Upcoming event:

Digital Badging Brown Bag Lunch Discussion

Wednesday, July 19th, 12:00-1:00pm in PCL Learning Lab 4

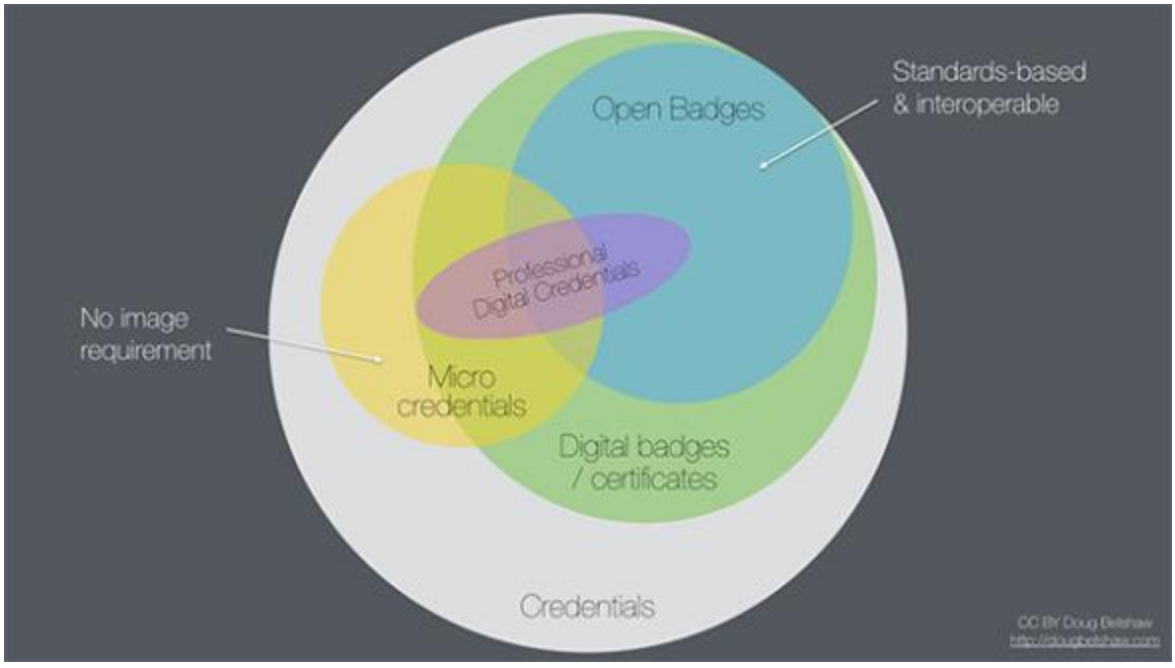
**To help inform our event: What would you like to learn about digital badges/microcredentialing?

Digital Badges vs Open Badges

- Badges are a holistic way of tracking specific skills that aren't always represented in a transcript or CV (from soft skills like collaboration, innovation, or digital fluency, to other discipline specific skills like safety practices in a lab).
- A digital badge is an online representation of a skill you've earned.
- Open Badges take that concept one step further, and allows you to verify your skills, interests and achievements through credible organizations and attaches that information to the badge image file, hard-coding the metadata for future access and review.
- Summary video about badges: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HgLLq7ybDtc

Open Badges are:

- Free and open: Mozilla Open Badges is not proprietary.
    - It's free software and an open technical standard any organization can use to create, issue and verify digital badges.
- Transferable: Collect badges from multiple sources, online and off, into a single backpack.
    - Then display your skills and achievements on social networking profiles, job sites, websites and more.
- Stackable: Whether they're issued by one organization or many, badges can build upon each other and be stacked to tell the full story of your skills and achievements.
- Evidence-based: Open Badges are information-rich.
    - Each badge has important metadata which is hard-coded into the badge image file itself that links back to the issuer, criteria and verifying evidence.



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Key Players in Digital Badges

- Digital Promise
- HASTAC (Humanities, Arts, Science, and Technology Alliance and Collaboratory)
- Mozilla Open Badges
- IMS Global Learning Consortium

Digital Badge Implementation:

The process for developing an effective badge system can be broken into several discrete elements to consider:

1. **Create a badge constellation**. A constellation is a master plan or blueprint that shows all of the badges you intend to offer and how they relate to core themes or to each other.
2. **Map meaning to each badge and to the overall badge system**. Ensure that each part of your constellation has a value to the earner, to your organization, and to those who would reward or offer opportunities to bearers of each badge.
3. **Identify or develop an assessment strategy**. How will you know when an earner is ready to receive a badge? Are existing assessments, observation opportunities, or measures already in place, or does your system require new ways to determine when an individual has qualified for a digital badge or credential? What activities or work will be assessed, and what evidence can accompany each issued badge?
4. **Determine relationships within the system and how learners progress**. Is your plan one that shows progress, where components build on one another? How does one badge relate to another or "stack" to support ongoing personal or professional development?
5. **Design benefits, opportunities, and rewards into the system**. Work backwards from the benefits that will be available to those who earn badges in your system. Does each badge serve a greater purpose than itself? What doors does it unlock for earners? How will you communicate and promote the value of your badges to all constituents?
6. **Address technology considerations. How will you create and issue badges?** Where and how will the badges be displayed or consumed by other systems and platforms where they realize their potential value?
7. **Develop an appropriate graphic design**. While the visual design is but one element of a badge rich with data, how an achievement is visually represented communicates a great deal of additional information. Digital badges offer a unique and powerful opportunity to market the skills and capabilities of those who complete your programs, and badges promote your initiatives as well as your organization and what it values

Platforms:

Acclaim partners with recognized brands to issue badges employers value.

- Provides a range of services to allow credential issuers to design, deliver and support recognition for professionals.
- Connects professionals to learning experiences and career pathways through clear communication and validation of skills.
- Utilizes robust reporting features to ensure credentials are relevant and well-received in the job market.
- Backed by Pearson, the world's leading learning company.
- See how it works here and sign up here.

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BadgeSafe™ for Canvas LMS is a badge issuing application developed with Canvas APIs by Accreditrust. Badges are maintained within the Canvas UI. Users may export their badges to a Mozilla Backpack.

- Supports hosted, Canvas.net, FreeForTeachers, and Open Source solutions (Please note: Open Source solutions are required to supply their own Canvas API Key. Only Canvas github builds newer than Aug 2013 are supported.)
- Fully integrated badge system – issue badges by course, module, and assignment. Independent views for Teachers and Students as well as Administrator controls
- K-13: Badges are displayed only inside of Canvas; for those over age 13, export badges to Mozilla OBI-compliant systems
- *See how it works and get started here.

Credly is a complete, one-stop platform for recognizing achievement. You and your organization can easily create, issue and manage badges, while earners curate, display, and share them on social and professional networks, the Mozilla Backpack and elsewhere.

- An end-to-end credential and badge management system for issuers and recipients alike.
- Everything you need is in one place. There's nothing for you to host and no other tools are needed.
- Issued badges, badge assertions and evidence files are secure and always available to your earners.
- Features include identity verification, institutional branding, one-click and bulk issuing, and the ability to easily and automatically share badges on social media and personal or professional sites.
- You can also issue badges via WordPress, Drupal, and other apps and platforms or tap into the Open Credit API to integrate credentials and Open Badges into your own apps and sites.
- Publicly available platform for free, plus free webinars and support for badge system design.
- With a low-cost Credly Pro account, you can also issue badges from popular systems like Eventbrite, Salesforce, and MailChimp.

Peer 2 Peer University (P2PU) is free, open, and community-driven. Our community features Badges from Mozilla, Wikimedia, Creative Commons and the National Writing Project.

- Peers identify skills, give each other long-form feedback on projects, and iterate to improve in the open. Learners can share their badges on Twitter, Google+, and embed the badge as an iframe.
- Feedback and support available from the vibrant P2PU crew.
- badges.p2pu.org is a free service, but additional assistance and consulting options are available (see contact details below).

Resources:

- http://www.ala.org/acrl/publications/keeping_up_with/digital_badges (ACRL's digital badging overview)
- http://www.badgealliance.org/ (Badge Alliance, a network to build and support an open badging ecosystem)
- https://www.macfound.org/programs/digital-badges/ (news on digital badges from the MacArthur Foundation)
- https://dml4.dmlcompetition.net/dml4.dmlcompetition.net/ (Digital Media + Learning Competition)
- https://library.educause.edu/~/media/files/library/2015/8/elib1504-pdf.pdf (EDUCAUSE brief: "Developing a Higher Education Badging Initiative")
- http://openbadges.tumblr.com/post/45364274104/introducing-open-badges-10 (Open Badges Blog)
- https://openbadges.org/get-started/earning-badges/ (OpenBadges.org)
- https://backpack.openbadges.org/backpack/welcome (Backpack, a tool for sharing and storing Open Badges)
- http://nextgenlearning.org/blog/10-lessons-learned-award-winning-digital-badging-program ("Lessons Learned from an Award-Winning Digital Badging Program")

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- http://nextgenlearning.org/blog/digital-badging-rise-skillbuilding-recognition-educause ("Digital Badging: the Rise of Skillbuilding Recognition at EDUCAUSE")
- http://reconnectlearning.org/case-studies/ ("Case Studies: Badges in Action")
- http://www.imsglobal.org/pressreleases/pr150421.html (IMS Digital Credentialing Initiative)
- http://www.imsglobal.org/initiative/enabling-better-digital-credentialing (IMS Digital Credentialing Initiative)
- https://medium.com/openbadges/the-open-badges-for-education-extensions-obee-initiative-e84884845b2c#.htlc7grsd ("The Open Badges for Education Extensions (OBEE) Initiative")
- http://www.txwescetl.com/badges-2-0/ (badging program video by Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning)
- https://openbadges.coerll.utexas.edu/ (Open Badges for Foreign Language Education)
- https://openbadges.coerll.utexas.edu/create-badges/ (Open Badges for Foreign Language Education resources)
- http://www.blackboard.com/news-and-events/press-releases/2013/blackboard-partners-with-mozilla-to-support-use-of-digital-badges.aspx (Open Badges in Blackboard)
- https://www.hastac.org/digital-badges-bibliography (Digital Badges: An Annotated Research Bibliography)
- http://www.badgealliance.org/badge-issuing-platforms/ (Badge Issuing Platforms)
- https://wiki.mozilla.org/Badges (badges overview by Mozilla)
- http://dpdproject.info/cards/ (resource to help design an open badge system)
- https://grainnehamilton.wordpress.com/2015/09/02/open-badge-design-toolkits/ (resource to help design an open badge system)
- http://study.com/academy/popular/what-is-micro-credentialing.html (explanation of micro-credentialing)

Examples:
http://infolit.ucf.edu/faculty/badges/
http://eportfolio.nd.edu/directory/badge-directory/
http://wheel.ucdavis.edu/2013/11/digital-badges-at-the-agricultural-sustainability-institute/
http://www.mblem.umich.edu/v/overview
http://www.online.colostate.edu/badges/
https://goo.gl/5Xy4bt