The Key Challenges in Training and Educating a Professional Digital Preservation Workshop

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Training and Education

Both crucial Aspects for developing digital preservation capacity
DCC is exercising leadership in training
DCC is working internationally in Europe and beyond to foster developments in education of digital preservation professionals
Education

- S – Plenty of existing course covering aspects
- W – no links between disciplines and no literary canon
- O – making better use of core training and central services embedded in all disciplines
- T – lack of vibrant Phd programmes
Training

• S – lots of specific training on tools and resources
• W – less on overarching themes and contexts
• O – could tap into Network of Competence Centres and offer joint training, work with Netskills
• T – risk of a gap between focused education programme and keeping skills up in existing workforce
Careers

• S – people *are* doing this and have been for some time
• W – no real coherence among jobs (i.e. see job description ranges)
• O – professionalisation of career via education and training
• T – no real paths available for career progression; Is data/digital curation a dead-end job?
Trends

- Education: becoming more technical
- Training: increasingly being delivered by short term projects and not by professional trainers
- Careers: more posts for digital preservation and curation professionals
Needs

• Education
  • Need a recognised canon embedded in education programmes from undergraduate to doctoral levels

• Training
  • Need a more sustainable body perhaps like ECDL or netskills teaching fundamentals

• Careers
  • Need career paths and professionalisation
DCC Activities

- DCC Digital Curation 101
  - Theoretical and practical training in conjunction with DCC Lifecycle model (6-9/10/08, Edinburgh)

- DCC Digital Curation Manual
  - An element in the curriculum literary canon

- DCC Leadership of IDEA
  - International Digital [Curation] Education Action [Group] which fosters co-operation on curriculum

- DCC Co-Facilitator of WePreserve
  - Works to alleviate over-saturation of training market and lack of coherence
Way Forward

• Network of Competence Centres can help bridge gap between education and training
• Work with professional bodies and societies to setup accredited training