

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910822498503321
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Titolo	Book conservation and digitization : the challenges of dialogue and collaboration // by Alberto Campagnolo and contributors [[electronic resource]]
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Leeds : , : Arc Humanities Press, , 2020
ISBN	1-64189-054-1
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (xi, 303 pages) : digital, PDF file(s)
Collana	Collection development, cultural heritage, and digital humanities
Disciplina	025.84
Soggetti	Books - Conservation and restoration Digital preservation Digital humanities Library materials - Digitization
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Title from publisher's bibliographic system (viewed on 20 Nov 2020).
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Understanding the artifactual value of books / Alberto Campagnolo -- Conservation and digitization : a difficult balance? / Alberto Campagnolo -- Conservation towards large-scale digitization at the Vatican Library / Angela Nunez Gaitan -- Large-scale digitization at the National Archives / Catt Thompson-Baum -- British Library/Qatar Foundation Partnership and the digitization project : a case study about conservation processes within mass digitization of library material / Flavio Marzo -- The digitization of medieval Western manuscripts at Wellcome Collection / Stefania Signorello -- Caring for the object during digitization of written heritage : the strategy of the Herzog August Library Wolfenbuttel / Almuth Corbach -- The Great Parchment Book project / Caroline de Stefani and Philippa Smith -- The development of the language of bindings thesaurus / Athanasios Velios and Nicholas Pickwoad -- Spectral imaging to aid preservation and conservation of cultural heritage / Fenella G. France -- Multispectral imaging for special collection materials / Michael B. Toth -- The digitization of manuscripts from the point of view of a book conservator / Abigail B. Quandt -- Implementing advanced digital imaging research in cultural heritage : building relationships between conservators and computational imaging scientists / Melissa Terras --

Coda : concluding thoughts on digital surrogates / Alberto Campagnolo.

Sommario/riassunto

The successful transmediation of books and documents through digitization requires the synergetic partnership of many professional figures, that have what may sometimes appear as contrasting goals at heart. On one side, there are those who look after the physical objects and strive to preserve them for future generations, and on the other those involved in the digitization of the objects, the information that they contain, and the management of the digital data. These complementary activities are generally considered as separate and when the current literature addresses both fields, it does so strictly within technical reports and guidelines, concentrating on procedures and optimal workflow, standards, and technical metadata. In particular, more often than not, conservation is presented as ancillary to digitization, with the role of the conservator restricted to the preparation of items for scanning, with no input into the digital product, leading to misunderstanding and clashes of interests. Surveying a variety of projects and approaches to the challenging conservation-digitization balance and fostering a dialogue amongst practitioners, this book aims at demonstrating that a dialogue between apparently contrasting fields not only is possible, but it is in fact desirable and fruitful. Only through the synergetic collaboration of all people involved in the digitization process, conservators included, can cultural digital objects that represent more fully the original objects and their materiality be generated, encouraging and enabling new research and widening the horizons of scholarship.
