nestor Training & Education: Experiences from Germany

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Presentation outline

- Project nestor
- nestor working group "Cooperation with universities in qualification"
- State-of-the-art of qualification in Digital Long term preservation (DLTP) in Germany
- Nestor's 5 lines of activities in DLTP-related qualification
- Further steps
- Summing-up

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Project nestor (1)

- A project funded by the German Ministery of Research and Science
- First phase: 2003-2006; second phase: 2006-2009

3 websites

- Network of Competence the basic site for the public (www.langzeitarchivierung.de, www.digitalpreservation.de),
- nestor information platform (nestor.sub.uni-goettingen.de)
- nestor communication platform (www2.hu-berlin.de/nestor)
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Project nestor (2): Memorandum

Memorandum on the long-term accessibility of digital information in Germany; 31st March 2006:

- "18. Long-term digital preservation generates new tasks for the preserving institutions. Professionally trained staff must be used. The requirements and tasks of long-term digital preservation need to be given appropriate attention in the initial and further training programmes. Specific training courses need to be set up which sensitise their participants to specific topic areas and which also qualify them to perform the tasks at hand." *nestor - Memorandum, 2006, p.4*
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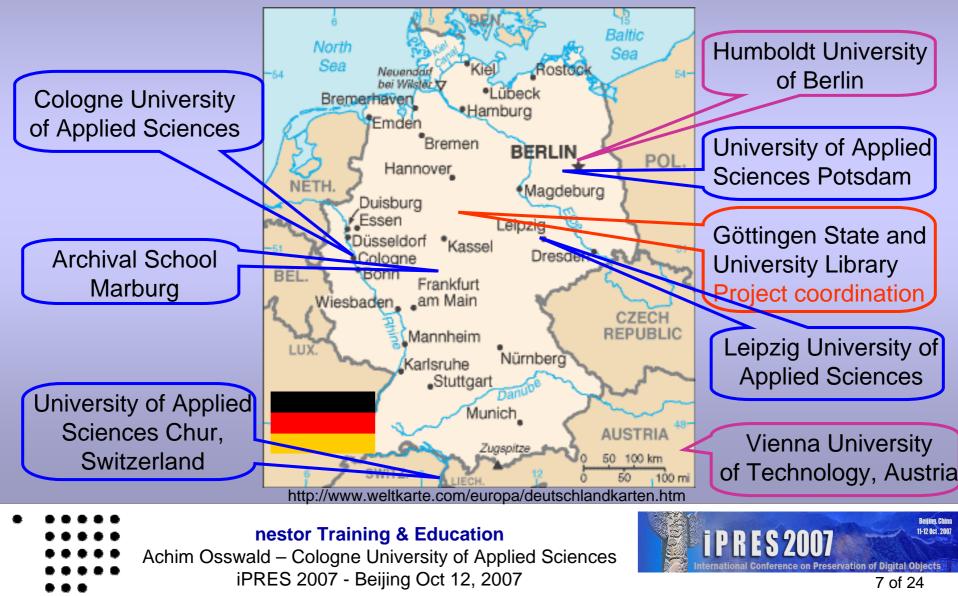
Project nestor (3): Working Groups

Several work packages and working groups (WG):

- WG Trusted Repositories Certification
- WG Media
- WG Long-term preservation standards
- WG Cooperative long-term preservation
- WG eScience and long-term-preservation
- WG Cooperation with universities in qualification



nestor's qualification partners: Cooperating universities



Qualification needs for DLTP in Germany

- DLTP (Digital Long-Term Preservation) has not been a topic in traditional LIS education
 => lack of knowledge with regard to operational staff and management
- DLTP specialists of nestor have started with presentations of project findings = limited audiences and events
- DLTP experts are looking for a concept of systematic distribution of related knowledge
- Basic idea:
 - There should be different applications of media and different educational concepts for different target groups
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Target groups within DLTP qualification

- Top Management of institutions to which DLTP is or will be a relevant topic - by raising awareness of the challenge to be faced
- Middle-management in cultural heritage institutions by providing them information on concepts, methods and technological developments of DLTP
- 3. Staff members of cultural heritage institutions who are involved in or organizing DLTP activities on an operational level
- 4. BA-students in programs qualifying for jobs in cultural heritage institutions
- 5. MA-students in programs qualifying for projects and management jobs in cultural heritage institutions.
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Programs with DLTP related courses: State-of-the-art at German Universities (1)

- Several of the LIS-related BA programs offer courses on the topic of DLTP. Most of them concentrate on a basic introduction in the field.
- Related topics in Bachelor- and (non-dedicated) Master programs are
 - Long term preservation of digital data
 - Metadata
 - Archival repositories / Open Archival Information System
 - Persistent identifiers
 - Formats
 - Open Access
 - Legal issues
 - Data protection and archiving
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Programs with DLTP related courses: State-of-the-art at German Universities (2)

- For obvious reasons, there is a trend to attain an in-depth qualification in DLTP within a MA program. This offers the opportunity to combine existing knowledge in a specific field with DLTP know-how; most likely it will be provided as part-time program
- Until now, there is no specialized MA-programm focusing on DLTP only



nestor based activities in DLTP-related Qualification: overview

There are at least 5 lines of activities in DLTP-related qualification:

- 1. nestor seminars
- 2. nestor Spring and Winter Schools
- 3. The nestor Handbook
- 4. Development of a cooperative curriculum
- 5. Development of e-learning modules



1. nestor seminars

- Special seminars focusing on special topics
- Provided time by time
- Presented by nestor experts and activists
- Participation has been free of charge untill now
- Some of them were recorded as videos and distributed on DVD free of charge



2. nestor Spring and Winter Schools

- Designed to provide an ongoing option of qualification in DLTP for unexperienced and experienced staff
- The concept was inspired and is supported financially by nestor, Digital Preservation Europe (DPE) and DELOS ("Network of Excellence on Digital Libraries"), whereas the latter partially funded by the European Commission in the frame of the Information Society Technologies Programme
- Take place in remote locations and last for 5 days
- About 35-45 participants learning and living together
- Participants receive a certificate equivalent to 2 credits in the European Credit Transfer System, ECTS, which will be recognised by participating universities
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2. nestor Spring and Winter Schools

Topics of Nestor Spring School 2007, e.g. have been

- Introduction to digital long-term preservation
- Metadata: What's it? Why needed? How to be applied? Followed by a group exercise: Which metadata is relevant for DLTP? List and explain at least 20 elements (descriptive, technical, administrative)
- Format: an important metadata element
- OAIS as a model for DLTP followed by a group exercise: Apply OAIS to a given collection. Identify the AIP.
- Criteria for the selection of digital objects to be preserved

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2. nestor Spring and Winter Schools



- nestor Winter School 2007 (at the same location) will focus on special aspects of DLTP
- Schools like this will be held again in 2008 and 2009
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3. nestor Handbook

- nestor Handbook was created by contributions of several experts in the field and published as version 0.1 in March 07
- The Handbook is called "An Encyclopedia in digital preservation" "Eine kleine Enzyklopädie der digitalen Langzeitarchivierung"
- Mission statement:

"The nestor-Handbook tries to bundle the recent state of knowledge on digital long-term preservation and its various components. Collected and compiled in this "small encyclopedia" the authors give the german speaking community access to the subject in a structured manual."

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http://nestor.sub.uni-goettingen.de/handbuch/nestor-Handbuch_01.pdf

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3. nestor Handbook

Some of the chapter titles are:

- State-of-the art of legal aspects
- National Preservation Policy
- Institutional Preservation Policy
- The OAIS (Open Archival Information System) reference model
- Trusted repositories
- Formats
- Standards of DLTP
- Strategies of DLTP

In 2007 an updated version of the Handbook will be published;



to improve accessibility, it can be downloaded on a chapter basis

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4. Development of a cooperative curriculum

- nestor never planned a curriculum on its own, BUT aims to stimulate the development and realization of such a program at Universities
- 10 partner institutions agreed on a "Memorandum of understanding" (July 2007) to cooperate in developing and adjusting modules focusing on selected topics of DLTP
- Courses of other universities will be accepted in a local curriculum
- The workload of each module will be calculated in credits in regard to the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS)
- There are plans to keep the developments in the EU compatible with those in the USA
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5. Development of e-learning modules

- A further step will be the development of e-learning modules on digital preservation
- Opportunity to cooperate with other initiatives in European and other countries
- This will offer the chance to provide the content of the handbook in e-learning modules, and to empower them with didactical content
- Optional: providing the content in English



Further steps

- Updating the nestor-Handbook
- Organisation and implementation of nestor Winter School 2007 and the Schools in 2008 and 2009
- Development of complementary modules which will constitute a virtual MA curriculum or – at least – provide a set of courses which people interested in DLTP can choose and take part in
- Development of guidelines for e-tutorials to be provided within DLTP-related modules of a curriculum



Summing-up:

nestor initiated Qualification in Germany

- Qualification needs in DLTP are to be differentiated by
 - target groups
 - methods of dissemination & didactical concepts connected to them
- Project nestor has stimulated a great deal of activities like
 - Spring and Winter Schools
 - nestor Handbook
 - a cooperative curriculum
- Innovative dissemination via e-learning modules will offer the chance to go beyond the German language barrier
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Thank you for your attention! I will be happy to answer your questions!

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