

## Changes to come

[Work Halting on Records Management Functions Thesaurus](#)  
January 23, 2015

## Upcoming Events

Our leader, Beth Cron, discusses what will be happening in [the New Year for the RMRT](#)

## Fascinating Facts

[WordPress.com prepared a 2014 annual report on our blog, The Schedule.](#)

## What to Expect in ....

- [Records Management](#)
- [Archival appraisal](#)
- [Web archiving with records management](#)

## *RMRT Hangouts: ePADD for Email Archives*

The project team from ePADD talked about their open source and freely downloadable software that harnesses machine learning, including natural language processing and named entity recognition, to support the appraisal, processing, discovery, and delivery of email archives.

[Click here to Watch the recording at -->](#)

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## *Back to the Basics in Researching*

Lorette Weldon, the Records Manager newsletter editor, discusses her experiences trying to help researchers (or library patrons) find answers to their questions. The researchers would ask where they could find books on specific subjects. She would show them how to find possible sources that could answer their questions. Sometimes they would come back with a narrowed subject. Then, together, they would look at other sources that could answer their more focused questions. The researchers would take the sources presented to them and take the information from those sources as the only answers that they could find. Some researchers would keep asking questions which was also developing their skills on how to be more effective in reading comprehension. Unfortunately, the researchers that left with what they had, without further focusing on their subjects, would come back with questions for other subjects and keep asking her for the sources with the answers that they needed. They did not learn from the first reference interview how to conduct basic research. She states 6 steps that have helped her clients build upon their research skills and have also helped her build a stronger relationship between the researcher and the librarian or records manager helping them.

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## *Institutional Silences and the Digital Dark Age*

Eira Tansey, RMRT Steering Committee member, strikes, in her post, at the heart of records management issues pertaining to the erasure of archival labor from public discourse, and re-asserting the value of professional archival labor for a problem that routinely vexes the general public (in this case, degradation of digital cultural heritage).

Tansey urges to break the archival silences because the perspectives of people who are required by their jobs to dedicate the majority of their time to preservation of institutional records of the parent organization's official business (be it corporate, government, university, etc) are often missing.

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## *Records Managers: Not Making This Stuff Up, Part the Billionth*

Brad Houston, Past RMRT Chair, posted his views on the Office of the Inspector General releasing its report on Hillary Clinton's emails. He states that "The report itself is [here](#) (Warning: major TL;DR alert). It reads like a litany of "everything that can go wrong with a digital records management program"—poor communication, lack of executive buy-in, technology not up to the job of meeting requirements— and my plan is to break down the whole thing at some point to take a closer look at what happened from a purely records management standpoint. But in light of [Eira's excellent post on institutional silences and the digital dark ages](#), I wanted to quickly hit one paragraph that jumped out at me...

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### We're on the Web!

See us at:

Website:

<http://www2.archivists.org/groups/records-management-roundtable>

RMRT Blog:

<http://saarmrt.wordpress.com/>

Google Hangout:

<https://plus.google.com/u/0/118358692462079747504/posts>

### Records Management Roundtable Steering Committee Members

**Chair:** Bethany Cron  
**Past Chair:** Brad Houston

Christie Peterson  
Eira Tansey  
Courtney Bailey  
Hillary Gatlin  
Nicholas Pavlik  
Alex Toner  
Helen Wong Smith

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