

The battle to define the future of the book in the digital world

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The battle to define the future of the book in the digital world

Clifford Lynch

Abstract

Commercial publishing interests are presenting the future of the book in the digital world through the promotion of e-book reading appliances and software. Implicit in this is a very complex and problematic agenda that re-establishes the book as a digital cultural artifact within a context of intellectual property rights management enforced by hardware and software systems. With the convergence of different types of content into a common digital bit-stream, developments in industries such as music are establishing precedents that may define our view of digital books. At the same time we find scholars exploring the ways in which the digital medium can enhance the traditional communication functions of the printed work, moving far beyond literal translations of the pages of printed books into the digital world. This paper examines competing visions for the future of the book in the digital environment, with particular attention to questions about the social implications of controls over intellectual property, such as continuity of cultural memory.

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ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Clifford Lynch

Boundaries between sectors are quickly disappearing in the fintech world – a trend also apparent in efforts to innovate. With this in mind, the second edition of Open Summit is exploring different ways in which startups and corporations can work together. He defined this as knowing where you want your business to go, and obtaining the resources you need to get there. In his view, other critical elements for a successful project include having the time to make mistakes and learn from them; ensuring you secure the best talent, and always abiding by firm principles. Finally, “once you have a competitive idea, make it part of a good strategy,” he added. BBVA Chairman Francisco González today presented a new book called Reinventing the company in the digital era. With the convergence of different types of content into a common digital bit-stream, developments in industries such as music are establishing precedents that may define our view of digital books. At the same time we find scholars exploring the ways in which the digital medium can enhance the traditional communication functions of the printed work, moving far beyond literal translations of the pages of printed books into the digital world. This paper examines competing visions for the future of the book in the digital environment, with particular attention to questions about the social implications of controls over intellectual property, such as continuity of cultural memory. The Battle to Define the Future of the Book in the Digital World, *First Monday* - Peer reviewed journal on the Internet. Pastore, Michael (January 28, 2008). 30 Benefits of Ebooks, *Epublishers Weekly*. The Yahoo ebook-community mailing list - an active forum for the discussion of ebook history, formats and futures - ebook-community : The eBook Community. FictionBook. Ebook Resources - Ebook Directory - Download Free Ebooks and Digital Content.