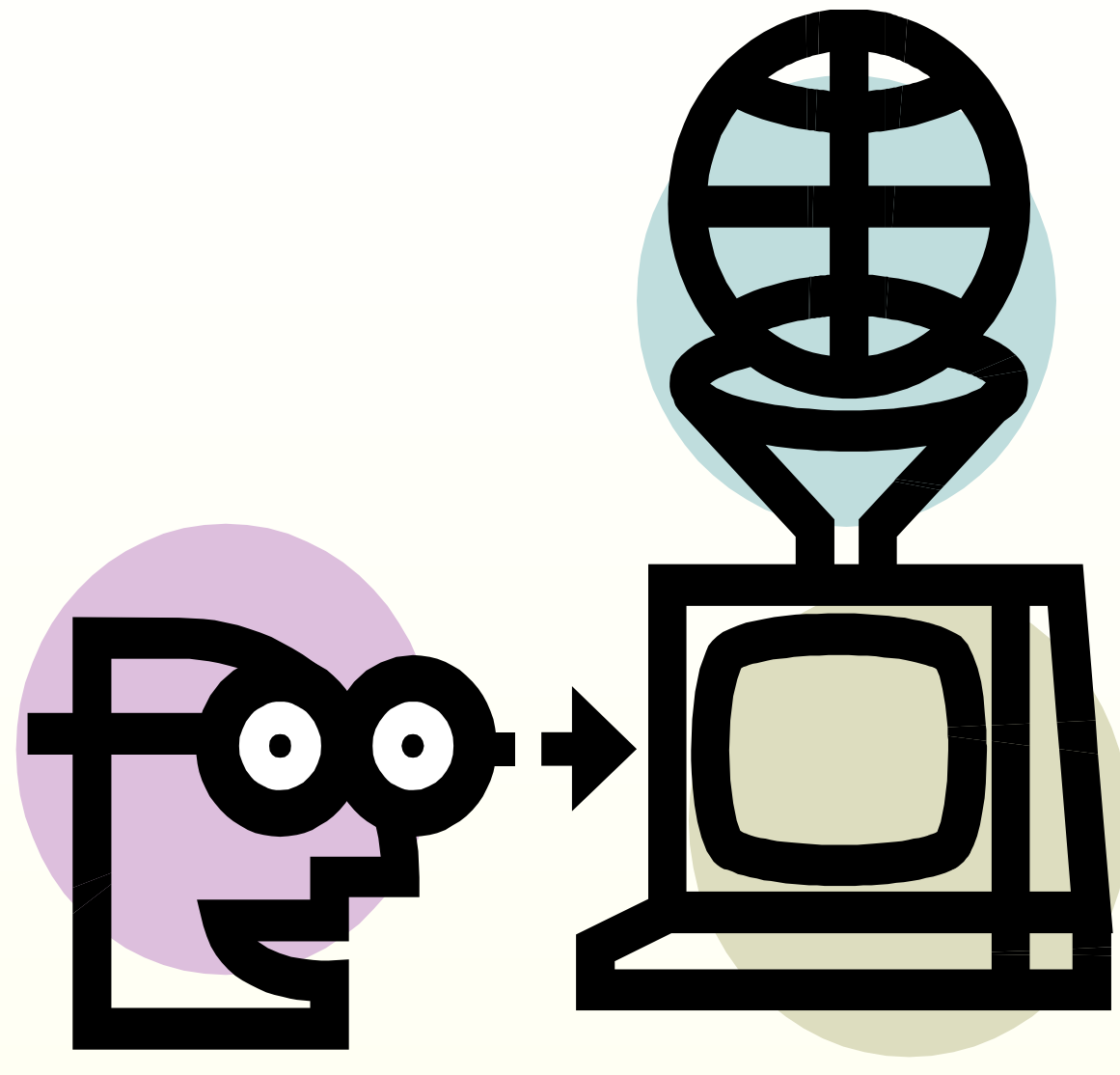


Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities for Digital Preservation: The Lecture I Was Missing from Grad School

Regina Avila • regina.avila@nist.gov

SKILLS

Critical technical skills that are indispensable for digital preservation



XML – Learn XML. You'll use many languages and schema that are based on it.

Database Development and Management – Learn how relational databases are structured and how they work.

Digital Curation – Know how to establish the criteria for planning and building your digital collections.

Web Programming and Design – Learn the basics of HTML, PHP, CSS and get some training in user-centered design.

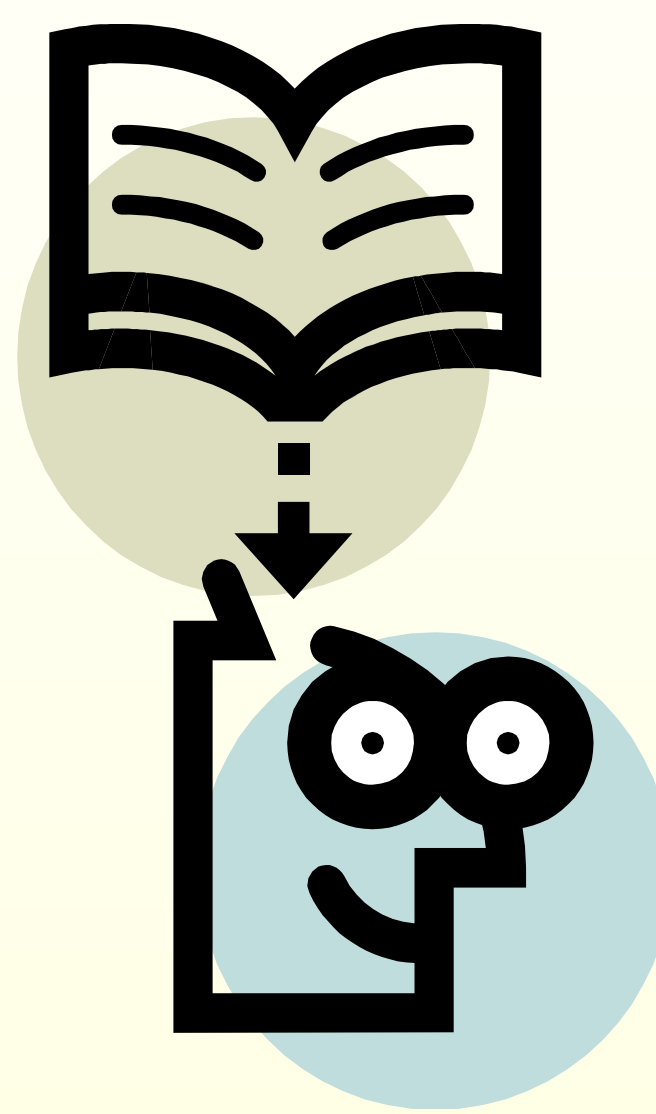
Copyright / Intellectual property – Brush up on copyright basics and get to know Creative Commons licenses.

KNOWLEDGE

The literature, standards, and areas of study that are fundamental to navigating the world of digital preservation

Important Reads

Digital Curation and Preservation Bibliography • <http://bit.ly/digipres-bib>
It's the second version of the bibliography, and a good survey of current pertinent literature.



The basics for Institutional Repositories (IRs)

Trusted Digital Repositories: Attributes and Responsibilities
An RLG-OCLC Report • <http://bit.ly/RLG-TDR>

Trustworthy Repositories Audit & Certification:
Criteria and Checklist

<http://bit.ly/TDR-TRAC-checklist>

Repository Software Evaluation Using the
Audit Checklist for Certification of

Trusted Digital Repositories • <http://bit.ly/software-TRAC>

Innkeeper at the Roach Motel • <http://bit.ly/digipres-roachmotel>

Important Standards and Best Practices

Reference Model for an Open Archival Information System (OAIS) –
ISO 14721:2003 • <http://bit.ly/ISO-14721-2003>

Metadata standards – Dublin Core, MARC, MODS, METS, PREMIS, etc.

Visualization of the Metadata Universe • <http://bit.ly/metadata-universe>

OAI-PMH – A standard that promotes interoperability for exchange of
repository metadata • <http://www.openarchives.org/pmh/>

Digital Imaging Best Practices – The Federal Agencies Digitization Guidelines
Initiative (FADGI) • <http://www.digitizationguidelines.gov/>
Bibliographical Center for Research also produced a straightforward guide.
<http://bit.ly/BCR-digit-bp>

Digital File Formats – JPEG, JPEG2000, PNG, DNG, TIFF, PDF, PDF/A – Get to
know what's out there.

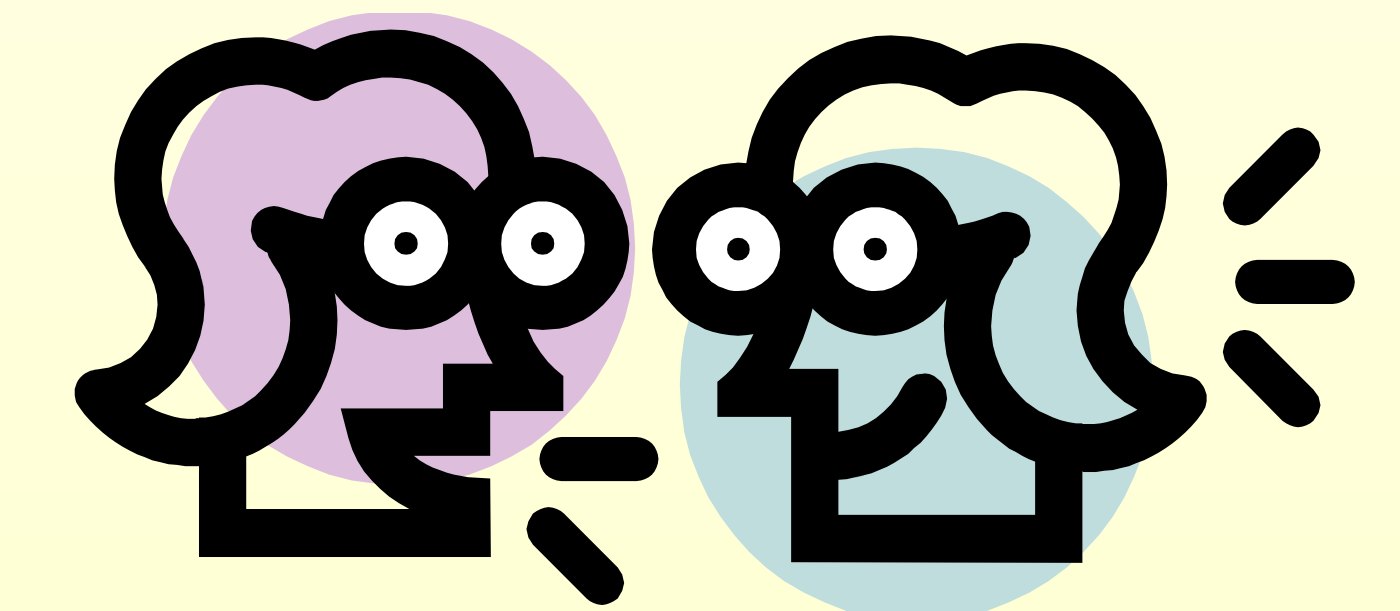
ABILITIES

Competencies that information professionals develop over time when managing digital assets

Flexibility – Adapt to change and avoid technological obsolescence.

Stay Current – Keep on top of the developments in the field by attending conferences; joining associations and working groups; and reading blogs, listservs, and journals.

Communication – Learn to communicate with people across the digital archiving process – from programmers to management to vendors and more.



Project management – Learn to juggle the resources and processes to plan and execute a successful project.

Lifelong learning – Perhaps an easy chore for information professionals, constant acquisition of knowledge and skills will ensure success.