

# **The NDSA Content Working Group's National Agenda Digital Content Area Discussions: Web and Social Media**

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# About the National Agenda for Digital Stewardship

- > The *National Agenda for Digital Stewardship* annually integrates the perspective of dozens of experts and hundreds of institutions to provide funders and executive decision - makers insight into emerging technological trends, gaps in digital stewardship capacity, and key areas for funding, research and development to ensure that today's valuable digital content remains accessible and comprehensible in the future, supporting a thriving economy, a robust democracy, and a rich cultural heritage.
- > <http://www.digitalpreservation.gov/ndsa/nationalagenda/index.html>



# Content Areas and Challenges

- > Areas of content featured in 2014 report:
  - > **Web and Social Media** (today!)
  - > Electronic Records (January 8, 2014)
  - > Moving Image and Recorded Sound (March 5, 2014)
  - > Research Data (April 2, 2014)
  
- > Major challenges throughout:
  - > Size of data requiring preservation
  - > Selection of content when the totality cannot be preserved
  - > Determining how to store and migrate content to ensure long-term preservation.

# Web and Social Media

# Why Preserve the Web and Social Media?

Information published on the Web today will be the primary resources for future researchers. Web archiving documents:

- > events unfolding on the web
- > changes in web technologies, design, functionality
- > changes and record of governments
- > the creative output of citizens
- > entire domains of some countries to meet legal deposit mandates
- > websites of institutions and companies for compliance and records management

The collage consists of three overlapping web pages. The top page is 'backingblair.co.uk' with a black header and red navigation bar. The middle page is 'Canterbury Earthquakes' with a blue header and a photo of people in orange safety vests. The bottom page is 'Sporting News' with a red header and a photo of a baseball team.



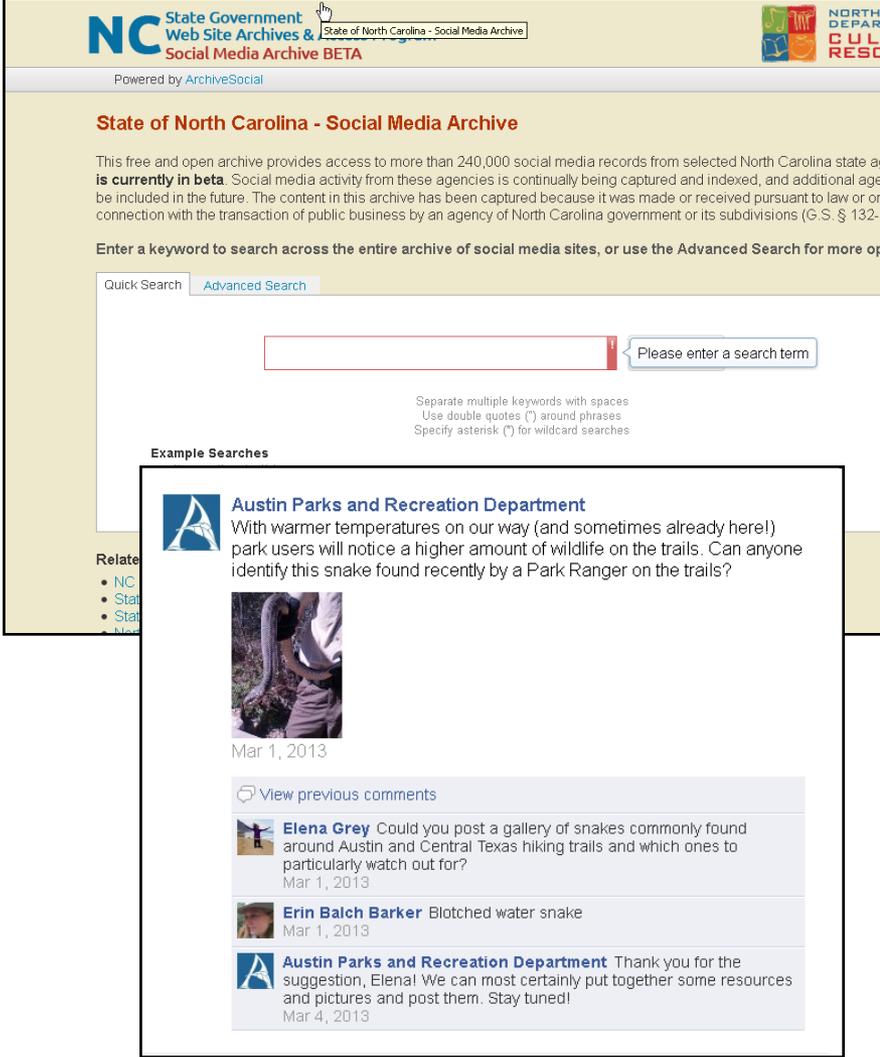
# Social Media Preservation



- > society is turning to social media as a primary method of communication and creative expression
- > social media is supplementing letters, journals, serial publications and other sources routinely collected by research libraries
- > services hosting this content don't have preservation on the mind - changes they make in how they present content can upset the preservation process
- > technology to allow for scholarship access to large data sets is lagging behind technology for creating and distributing such data
- > this represents a new kind of collecting for many institutions:
  - > are they federal or otherwise official records?
  - > what is the value of this content?
  - > how much can we preserve?
  - > are there privacy concerns?

# Who is preserving the web and social media?

- > National Libraries and Archives
- > Colleges and Universities
- > Research Institutions
- > Museums and Art Libraries
- > Government Agencies
- > Public Libraries
- > Corporations
- > Site owners (Personal Digital Archiving)



NC State Government Web Site Archives & Social Media Archive BETA

Powered by ArchiveSocial

### State of North Carolina - Social Media Archive

This free and open archive provides access to more than 240,000 social media records from selected North Carolina state agencies. The archive is **currently in beta**. Social media activity from these agencies is continually being captured and indexed, and additional agencies will be included in the future. The content in this archive has been captured because it was made or received pursuant to law or ordinance, or in connection with the transaction of public business by an agency of North Carolina government or its subdivisions (G.S. § 132-1.1).

Enter a keyword to search across the entire archive of social media sites, or use the [Advanced Search](#) for more options.

Quick Search [Advanced Search](#)

Please enter a search term

Separate multiple keywords with spaces  
Use double quotes (") around phrases  
Specify asterisk (\*) for wildcard searches

#### Example Searches

**Austin Parks and Recreation Department**  
With warmer temperatures on our way (and sometimes already here!) park users will notice a higher amount of wildlife on the trails. Can anyone identify this snake found recently by a Park Ranger on the trails?



Mar 1, 2013

[View previous comments](#)

**Elena Grey** Could you post a gallery of snakes commonly found around Austin and Central Texas hiking trails and which ones to particularly watch out for?  
Mar 1, 2013

**Erin Balch Barker** Blotched water snake  
Mar 1, 2013

**Austin Parks and Recreation Department** Thank you for the suggestion, Elena! We can most certainly put together some resources and pictures and post them. Stay tuned!  
Mar 4, 2013



47 member organizations:

national libraries & archives,  
universities, service providers

harvesting, preservation, &  
access working groups



INTERNATIONAL  
INTERNET  
PRESERVATION  
CONSORTIUM

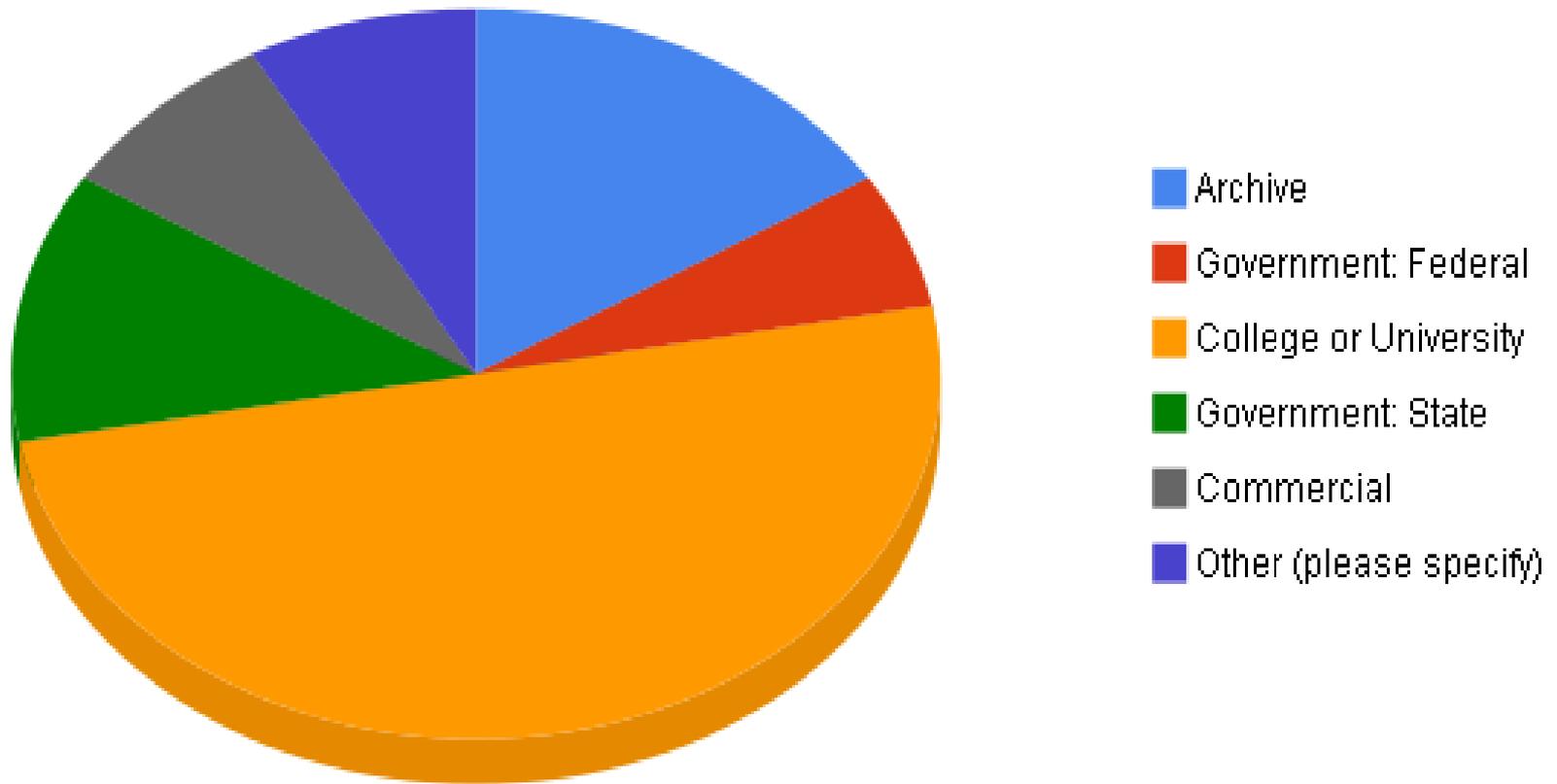
training & educational programs

collaborative collections & access

<http://netpreserve.org/>



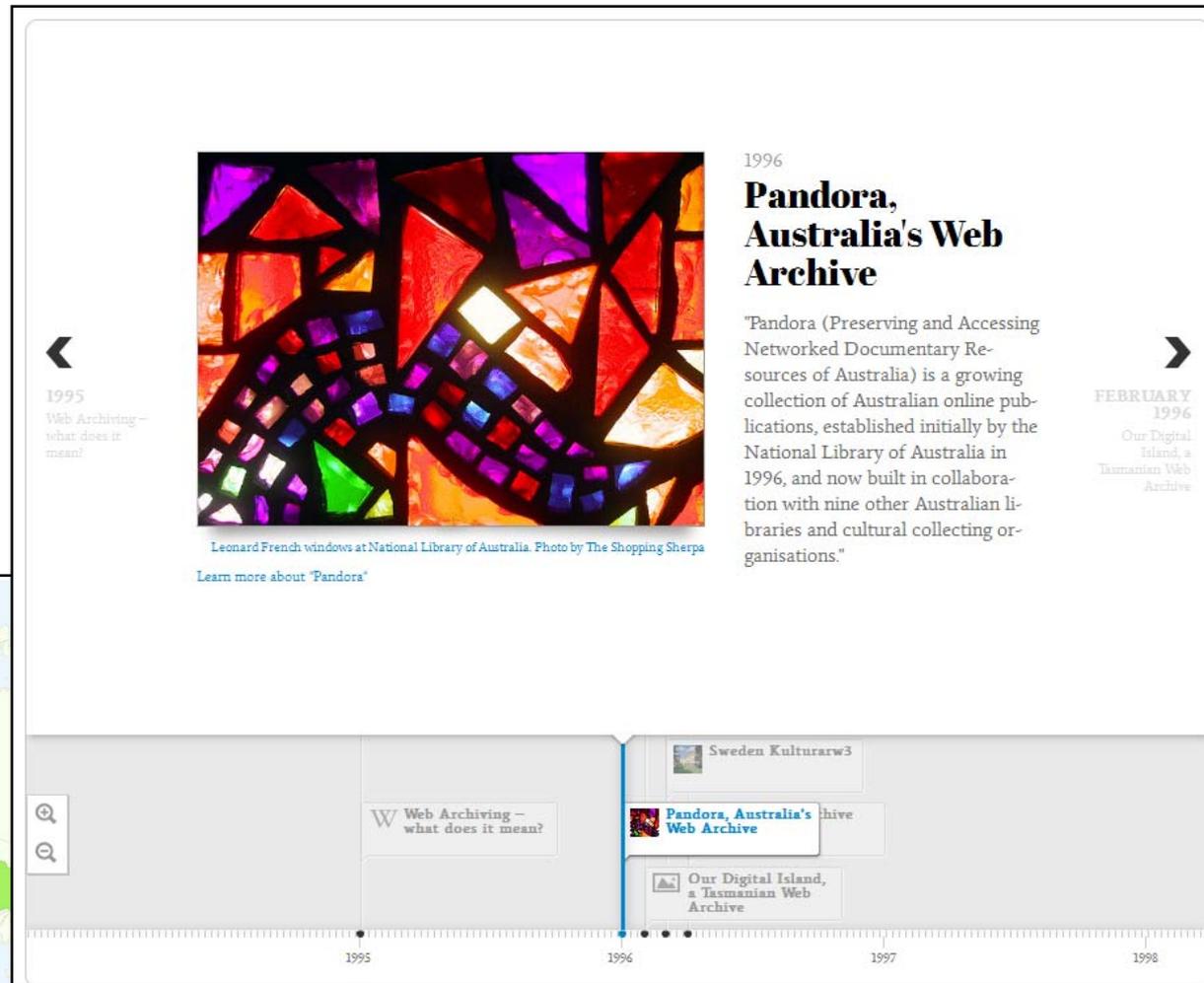
# NDSA Web Archiving Survey (as of Nov 5)



# The Web-Archives Timeline

*how people around the world are archiving the Internet since 1996*

[timeline.webarchivists.org](http://timeline.webarchivists.org)



1996

## Pandora, Australia's Web Archive

"Pandora (Preserving and Accessing Networked Documentary Resources of Australia) is a growing collection of Australian online publications, established initially by the National Library of Australia in 1996, and now built in collaboration with nine other Australian libraries and cultural collecting organisations."

Leonard French windows at National Library of Australia. Photo by The Shopping Sherpa

[Learn more about "Pandora"](#)

1995 Web Archiving – what does it mean?

FEBRUARY 1996 Our Digital Island, a Tasmanian Web Archive

Sweden Kulturarw3

Pandora, Australia's Web Archive

Our Digital Island, a Tasmanian Web Archive

1995 1996 1997 1998

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List\\_of\\_Web\\_Archiving\\_Initiatives](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Web_Archiving_Initiatives)



# Objectives and Approaches

- > “Broad” or “global” web (Internet Archive)
- > Domain Crawling
  - > National Libraries tasked with preserving entire domains
  - > Unites States efforts to archive federal government domain (.gov)
- > Event or Thematic
  - > National, Regional, Local Elections
  - > Global events
  - > Tragedies and Disasters
- > Selective/Representative
  - > “top 100” sites in a particular topic
  - > News sites



What are some of the challenges?



# Ethical and Social Challenges

- > With so much content being produced in every part of the globe, who is responsible for preserving it?
- > How do we select what gets preserved from the mass?
  - > Collection/Selection policies help institutions articulate goals, set boundaries
  - > Comprehensive collecting on any given topic nearly impossible – is a “representative” collection good enough?
  - > Duplication in collecting – not necessarily bad
    - > Though how do we know what others are preserving?



# Ethical and Social Challenges: Privacy Concerns

- > How do we balance our archiving and research interests in capturing and preserving the content creation and connections with the creator's right to privacy?
- > Does it matter if the original content was published on the open web?
  - > Challenges for an individual desiring to define and sustain a particular level and type of privacy on the "live web" have been well-documented.
  - > "Right to forget" laws in some countries
- > Possible research/analysis area: Can we/should we apply existing privacy and personal security-related practices from banks, government agencies to digital preservation?

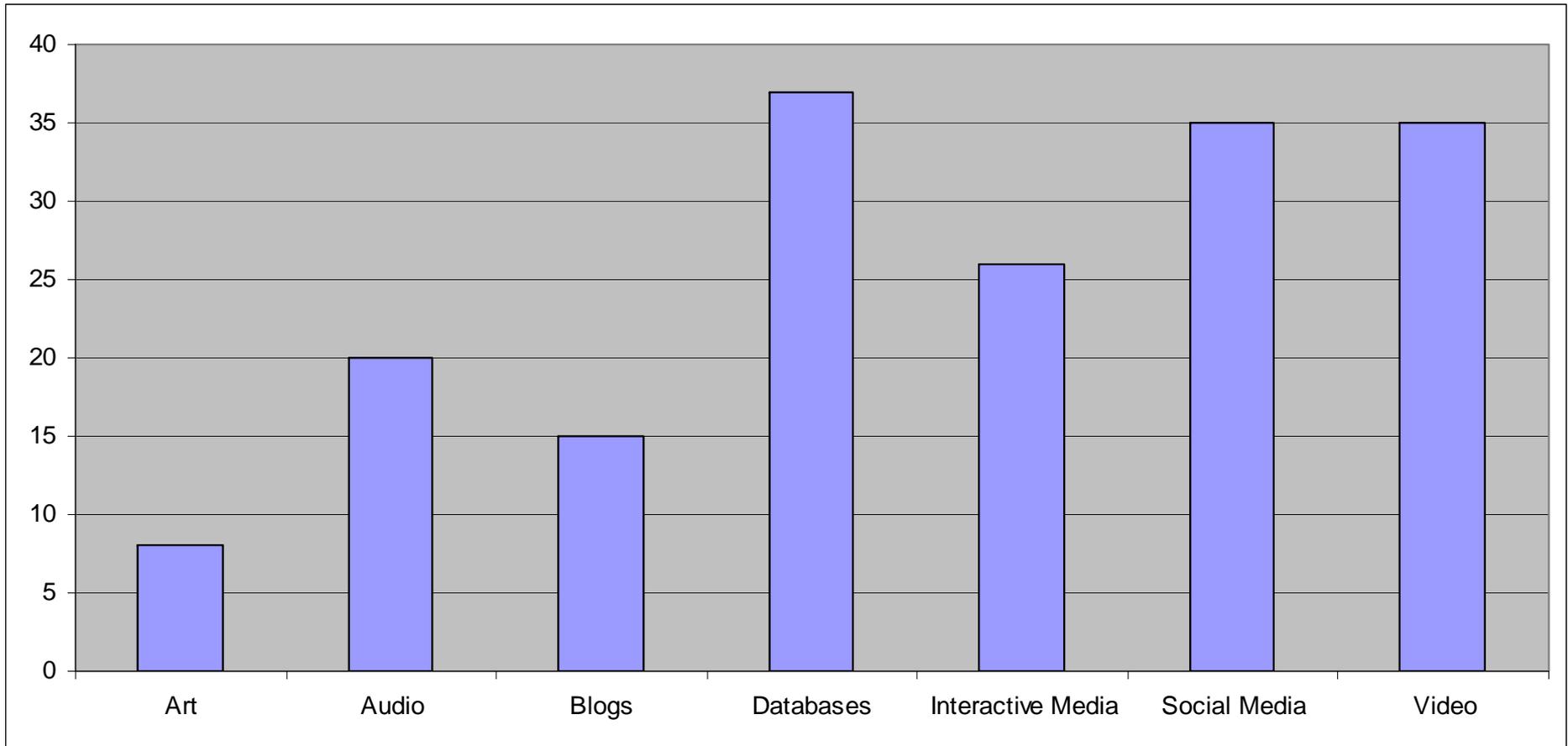


# Technical Challenges

- > A constant challenge for the crawling and access tool technologies to keep up with what's happening on the web
- > It is tricky and sometimes impossible to archive certain types of web content
- > Requires constant monitoring: A site that archived perfectly yesterday, might not after today's redesign
- > And... sometimes content can be archived, but the access tools cannot display the archived content.



# Technical Challenges (2013 NDSA survey)





# Legal Challenges

- > Web archivists across the globe face different legal frameworks:
  - > some are waiting for legislation
  - > others have legislation that covers web archiving
  - > others have legal doctrines such as fair use or legal deposit that permit or mandate web archiving
  - > many follow a permissions-based or notification approach, in absence of legislation, or if the legal frameworks are unclear.

<http://www.netpreserve.org/web-archiving/legal-issues>



# Legal challenges for those asking permissions

- > Lack of response from site owners.
- > Patchy, unbalanced collections as a result of permissions not granted.
- > Determining whether 3rd party rights need to be secured.
- > The tremendous effort required to contact site owners and notify or obtain permission can sometimes overwhelm staff resources.
- > Risk assessments and fair use analysis may allow some organizations to do more, however some are hesitant to go down this path and instead take a more cautious approach.



# Legal issues: Miscellaneous Approaches

- > Access Embargos
- > «Respecting» (or not) robots.txt
  - > [Robots.txt](#) is a file that websites use to provide instructions to crawlers.
  - > Respecting robots.txt can interfere with archiving in a number of ways:
    - > Entire sites can be blocked with robots.txt, or specific parts of sites.
    - > Sometimes style sheets and images will be blocked, elements that are important when you are trying to document the look and feel of a website.
  - > Some organizations obey robots.txt except when it comes to inline images and stylesheets, so the website is better represented. Others who are seeking permission bypass the robots.txt so that the sites archived are as complete as possible.

# More information

- > National Agenda  
<http://www.digitalpreservation.gov/ndsa/nationalagenda/index.html>
- > 2011 NDSA Web Archiving survey results  
[http://digitalpreservation.gov/ndsa/working\\_groups/documents/ndsa\\_web\\_archiving\\_survey\\_report\\_2012.pdf](http://digitalpreservation.gov/ndsa/working_groups/documents/ndsa_web_archiving_survey_report_2012.pdf) (2013 to come!)
- > IIPC website: <http://www.netpreserve.org>
- > UNT/IIPC 2013 Bibliography  
<http://digital.library.unt.edu/ark:/67531/metadc172362/>
- > Archive-IT Life Cycle Model  
[http://archive-it.org/static/files/archiveit\\_life\\_cycle\\_model.pdf](http://archive-it.org/static/files/archiveit_life_cycle_model.pdf)
- > SAA Web Archiving Roundtable  
<http://webarchivingrt.wordpress.com/>