

Preserving State Government Digital Information California Partners Meeting



Minnesota Historical Society

California Meeting Synopsis

Bob Horton defined the meeting as the information-gathering portion of a yearlong process to frame a work plan with deliverables for the NDIIPP grant project. He indicated that NDIIPP staff would share reports as we visit other states and identify areas of mutual concern that can be addressed within the scope of the grant.

Key initiatives identified by California partners

Storage / Preservation / Authentication

Diane Boyer-Vine, Daniel Zavoiu, Patricia Cruse

- Consider the “significant properties” that must be included for acceptable preservation of legislative information.
- Consider how the legal status of the material may affect preservation standards
- Define standards that will ensure electronic records are “born archival”
- MHS will research and post a white paper on authentication on our project website

Audiences / Search / Accessibility

Mendora Servin, Kris Ogilvie

Legislative Information System (LIS) is developing internal research capabilities, and a standard web site portal – a multi-year initiative, initially for 5 web sites. This includes legislative web sites that have bills and other legislative documents. The architecture and bill drafting are done. The goals are:

- 1) to standardize sites and content
- 2) to add search capabilities using an IDOL search engine called Vignette
 - MHS staff will work with Mendora to look at access and IDOL search functionality.
 - Develop a basic XML schema that can be incorporated into content as it is created as a part of normal business processes, leveraging private sector if possible, such as West, Google, and StateNet.

Web Harvesting

Patricia Cruse, Stephen Abrams

- MHS would work closely with California Digital Library (CDL) on web harvesting initiatives, possibly as a beta-tester for the Heritrix crawler project
- CA State Library and CA State Archive also want to harvest Government websites

NCSL partnership / Outreach / Education

All partners

- Determine what types of information is common to all or most legislative systems.
- Formulate standards or guidelines based upon these.
- Work with the National Council of State Legislatures to promote and provide education about them.