

# **Appraisal and Custody of Electronic Records: Findings from Four National Archives**

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**Abstract:** In the presentation, the author will discuss the appraisal and custody of electronic records based on an investigation of the appraisal policies, disposition instructions, and other records management guidelines of four national archives. She found that the common appraisal methodologies of four national archives are largely media neutral, although some appraisal strategies and criteria are more relevant for electronic records. The traditional custody model still dominates in the electronic record world, although the post-custody model does exist in some special circumstances. A variant of the post-custody model is also identified. In this model, the physical custody of electronic records does not stay with the creator, nor will it be transferred to the national archives; instead, it is transferred to a third-party trusted repository.

## **About the author:**

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