

# Stanford University Press Preservation Workshop

Center for Spatial and Textual Analysis  
Stanford University  
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The purpose of this workshop is to bring together SUP authors and other select stakeholders in digital scholarly publishing to advance our thinking on archiving and preservation. Basically, we want to know our authors' expectations for the archiving and preservation of their work, how they have been approaching this question since the beginning of their projects, and how they are anticipating dealing with it in other digital projects they are doing. Additionally, we want to hear from experts in the field of digital delivery, archiving, and preservation to explore solutions for extending the life and reach of the web-based interactive scholarly works we're publishing. The goal is for us at Stanford to identify the best strategies to push for, since digital scholarly publishing is still very much in its infancy. In between presentations from authors and preservation technologists, we will describe what the Press has already begun doing to mitigate the threat of digital decay in the works we're publishing.

After we've heard each other's perspectives, we'll identify some questions to work through in smaller breakout groups, with the aim of building a blueprint for how we can all contribute to the longevity of interactive scholarly works. Some fundamental questions, which will serve as categories for more focused breakout questions, are:

What are authors' expectations for the longevity of their work? What should authors take into consideration in order to build sustainable projects? What role are technological stakeholders currently playing in supporting web-based digital scholarship? What can partners and stakeholders do to advance the longevity of digital publications?

By the end of the meeting we hope to have generated some action items to ensure longer lifespan of projects and to identify potential partnerships or collaborations toward this end.

## Agenda

### Day 1

**8:30 - 9:00: Breakfast and Coffee**

**9:00 - 9:30: Welcome and introduction.** Update on the progress of the program and intro to the next round of challenges, specifically the challenge of longevity. Each of us here are bringing

different perspectives to the table, and by beginning a conversation together we hope to reveal possible points of intersection toward solutions.

**9:30 - 11:00: Author project presentations/roundtable (no longer than 10 minutes each).**

These presentations are intended to provide some context for the preservationists and technologists in the room as well as to give authors a chance to see what their peers are doing. Presentations are meant to situate the range of technologies and features so that we have a baseline for conversation, or specific examples/use cases in mind, when we break out for discussion. Questions are welcome and encouraged. We will keep track of all questions as potential focus points for break-out discussion later on.

**11:00 - 11:15: 15-min break**

**11:15 - 12:00: SUP Digital Projects preservation strategy and questions.** As a transition from the projects themselves to the work different organizations are doing with digital stewardship and preservation, we will provide a breakdown of the approaches we've begun to take. We'll explain how we are safeguarding against obsolescence by 1.) asking authors to use sustainable technologies and provide documentation on their projects; 2.) taking responsibility for the hosting and short-term maintenance of live projects; 3.) investigating high-fidelity mid-range solutions such as web-archiving and emulation; 4.) creating collections with rich metadata and documentation in Stanford Digital Repository for long term preservation of data and content; and 5.) building networks between the different stakeholders in each of these areas in hopes that our shared knowledge can generate real strategies for ensuring this form of scholarship remains part of the scholarly record.

**12:00 - 1:30: Lunch** (Keep track of any possible discussion topics and questions that might come up.)

**1:30 - 1:45: Reconvene / gather questions.** At this point, we should collect and review questions and discussion topics that have emerged so far throughout the morning and over lunch. We'll add them to the working list.

**1:45 - 3:15: Technical presentations (no more than 10 min. each).** Technical guests will present briefly on each of their projects so that authors get a sense of the breadth of our pursuits with sustainability and preservation strategies. These presentations will also help other technologists find points of intersection, possibly revealing potential opportunities for partnerships that could end up benefiting our program. Presenters include representatives from [King's College Digital Lab](#), [Project Endings](#), [Digits](#), [Reclaim Hosting](#), [Internet Archive](#), [Webrecorder](#), [Computer History Museum](#), [Software Preservation Network](#), and [Emulation as a Service](#).

**3:15 - 3:30: 15 min break.**

**3:30 - 3:45: Establish first break-out topics and groups based on questions and topics gathered.**

**3:45 - 4:45: Break-out session 1.**

**A:** What are we archiving?

**B:** Design for preservation

**C:** Maintenance vs. preservation & how long is long enough

**4:45 - 5:00: Report out on conversations and update topic/question list.** Organize conversation topics and questions for the next day.

**5:00 - 6:30: Disperse and Refresh.**

**6:30 - 8:00: Dinner.**

## Day 2

**8:30 - 9:00: Breakfast and Coffee.**

**9:00 - 9:15: Reconvene.** Collect and review any new topics that might have emerged since the previous day and set the agenda for the rest of the workshop.

**9:15 - 10:00: Break-out session 2.**

**A:** Containerization and varied methodology

**B:** Documentation

**10:00 - 10:15: 15-minute break.**

**10:15 - 11:00: Demos.**

**A:** EaaS

**B:** Webrecorder

**11:00 - 11:45: Report out and wrap up, identify action items.**

**11:45 - 1:00: (Box) Lunch.**