



NATIONAL DIGITAL INFORMATION INFRASTRUCTURE AND PRESERVATION PROGRAM

Web-Based Survey Research Consent Letter

Title of Study: Web at Risk: A Distributed Approach to Preserving our Nation's Political Cultural Heritage - Content Identification, Selection, and Acquisition (CISA) Path

Dear Survey Respondent:

The Web-at-Risk project is one of eight digital preservation projects funded in 2004 by the Library of Congress. The Web-at-Risk project is a 3-year collaborative effort of the California Digital Library, the University of North Texas, and New York University. The project will develop a Web Archiving Service that enables curators to build collections of web-published materials. As you may be aware, the content will be collected largely from US federal and state government agencies, but will also include political policy documents, campaign literature, and information surrounding political movements.

The Content Identification, Selection, and Acquisition (CISA) path of the project will produce tools and guidelines to assist curators and other information professionals in the development of web archives. We need your input to identify (a) your needs and concerns and the needs of your end users and (b) the functional requirements for the web crawler and associated tools being developed as part of this project.

It is expected that the needs and issues identified as a result of this survey will inform guidelines for a web archiving service. Implementation of these guidelines by curators will help ensure that the collections built as a part of this project address curator and end user needs. It is also quite likely that curators completing the survey will identify needs, issues, requirements, or activities that might inform their local plans or strategies for developing web archives.

Survey data will be accessible only to project researchers and analysts. While lists of participants may be published to acknowledge individual contributions to the project or for documentation of the breadth of contributions to the research, no public or published analysis or reports will identify individual respondents in such a way that responses can be attributed to them.

This research study has been reviewed and approved by the UNT Institutional Review Board (IRB). The UNT IRB can be contacted at (940) 565-3940 or sbourns@unt.edu with any questions regarding the rights of research subjects.

Your participation in this study is completely voluntary. If you have any questions about this study, please contact Kathleen R. Murray, Ph.D., CISA Path Assessment Analyst, by sending email to: krmurray@unt.edu.

Thank you very much for your help with this study.

Kathleen R. Murray, Ph.D.
Assessment Analyst, Web-at-Risk Project
Postdoctoral Research Associate
University of North Texas