

Preface

There has been an increasing focus on the importance of preserving if not all, then representative examples of the development of the increasing activities on the Internet. The legal deposit law covers only static, electronic documents and clearly needs to be modified. Further, as pointed out by, among others, the people behind the newly established Centre for Internet Research, material required for the present and future researchers in not only media science but also related areas such as history and history of science is being lost. Researchers cannot document the tremendous development in information exchange and development, which is happening now on the Internet.

A report prepared by the Danish National Library Authority, The Royal Library, Copenhagen and The State and University Library, Århus has been presented to the Ministry of Culture describing the problem, the international perspective and outlining possible steps towards archiving parts of the dynamic part of Internet. The two first steps outlined in this report were:

- A conference with participation of international and national actors
- Establishing prototypes to get practical experience in archiving – and the legal, technical and economical consequences

Denmark's Electronic Research Library, The Centre for Internet Research, The Royal Library and the State and University Library have taken up the challenge to address these two first steps and this conference is the first,

very important step. The programme committee of the conference consisted of:

Birgit Henriksen, Royal Library, Copenhagen,
Niels Ole Finnemann, Centre for Internet Research, Århus
Niels Brügger, Centre for Internet Research, Århus
Birte Christensen-Dalsgaard, State and University Library, Århus

The objective of the conference was to address strategies and methodologies for preserving the activities on the Internet for future generations. The idea behind the programme for the conference was twofold,

- to bring together members of the user community with members processing the relevant technical knowledge and
- to bring together national and international experts to share their experience and to discuss strategies.

User expectation was presented on the first day and technical issues were addressed on the second day. Two experts representing some of the oldest projects, the Australian Pandora project and the Swedish Webarkiv3 projects were invited. These two represent two very different strategies towards web archiving.

On both days the presentations were followed by interesting discussions and generally the atmosphere was intense, positive and very constructive.

My impression is that all had something to contribute and all got something back. One thing is certain, the contributions and the discussions gave a lot of input both to the Danish prototype running this autumn around the municipal election and to the formulation of a Danish, national strategy.

On behalf of the programme committee I wish to thank all participants for their contribution to this event.

Birte Christensen-Dalsgaard
bcd@statsbiblioteket.dk