

## Digital Preservation Services in Digital Scholarship Centers Survey

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# Survey Information

For more information about the survey, including the survey data results, please see: Narlock, M., Vecchio, J. C., & Johnson, D. (2021). Digital Preservation Services in Digital Scholarship Centers Survey. <https://doi.org/10.17605/OSF.IO/3YJ8A>

## Survey Design

The main objective of this survey was to understand how digital scholarship centers within higher education institutions in the United States engage with their stakeholders on the issue of digital preservation. Key research questions were: how many DSCs engage their patrons with digital preservation considerations, what forms does digital preservation patron engagement take, and are institutional digital preservation guidelines/policies accessible internally or externally.

The survey consisted of four sections. The first two sections captured organization and respondent demographics. The third section captured “Digital Scholarship Center Service Profile” information. The final section, “Digital Preservation Policies and Practices,” captured additional information about how DSCs engage with patrons on digital preservation issues. If a respondent did not indicate that their DSC provided digital preservation services in the “Service Profile” section, they were forwarded to the closing survey section.

Response options for the survey questions were a mixture of multiple choice, multiple answer, and open-ended questions. The survey questions can be viewed below.

## Survey Distribution

The survey was open for response between September 16, 2019 and October 21, 2019. The survey was disseminated through the following listservs:

- Alliance of Digital Humanities Organizations Humanist Discussion Group (dhhumanist.org)
- American Library Association College Librarians List (COLLIB-L@lists.ala.org)
- American Library Association Digital Preservation Discussion Group (digipres@lists.ala.org)
- Association of College and Research Libraries Digital Humanities Discussion Group (dss-dh\_dh@lists.ala.org)
- Association of College and Research Libraries Digital Scholarship Section (dss-dc\_dg@lists.ala.org)
- Digital Humanities Summer Institute (<https://lists.uvic.ca/mailman/listinfo/institute>)
- Digital Curation Google Group (digital-curation@googlegroups.com)

- Digital Library Federation (DLF) (DLF-ANNOUNCE@lists.clir.org)

Respondents were asked to provide their names and institutions to allow us to mitigate the effect of receiving multiple responses from a single institution.

In total, the survey received forty-seven (47) responses. Respondents who left all answers blank were eliminated. Duplicate responses were received from three institutions. If there was overlap between responses, the authors looked to see if responses were identical; if so, one entry was kept for the institution, and if not, both entries were removed. Two entries were removed due to being from non-US institutions. In total, twenty-five (25) survey responses were used for analysis.

A key limitation to this survey is the small number of responses received relative to the number of invitations distributed through listservs (see Survey Results for more information). While this restricts exhaustive pronouncements about the current landscape at digital scholarship centers, the survey nevertheless provides an instructive starting place for continued exploration of digital preservation patron engagement activities at US digital scholarship centers by serving as a snapshot in time of a significant cross-section of practice.