

SOUTHEAST ASIAN DIGITAL ARCHIVE (SEADA)

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The Past Goes 'Modern' Digital History Projects at UMass Lowell
Digital Commonwealth
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WWW.UML.EDU/SEADA

SOUTHEAST ASIAN DIGITAL ARCHIVE

AGENDA

1. Description of the collection and its history [5]
 - Mission statement, CDP, Advisory Board & Core Team
 - History of development
2. Process [15 min]
 - Finding aids, digital collections, metadata, preservation
3. Outreach [5]
 - Community Engagement (SEAA & non-SEAA)
 - Academic use – SEA FACET
4. Challenges/Future [5]
 - Funding
 - Issues/challenges

MISSION STATEMENT

The Southeast Asian Digital Archive seeks to collect, preserve, and share historical materials related to Southeast Asians in the Greater Lowell area, with particular focus on refugee resettlement and community building from the 1970s to the present. Our goal is to highlight Southeast Asian voices and viewpoints, and to educate the public about the resilience and diversity of Southeast Asian Americans.

At SEADA, we believe that it is important to preserve the histories of Southeast Asian communities in their own voices. By collecting, preserving, and sharing these stories, SEADA seeks to contribute to the understanding of Southeast Asians in the US.

Collection Development Policy:

<https://www.uml.edu/Research/SEA-digital-archive/about/>

Advisory Board & Core Team:

<https://www.uml.edu/Research/SEA-digital-archive/about/team.aspx>

TIMELINE

- 2015 March: Meeting SEAA communities & UMass Lowell
- 2015-2017: Grant applications (NEH, National Archives, CLIR)
- 2017 April: NEH Humanities Collections & Reference Resources Grant
- 2017 Summer: – Search for SEADA Archivist
 - Nov-Dec 2017: Preservation Plan & Survey of Collections
 - Nov 2017-Dec 2018: Intellectual Property
 - Dec 2017-Feb 2018 Content Management System
 - Jan 2018-May 2018 SEADA Procedures
 - Jan 2018-Apr 2018: Formed SEADA Community Advisory Board

SEADA PUBLIC LAUNCH

DECEMBER 2019



FINDING AIDS

- Inventories
- DACS-compliant template
- Accessible online as LibGuides, https://libguides.uml.edu/prf.php?account_id=194765
- Collections cataloged into WorldCat

DIGITAL COLLECTIONS

- Mostly digitized materials scanned from analog collections
- Omeka site, <https://umlseada.omeka.net/>

METADATA

- Dublin Core (Omeka)
- MODS (Digital Commonwealth)
- Metadata Guide
- Controlled Vocabulary
 - Library of Congress Subject Headings
 - Locally assigned subject headings

PRESERVATION

Where are digital materials?

- External hard drives
- SharePoint
- Server

Preservation Guide

- Adapted parts of York University's Digital Preservation Policy

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

SAYDANAR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CENTER (2017)



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

SOUTHEAST ASIAN WATER FESTIVAL (2018 & 2019)



ACADEMIC USE

SOUTHEAST ASIAN FAMILY AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT TRAINING

- Partnership with Tsongas Industrial History Center
- Primary & secondary school teachers
- Approximately 100 teachers in 2019
- Resources for teachers:
<https://umlseada.omeka.net/exhibits>



Future Challenges & Directions

- Funding / Fundraising
- Sustainability
 - SEADA Team
 - Digital preservation
- Community Collections
 - Existing archives in community
 - Community organizations
 - Individual collections
 - Oral histories
 - Translation

QUESTIONS

THANK YOU!