

Participatory Archival Research and Development in Action: Updates from DLF's BDAWG

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Abstract: Since its formation in 2017, the Digital Library Federation's Born-Digital Access Working Group (BDAWG) has taken a research-in-practice approach to developing community resources that help guide practitioners in providing access to born-digital material, with a focus on archival collections. In April 2020, Appel, Clemens, Hagenmaier, and Meyerson published "Participatory Archival Research and Development: The Born-Digital Access Initiative," codifying a framework around some of the approaches our informal community had been practicing. In this platform presentation we will apply the Participatory Archival Research and Development (PAR&D) framework to DLF BDAWG's past and present projects, by mapping our activities to the framework and sharing specific examples of the framework in action on the ground.

About the authors:

Alston Cobourn is the University Archivist at East Carolina University working to preserve the university's history and to increase its capabilities with electronic records. Previously she was the Digital Scholarship Librarian at Washington and Lee University, the Digital Assets Librarian at Texas A&M-Corpus Christi, and a staff member at North Carolina State University. Her career has included work with digital and analog preservation, archives and records management, scholarly communications, reference, and cataloging. She holds a BA with majors in English and minors in Creative Writing and Journalism as well as a Masters of Library Science with a concentration in Archives and Records Management from UNC-Chapel Hill.

Jess Farrell is Community Facilitator for the Educopia Institute, where she coordinates the Software Preservation Network and the BitCurator Consortium and is co-PI for the BitCuratorEdu project. Her roles in past positions include project manager, digital curator, corporate archivist, processing archivist, and digitization technician. Jess received her MLIS from the University of South Carolina in 2011. She maintains a repertoire of side projects through the Digital Library Federation and the Society of American Archivists.