

Spartan Archive: A Program in Transition

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Abstract: Michigan State University Archives is currently transitioning from an analog-only collection to a format-neutral, service-oriented repository. This presentation will outline the first year of development in the NHPRC funded collaborative electronic records project “Spartan Archive” and discuss the evolving role of the University Archives in the larger university environment. The University Archives is strengthening its records management role on campus through active involvement in the new Enterprise Business Systems, the university’s new finance, human resources, and research administration systems. Archives staff implemented Archivists’ Toolkit and updated collection management workflows. Staff are beta-testing the NHPRC-funded Records Authority software tool, developed by the University of Denver to administer records management programs. And, lastly, the University Archives is helping shape the development of federated digital repositories for learning content, digital humanities and research data.

About the author:

Cynthia Ghering is director of the University Archives and Historical Collections at Michigan State University. Prior to MS, Cynthia was the Assistant Director of Curatorial and Collections Services at the Ohio Historical Society. In 2008, Cynthia helped organize an electronic records forum: *Managing University Digital Assets and Resources: Collaborative Approaches and Persistent Challenges* for the Big Ten universities. Cynthia co-authored an EDUCES research bulletin, *Electronic Records Management: Today’s High Stakes*, based on the conference. In 2009, the University Archives was awarded an NHPRC grant to build a prototype electronic records archive for records created by MSU’s Registrar’s Office. In 2009-10 Cynthia led a year-long, university-wide project to identify current digital asset management efforts, analyze existing repositories on campus and recommend future steps. Based on this work, Cynthia co-authored *Digital Curation Planning at Michigan State University* for Library Resources & Technical Services. Cynthia received a BA from Western Michigan University and MS in Information from the University of Michigan in 1999.