
HathiTrust

<http://www.hathitrust.org/>

Overview

HathiTrust is an international partnership of more than 80 academic and research institutions that are working together to ensure the long-term preservation and accessibility of the cultural record. The partnering institutions launched a digital repository in 2008 that currently contains nearly 11 million volumes digitized from their library collections and other sources. Approximately 3.5 million of these volumes are in the public domain and freely viewable on the Web. The repository was certified by the Center for Research Libraries as a Trustworthy Digital Repository in 2011.

Objectives/Problem To Be Solved

HathiTrust was founded to preserve and distribute library collections by making reliable and accessible electronic representations. The partners aim to build a comprehensive digital archive of published materials from around the world and develop strategies for managing and developing their digital and print collections collaboratively. The preserved volumes are made available in accordance with copyright law as a shared scholarly resource for students, faculty, and researchers at the partnering institutions, and as a public good to all.

Recent Activities

HathiTrust launched Phase 1 of the HathiTrust Research Center (HTRC) in the Spring of 2013. The HTRC offers computational access to materials in the HathiTrust repository. The first phase of the HTRC focuses on enabling research across the publicly accessible materials in HathiTrust. The second phase will focus on access on a limited basis to in-copyright materials.

Governance

HathiTrust is governed by a 12-member Board of Governors, 6 of whom are elected and 6 of whom are appointed by the founding HathiTrust institutions. Five Board members serve on an Executive Committee elected by the Board. An Executive Director appointed by the Board serves as an ex-officio, non-voting member of the Board and the Executive Committee.

Next Steps / Planned Future Work

Members/Partners

HathiTrust began in 2008 as a partnership among

- Indiana University
- Michigan State University
- Northwestern University
- Ohio State University
- Pennsylvania State University
- Purdue University
- University of California, Berkeley
- University of California, Davis
- University of California, Irvine
- University of California, Los Angeles
- University of California, Merced
- University of California, Riverside
- University of California, San Diego
- University of California, San Francisco
- University of California, Santa Barbara
- University of California, Santa Cruz
- University of Chicago
- University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
- University of Iowa
- University of Michigan
- University of Minnesota
- University of Wisconsin–Madison

HathiTrust has several upcoming projects, including, but not limited to

- **Government Documents.** HathiTrust has engaged in a project to preserve and make accessible a comprehensive corpus of US federal government documents. Work began in early 2013 to build a formal registry of documents, to include information about whether the documents are in digital form, to facilitate their inclusion in HathiTrust.
- **Shared Print Monograph Archive.** HathiTrust is making plans to develop a distributed network of print monograph archives, with holdings corresponding to the digital holdings in HathiTrust. This initiative is part of HathiTrust's efforts to aid libraries in reducing the long-term costs of storing and caring for print collections.
- **Zephir.** Zephir is a state-of-the-art bibliographic data management system developed by the California Digital Library to fulfill the particular needs of bibliographic data management in the HathiTrust Repository. Zephir is the first component of the repository that will be hosted and managed separately from core infrastructure administered by the University of Michigan. It is expected to be in production in Fall 2013.

Since its inception, HathiTrust membership has grown to include more than 80 institutions

Funders/Funding Model

Members pay an annual fee to support the infrastructure costs of the digital repository. The budget of HathiTrust is separately maintained within the University of Michigan system and managed by the Board of Governors. Some financial components of the operation are represented by commitments in kind by participating members.