

Digital Preservation at Oxford and Cambridge

A collaborative research project to evaluate and provide sustainable recommendations for our digital preservation programmes

Round-up of the DPOC project

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The Digital Preservation at Oxford and Cambridge project formally concluded on the 31st of December 2018. It has been a busy and eventful 2.5 years for the six Polonsky Fellows and, although the DPOC project itself is ending, follow-on digital preservation activities are continuing at both organisations as an outcome.

During the course of DPOC the Fellows have collaborated to produce a range of deliverables and recommendations. While it is not an exhaustive list of the Fellows' work, some of the key outputs from the project were:

- Developing new digital preservation policies and strategies
- Undertaking extensive audits of digital assets
- Assessing both institutions' technical capabilities and requirements
- Surveying staff skills and awareness
- Devising a programme of training to address the challenges of digital preservation
- Creating local business cases for developing the institutions' digital preservation offerings
- Disseminating project findings and recommendations through conferences, workshops, roadshows, publications, and the DPOC blog

Whilst reviewing the work of DPOC, William Kilbride (Executive Director of the DPC www.dpconline.org) noted that the Fellows have “produced lasting and appreciable benefits” and “delivered a great deal over a relatively short while”. In light of this, the DPC Board has awarded honorary personal membership of the DPC to each of the Fellows.

Both the Bodleian Libraries and Cambridge University Library have been delighted by the exemplary work and contributions of the Fellows, and would like to formally acknowledge the commitment of both teams, namely: Edith Halvarsson, Sarah Mason, and James Mooney (at the Bodleian) and Dave Gerrard, Lee Pretlove, and Somaya Langley (at Cambridge). Their hard work and expertise will benefit current and future generations of readers, researchers, and collection owners.

Digital Preservation is of course an ongoing activity and commitment. It is not only about technologies, but also importantly about the people who maintain them and about organisational culture. The more long-term impact of the DPOC business cases at both organisations are still to be seen over the coming years. To follow these developments and find out more about Bodleian Libraries and CUL’s current digital preservation activities visit [the DPOC contact page](#).

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