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# SI 580 Understanding Records and Archives: Principles and Practices

Week 13 – The Future of the Past



# Themes of this presentation

#### **Themes**

- Assignments due
  - One page abstract (4/11)
  - Paper (4/12)
  - Presentation (5 minutes)
  - Final Exam (4/17)
- Current debates
- Predictions
- Professional development
- Evaluations



## Current issues & debates ...1

#### **Assignments**

#### **Current debates**

**Predictions** 

Professional development

**Evaluations** 

### Appraisal

- many models…which one to choose…who gets to choose?
- assigning value...whose values...whose memory?
- appraisal through litigation?

### Description

- standards development
- creating.....collecting.....integrating.....sharing
- metadata management across lifecycle
- more product, less process?

#### Access

- in times of political / social transformation
- privacy
- legal regimes: implementation, operation, evaluation



## Current issues & debates ...2

**Assignments** 

#### **Current debates**

**Predictions** 

Professional development

**Evaluations** 

### Electronic records

- biggest challenge...greatest opportunity
- preservation
  - obsolescence; media deterioration; proactive attention
- recordkeeping (born digital)
  - software for working v. software for recordkeeping; role of arm in constructing rks; evolving legal contexts
- collections (born digital and reformatted)

### Custody

- centralized...distributed; chains of
- Access systems
  - serving content, context, and structure
- Continuing and New Roles / Skills



## Reinventing archives: existing model

Survey records

Schedule records

Appraise records

Dispose / Accession records

Describe records

Preserve records

Access Records

**Assignments** 

**Current debates** 

**Predictions** 

Professional development



## Reinventing archives: reinvented model

Analyze organizational functions

Define business transactions

Define record metadata

Identify control tactics

**Assignments** 

**Current debates** 

**Predictions** 

Professional development

**Evaluations** 

Establish RK regime



## Predictions ...1

**Assignments** 

**Current debates** 

#### **Predictions**

Professional development

- Direct delivery of content
  - both born digital and digitized over the www - hypertext linkages between access tools and records / archives; Web 2.0; metadata management; Web Services
- Direct access to ARM literature over the web
  - research (arm / multidisciplinary);
     conference papers; policy
     instruments; projects; project
     reports; technical specifications;
     standards; current awareness



## Predictions ...2

**Assignments** 

**Current debates** 

#### **Predictions**

Professional development

- Increasing "currency" of archival thought
- Increasing collaboration with a wider array of professions; communities; generations
- Wider placement of ARM function in organizations
- Richer use:
  - create new historical narratives;
  - attempt/enable direct linkages between analyses and supporting documentation
  - accountability; claim rights....
  - analysis of contents in archives as reflective of ideology and power relationships & struggles



## Predictions ...3

**Assignments** 

**Current debates** 

#### **Predictions**

Professional development

**Evaluations** 

### Electronic records

Record keeping, preservation, volume management, genre evolution issues predominant

### Intellectual property

 darkness before the light; resolution of orphaned works; commercial encroachment on archival collections

Time of challenge and promise....
in other words a great time to be an archivist /
records manager!

# Professional development after SI

**Assignments** 

**Current debates** 

**Predictions** 

**Professional** development

- professional reading on a regular basis
- be professionally active
- participate in advanced continuing education opportunities (workshops / symposia)
- visit other repositories
- consult
- research, write, publish
- ...and for ethical dilemmas turn to literature, colleagues, cases
- And finally.....continuously feed your mind to stay engaged, stimulated, and committed



# Thank you!

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