

Perspectives on the Economics of Sustainable Digital Preservation

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Session Roadmap

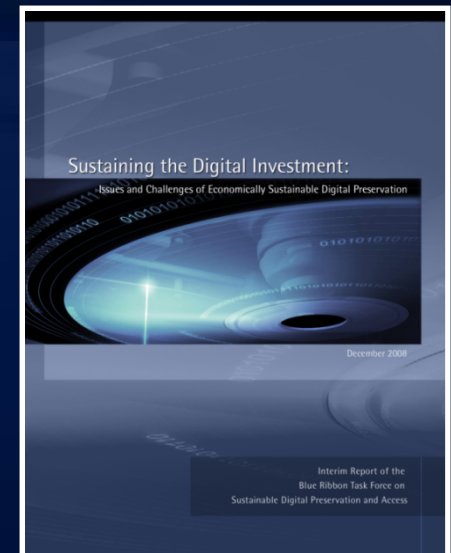
- Opening remarks ...
 - Economically sustainable digital preservation; Task Force
 - Analyzing digital preservation as an economic problem
- Panel session (Abby Smith Rumsey, moderator)
 - Martha Anderson (Library of Congress)
 - *Funder perspective*
 - Patricia Cruse (California Digital Library)
 - *Repository perspective*
 - Paul Courant (University Of Michigan)
 - *Economist perspective*
- Audience Q&A

Sustainable Digital Preservation

- Secure digital materials as part of enduring scholarly & cultural record
 - Sustainable access to digital content requires sustainable digital preservation activities
- Frame digital preservation as a ***sustainable economic activity***
 - Economic activity → deliberate allocation of resources
 - Sustainable → ongoing resource allocation over time

Blue Ribbon Task Force on Sustainable Digital Preservation and Access

- Task Force:
 - Supported by NSF, Mellon, Library of Congress, JISC, CLIR, NARA
 - Co-chairs: Brian Lavoie (OCLC), Fran Berman (RPI)
 - Editor of Final Report: Abby Smith Rumsey
 - Cross-domain, cross discipline
 - Articulate the problem/provide recommendations
- Interim Report (December 2008):
 - Define economic sustainability
 - Establish baseline understanding of the problem space:
 - What's been tried
 - Issues/challenges/questions
 - http://brtf.sdsc.edu/biblio/BRTF_Interim_Report.pdf



Economic Sustainability

Economically sustainable digital preservation requires:

- *Recognition of benefits*
- *Incentives for decision-makers to act*
- *Selection*
- *Mechanisms to support ongoing, efficient allocation of resources*
- *Appropriate organization and governance*

Risk & Investment

- Digital preservation: active intervention to reduce the risks to long-term accessibility and use
- Technical sustainability: robust, scalable repository infrastructure, workflows (e.g., OAIS)
 - Reduces technical risks to digital assets
- **Economic sustainability**: secure adequate resources to achieve long-term goals
 - Reduces **economic risks** to digital assets
 - Requires **active investment** by key decision-makers
- Panel session: decision-makers' perspective on digital preservation investment

Digital Preservation: Supply & Demand

Economically sustainable digital preservation requires:

– *Recognition of benefits*

Demand-side

– *Incentives for decision-makers to act*

Supply-side

– *Selection*

– *Mechanisms to support ongoing, efficient allocation of resources*

– *Appropriate organization and governance*