

University of San Diego

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Digital Initiatives Symposium

May 2nd, 4:15 PM - 5:00 PM

Closing Keynote: Digital Infrastructures that Embody Library Principles

Trevor Owens

Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS)

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Closing Keynote: Digital Infrastructures that Embody Library Principles

Session Type

Keynote Address

Location

KIPJ Theatre

Comments

Trevor Owens directs the Institute of Museum and Library Services national digital platform initiative and leads a team of program staff in support of that work in the IMLS Office of Library Services. In this role, he steers an overall strategy encompassing research, grant making, and policy agendas, as well as communications initiatives, in support of the development of national digital services and resources in libraries. From 2010-2015, Trevor served as a Digital Archivist with the National Digital Information Infrastructure and Preservation Program (NDIIPP) in the Office of Strategic Initiatives at the Library of Congress. Before that, he worked as the community manager for the Zotero project at the Center for History and New Media. Trevor has a doctorate in social science research methods and educational technology from the Graduate School of Education at George Mason University, a master's degree in American history with an emphasis on digital history from George Mason University, and a bachelor's degree in the history of science from the University of Wisconsin. He teaches graduate seminars on digital curation, digital preservation and digital history for the University of Maryland's iSchool and American University's public history program. In 2014 the Society for American Archivists gave him the Archival Innovator Award, an award granted annually to recognize the archivist, repository, or organization that best exemplifies the "ability to think outside the professional norm."



Digital Infrastructures that Embody Library Principles

The IMLS national digital platform framework for
digital library tools and services

Trevor Owens 5/2/17





The national digital platform is the combination of software applications, social and technical infrastructure, and staff expertise that provide digital content, collections, and related services to all users in the US.



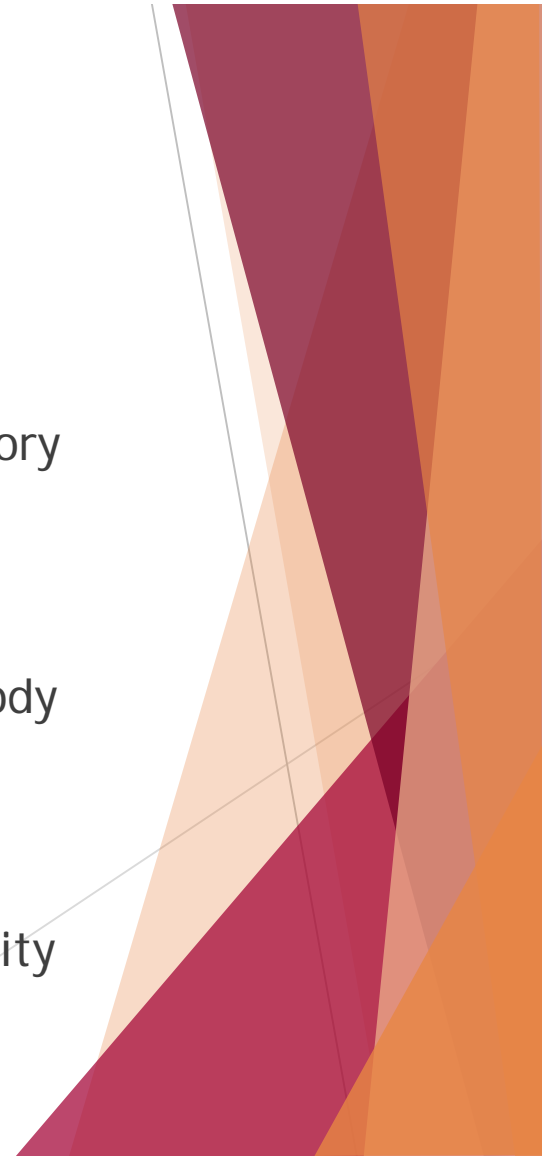


ALA Values

- ▶ Access
- ▶ Confidentiality and privacy
- ▶ Democracy
- ▶ Diversity
- ▶ Education and lifelong learning
- ▶ Intellectual freedom
- ▶ Public good
- ▶ Preservation
- ▶ Professionalism
- ▶ Service
- ▶ Social responsibility

SAA Values

- ▶ Access and use
- ▶ Accountability
- ▶ Advocacy
- ▶ Diversity
- ▶ History and memory
- ▶ Preservation
- ▶ Professionalism
- ▶ Responsible custody
- ▶ Selection
- ▶ Service
- ▶ Social responsibility





Four Focal Areas for Today

- ▶ connectivity and digital access
- ▶ data privacy in civic & digital literacy
- ▶ digital collections by & for diverse communities
- ▶ information access through eBooks





Three Talk Objectives

- ▶ Overview of current projects
- ▶ Explanation of NDP Framework
- ▶ Guidance for potential future grant proposals





Principles, Librarianship, & Infrastructure



“values held by designers affect how information technologies are imagined; how systems handle data, create categories, and draw inferences; and what affordances are available for user interaction.”

Shilton, K. “Values Levers: Building Ethics into Design,” *Science, Technology & Human Values* 38, no. 3 (May 1, 2013): 375, doi:10.1177/0162243912436985.

protocol

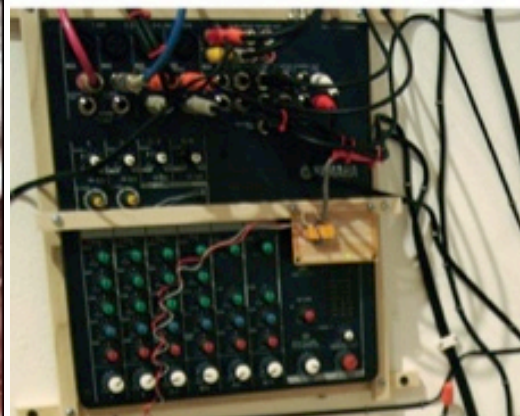
alexander r. galloway



Jonathan Sterne

MP3

THE MEANING OF A FORMAT



code{4}lib JOURNAL

[Mission](#) [Editorial Committee](#) [Process and Structure](#) [Code4Lib](#)

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Feminism and the Future of Library Discovery

This paper discusses the various ways in which the practices of libraries and librarians influence the diversity (or lack thereof) of scholarship and information access. We examine some of the cultural biases inherent in both library classification systems and newer forms of information access like Google search algorithms, and propose ways of recognizing bias and applying feminist principles in the design of information services for scholars, particularly as libraries re-invent themselves to grapple with digital collections.

By Bess Sadler and Chris Bourg

Libraries are not Neutral

In spite of the pride many libraries take in their neutrality, libraries have never been neutral repositories of knowledge. Research libraries in particular have always reflected the inequalities, biases, ethnocentrism, and power imbalances that exist throughout the academic enterprise through collection policies and hiring practices that reflect the biases of those in power at a given institution. In addition, theoretically neutral library activities like cataloging have often re-created societal patterns of exclusion and inequality. For example, in *The Power to Name*, Hope Olson documents the ways the Dewey Decimal system has historically reflected

why are black women so

- why are black women so angry
- why are black women so loud
- why are black women so mean
- why are black women so attractive
- why are black women so lazy
- why are black women so annoying
- why are black women so confident
- why are black women so sassy
- why are black women so insecure

ALGORITHMS OF OPPRESSION

HOW SEARCH ENGINES
REINFORCE RACISM

SAFIYA UMOJA NOBLE

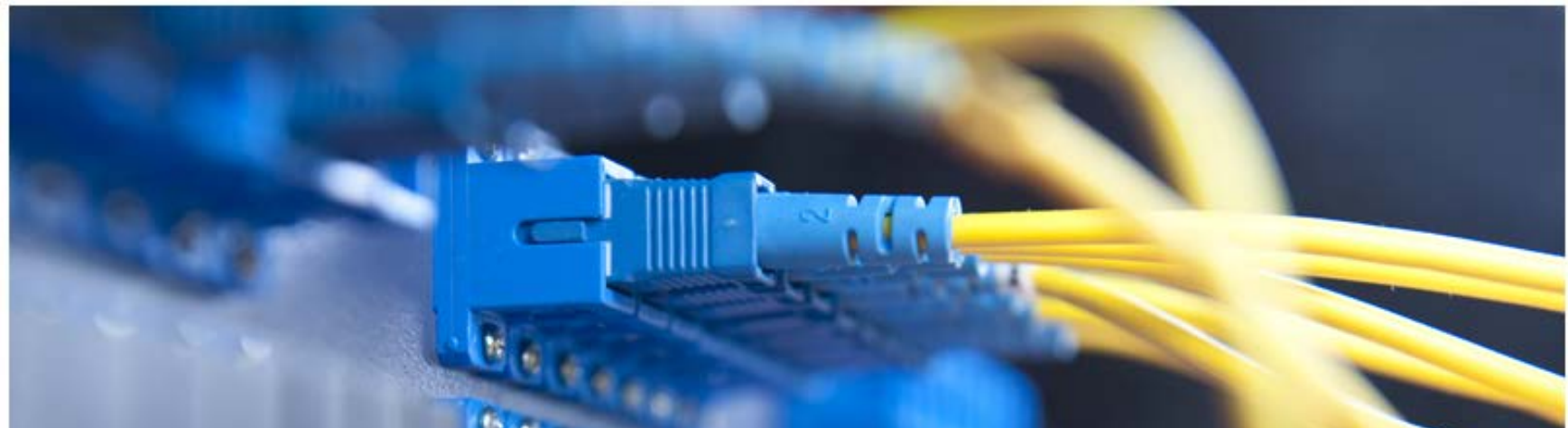


Values in Design

The National Digital Platform for Libraries and Museums

Collaborating on tools and services across organizations

By [Maura Marx](#) and [Trevor Owens](#) | June 11, 2015



A photograph of a woman with short reddish hair wearing a bright green jacket, sitting at a conference table and smiling while talking to a man in a dark suit and glasses. The man is gesturing with his hands as they converse. On the table in front of them are several laptops, water bottles, and a glass of orange juice. In the background, other people are seated at similar tables in a large room with wood-paneled walls. The text 'The National Digital Platform as Dialog' is overlaid in white at the bottom of the image.

The National Digital Platform as Dialog



Two Sides to the National Digital Platform

Broadly: a way of thinking about all the digital tools, services, infrastructures, and workforces that libraries utilize to meet user needs across the United States

Specifically: a project category in the National Leadership Grants to Libraries Program and the Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian Program.



Four Focal Areas for Today

- ▶ connectivity and digital access
- ▶ data privacy in civic & digital literacy
- ▶ digital collections by & for diverse communities
- ▶ information access through eBooks



Connectivity & Access





Rural & Tribal Library Connectivity



Toward Gigabit Libraries

\$248,725.00

- ▶ **Project:** Develop a library broadband network assessment toolkit and training program for rural and tribal libraries. Pilot the tool kit with 30 library practitioners in at least 30 rural public and tribal libraries across five states.
- ▶ **Partners:** Internet2; Association of Tribal Archives, Libraries, and Museums; the American Library Association; the Association of Rural and Small Libraries; and the Chief Officers of State Library Agencies



Connectivity Beyond the Walls



BKLYN Link

- ▶ \$50,000
- ▶ **Project:** Brooklyn Public Library is piloting BKLYN Link, a community-driven mesh network providing free broadband access and a technology-based fellowship program for young adults ages 18-24. engagement and launching a mesh network

Libraries Leading in Digital Inclusion via TV White Space

- ▶ \$249,998.00
- ▶ **Project:** Create training materials and support 5 library pilots to use TV White Space wireless technology to provide connectivity in remote areas.
- ▶ **Partners:** San Jose State, Gigabit Libraries Network & National Digital Inclusion Alliance



Data Privacy in Civic & Digital Literacy





How much do you and your patrons know about libraries and privacy?

Let's take a quiz.

Scaling Digital Privacy & Data Literacy in Libraries

- ▶ \$240,729
- ▶ **Project:** Develop, run and evaluate digital privacy and data literacy training for public library staff. The resulting training materials are made widely available as open educational resources.
- ▶ **Partners:** Brooklyn Public Library, the Metropolitan New York Library Council, New America Foundation's Open Technology Institute, and the Data & Society Research Institute.



Surveillance & Audiovisual Evidence Management



On the Record, All the Time: Setting an Agenda for A/V Evidence Management

- ▶ \$99,970
- ▶ **Project:** The UCLA Department of Information Studies convened stakeholders responsible for the management of new forms of digital audiovisual evidence used by law enforcement. The goals of the project are to identify areas of skill development for information professionals in law enforcement agencies, libraries, and archives, and to build institutional capacity for education that addresses information professionals' management of digital information and open data.



Open Data for the Public Good

Open Data for Public Good: Data Literacy Education for Public Information Professionals

- ▶ \$690,858
- ▶ **Project:** Develop and run an educational program to prepare both new students and practicing professionals to: curate collections of open data of value to local communities, build infrastructure and preservation environments needed to sustain open data collections, and collaborate with open data providers on advocacy and outreach activities.
- ▶ **Partners:** University of Washington, Seattle Public Library, Washington State Historical Society, Washington State Department of Transportation, and the Washington State Office of Technology.



Digital Collections by and for Diverse Communities



Diversifying Digital Library Collections

Diversifying the Digital Historical Record

- ▶ \$100,000
- ▶ **Project:** Partners are hosting four meetings exploring integrating community archives in the National Digital Platform. These meetings bring together diverse group of community archives curators and practitioners, community members, scholars, and digital collections leaders, to discuss broader inclusion of these materials in national digital collections. The project will result in recommendations for increased representation of marginalized communities and people in our digital cultural heritage.
- ▶ **Partners:** The Amistad Research Center, the Shorefront Legacy Center, the South Asian American Digital Archive, Mukurtu, and the Inland Empire Memories Project

Assessing the Use of Community Archives

- ▶ \$325,000
- ▶ **Project:** In this Early Career Development research project, Dr. Michelle Caswell is studying questions related to the use and users of community archives, centered on the needs of LGBTQ communities and communities of color. The research will investigate the impact of independent, community-based archives in Southern California on the individuals and communities they serve, as well as provide tools for such archives to assess and articulate their impact. A preliminary community archives impact model will also be tested. Users of five community-based archives in Southern California will participate in focus groups and semi-structured interviews. Outcomes of the project will include an open assessment toolkit for community archives to study and assess their own users



Designing Systems for Diverse Communities Needs



Mukurtu Hubs & Spokes: A Sustainable National Platform

- ▶ \$641,832
- ▶ **Project:** Extend the functionality of the free and open source platform Mukurtu, a content management system and community archive platform built with indigenous communities to manage and share digital cultural heritage and launch a national network of hubs that will contribute to the ongoing development and deployment of the platform, as well as provide training and support to tribal archives, libraries, and museums.
- ▶ **Partners:** Washington State University, University of Hawaii's, Alaska Native Language Archives, University of Oregon Libraries, University of Wisconsin, Wisconsin Library Services, and Yale University's Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library

A photograph of a person walking in a park at sunset, carrying a large bunch of colorful balloons. The scene is silhouetted against the bright sun, with palm trees and other people visible in the background.

Access Example: Ebooks

Library Simplified

- ▶ \$500,000
- ▶ **Project:** A project to collect and analyze data on user experiences; identify opportunities for improvements; and design, test, and employ new open source tools to provide access to Ebooks.
Partners: New York Public Library & Readers First

The Library E-content Access Project

- ▶ \$1,372,154
- ▶ **Project:** Expand and provide outreach for the Library Simplified open source eBook platform. Through this work, the partners aim to unify and improve the eBook borrowing and reading experience for library users across the country. The project also supports a broader strategy to enhance open source software tools for public library systems across the country to provide access to eBooks.
- ▶ **Partners:** New York Public Library (NYPL), in close collaboration with the Digital Public Library of America (DPLA), and 19 partner libraries and library consortia from across the country



Home

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Helping children discover a love of reading

Get Started

SimplyE for Consortia

\$695,000

- ▶ **Project:** Enhance SimplyE, an open source e-reader designed specifically to streamline and improve the e-book circulation process for library patrons. SimplyE, will be modified for academic, public, and school library users. The team will design and develop features that will allow for the participation of schools, research libraries, and consortia with shared e-book collections.
- ▶ **Partners:** Minitex, Massachusetts Library System (MLS) and Reaching Across Illinois Library System (RAILS)



Growing
Forward





Basis of the National Digital Platform:

- 1) all libraries can collaborate on shared tools, services, & digital approaches to meeting user needs**
- 2) collaborations & shared infrastructures will only be useful to the extent they enact library and archival principles**



Additional NDP Area: Digital Preservation

- ▶ *Fostering a New National Library Network through a Community Based, Connected Repository System* - The Digital Public Library of America, Stanford University, and DuraSpace (LG-70-15-0006-15)
- ▶ *Beyond the Repository: Integrating Local Preservation Systems with National Distribution Services* - Northwestern University Libraries (LG-72-16-0135-16)



**library principles should
be entangled with the
design and
implementation of
technology at every level
of digital library
infrastructure**



Future of the
National Digital
Platform is in Your
Hands





IMLS Digital Library Initiative Applicant Info

- National Leadership Grants for Libraries (NLG)
 - \$10,000-\$2,000,000, Average Award: \$460,000
- Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian Program (LB21)
 - \$10,000-\$1,000,000, Average Award: \$320,000
- Both NLG & LB21 programs
 - 2 Page Pre-Proposals due September 1st or February 1st
 - Multiple project levels: Planning grants, national forum grants, research grants, project grants
 - All Successful Projects clearly articulate their 1) National or Broad Impact 2) Current Significance 3) involve Strategic Collaborations and 4) Demonstrated Expertise in the project team.

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