Thomas Risse (Goethe University Frankfurt), Web archive research and the role of (digital) academic libraries

Academic libraries provide researchers with relevant content and information. In certain subject areas some of them are even acting as national or international aggregators and integrators of distributed information sources. The responsibility of libraries is expanding beyond analog and digital publications for example by supporting research data management at least on the level of metadata and cataloging. However, Web archives are not yet part of this endeavor. At the same time, Web archives gain increasing interest by researchers especially in the field of digital humanities. While DH researchers get most of their literature from their university library - often with support from knowledgeable librarians - the access to relevant Web archive content is still a challenge. Interested researchers are still relying mostly on general Web archive portals with little support to find content in their respective field. Furthermore, legal limitations are still limit the open use for research purposes. The aim of the talk is to discuss the role of academic libraries in the context of Web archives and potential ideas how to address the challenges.