

# Developing a Born-Digital Preservation Workflow

Bill Donovan & Jack Kearney

Digital Imaging & Curation Manager

Thomas P. O'Neill, Jr. Library

Audiovisual Archives Assistant

John J. Burns Library

Boston College Libraries

July 23, 2014

# Goals

1. Develop a systematic approach to digital preservation (DP) of born-digital collections.
2. Gain experience with a variety of DP hardware and software and figure out practical protocols  
--- how does all of this stuff work?
3. Use a real-life example, the electronic records of the Mary O'Hara papers. (MOH)

# Mary O'Hara electronic records



An Irish soprano and harpist of international renown, Mary O'Hara has appeared on many of the world's major stages, including Royal Albert Hall, New York's Carnegie Hall, Sydney Opera House, and Toronto's Roy Thompson Hall.

Hard drive donated to the Burns Library Irish Music Center at Boston College.



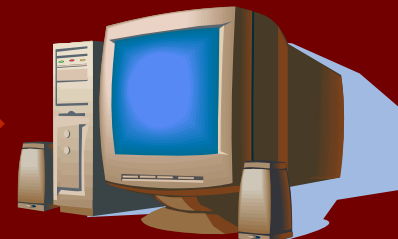
# Protecting the original



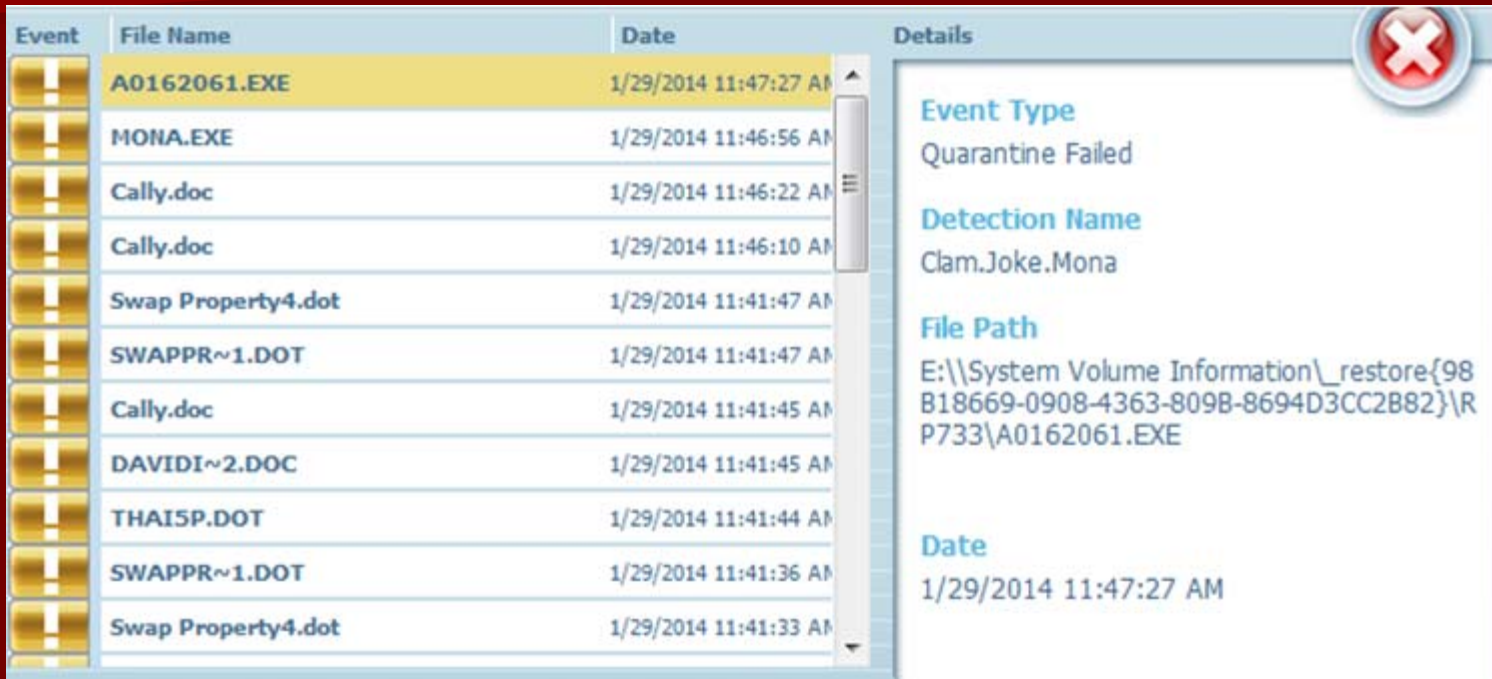
Used a forensic "write-blocker."  
Permits reading but not writing.  
Prevents changes to the files on the  
hard drive.



DP Workstation



# But is the original virus-free?



Event	File Name	Date
!	A0162061.EXE	1/29/2014 11:47:27 AM
!	MONA.EXE	1/29/2014 11:46:56 AM
!	Cally.doc	1/29/2014 11:46:22 AM
!	Cally.doc	1/29/2014 11:46:10 AM
!	Swap Property4.dot	1/29/2014 11:41:47 AM
!	SWAPPR~1.DOT	1/29/2014 11:41:47 AM
!	Cally.doc	1/29/2014 11:41:45 AM
!	DAVIDI~2.DOC	1/29/2014 11:41:45 AM
!	THAI5P.DOT	1/29/2014 11:41:44 AM
!	SWAPPR~1.DOT	1/29/2014 11:41:36 AM
!	Swap Property4.dot	1/29/2014 11:41:33 AM

**Event Type**  
Quarantine Failed

**Detection Name**  
Clam.Joke.Mona

**File Path**  
E:\\System Volume Information\\\_restore{98B18669-0908-4363-8098-8694D3CC2B82}\\RP733\\A0162061.EXE

**Date**  
1/29/2014 11:47:27 AM

Decision: Delete 33 infected files from the hard drive (after first creating a comprehensive inventory of all files on the drive)

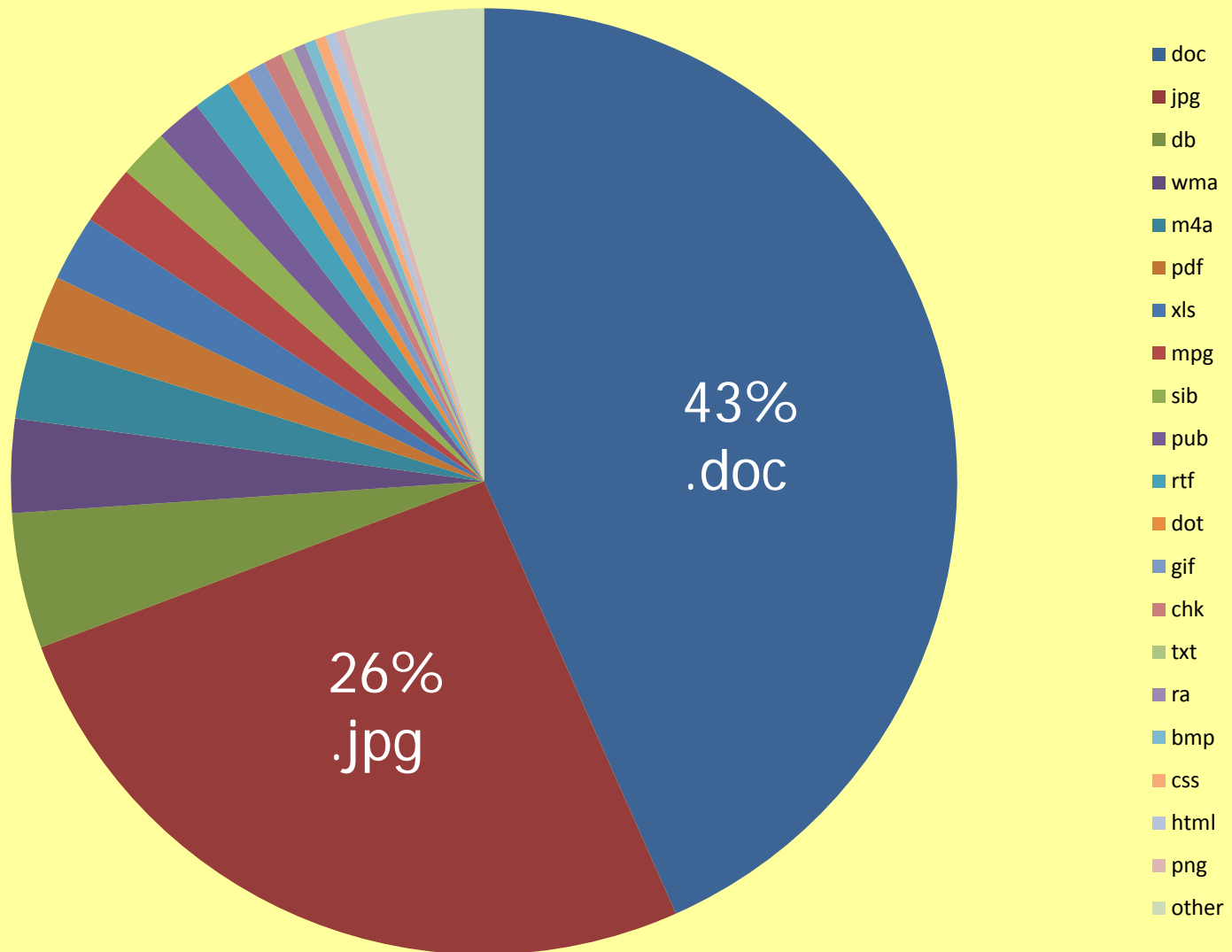
# What's on the MOH hard drive?

Inventory taken with this Unix command:

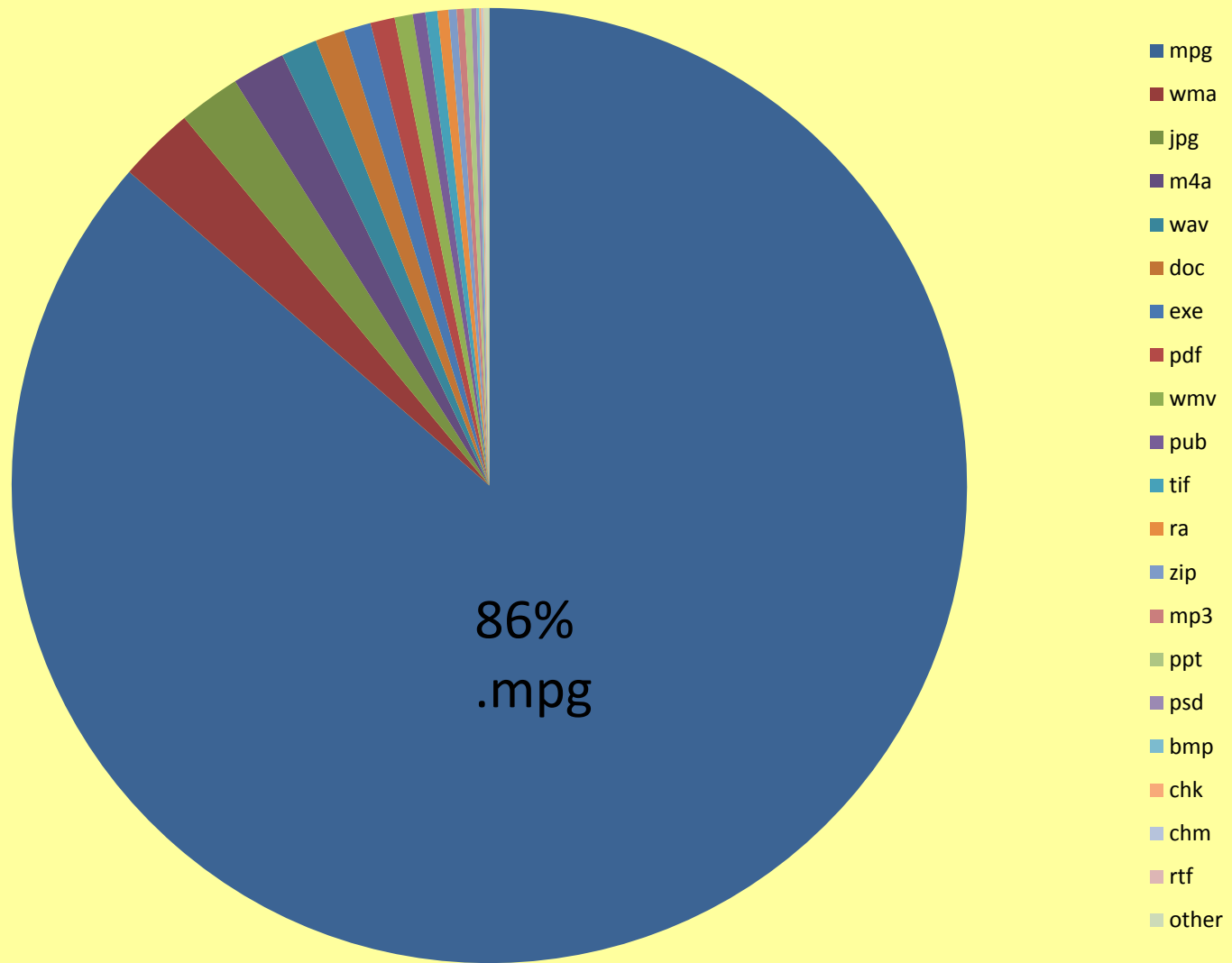
```
find directory-name -type f -exec ls -l {} ; >c:\data\MOH\inventory.txt
```

21,988 files that are on the hard drive, for a total of 104.3 GB

## 20 most frequent file types, plus other



## 20 file types with most number of bytes, plus other



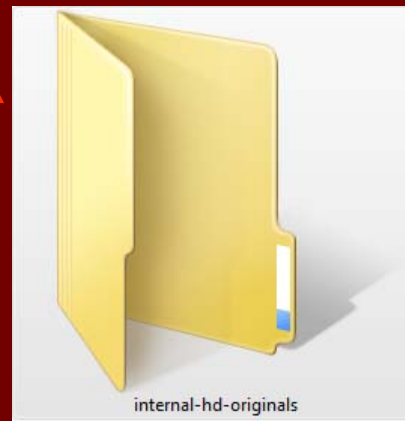


# Back-ups of files

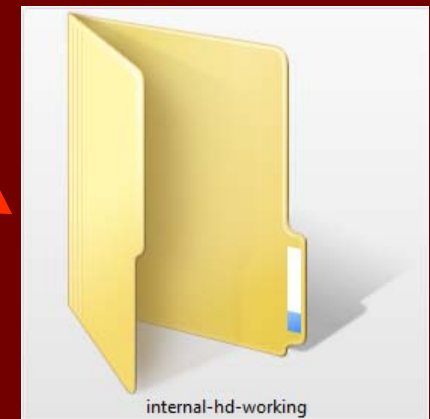
MOH hard drive  
with original files



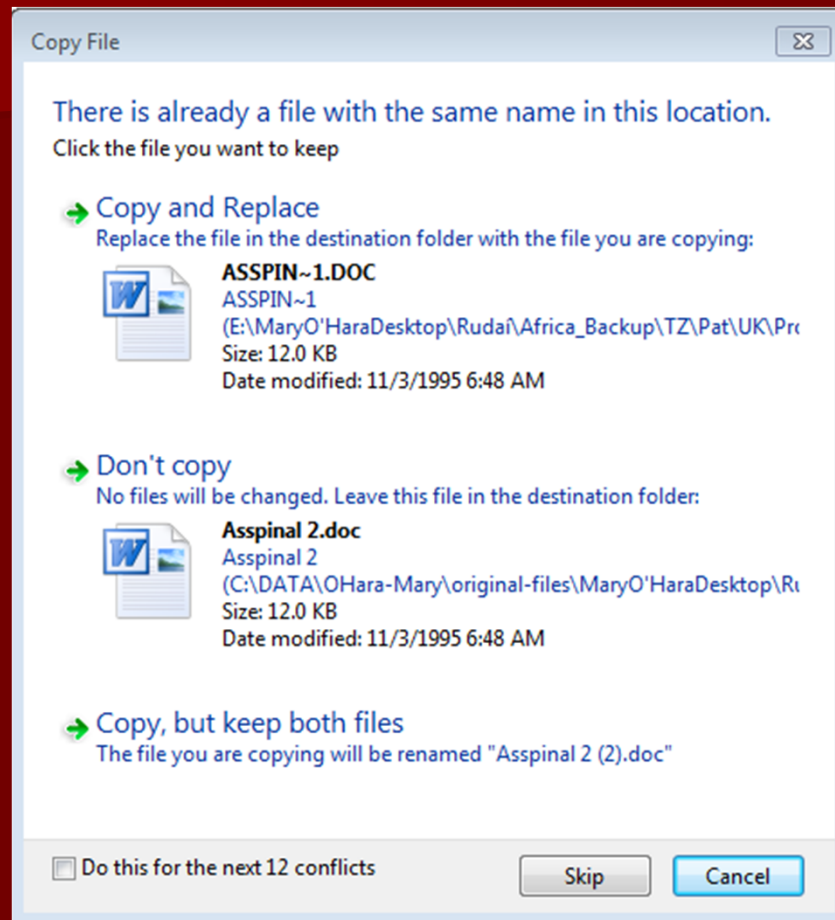
DP Workstation's  
internal hard drive:  
"Original files"



DP Workstation's  
internal hard drive:  
"Working files"



# Duplicate files



"8.3" constraint

Decision: keep only the copy with the more complete filename

# De-duping software

	File name	Folder	File size	Date/Time	Similarity	Group
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1 BenniHill_MOH_MPEG1.mpg	C:\DATA\OHara-Mary\IMC_M175_working-files\HDD MEDIA PLAYER\Personal\Benn...	48.2 MB	4/7/2009 10:41:00 ...	100%	1
<input type="checkbox"/>	2 BenniHill_MOH_MPEG1.mpg	C:\DATA\OHara-Mary\IMC_M175_working-files\MaryO'HaraDesktop\Temporary\Happ...	48.2 MB	4/7/2009 10:41:00 ...	100%	1
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	3 Benny Hill - Mary O'Hairy.avi	C:\DATA\OHara-Mary\IMC_M175_working-files\HDD MEDIA PLAYER\Personal\Benn...	17.2 MB	4/6/2009 4:03:50 PM	100%	2
<input type="checkbox"/>	4 Benny Hill - Mary O'Hairy.avi	C:\DATA\OHara-Mary\IMC_M175_working-files\MaryO'HaraDesktop\Temporary\Happ...	17.2 MB	4/6/2009 4:03:50 PM	100%	2
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	5 Benny Hill - Mary O'Hairy_output(1).mpg	C:\DATA\OHara-Mary\IMC_M175_working-files\HDD MEDIA PLAYER\Personal\Benn...	41 bytes	4/6/2009 4:54:08 PM	100%	3
<input type="checkbox"/>	6 Benny Hill - Mary O'Hairy_output(1).mpg	C:\DATA\OHara-Mary\IMC_M175_working-files\MaryO'HaraDesktop\Temporary\Happ...	41 bytes	4/6/2009 4:54:08 PM	100%	3
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	7 Benny Hill - Mary O'Hairy_output.mpg	C:\DATA\OHara-Mary\IMC_M175_working-files\HDD MEDIA PLAYER\Personal\Benn...	25.1 MB	4/6/2009 4:47:16 PM	100%	4
<input type="checkbox"/>	8 Benny Hill - Mary O'Hairy_output.mpg	C:\DATA\OHara-Mary\IMC_M175_working-files\MaryO'HaraDesktop\Temporary\Happ...	25.1 MB	4/6/2009 4:47:16 PM	100%	4
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	9 Business Plan for a Strapped Economy.doc	C:\DATA\OHara-Mary\IMC_M175_working-files\HDD MEDIA PLAYER\Personal\	20.5 KB	7/29/2009 2:03:56 ...	100%	5
<input type="checkbox"/>	10 Business Plan for a Strapped Economy.doc	C:\DATA\OHara-Mary\IMC_M175_working-files\MaryO'HaraDesktop\Temporary\	20.5 KB	7/29/2009 2:03:56 ...	100%	5
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	11 Close by the hilltop.doc	C:\DATA\OHara-Mary\IMC_M175_working-files\HDD MEDIA PLAYER\Personal\	19.5 KB	7/25/2009 8:33:18 ...	100%	6
<input type="checkbox"/>	12 Close by the hilltop.doc	C:\DATA\OHara-Mary\IMC_M175_working-files\MaryO'HaraDesktop\Temporary\	19.5 KB	7/25/2009 8:33:18 ...	100%	6
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	13 Mary O'Hara 1978 UK Tour Prog.doc	C:\DATA\OHara-Mary\IMC_M175_working-files\HDD MEDIA PLAYER\Personal\	15.7 MB	7/19/2009 9:53:00 ...	100%	7
<input type="checkbox"/>	14 Mary O'Hara 1978 UK Tour Prog.doc	C:\DATA\OHara-Mary\IMC_M175_working-files\MaryO'HaraDesktop\Temporary\	15.7 MB	7/19/2009 9:53:00 ...	100%	7
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	15 Mary O'Hara 1979 Uk Tour Prog.doc	C:\DATA\OHara-Mary\IMC_M175_working-files\HDD MEDIA PLAYER\Personal\	15.8 MB	7/19/2009 9:50:58 ...	100%	8
<input type="checkbox"/>	16 Mary O'Hara 1979 Uk Tour Prog.doc	C:\DATA\OHara-Mary\IMC_M175_working-files\MaryO'HaraDesktop\Temporary\	15.8 MB	7/19/2009 9:50:58 ...	100%	8
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	17 Black.doc	C:\DATA\OHara-Mary\IMC_M175_working-files\HDD MEDIA PLAYER\Personal\MO'...	36.0 KB	6/24/1998 6:25:28 ...	100%	9
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	18 Black.doc	C:\DATA\OHara-Mary\IMC_M175_working-files\HDD MEDIA PLAYER\Personal\MO'...	36.0 KB	6/24/1998 6:25:28 ...	100%	9
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	19 Black.doc	C:\DATA\OHara-Mary\IMC_M175_working-files\HDD MEDIA PLAYER\Personal\MO'...	36.0 KB	6/24/1998 6:25:28 ...	100%	9
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	20 Black.doc	C:\DATA\OHara-Mary\IMC_M175_working-files\HDD MEDIA PLAYER\Personal\Mscll...	36.0 KB	6/24/1998 6:25:28 ...	100%	9
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	21 Black.doc	C:\DATA\OHara-Mary\IMC_M175_working-files\HDD MEDIA PLAYER\Personal\Ruda...	36.0 KB	6/24/1998 6:25:28 ...	100%	9
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	22 Black.doc	C:\DATA\OHara-Mary\IMC_M175_working-files\HDD MEDIA PLAYER\Personal\Ruda...	36.0 KB	6/24/1998 6:25:28 ...	100%	9
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	23 Black.doc	C:\DATA\OHara-Mary\IMC_M175_working-files\MaryO'HaraDesktop\Ruda\Africa_Ba...	36.0 KB	6/24/1998 6:25:28 ...	100%	9
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	24 Black.doc	C:\DATA\OHara-Mary\IMC_M175_working-files\MaryO'HaraDesktop\Ruda\Africa_Ba...	36.0 KB	6/24/1998 6:25:28 ...	100%	9
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	25 Black.doc	C:\DATA\OHara-Mary\IMC_M175_working-files\MO'H_Hard Disc\MO'H\Colours 0202...	36.0 KB	6/24/1998 6:25:28 ...	100%	9
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	26 Black.doc	C:\DATA\OHara-Mary\IMC_M175_working-files\MO'H_Hard Disc\MO'H\Colours 0202...	36.0 KB	6/24/1998 6:25:28 ...	100%	9
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	27 Black.doc	C:\DATA\OHara-Mary\IMC_M175_working-files\MO'H_Hard Disc\MO'H\Moh_Africa\C...	36.0 KB	6/24/1998 6:25:28 ...	100%	9
<input type="checkbox"/>	28 Black.doc	C:\DATA\OHara-Mary\IMC_M175_working-files\MO'H_Hard Disc\Mscll\Backups\ZipB...	36.0 KB	6/24/1998 6:25:28 ...	100%	9
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	29 Blue.doc	C:\DATA\OHara-Mary\IMC_M175_working-files\HDD MEDIA PLAYER\Personal\MO'...	82.0 KB	7/19/1998 9:32:58 ...	100%	10
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	30 Blue.doc	C:\DATA\OHara-Mary\IMC_M175_working-files\HDD MEDIA PLAYER\Personal\MO'...	82.0 KB	7/19/1998 9:32:58 ...	100%	10
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	31 Blue.doc	C:\DATA\OHara-Mary\IMC_M175_working-files\HDD MEDIA PLAYER\Personal\MO'...	82.0 KB	7/19/1998 9:32:58 ...	100%	10
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	32 Blue.doc	C:\DATA\OHara-Mary\IMC_M175_working-files\HDD MEDIA PLAYER\Personal\Mscll...	82.0 KB	7/19/1998 9:32:58 ...	100%	10
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	33 Blue.doc	C:\DATA\OHara-Mary\IMC_M175_working-files\HDD MEDIA PLAYER\Personal\Ruda...	82.0 KB	7/19/1998 9:32:58 ...	100%	10
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	34 Blue.doc	C:\DATA\OHara-Mary\IMC_M175_working-files\HDD MEDIA PLAYER\Personal\Ruda...	82.0 KB	7/19/1998 9:32:58 ...	100%	10

# Initial checksums

Decide which checksum algorithm to use

Compute initial checksums for each set of files

Compare checksums to verify original files and copies are identical

	A	B	C
1	external	internal-working	
2	0491a43250f36f5cab7e47ffb4f59691	0491a43250f36f5cab7e47ffb4f59691	0
3	824a2cf8b9e918f66a4ec0c17ab3e4ed	824a2cf8b9e918f66a4ec0c17ab3e4ed	0
4	c57840c3e45130a86390c5bbd921aeaf	c57840c3e45130a86390c5bbd921aeaf	0
5	e59574a768d30e5d516c601f09cba5d5	e59574a768d30e5d516c601f09cba5d5	0
6	824a2cf8b9e918f66a4ec0c17ab3e4ed	824a2cf8b9e918f66a4ec0c17ab3e4ed	0
7	c57840c3e45130a86390c5bbd921aeaf	c57840c3e45130a86390c5bbd921aeaf	0
8	e59574a768d30e5d516c601f09cba5d5	e59574a768d30e5d516c601f09cba5d5	0
9	fdc1641c56df01318498024599ac09f9	fdc1641c56df01318498024599ac09f9	0
10	c354c0f1f4054d25ef28e60ae8394b4d	c354c0f1f4054d25ef28e60ae8394b4d	0
11	eb3a98ae76185ca2933fe9592470a14b	eb3a98ae76185ca2933fe9592470a14b	0

For final-state collections, use automated tool for integrity-checking

# Odd file/folder names



# pound	< left angle bracket	\$ dollar sign	+ plus sign
% percent	> right angle bracket	! exclamation point	` backtick
& ampersand	* asterisk	' single quotes	pipe
{ left bracket	? question mark	" double quotes	= equal sign
} right bracket	/ forward slash	: colon	
\ back slash	blank spaces	@ at sign	

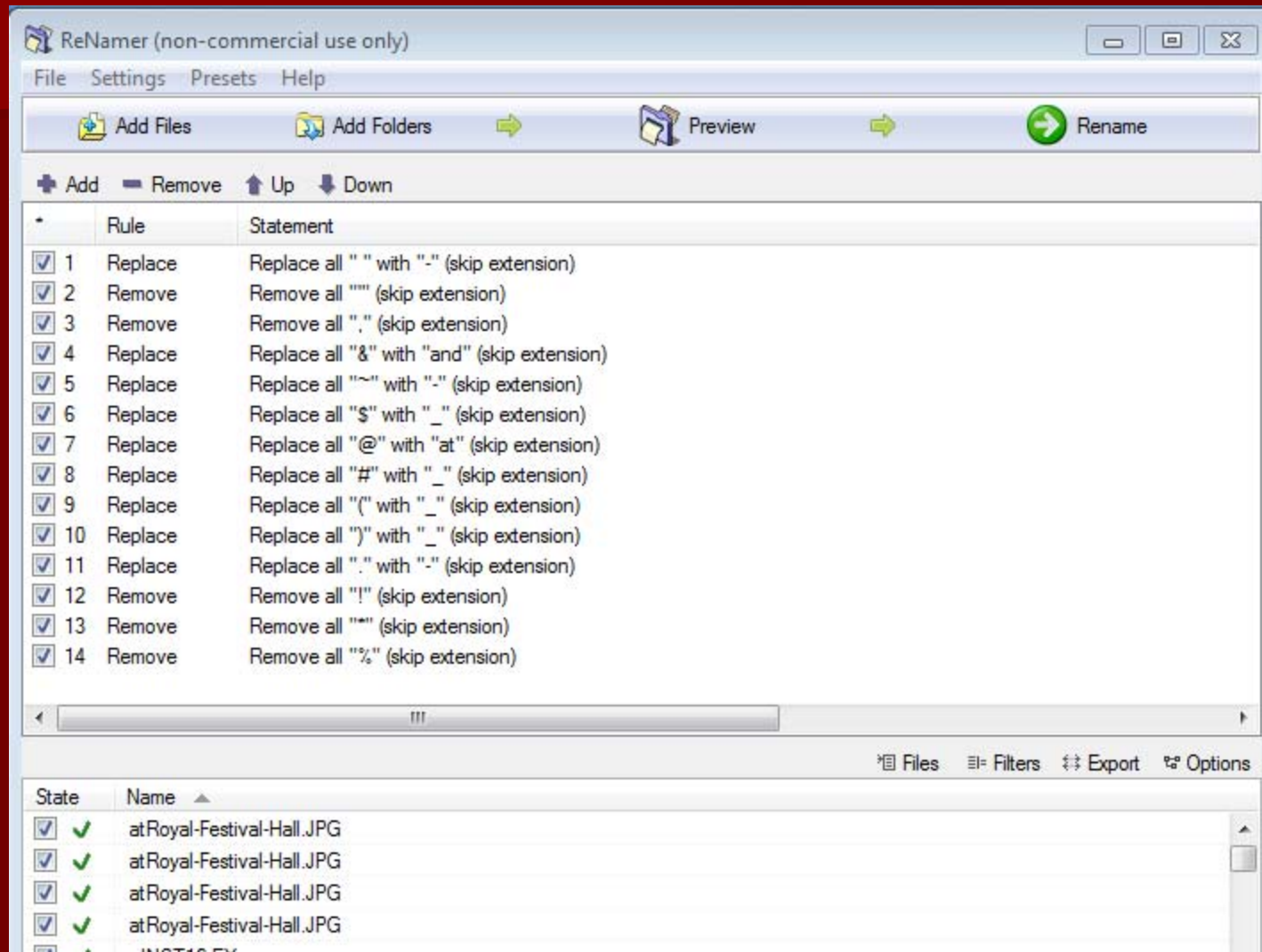
Some  
"forbidden  
characters"

<http://www.mtu.edu/umc/services/web/cms/characters-avoid/>

Had to "escape" these characters in folder name in our Unix commands.

**Decision:** remediate folder and file names, but only for the working copies.

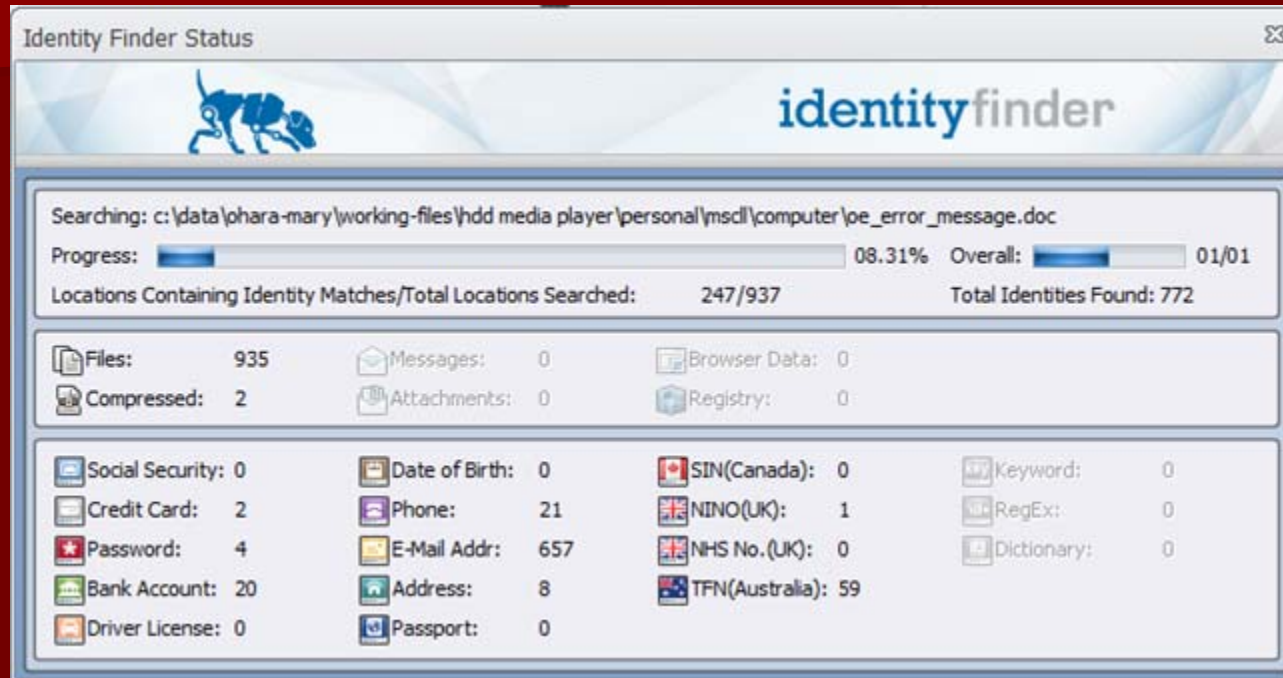
# Renamer: remediating folder/file names



# Any files off-limits or expendable?

- Confidential information
  - Social security numbers
  - Financial information
- Files that have nothing to do with MOH per se
  - System Files
- Files that have no archival value
  - Thumbs.db

# Personally Identifiable Information (PII)



The screenshot shows the 'Identity Finder Status' window. The search path is 'c:\data\phara-mary\working-files\hdd media player\personal\msc\computer\oe\_error\_message.doc'. The progress bar is at 08.31% and the overall status is 01/01. The search has found 772 identities across 247 locations out of 937 total locations searched.

Category	Count
Files	935
Compressed	2
Messages	0
Attachments	0
Browser Data	0
Registry	0
Social Security	0
Credit Card	2
Password	4
Bank Account	20
Driver License	0
Date of Birth	0
Phone	21
E-Mail Addr	657
Address	8
Passport	0
SIN(Canada)	0
NINO(UK)	1
NHS No.(UK)	0
TFN(Australia)	59
Keyword	0
Regex	0
Dictionary	0

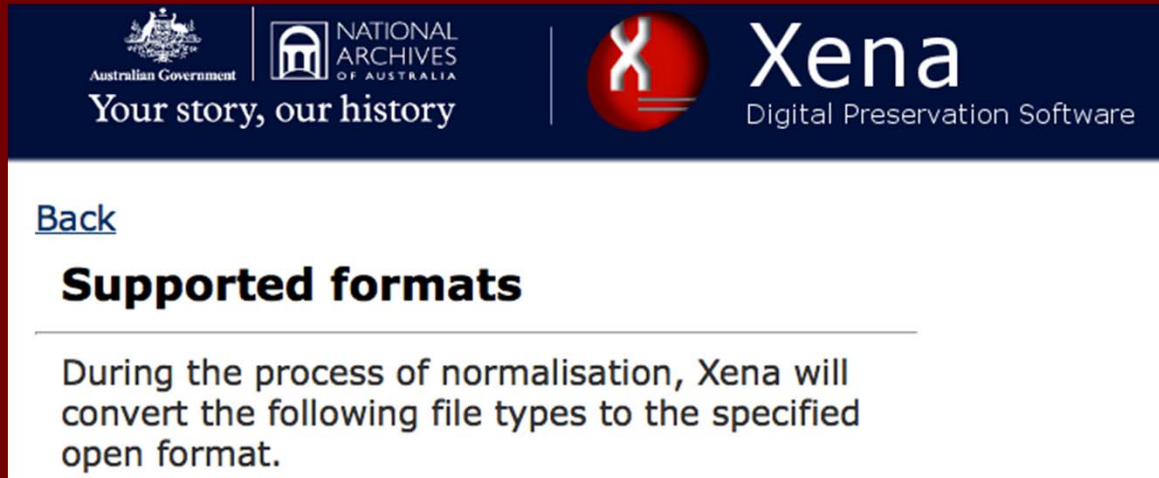
Policy decisions to be made by archivists:

- Based upon the PII findings, which files will eventually be made open to the public, or not?



# Any proprietary file formats?

Normalize using Xena ? (see Gregory 2010)

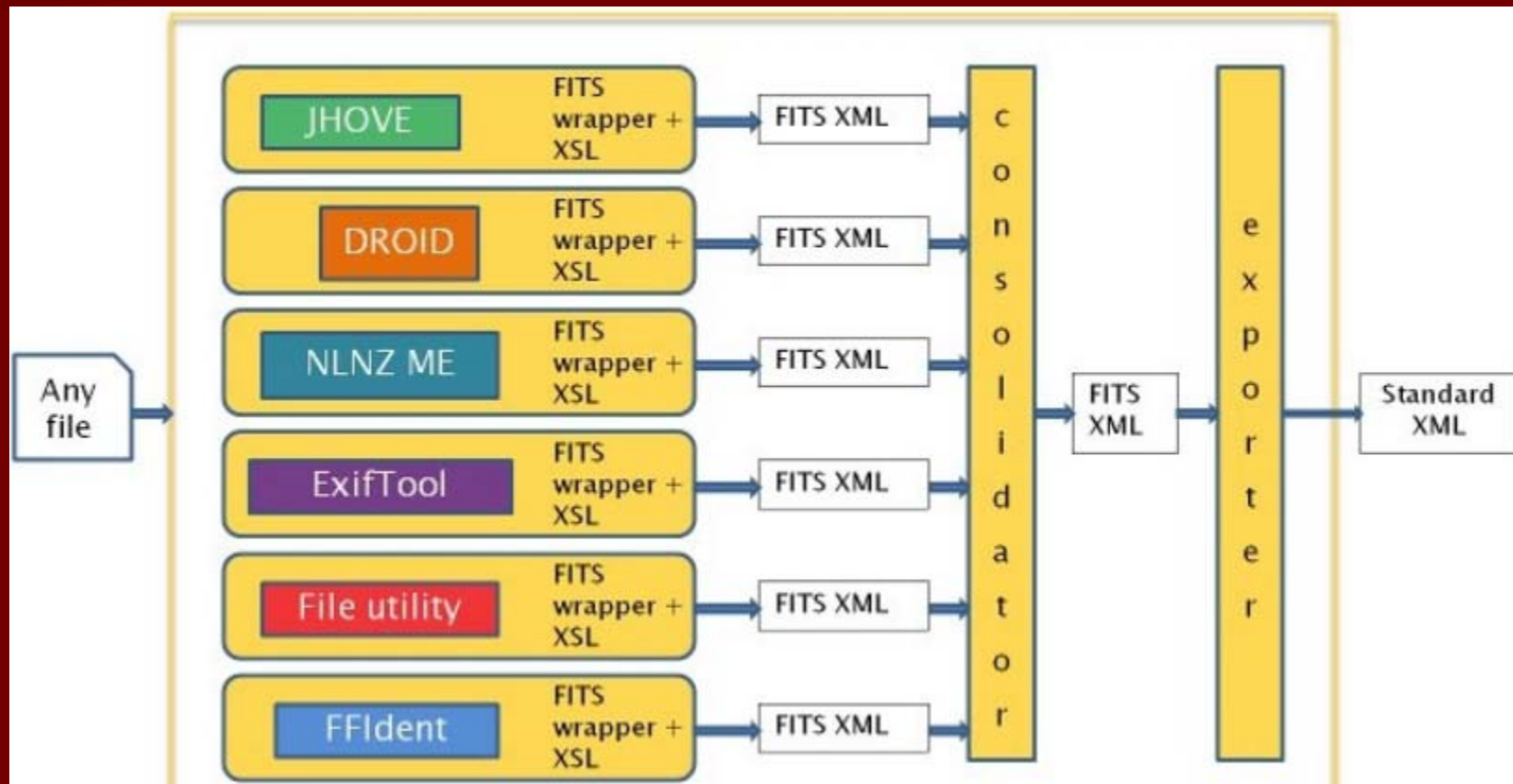


The screenshot shows the header of the Xena website. On the left, it features the Australian Government logo and the National Archives of Australia logo with the tagline "Your story, our history". In the center is the Xena logo, a red circle with a white 'X'. To the right, the text "Xena" is displayed in a large font, with "Digital Preservation Software" underneath. Below the header, there is a "Back" link and a section titled "Supported formats" with a horizontal line underneath. The text below the line reads: "During the process of normalisation, Xena will convert the following file types to the specified open format."

For RealAudio files, normalize with dBpoweramp?

Policy decision: Which files to normalize, and which formats to preserve?

# File formats --- identify, validate, and extract metadata --- using FITS



<http://projects.iq.harvard.edu/fits/fits-processing>

# Output of FITS --- identity of the file and the current tool versions in FITS

```
...  
  
<identity format="Tagged Image File Format" mimetype="image/tiff" toolname="FITS"  
toolversion="0.6.2">  
  <tool toolname="Jhove" toolversion="1.5" />  
  <tool toolname="file utility" toolversion="5.03" />  
  <tool toolname="Exiftool" toolversion="9.06" />  
  <tool toolname="Droid" toolversion="3.0" />  
  <tool toolname="NLNZ Metadata Extractor" toolversion="3.4GA" />  
  <tool toolname="ffident" toolversion="0.2" />  
  
...
```

# Output of FITS --- file information

```
...
<size toolname="Jhove" toolversion="1.5">1795770</size>
<creatingApplicationName toolname="Jhove" toolversion="1.5">Omniscan 11.12 SR2
Build13</creatingApplicationName>
<lastmodified toolname="Exiftool" toolversion="9.06"
status="SINGLE_RESULT">2013:08:14 14:15:38-04:00</lastmodified>
<filepath toolname="OIS File Information" toolversion="0.1"
status="SINGLE_RESULT">C:\DATA\FITS_test_folder\fits_test_imagefile.tif</filepath>
<filename toolname="OIS File Information" toolversion="0.1"
status="SINGLE_RESULT">C:\DATA\FITS_test_folder\fits_test_imagefile.tif</filename>
<md5checksum toolname="OIS File Information" toolversion="0.1"
status="SINGLE_RESULT">ccfca47fb4f2597c04e299c99f4043ce</md5checksum>
<fslastmodified toolname="OIS File Information" toolversion="0.1"
status="SINGLE_RESULT">1376504138000</fslastmodified>
...
```

# Output of FITS --- file status

```
<filestatus>
```

```
  <well-formed toolname="Jhove" toolversion="1.5"  
status="SINGLE_RESULT">true</well-formed>
```

```
  <valid toolname="Jhove" toolversion="1.5" status="SINGLE_RESULT">true</valid>
```

```
</filestatus>
```

From JHOVE website (<http://jhove.sourceforge.net/>):

A digital object is **well-formed** if it meets the purely syntactic requirements for its format.

An object is **valid** if it is well-formed and it meets additional semantic-level requirements.

# Output of FITS --- metadata

...

```
<compressionScheme toolname="Jhove" toolversion="1.5">Uncompressed</compressionScheme>
```

```
<imageWidth toolname="Jhove" toolversion="1.5">1598</imageWidth>
```

```
<imageHeight toolname="Jhove" toolversion="1.5">373</imageHeight>
```

```
<colorSpace toolname="Jhove" toolversion="1.5">RGB</colorSpace>
```

```
<referenceBlackWhite toolname="Jhove" toolversion="1.5" status="SINGLE_RESULT">0.0 255.0 0.0 255.0 0.0  
255.0</referenceBlackWhite>
```

```
<iccProfileName toolname="Exiftool" toolversion="9.06" status="SINGLE_RESULT">sRGB IEC61966-2.1</iccProfileName>
```

```
<orientation toolname="Jhove" toolversion="1.5">normal* </orientation>
```

```
<samplingFrequencyUnit toolname="Jhove" toolversion="1.5" status="CONFLICT">in.</samplingFrequencyUnit>
```

```
<samplingFrequencyUnit toolname="Exiftool" toolversion="9.06" status="CONFLICT">inches</samplingFrequencyUnit>
```

```
<xSamplingFrequency toolname="Jhove" toolversion="1.5">300</xSamplingFrequency>
```

```
<ySamplingFrequency toolname="Jhove" toolversion="1.5">300</ySamplingFrequency>
```

```
<bitsPerSample toolname="Jhove" toolversion="1.5">8 8 8</bitsPerSample>
```

```
<samplesPerPixel toolname="Jhove" toolversion="1.5">3</samplesPerPixel>
```

```
<imageProducer toolname="Jhove" toolversion="1.5" status="SINGLE_RESULT">Zeuschel Omniscan 11</imageProducer>
```

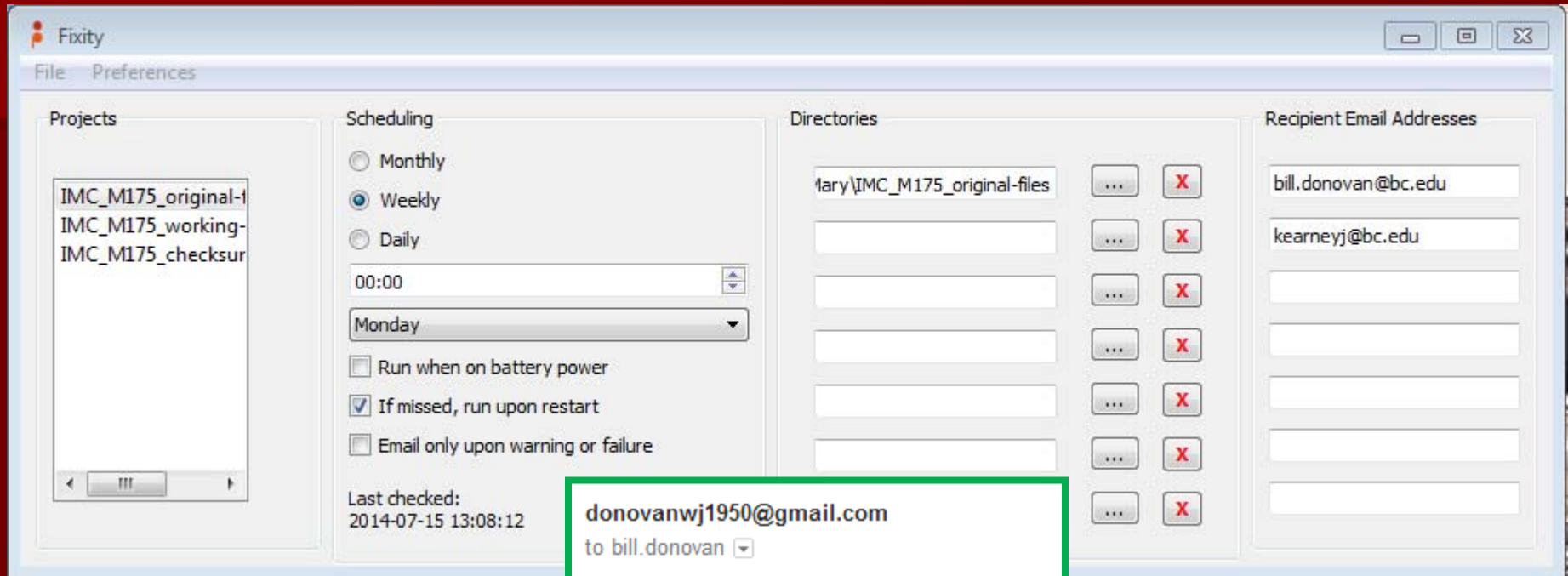
```
<scanningSoftwareName toolname="Jhove" toolversion="1.5">Omniscan 11.12 SR2 Build13</scanningSoftwareName>
```

...

# Workflow: checklist

- ✓ Take inventory
- ✓ Check for viruses
- ✓ Make back-up copies
- ✓ Leave originals as-is
- ✓ Fingerprint each file (checksum)
- ✓ Protect privacy (personally identifiable information)
- ✓ Fix unorthodox folder/file names
- ✓ Avoid proprietary file formats
- ✓ Validate file formats
- ✓ Weed out extraneous/duplicate files
- ✓ Integrate into collection
- ✓ Provide access to users

# Fixity: automated integrity-checking for final state collections



**donovanwj1950@gmail.com**  
to bill.donovan ▾

Fixity report  
Project name IMC\_M175\_checksums\_fixity4  
Algorithm used md5  
Date 2014-07-16  
Total Files 20  
Confirmed Files 20  
Moved or Renamed Files 0  
New Files 0  
Changed Files 0  
Removed Files 0

<http://www.avpreserve.com/>



# Distributed Digital Preservation

## LOCKSS-based MetaArchive Cooperative

- At least 6 copies, geographically dispersed
- Fixity-checking (not just back-ups)



# Keep track of DP actions

- File migrations
  - Obsolete file formats
  - Proprietary file formats
- Metadata changes

Possibilities for documenting DP events:

- ArchiveSpace
- PREMIS Event Service

# Future Plans

Additional electronic records from the Mary O'Hara Papers (e.g. data DVDs or CDs)

Replicate DP system but portable

DP in a box

Beyond preservation...

- Hand off to our archivists (policy questions)
- Provide access to the MOH electronic records
- Create links within the MOH finding Aid

# Additional Resources

ASERL Webinars re: Digital Preservation (Spring 2013)

<http://www.aserl.org/intro-dp-2013/>

OCLC Research "Demystifying Born Digital" Reports (2012-13)

<http://www.oclc.org/research/publications/library/2012/2012-06r.html>

BitCurator Project White Paper: "Bitstreams to Heritage: Putting Digital Forensics into Practice in Collecting Institutions" (September 2013)

<http://www.bitcurator.net/docs/bitstreams-to-heritage.pdf>

ARL SPEC Kit 329: Managing Born-Digital Special Collections and Archival Materials (August 2012)

<http://publications.arl.org/Managing-Born-Digital-Special-Collections-and-Archival-Materials-SPEC-Kit-329>

# Q & A

Bill Donovan

[bill.donovan@bc.edu](mailto:bill.donovan@bc.edu)

Jack Kearney

[kearneyj@bc.edu](mailto:kearneyj@bc.edu)

# Archival policy questions

- Preserve just the digital files or the entire disk image?
- Delete the virus-infected files?
- Save the duplicate 8.3 files?
- Delete extraneous files? (And, define extraneous)
- Decide fate of PII files:
  - Credit cards
  - Bank accounts
  - Social Security
- Normalize file formats?
- Which files to preserve?
  - External hard drive
  - As-is copies of original files
  - Remediated copies (And, define remediated)
- What sorts of documentation to preserve and how?

# DP Workstation

## hardware:

- PC desktop computer with 64-bit Windows 7
- 4 GB RAM and a 465 GB internal hard drive
- UltraKit III + FireWire Write-Blocker

## software:

- Cygwin 64 Terminal (md5sum)
- Immundet 3 powered by ClamAV
- Identity Finder
- FITS
- Fixity
- Access Data FTK Imager
- dBpoweramp Music Converter
- HxD Hex Editor

## security measures:

- authorized personnel only room
- security cable for workstation
- need-to-know only username/password