

DAVID project bimonthly Newsletter, No. 16. February 2003

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INTERPARES2 WORKSHOP IN VANCOUVER.

The InterPares2 project is really taking off. At the conference in Vancouver, DAVID was represented by Hannelore Dekeyser. She participated in the discussions on the meaning of the notions of authenticity, reliability and accuracy in this context. Afterwards, she followed the proceedings of the workgroup 'Policy' on the impact of judicial, technical and socio-economic policy options in the field of archiving. Thanks to the judicial and technical expertise the DAVID-project gathered through the years, it will be able to deliver a meaningful contribution to this subject. The parameters of the research have been set on previous conferences: the big question is how to preserve interactive, dynamical and experience orientated databases in an authentic form. Before tackling this question, the research team is trying to determine the exact nature of such a database and, above all, is this a record? How is it possible to determine the authenticity of these databases?

InterPARES2 examines these questions not just from a governmental point of view, but also from scientific and artistic perspective. The research team doesn't only consist of renowned experts from the archival world, artistic, scientific and judicial representatives are also included. During the workshop in Vancouver, practical arrangements were made concerning the concrete procedures and an allocation of functions was drawn up between the participants. Several studies of literature are being performed and various cases are being researched.

INTERPARES HOSTING IN ANTWERP

DAVID will host the international meeting of the InterPARES2 project, which will take place from the 23th till the 25th of June. During this teammeeting, the presidents of the different workgroups debate on the progress that has been made.

DAVID CONFERENCE AND WORKSHOP

DAVID, in cooperation with the VVBAD (Flemish society for libraries, archives and documentationcentra's) and UFSIA (University Antwerp), organises a workshop for Flemish and Dutch archivists. This workshop will be held in Antwerp. Starting from the DAVID cases, best practices and guidelines for electronic record-keeping will be explained. You will find the full program in our next newsletter. Please contact the VVBAD for more information at studiedagen@vvsbad.be

The DAVID conference, "E-archiving for posterity. Electronic record-keeping and long-term preservation of digital data." will be held the 26th of June in Louvain. Specialists from the IT-sector, and the judicial- and archival world are brought together. The purpose of this conference is to share insights and research from different disciplines, and to stimulate a fruitful discussion about the mutual goal of electronic archiving for posterity.

GUIDELINES & BEST PRACTICES, NR. 2, DURABLE CD'S.

The guideline for making good archival CD's is expanded with some practical pointers and application examples of the commonly used CD-writingprogram Nero Burning Rom. The screenshots show how Nero can be adjusted so that the standards ISO-9660 and ISO-10149, the writing method 'disk-at-once' and the primary volume descriptor are being filled out.

PILOTE PROJECT E-MAIL ARCHIVING

The pilote project e-mail archiving at the department Personell Management of the city of Antwerp will be rounded up at the end of March and evaluated. In the mean time, preparations were made for a further roll-out.

The conversion program eX-Mail1.0 was customised for the Antwerp city administration for the purpose of XML archiving of e-mails which are kept as *.msg files in an arbitrary folder structure. This stand-alone tool was installed on the fileserver where the *.msg files are kept. Before burning the electronic records onto a CD, a batchoperation converts the *.msg files one by one to XML.

Several scripts were added to the e-mailform to ensure that the filenames of the attachments are automatically filled out when inserting an attachment or opening the received e-mail. Because of this it is no longer necessary for the e-mail user to fill out manually the filenames of the attachments. This adjusted form will become available soon on the DAVID-website.

OPENING OF THE 'BAR'

The BAR (conscious archiving and registering)-application or the context inventory for electronic information systems of the city of Antwerp, went into production. The BAR plays an important role in the record-keeping procedure for integrated and dynamic information systems. These information systems are described (identified and localized) in the BAR and the necessary contextual data is kept. These contextual data are related, among others, to the creation, the management and the technical characteristics. These data is filled out by the IT-staff, the users and the archivist.

The BAR is an SGL-database with a dynamical datamodel: the datamodel is based on the DAVID-datamodel for the context inventory (view DAVID-contribution: 'Archives under control?') but can be elaborated at any time. The database is accessible for users from an internetinterface. The users can add or request data. An exportmodule has been linked to the database so contextual data can be

archived together with the electronic records. At the moment the BAR is only used for archival purposes, but the intent is to enlarge the BAR in the long run to a (knowledge) management system, which can also be used for application responsibilities and for the helpdesk.