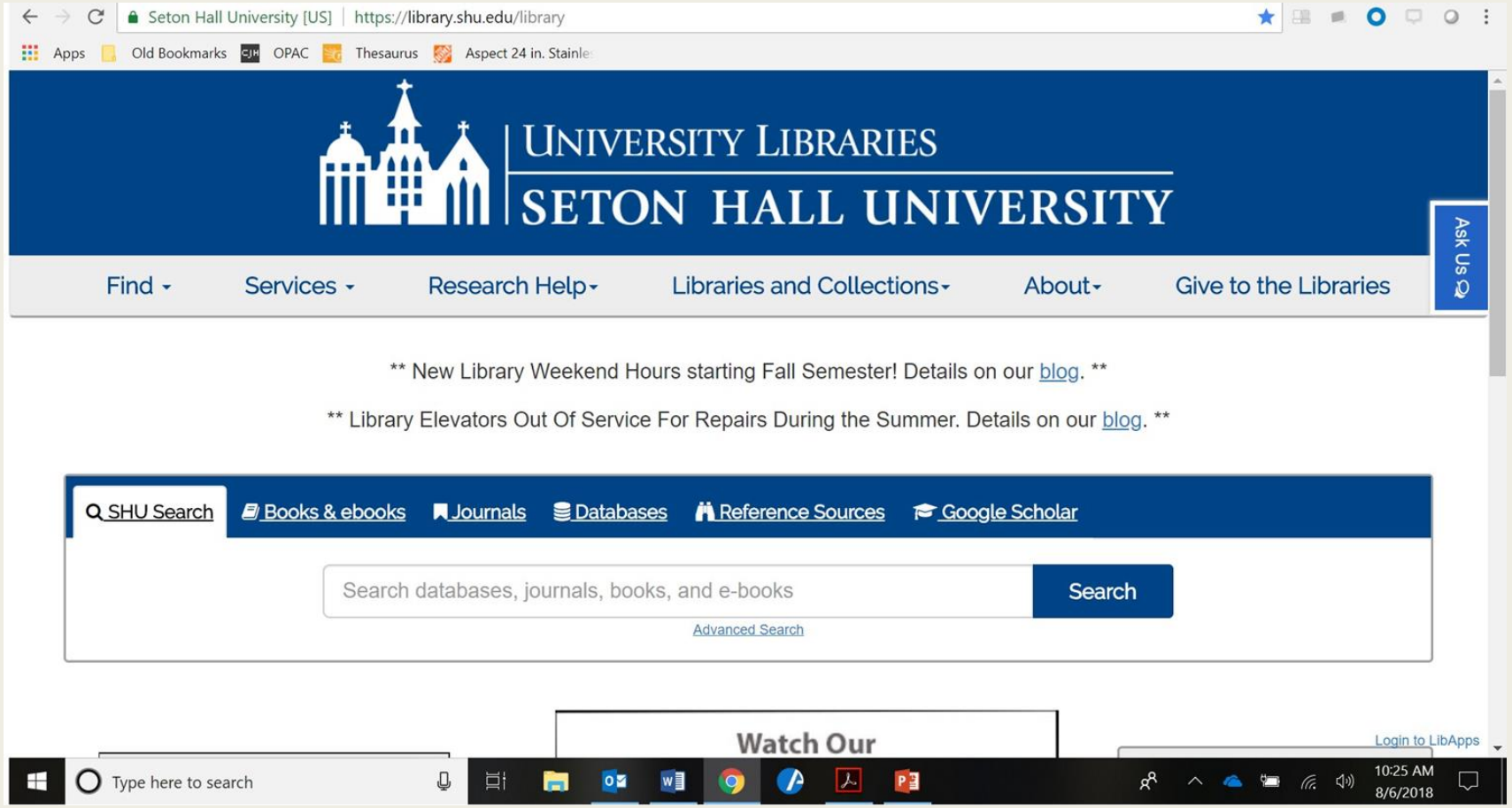
DISCOVERING ARCHIVES

Integrating Archivesspace Records
into WorldCat and Ebsco EDS discovery layer

The Library Catalogue

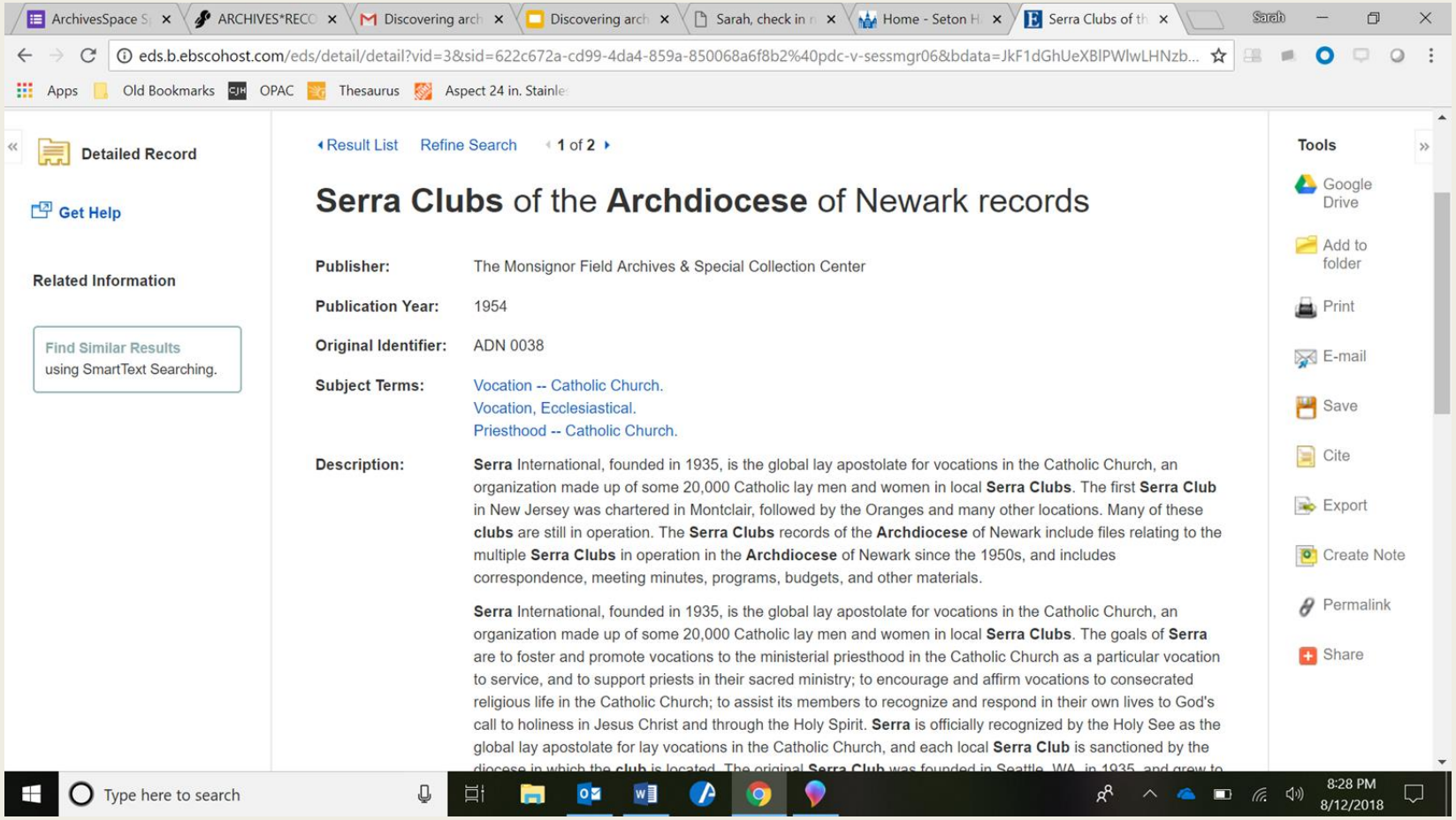


EDS IMPORT

Working with EBSCO

- Configure OAI feed working with EBSCO Implementation Manager
- Necessary input:
  - *requested fields (Dublin Core)*
  - *access to database (firewalls, etc.)*
- Possible timeframe – 4-6 weeks
  - *Actually ended up only being 2 weeks*

EDS example record



Results: mixed

- Collections were successfully harvested, but so were folders
  - *Complication: local practice was to make folders public even when collections as a whole were meant to remain private – so they were added to the catalogue*
- Certain fields were not helpful (publication year, accession number)
- Record indicated “online access” when in reality only the catalog record was online
- Duplicate records were discovered
  - *These were for older collections that were hand-catalogued upon completion of processing*

OCLC Digital Gateway

- The catalogue records created by the Catalogue Department were well-done; however the important points were captured in the harvested Archivesspace records
- The main advantage the hand-catalogued records had was that they had OCLC numbers, making them findable in Worldcat as well as our local catalogue

New Goal: create OCLC numbers for exported Archivesspace records

Fixes to EDS Import?

- Like many OAI harvests, updates of added information were automatic and regular – every 24 hours
- However deletions were a more complex and manual process, requiring we make request from the EBSCO Implementation Manager and a waiting period while they got to the request
- We needed to delete all the folder-level records that were imported, as well as add OCLC numbers to all records

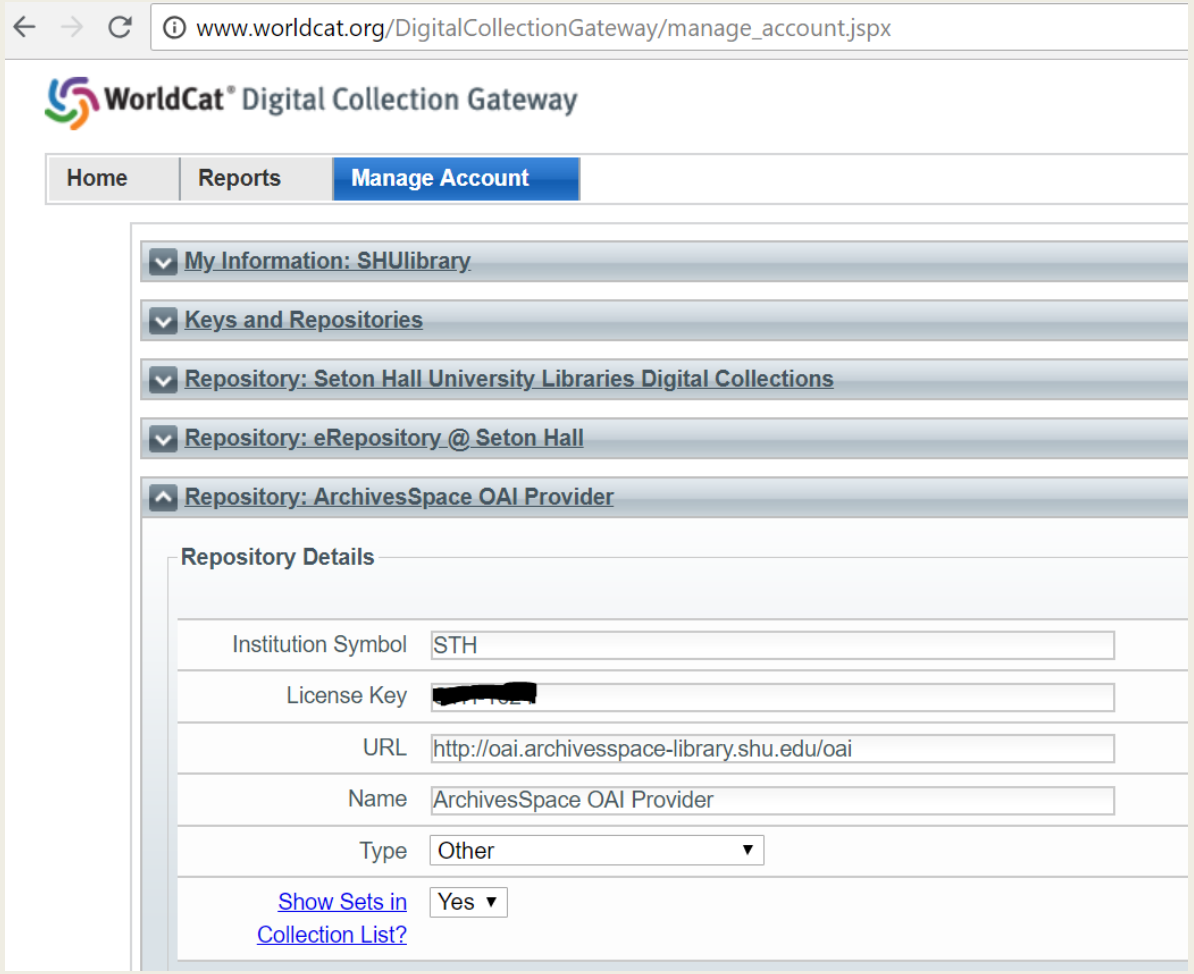
Verdict: Start Over

OCLC Digital Gateway IMPORT to WorldCat

OCLC’s Digital Gateway

- OCLC’s Digital Gateway offered another way of importing Archivesspace records directly into OCLC through configuring an OAI feed through them
- From there they would be harvested into our local catalogue as well
- This way the records would be both in OCLC and in our local repository, dramatically increasing the discoverability of our collections

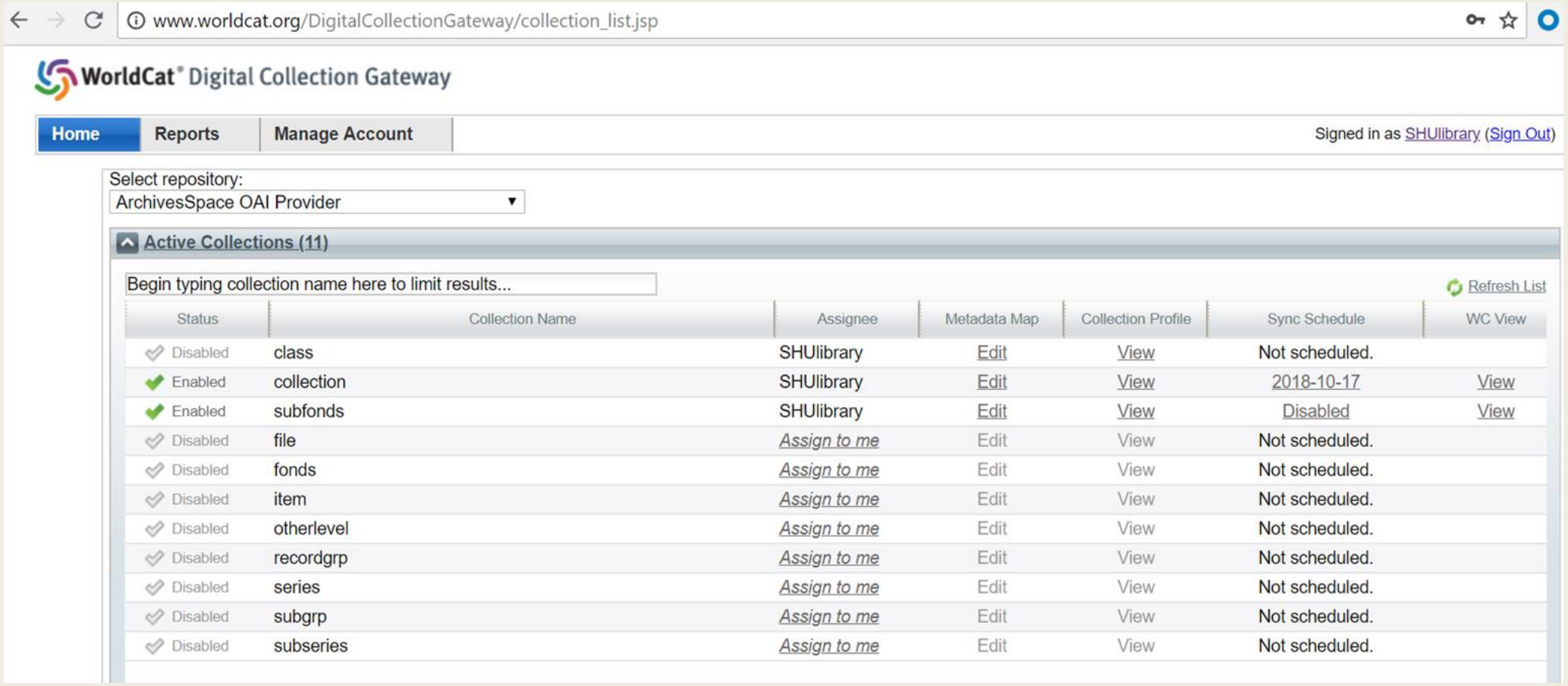
Setting up ArchivesSpace in Digital Gateway



Configuring the OAI Export

- This time we had in mind from the outset that we wanted to make sure only collection-level records were harvested
- The terminology used in Digital Gateway's feed was drawn directly from Archivesspace, creating confusion as archivists and technical services librarians worked together with our separate terminologies
- Options for levels of descriptions included: fonds, sub-fonds, resource, etc.
- Collection was reasonably chosen as the desired level of description to harvest

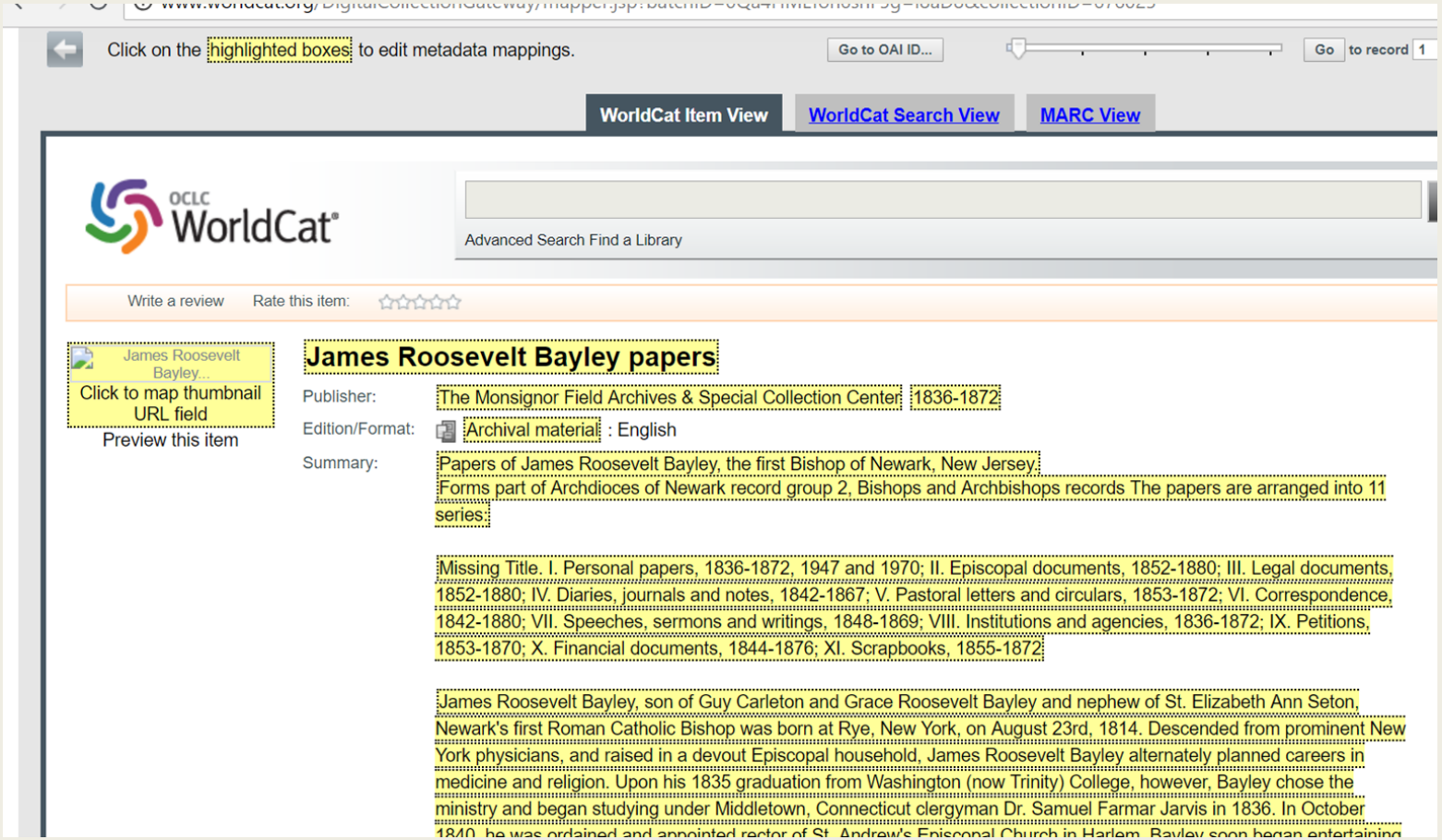
Original Setup



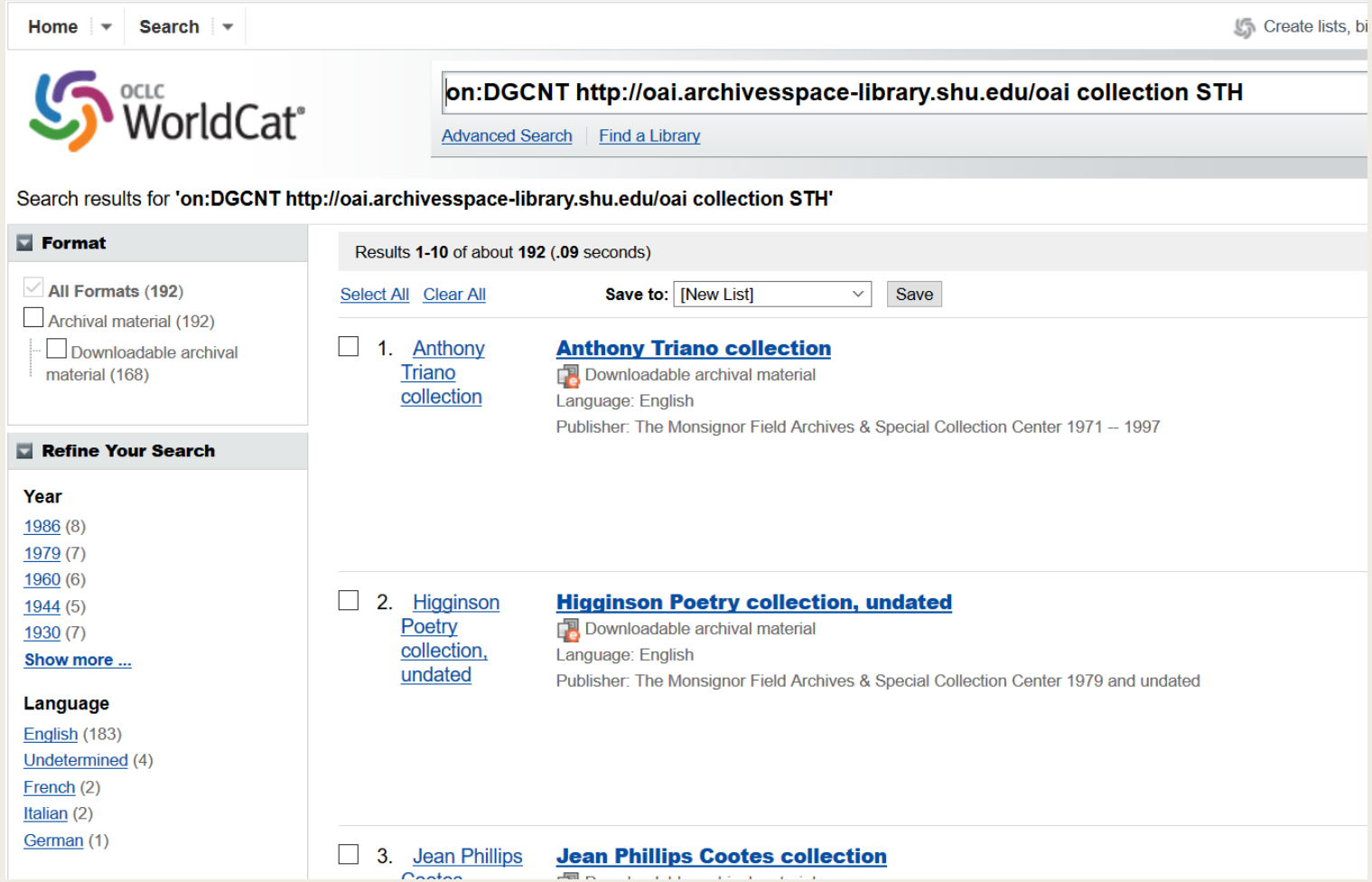
Terminology: Archivists, Librarians, and OCLC

- However – Archivesspace uses “Resource” to indicate a collection level record, not “Collection”
- Choosing “Collection” did result in the import of a few records – however we discovered that all that was being imported were folders that had been mistakenly identified as collections, no actual collections were being imported!
  - *Discovering seemingly insignificant flaws in the data*
- Attempts to communicate with OCLC’s Digital Gateway via email were similarly frustrating due to their having no idea what Archivesspace is or how it works
- Eventually a conference call and a shared screen allowed resolution of the problem

Metadata Mapping of ArchivesSpace Record in Digital Gateway

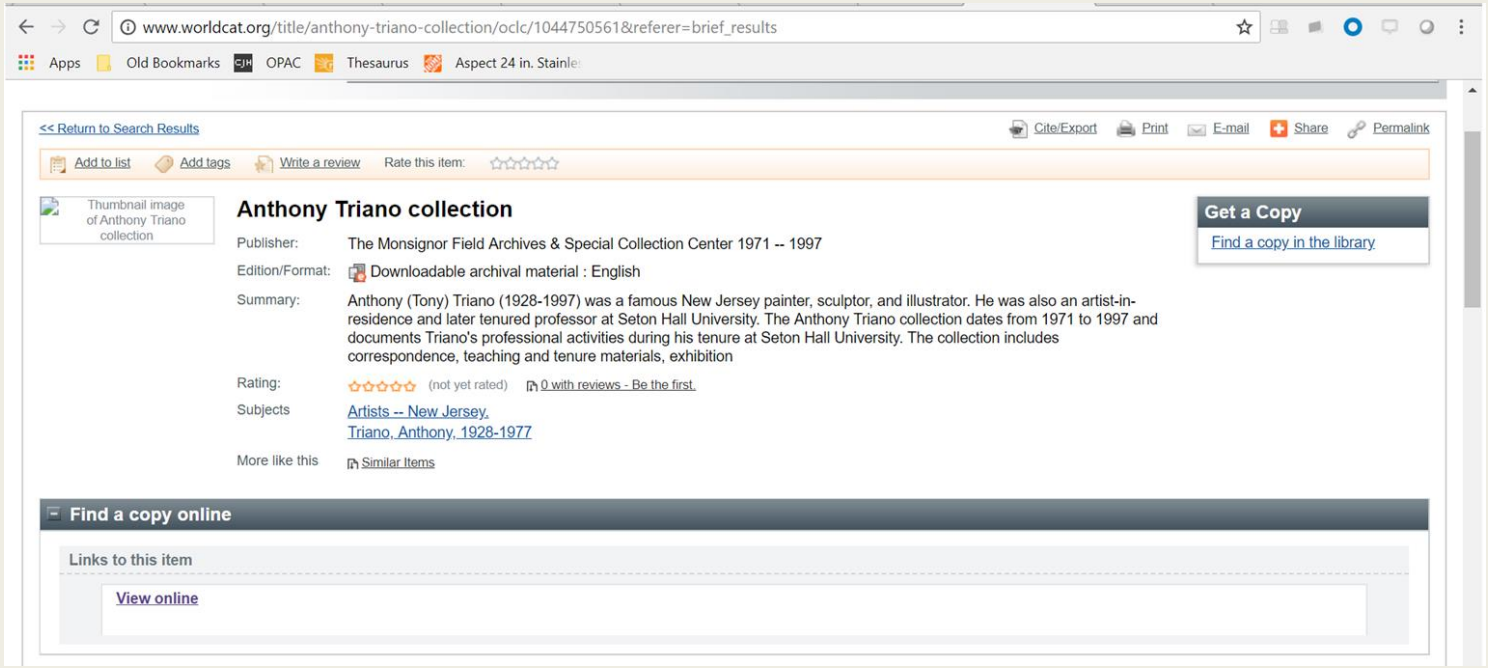


Oclc WorldCat ArchivesSpace Records



OCLC Records

- Only collection level records included
- Metadata makes sense
- Links directly to the correct finding aid in Archivesspace



Success!

Through this process we discovered ways that we could communicate better with professionals in related areas, clean up our data, and better understand our systems – all in the name of improving access to our collections, especially for our undergraduate population.