Taking Control of Archdesc: Implementing Spaceport for Special Collections Finding Aids

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Taking control of archdesc
Implementing Spaceport for Special Collections Finding Aids

Tiffany Cole, Special Collections Archivist ★ Rebecca B. French, Metadata Analyst Librarian

Challenges and Needs

★ Depending on their length, FAs could take between 30 minutes to SEVERAL DAYS to format and upload to access platforms
★ Manually entering data in multiple platforms made updates time-consuming and created many opportunities for human error
★ Migration of all FA web pages to new Libraries CMS

The Solution: Spaceport

★ Only takes SECONDS to format and upload a FA to access platforms
★ More time to dedicate to redescription, standardizing description
★ Nearly all legacy FAs have been updated and standardized
★ Improved access to and discoverability of collections
★ Ability to easily implement Aeon requesting functionality

Code available at https://github.com/frenchrb/JMU_ArchivesSpace

Outcome and Benefits

99% decrease in time to produce a Virginia Heritage EAD using Spaceport, compared to hand-encoding

20 minutes

can generate web pages for all 340+ collections with Spaceport in only