

Workshops to Organize the Software Collection & Preservation Community

Richard P. Gabriel PhD MFA
The Hillside Group, Inc.

Purpose of Workshops

- To gather current and potential collectors and conservators to begin creating a community
- To gather needs, desires, and requirements for a federated software collection and preservation community
- To begin to brainstorm and gather ideas for the following:
 - ❖ tools
 - ❖ processes
 - ❖ techniques
 - ❖ database models
 - ❖ taxonomies
- To begin to understand the nature, structure, and governance of community dedicated to collecting and preserving software

Attendees & Invitees

- SCC and its affiliates
- existing institutions such as museums, ACM, etc
- existing collection and preservation communities
- interested volunteers
- historians (both analog and digital), librarians, conservators
- companies that own software source code that might be collected or donated
- legal experts on IP
- experts on community building
- potential funders

Topics

- what collection and preservation are
- what communities exist and what do they do (including CHM)
- what needs to be collected
- whether to band together
- and if so, how to do it—structure, governance, resources, roles, etc
- what next

Timing & Location

- a series of small workshops at existing venues to identify interest without incurring large travel and commitment costs—e.g. at OOPSLA, the PLoPs, ACM and IEEE conferences, JAOO...
these small workshops need only one or two people as organizers and not the full complement of community builders, lawyers, etc.
- a single, larger 2- or 3-day workshop Spring 2005 at the CHM

Outcome

- unknown, as it should be