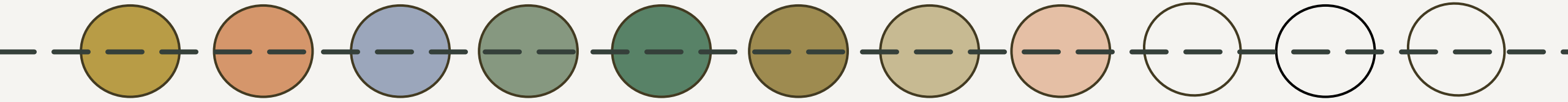


A desert landscape with a stone labyrinth in the foreground and rocky hills in the background. The labyrinth is constructed from numerous smooth, light-colored stones arranged in a complex, winding pattern on a sandy surface. In the background, there are several large, rounded rock formations and a prominent, sharp peak under a clear blue sky. The overall scene is arid and sunlit.

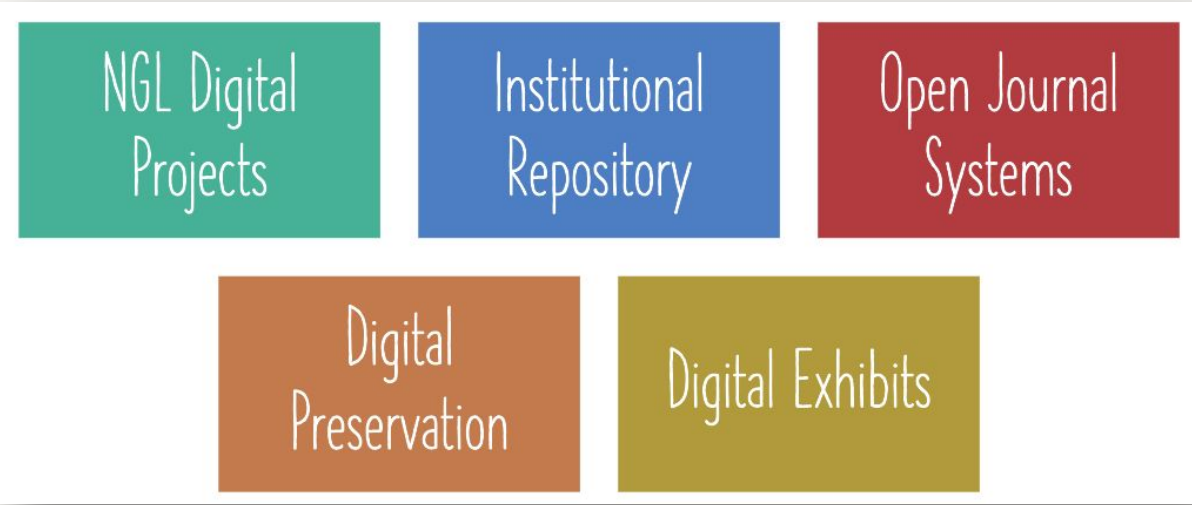
# Navigating the Accessibility Labyrinth

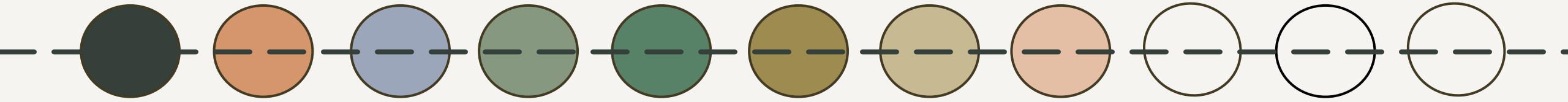
**SHSU'S JOURNEY AND PROGRESS**



# Overview of SHSU Digital Initiatives

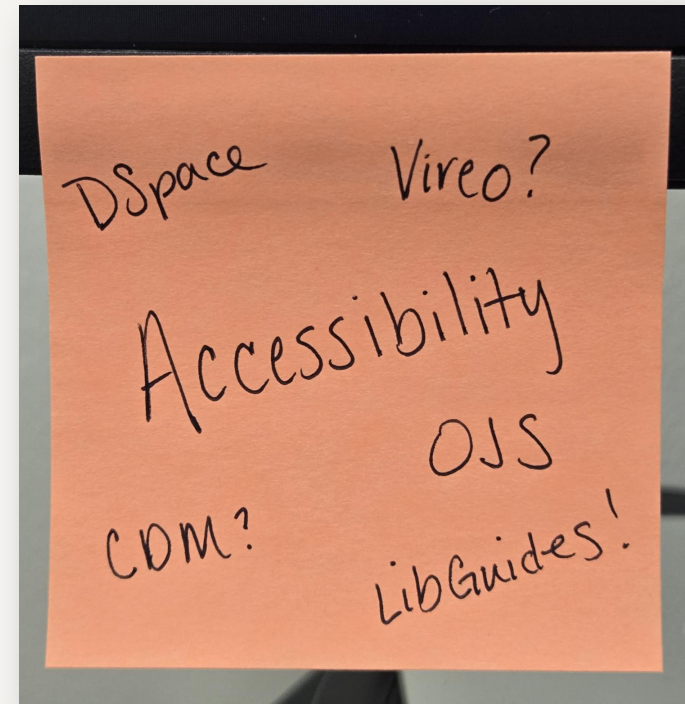
- Five FT employees
  - Michelle McCrary, Head of Digital Initiatives
  - Rebecca Richie, Digital Projects Specialist
- Digitization Lab Manager
  - 2 student assistants
- 2 Library Assistants

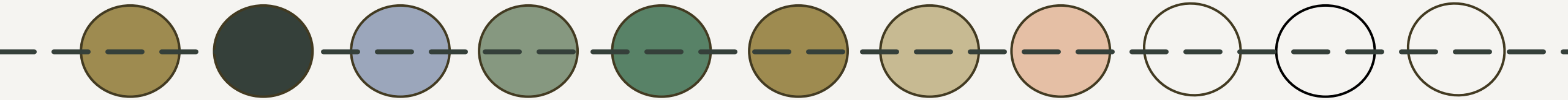




# Getting Started

- 2024 = Gradual awareness and initial uncertainty
  - "Oh, this is a thing we need to do."
- What we were already doing
  - Some OCR, transcripts, captioning
- Step 1: Deep dive to understand the new rule





# Early Attempts and False Starts

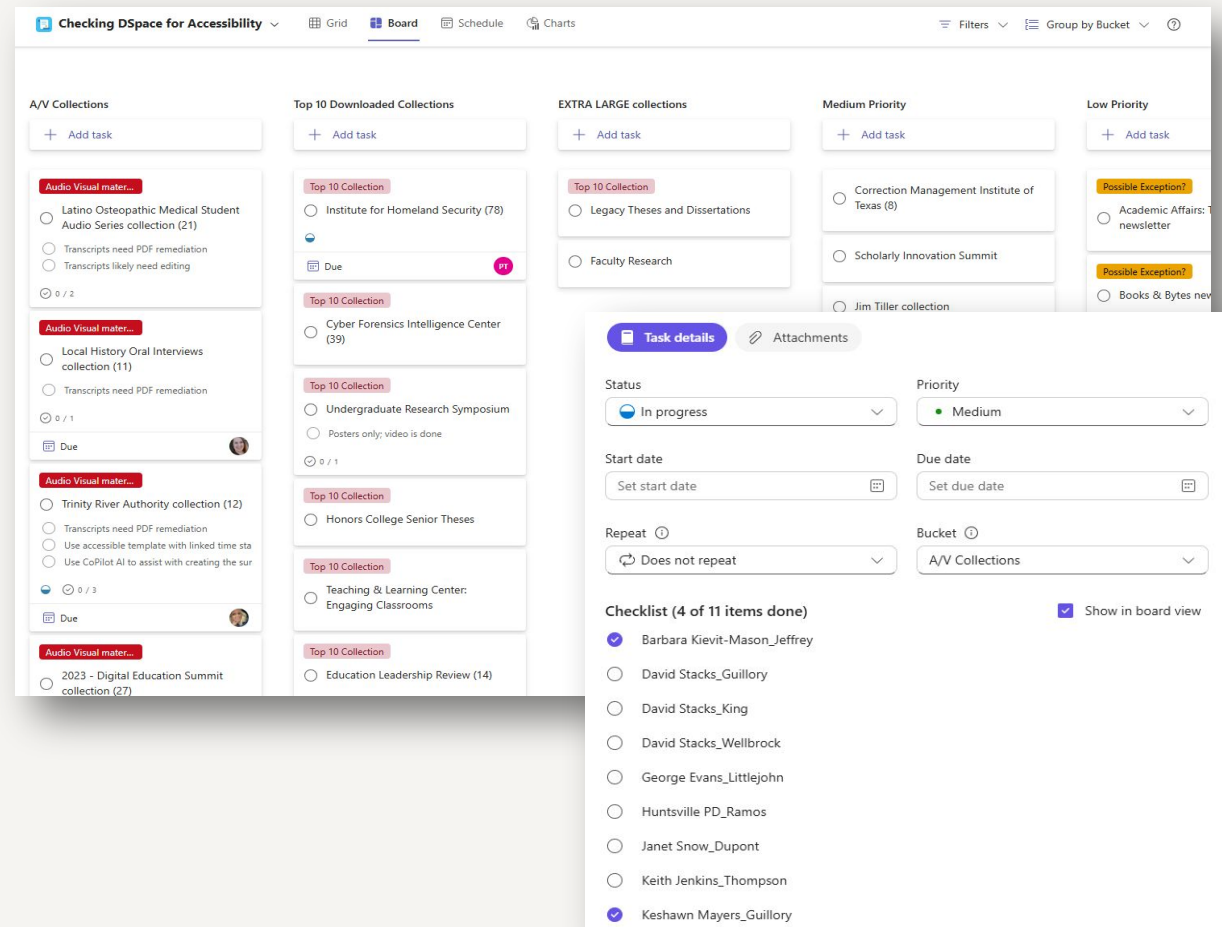
- Starting with what we know – Theses and Dissertations (ThDs)
  - No more ABBYY and trying to make Adobe work
- Alt Text, Bookmarks, and Tags
- Internal team training
- Realizing this is going to be A LOT, but it can help with other scanned docs





# Assessment and Setting Priorities

- Start with DSpace first.
- Temporary stop to new uploads and cut off direct submissions.
- Usage statistics helped us to prioritize.
- Organize tasks and track progress using Microsoft Planner.
- Begin with obvious fixes and “quick wins.”



The screenshot shows a Microsoft Planner board titled "Checking DSpace for Accessibility". The board is organized into five columns: "A/V Collections", "Top 10 Downloaded Collections", "EXTRA LARGE collections", "Medium Priority", and "Low Priority". Each column contains a list of tasks with checkboxes and progress indicators. A "Task details" panel is open over the "Medium Priority" column, showing the following information:

- Status: In progress
- Priority: Medium
- Start date: Set start date
- Due date: Set due date
- Repeat: Does not repeat
- Bucket: A/V Collections
- Checklist (4 of 11 items done):
  - Barbara Kievit-Mason\_Jeffrey
  - David Stacks\_Guillory
  - David Stacks\_King
  - David Stacks\_Wellbrock
  - George Evans\_Littlejohn
  - Huntsville PD\_Ramos
  - Janet Snow\_Dupont
  - Keith Jenkins\_Thompson
  - Keshawn Mayers\_Guillory
- Show in board view:



# Audio Visual materials

- Video captioning using Adobe Premiere Pro.
  - Accessible caption formatting guidance from Section 508
  - Arial, 18-point, white text on a black translucent background.
- Connecting with campus submitters.
  - SHSU Online conference presentation recordings.
  - Revised submission guidelines to include caption information.



The screenshot shows a video player interface. At the top right, there is a small video thumbnail of a man. The main content area has a title "Online Learning: Challenges and Opportunities" underlined. Below the title is a list of pros and cons. To the right of the list is a video frame showing a person at a laptop with a video call on the screen. At the bottom of the video frame, there is a black caption box with white text: "and we have more time, more opportunities to talk".

**Online Learning: Challenges and Opportunities**

- Pros
  - Accessibility
  - Flexibility and Convenience
  - Customized Learning Experience
  - Cost-Efficiency
  - ...
- Cons
  - Lack of Social Interactions with Peers
  - Difficulty in Retaining Engagement
  - Difficulty in developing close bonds with instructors
  - Distraction
  - ...

and we have more time, more opportunities to talk

## Files

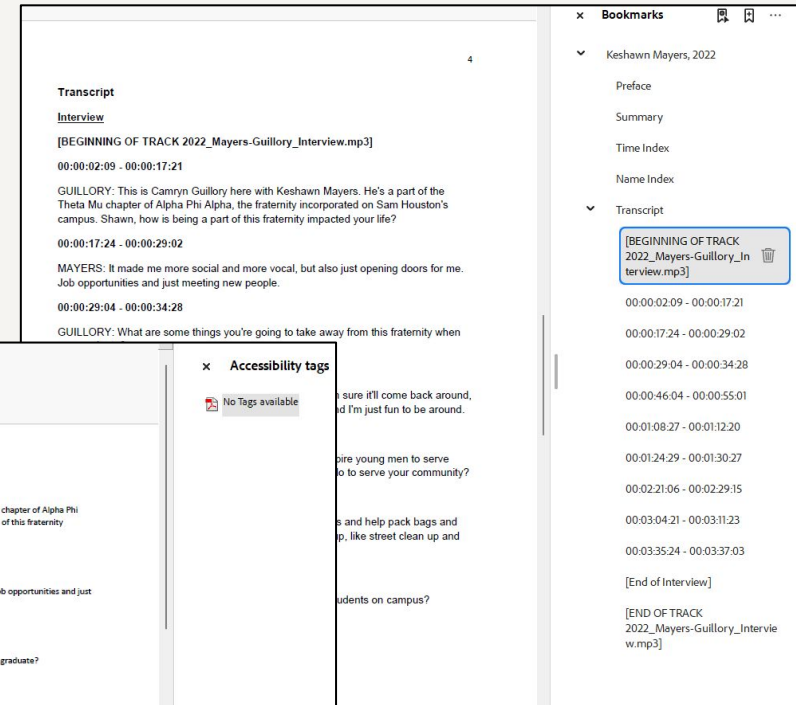
Fostering Historical Empathy\_Empowering Students in Online Teaching.mp4 (328.79 MB)  
Fostering Historical Empathy\_Empowering Students in Online Teaching.mp4-en.vtt (55.63 KB)





# Creating Accessible Templates

- Oral history collections.
  - Some had transcripts, some not.
  - All messy.
  - None accessible.
- Connecting with other regular submitters:
  - Upcoming Public History project (2026-2029)
  - Law Enforcement Institute of Texas
  - The Graduate & Professional School



Transcript

Interview

[BEGINNING OF TRACK 2022\_Mayers-Guillory\_Interview.mp3]

00:00:02:09 - 00:00:17:21

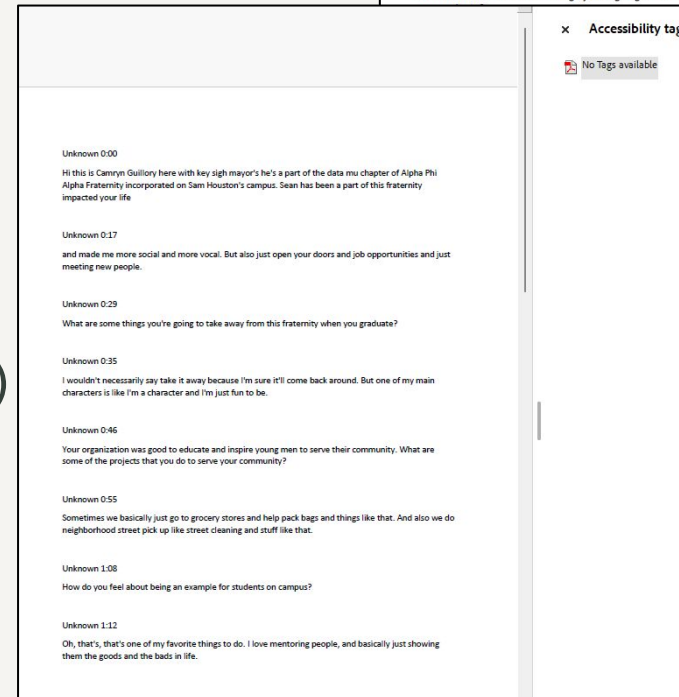
GUILLORY: This is Camryn Guillory here with Keshawn Mayers. He's a part of the Theta Mu chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha, the fraternity incorporated on Sam Houston's campus. Shawn, how is being a part of this fraternity impacted your life?

00:00:17:24 - 00:00:29:02

MAYERS: It made me more social and more vocal, but also just opening doors for me. Job opportunities and just meeting new people.

00:00:29:04 - 00:00:34:28

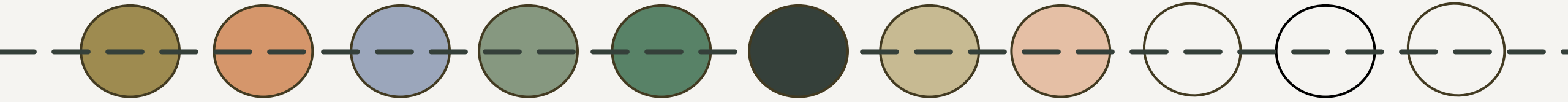
GUILLORY: What are some things you're going to take away from this fraternity when you graduate?



Accessibility tags

No Tags available





# Community, Communication, Collaboration!

- TDL community – early allies and communities of support
  - OJS accessibility working group
  - User group meetings – opportunities to share practices, struggles, and resources
- SHSU accessibility task force
  - Team members primarily IT, marketing, SHSU Online, and the library.
    - They "didn't even think about the library" at first!
- Forming the Library Accessibility Committee

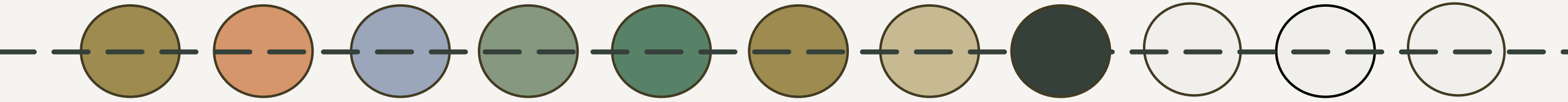




# Library Accessibility Committee

- 11 members representing different areas of the library
- 3-Rs Framework ([University of Minnesota OAD](#))
- Goals
  - Accessibility statement
  - LibGuide on accessibility (shout out to CUNY!)
  - In-house training
- Progress Tracking

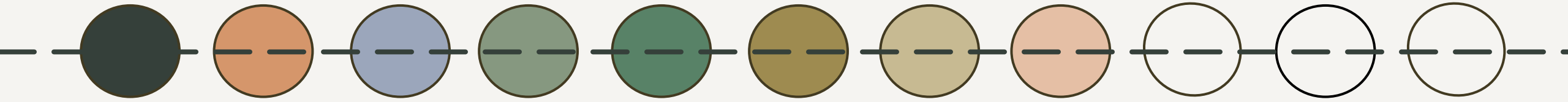




# Lessons Learned & Where We Go From Here

- Extension to April 2027 gives time to reassess again.
- Still developing and testing workflows and documentation.
- Acquiring PDF remediation software for the library – PREP from Continual Engine.
- Next steps:
  - Creating a culture accessible-first thinking.
  - Stay aware newer standards; plan ahead when/where possible.
  - User feedback study.





# QR Code for Resources

