New Skills for a Digital Era

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Abstract

In the spring of 2006, the Society of American Archivists, the National Archives, and the Arizona State Library and Archives hosted a colloquium to explore the question, "What are the practical, technical skills that all library and records professionals must have to work with e-books, electronic records, and other digital materials?" More than sixty librarians, archivists, and records managers with real world experience attended the colloquium. Eleven case studies representing every aspect of the curatorial process -- from identification and selection to preservation and everything in between -- served as the basis for discussion. The lively conversations offer some surprising insights as to what the information professions need to be able to transition from the world of paper to the world of electrons.