



Communicative behavior and demands for digital preservation among academic community and government officials - a mixed methods study

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Our study, conducted as part of the PLANETS project (www.planets-project.eu), used qualitative user studies to investigate the communication networks and the preservation needs of academic staff and government employees. From these data we created a theoretical model of the information-based thought process and highlighted important concerns of these users.

After these preliminary findings, a questionnaire was deployed to a much larger audience, namely the academic community at British and Danish Universities, and government agencies in the Netherlands.

With data still coming in this survey will provide knowledge on communicative behaviour, use of professional networks and the resulting needs for preservation of communication. The results of the quantitative study will be reflected in an analytical taxonomy of differing patterns of behavior, modalities of use of professional networks and contrasting demands and attitudes of academic staff and government employees towards digital preservation.

This analysis will also draw on the qualitative data gathered earlier and thus can be characterized as a methodological triangulation. By this approach we aim to integrate the objective findings with the subjects' reflections on their own praxis.