HELP US IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF METADATA FOR RESEARCH.

Metadata 2020 is a collaboration that advocates richer, connected, and reusable, open metadata for all research outputs, which will advance scholarly pursuits for the benefit of society.

RICHER
Richer metadata fuels discoverability and innovation.

CONNECTED
Connected metadata bridges the gaps between systems and communities.

REUSABLE
Reusable, open metadata eliminates duplication of effort.
Progress

- Community Groups
- Projects
  - Phase 1 (2018)
  - Phase 2 (2019)
- Workshops – New York & London
  - Workflow diagrams
  - The Metadata Game
Defining the issues
Community Groups

- **Publishers;** Chairs: Terri Teleen and Duncan Campbell, Wiley
- **Librarians;** Chair: Juliane Schneider, Harvard Catalyst
- **Service Providers & Platforms and Tools;**
  Chair: Marianne Calilhanna, Cenveo Publishing Services
- **Data Publishers and Repositories;**
  Chair: John Chodacki, California Digital Library
- **Researchers;** Chair: Cameron Neylon, Curtin
- **Funders;** Chair: Ross Mounce, Arcadia Fund
Group Work

- Each community group has met 4 times
- They have defined their community problem statements, outlining challenges and opportunities
- Ideas that arose from multiple meetings are now resulting in specific **cross-community projects**
Communities have **similar problems** and **similar solutions** available if they **collaborate**

Efforts have been made to address challenges within each community, but few efforts have been truly **cross-community**

We hope to increase effectiveness and efficiency and avoid duplication of work
Breaking down silos and getting stuff done
Projects

1. Researcher Communications
2. Metadata Recommendations and Element Mappings
3. Defining the Terms We Use About Metadata
4. Incentives for Improving Metadata Quality
5. Best Practices and Principles
6. Metadata Evaluation and Guidance
Project 3: Defining the Terms We Use About Metadata

Group Lead: Scott Plutchak, University of Alabama at Birmingham (retired)

Purpose: In order to communicate effectively about anything, a common language must be acknowledged, tacitly or purposefully. In the metadata space, there is not agreement on what words like property, term, concept, schema, title refer to. This project will develop a glossary of words associated with metadata, both for core concepts and disciplinary areas.

Key Deliverables in 2018:

- Conduct survey with Project 1 to identify commonly used terms
- Review metadata terminology elements and research how the elements are termed differently in different schemas; with the view to eventually creating a metadata glossary
Project 5: Shared Best Practices and Principles

**Group Leads:** Howard Ratner, CHORUS; and Jennifer Kemp, Crossref

**Purpose:** To build a set of high level best practices for using metadata across the scholarly communication cycle, in order to facilitate interoperability and easier exchange of information and data across the stakeholders in the process.

**Key Deliverables in 2018:**

- Collect and annotate existing best practices and publish online
- List ‘frequently requested elements’
- Produce a best practices and principles guide; the first step being to provide high-level guidelines by the end of the year
Project 1: Researcher Communications

**Group Lead:** Alice Meadows, ORCID; Michelle Urberg, ProQuest

**Purpose:** Exploring ways to align efforts between communities who aim to increase the impact and consistency of communication with researchers about metadata.

**Key Deliverables in 2018:**

- Focus on researching needs and concerns of researchers in more detail
- Literature Review of research around metadata (next slide)
- Survey and interviews of researchers
- Beginning of conception of campaign to researchers
Survey Highlight: Researchers (Data Sets)

1. What is your research area and how long have you been at it?
2. Do you collaborate with researchers in other disciplines? What are they?
3. If you’re trying to decide whether or not to read a paper when you see an interesting title or scan through a table of contents, what are the most important things for you to know about it before you read it in detail?
4. If you’re trying to find a good paper on a topic, what pieces of information about that subject area are most helpful in finding what you seek?
5. If you are trying to understand a dataset sent to you from a colleague, what are the most critical things for you to know about it before you can decide how to use it?
6. If you’re getting ready to deposit a dataset or some computer code that you created into a public repository, or send it to someone, what are the key descriptions about it that you think are essential for somebody to be able to make sense of it?
7. When researching a new or interdisciplinary topic area, what metadata resources would help you to find what you want more quickly?
8. When you’re looking at articles to assist you in research, are there things about the article that you’d like to find out, but usually can’t?
9. When searching through articles, have you ever found something completely different (but useful) instead? Are these accidental discoveries pleasant, or distractions?
10. Do you search databases and download large numbers of citations to a reference management database? If so, which one?
Literature Review Highlights (W. Gregg)

Present in the literature
- Models of the scholarly communications lifecycle
- Analysis of select, discipline-specific metadata standards, and article/data repositories
- Evolving practices in digital curation, especially related to research data
- View that metadata is important to all stakeholders in scholarly communications

Absent in the literature
- Research into informal sharing of data/findings between researchers
- 'Big picture' comparison of the great quantity of standards, especially with regard to the differences in required fields
- Comparison of metadata quality between open access articles and articles published in traditional fashion
- Analysis of how specific metadata fields are used by stakeholders
How To Get Involved

- Check out the website
- Review community statements and send comments
- Reach out to team members
- Join a community group
- Join a project
- info@metadata2020.org
Questions
Thank you!

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