

NDSA Coordinating Committee Candidates for 2014

Academic

[Micah Altman](#), Massachusetts Institute of Technology

[Robin Ruggaber](#), University of Virginia

Micah Altman, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Brief biography (200 words):

Dr. Micah Altman is Director of Research and Head/Scientist, Program on Information Science (<http://informatics.mit.edu>) for the MIT Libraries, at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Dr. Altman is also a Non-Resident Senior Fellow at The Brookings Institution. Prior to arriving at MIT, Dr. Altman served at Harvard University for fifteen years as the Associate Director of the Harvard-MIT Data Center, Archival Director of the Henry A. Murray Archive, and Senior Research Scientist in the Institute for Quantitative Social Sciences. Dr. Altman conducts research in and builds tools for social science, information science and research methods—focusing on the intersections of information, technology, privacy, and politics; and on the dissemination, preservation, reliability and governance of scientific knowledge.

Dr. Altman currently serves on the Coordinating Committee, on which he recently succeeded Tyler Walters as chair; as a member of the boards/steering committees/editorial boards of Data-PASS, iSolon, the Journal of Information Technology & Politics, Social Science Computer Review; and as a member of the Business Working Group for the Digital Preservation Network. He is the author of over sixty five scholarly publications, and over a half-dozen open source software systems.

An extended biography is available from wikipedia (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Micah_Altman), and a full CV is available from his homepage: (<http://micahaltman.com/>)

Interest in serving on the Coordinating Committee (200 words):

Since 2005, I had been working with the Library and many of the partners through NDIIPP. And I was happy to continue this through the NDSA. But I have been surprised by rapid growth NDSA has experienced in just the last three years.

Together we have launched a number of substantial and important initiatives including the annual innovation awards, bi-annual storage survey, and the annual National Digital Stewardship Agenda. These initiatives have been made possible through the direct support of the membership—over ten thousand hours of contributed effort. I am proud to have been a part of many of these initiatives.

I believe that a highly engaged and committed Coordinating Committee can help to amplify member effort and to further solidify these initiatives, and to realize the potential of this community collaboration. I hope to help NDSA grow in its role as an incubator for the development of good stewardship, a venue for community discussion, and a nationally recognized source of information and guidance on digital stewardship.

Communities you represent:

Research libraries; scientists/scholars; data archives; public policy researchers; educators (higher ed)

Robin Ruggaber, University of Virginia

Brief biography (200 words):

I began my career as an information technologist developing and supporting Enterprise Systems in both government and industry before coming to UVa for computer science graduate study in 1992. Over the past 20 years I have managed and directed infrastructure, enterprise services and strategic projects, primarily for the core IT department. In 2010, UVa asked the Library to develop an institution repository to provide access to scholarly work that could then be preserved. It was through assisting with this major initiative that I began to work with the Library, and since have become the Library's Chief Technology Officer responsible for strategic and operational IT needs of UVa's Library System. Working for the UVa Library has provided me the opportunity for increased strategic involvement in both national and international efforts related to access and preservation of digital assets. I am an advisory or steering group member for several major consortia efforts including Fedora, Hydra and APTrust. Related directly to NDSA, I am a member of NDSA Infrastructure Working Group, and have also support the Outreach Working Group efforts.

Interest in serving on the Coordinating Committee (200 words):

In my work over the past three years, I have never felt more intellectually challenged or attracted to a mission and a problem set as the one to acquire, preserve and provide access to unique and valuable content. Our cultural and scholarly assets are no longer limited to physical or analog and though technological advances have enabled us to produce information at an alarming rate, technology has not decreased risk of loss but rather provided certainty of destruction over time. Efforts such as the work of NDSA are critical. None of our institutions and agencies can solve this problem alone. Working together to derive common strategies, frameworks, standards and solutions is the essential work to provide a sustainable solution to the challenges we face. The mission of what we are all working toward is clear but the way is not. I believe we will achieve a better solution working together and that is why I am interested in deepening my commitment to NDSA.

Communities you represent:

Academic institutions
