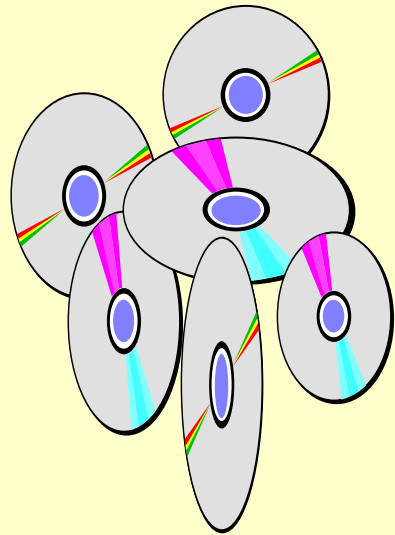


Digital Curation Centre

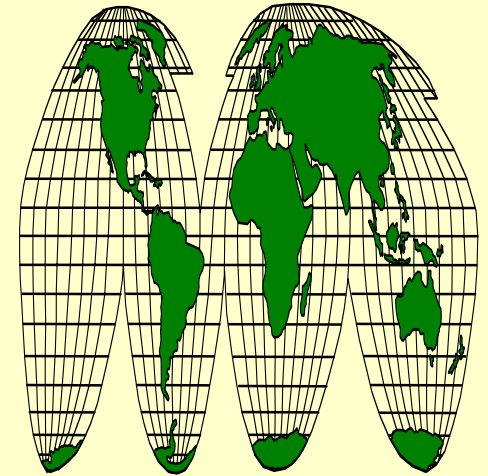


Neil Beagrie

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JISC Digital Preservation Focus

Secretary, Digital Preservation Coalition



Overview

- **JISC Continuing Access and Digital Preservation Strategy 2002-5**
- **Discussion draft - Digital Curation Centre**
 - file formats
 - tools
 - research/advisory
 - certification
- **The DPC**
- **What I'm looking for**
- **Next steps**

The New JISC Continuing Access and Digital Preservation Strategy 2002-5

Status: Strategy approved October - implementation actions November onwards -key aims are to:

- complete a series of studies to look at different areas of the “collection”, selection, retention criteria, and scope future services
- funding calls for records management and digital preservation in institutions and services
- development of a Digital Curation Centre

vision -

- mix of national,(regional?), and institutional services
- distributed preservation network
- role for a curation centre
- many players in HE/FE/Research not solely a JISC issue -co-ordination and partnership with others - and external links

Proposed Digital Curation Centre

- NOT a data Centre but set of central services, standards, and tools for a range of distributed digital data centres and institutional preservation services
- Digital curation...maintain digital research data and other digital materials over their entire life-cycle and over time for current and future generations of users...process of digital preservation...includes all the processes needed for good data creation and management, and the capacity to add value to data to generate new sources of information and knowledge.
- Discussion draft -out for consultation until 28 March
 - http://www.jisc.ac.uk/uploaded_documents/digitalcurationcentrev3.pdf

Proposed role of Digital Curation Centre

- NOT a data Centre -focussing on shared elements needed by many different communities
- **File Formats:** recording and monitoring file formats and alerting institutions and services within the sector of file format obsolescence
- **Tools layer:** develop a reliable, sustained repository of software, documentation, and tools to support preservation and use of data.
- **Advisory Services:** costs and economic models, and legal issues for digital preservation.
- **Certification:** deliver and lead the sector in the development of preservation standards for repositories and certification for preservation services.

File Formats/Preservation Planning

- Seen now as an essential building block in many projects and prototype services
- Cedars project representation network, PRONOM etc in UK
- May become international, discussion in USA and France, interest from SURF
- Hard to compile and maintain
- File Format sources report has been commissioned by JISC
- What will user communities need?

Tools

- Not enough to know you have the problem
- “Tools” layer to point to tools and/or service solutions
- Application development can be very expensive
- Ideally Centre would be a one-stop shop but doesn't all need to be developed in-house
- “Tools” layer might include FP6 KB consortium developed tools, pointers to commercial or open source tools and information sources

Advisory

- Work with other services;
- Investigate and advise on, the economics of long-term storage and preservation;
- Investigate and advise on the legal implications of digital preservation and re-use.

Certification

- build on minimum criteria for compliance with the OAIS Model.
- Research Libraries Group and OCLC supported work on developing Attributes of a Trusted Digital Repository.
- Translate to UK
- Slow-burner -potential standards development

The DPC

- DPC Business Plan Operational work programmes5
Promoting and developing services, technology, standards and training for digital preservation. Item 1 on Curation Centre
- DPC board agreed yesterday to establish sub-group of members led by DPC co-ordinator to formulate a statement - guidance to potential bidders on potential collaborations or partnership with the DPC
- The DPC should be independent and even-handed in terms of any partnership with institutional bids. Internal conflicts of interest with existing/potential members must be avoided.

Some issues

- Draft outline only
- Scope and Funding body criteria
 - 18. The work of the Centre must be focussed on the specific needs of the UK HE/FE and research with the funding provided by JISC and the e-science core programme. However in time where the services of the Centre are of interest to other sectors and institutions, the Centre may develop funding streams and support from other sources.
- Legal issues and IPR
- Core Funding and Timescale -?£750Kpa 3-4 years establish 2003
- Only one part of the infrastructure required

What I'm looking for

- Community ownership-a strong partnership between a host institution and key user communities and preservation expertise
- No special interest groups -able to serve e-science, records management, research libraries,institutional repositories, research groups
- A lead institution within the community able to add value
- Outstanding leadership and staff
- A SERVICE

Next Steps

- Consultation
- DPC sub-group
- Finalise call
- Town meeting
- Bidding process
- Establish Centre
- Ensure wider vision is achieved
- Feedback - all comments welcome -happy to discuss informally with interested parties

Further information

- **Discussion draft - Digital Curation Centre**
 - http://www.jisc.ac.uk/uploaded_documents/digitalcurationcentrev3.pdf
- **JISC Continuing Access and Digital Preservation Strategy 2002-5**
 - http://www.jisc.ac.uk/index.cfm?name=pres_continuing
- **Digital preservation e-mail list**
 - <http://www.jiscmail.ac.uk/lists/digital-preservation>