Centering Sustainability in Digital Preservation Education

Dr. Elizabeth Shaffer | University of British Columbia, School of Information

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The UBC Vancouver campus sits on the traditional, ancestral, unceded territory of the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam) Peoples.

Ottawa is built on unceded and unsurrendered territory of the Anishinaabe Algonquin Nation whose presence here reaches back to time immemorial.

Their culture and presence have nurtured and continue to nurture this Land.

Why Focus on Sustainability in Digital Preservation?

- Growing challenges
  - Global impact of energy use – will double by 2026
  - Environmental impacts (e.g. e-waste, water consumption)
  - Global inequities – social and environmental costs of data infrastructure
- Access vs. *Sustainable* Access – centering people and planet
- Environmental sustainability x social justice in digital archives
- Ethical responsibility
- Holistic approach
  - Technical, environmental, social
- Current and future skills

Education and Critical Pedagogy

- Informed by bell hooks' education as practice of freedom
- Fosters a justice-oriented approach
  - Inclusivity and intersectionality
- Engaged pedagogy
  - Real-world challenges and issues
- Critical thinking
- Social responsibility
- Real-world issues x ethical practices

Developing Framework for Centering Sustainability

- Educating for sustainable digital preservation
- Awareness
  - Understanding the environmental and social impacts
  - Critically evaluate impact of digital technologies
- Critical analysis
  - Evaluation digital preservation practices through a sustainability lens
- Emphasis on praxis
  - Bring theory into conversation with case studies
- Social justice lens
  - Focus on sustainable, equitable and responsible digital preservation

Thank you

elizabeth.shaffer@ubc.ca