Gavin Nelson

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LIS 644 – Digital Libraries

Dr. Fatih Oguz

Assignment 2 – Building a Digital Collection

- **Name and Collection Title:**

Gavin Nelson/Gavin's History of Rock 'n' Roll Music Collection

- **Gavin's History of Rock 'n' Roll Music Collection Landing Page:**

https://cdm15863.contentdm.oclc.org/digital/collection/p15863coll18

- **Collection Description:**

When this future archivist was starting out in college, I chose to take certain classes for the purpose of fun and relaxation. I needed something as a temporary escape from my History classes to recharge. One class that was the most fun and relaxing for me, and this particular class is also one of my favorite classes of all time, was the History of Rock Music course. In that awesome course, I got to be taken on a journey through the vivid adventures that helped the rock music world grow into what it is today. I got to learn about legendary rock icons like Buddy Holly, Elvis Presley, and Simon & Garfunkel. I loved that class so much that I actually ordered a copy of the textbook online for myself. I want to share some of the things that I have learned from that class, which is what inspired me to create this collection. I hope you find some of the content in this collection as enjoyable as I did when I first learned about them.

- **Reflection Report:**

For someone who is not overly familiar with technologies, this particular assignment was quit the adventure for me. What started out as a seemingly daunting obstacle that was towering over me turned out to actually not be as bad as I made it out to be in my head. I will admit that I was becoming anxious at first when it seemed like the software just didn't want to index and publish the collection that I created. That "Index Failed" statement seemed like it was going to keep coming up indefinitely. However, after exercising some patience, as well as referring to the resources and tools that were provided to me, I was able to get the hang of how CONTENTdm works. At least I hope I acquired a basic knowledge of the software.

Like almost everything that you set your mind to in life, that basic knowledge did not come quite easily. One of the first challenges that faced me was trying to find the appropriate terms to use for the metadata fields. For some of the fields, like Creator and Date for example, I managed to populate them with little to no effort. However for some, like Contributors and Relations, I really had to do some digging to discern what would be appropriate terms for those particular fields. I get the distinct feeling that it is not all cut and dry when it comes to determining what are the best terms or values to populate the metadata field. It feels like that area has about fifty shades of grey in regards to the fact that for some of the metadata fields, there is more than one term/value that could be appropriate. As far as my collection is concerned, I tried to populate as many appropriate fields as possible. This includes the fields that Dublin Core requires as well. The goal for me was to make sure that I fill out almost every single detail in the metadata field.

The one item in my collection that gave me the most trouble when it comes to this task was my old undergraduate music research paper, which was completely written by yours truly. For an item that was completely written by me, I was scratching my head as to what terms would be appropriate for the metadata field, which includes the required Contributor field by Dublin Core. I didn't really know how to populate that particular field, so I just left it blank. Overall, I felt like I done the best I could in picking items and metadata terms that seem to be appropriate for my chosen collection.

As for my reasoning in identifying those items that I wanted to add to my collection, I wanted to add objects that were related to what I learned about in my History of Rock Music class. My goal was to select objects that stood out to me the most. These were objects that were related to some of the favorite things that I learned from that class. It was pretty nostalgic for me, which made doing this assignment pretty fun. This was a good first experience with this software, which should allow me to be more comfortable as I work with it again in the near future.