Overcoming Obstacles: Archiving Email in a Digital Environment

Email challenges

* Quantity
* Organization
* Attachments
* Non-business, personal
* Sensitive, confidential

An email account in Microsoft Outlook. Note the number of messages and viruses.

Email solutions

* Processing tools
* Functional model
* Preservation workflow
* Non-proprietary format
* Account remains in digital form
* Digital repository

The CERP parser converts email collections to xml for preservation and includes attachments, subject-sender logs, and unparsable messages.

Above, the Archival Information Package (AIP) of the email account. This zip is ingested into the digital repository DSpace, at right.

Collaborative Electronic Records Project (CERP)

http://siarchives.si.edu/cerp