

Project background: preserving legislative digital records

**National Digital Information Infrastructure
and Preservation Program**

Issues & challenges

- COOP, disaster recovery
- Legal framework – records laws, litigation, discovery
- Increased public attention and expectations
- Complexity of systems – email, RMA, web, web 2.0
- Costs and capacity
- Lack of a good model

Assumptions

- Collaboration
- Standards
- National cyberinfrastructure
- Rigorous appraisal and ROI: use value of electronic records
- Education
- Cultural and institutional change
- Sustainability

Project partners

- MN (ROS, LRL, MHS)
- CA and KS
- CDL
- NCSL
- AR, IL, MS, ND, NE, TN, VT
- ThomsonReuters, private sector

Partners: unique and appropriate

- Audiences
- Mission
- Priorities
- Initiatives
- Capacity
- Resources

Process

- Lots and lots of meetings
- Documentation: BaseCamp
- Research
- Re-grants
- Implementation
- Evaluation

Lessons we're learning

- Change: perpetual beta, budgets, personnel
- “Constant partial attention”
- User expectations: preservation = access over time; success = content + functionality
- Access: open content, loosely coupled, specialized needs

Lessons we're learning (2)

- Collaboration and integration
- Lower costs, lower barriers
- Catalysts: business case, mandate, charisma
- Local knowledge
- No single model: common problems, but not the same solutions

Practical outcome: incremental improvement

Storage



Preservation

Policies
Standards
Partners
Technologies
Model

Progress

- Research and white papers: access, records mgmt, digital audio/video, legislative history, XML usage, mashups, authentication etc.
- Education: handouts, podcasts, NCSL
- Schema
- NCCUSL model law

MHS: next steps

- Integration of non-XML content
- Import and export: web and CDL
- CA and KS
- Automating the process
- Education
- Gap analysis and toolkit
- Evaluation

Partners: next steps

- Education
- Sharing content
- Adapting models
- Gap analysis
- Evaluation

Solution: ongoing process

- Standards
- Migration
- Conversion
- Innovation
- Collaboration

More information

- Project website:
www.mnhs.org/ndiipp
- Contact:
Bob Horton
robert.horton@mnhs.org

Policy framework

- Document decision and transactions
- Accountability, transparency, FOI
- Privacy
- Re-engineering government
- Costs

Project outcomes

- Capture, preserve and provide access to “at-risk” digital content from state legislatures
- Test the model in MN
- Determine capacity of other states to adapt the model
- Promote the results through education and outreach
- Connect to national cyberinfrastructure

Legal framework

"The current law is just completely unhelpful. The Legislature has to get to this. ... it'll be messy and quite ungratifying, but it has to be done."

Minneapolis Star-Tribune

13 July 2008

Sustainability: business case

- Appropriate solutions
- Integration into routines
- Priorities – appraisal, scope
- Cost control
- Use value (access, transparency, open gov't)
- Collaboration

Archivists' role

- Add value, define niche
- Facilitate use and collaboration
- Context and significance
- Web 2.0
- Long term preservation

Conceptual framework

- Access
- Data consultancies
- Guidelines and standards
- Policy and technology
- Outreach, education, promotion
- Larger context

Common ground

- Trustworthy
- Preserved
- Accessible
- Standards based

- NCCUSL: Authentication Model Law

Legislature
(creation)



Web
(harvesting)



Access



(Item)

Archive
(mgmt/admin)



(Batch)



Repository
(preservation)