Appraising the Digital Past and Future

Richard J. Cox
University of Pittsburgh
School of Information Sciences
Pittsburgh, PA 15260
Email: rjcox111@comcast.net

Abstract

Archivists, and others working in the digital realm, need to reconsider archival appraisal approaches and concepts as a means of exercising rational and strategic control over what they select for digitization and select from the digital documentary universe. Control has been a defining aspect of the contemporary Information Age, and it is not something archivists and digital curators should shun. This paper briefly discusses the notion of archival appraisal and several contributions it might make to the digital curation schema.