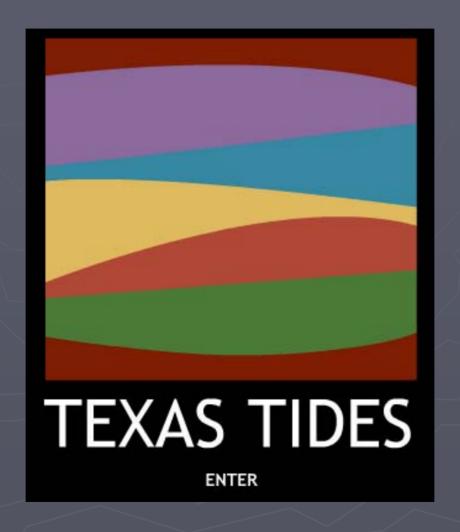
Susan Clarke
Stephen F. Austin State University
Electronic Resources & Libraries Conference
February 23, 2007



http://tides.sfasu.edu

Funding

In September 2002, the Texas Tides project began with funding from a Texas' Telecommunications Infrastructure Fund "TIF" Board technology grant.



In September 2005, the Texas Tides project was awarded \$570,288 through an Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) National Leadership Grant in the Advancing Learning Communities category. IMLS funding is providing for many exciting expansions to the initial Texas Tides project.



► The Texas Tides program (http://tides.sfasu.edu) uses website, database, Wiki, multimedia and other digital tools to create an online resource for educators, students and researchers. This project utilizes international partnerships to provide a variety of resources, including cultural and language components.

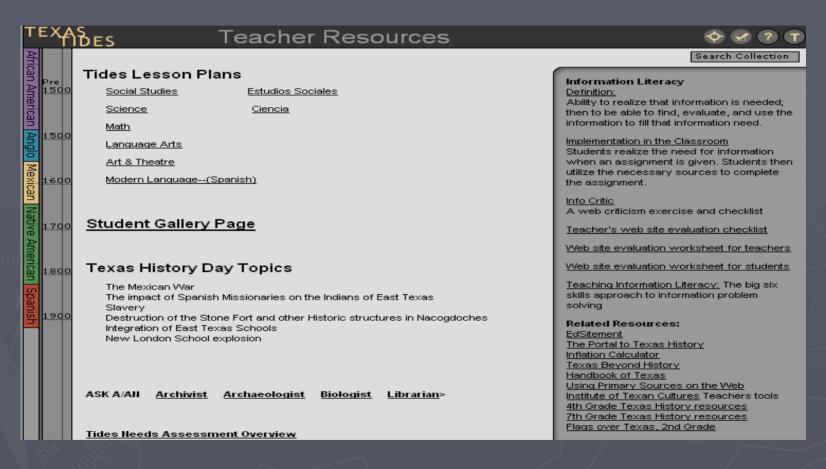
The Digital Projects department at Stephen F. Austin State University was assembled in 2006 to bring together digital librarians to set up an infrastructure for the development and enhancement of the library's, university and partner resources. There are four digital librarians, one full time staff position, one half time grant funded staff position and twelve student assistants. The chair of the department focuses on the overall project coordination and upcoming grant writing, the science specialist is developing a new sister site, one digital librarian develops and manages the website resources and the other is the database and

needs assessment administrator.



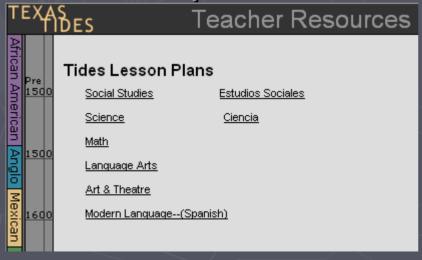
Museums, K-12 teachers from the United States and Texas and other multi-national organizations and educators provide material, input and feedback in a variety of way. The teachers are traveling with the Digital Projects team from Stephen F. Austin State University to film field trips in the United States and Mexico. Collections from diverse sources can be digitized for use by anyone who accesses the website.

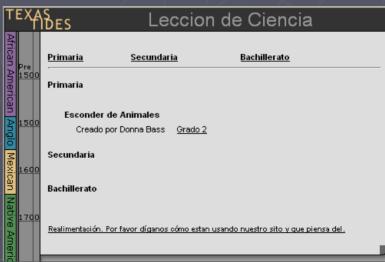
Teacher Resource Web Page



The main teacher web page integrates the different technologies used to enhance the site. A portal to the database collection, multi-lingual lesson plans, virtual reference AskaSpecialist services and needs assessment.

► Cultural resources are a major component in the project. Our collections are in the midst of a language translation phase also. Many of the materials on the website will also have a Spanish translation.





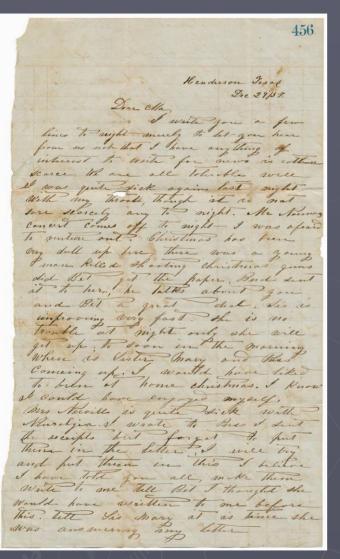


A 2nd grade science teacher visited the Yucatan. She is writing science and social studies lesson plans based on her trip.

The Tides program is giving teachers an opportunity to experience what they teach, enrich their lessons, create new curriculum, better understand their student population, and build student enthusiasm for learning.

Slide courtesy of Priscilla Coulter, Digital Projects Librarian

Comparing History, Comparing Cultures



Excerpt about making "Red" dye
Dissolve two ounces of pounded cochineal in a
brass kettle in a sufficient quantity of water to
cover one pound of thread. Let the cochineal
dissolve for fifteen minutes Mix 2 oz of muriate
of tin with half an ounce of cream of tartar, added
to the other mixture. The thread should be
washed clean. Put in the dye wet and boiled
thirty minutes.



Zapotec Weavers - Oaxaca, Mexico (2006)

Showing a colony of cochineal and demonstrating how it is used to make dye.

Slide courtesy of Rachel Galan, Chair, Digital Projects

Translation of Texas Tides Material











Undergraduate students from SFA and doctoral students from Texas A&M University are translating all Texas Tides resources into either English or Spanish.

Adding Science to Texas Tides: New Natural History Collections

Natural history collections from both East Texas and Mexico are being added to an upcoming Texas Tides



sister site.









The Texas Tides Curriculum Development Team (CDT)

Provides for the needs of TEKS Compliant Lesson Plans & Opportunities for Teaching Enrichment Experiences



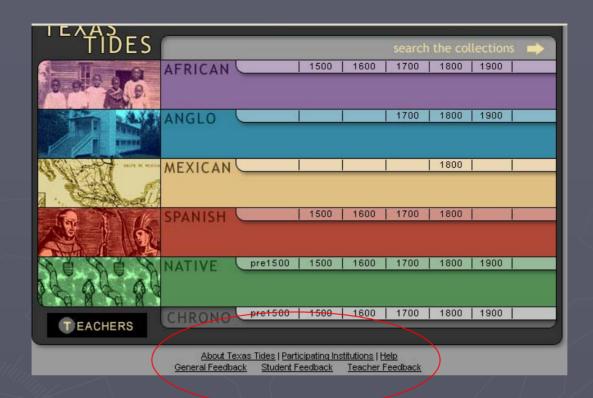
Elementary School teachers attended a three day long Texas Tides workshop to learn how to integrate the program into their teaching. The CDT teachers are creating lesson plans for the project Website.

<u>Understanding Teacher's Needs</u>





- Focus Groups
- Formal and Informal Interviews
- Surveys
- Conference Discussions
- **►** Online Learning Community

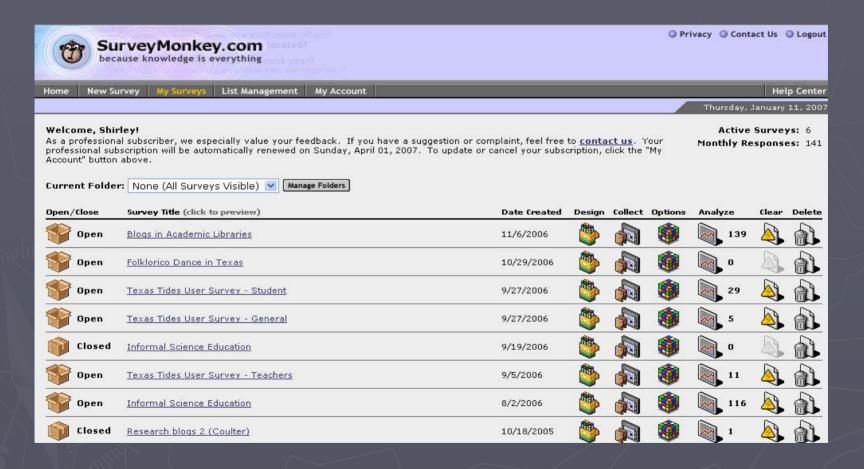


<u>Surveys</u>

Custom surveys have been developed to evaluate the Texas Tides Website. Surveys are available for: teachers, students, and/or General users. Survey results are used to direct future program development.

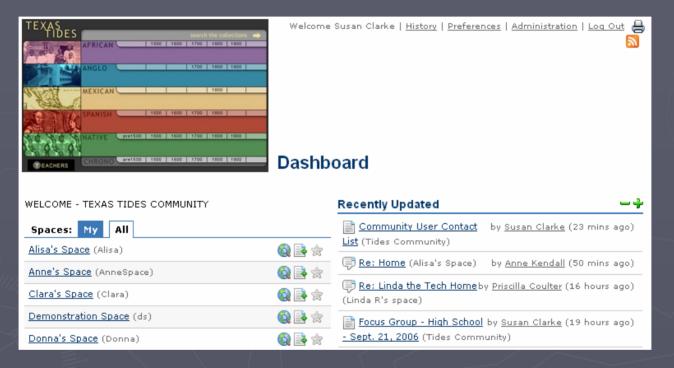
Links to surveys are located on the bottom section of the home page http://tides.sfasu.edu/home.html, on the Teacher section, and in the upcoming Student Resource Section.

Survey Development



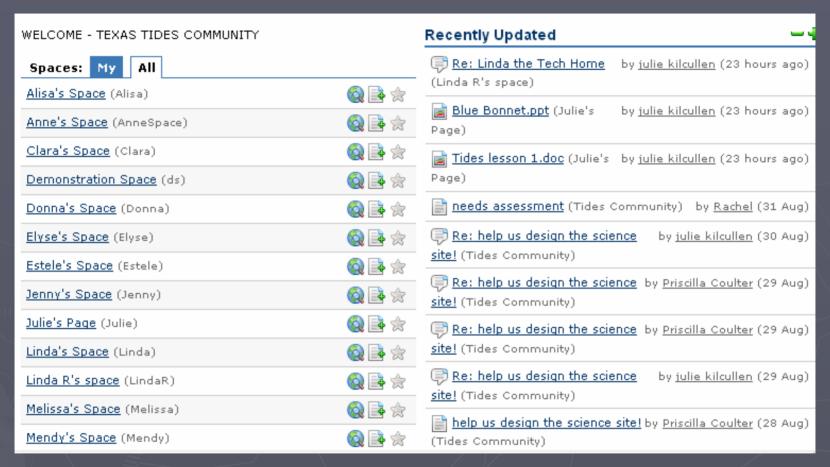
SurveyMonkey is used to develop and administer three specific surveys for the Tides project. The three target groups are the general, teacher and student users. Other surveys are developed for library research projects as needed.

The Online Learning Community Wiki



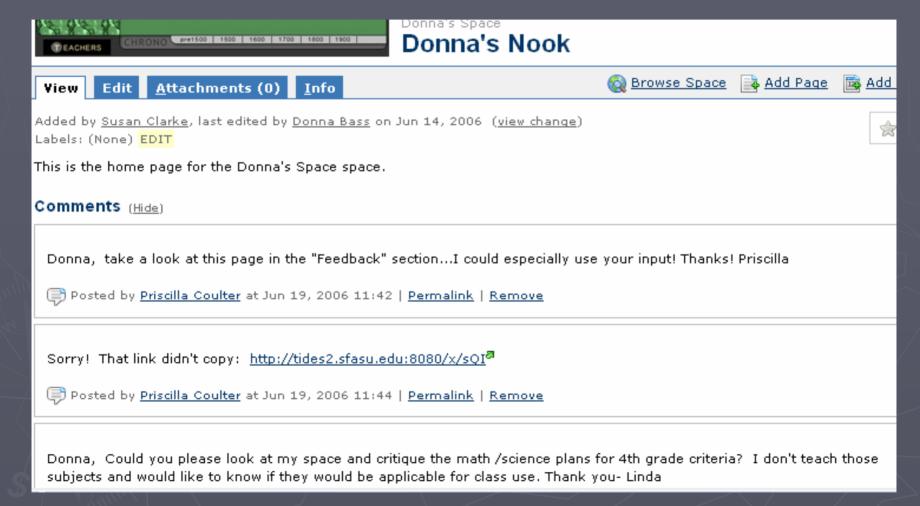
The Texas Tides Wiki is an online community for the teachers, educators, faculty and community resource members that contribute to the Texas Tides Program. Confluence wiki software was chosen to be used for the Tides community.

Texas Tides Wiki User Group



There are currently twenty-four teachers, professors, and other educational professionals participating and contributing to the Wiki.

Tides Wiki Community



Some comments and interaction with a teacher. Each community member has their own "space".

Tides Community Wiki



Tides Community Fulbright Information Added by Rachel, last edited by Rachel on Aug 20, 2006 (view change) Labels: (None) EDIT Websites Fulbright-Hays Seminars Abroad Here is the information on the seminar that I will attend **Application Process** The application process consisted of four "questions" and three letters of recommendation. My essays along with the evaluators' comments of my application packet are included as children of this page. Mexico You will be able to follow my Fulbright experience on "Rachel's Space". Video I was able to capture severl small video clips that you might find useful: Zapotec women weavers cooking, washing dishes, and demonstrating various aspects of the weaving process. Mexican Market - a woman rolling quesillo (Oaxacan string cheese) into

We were all connected for Rachel's Fulbright adventure – she posted pictures and lots of great information for everyone.

Focus Groups

Information gathered through focus groups provides feedback for the design of the upcoming Texas Tides resource areas.

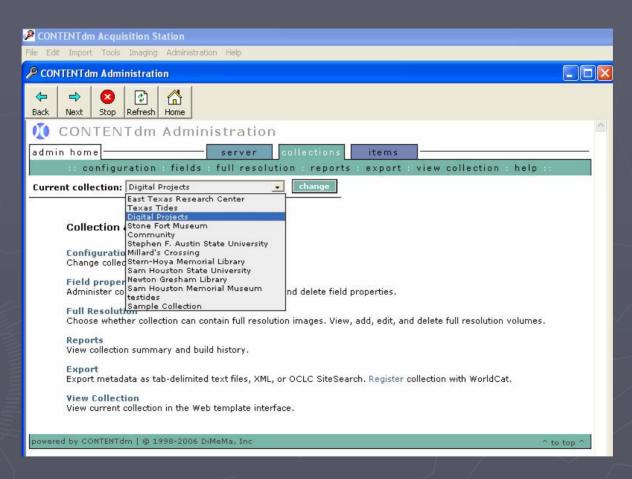


Information on search strategies and on how individuals want to interact with websites was gathered at recent focus groups of middle, high school, university students and genealogical users.

The Contentdm™ Database

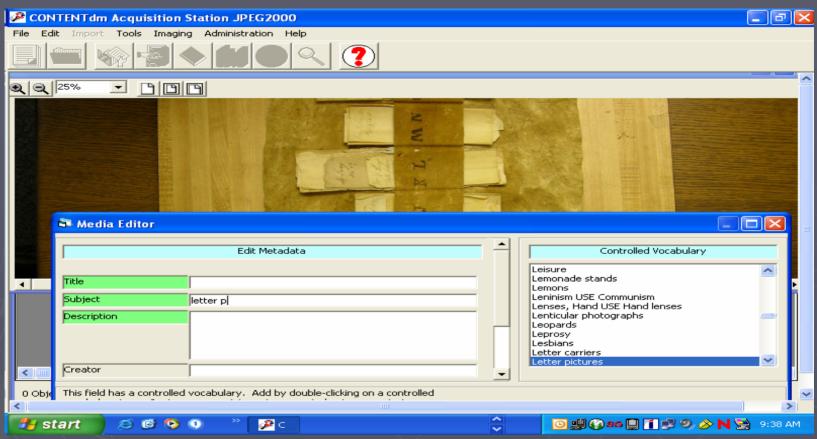
- Images can be collected in the "My favorites" section of the database
- Save images in a Power Point presentation
- Save Images to a web page
- Side by side images comparison
- Digital Projects can create pre-defined searches for teachers, students, and other researchers
- ► Easy to find citation URL for images
- Zoom in on Images
- Customizable web interface

Contentdm[™] Database Administrative View



Administrative set-up view – various collections were set up to reflect our partners and interest groups for increased searching capabilities on the user side. 10,000 items were converted from VTLS to the new system.

Contentdm[™] Database Aquistions Station View



Dublin Core metadata fields and controlled vocabulary fields are incorporated in the database templates. The view of the item being edited is seen in conjunction with the template.

Contentdm[™] Database Item Approval Area

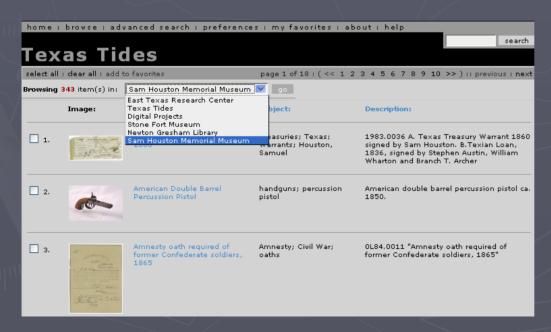


Items entered into the database are stored in a holding Approval queue so they can be reviewed by a librarian for accuracy before being uploaded to the live view.

The Contentdm™ Database



Basic shell – first items entered

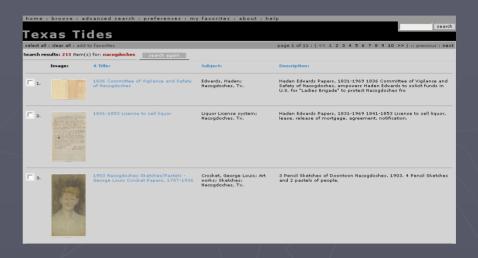


1st User view after conversion from existing VTLS database – still some PHP customization to be done to incorporate graphics and web design for final look.

Contentdm[™] Database User View

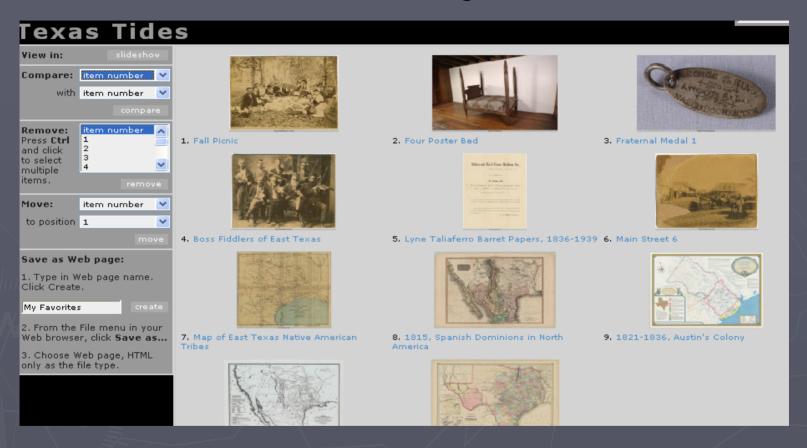
The user preference change screen, these changes are stored in a cookie on the users pc so they will remain until the user changes them.





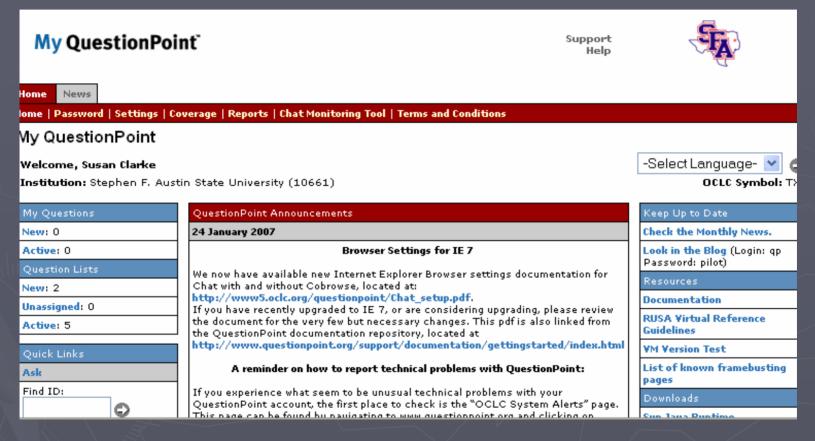
Basic browse able user view, this view can be changed to and icon view and the color customized to the users preference of colors, fonts, styles, etc. Items can be "checked" in the numbered boxes to be saved to favorites, allowing a grouping of specific items based on the users needs.

Contentdm[™] MyFavorites



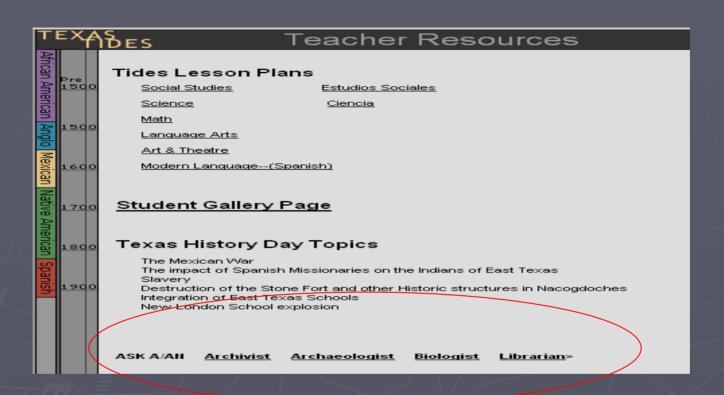
Images can be easily chosen and added to a MyFavorites list when they can be compared, saved as a webpage and manipulated by the end user.

Virtual AskASpecialist Services



The OCLC QuestionPoint virtual reference service is used to provide email specialist contacts for the Texas Tides program.

Virtual AskASpecialist Services



QuestionPoint was already being used for general library reference questions, but science, geology and history specialists were added to enhance the Tides users specialized questions. Specific links were added to the Tides resource pages to provide a portal for the questions.

Goal

To integrate technologies to compile a cohesive end product that combines real peoples skills in the most useful online experience possible. The Texas Tides project is ever changing and growing and the Digital Projects department hopes to use it as a platform to initiate a scholarly repository at our university as well as other new projects.

Texas Tides Technology Links and Resources

- Confluence Enterprise Wiki Software http://www.atlassian.com/software/confluence/
- Contentdm[™] Digital Collection Management Software <u>http://www.dimema.com/</u>
- SurveyMonkey Survey Software http://www.surveymonkey.com/
- QuestionPoint 24/7 Reference Services http://www.questionpoint.org/

http://tides.sfasu.edu

