PEGI PROJECT

Raising awareness for the preservation of electronic government information

Project Update
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Mission Statement

Preservation of Electronic Government Information (PEGI) is an initiative to address national concerns regarding the preservation of electronic government information by cultural memory organizations for long term use by the public.

The PEGI Project’s chief concern is that historically significant born-digital government information is not being comprehensively and systematically preserved.
Partner Institutions

- University of North Texas
- University of North Carolina at Greensboro
- Arizona State University
- University of Missouri
- Stanford University
- Yale University
- Center for Research Libraries
- Educopia

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Our goals for furthering preservation and access to electronic government information

1. Engage a variety of stakeholders in meaningful discussions
2. Assess the landscape of creation, dissemination, and preservation of electronic government information
3. Identify alignment between stakeholders for future collaborative activities
4. Gauge acceptance of stakeholders and other participants to the use of the Collective Impact model
THE COLLECTIVE IMPACT CHANGE PROCESS

SHARED MEASUREMENT
MUTUALLY REINFORCING ACTIVITIES
CONTINUOUS COMMUNICATION

CRISIS!

COMMUNITY

URGENCY FUNDING CHAMPIONS

COMMON AGENDA
BACKBONE FUNCTION

WORKING GROUPS

SYSTEM TRANSFORMED

GOAL!

* Doubled the number of students on track to graduate with a post-secondary degree or career credential

* Drastically reduced rates of infant mortality

* Increased community capacity

* Increased parent and youth voices

* Reduced poverty and increased upward mobility of youth from low-income families
Project Activities
Project Mini-Forums and Consultations

Libraries & Archives
- Depository Library Council, October 2017
- American Library Association, February & June 2018
- American Association of Law Librarians, July 2018
- Society of American Archivists, August 2018

Researchers & Practitioners
- American Historical Association, January 2018
- American Association for the Advancement of Science, March 2018
- Organization of American Historians (OAH), April 2018
- iPRES, September 2018

Agencies
- Marine Mammal Commission
- Government Publishing Office
- Library of Congress
- National Archives and Records Administration

Virtual Events
- General Discussion, March 2018
- Practitioner Panel, May 2018
PEGI Three Questions

**Question 1:** Are there categories of electronic government information (i.e. digitized records, databases, other digital information types) that you think have long-term value for research purposes?

**Question 2:** If you identified any categories of electronic government information above, do you think that there are any potential risks that might threaten the long-term survival of this information?

**Question 3:** Do you think that there are any useful strategies that could lead to better coordination of efforts by academic or public organizations for purposes of digital collection, preservation, and access? Do you see any logical priorities, opportunities, or barriers to such collaborative actions?
Environmental Scan

- How is born-digital federal government information and data created, managed, disseminated, and preserved?
  - By government entities
  - By external entities
- What are the prerequisites for ensuring ongoing public access to and long-term preservation of born-digital government information?

Link to Environmental Scan: https://educopia.org/pegi-environmental-scan/
National Forum
National Forum on Preserving Electronic Government Information
December 9-10, 2018, at the Omni-Shoreham in Washington DC
Cross-sector collaboration

State and Federal Governments

Universities and Academic Libraries
Librarians, digital preservationists, archivists, scholars and professors actively participated in the discussion

Community Organizations
Some independent organizations are already working to preserve born-digital government information. Each brought the benefit of experience.
National Forum Activities

With credit to Dr. Katherine Skinner of the Educopia Institute for event structure and facilitation (https://educopia.org)
Defining the challenge

1. What digital material is at risk for loss... and what puts it at risk?
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2. What are you confident is being preserved well? In other words, what does not worry you?
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3. How do you draw the line between what is at risk, and what is safely preserved?
Defining the challenge

1. What digital material is at risk for loss... and what puts it at risk?

2. What are you confident is being preserved well? In other words, what does not worry you?

3. How do you draw the line between what is at risk, and what is safely preserved?

4. What goals could we adopt for future collective action?
Bridging vocabulary: Trouble terms

- Trustworthy
- Metadata
- Government Information
- Preservation / Access
Measuring progress:
What is preserved
Measuring progress: What gets used

- Re-use statistics
- Citation
- Hits
- Community impact
- News stories
Measuring progress:
Systems and infrastructure

- # of systems available to harvest content
- # of access systems
- # w/ graceful degradation
Measuring progress: Stories of value and impact

VALUE/impact

- stories
  - what should be preserved?
  - how should it be prioritized?

- transparency
Measuring progress: Policy

- Changes in Law/Regulation
- Compliance w/ policy
- Having articulated preservation policies
- Federal funding
Some potential pathways forward

1. Friends of Federal Facts (FFF)
   A community to advocate for continued data collections & publishing on behalf of diverse stakeholders

2. Development Network for Data Rescue Toolkit:
   A broad network of experts to make and pilot a nomination tool for at-risk data

3. Domain e-Health Assessment of Government Preservation:
   Documenting preservation efforts and risks for data loss by domain or discipline

4. Increasing Transparency of Federal Records Decision Making:
   Increase understanding of federal records schedule development to encourage participation by a broad community
Commitment Continuum

- Resistant
- Reluctant
- Existent
- Compliant
- Committed
- Compelled

Obsessed
Next Steps:  
2020 and beyond
PEGI Project Milestones

2016
- CNI - San Antonio & Washington DC
  - Digital Preservation of Government Information Summit in San Antonio
  - Steering Committee formed
- Pre-Grant Activities
  - Agency interviews
  - Libraries+ Network meeting
  - IMLS grant submission
  - Presenting on the problem

2017
- IMLS Grant Activities
  - Mini-forums
  - Environmental Scan
  - National Forum
- 2019
- Next Steps
  Where do we go from here?

2018

2020
- Reports & Summaries
  - National Forum Summary & Report
  - White paper
  - Exploring our next steps
PEGI: Next Steps 2020

The Forum Report lays out some suggested steps discussed at the National Forum. We’d like to hear from you as we develop our white paper.

► What pathways forward do you see for the PEGI Project?
► How can the PEGI Project continue to move these conversations forward?
► In what ways do you hope PEGI can support your efforts in the near future? How do you want to partner with us?
Thank you.

Questions or Ideas?
Contact us:

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