishers supply content and make an annual financial contribution ranging from \$250 to \$75,000 depending upon journal revenues.
- To date more than 5,200 journals have been promised to the Portico archive. Participating publishers come from across the spectrum, for example:
 - Elsevier (commercial)
 - Oxford University Press (university press)
 - American Institute of Physics (scholarly society)
 - The Berkeley Electronic Press (e-only publisher)



Sources of Support

- Libraries make an Annual Archive Support (AAS) payment based upon total library materials expenditures. AAS payments range from \$1,500 to \$24,000 annually.
- All libraries that initiate support for Portico in 2006 and 2007 are designated "Portico Archive Founders" and make a significantly reduced AAS payment.
- To date more than 100 libraries are Portico Archive Founders. Participants range from Grove City College to the University of California system.



*E-Journal Archiving Metes and Bounds: A Survey of the Landscape**

- Publishers:
 - Work with at least one digital archiving partner and communicate overtly about archival arrangements.
- Libraries:
 - Press publishers to make acceptable archival arrangements.
 - Participate in at least one e-journal archiving initiative.
- Archives:
 - Present public evidence of the minimal level of services necessary for a well-managed collection.
 - Ensure that after content is ingested it cannot be removed.



* <http://www.clir.org/pubs/abstract/pub138abst.html>

Conclusion

- All parties with a vested interest in scholarly communication – publishers, libraries, and archives – have a role to play.
- Cooperative support of a limited number of archives operating under different technological, economic and governance models, can yield a robust preservation network.
- The time to address the “grand challenge” is now.



Eileen Fenton
eileen.fenton@portico.org
www.portico.org

