DIGITAL PRESERVATION CAPABILITIES OF THE BURSA ULUDAG UNIVERSITY

Survey in the Light of Digital Preservation Coalition Rapid Assessment Model

Dr. Özhan Sağlık

Bursa Uludag University
Türkiye
ozhansaglik@uludag.edu.tr /
ozhan.saglik@gmail.com
0000-0002-1436-7431

Abstract – While performing their primary functions as research and education, universities also carry out in the ordinary course of activities such as naturally occurring personnel employment, procurement and promotion. As a result of these activities, materials with different types are created. These materials, which are created electronically or digitized, are the memory of the universities as well as evidence of their activities. Therefore, these materials need to be preserved for a long time. To predict the success of these materials in terms of long-term preservation, it is necessary to examine the capabilities of universities in this field. While doing this review, is thought to benefit from the Rapid Assessment Model (RAM) created by Digital Preservation Coalition (DPC). Because the RAM is designed to evaluate the digital preservation capability of organizations at a basic level. As a result of this evaluation, it will be possible for universities to improve their digital preservation capabilities and monitor their progress. In this study, in which quantitative research methods will be used, Bursa Uludag University, one of the universities with the highest number of students in Turkey, is the sample. The study aims to contribute to raising awareness in universities about how DPC RAM can be used in the evaluation of digital preservation practices in universities.

Keywords – Digital preservation in universities, Bursa Uludag University, DPC RAM

Conference Topics – Resilience

I. INTRODUCTION

Universities, while performing their primary functions as research and education, also carry out in the ordinary course of activities such as naturally occurring personnel employment, procurement and promotion. As a result of these activities, materials with different types are created. These materials, which are created electronically or digitized, are the memory of the universities as well as evidence of their activities. Therefore, these materials need to be preserved for a long time. In the circumstances, questions such as how these materials will be preserved and how preservation practices will be evaluated come to mind. To analyze these questions, a tool is needed to examine the capabilities of universities in this field [1]. Thus, it was thought to benefit from the RAM created by DPC [2].

DPC RAM is defined as a maturity modelling tool that has been designed to enable a rapid benchmarking of an organization's digital preservation capability [3, 4]. "The model provides a set of organizational and service level capabilities that are rated on a simple and consistent set of maturity levels". Thereby, "it will enable organizations to monitor their progress as they develop and improve their preservation capability and infrastructure and to set future maturity goals" [2].

The problem of the study is determined as "there is a lack of a model in monitoring the long-term preservation practices of digital materials created in

iPRES 2022
GLASGOW

universities". The question of the study is, "in the light of the analysis criteria in DPC RAM, at what level are the digital preservation capabilities of the universities". The hypothesis can be stated that "when the digital preservation capabilities of universities cannot be monitored with a consistent model, sufficient success in preservation may not be achieved". In this study, in which quantitative research methods will be used, Bursa Uludag University, one of the universities with the highest number of students in Turkey, is the sample. The dependent variable is the digital preservation capabilities of the universities, and the independent variable is the analysis criteria of DPC RAM in the study. Survey design is adopted in the research, and the attitudes of Bursa Uludag University on digital preservation capabilities will be examined. The cross-sectional research type is used as the data will be collected once. To analyzes of the results obtained through face-to-face interviews, the visualization tool in DPC RAM will be used. The researcher will not be in a guiding position when participants answer the questions. Since DPC formed the questions, no additional evaluation regarding validity and reliability will be done in the study. The study aims to contribute to raising awareness in universities about how DPC RAM can be used in the evaluation of digital preservation practices in Turkish universities.

II. SURVEY

Bursa Uludag University is one of the universities with the highest number of students in Turkey [5]. Due to this feature, there are many materials to be preserved for a long time. The materials which have archival value are kept in the Head of Library and Documentation. Therefore, DPC RAM will be analyzed by the manager of this unit. The situation resulting from the university's answers can be stated as follows in Fig. 1.

There are many different types of digital materials at Bursa Uludag University. Those with the archival value among these materials are transferred to the Head of Library and Documentation. After that, the preservation of materials is the responsibility of this unit. Although the Head of Library and Documentation has established systems and developed procedures to protect these materials, an assessment of its capabilities has not yet been made. Making this assessment will also help the institution perform successful digital

preservation practices. It has been seen that DPC RAM can be used for this purpose.

III. CONCLUSION

As a result of the study, the hypothesis "when the digital preservation capabilities of universities cannot be monitored with a consistent model, sufficient success in preservation may not be achieved" has been confirmed. The RAM introduced by DPC is useful in determining the current state; but some improvements are needed on the target level. Because when a target is set, how it is achieved should be revealed with concrete criteria. It may be possible to encounter subjective evaluations of the person or unit performing the DPC RAM analysis. As a result, it may be possible that the digital preservation capabilities are not adequately reflected. As a solution to this, the issues determined at the levels in DPC RAM can be made a criterion. It is thought that new research to be carried out in this direction will be useful. Nevertheless, DPC RAM provides a successful assessment of the current digital preservation practices of organizations.

REFERENCES

[1] Maemura, E., Moles, N. and Becker, C. (2017), Organizational assessment frameworks for digital preservation: A literature review and mapping. Journal of the Association for Information Science and Technology, 68: 1619-1637. https://doi.org/10.1002/asi.23807

[2] Digital Preservation Coalition, Rapid Assessment Model. https://www.dpconline.org/docs/miscellaneous/our-work/dpc-ram/2433-digital-preservation-coalition-rapid-assessment-model-v2/file

[3] Dafter, H. (2021). "The Postal Museum's Case Study of the DPC Rapid Assessment Model". https://www.dpconline.org/blog/postal-museum-ram-case-study

[4] Barticioti, F. (2021). "Assessing where we are with Digital Preservation". https://www.dpconline.org/blog/wdpd/assessing-where-we-are

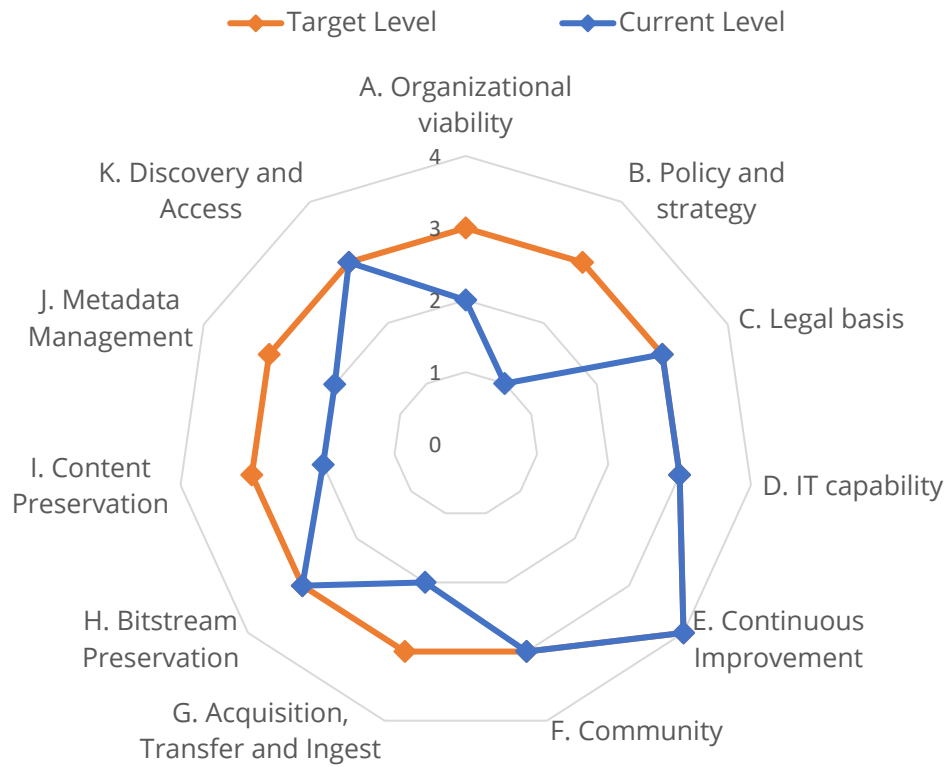[5] Yüksek Öğretim Kurulu, İstatistikler. https://istatistik.yok.gov.tr

iPRES 2022
GLASGOW

Figure 1 Bursa Uludag University DPC RAM Analysis