Roadblocks on the *Tōkaidō*: Challenges in Cross-Institutional Collaboration

Matthew Hayes, PhD (Duke University)
Ann Marie Davis, PhD, MLS (The Ohio State University)
1. Project Overview and Contributors

*Off the Beaten Path: Alternative Views of the Fifty-Three Tōkaidō Stations*

**Librarians**
Rebecca Corbett (USC)  
Ann Marie Davis (OSU)  
Matthew Hayes (Duke)

**Metadata/DH Specialists**
Eric Buckenmeyer (Kennesaw State)  
Jesse Drian (USC)

**Scalar Developer**
Curtis Fletcher (USC)
2. Collections Scale of Participating Libraries

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>University</th>
<th>Japanese Holdings 2021</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>OSU</td>
<td>149,526</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Duke</td>
<td>101,423</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USC</td>
<td>79,331</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Based on 2021 CEAL Statistics Data
3. Challenges in Digitization

- Speed/Timelines
  - Delays, closures

- Divisional capacities
  - Centralized digitization serving entire library

- Costs
  - Unclear, unwritten, prohibitive
3.1 Challenges in Image-Hosting

- Platform compatibility
  - IIIF ↔ Scalar

- Varied institutional responses to IIIF
  - Some compliant, some non-compliant

- Hosting and potential ephemerality
3.2 Challenges in Accessibility

• Institutional parity
  • Changing standards, unknown standards

• Platform parity
  • Access at project level vs platform level
4. Current State of Project

Newest planning tools:

- Storyboarding
- Visual Mockups
- Testing with ArcGIS
5. Takeaways

• Institutions with mid-sized collections may place unique demands on collaborative workflows compared to institutions with larger-collections.

• Some challenges are unavoidable. Early conversations with divisional stakeholders will help to clarify workflows—and may shape the project itself!

• If you have access to only a small pool of materials, scoping the project in flexible ways will ensure that the project gets off the ground.
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