

Researchers, practitioners and the archived web

A two-day conference, University of London, United Kingdom, 14–15 June 2017

The second biennial RESAW (Research Infrastructure for the Study of Archived Web Materials) conference.

Organised by the School of Advanced Study, University of London, the British Library, The National Archives of the UK, the Oxford Internet Institute, Aarhus University, L'Institut des sciences de la communication (CNRS, Paris-Sorbonne, UPMC), L3S Research Center - Leibniz University Hannover, the Royal Library, Denmark, the Bibliothèque nationale de France, L'Institut national de l'audiovisuel and Aix-Marseille University

Call for contributions

Work to archive the web began in 1996, with the ground-breaking initiative of the Internet Archive. Other organisations and institutions have followed, from national and state libraries and archives to museums and NGOs. Even individual researchers and research teams are beginning to create archives for personal use, as new tools make web archiving possible from a desktop PC. We now have access to two decades of web archives, collected in different ways and at different times, constituting an invaluable resource for the study of the late 20th and early 21st centuries.

Researchers are still just beginning to explore the potential of these vast archives, and to develop the theoretical and methodological frameworks within which to study them, but recognition of that potential is becoming ever more widespread. This conference seeks to explore the value of web archives for scholarly use, to highlight innovative research, to investigate the challenges and benefits of working with the archived web, to identify opportunities for incorporating web archives in learning and teaching, and to discuss and inform archival provision in all senses.

In conjunction with the overall topic of web archives, general areas of interest include, but are not limited to:

- the history(ies) of the web
- the changing structure of the web
- material culture and display in a digital context
- political and literary reputation online
- public engagement online
- patterns of culture online
- networks of social communication
- the evolution of language on the web
- the history of institutions and organisations online
- the history of social and political movements on the web
- the relationship between image, sound and text online
- the web as a forum for commemoration
- health and education online
- using web archives in the classroom
- national/international boundaries online
- approaches to web archiving

- research methods for studying the archived web
- providing access to the archived web

Submissions

Submissions are welcomed from all sectors and disciplines, and we would particularly encourage postgraduate students and early career researchers to apply.

- Short papers - individual papers of 15 minutes' length (short abstract, of no more than 500 words, and a one-page CV)
- Long papers - individual papers of 30 minutes' length (short abstract, of no more than 500 words, and a one-page CV)
- Panel sessions - consisting of three short papers, introduced by a chair (short abstract for each paper, of no more than 500 words, a brief description of the purpose of the session, and a one-page CV for all speakers)
- Posters and demonstrations (short abstract, of no more than 300 words, and a one-page CV)
- Workshops (a 350-word rationale for the workshop, including discussion of why the topic lends itself to a workshop format, and a two-page CV for the workshop organiser(s)).

Acceptance will be on the basis of double-blind peer review.

Timetable

July 2016 – first call for papers

September 2016 – second call for papers and submissions open

November 2016 – third call for papers

9 December 2016 – closing date for submissions

20 January 2017 – notification of acceptance

10 March 2017 – registration and paper upload open

21 April 2017 – paper upload closed

5 May – final programme circulated

26 May – registration closed

14-15 June – conference