



LONDON  
SCHOOL of  
HYGIENE  
& TROPICAL  
MEDICINE

# Challenges to digital preservation at LSHTM

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- Background to the Archives and Records Management Service
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# The London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine



# The London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine



- Postgraduate medical school teaching and undertaking research in public and global health
- One of the highest rated research institutions in the UK
- 4000 students from 100 plus countries following 22 taught masters courses (650 London based, 2700 distance learning and 400 research degree)
- 1300 staff

# The Archives & Records Management Service



- Archives Service established in 2002
- Records Management Service established in 2004
- Responsibility for Freedom of Information and Data Protection
- Manage the School's image database
- Staff of two Archivists three days a week and an Archives Assistant one day a week

# Projects relating to digital preservation



## Library & Archive Service Projects

- Archive projects
  - Map digitisation
  - Slide digitisation
- PhotoLibrary – image management database
- JISC funded survey of research data in 2003
- Six easy steps to managing information training
- Institutional repository

# Projects relating to digital preservation



## School-wide projects

- Information Management and Security Policy
- Email archiving
- Research data working group on making data accessible



# Challenges to preservation

- Under-resourced
- Reactive not proactive
- Lack of skills
- Difficulty of getting the message across
- Academic/research culture
- New technology
- Need external influence or senior management buy-in





# Next steps

- Build on current projects
- Build digital preservation into archive strategy
- Keep up to date with external projects and developments
- Apply for external funding for archival digital preservation projects



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