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Metadata

Interoperability across systems, time, and conceptions

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Outline

1. Definitions: metadata, interoperability

2. Three types of interoperability: synchronic, diachronic, and intentional

3. Constructs that help us achieve these types of interoperability: application profiles, change schemas, and conceptual models

Metadata

Information that characterizes
another information resource,
especially for purposes of
documenting, describing, preserving
or managing that resource.

InterPARES 2 Glossary

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InterPARES 2 Glossary

The word metadata is used in many different ways, and by many different communities.

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InterPARES 2 Glossary

For example, in the information sciences we are design metadata for document retrieval and document discovery.

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InterPARES 2 Glossary

And tho' *finding* is a concern for archives, metadata for records and aggregations of records is required for the presumption of authenticity, first, and retrieval second.

Archival Metadata

Authenticity

Identity

Integrity

Form and Content

Contextual Description

Archival Metadata

Authenticity

    Identity

    Integrity

    Form and Content

    Contextual Description

Identity Metadata:

    Names of persons

    Action or matter

    Dates of creation and transmission

    Expression of archival bond

    Indication of attachments

Archival Metadata

Authenticity

    Identity

    Integrity

    Form and Content

    Contextual Description

Integrity Metadata:

    Name of handling office

    Name of office of primary responsibility (if different from handling office)

    Indication of types of annotations added to the record

    Indication of technical modifications

Archival Description

The creation of an accurate representation of a unit of description and its component parts, if any, by capturing, analyzing, organizing and recording information that serves to identify, manage, locate and explain archival materials and the context and records systems which produced it.

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This is the view from the bluff, the narrative, rather than discrete pieces like names and dates. That is not to say archival description would not use names and dates, but instead is made of names and dates coupled with the archivist's view of body of records and their context.

Interoperability

The ability of one application/system to communicate or work with another.

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Interoperability can happen

(1) at one point in time
 - synchronic

(2) through time
 -diachronic

(3) and that aligns purposes   -intentional

Interoperability

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InterPARES 2 Glossary

Interoperability can happen

(1) at one point in time
- synchronic

For example, one recordkeeping system may successfully capture all names (author, writer, originator, and addressee), while another only captures one type of name.

Interoperability

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InterPARES 2 Glossary

RK1	RK2
Author	**Author**
Author	Author
Writer	?
Originator	?
Addressee	?

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InterPARES 2 Glossary

RK1	RK2/DC
Author	Creator
Writer	Creator
Originator	Creator
Addressee	Audience?

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Interoperability can happen

(2) through time -diachronic

For example, a metadata scheme (or even a classification) could change over time, and we want our permanent preservation system to handle this.

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InterPARES 2 Glossary

Access Points in Archival Description

RK1.0 (pre-1999)

Northwest Territories

RK2.0 (1999-Present)

Northwest Territories

Nunavut

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Application Profiles

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is a declaration of the metadata terms an organization, information resource, application, or user community uses in its metadata.

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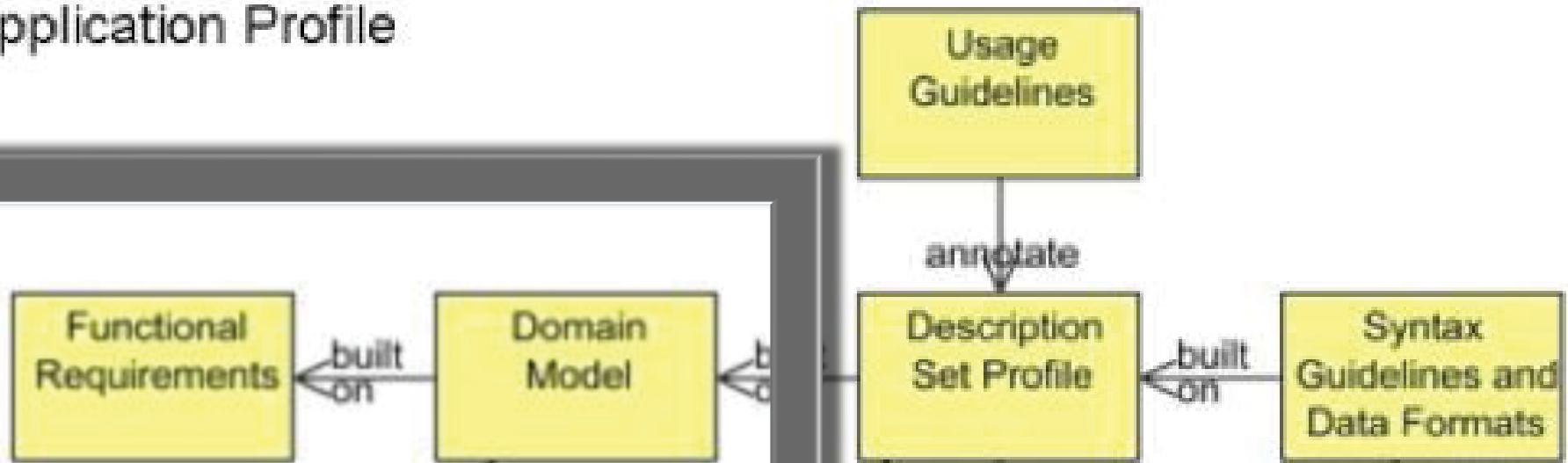
An application profile is not considered complete without documentation that defines the policies and best practices appropriate to the application.

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That is, a clear and explicit statement of purpose and functional requirements is published with the metadata.

Application Profile Components

As we can see we have functional requirements (retrieval or authenticity or both?)
And a domain model archives, open web, museums? What is the purpose what is the
context?

Working With These Challenges

The next steps for metadata work in the context of InterPARES is to work with all of these types of interoperability as we publish metadata schemas for use by small and medium sized organizations.

We will want systems to work together at one time, through time, and with clear articulation of purpose.

Working With These Challenges

This means we will publish application profiles, change schemas, and conceptual models.

The next steps for metadata work in the context of InterPARES is to work with all of these types of interoperability as we publish metadata schemas for use by small and medium sized organizations.

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Thank you

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