



Software Preservation Group: A discussion about Next Steps

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SPG Accomplishments

- Established in March 2003
- 35+ meetings held
- Approx. 110 member on mailing list and 8-10 active meeting members
- Largely independent collecting and research projects:
 - Fortran
 - Lisp
 - NLS
 - APL
 - ACM CS books project
 - CTOS
 - Snobol
 - System R

CHM Software mission & objectives

CHM major areas of focus:

- Collecting
- Preservation/Reading
- Access
- Documentation/Research
- Interpretation: Exhibitions and Programs

CHM Software related goals

- Ongoing Projects
 - Software collecting [bits and documentation]
 - Processing incoming donations of software
 - Reading software in the collection
 - Oral History Program
 - Lecture series
- Special Projects
 - Timeline Exhibition (Fall 2009)
 - Theme Rooms (Spring 2010-2014)

How volunteers can help with CHM goals?

- Act as an advisory group on software related topics/projects
- Conduct oral histories (3-5/year) with pre-selected software pioneers
- Propose software related topics for the CHM lecture series
- Work with software curator to collect software
- Work with software curator to process and read incoming software donations

Strawman Proposal for SPG next steps

- Establish SPG as advisory group
 - To act as advisory group on CHM software related topics/projects
- Quarterly status report by AI to SPG advisory group on CHM software activities and upcoming needs via the mail list
- 1-2 workshops/year with SPG advisory group on related CHM projects and goals, e.g. digital preservation goals, collecting strategies, exhibits, etc.
 - Workshop 1: Recovering Data, January 2008
- SPG member projects provide monthly updates through mail list

Discussion