SI 640 - Digital Libraries and Archives, Winter 2009

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SI 640 Digital Libraries and Archives

Week 12 – Sustaining Digital Libraries
Themes of this presentation

Themes

- to sustain
- Critical ideas
- Looking forward

“I was told that if a million monkeys sat at a million typewriters, they would eventually write all the works of Shakespeare.”
to sustain

- To support the efforts, conduct, or cause of...
- To uphold the validity or rightfulness of...
- To keep from failing or giving away
- To cause to continue in a certain state
- To keep going, keep up
- To provide for the life or bodily needs of
- To provide for the upkeep
Repositories and Preservation

Preservation functions
- Unique, persistent identification
- Ingest
- Representation systems (registries and networks)
- Technology watch
- Rendering
- Modular structure
- Recording change

Digital libraries are organizations that provide the resources, including the specialized staff, to select, structure, offer intellectual access to, interpret, distribute, preserve the integrity of, and ensure the persistence over time of collections of digital works so that they are readily and economically available for use by a defined community or set of communities.

Borgman on digital libraries

Research and practice: different worlds

- “Digital libraries are a set of electronic resources and associated technical capabilities…”
  - Focuses on the technical system
- “Digital libraries are constructed by and for a community of users…”
  - Focuses on process and service

Borgman, 2000, p. 42.
Federated Archives
What is a digital library anymore, anyway?

to sustain

Critical ideas
Looking forward

Image available at: http://archivesic.ccsd.cnrs.fr/docs/00/10/50/99/HTML/Artist_fichiers/lagoze-fig6.gif
Information Network Overlay to sustain Critical ideas Looking forward

Flowchart illustration removed

Image available at: http://archivesic.ccsd.cnrs.fr/docs/00/10/50/99/HTML/Artist_fichiers/lagoze-fig7.gif

• Lagoze, 2005.
Harvard library digital architecture to sustain Critical ideas

Looking forward
Where do we go from here?

• Cyberinfrastructure
• Research
• Large scale deployment
• Digital preservation
• “Other issues”
  – Personal information management
  – HCI
  – Lifelong learning
  – Collaboratories

Looking forward
to sustain
Critical ideas

• Lynch, 2005.
Where do we go from here?

Perhaps the overarching theme here ... is connecting and integrating digital libraries with broader individual, group and societal activities, and doing this across meaningful time horizons ... digital libraries ... as an integral and permanent part of the ... information environment.

Thank you!

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