



Digital Strategies for Heritage (DISH) 2013

2 & 3 December 2013, De Doelen Rotterdam

Chefs' Table session

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Table Host: Nico Verplancke

Title: How to create an institute for digital archiving in 1 year

Introduction

Collaboration is crucial to cope with the rising complexity of digital archiving

On December 21, 2012 the Government of the Flemish Community decided to found VIAA (the Flemish Institute for Archiving). Initially the main task of VIAA is to: digitize the audio-visual collections; archive the digital audio-visual material in a sustainable way and to index it in order to make it useful for various target groups; make the digital audio-visual material accessible for schools, researchers and public libraries.

This session presents an account of the Flemish mission to establish a comprehensive approach to digitization, preservation and access for audiovisual heritage in a very ambitious timeframe. We look at the state of VIAA today and our plans for the future.

Discussion

Nico Verplancke: How to create an institute for digital archiving in 1 year (Round 2)

Join this discussion!

Well known problem. There's a lot of interesting material in the archives, but (in Flanders) the government hadn't really started a big project to digitalise it.

After research they discovered there was atleast 500.000 hours of audio visual material, but this wasn't in any archive.

Also a lot of new material, whether digital born or not is not being collected.

Before the new elections in Flanders (March 2014) there has to be a plan to make sure the government finances the digitalisation project.

"To watch a tape is more expensive than digitizing a tape and then watching it"

VIAA, the flemish institute of archives, wants to digitalise and manage audio/video. But the heritage institutions that provide the material still have ownership.

VIAA asks in return for the digitalisation a licence to work with the material, for example in education. Teachers should be able to access a big database with all the audio/video to use in class.

In March the educational project will become active.

There are still a lot of open questions that need to be answered.