Lessons Learned Thus Far Regarding the Acquisition of State Government Information

Jennifer Ricker
Digital State Documents Librarian
State Library of North Carolina
What Are We Trying To Do?

- Comply with legislative mandates in NC
  - North Carolina General Statute 125 charges the State Library as the “official, complete, and permanent depository for all publications.” All publications, regardless of format, should be made generally available for circulation to libraries and to all citizens of the State under rules and regulations fixed by the State Librarian.
  - North Carolina General Statutes 121 and 132 require that “all documents, papers, letters, maps, books, photographs, films, sound recordings, magnetic or other tapes, electronic data processing records, artifacts, or other documentary material, regardless of physical form or characteristic, made or received pursuant to law or ordinance in connection with the transaction of public business by any agency of North Carolina government or its subdivisions” are considered public records and may not be disposed of, erased, or destroyed without specific guidance from DCR.

- Convert from paper process to paper plus digital process
Issues To Consider With Respect to Digital Content

- What’s out there?
- Where is it?
- How long will it be there?
- How are updates made?
- What file format is it in?
- How will it be acquired/accessioned?
Web Harvesting: Activities To Date

- Capturing E-Publications (CEP)
  - Discontinued crawls
- Archive-It
  - Crawl boards & commissions annually
  - Crawl all other in-scope content quarterly
- Web Archives Workbench
  - No set crawl schedule yet
Web Harvesting: Lessons Learned

- Server overload
- Robots.txt exclusions
- Web design practices
- RELATIONSHIPS!
  - Give notice and explain reason for crawl
  - Open lines of communication
Electronic Submission: Activities To Date

- CDs
- Digital Dropbox
- FormRouter.NET
- E-mail
- Electronic Document and Records Management Systems
Electronic Submission
Lessons Learned and Expectations

- 100% about relationships
  - Use print contacts
  - Use contacts established via harvesting activities
- Must be something in it for them
- Must not take much effort on their part
Wrap Up

Questions?
Comments?
Other Ideas?