The OhioLINK Digital Media Center Application Profile: A New Tool for Ohio Digital Collections

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The OhioLINK Digital Media Center Application Profile: A New Tool for Ohio Digital Collections

Ohio Valley Group of Technical Services Librarians Conference
“Technical Services: Rethink, Retool, Risk”
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Emily Hicks, University of Dayton
Jody Perkins, Miami University
Margaret Maurer, Kent State University
The Digital Media Center

Electronic images, sounds, video, and other types of multimedia. Highlights:

- Pictures of artworks and architecture around the world, licensed from commercial sources or contributed by Ohio museums, libraries, and universities
- Educational videos from the Films for the Humanities & Sciences
- Historical photographs, letters, and other documents contributed by Ohio museums, libraries, and universities
- Satellite images of Ohio
- Bird songs

Examples of various DMC content:

**Digital Video Media**

- View Sample Clip (can be played with the free RealPlayer® from [http://www.real.com](http://www.real.com))
History of the Digital Media Center

- 1997 – DMC Established using Bulldog software. Subject databases created
- 2002 – Bulldog purchased by Documentum
- 2002 – Metadata Task Force formed
- 2003 – OCDE Technology Initiatives grant application
- 2004 – DMC Application Profile approved by DMSC
- ??? – Digital Resource Commons (DRC)
Section 1: Introduction

Members of the Task Force:

Charly Bauer, OhioLINK
Alan Boyd, Oberlin College
Cliff Glaviano, Bowling Green State University
Emily Hicks, University of Dayton
Margaret Maurer, Kent State University
Jody Perkins, Miami University (co-chair)
Beth M. Russell, Ohio State University (co-chair)
Task Force Charge:

- Provide direction to DMSC and OhioLINK on the development of the DMC
- Become better informed about current metadata procedures and issues relating to the DMC
- Survey/monitor current and emerging national/international metadata standards
- Educate members of the DMSC on findings
Task Force Charge, Continued

- Draft guidelines for the use of metadata in the DMC and to present these to the DMSC
- Advise those who have proposed projects for the DMC on metadata issues
- Determine initial and on-going training needs for implementing DMSC policies
- Make recommendations to the DMSC on ways that these needs could be met
# DMC Local Collections

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>Contributors</th>
<th>Collection</th>
<th>Type of Material</th>
<th>Number submitted</th>
<th>Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>OSU</td>
<td>Borror Lab of Bioacoustics</td>
<td>Borror Lab of Bioacoustics Recorded Animal Sounds</td>
<td>Audio - Recorded Animal Sounds</td>
<td>10,200</td>
<td>Will grow to 29,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OSU</td>
<td>Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center</td>
<td>Ohio Agricultural Experiment Station Forestry Image Collection</td>
<td>Images from glass-plate negatives</td>
<td>5,000</td>
<td>Approximately 400 to be added to complete</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OSU</td>
<td>Center for Epigraphical Studies</td>
<td>Greek and Latin Squeezes (inscriptions)</td>
<td>Images of inscriptions</td>
<td>700</td>
<td>Will grow to more than 10,000 squeezes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UC</td>
<td>National Underground Freedom Center</td>
<td>William Seibert Collection</td>
<td>Documents and photographs</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>Thousands of documents and images will be added</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UC</td>
<td>Design, Art, Architecture &amp; Planning Library</td>
<td>Architecture of Cincinnati</td>
<td>Images from archival slides</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>Continues to grow as required</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KSU</td>
<td>Department of Special Collections &amp; Archives</td>
<td>Oral History Project: May 4, 1970 Collection. Residents of the community document their feelings on the shootings</td>
<td>Audio files</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>Cataloging underway</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# DMC Commercial Collections

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Collection Name</th>
<th>Type of Material</th>
<th>Number of Items</th>
<th>Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Encyclopedia of Physics Demonstrations</td>
<td>Short videos of lab experiments</td>
<td>600</td>
<td>Set complete</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LANDSAT 7 Satellite Images of Ohio</td>
<td>Multi-layered satellite data</td>
<td></td>
<td>New images every 16 days, weather permitting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps</td>
<td>Images of large scale street plans of Ohio cities from 1867-1970</td>
<td>40,000</td>
<td>Closed set</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Digital Video Collection</td>
<td>Long-playing educational videos</td>
<td>1,113 VHS tapes</td>
<td>Expands monthly. May expand to collections of other vendors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saskia Collection</td>
<td>Art images used in art history classes</td>
<td>3,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AMICO Library</td>
<td>Images of art and archaeology objects held in museums across N America</td>
<td>100,000</td>
<td>Grows by 20,000 images each year</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
DMC metadata issues

- Different collections, audiences and metadata schema
- Multiple types of data structures
- Discrepancies between databases
DMC metadata issues (Continued)

- Different database needs
- Data relationships across databases
- Lack of guidelines and documentation
- Some collections have proprietary metadata (e.g., AMICO)
- Contributors legacy data
Examination of DMC metadata

- Diversity
- Fields that cross collections
- Fields that don’t cross collections
Examination of DMC - Conclusions

- Some unique fields
- Some common fields that map to Dublin Core, VRA Core and Western States Core
- The need for a core set of elements
- Determined that a cross-disciplinary core would be best
MetaMap

Position the mouse over an acronym to see what it stands for in a popup window. Click on the acronym to see its definition and a link to its official site.
Best practices examined

- The **NINCH** Guide to Good Practice in the Digital Representation & Management of Cultural Heritage Materials
- Institute of Museum and Library Services Framework (**IMLS**)
- Computer Interchange of Museum Information (**CIMI**) Guide to Best Practice: Dublin Core
Appeal of best practices and established standards

- Carry you into the future
- Allow for federated searching
- Define relationships
- Allow for diversity within guidelines
Why a set of formal guidelines?

- Inconsistent data quality and element interpretation across projects
- Customized schemes increasingly a burden on OhioLINK staff
Building the DMC Core
Application Profiles

- What is an application profile?
- Why use an application profile?
  - Customize
  - Document
  - Guide
  - Reference
Why Dublin Core?

- Other standards too narrow
- Accepted as an international standard
- Foundation of OAI protocol for metadata harvesting
- In common use by the digital library community
- A number of best practice documents already published
Choosing a Model

Why use a model?

Western States
http://www.cdpheritage.org/resource/metadata/wsdcmbp/index.html

- Based on Dublin Core
- Multi-institutional
- Comprehensive
- User-friendly
The Core

What is “The Core?”

- Set of elements
- Group of attributes or properties of a resource
- A foundation from which local projects around the state will build collection specific metadata
Snapshot of Core Element Set

- Title
- Creator
- Contributor
- Date
- Description
- Subject
- Spatial Coverage
- Temporal Coverage
- Language
- Work Type
- Repository ID
- Digital Publisher
- Digital Creation Date
- Digitizing Equipment
- Asset Source
- Rights
Snapshot, cont.

- Collection Name
- OhioLINK Institution
- Asset Type
- OID (Object Identifier)
- Permissions
Element Specifications

- Element Name
- Definition
- Obligation
  - Mandatory, Required (if available), Optional
- Occurrence
  - Repeatable, Non-repeatable
Element Specifications, cont.

- Recommended Schemes
- Input Guidelines
  - General
  - Element-specific
- Examples
- Maps to DC Element
Why Input Guidelines?

- Broader audience
- Promote data consistency
- Anticipate questions
- Provide decision points
- Assist with data creation
- Reference external content standards
Title

Definition: A name given to a resource. Typically a title will be a name by which the resource is known. It may also be an identifying phrase or object name supplied by the holding institution.

Obligation: Mandatory
Occurrence: Non-Repeatable

Recommended Schemes: None.

Input Guidelines:
1. Identify and enter one Title element per record according to the guidelines that follow.
2. Transcribe title from the resource itself, such as book title, photograph caption, artist’s title, object name, etc., using same punctuation that appears on the source.
3. When no title is found on the resource itself, use a title assigned by the holding institution or found in reference sources. If title must be created, make the title as descriptive as possible, avoiding generic terms such as Papers or Annual report. Use punctuation appropriate for English writing.
4. When possible, exclude initial articles from title. Exceptions might include when the article is an essential part of the title or when local practice requires use of initial articles.
5. Capitalize only the first letter of the first word of the title and of any proper names contained within the title.
6. Consult established cataloging rules such as Anglo-American Cataloguing Rules (AACR2) or Archives, Personal Papers, and Manuscripts (APPM) for more information.

Examples:
1. Channel crew poling ice blocks
2. DH-4 battle plane and Wright Model C Flyer share air space
3. Exhibition flight over Lake Erie
4. Great Ballcourt

Maps to DC Element: Title
Lessons Learned
And Next Steps
Lessons learned:

- Standards are still important!
Lessons learned:

- The metadata universe is large and subject to change
Lessons learned:

- Metadata can be as simple or as complex as desired
Lessons learned:

- Best and worst thing about metadata is that it doesn’t come with content standards
Lessons learned:

- Metadata is us!
Lessons learned:

- This is an important first step, but it’s only the first step!
Possible next steps:

- Metadata strategic plan
- Extended element sets for various subject and/or format areas
- Coordinating body
- Metadata practice community
- Contributor’s discussion list
- MetaBuddy application
- Application profile repository
Recommended reading:


Contacts

Application Profile:
http://www.ohiolink.edu/media/dmcinfo/DMC_AP.pdf

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mmaurer@lms.kent.edu 330.672.1702
Parting quote:

"We must free ourselves of the hope that the sea will ever rest. We must learn to sail in high winds."

~Leif Smith