

This is a transcript of the video clip “Cindy’s Preparation for a Career in Digital Studies” from the interview with Dr. Cynthia Selfe in Samuel Head, “A Scholarly Legacy: Professor Cynthia Selfe and the Digital Archive of Literacy Narratives” published in *Kairos: Rhetoric, Technology, Pedagogy*, 22(1), available at <http://kairos.technorhetoric.net/22.1/interviews/head>.

Sam:

What would you say were experiences in your life that best prepared you and helped you in a career in digital rhetoric and composition?

Dr. Selfe:

Well, it was that first effort to type my dissertation into a mainframe computer. That provided me the space to learn how to use technology as a tool for composing. I would also say that Michigan Tech, where the emphasis was on the use of computer technology, that was my first job. And because there was so much interest in digital technology and there were lots of computer... there were lots of machines, there were lots of networks, there were lots of different ways of using computers at Michigan Tech, I was able to play a great deal in those digital environments, because I had an excellent, Chair, Art Young. And he gave me the space to experiment and play and investigate, and supported the Center for Computer-Assisted Instruction that I ran for so many years. So that was part of it.

And then the other part of it was working with really talented graduate students, because each time you meet a graduate student, each generation of graduate students have different ways of communicating with and around digital tools and environments. And you can learn something new from every generation of graduate students, every graduate student you meet. And the pleasure of learning new things every year, every term, with every student is really a joy for me.