Preserving Sensitive Data in Distributed Digital Storage Networks

COURTNEY MUMMA, SIBYL SCHAEFER, and KRISTI PARK

Abstract: Although distributed digital preservation (DDP) services have been offered in the United States for over a decade, no such service currently exists for sensitive and protected data. As a result, the sensitive data in the custody of libraries, health science centers, and archives are at an escalated risk of loss. The Texas Digital Library (TDL), in collaboration with the University of California, San Diego Library (UCSD), are partnering to explore the establishment of a nationally distributed digital preservation service for sensitive data. The Preserving Sensitive Data in Distributed Digital Storage Networks project, funded by IMLS, will develop a nationwide model for a DDP service that would close gaps in current preservation offerings for sensitive and protected data. This presentation will discuss the findings of the grant work to date, including use cases, the legal agreements governing such a service, technical requirements for data transfer, and cost modeling scenarios.

About the authors:

Courtney Mumma is an archivist and a librarian. She is the Deputy Director of the Texas Digital Library consortium, a collective of university libraries working towards open, sustainable, and secure digital heritage and scholarly communications. She has over a decade of experience in open source software development and maintenance, infrastructure support and digital preservation good practice and education.

Sibyl Schaefer is the Chronopolis Program Manager and Digital Preservation Analyst for Research Data Curation at the University of California, San Diego. In addition to working with national digital preservation efforts like the National Digital Stewardship Alliance (NDSA), she helps define long-term digital preservation solutions for the UCSD campus. She previously served as the Head of Digital Programs for the Rockefeller Archive Center where she worked to fully integrate digital and traditional archival practices, including policy development, forensic and accessioning workflows, and training initiatives to support the long-term stewardship of digitized and born digital materials. She has been recognized as an Emerging Leader by the American Library Association and has participated in the Archival Leadership Institute. Schaefer holds an MLIS with a specialization in Archival Studies from the University of California, Los Angeles.

Kristi Park is the Executive Director of the Texas Digital Library.