



PRESERVATION EDUCATION: A RESEARCH AGENDA FOR THE NEXT DECADE AND BEYOND

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The Evolving Nature of the Preservation Field

- Until recently, pedagogical models and techniques for preservation education have ...
 - Focused primarily on knowledge and skills in management, care, and treatment of analog materials
 - Relied heavily on face-to-face, hands-on experiences
- Preparation for careers in digital preservation and digital curation require:
 - A stronger IT skill set
 - Integration of theory and practice from allied fields (such as archival science, information science, museum studies, knowledge management)

The Evolving Nature of the Preservation Field (2)

- New professionals must be prepared to apply knowledge in a “diversity of contexts”:
 - Not just LAMs, but also ...
 - A variety of other non-profit, corporate, and government settings
- New professionals must be boundary crossers, as well as specialists:
 - Speak the many languages of analog *and* digital preservation
 - The next generation of preservation professionals will be polyglots and polymaths!

Changes in the Preservation Education Landscape

- New programs launched, others inactivated
 - Further differentiation and stratification among practitioners and researchers
- Preservation programs expanding their scope
- Online education becoming more prevalent, particularly in continuing education offerings

Research Areas to Consider ...

- What are the core knowledge areas for preservation?
- What is the skillset for the next generation?
- What is the overlap between the theoretical foundations of analog preservation and digital preservation/curation?

Research Areas to Consider ... (2)

- What teaching strategies are most effective for teaching foundational knowledge and practical skills in preservation ...
 - At the graduate level?
 - For continuing education audiences?
 - In the online environment?

Research Areas to Consider ... (3)

- How will educational programs ensure that all students and practitioners have equitable access to knowledge, skill building, and professional development opportunities?
- Unequal resources among large and small organizations means have- and have-nots in digital preservation/curation and audiovisual/multimedia preservation skill acquisition.
- How will we teach critical thinking and research skills required of practitioners to understand the “diversity of contexts” in which preservation and curation engages?
- We need a holistic approach that finds and explores the commonalities and disagreements in preservation in those many contexts.



THANK YOU!