

CENDI Meeting National Digital Stewardship Residency Pilot Program - The Year in Review

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#ndsrDC

**Library of Congress
Office of Strategic Initiatives
Washington, D.C.**

The Institute of Museum and Library Services



Program Background

- **10 Residents**
- **10 Organizations**
- **2 Weeks of Workshop**
- **9 Months of Hands-on Training**
- **2 Professional Conferences**

NDSR Mission

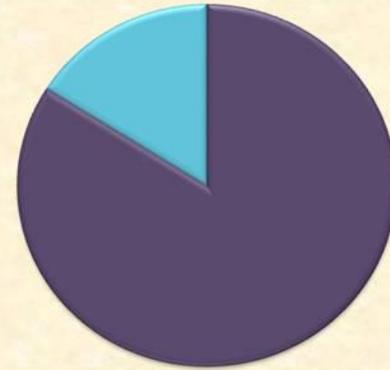
...to build a dedicated community of professionals who will advance our nation's capabilities in managing, preserving and making accessible the record of human achievement held in digital form.



THE IMPORTANCE OF NDSR

NDSR will serve the American people by developing the next generation of stewards to collect, manage, preserve, and make accessible our nation's digital assets.

- NDSR will help define clear educational standards for digital stewardship education and training
- NDSR has joined forces with prominent American institutions to provide residents with a combination of hands-on learning and expert guidance
- NDSR will create experts in the emerging field of digital stewardship who will be able to return to their communities nationwide and assist the Library of Congress in its goal to keep record of America's creativity as expressed in digital form



A Library of Congress survey found that **84% of institutions** have digital content that must remain accessible for **10 years or more**. NDSR will create the experts who will be responsible for this preservation



The same survey found that only **33% of organizations** have staff dedicated to digital preservation. **This exemplifies the need for NDSR.**

Finding the NDSR Hosts

- **Association of Research Libraries**
- **Dumbarton Oaks**
- **Folger Shakespeare Library**
- **Library of Congress**
- **National Library of Medicine**
- **National Security Archive**
- **Public Broadcasting Service**
- **Smithsonian Institution Archives**
- **Maryland Institute for Technology in the Humanities**
- **World Bank Group**





Selecting the Residents

- **Julia Blase, U. Denver – NSA**
- **Heidi Dowding, Wayne State U. – Dumbarton Oaks**
- **Maureen Harlow, UNC – NLM**
- **Jaime McCurry, Long Island U. – Folger Shakespeare**
- **Lee Nilsson, Eastern Washington U. – LOC**
- **Margo Padilla, San Jose State U. – MITH**
- **Emily Reynolds, U. Michigan – World Bank**
- **Molly Schwartz, U. Maryland – ARL**
- **Erica Titkemeyer, NYU – Smithsonian Archives**
- **Lauren Work, U. Washington - PBS**

2013-2014 NDSR Projects

- *Developing Policies and Services to Make Digital Assets of Research Libraries Accessible.* (Association of Research Libraries)
- *Management and preservation of digital assets at Dumbarton Oaks*
- *Born-Digital Preservation at the Folger Shakespeare Library*
- *Taking Action to Mitigate Format Obsolescence* (Library of Congress)
- *Developing a Thematic Web Archive Collection* (National Library of Medicine)
- *The Digital Dissemination Challenge* (National Security Archive)
- *Broadcast Media Archive: Appraisal and Evaluation of At-Risk Media to Support Digitization Initiative* (Public Broadcasting Service)
- *Time-Based Media Art: Specialized Requirements for Trustworthy Digital Repositories* (Smithsonian Institution Archive)
- *Accessing Born-Digital Literary Materials* (Maryland Institute for Technology in the Humanities & University of Maryland Libraries)
- *eArchives: Memory of the World Bank*

Analysis of the Initial Program

- **Positive Impact of the Program**
- **Challenges During the Program**
- **Impact / Lessons Learned**
- **Next Steps**
- **Takeaways**



Positive Impact of the Program

According to Residents Surveyed

- **100%** reported that the program increased knowledge and skills in digital stewardship
- **100%** stated that the program strengthened their professional networks
- **100%** of resident respondents stated that they feel the program made them more competitive in the job market
- **100%** of residents state they would recommend the program to a friend
- **90%** of residents are either employed or in other fellowship/graduate programs.

Positive Impact of the Program

According to Hosts Surveyed

- **100%** of host respondents said their resident was very to extremely well-informed about the organization and ready to work.
- **73%** of hosts said the residents' project results will definitely be used to improve the way their organization conducts business



Positive Impact of the Program

According to Hosts Surveyed

- **100%** of hosts stated that the resident's project at least moderately increased their organization's capacity for digital stewardship
- **90%** of hosts say they would recommend their organization participate in the program again



Challenges During the Program

Funding Model Challenges

- Paying Residents
- Creating the resident contract
- Understanding Federally appropriated funding

Challenges During the Program

Program Management Challenges

- Lack of Program Staff
- Improve Logistical and Planning Efforts
- Improve Regular and Clear Communication
- Communication Channel Issues
- Host Engagement

Challenges During the Program

Host / Mentor Challenges

- Mentor Skills and Abilities
- Resident and the Organization
- Organizational Buy-In
- Programmatic Challenges for Bringing on a Resident

Challenges During the Program

Resident Challenges

- Being treated like an intern
- Logistical Program Matters
- Compensation
- Frustration with bureaucracy
- Communication

Challenges During the Program

Other Challenges

- Enrichment Sessions, Other Required Meetings
- Government Shutdown
- Creating Consistency Among NDSR Programs

Lessons Learned

- Be more prepared
- Be consistent with NDSR programs
- Foster growth through collaboration



NDSR Next Steps

- Complete the formal program assessment
- Design and implement a project plan for the next residency
- Extensive collaboration with New York and Boston
- Curriculum update
- NDSR Washington, D.C. in 2015

NDSR Takeaways

“I am quite confident that the progress achieved over the past 9 months could not have been matched had our resident not joined our team.”

“The Resident’s work has improved the way the agency preserves one of-a-kind born digital cultural objects and records.”

“The National Digital Stewardship Residency afforded the opportunity to address this leading edge of digital stewardship in a manner that would simultaneously contribute to the overall advancement of the profession.”

...anonymous NDSR hosts

National Digital Stewardship Residency

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