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Image: Pixabay <https://pixabay.com/en/bible-iphone-mobile-phone-read-2690295/>

ARTLAB
AUSTRALIA



Integrated disaster planning for cultural collections: connecting the physical and digital collections

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Acknowledgement to State Library of Queensland



Disclaimer:
These are my own professional views,
not the views of my employers

Disasters > can strike collections at any time



Flooding of Brisbane River outside State Library Qld
Jan 2011

Courtesy of Queensland State Library <http://blogs.slq.qld.gov.au/jol/2011/01/28/collecting-flood-material/>



Internet archive building damaged by fire
BBC news 7 November 2013

<http://www.bbc.com/news/technology-24848907>.

> Hybrid collections

Many significant cultural heritage collections = **digital** + **physical**



Image: Pixabay
https://cdn.pixabay.com/photo/2016/08/31/09/05/tablet-1632909_960_720.jpg

Context and the Question

One
collection



One plan?

- PhD research > is it possible to develop *one library disaster plan* for **one collection**?
- SLQ agreed to participate in a 'proof of concept'
- SLQ's existing disaster plan accessible, clear, & flexible
- recent experience with significant disaster

> Findings



- no need to start from scratch – digital & physical disaster planning built on risk management principles
- can't just surface tweak – disaster planning is part of dynamic ecosystem e.g. Business Continuity Plan, risk management



Image: Kurt:S The domino effect
<https://www.flickr.com/photos/testlab/21496317363/>

Findings



- likely need in larger organisations for 2 specialist coordinator roles > different skill sets



- may change in future ?

Findings



Image: allispossible.org.uk Spotlight
<https://www.flickr.com/photos/wheatfields/1877573371/>

- integrated disaster plan shines spotlight on prioritising risks & actions across all collections - including salvage priorities
- one comprehensive list of what is stored &/or copied/backed up offsite & access protocols – helps in decision making
- communication **command structure** must be clear - more so in integrated plan - especially authority to access (building & infrastructure e.g. server)

Benefits



- ✓ single integrated disaster plan works
- benefits > comprehensive ‘one stop shop’ plan – interconnects what has been already happening separately in digital & physical areas
- benefits translate to safeguarding significant GLAM collections digital & physical



Image: manuscripts on display at the state library of victoria by [moirabot](https://www.flickr.com/photos/moirabot/2422067457)
<http://www.flickr.com/photos/moirabot/2422067457>



Image: Pixabay
https://cdn.pixabay.com/photo/2016/08/20/09/54/binary-1607203__340.jpg

Where to from here?



- Research continuing> suggestions, feedback welcome
- template and guidelines to be published
- interested?
- watch this space ...



Image Pixabay
<https://pixabay.com/en/mix-mingle-commix-unify-amalgamate-154513>

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