

Aye Preserve in the West of Scotland, 20th March

Summary notes

Updates

Valerie McCutcheon, [Research Information Management, University of Glasgow](#)

Research Information Team got involved with **Jisc's digital preservation shared service project** in 2017, focusing on corporate records, archives, research data, theses and audio-visual files.

Where are we now?

- Initial understanding of tools.
- Initial understanding of funder requirements.
- Seeking institutional support for next phase.
- Just published case study on our preservation journey <http://doi.org/10.1629/uksg.461>

Maintain blog where we share what we are doing

<https://universityofglasgowdigitalpreservation.wordpress.com/>

Key issues:

- Define costs and value of digital preservation
- Identify quantity of material to be preserved
- Licensing and access to preserved material
- Quality of metadata and organisation of material submitted for preservation
- Integrating digital preservation with existing workflows and securing participation.

Paul Stokes, [Jisc](#)

Just launched [Open Research Hub](#), an interoperable system for managing, preserving and sharing institutional digital material. APIs allow hub to integrate with a number of other data management/preservation systems and repositories. Current focus is research data but development is ongoing and Jisc aims to encompass wider audience and type of content. Service is open to any organisation seeking a preservation solution.

The Open Research Hub **data model** has been created as a tool not just for the Jisc project but for wider use by the DP community. Documentation and [diagram](#) are available on GitHub <https://github.com/JiscRDSS/Canonical-data-model>.

Sara Day Thomson, [Digital Preservation Coalition \(DPC\)](#)

Not-for-profit organisation. Working with others to build:

- More responsive and better-informed institutions
- Good practice and standards
- Prepared workforces
- Supportive community
- High quality and sustainable services.

Key activities

- Develop tools and resources e.g. handbook, technology watch reports, short guides
- Provide training and briefings
- Contribute to the development of good practice and standards
- Individual support for members

Group Discussion

Advocacy and calculating costs:

- Difficult to raise awareness and secure support for digital preservation within organisations, regardless of sector.
- Need to quantify risks and costs of not acting; change perception of well-organised digital material into an asset, rather than a liability.
- Challenge to define costs of delivering preservation.

Curation Costs Exchange <http://www.curationexchange.org/> . Useful online tool to help organisations articulate preservation costs.

Challenges of delivering digital preservation:

- Material submitted for preservation is not always well-organised. Metadata can be poor quality.
- Deciding how much to keep.
- Lack of support from funders within Higher Education sector to secure managed and costed preservation.
- Introducing new practices for staff seen as a burden and additional time pressure.
- Lack of institutional leadership on managing day to day records and encouraging compliance with good records management practice.

Successes

- Preservation policies approved.
- Preservation systems and tools implemented and making a difference.
- Analysis of file format FFV1's suitability as a preservation format: confirmed no data lost during file conversion; offers significantly smaller file sizes.

Next steps:

Attendees found it helpful to hear what others are doing and to see examples of good practice. Suggestions of ways to continue discussions and share good practice or offers to host another Aye Preserve event would be welcome.