



InterPARES 3 Project

International Research on Permanent Authentic Records in Electronic Systems
TEAM Canada

General Study Research Proposal Metadata Application Profiles

Version 1.0, May 2010

Background and Rationale for Study

In the context of InterPARES, metadata are assertions about documents, records and groups of records that we make for the sake of authenticity, preservation and retrieval.

For each case study, we may decide to publish the metadata that we generate along with some explanation of why we created them so that others can use them. We probably would not publish a single scheme, but rather an extension of a scheme, or some sort of mixture of different schemes.

This mixing and matching of metadata schemes are what are called application profiles. For example, there may be a component of PREMIS that we decide to use, to which we would extend by adding InterPARES metadata elements. That would be an application profile.

Currently, the Dublin Core Metadata Initiative (DCMI) is approving application profiles, based on Dublin Core, for wider international use. It is precisely because the work we do here is valuable to the wider international community that we would want to make available not only our findings, but also tools like application profiles (APs).

Objective of Research

This research is design research. It will identify the problems of creating metadata that are locally relevant, linked to archival theory, and reusable, especially to other organizations. We want to do this work in concert with findings from InterPARES 1 and 2, and in alignment with international standards like those promulgated by the DCMI and PREMIS.

Creative Work

Action Item 1: Identify and analyze metadata standards that are relevant to the cases presented in InterPARES 3

- Guiding Questions for Action Item 1: What has InterPARES currently done in this regard? What standards are left to analyze?

Action Item 2: Assess needs of these cases in relation to extant metadata

- Guiding Questions for Action Item 2: Are their needs not being met by one standard? Would a combination of standards be more useful for their purposes?

Action Item 3: Design a single application profile that will match the needs assessment of the cases in InterPARES 3

- Guiding Question for Action Item 3: What is the state of the art of application profile design?

Methodology of Research

As design research, we will: (1) establish the desired outcome for metadata schema for the cases in InterPARES 3; (2) following the Singapore Framework (the DCMI's methodology for creating application profiles), construct an IP3 application profile; and (3) vet this with stakeholders, researchers, and the DCMI community.

Plan of Action – two options one for research one as a class at UBC

Activities	Target Dates
Option 1 - Research	
1. Present research proposal	TEAM Canada Plenary, May 2010
2. Identify metadata standards	Online, June, 2010
3. Case studies needs assessment	Vancouver, August 2010
4. Draft application profile	Vancouver, October 2010
5. Present draft application profile	TEAM Canada Plenary, November 2010
Option 2 – Teaching and Learning	
1. Present research proposal	TEAM Canada Plenary, May 2010
2. Carry out all three actions in a UBC course	Vancouver, Fall, 2010
3. Present application profile	TEAM Canada Plenary, November 2010
4. Vet application profile	Winter, 2010
5. Present final application profile	TEAM Canada Plenary, May 2011

Research Team

Option 1

Lead investigator: Joe Tennis
 Co-investigator: Sherry Xie (PREMIS expertise)
 Research Assistant(s): To be assigned

Option 2

Lead investigator: Joe Tennis
 Co-investigator: Sherry Xie (PREMIS expertise)
 Students enrolled in course at UBC

Dissemination Activities

Conferences

American Society for Information Science and Technology, 2011

Dublin Core Conference, 2011

Journals

JASIST

Online

Downloadable Application Profiles from the InterPARES Web site.