FROM THEORY TO PRACTICE: UNDERSTANDING THE EVOLUTION OF A DIGITAL PRESERVATION PROJECT FROM CONCEPTION TO FINAL REPOSITORY

Some real cases

Almudena Caballos

Universidad Complutense de Madrid
Spain
acaballo@ucm.es

Chris Knowles

Churchill Archives Centre, University of Cambridge
UK
Chris.Knowles@chu.cam.ac.uk

Kate Cawthorn

University of Calgary
Canada
kathryn.cawthorn@ucalgary.ca
ORCID 0000-0003-0271-400X

Antonio Guillermo Martinez

LIBNOVA SL
Spain
a.guillermo@libnova.com

Maria Fuertes

LIBNOVA SL
Spain
mfuertes@libnova.com

Abstract – Usually, the resulting digital preservation project is very different from its conception.

The theory defined before starting a digital preservation project serves as a guide for the beginning of the project, but must be flexible enough to be adapted throughout the implementation to fit the real needs of the organization.

In this panel, representatives of institutions from different GLAM-UR sectors from different countries will speak from their own experience about the evolution of a digital preservation project from its theoretical conception to its real practical implementation.

Keywords – Digital Preservation Project, Digital Repositories, Implementation

Conference Topics – From Theory to Practice, We're All in this Together

A Digital Preservation Policy [1] is the mandate for an archive to support the preservation of digital records through a structured and managed digital preservation strategy. The policy details why selected material needs to be preserved; the strategy defines how this will be implemented. But this strategy must be flexible enough to allow organizations to tailor their decisions to their needs during the implementation process.

Planning and implementing a digital preservation project requires consideration of many aspects. There are some manuals such as the DPC Digital Preservation Handbook [2] or the CHIN Digital Preservation Toolkit [3] that provide practical and internationally authoritative guidance to help organizations assess their own digital preservation

iPRES 2023

needs and guide them in developing digital preservation policies, plans and procedures. However, it is important to understand that a digital preservation project is not a closed endeavor, but will evolve throughout the process.

In this panel, professionals responsible for digital preservation from the following institutions will exchange their experiences implementing a preservation project in different kinds of libraries and archives: *Universidad Complutense de Madrid,* Spain; *The Churchill Archives Center at the University of Cambridge,* UK; and *University of Calgary,* Canada. They will share the evolution of a digital preservation project from its theoretical conception to its real practical implementation, their workflows, and some useful insights for anyone in the same situation.

LIBNOVA is the common denominator among the different organizations, and its role will be to serve only as a moderator of the panel session.

1. PANEL DISCUSSION TOPICS

The panel will discuss the following topics and questions:

- Key aspects to consider when planning a digital preservation project.

- Organization of the preservation team, roles, and coordination between the different areas involved.

- Process and methodology adopted to select the material to be preserved.

- Workflows and how they have been defined.

- General overview of how the project has evolved from its initial conception to the present time.

2. REFERENCES

[1] Developing a Digital Preservation Policy. The National Archives. https://cdn.nationalarchives.gov.uk/documents/digital-preservation-policies-cons-draft-0.9.pdf

[2] Digital Preservation Handbook, 2nd Edition, https://www.dpconline.org/handbook, Digital Preservation Coalition © 2015.

[3] Canadian Heritage Information Network Digital Preservation Toolkit https://www.canada.ca/en/heritage-information-network/services/digital-preservation/toolkit.html