

Digital Curation Governance: The Concept and Implications for Professional Capabilities

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Educating Stewards of Public Information in the 21st Century (ESOPI-21)

- Funded by Institute for Museum and Library Services
- Preparing the next generation of public information stewards by building on the existing dual degree program by UNC-CH's School of Information and Library Science and School of Government
- Fellowships, curricula, courses, and experiential components designed specifically for the needs of public sector information professionals

ESOP1-21 Fellows

- Earning dual degree over three years: Master of Public Administration (MPA) and Master of Science in either Information Science (MSIS) or Library Science (MSLS)
- 15 hour / week position at a partner work site:
National Records and Archives Administration, North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources, University Archives (UNC), Environmental Finance Center (UNC)
- Receive stipend, tuition and health benefits
- Opportunities to engage with experts in public information curation via symposia, conferences and workshops

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- Victoria Irons Walch, Executive Director, Council of State Archivists (CoSA)

Data Sources for Identifying Needs and Strategies

- Review of literature
- Evaluations and input from Fellows and Fellow supervisors
- Semi-structured interviews of advisory board members (7 of 8 completed)

Emergent Concept Based on
Preliminary Findings: Digital
Curation Governance

Governance

- Exercise of authority and control, in order to advance goals of the state
- Continually evolving and interactive set of processes
- In contrast to “government,” which suggests established structure
- Emergence of many associated terms: corporate governance, information technology (IT) governance, data governance

Effective Governance Requires Understanding of...

- Stakeholder needs
- Existing policies
- Social norms
- Individual behaviors
- Incentive structures
- Characteristics of potential implementation mechanisms

Digital Curation Governance

- Increasingly important arena of activity with associated requirements for professional education and engagement
- Ensuring the quality, integrity, discovery, access, and meaningful use of digital collections over time
- Shared responsibility that requires extensive communication, collaboration and mutual learning
- Requires skills and competencies to navigate the policy arena, manage projects, mobilize stakeholders and dig into the bits of digital collections

Thank you!