me hopeful that attention to these differences would shape the site's content to a greater degree.

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SNCC Digital Gateway arose out of a collaboration between the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) Legacy Project, Duke University’s Center for Documentary Studies, and Duke University Libraries. The Web site combines narrative with hundreds of videos and documents to tell the story of one of America’s most influential black freedom movement organizations.

The site offers six content sections that guide users through SNCC’s history and contemporary legacies. The “People” section offers short biographies of almost two hundred individuals who were either SNCC members or who had some ties to the organization. These biographies are often paired with video or audio interviews and historical documents. The “Timeline” includes an easy-to-navigate road map of the black freedom movement and SNCC’s history, beginning in 1943 and continuing to the present. “Our Voices” gives SNCC activists control over the organization’s narrative, as former members of the organization author essays that range from the emergence of the organization to the group’s international vision. “Inside SNCC” provides a history of the organization and its tactics. This section offers a surprising amount of detail for a digital site, including insight into SNCC’s accounting department. An interactive “Map” section follows, which highlights the prominent places that SNCC operated. Finally, the “Today” section explains how SNCC offers lessons to contemporary activists.

SNCC Digital Gateway is at its strongest when offering the voices of SNCC activists. The site is filled with video and audio interviews of members and allies. Most of these interviews come from the Henry Hampton Collection at Washington University in St. Louis, which houses the full interviews of participants in the famous documentary series Eyes on the Prize (1987–1990). In cases where activists were not profiled in Eyes on the Prize, the site organizers uncover videos of them speaking in different forums, including at conferences.

SNCC Digital Gateway is also unique in its revelation of the role that SNCC activists can play in interpreting the organization’s history. “Our Voices” is especially powerful because SNCC activists control the text and its organization. Judy Richardson, a SNCC field secretary from 1963 to 1966, writes about women in the organization. Charles Cobb, another field secretary, provides an essay on SNCC’s origins. The SNCC activists Worth Long and Maria Varelol offer a four-part essay on how they understood community organizing. This method is important to highlight, as SNCC Digital Gateway does more than include activists’ voices in the site through video interviews and documents. It also offers a degree of control and authority to SNCC participants.

Other parts of the site, though, show the tension between SNCC and non-SNCC authors. Cobb, for example, begins “Inside SNCC” with his seven-part personal history of the organization. The section then moves to a history that covers the same timeline written by non-SNCC activists relying on secondary sources. It represents an awkward transition that calls into question the authority of SNCC activists over the organization’s history. The site never explains the purpose of the additional subsections or why SNCC activists were not capable of writing them.

“Our Voices” and “Inside SNCC,” then, offer a lesson in the difficulty of managing multiple interpretive voices on a single site. In this case, the site never answers an important question: What is the purpose of non-SNCC voices? If the purpose is to provide important context missing from SNCC-authored essays, then non-SNCC authors fail. Outside of activists’ voices, SNCC Digital Gateway poorly explains the origins of the civil rights and black power movements, for example. It is not surprising, then, that most of the important scholarship on the
subject is missing from the site’s secondary sources.

Despite these problems, this is an important site for anyone interested in civil rights and black power. For teachers and undergraduate students, especially, the video and audio material in the “People” section will prove useful for research and in-class material. The site is also valuable for people interested in contemporary social change. *SNCC Digital Gateway* successfully links the strategies of SNCC to our current moment, consciously offering lessons to contemporary activists.

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