

DAVID project bimonthly Newsletter, No. 21, December 2004

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DAVID-MANUEL

The long awaited DAVID-manual will be available on January 15th 2004. Unfortunately, it will only be available in Dutch.

However, this manual is not the end. The City Archives Antwerp and ICRI will make sure that the content of the manual and website is kept up to date. www.antwerpen.be/david will stay online.

CONTINUATION OF THE DAVID-WEBSITE AND NEWSLETTER

After four years, the DAVID-project will be terminated in its current shape. This extraordinary research project will come to a stop with the publication of the manual on digital archiving.

However, the City Archives of Antwerp commits itself to keeping the DAVID-site online. Visiting our website will still be worth the effort. All the DAVID publications and tools will stay available.

You will be kept informed through the newsletter, although it will be sent less frequently. It's still possible to register for this newsletter through the DAVID-website.

Please, keep mailing us your comments and questions at david@stad.antwerpen.be

AGENDA

The following articles will be published in 2004.

F. BOUDREZ, H. DEKEYSER, *Archiving e-mails (2e edition)*, Antwerpen-Leuven, 2003

H. DEKEYSER, *Les conditions d'accès et d'utilisation vis-à-vis des droits des individus concernés*. 3ième journée des archives. Les archives électroniques: un défi pour l'avenir?, Louvain-la-Neuve, Service des Archives -UCL, 2003

F. BOUDREZ en C. VAN CAMP, *Preservation of e-mails as XML-documents* 3ième journée des archives. Les archives électroniques: un défi pour l'avenir?, Louvain-la-Neuve, Service des Archives - UCL, 2003.

UNESCO-CHARTER

The UNESCO adopted the "Charter on the preservation of the Digital Heritage" at the 32nd session of the General Conference of UNESCO on October 17th, 2003.

The Charter neatly outlines all the key issues that digital archiving raises. Not only technological hurdles are mentioned, amongst which the rapid obsolescence of the hardware and software involved and the need to safeguard the authenticity of digital heritage. Attention is also given to legal obstacles hindering preservation of and access to digital heritage. The charter states that access to digital materials, especially those in the public domain, should be free of unreasonable restrictions. A fair balance between the legitimate rights of creators and other rights holders and the interests of the public to access digital heritage materials must be struck. At the same time, sensitive and personal information should be protected from any form of intrusion.

The Unesco goes on to define certain roles and responsibilities of different actors in society. Governments should designate an agency to coordinate the necessary efforts. Private sector partners, like content providers and software developers should work together with museums, archives and libraries to ensure the preservation of digital materials. Expertise about preservation should be shared amongst all interested parties and specialised training programs must be developed.

The recommendations the charter puts forward are not legally binding, but reflect certain goals the members states wish to achieve. Inhowfar these intentions will become reality, remains to be seen.

<http://www.unesco.org/webworld/or> directly

http://portal.unesco.org/ci/ev.php?URL_ID=13367&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201&reload=1071652539&PHPSESSID=835226476e253e7149d8f5a52c3ce306