

SAA 2014

Demystifying Born Digital Publications



Defining “Born Digital”

by Ricky Erway

www.oclc.org/research/activities/hiddencollections/borndigital.pdf

The purpose of this essay is to define “born digital” and list various types of born-digital materials. It is intended to improve community discourse by encouraging caretakers of born-digital resources to specify what they mean when they use the term.

You’ve Got to Walk Before You Can Run: First Steps for Managing Born-Digital Content Received on Physical Media

by Ricky Erway

www.oclc.org/research/publications/library/2012/2012-06.pdf

This report is intended for anyone who doesn’t know where to begin in managing born-digital materials. It errs on the side of simplicity and describes what is truly necessary to start managing born-digital content on physical media, presenting a list of the basic steps without expanding on archival theory or the use of particular software tools.

Swatting the Long Tail of Digital Media: A Call for Collaboration

by Ricky Erway

www.oclc.org/research/publications/library/2012/2012-08.pdf

This report makes the case that few institutions can be expected to manage all media types. In order to make real progress in preserving and providing access to born-digital content, libraries and archives need to leverage specialized resources and expertise across the community.

Walk This Way: Detailed Steps for Transferring Born-Digital Content from Media You Can Read In-house

by Juliana Barrera-Gomez and Ricky Erway

www.oclc.org/research/publications/library/2013/2013-02.pdf

This report collects the assembled wisdom of experienced practitioners to help those with less experience make appropriate choices in gaining control of born-digital content. It contains discrete steps with objectives, links to available tools and software, references and resources for further research, and paths to engagement with the digital archives community.

Agreement Elements for Outsourcing Transfer of Born Digital Content.

by Ricky Erway, Ben Goldman, and Matthew McKinley

<http://www.oclc.org/content/dam/research/publications/library/2014/oclcresearch-born-digital-content-transfer-2014.pdf>

This document suggests elements that should be considered when constructing an agreement (or memorandum of understanding) for outsourcing the transfer of born-digital content from a physical medium while encouraging adherence to both archival principles and technical requirements.

These publications are available at www.oclc.org/research/publications/library/2012/2012-06r

Demystifying Born Digital Expert Advisory Group

We called upon this informal group of experts for feedback on our ideas and drafts, and they responded with detailed insights and remarkable energy. While not all of the details in the reports represent consensus, the spirited debates and valued advice these experts provided improved this work greatly.

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