



Digital Records Forensics: The Project

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Digital Records Forensics Project

Digital *Records* Forensics

- Archival concepts of authenticity and reliability can be brought to bear on admissibility and weight (relevance) of *evidence* respectively
- Archival theory places *records* in context
- Diplomatic theory examines *records* as individual items

Digital Records Forensics Project

Digital Records Forensics Project*

a collaboration between:

- The UBC School of Library, Archival & Information Studies
- The Faculty of Law, and
- the Computer Forensics Division of the Vancouver Police Department

*Funded by SSHRC

Digital Records Forensics Project

Objectives

- to develop concepts and methods that will allow the records management, archival, legal, judicial, law enforcement and digital forensics professions to recognize records among all digital data objects produced by complex digital technologies once they have been removed from the original system
- to develop concepts and methods to determine the reliability, accuracy and authenticity of records no longer in the original digital environment

Objectives cont.

- to identify, develop and organize the content of a new science and discipline called “Digital Records Forensics”
- to develop the intellectual components of a new program of education for Digital Records Forensics experts.

Methodology

- Literature review
- Digital Records Forensics Activity Model
- Case Law Database
- Terminology Database
- Interviews and Questionnaires
- Ethnographic study with the Vancouver Police Department

<http://www.digitalrecordsforensics.org/>

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Bibliographic Database

- Provides an overview of archival, records management, law and digital forensic literature
- Searchable by discipline, keyword, author, etc.
- Provides brief annotations on each citation, highlighting relevant issues

Case Law Database

- Authentication
- Discovery and Disclosure
- Forensic Experts
- Preservation Orders
- Privacy
- Probative Value
- Spoliation
- Unintelligible Evidence

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Terminology Database

- **Purpose:** To support multi-disciplinary communication
- **Scope:** terms are compiled from articles, dictionaries & glossaries from various fields
- **Structure:** lists the term, the part of speech, provides a definition, lists the discipline, and provides the source of the definition.

Interview Questions

- Divided into sections on:
 - Identification
 - Collection
 - Examination
 - Presentation
 - Management and Preservation

Conclusion

- Interviews provide context of how concepts, methods, process and terminology are applied and understood
- Determines how each discipline addresses digital evidence
- Identifies key skills required for Digital Records Forensics Experts



Thank you!

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