

Software Curation:

A panel discussion

Maintainers III
Gallaudet University,
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Would you describe yourself
as a software creator?

Who is responsible for
maintaining all the
paratextual materials needed
for making meaning of
software in a reuse context?



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Hello!

Daina Bouquin

Zachary Furste

Seth Anderson

Brandon Butler

Why does software and curation matter?

Software tells us about culture — its makers and users and everyone it touches.

Software tells us about software — its evolution, its design, its function, its success, its failure.

Software opens digital files we care about and cannot faithfully access otherwise — **the right software is a Rosetta Stone for the file types it can read**, and rendering matters.

Software curation and preservation is a distinct archival practice that is not part of the consumer/commercial sphere.

Discussion topics

Maintenance and community-owned infrastructure
Post-custodialism and software curation
Developer norms v. stewardship norms
Metadata hand-offs between roles in the ecosystem
Law + policy intersections with evolving practice
Organizational policy challenges and building capacity

Contextual resources

Code of Best Practices in Fair Use for Software Preservation

<https://www.arl.org/code-fair-use-software-preservation/>

A Preservationist's Guide to the DMCA Exemption for Software Preservation

<http://softwarepn.webmasters21.com/1201-exemption-guide-for-software-preservationists/>

EaaS Open Source Sandbox

<https://www.softwarepreservationnetwork.org/eaasi-sandbox/>

Designing a Universal Virtual Interactor (UVI) for digital objects

<https://www.dpconline.org/blog/idpd/designing-a-uvi-for-digital-objects>

Software Curation in Research Libraries: Practice and Promise; Alexandra Chassanoff, Yasmin AlNoamany, Katherine Thornton, John Borghi;

<https://doi.org/10.7710/2162-3309.2239>

The Pathways of Research Software Preservation: An Educational and Planning Resource for Service Development; Fernando Rios;

<http://www.dlib.org/dlib/july16/rios/07rios.html>