Library of Congress Digital Preservation Newsletter

New Media Atwitter Over Tweet Archive

On April 14, Library of Congress Director of Communications Matt Raymond blogged and tweeted news that Twitter is donating its digital archive of public tweets to the Library. The response from the world of new media — blogs, tweets and news websites — was immediate and huge.

The news was a "trending topic" on Twitter for the rest of the day, eclipsing even Justin Bieber in popularity. Google listed over 2,000 news articles on the subject, and Go.USA.gov reported that the Library's blog page had over 41,000 clicks, which was more than five times of any other government Uniform Resource Locator. The Internet traffic was so large that the Library blog server temporarily crashed.
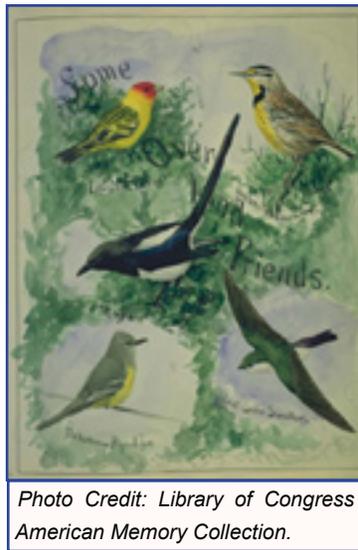
Photo Credit: Library of Congress American Memory Collection.

Web media outlets of all kinds featured the news, from the New York Times, to the Drudge Report, to PerezHilton.com.

Read more about the Twitter archive donation at digitalpreservation.gov. •

Library of Congress Rocks SXSW Conference

The 24th Annual South by Southwest film, interactive and music conference was held in Austin, Texas from March 12 - 21, with the Library of Congress participating during the Music and Media Conference.

SXSW began as a local musical event in Austin in 1987 but now incorporates a variety of media and draws as many as 20,000 registrants from around the world.

This year, the Music Trade Show included a Library of Congress information booth for three days, while the Conference program featured a panel session titled "The Library of Congress: Music for Generations." A booth at the SXSW Music Trade Show was an ideal forum for the Library staff to reach out to conference registrants and showcase the variety of services the Library offers. The booth was continuously busy over the course of three days.

A variety of material was available at the Library's Trade Show booth.

The Library has been interested in SXSW for several years as a place to promote its activities to communities outside of libraries and archives. The conference offered numerous opportunities for the Library to broaden its acquisitions of contemporary music and to raise its profile in an increasingly diverse, diffuse and decentralized music industry, as well as to raise awareness of digital preservation issues and the Library's commitment to them.

Read more about the Library at SXSW at digital-preservation.gov. •

NDIIPP on Facebook

Do you like NDIIPP? If so, you now have a chance to show it by "liking" the new National Digital Information Infrastructure and Preservation Program Facebook page.
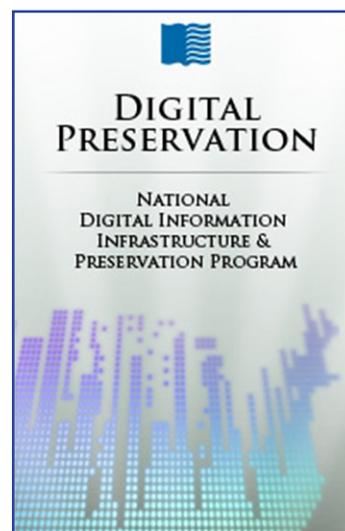
The Library of Congress launched the page on May 3 to engage with anyone and everyone with an interest in digital preservation and access. The page will be updated daily with news from the program and from its partners. Any thoughts or ideas are welcome—send them on through Facebook! You can access the page at www.facebook.com/digital-preservation.•

Digital Preservation Pioneer: Patricia Cruse

Patricia (Trisha) Cruse, Director of the University of California Curation Center, is passionate about promoting public information. Perhaps that passion developed because of the egalitarian culture she was steeped in during her student days at the University of California, Berkeley, or perhaps it was the populist support for open information that she witnessed during her travels in Eastern Europe.

Whatever the reason, she got the chance to combine her library training with public service through a job at the Louisiana State University library, where she worked as a government information librarian, serving up important information to the university community and to the public.

Cruse was excited when she went to work for the California Digital Library in 2000. She saw it as a step up to the next level of public service, with greater technological resources and a more expansive reach.

Read more about Cruse's interests and career -- or listen to a podcast -- at digitalpreservation.gov. •

Preserving Video Games

The Preserving Virtual Worlds project team met recently in Palo Alto, CA. Participants discussed the project's many results, which touch upon how institutions could collect and preserve virtual worlds like Second Life and highly complex multi-player video games. Hardware and software obsolescence, intellectual property issues and metadata

Historic video game console at Stanford University Green Library media room.

capture are all challenges the project is addressing.

Read more about the meeting and the project at digitalpreservation.gov. •

Library On the Roadmap with NIST

The National Institute of Standards and Technology launched an effort to establish a digital preservation roadmap. Aiming to develop an interoperability framework, NIST convened a U.S. workshop during March 29-31 in Gaithersburg, MD.

Leslie Johnston from the Library of Congress National Digital Information Infrastructure and Preservation Program spoke on bit-preservation services. She discussed work on current and planned tools and services for packaging content and inventorying life-cycle events. She also outlined the Library's intent to document best practices, release open source software and conduct file-level preservation audits

Read more about the workshop at digitalpreservation.gov. •

Alabama, New Mexico Join PeDALS

Alabama and New Mexico are the newest partners in the Persistent Digital Archives and Library System research project.

Read about their recent project results at digitalpreservation.gov. •

MetaNews

- The National Endowment for the Humanities Division of Preservation and Access is offering new grants under its Research and Development program. The deadline for applications is July 1, 2010.

- The JHOVE2 project is developing a new version of JHOVE with next-generation architecture. Take a survey to help the project with priorities.

- The Chesapeake Project Legal Information Archive completed its third analysis of link rot among URLs for law- and policy-related materials.