Looking back to look forward

- 75 years of the ICA
- Digital preservation basics
- The next 75 years
  - Economic dependence
  - Technical debt
  - Climate crisis
  - Mis(sing) Information
  - Cyber warfare
- Conclusion
75 years of the ICA
International Council on Archives: 1948 - 2023

International Council on Archives: 2023 - 2098

@williamkilbride www.dpconline.org
Digital Preservation 101
What is Digital Preservation?

“the series of managed activities necessary to ensure continued access to digital materials for as long as necessary... beyond the limits of media degradation, technical obsolescence or organizational change.”

(Digital Preservation Handbook)
What’s at stake?

- Structured and unstructured data
- Born digital and digitised content
- From selfie stick to space probe

Which means ... 

- Official Documents
- Digital Photographs
- Digital Video
- Digital Audio
- Grey literature
- CAD Plans
- Geo Mapping and GIS
- Transactional Records
- Spreadsheets
- eBooks and eJournals

And includes...

- What are you accountable for?
- What would you like to have available in 10 years time?
- What will matter in 10 years time that you can’t yet predict?
- ... 

- Any digital object where the product or service lasts longer than the platform on which it was designed.
The next 75 years at ICA
1. Economic Dependence
2. Technical Debt
3. Climate Crisis
4. Mis(sing) Information
5. Cyber warfare
1. Economic Dependence
...money turns out to be the major problem facing the future of our digital heritage. (Rosenthal 2012)
Nook
GoogleCode
GeoCities
GoogleWave
knol
Yahoo 360
Yahoo Mail Classic
del.icio.us
MyBlogLog
Flash

EverAlbum
Flickr (free)
Google Hangouts
Duplex
BlipFoto
BEBO
MySpace
Expeditions
Enhanced404
...
Twitter’s potential collapse could wipe out vast records of recent human history

What happens when the world’s knowledge is held in a quasi-public square owned by a private company that could soon go out of business?

By Chris Stokel-Walker  
November 11, 2022
Meta Platforms Market Cap

- Meta Platforms has a market cap or net worth of $791.55 billion as of July 17, 2023. Its market cap has increased by 69.86% in one year.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Market Cap</th>
<th>Enterprise Value</th>
<th>1-Year Change</th>
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<tr>
<td>791.55B</td>
<td>781.69B</td>
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<table>
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Market Cap Chart

https://stockanalysis.com/stocks/meta/market-cap/

2nd February 2022
2. Technical Debt
Technical debt

In software development, technical debt is the implied cost of future reworking required when choosing an easy but limited solution instead of a better approach that could take more time. Analogous with monetary debt, if technical debt is not repaid, it can accumulate "interest", making it harder to implement changes. Wikipedia
3. Climate Crisis
4. Mis(sing)-information
COVID-19: The duty to document does not cease in a crisis, it becomes more essential

Added on 4 May 2020

We, the signatories of this statement, call on governments, businesses, and research institutions around the world to document their decisions and transactions now and for the future. Building on the UNESCO communiqué ‘Turning the threat of COVID-19 into an opportunity for greater support to documentary heritage’ and reinforcing the call that decision-makers in the public and private sectors recognise the value of records management and archives, the statement has three calls to action:

Decisions must be documented

Sound records management is more important than ever with governments taking unprecedented steps to deal with the COVID-19 pandemic. Important decisions are being made by governments involving huge interventions in markets, healthcare and the daily lives of billions of people as they seek to secure the social, economic and cultural wellbeing of their populations and uphold the rule of law.

The pandemic is showing the benefits of access to large and small scale data to inform decision-
Matt Hancock’s WhatsApp messages: what are the latest disclosures?

Leak has provided unique insight into how UK government operated at height of the Covid pandemic

The government’s handling of the Covid-19 pandemic has been thrust into the spotlight after the leak to the Daily Telegraph of more than 100,000 private WhatsApp messages involving Matt Hancock.
Rioters enter the US Capitol on January 6, 2021. (AP: John Minchillo)
online at: https://www.abc.net.au/news/2022-01-09/january-6-capitol-hill-riots-coup-one-off-or-omen/100743936
5. Cyber Warfare
Statement on the Invasion of Ukraine, February 2022

The Digital Preservation Coalition (DPC) is deeply concerned by Russia's attack on Ukraine, the ongoing military operations and the escalation of violence that has ensued. The Secretary-General of the United Nations has described these operations as violations of the territorial integrity and sovereignty of Ukraine, stating plainly that they are inconsistent with the Charter of the United Nations. We join him and many other leaders, agencies and colleagues around the world in calling for an immediate cessation.

We encourage the following actions in support of our colleagues in Ukraine:

1. Preserve the record.

The goals of justice, peace and reconciliation are not served when cultural heritage and records are destroyed. In our generation culture and the record are digital, but the tools of cyberwarfare and misinformation have turned the digital estate into a theatre of war. Every step should be taken to preserve the record. We call for respect for international law, notably the 1954 Hague Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict and its two (1954 and 1999) Protocols, and call for restraint from attacks on, or harm to, institutions and individuals charged with the preserving the record.

2. Support institutions on the ground

We express our support and offer our resources and skills to agencies in Ukraine, especially to the Central State Electronic Archive of Ukraine (ЦДАЯ України) the State Archive Service of Ukraine, the ULV Yerevan National Library, the State Cinema, Photo and Video Archive of Ukraine and to all...
Cyber Warfare:
Ad Hoc Examples

- Stuxnet at Natanz
- Ransomware at HSE
- Nat. Museum of Brazil
- ISIS / Palmyra
- CSEA in Ukraine

Hague Convention:
Ad Hoc Assessment

- Out of scope
- Other Legal Protections
- Protection Proposed
- Likely Target
- Core Mandate
A Proposal in five parts:

- Consensus and coalition
- Scoping research
- Task group to establish principles
- Leadership at the highest level
- Resource to make it happen
Conclusion
The Digital Preservation Coalition

... welcoming and inclusive global community, working together to bring about a sustainable future for our digital assets...
We do 5 things ...

- Advocacy
- Community
- Workforce
- Good Practice
- Good Governance
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