



WEEDING THE WEB

Elizabeth Psyck
Grand Valley State University

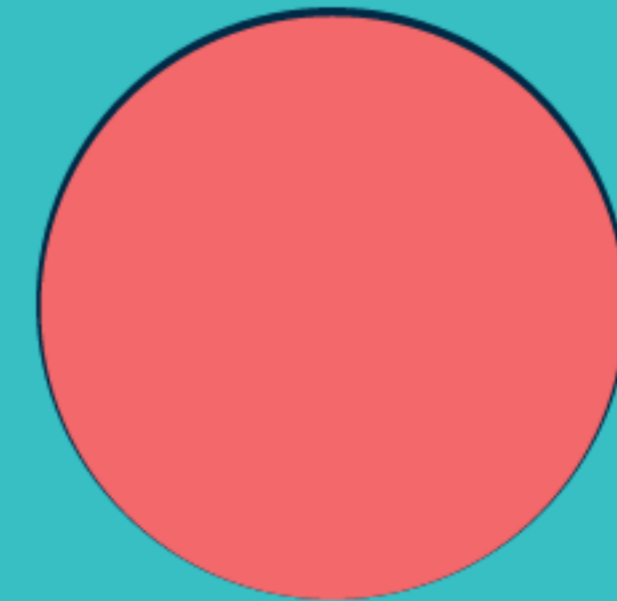


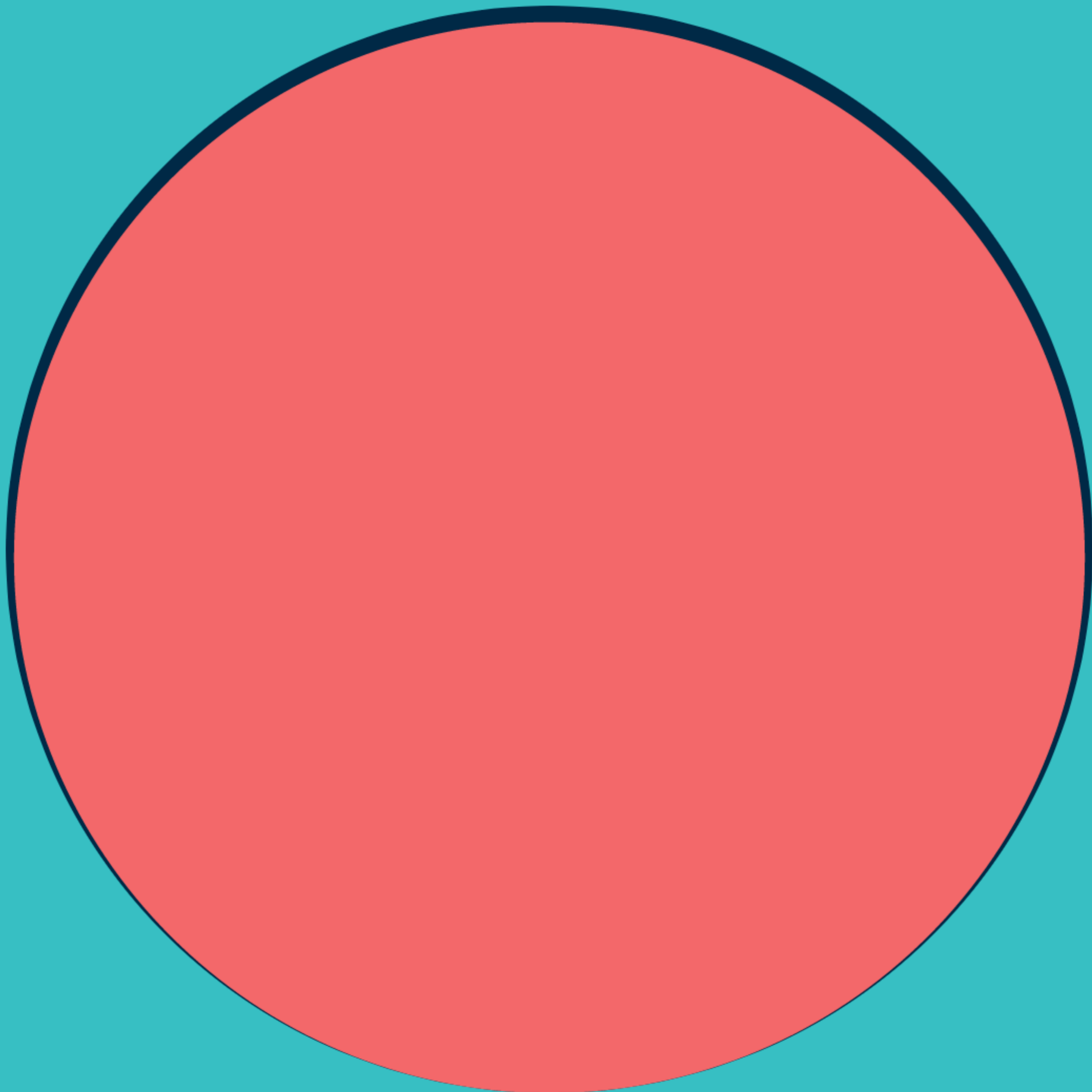
DIGITAL GOVERNMENT INFORMATION



2002: 60% available online

2009: 97% available online





So you might ask ...



SHOULD WE WEED?

Let's consider the pros and cons...



YES

Obviously! If you weed print documents, you should weed digital documents. It's just how libraries work.



NO

Digital documents are not the same as print documents! Weeding risks removing access to important resources.



CONTEXT



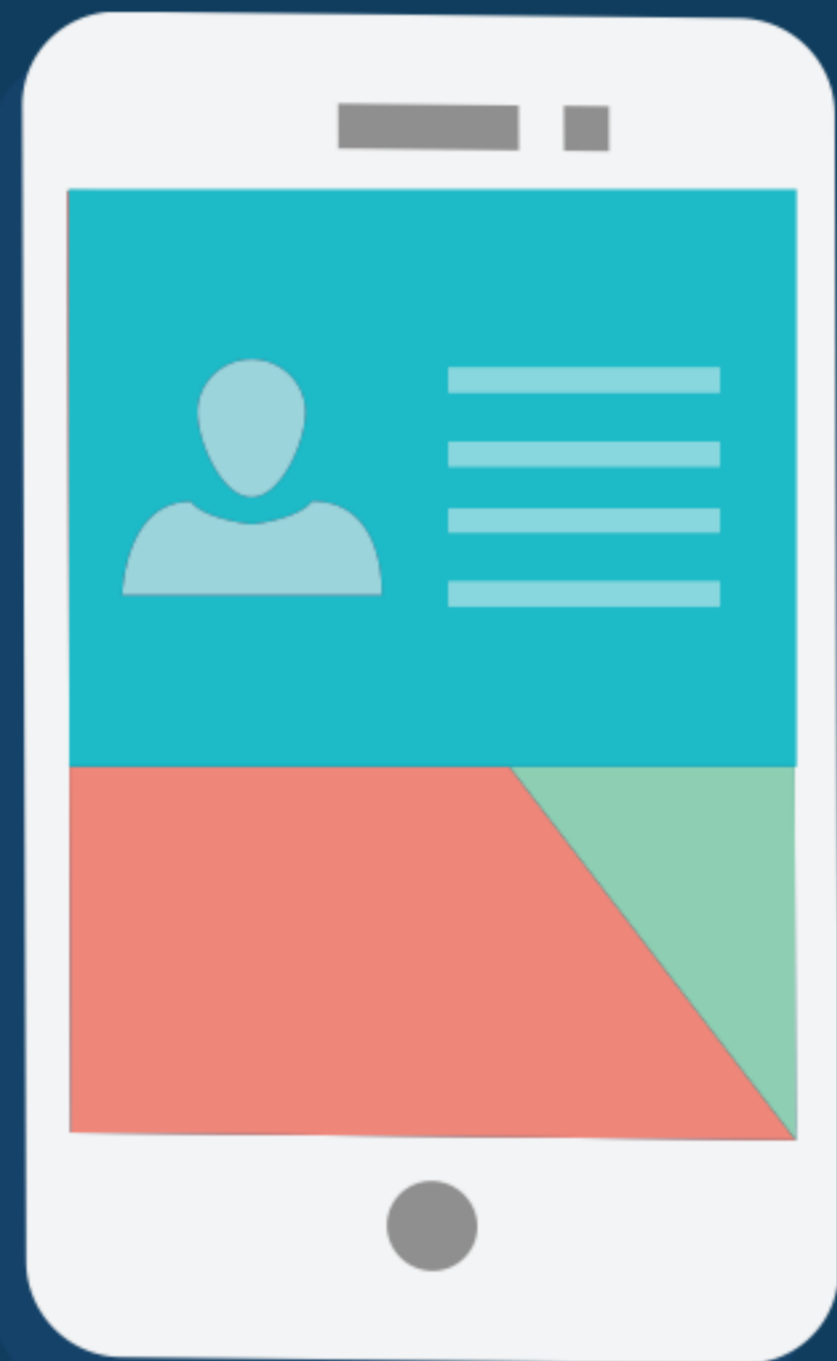
MY PHILOSOPHY

regular weeding = better collection



OUR COLLECTION

Focused on current curriculum.
All documents are in the ASRS.
Catalog and discovery system.
Marcive Documents Without Shelves.
Heavily weeded in the past 10 years.



ONE MORE THING

All electronic documents have the location code WWG.



HOW BIG A PROJECT IS IT?

pre-2008:

7,937

2009:

11,955

TIP

It's going to be worse than you could have ever imagined.

pre-2008:	7,937
2009:	8,908
2010:	6,060
2011:	4,481
2012:	3,303
2013:	7,500
2014:	6
2015:	9,689
2016:	6,118

TIP

Modify to include only new records (exclude updates) and it's slightly less terrifying. But only slightly.

**TOTAL:
54,004**

TIP

Do not download this spreadsheet. It will just make you cry.

Also?
**No way to batch
delete records.**

TIP

You don't have any other work to do, right?

A cartoon illustration of a man with a sad expression, wearing a suit and tie. A speech bubble next to him contains the text "What did you decide?".

**What did you
decide?**



NOPE!

Not currently planning a migration.

No pressure from administration.

Workload issues.



IF YOU WANT TO...

The following process is based on the way we weed from our ASRS. It is labor intensive and not particularly pretty.

Viewer discretion is advised.



STEP 1

Pull records by date added to the system.



STEP 2

Review
spreadsheet
item by item.



STEP 3

Send to
KARMS.



STEP 4

Remove each
record
individually.

**I can only do this
because my library
has the best staff and
students ever.**

TIP

Don't try to fight me on this.



CONCLUSION

**We will have to do
this eventually.
But for now, it's not a
good use of
resources.**

psycke@gvsu.edu

Slide 2 citation:

Psyck (2013). Leaving the Library to Google the Government: How academic patrons find government information. Proceedings of the 2013 ACRL Conference. <http://bit.ly/19fYv8A>