Web Archiving Australia’s Sunshine State: from vision to reality

Maxine Fisher
Specialist Librarian & PANDORA Archive Curator
State Library of Queensland, Australia

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PANDORA web archive

• Leadership & collaboration

• PANDAS (PANDORA Digital Archiving System)

• How we work together
Queensland: the Sunshine State

- Australia’s 2\textsuperscript{nd} largest state; 3\textsuperscript{rd} most populated
- Diverse population
- 7000 km coastline + 1,955 islands
- Range of landscapes: coastal to outback
- World Heritage areas including: Fraser Island, wet tropics and rainforest, Riversleigh fossils, Great Barrier Reef
State Library of Queensland

• Collects, preserves, and provides access to resources documenting our state’s history, society, and culture, and reflecting the Queensland experience

• Joined PANDORA in 2002

• Web archiving has become a vital aspect of contemporary collecting
The Challenge of the ‘90s

• Proliferation of web publishing

• Legislative mandate

• Absence of legal deposit covering digital resources

• *How to ensure long-term access to significant information in digital form*
Leadership

“the capacity to translate vision into reality” -- Warren Bennis

- The nation’s digital heritage was at risk
- Conceived a national model
- Few tools, established systems or models to manage web archiving workflows
- Designed and built PANDAS web-based management system
PANDORA partners
State Library of Queensland

• Joined PANDORA in 2002

• Collaboration and leadership

• Future policy directions:  
  • web marginal to web-centred  
  • redefinition
State Library of Queensland

- Importance of web archiving
- Queensland is unique
- Our contributions sit within the national context
- Staff resources
- Build expertise and knowledge of collection
- Recognition that task is different
“The point of cooperative agreements will be not only to ensure that as many Australian online publications as possible are preserved, but also to avoid any unnecessary duplication of archiving and preservation effort.” – National Library of Australia

Collecting interests sometimes overlap

• Search PANDAS to avoid duplication

• System may alert for duplicates titles

• All PANDORA contributions appears in the one archive
Title transfers

• If better fits selection criteria of another agency

• Register title and transfer

• Can add notes

• Recipient receives email alert
Collaborative collecting examples

- Federal elections
- ANZAC WWI Centenary
- G20 (2014, Brisbane)
- Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games
- Natural disasters
Summer of Sorrow (Dec 2010 – Feb 2011)

• Season of severe, catastrophic and unprecedented weather events: ‘inland tsunami’, widespread devastating flooding, Tropical Cyclone Yasi

• Ground-breaking use of social media for crisis communication, to mobilise volunteers

• Disaster relief efforts launched online
Great Barrier Reef

• Runs for 2,300 kms; 348,700 km²

• UNESCO World Heritage listed

“...superlative natural beauty above and below the water, and provides some of the most spectacular scenery on earth. It is one of a few living structures visible from space...”

• Govt: Overlapping jurisdictional responsibilities

• tourism, conservation and protest groups, researchers etc.
Challenges

• Keeping track of work (earlier version)

• Shared working area

• Timeframes for upgrades

Benefits

• Concentrate on selecting and archiving Queensland content

• Maintain own selection guidelines

• Can influence shape of archive e.g. suggest new subjects, collections
Part of a national collaboration and an international community saving the web
Questions?

maxine.fisher@slq.qld.gov.au

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References, sources, image credits

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