



InterPARES 3 Project

International Research on Permanent Authentic Records in Electronic Systems

TEAM Mexico

A Strategy for Training on Digital Records Preservation in Mexico

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TEAM Mexico

Introduction

This paper analyzes the efforts of TEAM Mexico to design and implement a strategy for the development of the human resources infrastructure needed to deal with digital records training and education issues in Mexico.



Current Situation

Formal education on digital records and archives in Mexico

- **3 career tracks:**
 1. Archival sciences (National School of Library and Archival Sciences in Mexico City)
 2. Documentary information sciences (School of Humanities, University of the State of Mexico)
 3. Archival sciences (School of Information Sciences, University of San Luis Potosí)
- **Other options:**
 - Library and Information Sciences technician diplomas



Curricula by Institution

<p>National School of Library and Archival Sciences (<i>Bachelor, in Archival Sciences</i>)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Computing practical tools • Systems analysis and design • Information storage and retrieval • Archives preservation and restoration • Networks within the information environment • Systems theory • Archives automation seminar
<p>Autonomous University of the State of Mexico (<i>Bachelor in Information Sciences and Documentation</i>)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Systems general theory • Document preservation • Workshop of automation of documentary collections 1 • Workshop of automation of documentary collections 2
<p>University of Guadalajara (<i>Bachelor in Information Sciences</i>)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information systems design • Introduction to telematic networks • New information technologies • Databases • Telematic network • Information technology
<p>Autonomous University of San Luis Potosí (<i>Bachelor in Archival Sciences</i>)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Automation projects • Archival resources management • Information and communication technologies • Technologies management and implementation • Archives preservation
<p>Autonomous University of Chihuahua (<i>Bachelor in Info. Sciences</i>)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Archives and records • Information technology • Preservation and conservation of archives and records • Info. systems design • Info. sciences software evaluation



Current Situation (cont.)

- Studies of records and archives are limited to traditional contexts
- IT and Computer Science courses are offered in lieu of archival courses on digital records and their preservation
- Preservation courses focus on traditional media



Current Situation (cont.)

- No structured program for in-house training or continuing education workshops
- Management of digital records falls under the control of IT professionals
- Lack of proper policies, procedures and regulations for creation, maintenance and preservation of digital records



Current Situation (cont.)

Federal Law of Archives (pending)

- Directs National General Archive to establish guidelines for use of creation and preservation systems for traditional and digital records

Federal Law for Transparency and Access to Governmental Information

- Specifies that records (including digital records) and archives must be properly organized



The Strategy

Phase 1: Acquire knowledge of digital records and preservation training and education from others

- For in-house training programs, using materials developed by:
 - InterPARES
 - ICA
 - ERA-NARA
 - IRMT
 - SAA
 - UK National Archives
 - Catalonia Archivists Society



The Strategy (cont.)

Phase 1: Acquire knowledge of digital records and preservation training and education from others (cont.)

- For educational curricula, using materials developed by:
 - UBC
 - University of Barcelona
 - University of Michigan
 - Glasgow University
 - Carlos III of Madrid University
 - Salamanca University
 - La Salle University of Colombia



The Strategy (cont.)

Phase 2: Develop course content

- General to specific
- Use of IP2 materials and existing standards and best practices (ICA, ISO, OAIS, MoReq2)
- Train the trainers to create a “critical mass” of instructors



Target Audiences

In-house training programs and continuing education workshops

1. **Training for those already creating, maintaining or preserving digital records:**
 - Archivists, librarians and other professionals responsible for preservation of trusted records
 - Computing and IT professionals working around archives
 - Other professionals with RM and archives knowledge
 - Mixed group of the above



Target Audiences (cont.)

In-house training programs and continuing education workshops (cont.)

2. Training for auditing professionals:

- Requires general and specific knowledge to help audit records and archives systems

3. Training for specific needs:

- Such as the implementation of a recordkeeping or a preservation system



“Marketing” Strategy

- Focus on leveraging ties to the University Center for Library Sciences Research (CUIB) at the National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM)
- Center is co-responsible for Master’s and PhD programs in Library and Info. Sciences
- TEAM Director is member of Tutorial Advisory Committee for UNAM Graduate Library Sciences Studies



“Marketing” Strategy (cont.)

CUIB well position to act as “headquarters”

- Has a long tradition of offering continuing education courses and workshops
- Can easily attract students to the new courses
- Is now willing to expand its curriculum to offer archival courses and workshops
- Often acts as a consultant to governmental and private sector institutions for information management problems



Specific Goals

Formal education

- **Master's level:**
 - Initially, 1 archives course on long-term digital preservation
 - Eventually, a series of other courses leading to a specialization
- **Bachelor's level:**
 - Initially, 1 archives course on long-term digital preservation for library sciences students
 - Eventually, a set of courses for the National School of Library and Archival Sciences in Mexico City



Specific Goals (cont.)

Continuing education

- General workshop to enhance awareness of long-term digital preservation
- Other more specific workshops at different levels offered through CUIB (10-40 hrs)
- Create a “critical mass” of professionals proficient in digital preservation subjects
- Eventually, offer diploma courses (150-200 hrs)



Specific Goals (cont.)

In-house training programs

- “Recycle” course content and programs from continuing education workshops
- Design a few “typical” courses designed to enable staff of small/medium-size organization to plan and carry out proper digital preservation
- “Special” courses to be designed as requested by specific organizations with specific requirements



Time Schedule

2009

- Develop and deliver first courses and workshops for general awareness and knowledge of digital records and their preservation
- Develop and deliver first courses and workshops for specific topics
- Develop 1 optional course for Master's and Bachelor's levels
- Design layout of subjects for diploma course



Time Schedule (cont.)

2010

- Introduce optional course at Master's and Bachelor's levels
- Develop complete set of courses/workshops for specific topics
- Promote above course set to archival science schools
- Begin to fill content for diploma course and deliver it
- Develop layout of subjects leading to specializations at Master's and Bachelor's levels



Time Schedule (cont.)

2011

- Develop complete set of courses/workshops for specific topics
- Work with different schools to implant courses and programs into their curricula
- Design and deliver complete set of specific in-house training programs



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