

DPC Leadership Programme funds five more scholarships for the Digital Preservation Training Programme

The Digital Preservation Coalition (DPC) has awarded five scholarships so that members can attend the Digital Preservation Training Programme (DPTP) in London in March.

‘This is the third time we’ve offered scholarships to attend DPTP. They’re very popular and an increasingly important way for members to supplement their training budgets’, explained Richard Ovenden, Chair of the DPC. ‘The judging panel was so impressed by the scale and quality of the response that they asked if we could extend the number of grants available. Given the clear evidence of demand and given how hard it can be to find other sources of support we decided to offer two additional places to the three previously agreed.’

The following were selected by a small panel of judges which met to review the large number of applications submitted:

- Jodie Double of RLUK
- Jo Fernandes of Tate
- Lisa Greenhalgh of the Society of Archivists
- Tracey Powell of The National Archives
- Lorena Zambrano of UK Data Archive at the University of Essex

Applicants were judged against three main criteria: the role that DPTP would play in career development; the benefits to their organisation from attendance and the extent to which the applicant’s job profile within the organisation pertains to digital preservation. Applications were open to DPC members and associates.

William Kilbride, Executive Director of the DPC reflected on the scheme: ‘Specialised training in digital preservation is a clear strategic priority, but it’s time consuming and expensive to produce. That means training providers take quite a risk when they offer a course like DPTP. By guaranteeing a number of places we reduce that risk. So, although we’re not able to fund all the excellent applications we receive, we can still help ensure that the training is offered.’

‘Our members’ needs are wide. I’d be interested in hearing from anyone planning to offer high quality and specialised training in digital preservation next year to see if we can help DPC members attend.’

The Digital Preservation Training Programme (DPTP) is designed for all those working in institutional information management who are grappling with fundamental issues of digital preservation. It provides the skills and knowledge necessary for institutions to combine organisational and technological perspectives, and devise an appropriate response to the challenges that digital preservation needs present. DPTP is operated and organised by the University of London Computer Centre in collaboration with the DPC.

The Digital Preservation Coalition (DPC) is a not-for profit membership organisation whose primary objective is to raise awareness of the importance of the preservation of digital material and the attendant strategic, cultural and technological issues. It acts as an enabling and agenda-setting body within the digital preservation world and works to meet this objective through a number of high level goals. Its vision is to make our digital memory accessible tomorrow.

The next DPTP will be held at School of Oriental and African Studies, London from the 29th – 31st March 2010.

For more information on the DPC see: <http://www.dpconline.org/> and for more on the Digital Preservation Training Programme see: <http://www.dptp.org/>

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