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Mar 25th, 10:00 AM - 12:20 PM

# Developing Digital Stewardship Training: Reflections from a Collaborative Project to Strengthen Staff Skills

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Musselman, Dale and Norton-Wisla, Lotus, "Developing Digital Stewardship Training: Reflections from a Collaborative Project to Strengthen Staff Skills" (2022). *Online Northwest*. 3.

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Online Northwest | March 25, 2022

# Developing Digital Stewardship Training:

Reflections from a collaborative project to strengthen staff skills

**Dale  
Musselman**  
OCLC WebJunction

**Lotus Norton-Wisla**  
Center Digital Scholarship and Curation  
Washington State University



# Dale Musselman

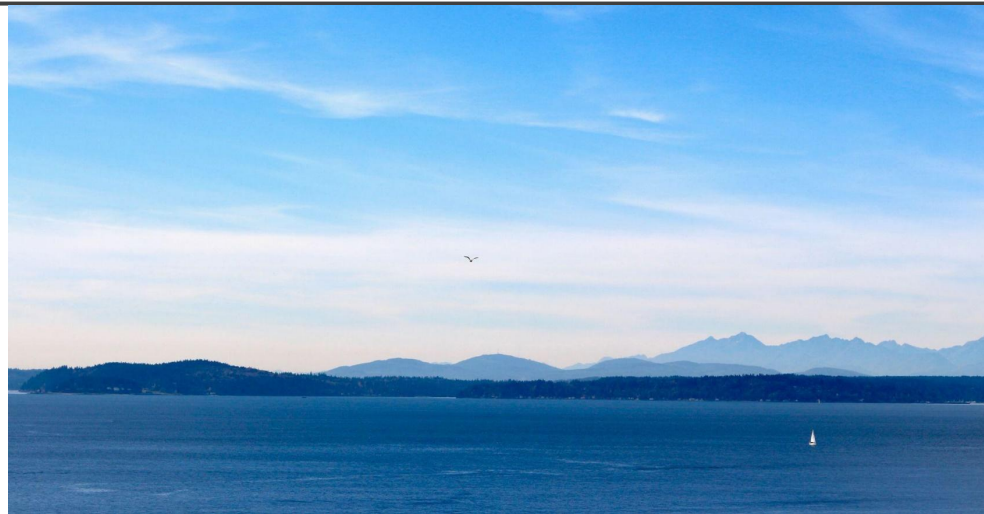
Sr Program Manager, WebJunction  
OCLC

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*I would like to acknowledge I live and work on the traditional land of the first people of Seattle, the Duwamish People past and present and honor with gratitude the land itself and the Duwamish Tribe.*

Learn: <https://www.duwamishtribe.org/>

Photo by Andrew Bain, [unsplash](#)





# Lotus Norton-Wisla

Community Archivist, Center for Digital Scholarship and Curation, Washington State University

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*The Washington State University Pullman campus is located on the homelands of the Nimíipuu (Nez Perce) Tribe and the Palus people. We acknowledge their presence here since time immemorial and recognize their continuing connection to the land, to the water, and to their ancestors.*

Learn:

<https://nezperce.org/> | <https://www.colvilletribes.com/> | <https://native.wsu.edu>



# Agenda

- Tribal Digital Stewardship Cohort program
- Digital Stewardship Training project
- Adapting to on-demand
- TALMs + small public libraries
- Learnings
- Digital Collections Stewardship courses

# TDSCP, CDSC origins



# CDSC

Center for Digital Scholarship & Curation

WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY



- Sustaining Indigenous Culture Report, ATALM 2012
- Knowledge River Program (University of Arizona)
- Circle of Learning Program (San Jose State University),
- Oregon Tribal Archives Institute (Oregon State University)
- Convening Great Lakes Culture Keepers Gatherings (University of Wisconsin, TALMs in the region).

# TALM Digital Stewardship Needs

- Unique contexts
- Appropriate access
- Work time
- Hands-on training



Maureen Wacondo (Pueblo of Jemez) speaks with colleagues.



Katie Lee and Jason Wesaw (Pokagon Band of Potawatomi) watch videos on a smartphone.



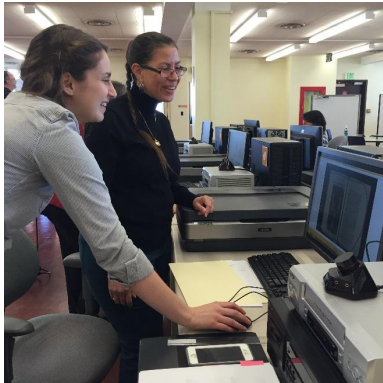
Ashley Sexton (Catawba Nation) writes on a whiteboard.



Arlan Sando (Pueblo of Jemez) and Marilyn Decker (Iñupiaq) encapsulate photographs.

# TDSCP Responding and Learning

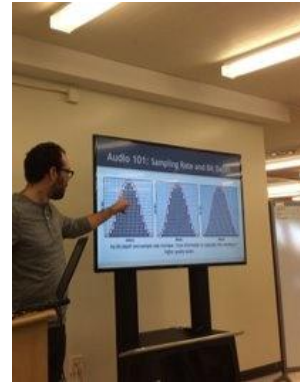
- Relationships, cohort
- Tailoring, feedback
- Respect contexts
- Appropriate access



Elizabeth James Perry (Aquinnah Wampanoag) and Lotus Norton-Wisla edit photos.



Codi Hooee and Lynn Bowannie discuss writing policies for the Pueblo of Zuni.



Michael Wynne teaches a section on audio digitization.



Jason Wesaw (Pokagon Band of Potawatomi), Angela McLaughlin (Karuk Tribe), and Elizabeth James Perry (Aquinnah Wampanoag) in discussion.



# Digital Stewardship Lifecycles, Cultural Checks

- Creating custom lifecycles
  - **Get It**
  - **Check It**
  - **Save It**
  - **Share It**
- Cultural Checks



2016-2017 TDSCP participants with their Digital Stewardship Lifecycles.

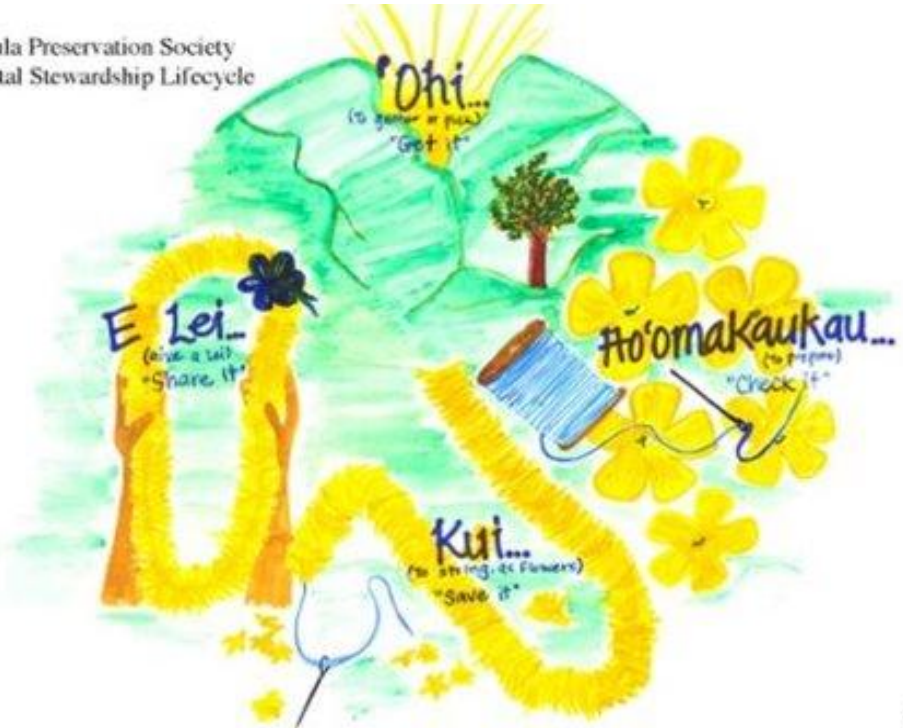
# Hula Preservation Society



Keau George begins her DSL draft on a whiteboard during the first training.

**August 2019**

Hula Preservation Society  
Digital Stewardship Lifecycle



**May 2020**



Keau George, Hula Preservation Society

<https://vimeo.com/687275072>



“What is known must be shared”



“WebJunction builds the knowledge, skills and confidence of library staff to power strong libraries that are the heart of vibrant communities”

# Digital Stewardship Training Project

A series of free online courses based on the *Tribal Digital Stewardship Cohort Program*. The courses will be freely accessible to tribal archive, library, and museum staff and staff at public libraries through the *WebJunction* platform and the *Sustainable Heritage Network*.



# Needs of small public libraries

- Limited financial resources
- Limited staff
- Technical skills gap
- Isolated, lack of support
- Lack of confidence



<https://www.jaquithpubliclibrary.org>



Preserving yesterday, enriching today, inspiring tomorrow in our community.  
<https://www.benzonialibrary.org>

# Adapting the training

- Limits and strengths of on-demand
- Dual audiences
- Focus on planning and decision-making
- **Practitioner voices**
- Support learning groups

The screenshot displays a digital collection interface. At the top, there is a horizontal navigation bar with six colored buttons: Chickaloon Village Traditional Council (dark blue), Huna Heritage Foundation (teal), Hula Preservation Society (light blue), Pella Public Library (purple), Door County Public Library (orange), and Benzonía Public Library (green). Below this is a video player showing a woman, Selena Ortega-Chiolero, speaking. The video title is "[INTRODUCTION] Digital Collections\_Chickaloon Native Village". To the right of the video player, there is a text block identifying her as "Selena Ortega-Chiolero, Museum Specialist, Chickaloon Native Village Alaska" and a dark blue button that says "Explore the collections here". At the bottom of the interface, there is a dark blue bar with an information icon (i), the text "DIGITAL COLLECTION EXAMPLES", and two navigation arrows (left and right).

# Learnings

- Working outside of western culture bubble
- Native American Tribes = distinct, individual nations and cultures
- Not ONE way of organizing knowledge
- Motivation – Why digital?
- Who are your collections representing?
- Who is allowed to tell their story?
- What questions are you asking yourself?



# DCS course series

- Updated digital stewardship lifecycle model
- Planning, policies and decisions
- Workbook = action plan
- Engage at any stage
- Learning group facilitator guide



# Gratitude

Thank you to all those who have supported this work, including the Institute of Museum and Library Services; participants of the TDSCP 2015-2020; TDSCP advisory board; CDSC leadership and staff; WSU Native American Programs; our public library interviewees; the project team, especially Rebecca McGuire; and OCLC.

# Questions?

<https://sustainableheritagenetwork.org>

[oclc.org/digital-stewardship](https://oclc.org/digital-stewardship)



Webinar: April 26, 12:00 PT

*Digital Collections at Your Library: Community, Culture, and Connection*