Managing Portfolios With a View to Sustainability

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Overview

- Considering the *ilities*
- What is sustainability
- Example of Rice University Projects
- Why sustainability as a decision factor
The ilities

- Systems Engineering thinks about the *ilities* as a non-quantifiable requirement
  - Usability, maintainability, scalability, availability, extensibility, security, portability
- *Ilities* measure quality
- Bottom line: how well does the system stand up to change over time
- Ultimate *ility* in higher ed: sustainability
Sustainability

- When a new project comes along, can it be sustained
- Core staff, core infrastructure, minimum customization
- Separate project-specific interfaces from long-term support
- Build from previous experience/code
- Balance stakeholder desires with what’s realistic
Example of Rice U. Projects

- Accommodate all collections in DSpace
- Our Americas Archive Partnership
  - Management of digitized collection separate from presentation interface
  - Lessons learned from Travelers in the Middle East Archive (TIMEA) project
- ECE Publications
  - Citation formats for every collection, regardless of format used
- Music performance organizational rubric
  - Think about different ways to represent collections
Sustainability as a Driver

- Change is constant; support must also be constant
- Finite resources must keep growing collections current
- Sustainability = growth = quality