COPPUL Digital Stewardship Network Community of Practice Mixer

November 28, 2024 @ 12pm Pacific / 1pm Mountain / 2pm Central

Hosted by the [CDSN Community of Practice](#)

Quick links:

[Sign up for the mailing list](#)

[The Planning Committee is looking for new members!](#)

Suggested topics for future mixers:

- Web archiving

INTRODUCTIONS

- Name, Organization
- Optional ice breaker question: Do you have a favourite holiday tradition?

GROUP DISCUSSION

- Sharing information and lessons learned from [@Risk North 3](#)

UPCOMING MIXERS

- January 23, 2025 @ 12pm Pacific / 1pm Mountain / 2pm Central
- April 24, 2025 @ 12pm Pacific / 1pm Mountain / 2pm Central

Community notes

Background information

- Event web page: https://www.carl-abrc.ca/mini-site-page/risk-north-3-safeguarding-the-canadian-digital-record/

    - Note: The @Risk North organizing committee will be producing a report following the event with more information and findings

Comments on audience, accessibility, and communications

- There weren't a lot of folks from smaller institutions at the event, and one of the questions raised in the final action planning session was asking about what communication channels were used / useful for that audience

- Not a lot of folks from archives (or smaller archives) present at the event either

- A big theme of the event was trying to break down the silos between archivists and librarians and other folks doing preservation work, but with the recognition from event organizers and attendees that it can be difficult for folks to get out to in-person events like this

- Folks might not even have heard about @Risk North depending on their context and the work they do if they're not regularly interacting with CARL or other organizations that contributed to organizing the event, there's a bit of a gap or maybe not as strong a connection for smaller institutions with orgs like CARL

- Interest in thinking about resourcing and communications, and articulating needs for preservation when folks are coming from a range of backgrounds or institutional contexts

- Sometimes smaller institutions might not have resources, professional development funds, etc. to attend in-person events

- Importance of online options and increasing accessibility for events

- Recognition that it can be hard to balance the pros and cons of hybrid vs. in-person or virtual only events

Discussion of themes and ideas that came up during the event

- Inclusivity and recognition of who was and wasn't able to attend was recognized and discussed

- An idea that was brought up was the potential for the [CARL Digital Preservation Working Group](#) (DPWG) to open up membership to smaller and more mid-range institutions that might have capacity to participate

- Thinking about mailing lists and communication channels, and how you can easily miss news and information if you're not subscribed to the "right" listserv

  - People at smaller institutions might be wearing many different hats and don't always have positions with "preservation" in the title, they might not be subscribed to or know about all the different niche preservation communities and communication channels that are out there

  - Potential for more collaboration between groups, nationally, regionally, etc.

  - It's useful to have things like this preservation mixer or other spaces to keep the dialogue going after an event like @Risk North

  - CDSN Community of Practice as a potential space to continue sharing info (sign up link to the listserv / Google Group at the top of this notes doc)

- Opening keynote from the Digital Preservation Coalition (DPC)

  - DPC Rapid Assessment Model (RAM): https://www.dpconline.org/digipres/implement-digipres/dpc-ram

    - Comment that maybe the CDSN could look at running this model for some COPPUL institutions to explore what gaps might be out there

  - Wondering if there's an opportunity for coordinating benchmarking in general across Canada, across sectors, etc.?

  - Idea of "raising the floor" so that everyone has the same base level knowledge, with resources and pathways for growth wherever you are

    - Making sure there's training and supports out there for different levels and contexts, realizing that what is appropriate or feasible for one institution might not be for another

- Lack of funding and resources and potential for information security approach

  - An emerging theme was thinking about framing digital preservation from an information security perspective – could this framing open up funding opportunities that perhaps haven't been accessible before?

- - ■ Comment that this type of thinking can be a double-edged sword. If you frame preservation in an information security context you may risk IT folks feeling like their toes are being stepped on, library and IT departmental relationships can be very complex and not always easy to navigate

    - ■ And also IT folks might have a very different awareness and perspective on preservation issues and priorities, making it hard to articulate concerns or communicate across that divide

- Differences in funding and research security

    - From the research office side of things, funding is often allocated / awarded to larger institutions enabling larger teams and higher support levels, whereas funding at smaller institutions might not even be enough to hire one position

    - Issues with short term or grant funding cycles, how can we navigate that or is there a way to embrace it?

- Language and terminology

    - Differences across fields and contexts, can we get a giant preservation glossary? Thinking about mapping all these threads, and how we explain concepts to different audiences and departments when we might all be using different language and terminology to refer to similar concepts

- Question: Was there much talk on infrastructure or storage?

    - Answer: Not really

    - Amanda Tomé (Digital Research Alliance of Canada) commented that the Alliance is having some conversations about this topic

    - Comment that other folks (Scholars Portal, Internet Archive) also thinking about collaboration opportunities

    - There were Borealis and Scholaris presentations and lightning talks

        - ■ Thinking about advocacy and funding

    - In the technology breakout room there were quite a lot of questions, may be some interesting results coming out of that in future

- Question about Scholaris vs. Borealis

    - Scholaris = institutional repository

    - Borealis = data repository

- National infrastructure and support

- Smaller institutions often have difficulty participating in national projects or using different platforms or tools

    - For example, institutions might not have the staff to use / manage a Borealis instance

        - In that case you might then look to FRDR which has built in curation support, but if a lot of folks were to start using FRDR more, does the FRDR team have capacity?

- Need for people support at both small and large institutions if you want to do things like curation

- If you're at a smaller institution, you might not even know what you don't know, might not know what to ask for

    - Something that COPPUL is thinking about, how to bridge that gap and connect with members around their needs