UCL: SLAIS
Research and Expertise in Digital Curation

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UCL School of Library, Archive and Information Studies

http://www.slais.ucl.ac.uk/
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• SLAIS – The Information Rainbow
• Digital Archives Projects
• Research in Digital Records
  – ReACH project
  – e-Science and Library and Information Science
  – Humanities Computing and Digitization
• Digital research collections and Digital Libraries
  – LAIRAH
  – UCIS
• Contact information
UCL School of Library, Archive and Information Studies

- ‘Information Rainbow’: publishing, library and information studies, information science, archives and records management, electronic communication
- Graduate and undergraduate teaching
  - no 1 in 2006 *Times* and *Guardian* league tables
  - Accredited by professional bodies
- Research centres and groups: CIBER, Centre for Publishing, CIRCAh, ICARUS
  - Consulting for industry
  - Expertise in collections management, archives management, metadata, classification, usability, digitization, artificial intelligence
  - Close links with institutions The National Archives, British Library, UK Data Archive
Digital Archives Projects

- LEADERS (Linking EAD to Electronically Retrievable Sources)
  http://www.ucl.ac.uk/leaders-project/

- Multiple narratives, multiple views: users and the shift to digital
ReACH
Researching e-Science Analysis of Census Holdings

- AHRC sponsored workshop series to ascertain if UCL’s high performance computing facilities could be used to analyse historical census data
  - The National Archives
  - Ancestry.com
- Issues in large scale humanities datasets
  - Complex nature of digitized historical records
- Data management, security, project management, legal requirements
Research in LIS and Digital Records

- e-Science Scoping Study
  - http://ahds.ac.uk/e-science/e-science-scoping-study.htm
  - SLAIS hosted the workshops on e-Science and Library and Information Studies
  - Conclusion? – Archive and LIS sector have expertise which would benefit the e-Science and scientific sectors in data archiving, management, and usability.

- Digitization and Digital Images
  - Long term storage, personal image collections, Image Management Systems

- Research into image processing and Ancient Documents
LAIRAH
www.ucl.ac.uk/slais/research/circah/lairah/

- Funded by AHRC ICT Strategy programme
- Can we determine levels of use of digital humanities resources?
- What characteristics of a resource predispose it to be used?
- Why are resources neglected, can they be reintroduced to users?
  - Deep log analysis of web servers of subject portals
  - Interviews with producers and workshops with users
• Funded by EPSRC- collaboration with UCL Interaction Centre
• Investigation of use of digital libraries and interfaces to them in naturalistic context
• SLAIS work focuses on humanities users and longitudinal study of expertise in information searching
• Aim to construct requirements and test new user interfaces to Greenstone DL system
  – Interviews, user testing, observation, diary studies
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