Preparing future digital curation faculty: Three doctoral fellows as examples

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DigCCurr say: dij-seeker

What is digital curation?

Digital curation involves anyone responsible for managing, storing, or retrieving digital items for long term use and re-use. It incorporates many of the values and systems developed for maintaining physical collections. In practice, digital curation applies to a wide range of document types, including scholarly, scientific, and cultural heritage materials. Digital curation stresses the importance of the lifecycle model in order to successfully manage, preserve, and curate digital materials for immediate and future use.
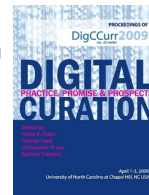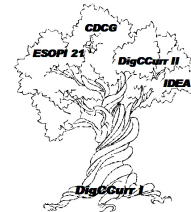

PROCEEDINGS OF DigCCurr 2009 — DIGITAL CURATION: PRACTICE, PROMISE & PROSPECTS

Image from Proceedings of DigCCurr 2009: Practice, promise, prospects, http://stores.lulu.com/DigCCurr2009

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DigCCurr II and the Doctoral Fellows

• Funded by an IMLS grant, "DigCCurr II: Extending an International Digital Curation Curriculum to Doctoral Students and Practitioners" (2008-2012)

• Cultivates a new generation of digital curation faculty to educate 21st-century digital curators

• Provides funding for six doctoral Fellows; three began in Fall 2009, three more enter in Fall 2010

• Fellows assist in planning and leading DigCCurr II's Institutes for Professionals in Curation Practices for the Digital Object Lifecycle; work includes course development with a team of international instructors

• Fellows extend the curriculum and course development from DigCCurr I (2006-2009) by creating and enhancing modules, syllabi, reading lists, and course content that can be used by digital curation programs worldwide

DigCCurr II Timeline

June-09	Aug-09	Jan-10	May-10	Aug-10	Jan-11	June-11	Jan-12	June-12
	3 PhD students begin as Fellows			3 additional PhD students begin as fellows				
Professional Institute I, Part I		Professional Institute I, Part II	Professional Institute II, Part I		Professional Institute II, Part II	Professional Institute III, Part I	Professional Institute III, Part II	
		First Public Symposium			Second Public Symposium	First PhD Symposium		Second PhD Symposium
		Fellows begin co-teaching	Fellows begin to assist in instruction at the Institute				Fellows begin teaching individually	

Sarah Ramdeen

Interests:
Information seeking behavior, management of scientific materials, and retention of institutional knowledge

Research Topics:
• Looking at overlap between Information and Library Science and growing need for management of digital scientific collections
• Investigating how geologists and other scientists are expected to manage and maintain their digital collections
• Development of educational modules for educating scientists in managing digital collections, modeled on their own workflows

Activities:
• Research project "Email Habits in the University Setting" with Dr. Helen Tibbo and Dr. Rob Capra at UNC
• Co-organizer of DigCCurr II Professional Institute

Kaitlin L. Costello

Photo by Steve Parker http://www.flickr.com/photos/sparker-74692237/

Interests:
Archival appraisal, interactive digital media, social networks

Research Topics:
• Developing cost-effective, scalable methods of selection and appraisal of web-based interactive media and social networking systems
• Harnessing the social power of the web to involve users in selection and appraisal

Activities:
• Study of digital preservation education at the graduate level (preliminary results presented in the poster "Digital preservation education in iSchools" at the 2010 iConference in Urbana, IL)
• Assisting Dr. Helen Tibbo with teaching a master's level class in archival appraisal at UNC
• Co-organizer of DigCCurr II Professional Institute

Mike Brown

Interests:
Organizational communications, workflows, impact measures, personal information archiving

Research Topics:
• Exploring how an institutional repository (IR) can build communities and coalitions both within and outside its parent organization
• Researching workflows that benefit all stakeholders in an IR's designated communities
• Exploring the intersection of personal information management and personal information archiving

Activities:
• Digital curation job ads study at UNC
• Co-organizer of DigCCurr II Professional Institute