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# Digital Books and Flying Cars

## Peter Brantley

Meeting Announcement MA201211

FEDLINK Education Event

### Date

Tuesday, June 5, 2012

### Time

2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

### Place

Library of Congress  
Madison Building  
West Dining Room  
101 Independence Ave.,  
SE  
Washington, DC 20540

### Metro/Directions

Capitol South (Orange/  
Blue Lines) - For  
directions, please visit:  
[http://www.loc.gov/loc/  
visit/directions.html](http://www.loc.gov/loc/visit/directions.html)

### Sponsor

FEDLINK Education  
Working Group

### Information

Call (202)707-  
4813. Request ADA  
Accommodations five  
business days in advance  
at [ADA@loc.gov](mailto:ADA@loc.gov).

### Registration

Cost is free but  
registration is required.  
Click here to [register](#).  
Send an email to  
[fliccfn@loc.gov](mailto:fliccfn@loc.gov)  
to participate through  
iCoHere.

### Cancellations

Please call (202) 707-  
4813 to cancel.

In an incredibly short period of time, control of the publishing industry has largely moved out of the hands of publishers. This organizational disruption has many precedents but occurs at a time of tremendous technological change, with content production and distribution shifting rapidly from physical to digital modes, with concomitant economic upheaval.

As publishers try to make strategic decisions in this maelstrom of change, historical relationships, such as those involving libraries, are trammled by strategic re-prioritizations. Publishers fear the simultaneous commodification of complex authoring tools, the rise of self publishing systems, and the development of internet platforms by Apple, Amazon, and Google. And, in response, publishers attempt to seize control over pricing and distribution in as many digital sectors as possible. It's as if Toyota suddenly had to respond to home-3d printed family aerocars as a mainstream transportation.

Join your colleagues for a discussion with Peter Brantley, the director of the Bookserver Project at the Internet Archive, a San Francisco-based not-for-profit library, and is a co-founder of the Open Book Alliance, to discuss the wild and chaotic publishing environment of today, and why the actions of publishers are rational, even as traditional publishing and library transition a wrenching epoch. A few conjectures about adaptive publisher and library responses will be offered.



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