DIGITAL MEDIA FOR MINISTRY

Asset Mapping: An exploratory study in theological education

Kyle M Oliver*†, Elisabeth M Kimball†, Stacy Williams-Duncan†‡, & Isabella Blanchard†

* Teachers College, Columbia Univ. | † Center for Ministry of Teaching, Virginia Theol. Seminary | ‡ Univ. of Virginia

Problem: Emerging ministry need—digital literacy

- Digital training for ministers well-received but isolated [3]

Approach: Survey landscape & organize assets

- We believe DMM instructors could form a community of practice [4]

Result: A clarified domain

Not every “digital expert” cares about digital media for ministry

Opposite end of theory→practice spectrum

Not our primary area of interest

Concerned primarily with ed tech in seminary classes

Result: A community in waiting

Survey of 266 ATS member websites found 55 faculty (46 schools) & 75 courses (56 schools) with interest in digital ministry

Result: Shared practice—desired literacies

Early coding of 10 purposely chosen interviews identified 7 skills:

- Navigation of hybrid & digital cultures
- Digital self-presentation
- Media analysis of religious practice
- Theological analysis of digital media

Result: Shared practice—pedagogy for ministry

"What I love about...Google platforms in the classroom is those tools can be directly used in ministry settings."

"...we made that decision because of the translatibility for students."

References:


Funding: The Arthur Vining Davis Foundations