

# Revisiting Digital Forensics Workflows in Collecting Institutions

Martin Gengenbach

Digital Preservation 2014

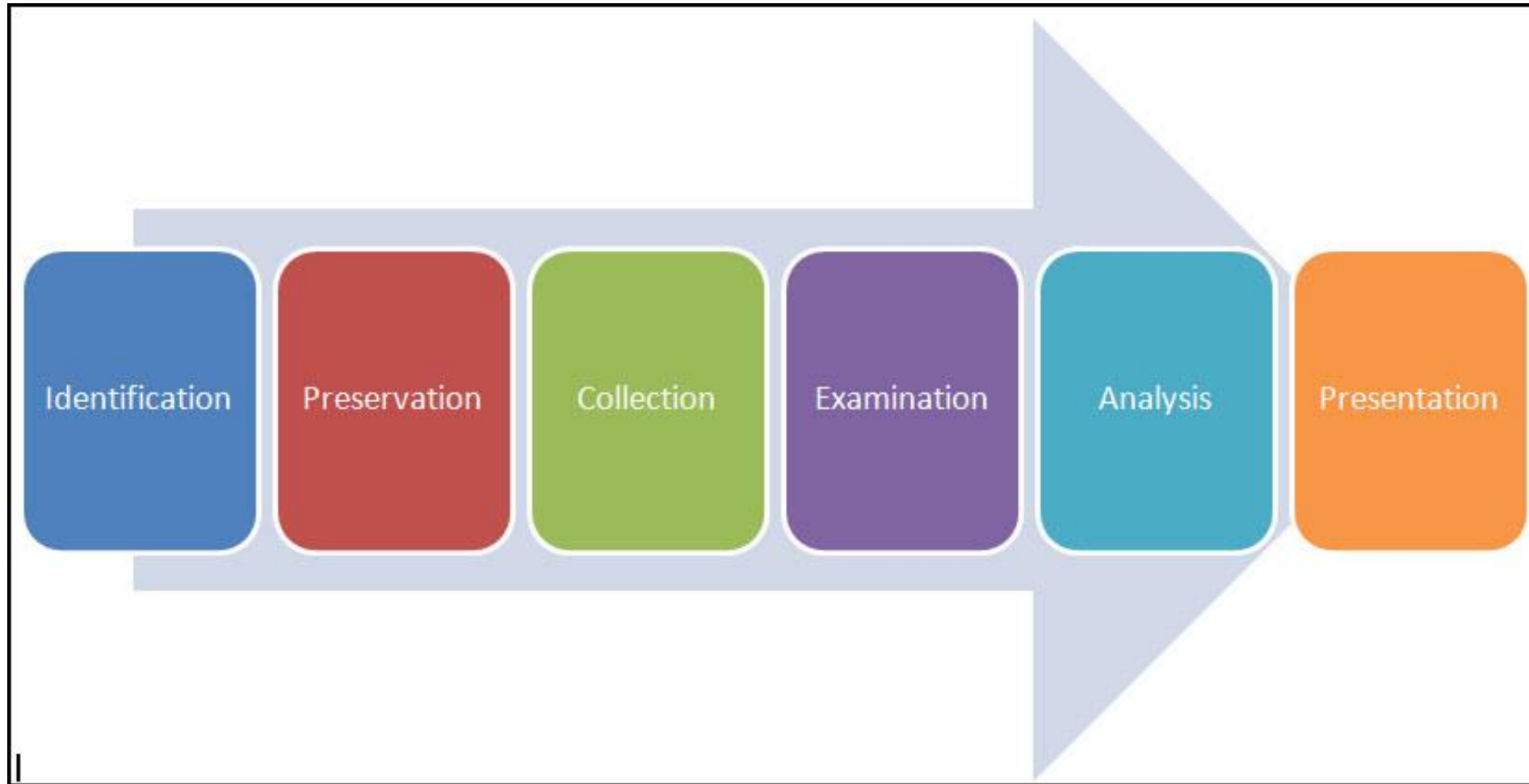
July 22, 2014

Washington Marriot Georgetown, Washington DC

# Background



# Digital forensics refresher



# Agenda

- “The Way We Do It Here”: Mapping Digital Forensics Workflows in Collecting Institutions (2012)
- Revisiting Digital Forensics Workflows in Collecting Institutions: the 2014 update
- Conclusions
- Recommendations

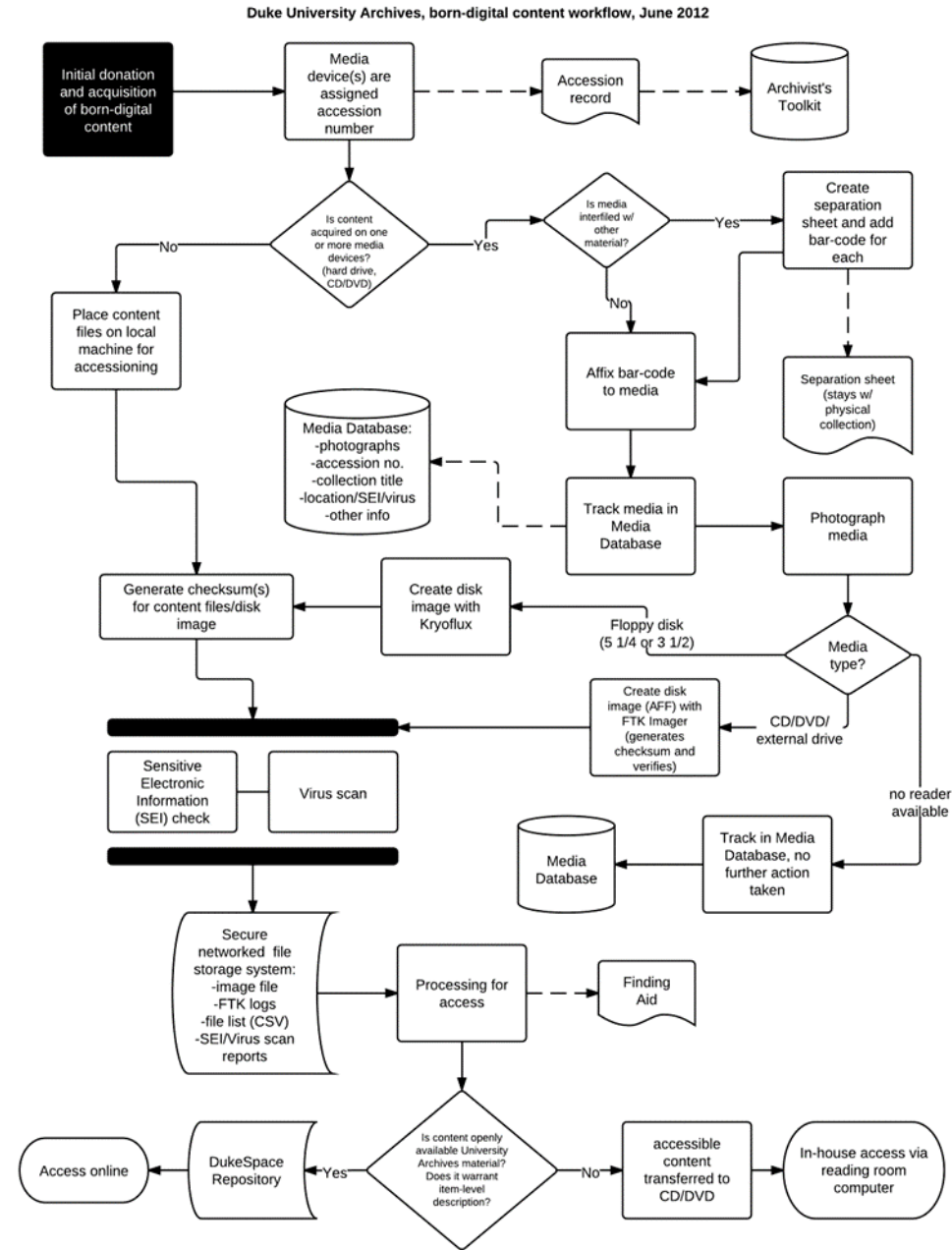
# “The Way We Do It Here”: Mapping Digital Forensics Workflows in Collecting Institutions



THE UNIVERSITY  
*of* NORTH CAROLINA  
*at* CHAPEL HILL

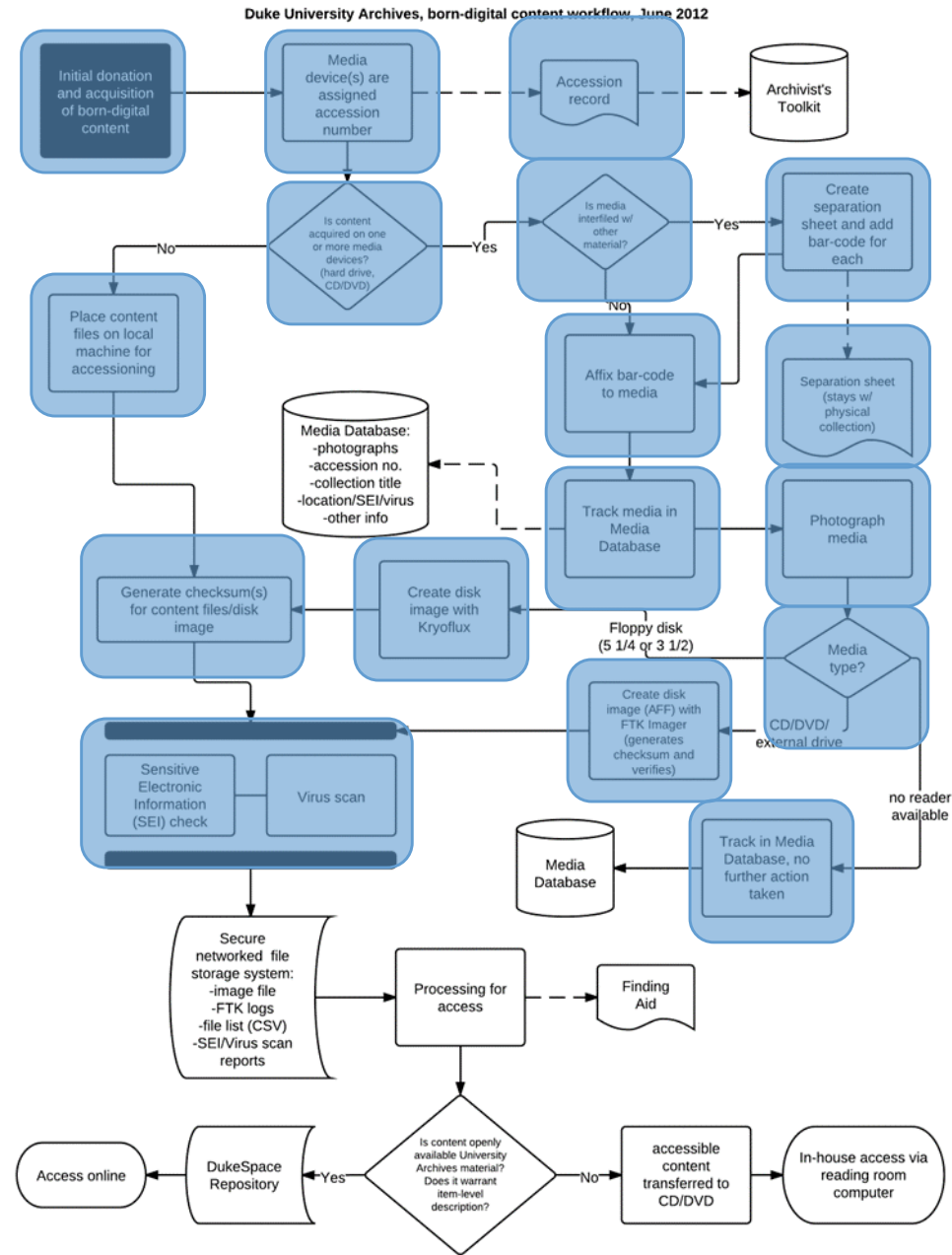
# “The Way We Do It Here”: Analysis

Gengenbach, Martin J. [“The Way We Do it Here: Mapping Digital Forensics Workflows in Collecting Institutions.”](#) A Master’s Paper for the M.S. in L.S degree. August, 2012.



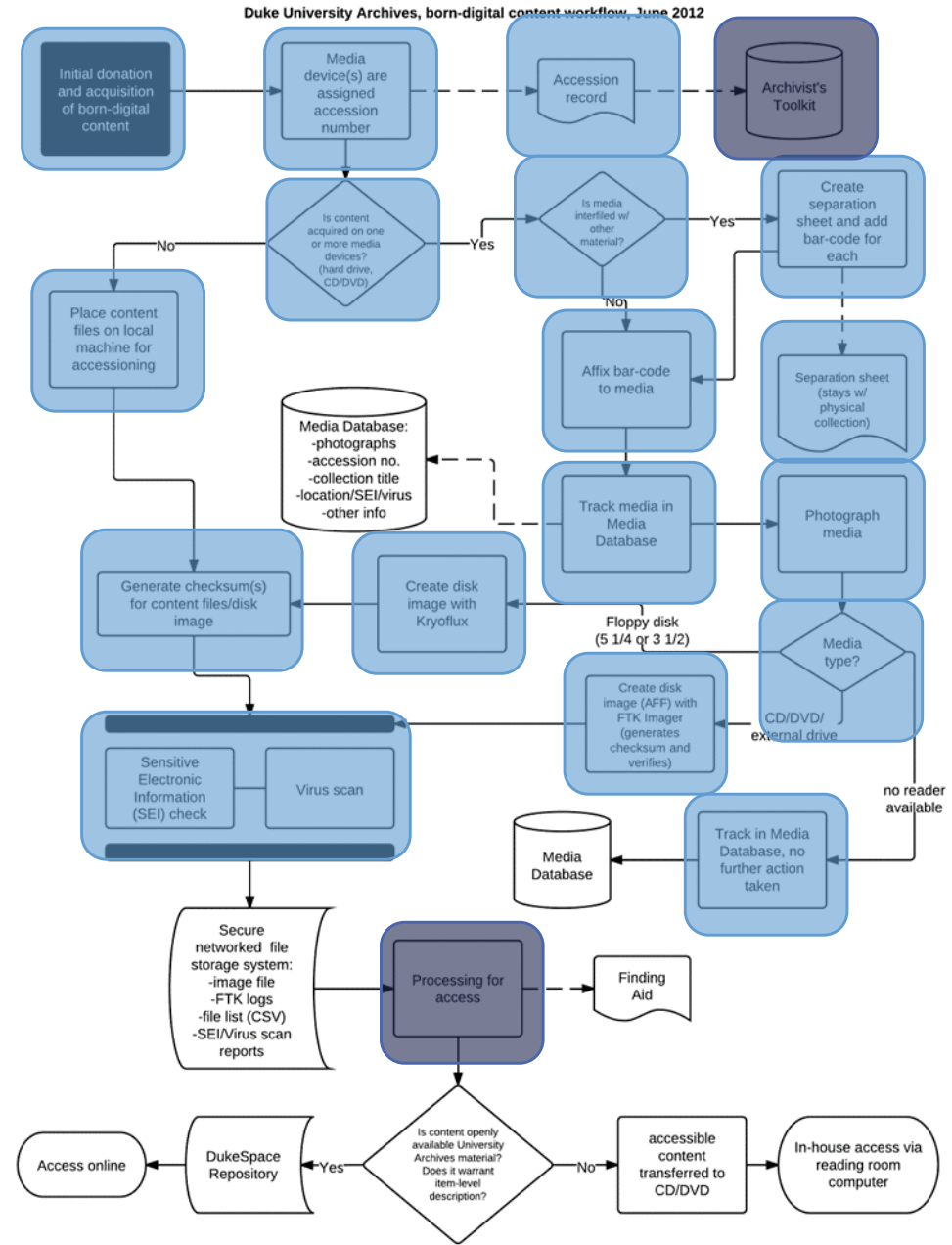
# Appraisal and accession

Gengenbach, Martin J. [“The Way We Do it Here: Mapping Digital Forensics Workflows in Collecting Institutions.”](#) A Master’s Paper for the M.S. in L.S degree. August, 2012.



# Arrangement and description

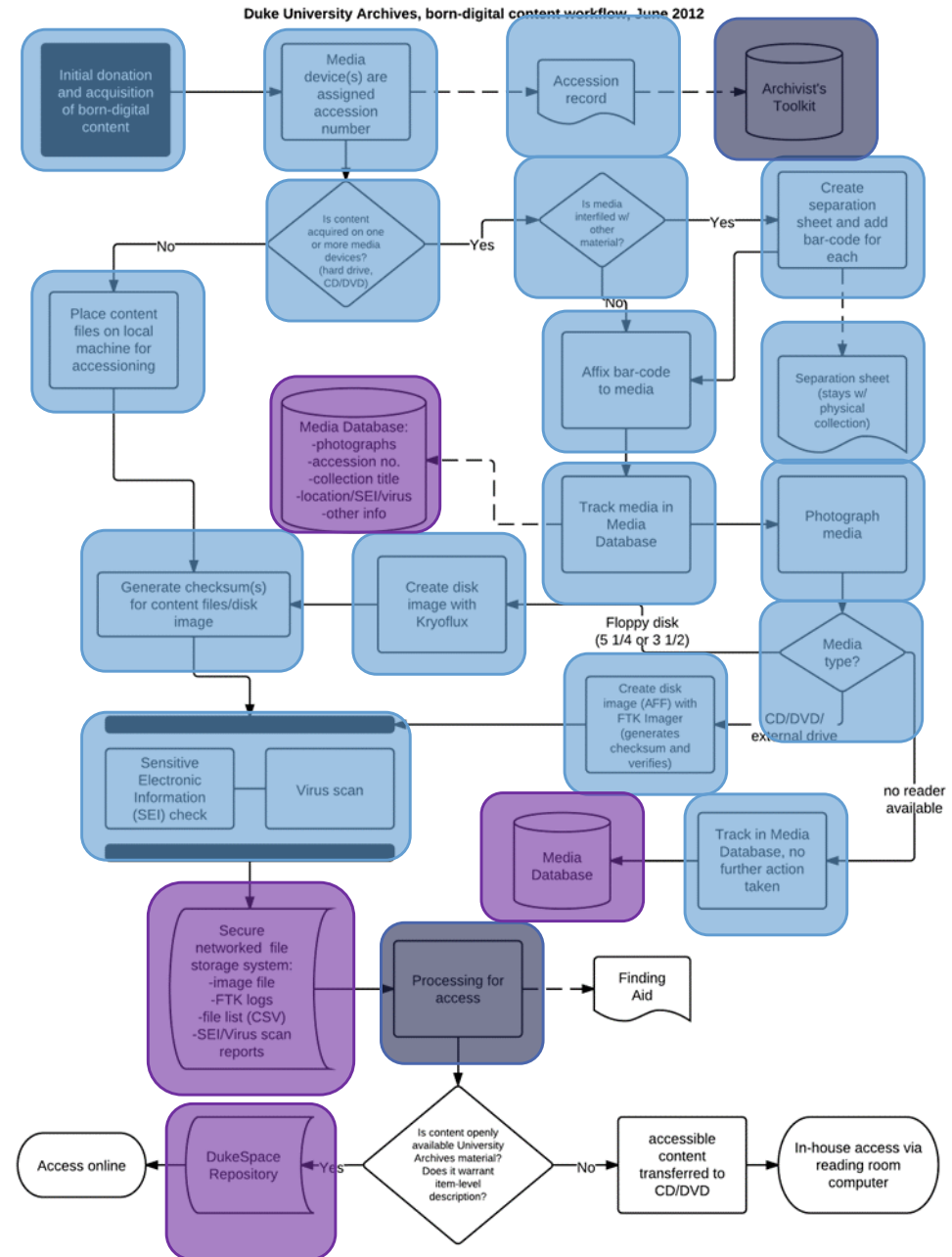
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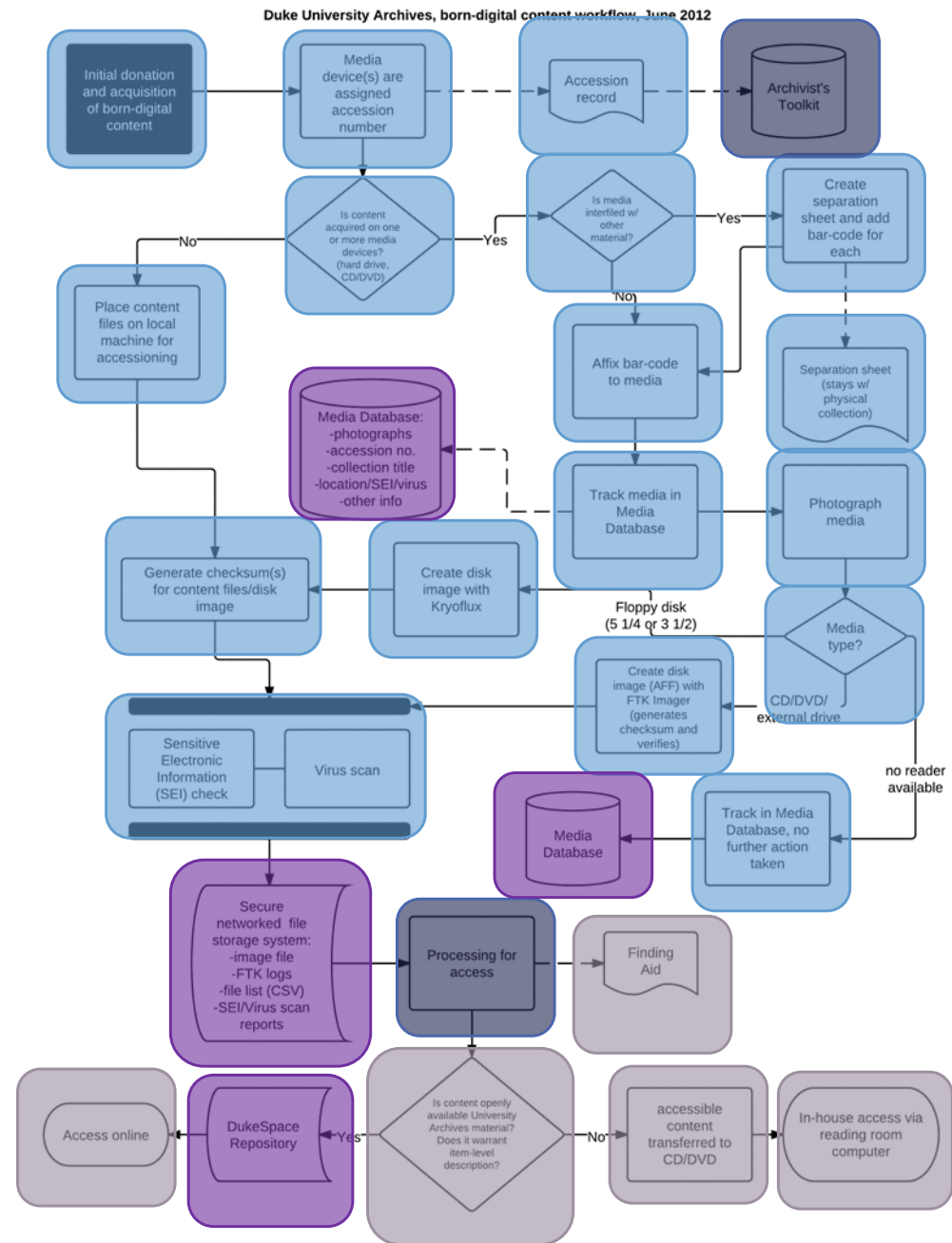
# Preservation

Gengenbach, Martin J. [“The Way We Do it Here: Mapping Digital Forensics Workflows in Collecting Institutions.”](#) A Master’s Paper for the M.S. in L.S degree. August, 2012.



# Access

Gengenbach, Martin J. [“The Way We Do it Here: Mapping Digital Forensics Workflows in Collecting Institutions.”](#) A Master’s Paper for the M.S. in L.S degree. August, 2012.



# “The Way We Do It Here”: Findings

- Technical challenges – tools and hardware

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- Challenges to digital forensics workflow output
  - Arrangement and description
  - Access

# “The Way We Do It Here”: Findings

- Technical challenges – tools and hardware
- Challenges to digital forensics workflow output
  - Arrangement and description
  - Access
- Collaboration within and between institutions

Time passes...



# Revisiting Digital Forensics Workflows in Collecting Institutions (2014)



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VANCOUVER



UNIVERSITY OF  
MARYLAND

# Revisiting Digital Forensics Workflows: Analysis and Findings

- Core digital forensics acquisition workflows have remained relatively stable...

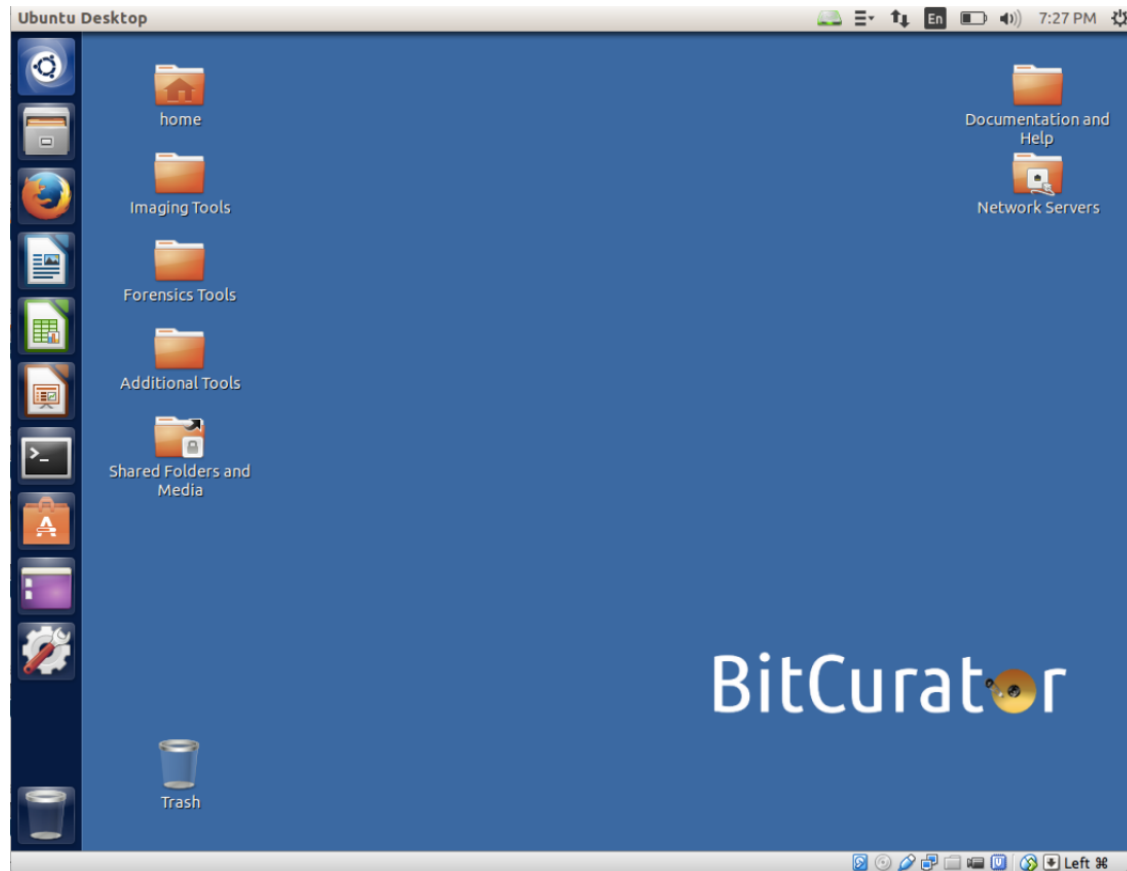


# Revisiting Digital Forensics Workflows: Analysis and Findings

- Core digital forensics acquisition workflows have remained relatively stable...
- Except for:
  - Actors executing the work
  - Systems where content and metadata are stored
  - Tools and formats for disk image creation and analysis

# BitCurator

Tools for Digital Forensics Methods and Workflows  
in Real-World Collecting Institutions



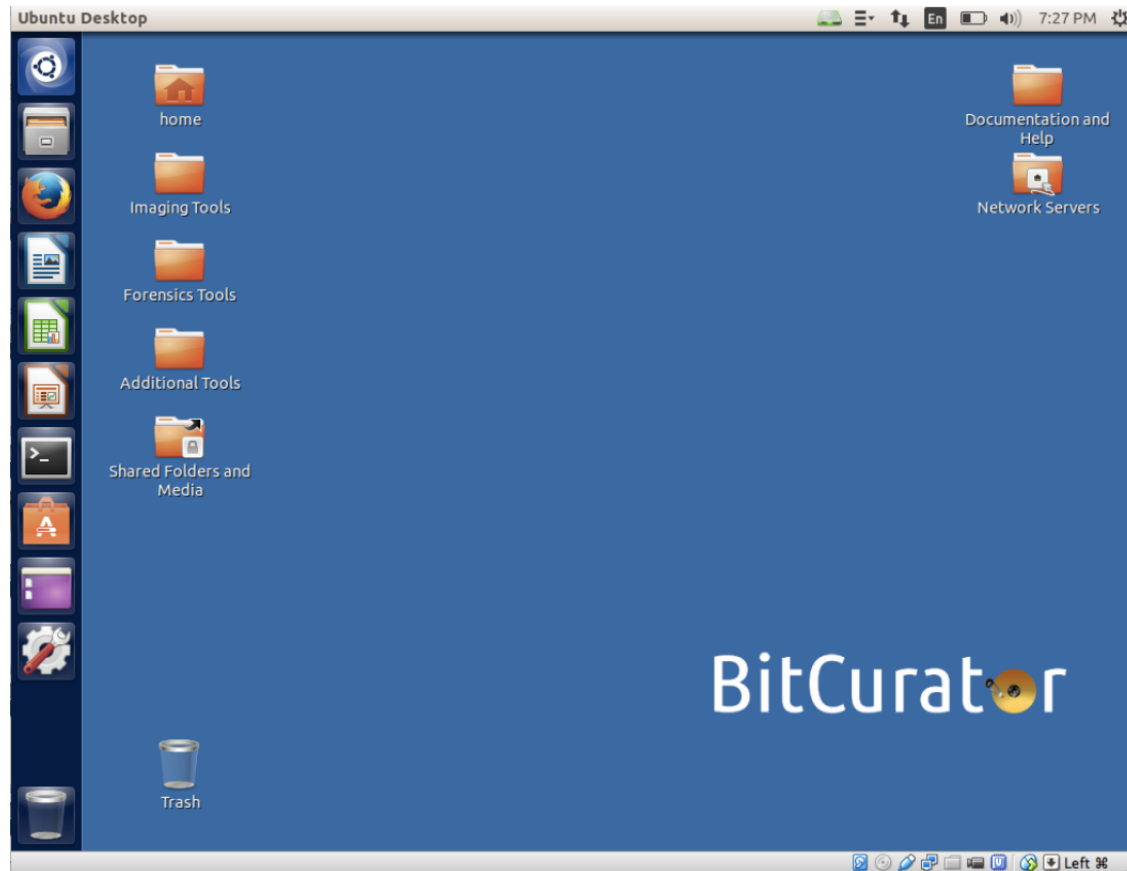
- Forensic disk imaging
- File system analysis
- Identification of PII
- File and metadata export
- Reporting

<http://www.bitcurator.net/aboutbc/#project>

<http://wiki.bitcurator.net/downloads/BitCurator-Quickstart-v0.9.13.pdf>

# BitCurator

Tools for Digital Forensics Methods and Workflows  
in Real-World Collecting Institutions



**BitCurator Project**  
Porter Olsen  
Session 8: West End Ballroom  
Salon E  
9:00-10:15 AM  
Wednesday, July 23, 2014

<http://www.bitcurator.net/aboutbc/#project>

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# BitCurator

Tools for Digital Forensics Methods and Workflows  
in Real-World Collecting Institutions

- Use is high among interview participants
- Supplementing, not replacing, existing tools in participant workflows

<http://www.bitcurator.net/aboutbc/#project>  
<http://wiki.bitcurator.net/downloads/BitCurator-Quickstart-v0.9.13.pdf>

# Revisiting Digital Forensics Workflows: Analysis and Findings

- Disk image format and retention varies
- Ongoing challenges in arrangement and description, access
- Network file transfer and A/V content acquisitions

# Conclusions and Recommendations



# Conclusions

- Archivist turnover impacts the success of digital forensics workflows

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- Archivist turnover impacts the continuing success of digital forensics workflows
- Integrating digital forensics output with existing archival collection management systems is a complex and multifaceted challenge



# Conclusions

- Archivist turnover impacts the continuing success of digital forensics workflows
- Integrating digital forensics output with existing archival collection management systems is a complex and multifaceted challenge
- Removable media makes up a small portion of incoming born-digital content (but lots of backlog)

# Recommendations

- Mitigate risks of turnover
  - Education for existing staff
  - Opportunities for collaboration
  - Delegation/distribution of digital forensics workflow activities

# Recommendations

- Mitigate risks of turnover
- Gather metrics for digital forensics capture
  - Necessary for resource allocation
  - Failure rates documented to assess risk of loss

# Recommendations

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- Explore alternative use cases and content streams

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- Mitigate risks of turnover
- Gather metrics for digital forensics capture
- Explore alternative use cases and content streams
- More case studies, please!

# Thank you to the participants!

## 2012

- Bradley Daigle
- Michael Forstrom
- Matthew Kirschenbaum
- Leslie Johnston
- Mark Matienzo
- Courtney Mumma
- Erin O'Meara
- David Pearson
- Seth Shaw

## 2014

- Joanne Archer
- Sue Bigelow
- Ann Cooper
- Matthew Farrell
- Heather Gordon
- Carmel McInerny
- Porter Olsen
- David Pearson
- Gabriela Redwine
- Meg Tuomala

# Questions?

Thank you!

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[martinge@gatesarchive.com](mailto:martinge@gatesarchive.com)

@mjgengenbach (but I'm not much of a tweeter)

# Resources

AIMS Work Group. [AIMS Born-Digital Collections: An Inter-Institutional Model for Stewardship](#). 2012.

BitCurator Project website: <http://www.bitcurator.net/>.

Duryee, Alex. "[An Introduction to Optical Media Preservation](#)." *AVPreserve* White Paper. Originally published in *Code4Lib Journal* Issue 24. April 16, 2014.

Digital Forensics Research Working Group. "[A Road Map for Digital Forensic Research](#)." Utica, NY. August 7-8, 2001.

Erway, Ricky. "[You've Got to Walk Before You Can Run: First Steps for Managing Born-Digital Content Received on Physical Media](#)." OCLC Research Report. June 2012.

Gengenbach, Martin J. "[The Way We Do it Here: Mapping Digital Forensics Workflows in Collecting Institutions](#)." A Master's Paper for the M.S. in L.S degree. August, 2012.

Kirschenbaum, Matthew G., Richard Ovenden, and Gabriela Redwine. "[Digital Forensics and Born-Digital Content in Cultural Heritage Collections](#)." Washington, DC: Council on Library and Information Resources, 2010.

Lee, Christopher A., Kam Woods, Matthew Kirschenbaum, and Alexandra Chassanoff. "[From Bitstreams to Heritage: Putting Digital Forensics into Practice in Collecting Institutions](#)." September 30, 2013.

O'Meara, Erin. "[No One Cooks the Bacon Alone: Models for Success in Building out a Digitally-Integrated Special Collections Program](#)." Presented at Past Forward!: Meeting Stakeholder Needs in 21<sup>st</sup> Century Special Collections. New Haven, CT, 4-5 June 2013.

Rice, David, and Chris Lacinak. "[Digital Tape Preservation Strategy: Preserving Data or Video?](#)" *AVPreserve* White Paper. December 2, 2009.

Rogers, Corinne, and Jeremy Leighton John. "Shared Perspectives, Common Challenges: A History of Digital Forensics & Ancestral Computing for Digital Heritage," in [The Memory of the World in the Digital Age: Digitization and Preservation](#). Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. 26-28 September, 2012.

Wiley, Laura, Rebecca Skirvin, Peter Chan, and Glynn Edwards. "[Capturing and Processing Born-Digital Files in the STOP AIDS Project Records: A Case Study](#)." April 26, 2013.