



**THE OHIO STATE  
UNIVERSITY**

---

# **ELECTRONIC RECORDS PRESERVATION**

# NO RECORDS MANAGEMENT?



25%

# NO RECORDS MANAGEMENT?

Every 12  
seconds  
1 document  
is lost.



28,800 seconds (8 hour day)/12

=2400 documents lost each day

## NO RECORDS MANAGEMENT?

Computer users spend 7.5% of their time on a computer looking for files.

**260 work days/year**

**2080 work hours/year**

**x 0.075**

**= 156 hours/year**

**= 19.5 days/year**

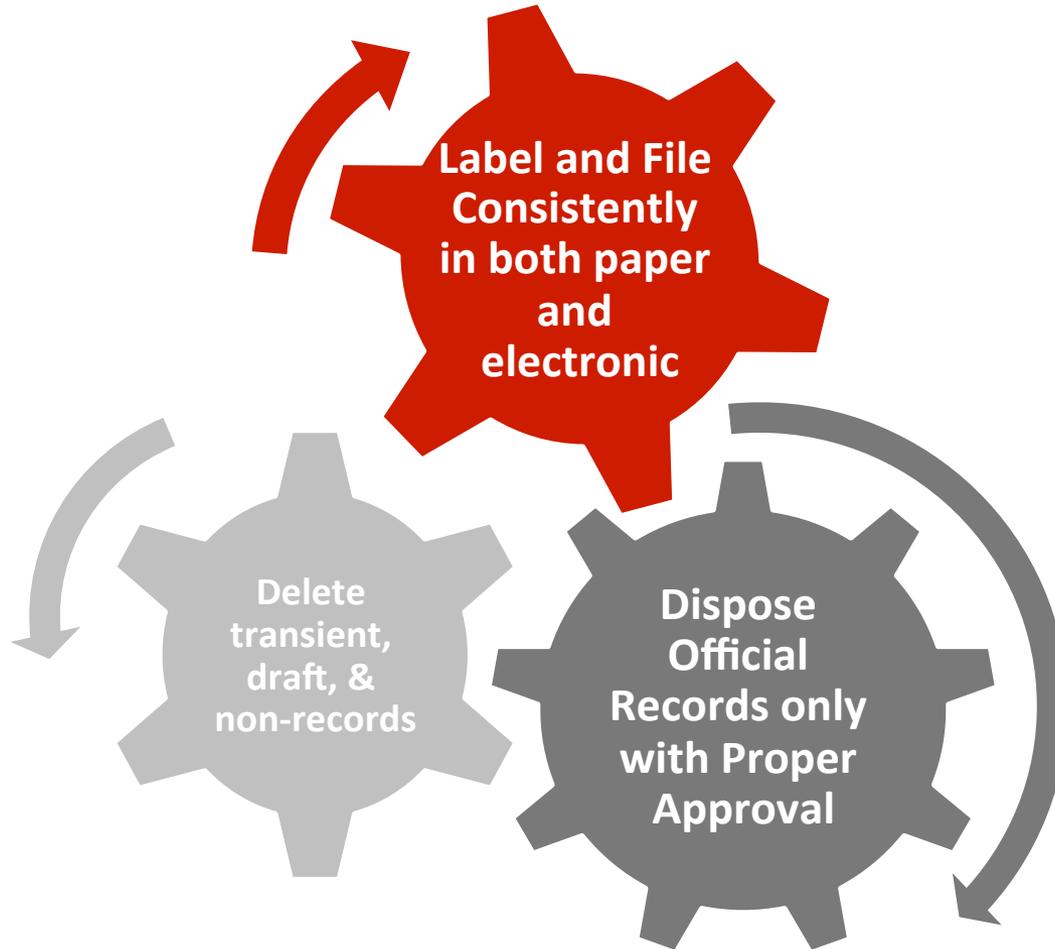
**Time spent looking for files.**

# PURPOSE OF RECORDS MANAGEMENT

- Ensure that records are available when needed
  - Internally for office functions
  - Public records requests
  - Discovery
- **Protect records from improper or unauthorized destruction**
- Ensure that records are not retained unnecessarily
  - Destroy records when retention period has expired

***Retaining records too long can be as much of a liability as not retaining them for long enough.***

# EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITIES



# GOAL OF A RECORDS MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

Establish a ***systematic, repeatable, documented process*** for the retention and disposition of records created and maintained by the public office.

# Benefits of Records Management

# TRANSPARENCY IN GOVERNMENT



# PUBLIC'S RECORDS – NOT YOURS!



# DECREASED RISK OF LITIGATION



# REMOVAL OF PUBLIC RECORDS

All records are the property of the public office concerned and shall not be removed, destroyed, mutilated, transferred, or otherwise damaged or disposed of, in whole or in part, except as provided by law or under the rules adopted by the records commission.

*---ORC 149.351*

# **BENEFITS OF RECORDS MANAGEMENT**

**Transparency in  
Government**

**Decrease Risk in  
Litigation**

**Increased  
Efficiency**

**Save Resources**

# RECORDS MANAGEMENT IN POLICY

## Repeating Concepts

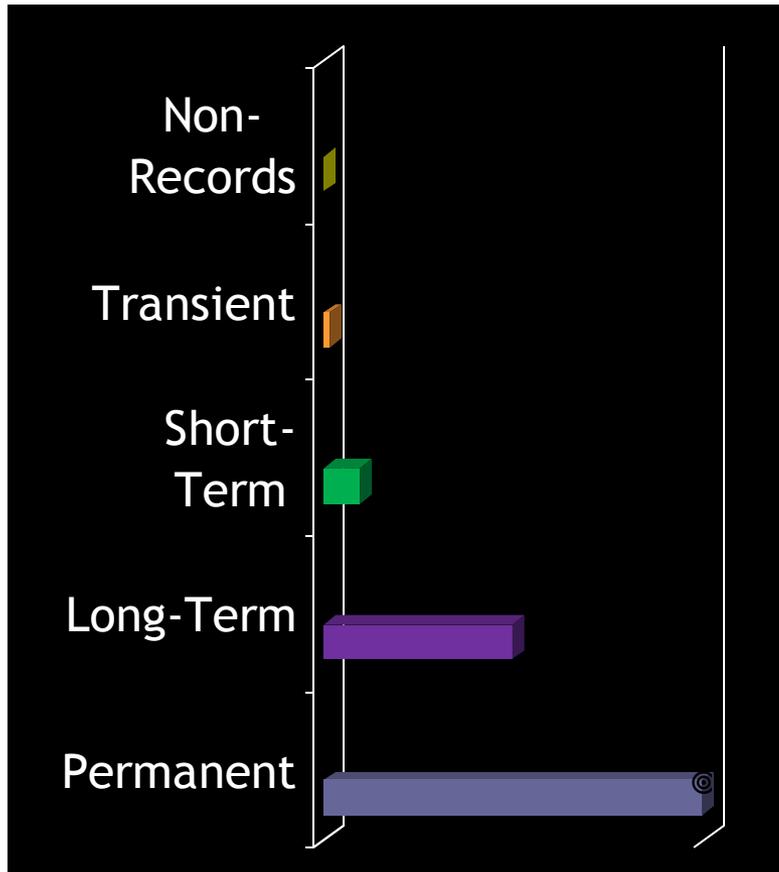
- Retention based on content
- Retain in accordance with applicable retention schedule(s)
- Employees are responsible

**Across Institutional Policies**

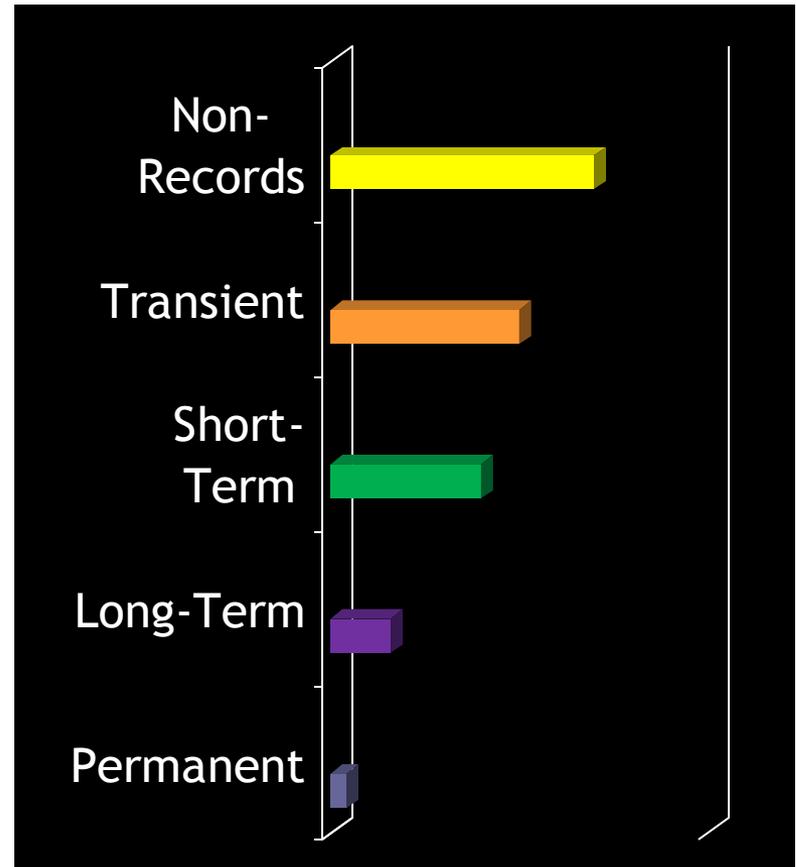
# **ORGANIZING ELECTRONIC RECORDS**

# RETENTION V. QUANTITY

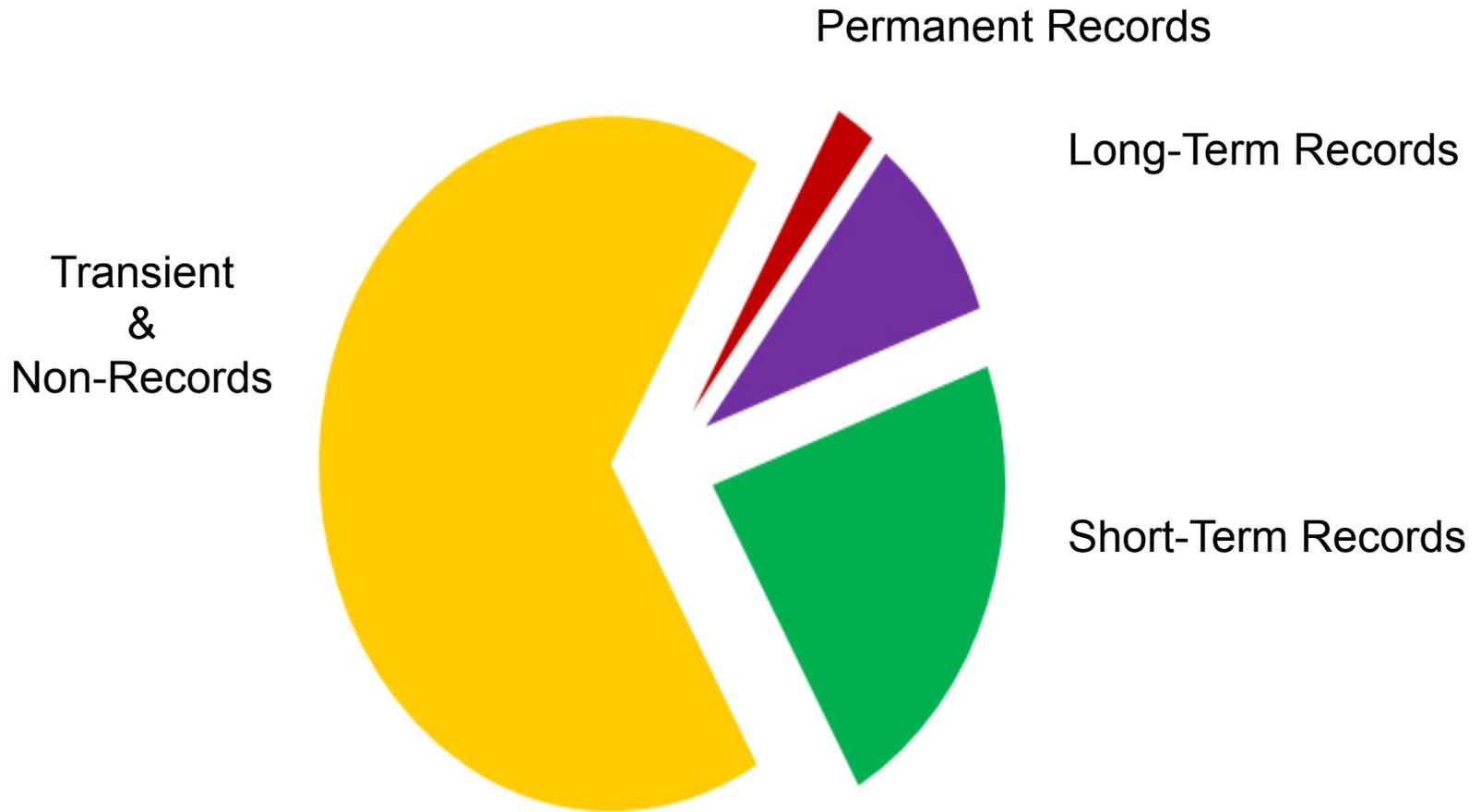
## Retention Time



## Quantity



# THE PACMAN<sup>®</sup> EFFECT...



# Here to There

- Save it all “just in case”
- Ownership “my email”
- Lost productivity searching for information
- Defensible deletion with retention schedules
- Reduced impact of staff changes
- Reduced information retrieval time



# UNMANAGED SHARED DRIVES

- Can contain important documents & records
  - But is intermingled with useless information
    - Duplicates
    - Non-Records
    - Records past retention time
- **Generally lacks standard naming conventions**
- Ownership is unclear
  - Terminated/transferred employees
    - Nobody wants to take responsibility for remaining records

# NOT IDEAL

Finance

---

---

---

Name ▲

- Jane
- Joe
- John
- Sue

] Name ▲

Jane

- Purchase Orders
- Purchase Requests
- Vouchers
- Warrants

Joe

Name ▲

- Purchase Orders
- Purchase Requests
- Vouchers
- Warrants

John

] Name ▲

- Checks
- Finance stuff
- John's stuff
- Misc Finance stuff

Sue

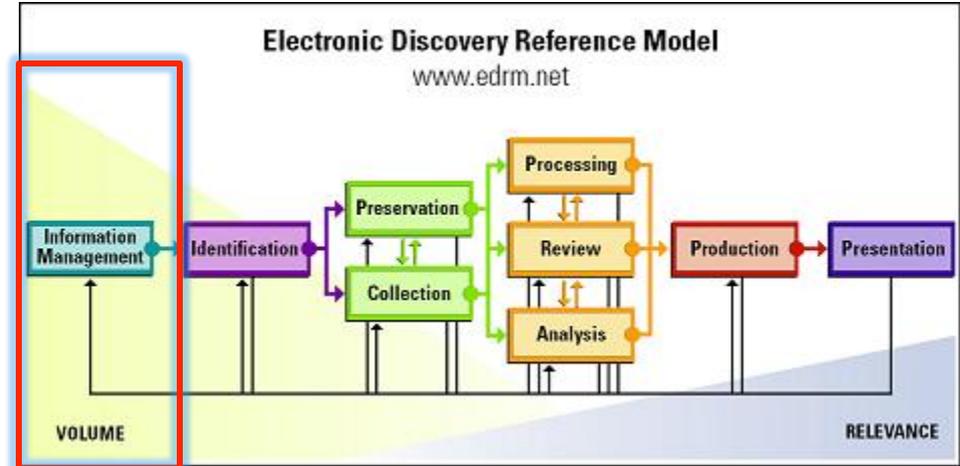
▼ ↻

] Name ▲

- Current vouchers
- Old vouchers
- POs
- Things people want us to buy
- Warrants

# TRANSFORMING NETWORK SHARED DRIVES

- Cleaning, classifying, and organizing content on network shared drives to improve information management
  - Ability to locate
  - Defensibility
  - Storage
  - Retention



# FUNCTIONAL FILING

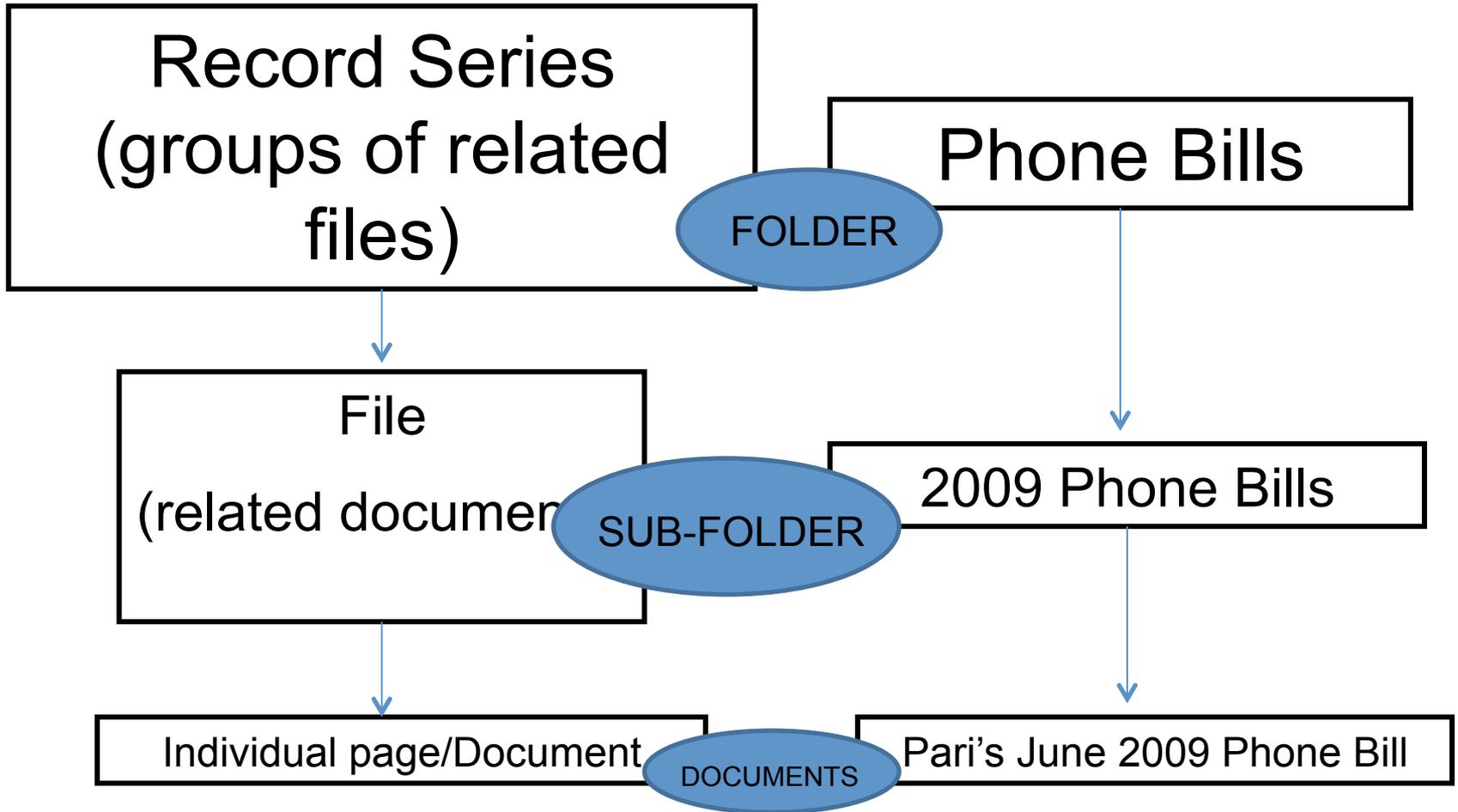
▸ Finance ▸ Vouchers

<input type="checkbox"/>	Name
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	 FY 2014 Vouchers
	 FY 2015 Vouchers
	 FY 2016 Vouchers

Finance ▸ Requests to Purchase

<input type="checkbox"/>	Name
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	 FY 2016 Fulfilled
	 FY 2016 Open

# TERMINOLOGY: RECORD SERIES



# FILING EMAIL & E-RECORDS

**It is less time consuming in the long-run to file email right away while the content is fresh.**

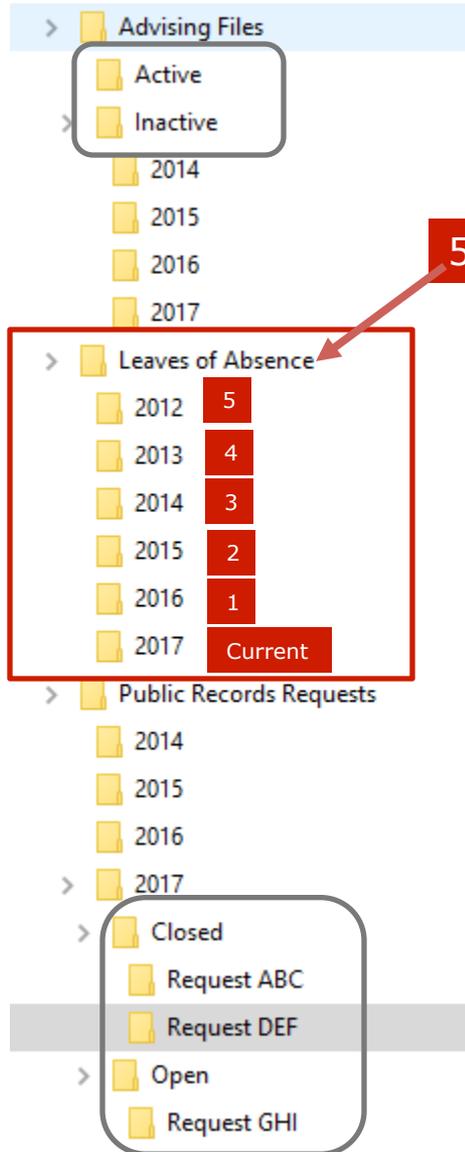
- Easier to create the basic file structure in advance, then drag and drop or save immediately
- Content is organized and accessible, even if you are not present
- Retention/disposition is easier to apply
- **No clicking and rereading each file**

# FILING EMAIL & E-RECORDS

## Folder Structure

- **On a central server space**
- Create clear filing structures on server and/or inbox that everyone in section or functional area can follow
  - Think about filing for *retrieval* rather than creation
  - Folders are like index fields
- **Incorporate records retention schedules into the folder names**
  - Title of Folder = Title of Record Series (Per retention schedules)
- Subfolders can aid in organization, retention and disposition
  - When retention expires on a folder, right clicking once deletes all contents

# Structuring File Shares

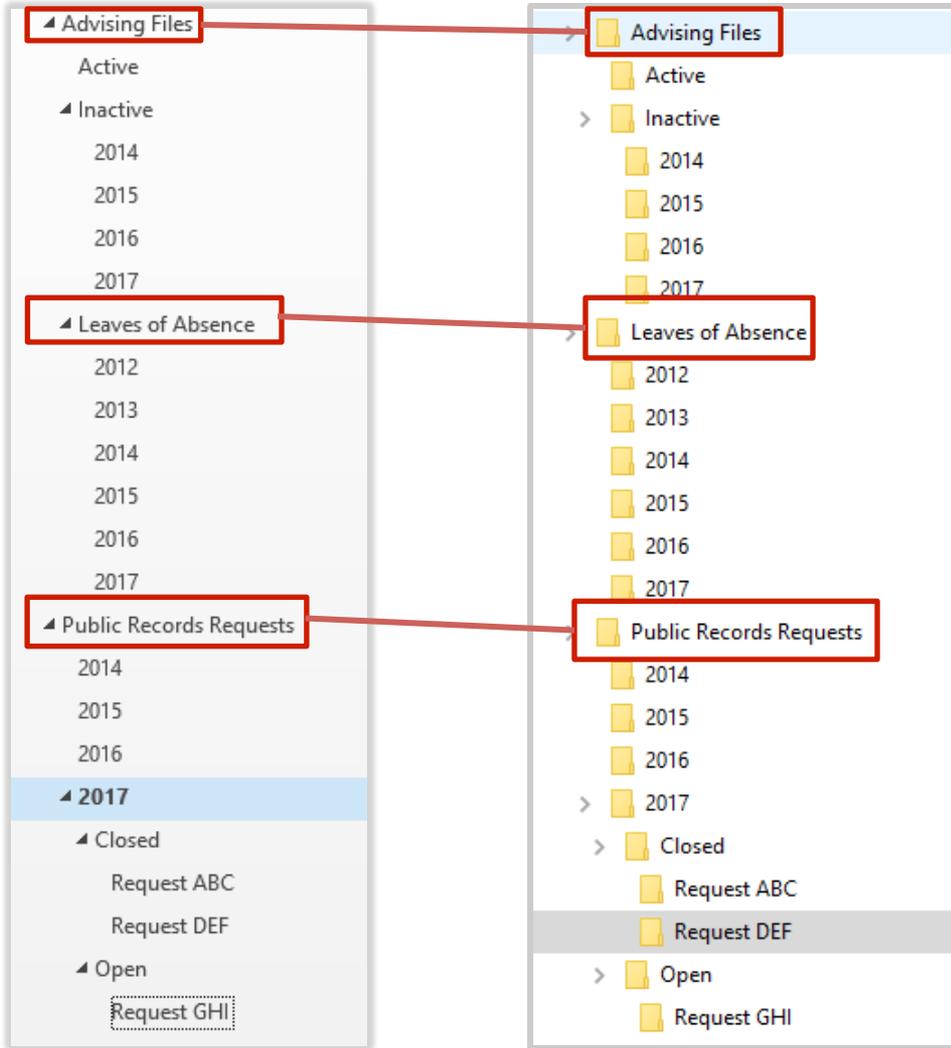


5 year retention

## Hint

You shouldn't have more annual folders than the retention period calls for, plus one for the current year.

# Structuring Outlook



# Structuring File Shares

# NAMING DOCUMENTS

- Descriptive file names & naming conventions
  - **Good:** Memo\_Office\_Move or Jones\_Case
  - **Bad:** Memo1 or AB\_Case
  - Same structures to date file names
    - 2011\_03\_28 -or- 20110328
    - Put date in same location, before or after file name – this affects sorting
  - Consistent spellings, abbreviations, version style
    - Version2 –or- V2
  - Status Format
    - (superseded) –or- (final) –or- (draft)

**Do Not use  
file formats as  
folder names.**

**PDF, Emails,  
Images**

**Consistency & Uniformity in naming and placement is key!**

# **DELETING EMAIL AND ELECTRONIC RECORDS**

# DELETING EMAIL & E-RECORDS

It really is okay to delete...as long as it is done with retention schedules and consistently

- According to approved retention schedules
  - In conjunction with related hardcopy records (unless scheduled for different retention periods)
- Can be deleted immediately:
  - Transient Records retention schedule
  - For non-records



# WHY CAN'T WE JUST KEEP ALL EMAIL & E-RECORDS?



## Increases

- Storage space
- Maintenance costs
- Retrieval time
- Public records requests
- Cost of e-discovery production and preservation
- Liability

## Decreases

- Ability to quickly locate
  - Defensibility
  - Compliance
- 

There is a line between business value and over preservation – retention schedules define that line upfront

# WHEN AN EMPLOYEE LEAVES

- Email retains its “record” status
- If saved to functional file share it will be:
  - Searchable and retrievable
  - Deleted in accordance with proper retention schedule
- Manager should
  - Request access to employee’s mailbox
  - Request access to employee’s individual file space
  - Review as part of separation procedures

# FACTORS IN MEDIA PERMANENCE

# WHICH HAVE YOU EVER USED OR FOUND:



# WHAT IS THE LONGEST RETENTION PERIOD FOR A RECORD SERIES IN THE OFFICE?

A. 5 years

B. 15 years

C. 50 years

D. Permanent

# WHY ARE SOME OF YOUR RECORDS PERMANENT?

A. They're pretty to look at

B. We have the space, so why not?

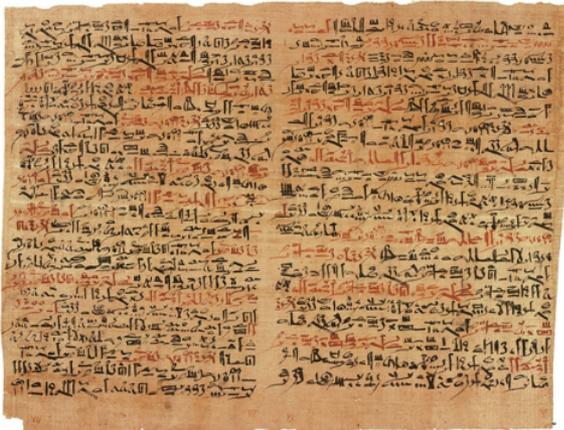
C. Historically valuable

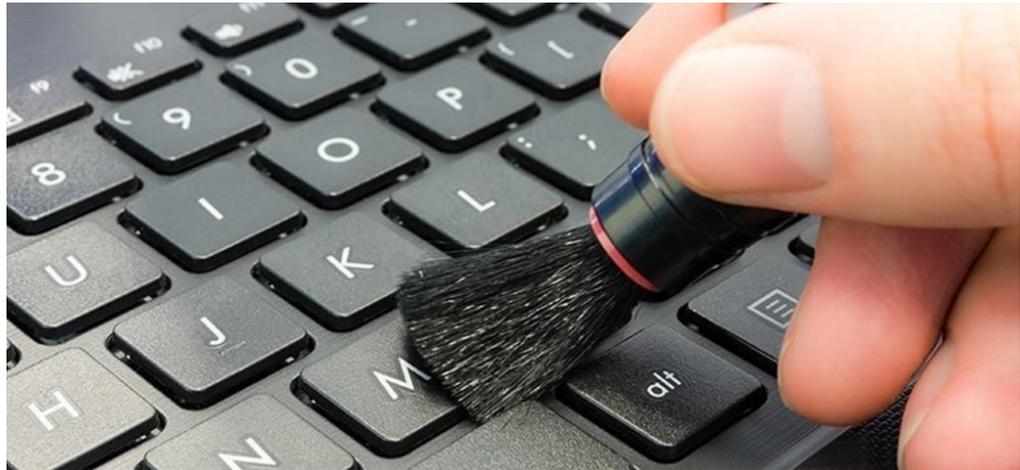
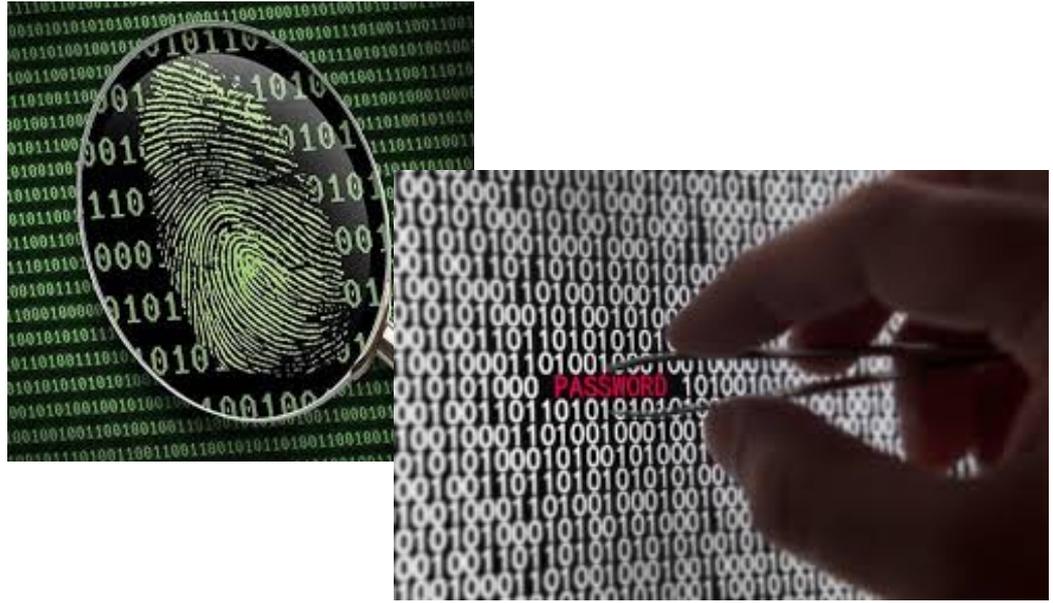
D. Legal record of actions taken

E. Our public records request stats need a boost

# LIFE EXPECTANCY OF ANALOG FORMATS

1000s of years **if stored properly**

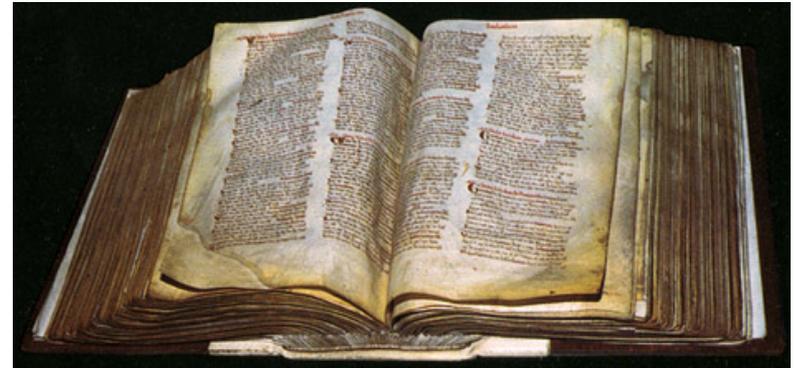




# DOMESDAY BOOK - 1086



Wooden chest, cased, lined and bound in iron and secured by three different locks, in which Domesday Book was kept stored from about 1600. Catalogue reference: E 31/4



# DOMESDAY PROJECT – 1986 (BBC)

- 1 million people submitted information
- 150,000 pages of text
- 20,000 photos
- 100s of maps, statistics, and videos
- Used LaserDisc technology
- Specially designed interface to search using menus, keywords, maps and more.
- By 2002 (15 years), it was inaccessible
  - LaserDisc lost out to CDs, so they stopped manufacturing discs and readers
  - Software to read binary code was not preserved
- While some has been painstakingly reconstructed, the menus and windows have not, thus taking away from the intended user experience.

# GOOGLE CLOUD STORAGE - 2009

- Software upgrades in data centers are delicate
  - Performed during routine operations
  - Without downtime for customers
- 1000s of Gmail boxes deleted during software upgrade



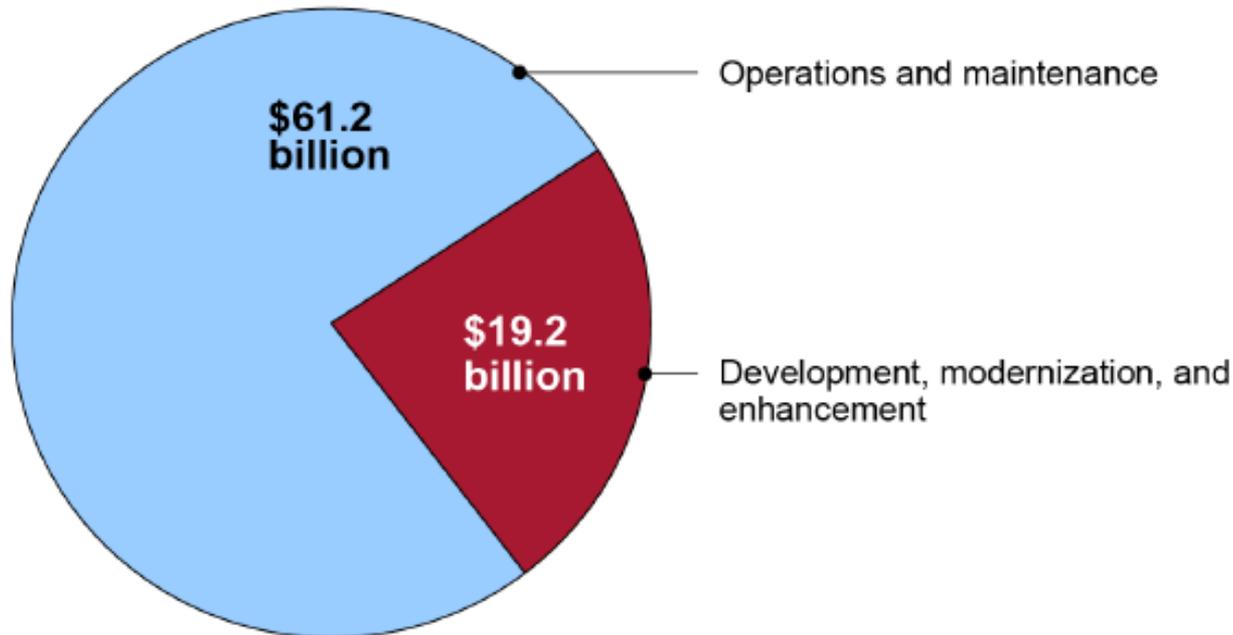
# AMAZON DATA CENTER - 2011

- Technical glitch caused loss of 0.07% of the information they were storing
- Hundreds of thousands of gigabytes
- What if a government entity accidentally lost that much information
  - Public records
  - Legal records
  - Historical records



# US GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE: *FEDERAL AGENCIES NEED TO ADDRESS AGING LEGACY SYSTEMS*

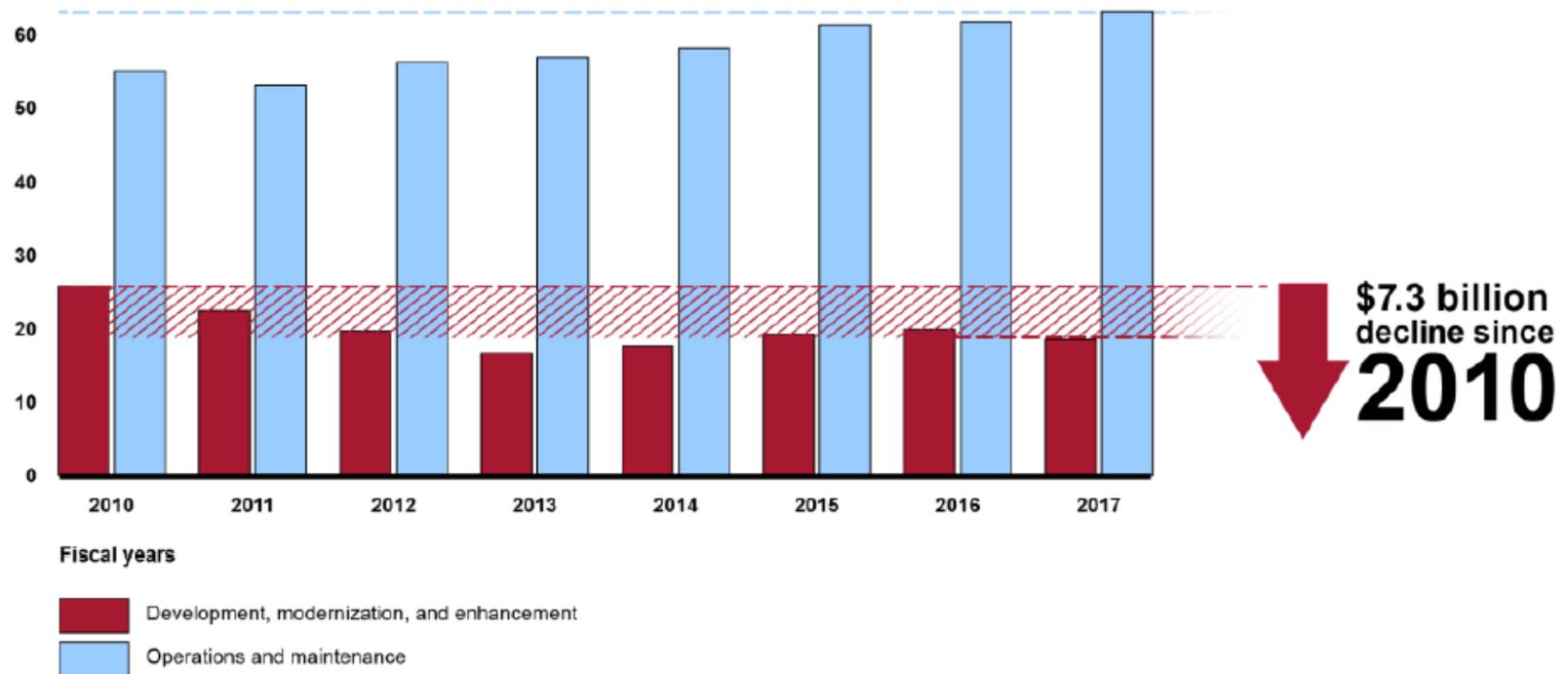
**Figure 1: Fiscal Year 2015 Federal Spending on IT Operations and Maintenance and Development, Modernization, and Enhancement**



Source: GAO analysis of Office of Management and Budget's Information Technology Dashboard | GAO-16-698T

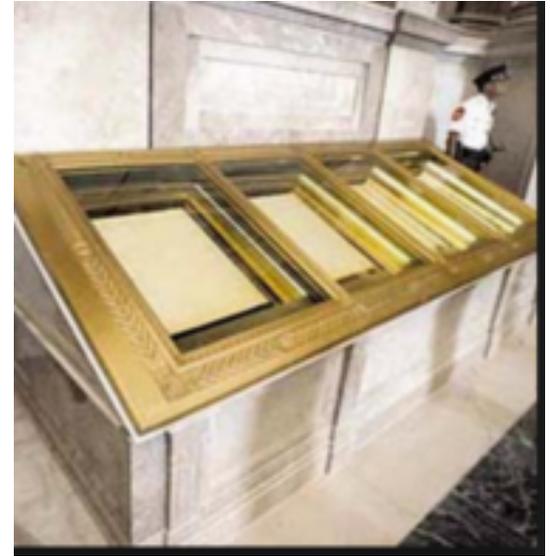
# US GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE: *FEDERAL AGENCIES NEED TO ADDRESS AGING LEGACY SYSTEMS*

Figure 2: Summary of IT Spending by Fiscal Year from 2010 through 2017 (Dollars in Billions)



Source: GAO analysis of agency data. | GAO-16-696T

# IT'S ALL ABOUT PRESERVATION!



# ENSURING ACCESS: 3 GOALS

1. Availability

2. Readability

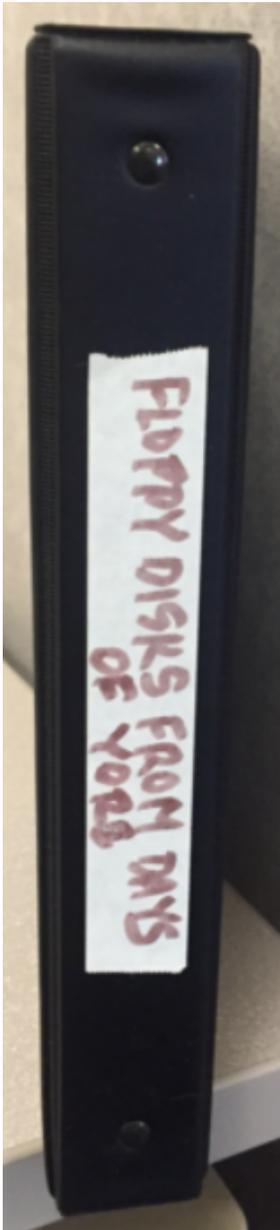
3. Reliability &  
Authenticity

# GOAL 1: AVAILABILITY

The record is kept for its full retention period



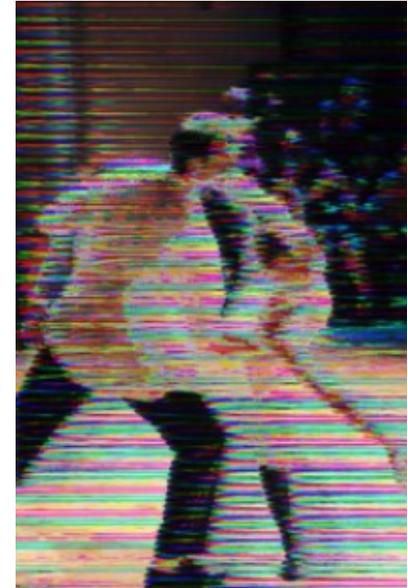
## GOAL 2: READABILITY



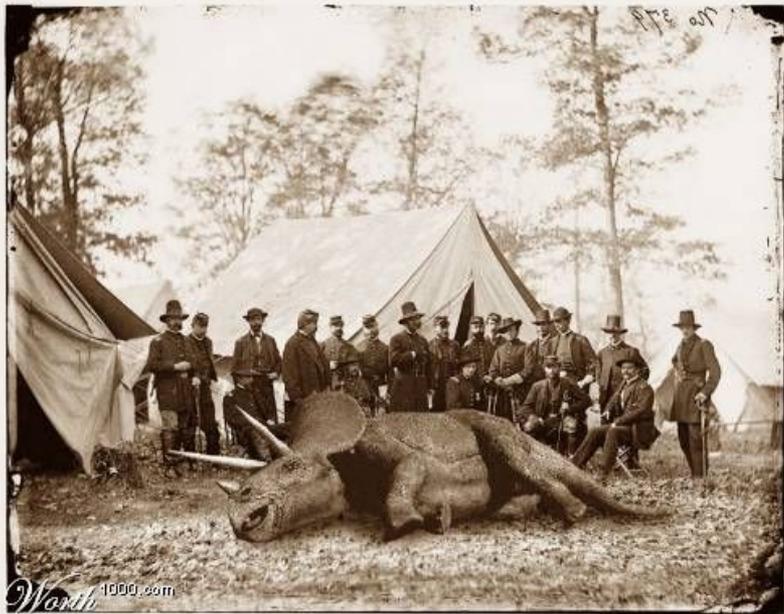
✓ Available  
xReadable

## GOAL 3: RELIABILITY & AUTHENTICITY

- Record is what it claims to be
  - Reliability – full and accurate representation
- Record is complete and unaltered
  - All metadata
- Need audit trails
  - What was changed?
  - By whom?
  - When?
  - Documentation of migration(s)



**AUTHENTICITY = TRUST**





**HOW IS IT THAT THESE  
CLUES SURVIVED 200  
YEARS?**

# HOW WOULD THE STORY HAVE CHANGED?



# HERE'S WHY



Probably had no idea that the flash drive:

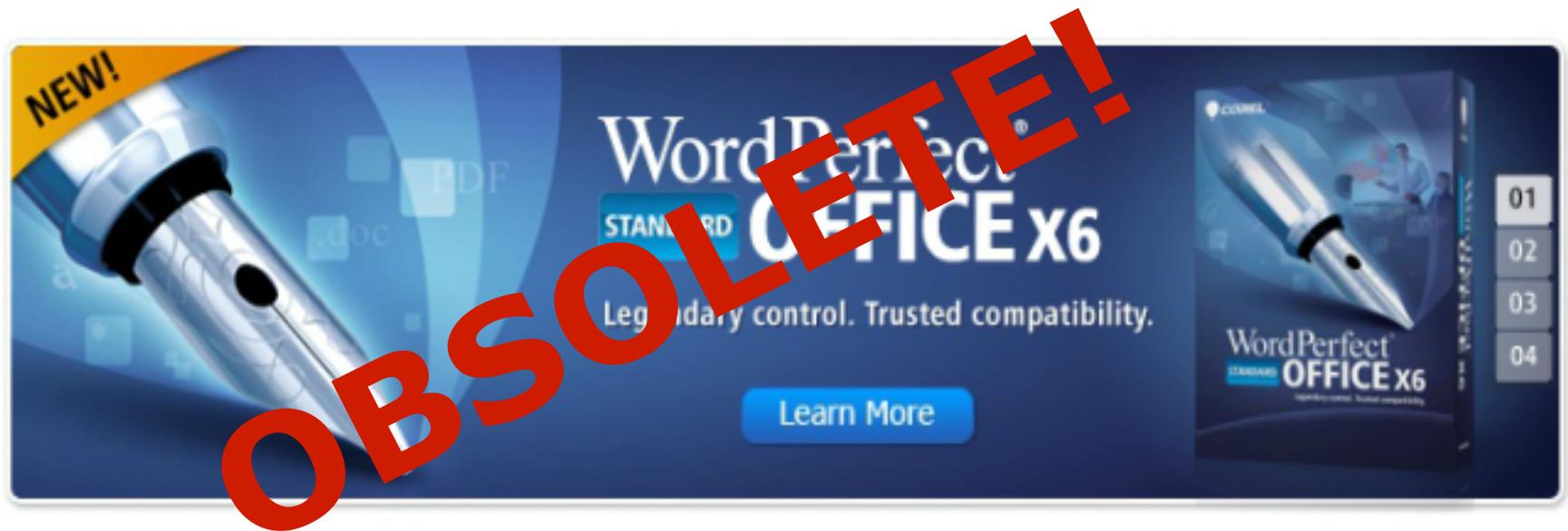
- Stored records
- Contained something worth retrieving

# BUT LET'S SAY BEN'S HISTORY PROWESS TOLD HIM THE FLASH DRIVE WAS ONCE AN INFORMATION STORAGE DEVICE...

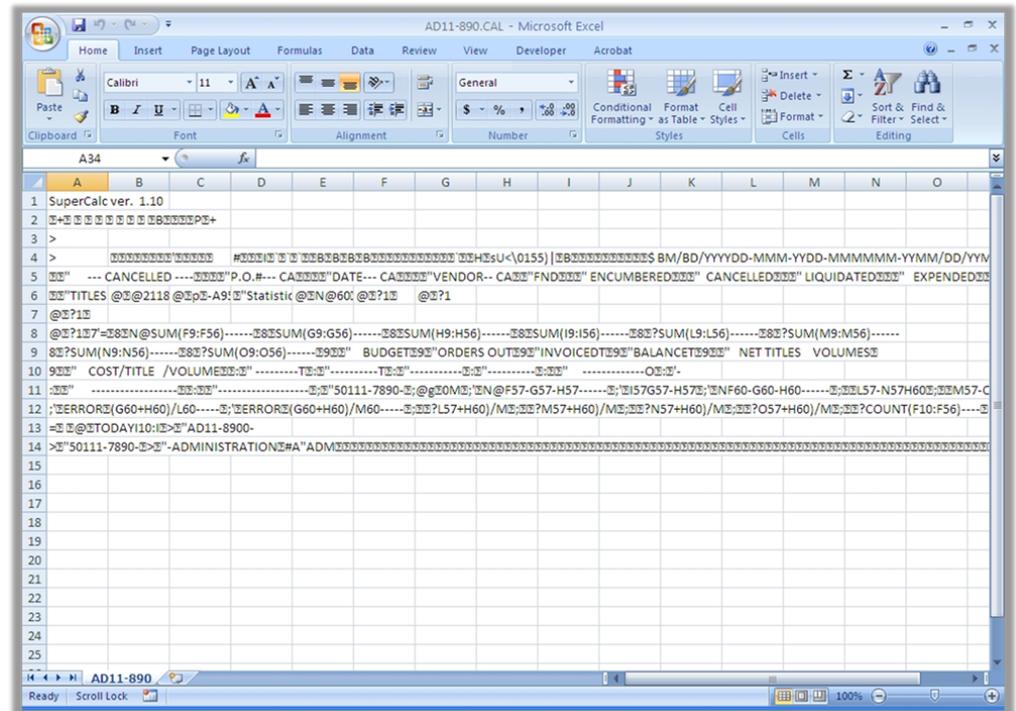
- Decay of physical media
- Hardware obsolescence



- Loss of information about format
- Software obsolescence



# Content may still exist



But structure lost





**Hello**  
my name is

01010100 01111001 01110010  
01100001 01111001

Binary Code

Character	Binary Code	Character	Binary Code	Character	Binary Code
A	01000001	a	01100001	!	00100001
B	01000010	b	01100010	"	00100010
C	01000011	c	01100011	#	00100011
D	01000100	d	01100100	\$	00100100
E	01000101	e	01100101	%	00100101
F	01000110	f	01100110	&	00100110
G	01000111	g	01100111	'	00100111
H	01001000	h	01101000	(	00101000
I	01001001	i	01101001	)	00101001
J	01001010	j	01101010	*	00101010
K	01001011	k	01101011	+	00101011
L	01001100	l	01101100	,	00101100
M	01001101	m	01101101	-	00101101
N	01001110	n	01101110	.	00101110
O	01001111	o	01101111	/	00101111
P	01010000	p	01110000	0	00110000
Q	01010001	q	01110001	1	00110001
R	01010010	r	01110010	2	00110010
S	01010011	s	01110011	3	00110011
T	01010100	t	01110100	4	00110100
U	01010101	u	01110101	5	00110101
V	01010110	v	01110110	6	00110110
W	01010111	w	01110111	7	00110111
X	01011000	x	01111000	8	00111000
Y	01011001	y	01111001	9	00111001
Z	01011010	z	01111010	?	00111011
				@	01000000

From: **Pari Swift** >

To: **Pari J. Swift** >

Hide

PS

**Example**

Today at 3:31 PM

She thinks she's so 😎 . I just had to 😂.  
What was she 🤔 ? 🙄

Sent from Pari's iPhone



Tue 8/8/2017 3:32 PM

Pari Swift <[REDACTED]@[REDACTED].com>

Example

To  Swift, Pari J.

She thinks she's so 🤔. I just had to 🤔. What was she 🤔? 🙄

Sent from Pari's iPhone

Screenshot of email sent through **Yahoo.com** from iPhone using **iOS 10.3.3**

Screenshot of email as received in **Outlook 2016**

From: **Pari Swift** >

To: **Pari J. Swift** >

Hide



• **Pari Swift** <pjsatohs@yahoo.com>

To: Pari J. Swift

**Example**

Today at 3:31 PM

She thinks she's so 😎. I just had to 😂.  
What was she 🤔? 🙄

She thinks she's so 😎. I just had to 😂. What was she 🤔? 🙄

Sent from Pari's iPhone

Sent from Pari's iPhone

Email sent through Yahoo.com from iPhone using iOS 10.3.3

```
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=utf-8
Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable
From: Pari Swift <pjsatohs@yahoo.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0 (1.0)
Date: Tue, 8 Aug 2017 15:31:33 -0400
Subject: Example
Message-Id: <0BF9A6BF-5B31-4EDA-AD7E-F908A1E739E3@yahoo.com>
To: "Pari J. Swift" <swift.102@osu.edu>
Content-Length: 163

She thinks she's so =F0=9F=98=8E I just had to =F0=9F=98=82 What was she=
=F0=9F=A4=94? =F0=9F=A4=B7=E2=80=8D=E2=99=80=EF=B6=8F=20

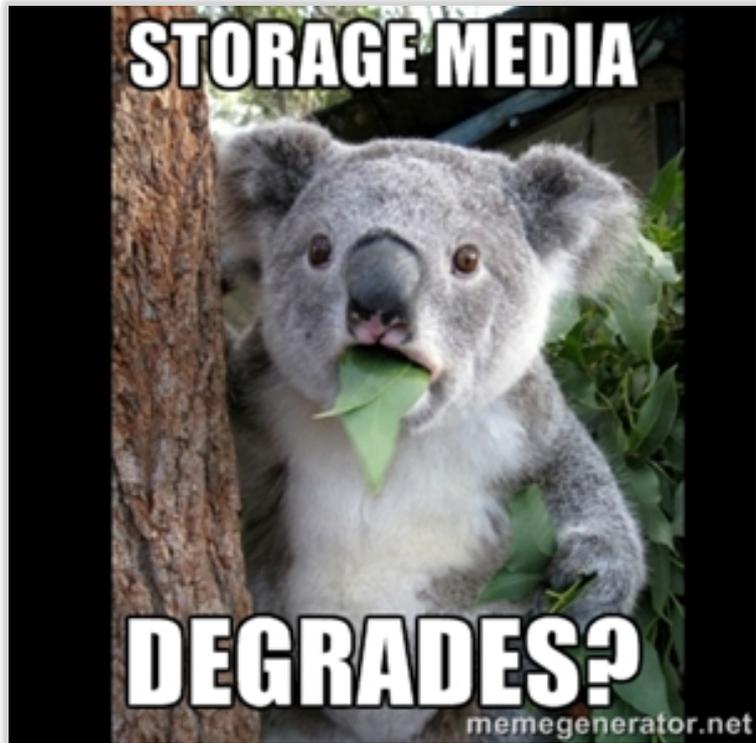
Sent from Pari's iPhone=
```

Email sent through Yahoo.com viewed in Chrome browser

Yahoo email *source code* viewed through:

- Internet Explorer
- Microsoft Edge
- Chrome

# WHAT DOES THIS ALL MEAN?



- Technology will change.
- Media will degrade.
- It's your job to make sure that the record is still **available, readable,** and **authentic** – until it's met retention.

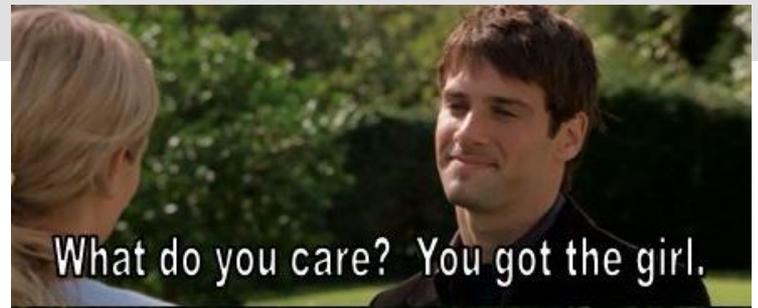
**DIGITAL PRESERVATION IS THE  
CHALLENGE OF MAINTAINING THESE  
CHARACTERISTICS OVER TIME**

# SO, HOW DO I THINK THE STORY WOULD HAVE CHANGED?





Credit: National Trust for Historic Preservation



What do you care? You got the girl.



Abigail: It's true.

Ben: It's true.



# PERMANENT ELECTRONIC RECORDS

Just because the law allows for it

doesn't mean it is



# LIABILITY

- Unstable media
- Easily Alterable
- Degrade over time (might not be visible)

**Yet...**

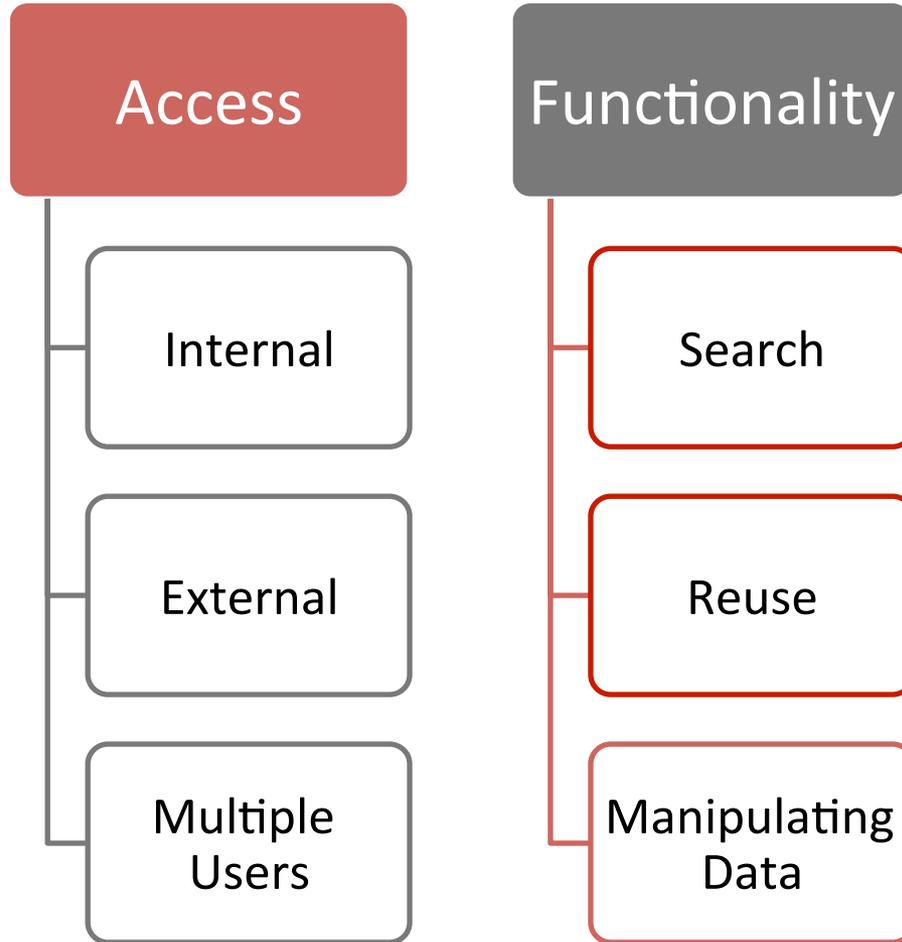
If **retention=permanent**, your office has an obligation to always (forever) be able to:

- Provide access
- Prove reliability and authenticity
- Just having the data isn't enough!

**And if you can't...**



# ELECTRONIC STORAGE IS GREAT FOR:

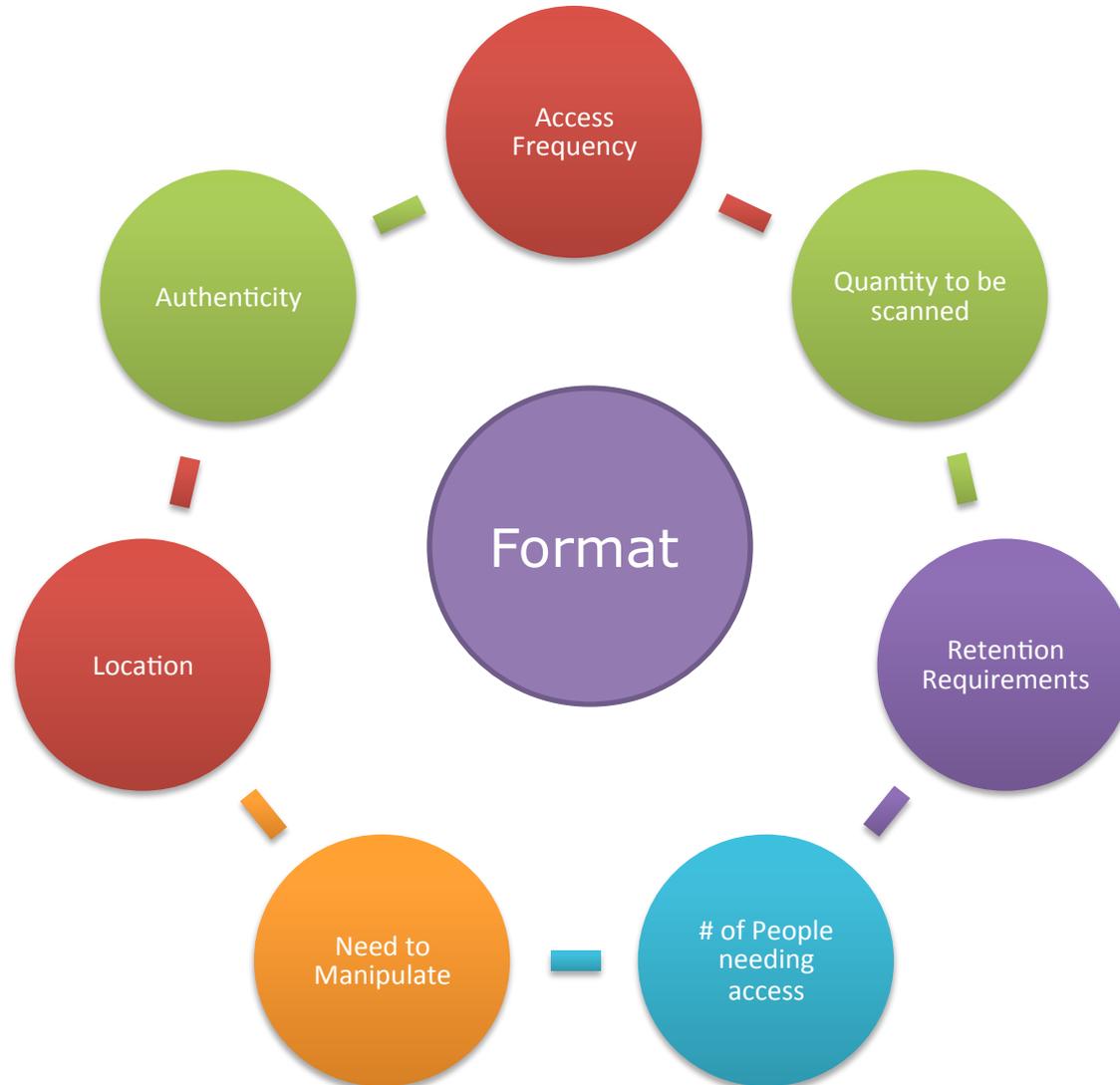




# TO SCAN OR NOT TO SCAN



# DIGITIZATION FACTORS TO CONSIDER



# OHIOERC SCANNING FEASIBILITY TOOL

5. What are the types of records?

6. How many records are you reviewing/accumulating for possible scanning?

- a) 1-10 Boxes
- b) 11-20 Boxes
- c) 21-50 Boxes
- d) 51 or More Boxes

Answer



Answer

Answer



[www.ohioerc.org](http://www.ohioerc.org)

- Guidelines and Tips
- Document Imaging

# OHIOERC SCANNING FEASIBILITY TOOL: BENEFITS

- Workflow or Process Changes
- Cost-Benefit Applications
- Manage storage and server costs
- Answer Summaries
- Final Report for making case

# DIGITIZATION FACTORS TO CONSIDER

Scan Format

Scanning  
Resolution

Verification

Metadata

Indexing

Storage/  
Backup

Migration/  
Media  
Refreshing

Process Audits

# COST JUSTIFICATION

## Invalid Reasons to Scan

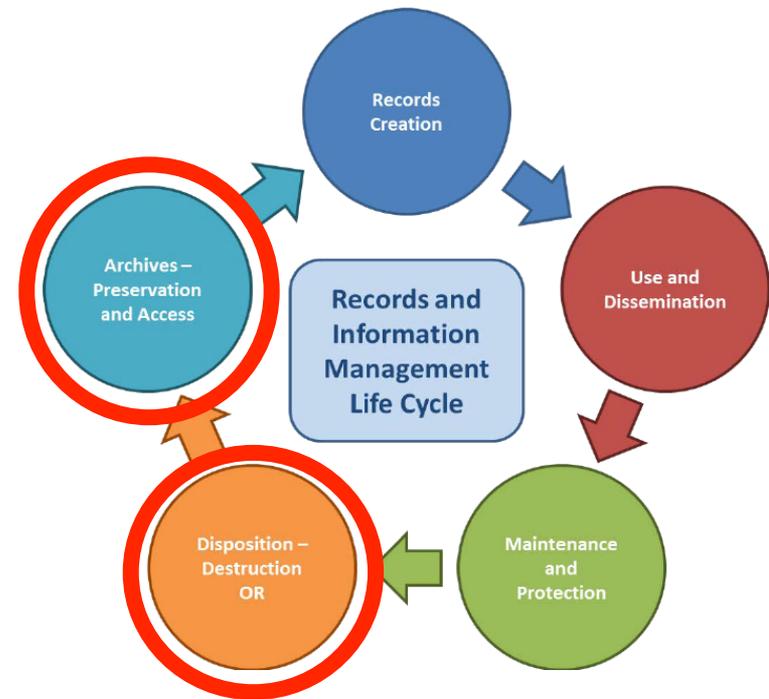
- Physical space problems
- Paperless for the sake of being paperless
- Low Reference documents
- Documents nearing end of retention

## Valid Reasons to Scan

- Enhanced Business Process
- Multiple Points of Access
- Consolidated Recordkeeping
- Integration with Enterprise Systems
- Single Copy Management

# INFORMATION MANAGEMENT LIFECYCLE

- Can it purge?
- Tools for each step
- What preservation standards do the vendors use?
- Missing a step in the technology process could mean losing access to information
- Analog back-up



# PRESERVATION STRATEGY: CONVERT TO HARDCOPY

- Viable solution when:
  - All necessary metadata can be captured
  - No reason for electronic functionalities
  - Use goes down over time
  - Color not as important
- Ideal for text-based records
  - Text files, word processing
  - Imaged paper
  - Photos





# Digital Preservation

# WHEN RECORDS ARE AT RISK

Software is  
obsolete or nearing  
end of life

If it is dependent  
upon specific  
hardware or  
systems

Proprietary or  
specialty formats

When systems are  
being replaced

When the records  
are no longer  
actively used

Any records on  
removable media

# ARCHIVING VS. ARCHIVING VS. BACKUP

## Historical

- Accumulation and preservation of *historical* records
- *Permanent* value
  - Cultural
  - Historical
  - Evidentiary

## IT Archive

- File that no longer changes
- Frees up disk space
- Slower search speed
- Searchability critical
- Retained for compliance
- Might have longer-term retention
- *Original* – removed from initial location and stored elsewhere
- Added metadata
- Specialized software has integrated conversion capabilities

## IT Backup

- Primarily used for operational recoveries
- Speed is important
- *Copy*
- Deleted after replaced

An IT Backup is not a sufficient digital preservation strategy.

# ELECTRONIC RECORDKEEPING SYSTEMS

- What they do:
  - Organize and Categorize
  - Centralize control
  - Improve access
  - Storage
- They are not preservation systems. They don't:
  - Provide for format validation
  - Migration

# DIGITAL PRESERVATION STRATEGY

- Ensures long-term
  - Accessibility
  - Authenticity
  - Integrity
  - Trustworthiness
- For the Purpose of
  - Operational mandates
  - Audits
  - Evidence
  - Research

**Digital Preservation seeks to manage records so that they will remain usable through many successive generations of technological advancement.**

# DIGITAL PRESERVATION STRATEGY

- Long-term records are:
  - Tracked
  - Validated
  - Protected
  - Migrated
- Addresses issues of:
  - Software and hardware obsolescence
  - Security and file integrity
  - Needs of different user groups over time

## Resources:

- CoSA PERTTS Portal  
<https://www.statearchivists.org/pertts/>
- Library of Congress Digital Preservation  
<http://www.digitalpreservation.gov>
- MIT Libraries Digital Preservation Management  
<http://www.dpworkshop.org>

# DIGITAL PRESERVATION STRATEGY

**There are no permanent electronic storage media.**

- Proactive  
catastrophes
  - Media
  - Migration
  - Events
  - No a



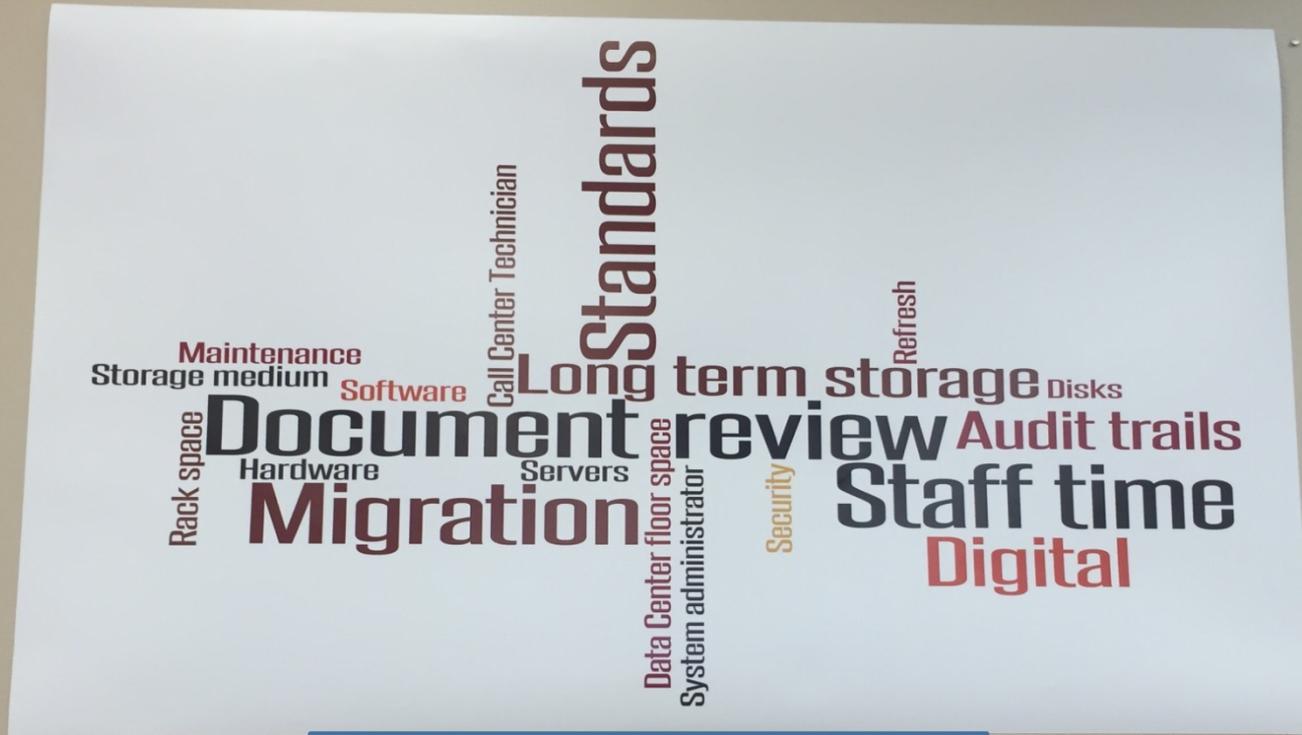
void

gap is too wide  
human attention

- Best time  
strategy is at the time of creation.

vation

# WHAT IN THE WORDLE IS THIS?



# ON-GOING COSTS OF ELECTRONIC RECORDS MANAGEMENT

## Salaries & benefits

- IT
- Records Management
- End users

## Hardware maintenance, upgrades, replacement

- Servers
- Storage devices
- Computers and accessories
- IT infrastructure (networks, etc.)

## Software licenses, maintenance, upgrades

- Server operating system and database
- PC operating system and desktop
- Document/image/records management
- Security
- Backup

## Training

## Consultants

## Migration and storage

# ONE-TIME COSTS OF ELECTRONIC RECORDS MANAGEMENT

## Salaries & benefits

- Software conversion
- Data conversion
- Analyst, design, development
- Testing

## Hardware – new equipment or infrastructure

- Servers
- Storage devices
- Computers and accessories
- IT infrastructure (networks, etc.)

## Software – new

- Server operating system and database
- PC operating system and desktop
- Document/image/records management
- Security
- Backup
- Customization

## Training

- End user
- System administrator
- Change management

## Consultants

# LONG-TERM PRESERVATION STRATEGY: STANDARD DIGITAL FORMATS

- Formats expected not to change (or change slowly)
- Widely supported and used
  - (otherwise the format will cease to exist)
- Easily Transferable
  - Compatible with other applications
  - Forward/Backward compatible
  - Version control
- Non-proprietary/Open/Published standard
  - (other companies can use the standard)

## Standards

- ANSI
- ISO
- Industry

“...digital information lasts forever—or five years, whichever comes first.”

Jeff Rothenberg  
*Ensuring the Longevity of  
Digital Information*

# WHO SHOULD BE AT THE TABLE?



# CONCLUSION

- We can't afford to say we'll leave our history to the next office-holder.
- We need to act at the beginning of the information lifecycle to ensure that historical information survives.
- We need to:
  - Inform vendors of our concerns
  - Have the right people in the team during selection
    - Someone representing archives and preservation
    - Someone representing records management
  - And ask questions about the long-term preservation of records created by, stored on, or read by their products
  - Use the guidance that is available



# EXISTING OHIOERC GUIDANCE

- Electronic Records Management
- Legal Obligations
- RIM Role in E-Discovery
- Cloud Computing
- Databases as Public Record
- Digital Document Imaging
- Managing Email
- Hybrid Microfilming
- Social Media
- **Scanning Feasibility**
- Tip Sheets

[www.ohioerc.org](http://www.ohioerc.org)

# TYPES OF PRESERVATION TOOLS

- What file formats do you have?
  - DROID
    - Run against directories to determine what file formats you have
    - Identifies everything that you have by format
  - File Information Tool Set (FITS)
    - Identifies formats
    - Validates files
    - Extracts technical and embedded metadata
- Open Formats
  - Open Office
    - LibreOffice
    - Apache Open Office
  - Text Reader
    - NotePad++
  - VLC Media Player
- Data Integrity
  - Checksums
    - Creates a digital footprint
    - When run subsequent times, tells you if there are changes
      - But not what was changed
      - And not if the change was bit-rot or intentional
    - Tools
      - Bagger
      - ExactFile
      - Fixity
- Preservation repository software
  - Archivematica/archivesDIRECT
  - Dspace
  - Islandora/Fedora
  - Preservica
  - DSPS
  - AXAEM
  - To name a few

# DIGITAL PRESERVATION GUIDANCE AND TOOLS

- National Archives and Records Administration
  - \*NEW Universal Electronic Records Management Requirements
  - Format Recommendations
  - Electronic Records Archives
  - Electronic Records Management Automation
  - Federal Requirements for Including Recordkeeping in Agency Electronic Information Systems
  - Toolkit for Managing Electronic Records
  - Records Management Language for Contracts
- Library of Congress
  - Sustainability Factors for Digital Formats
  - Sustainability of Digital Formats
- National Digital Stewardship Alliance
  - Levels of Digital Preservation
- National Archives of the UK
  - DROID File Profiling Tool
  - PRONOM Technical Registry
- Council of State Archivists
  - PERTTS Portal (Program for Electronic Records Training, Tools and Standards)
  - State Electronic Records Initiative (SERI)
- ARMA International
  - Updated Guide to Commonly Used U.S. Nations and International Records Management Standards and Best Practices. ([www.armaedfoundation.org](http://www.armaedfoundation.org))
- State Guidelines
  - North Carolina
  - Texas
  - Kentucky
  - Missouri

**PARI J. SWIFT**  
**UNIVERSITY RECORDS MANAGER**  
**THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY**  
**[SWIFT.102@OSU.EDU](mailto:SWIFT.102@OSU.EDU)**  
**614-292-4092**