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**

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