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Podcasting and the Academic Library

Louise Feldmann, Amy Hoseth, and Dennis Ogg
Colorado State University Libraries
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Why podcast?

- Alternate method of instruction
 - Way to convey little bits of info
 - New tool for outreach
 - Personal curiosity
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Before we began...

- Reviewed literature on podcasting
 - Surveyed other academic podcasts
 - ❑ [Kresge Library, University of Michigan](#)
 - ❑ [Curtin University Podcasts](#)
 - ❑ [Glasgow University Library Podcasts](#)
 - ❑ [Johns Hopkins Sheridan Library Podcasts](#)
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Five main steps:

1. Get the tools (hardware and software, etc.)
 2. Write scripts
 3. Record
 4. Edit and polish
 5. Post online
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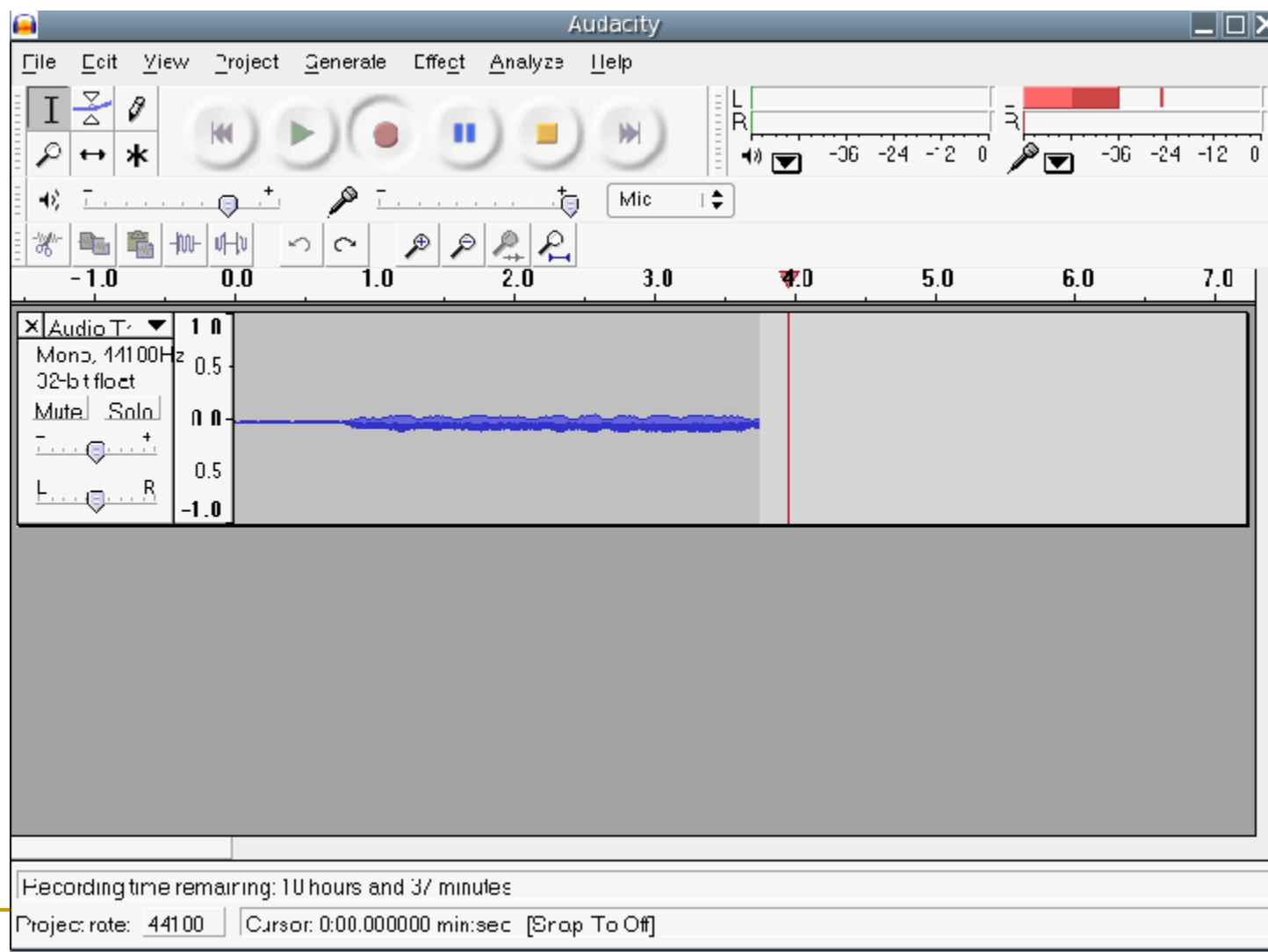
Step 1: Get the tools

- Dell laptop
 - Logistics microphone
 - Software: Audacity (open-source recording and editing software:
<http://audacity.sourceforge.net/>)
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Step 2: Write scripts

- Harder than we thought!
 - Need to determine content
 - Constant cycle of writing, editing, recording, re-writing, re-editing, re-recording
 - 5 minute podcast = many pages of written text
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Step 3: Record

- Learning curve with Audacity software
 - [“How to Podcast” tutorial](#) very helpful
 - Need to become comfortable with recording yourself speaking
 - Sound quality/voice modulation
 - Dubbing
 - Background noise
 - Volume
 - Time of day/voice quality
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Step 4: Edit and polish

- Editing with Audacity takes practice
 - Added music from Podshow's Podsafe Music Network (<http://music.podshow.com/>)
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Step 5: Post online

- Area on library web page
 - RSS feed/XML coding
 - Links to other web sites (business, CO150)
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Finished product

- 5 business podcasts
 - 4 CO150 podcasts
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CSU Campus podcast community

- Chemistry department is podcasting some lectures
 - Investigating iTunesU online service (campus-wide)
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Future plans

- Record additional podcasts
 - Assess existing podcasts
 - ❑ Survey library student workers
 - ❑ Feedback form on podcast web page
 - Market podcasts to campus
 - ❑ Links from library home page, business blog, CO150 web site
 - ❑ In-class promotion to instructors and students
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Questions?

Contact

Louise Feldmann, Business Librarian
CSU Libraries
970-491-4262
louise.feldmann@colostate.edu

Dennis Ogg, IT Specialist
CSU Libraries
970-491-4071
dennis.ogg@colostate.edu

Amy Hoseth, Instruction Librarian
Colorado State University Libraries
970-491-4326
amy.hoseth@colostate.edu
