Managing Metadata Mapping

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Abstract

Metadata mapping plays a pivotal role in the accessibility, management, and discoverability of digital resources. As the digital landscape continues to expand, service providers face the significant challenge of maintaining metadata quality while maximizing the level of discoverability of digital collections. This poster presentation seeks to explore the nuanced dynamics of metadata mapping within the context of library systems and digital collections.

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The introduction of the poster overviews my ongoing research that aims to answer what metadata mapping strategies within Dublin Core best enhance the discoverability of digital collections while maintaining metadata quality? In doing so, I will highlight the foundational premise that metadata mapping for service providers is not merely a technical task but a crucial strategy for enhancing the discoverability of digital resources. It acknowledges the common concern that mapping efforts might compromise metadata quality, given the translation of specific, locally developed metadata schemas into Dublin Core. This process is especially challenging for metadata specialists and digital collections curators who are tasked with balancing the dual needs of facilitating discovery and adhering to detailed descriptive requirements that honor the distinct aspects of unique collections.

Following the introduction, the poster delineates the roles of metadata in supporting key functions such as discovery, access, and management of digital resources. It emphasizes the critical nature of metadata in navigating the vast quantities of digital content that service providers manage and users access. The narrative then transitions into a detailed discussion on how library systems specifically address these broader metadata needs. This section introduces the concept of reusable metadata profiles, which offer a sustainable and efficient approach to metadata management by allowing for the adaptation of standardized metadata elements across different collections and contexts.

In exploring the implementation of these metadata profiles, the poster provides case studies and examples from a selection of real-world examples of institutions that have successfully integrated reusable profiles into their metadata strategies. These examples highlight the benefits of such approaches, including increased efficiency in resource allocation, improved accuracy in

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data description, and enhanced user experience in resource discovery.

Furthermore, the poster offers practical guidance and strategies for service providers on employing a defined set of metadata elements to enhance discoverability. This section covers best practices in metadata mapping, including the development of mappings that retain the integrity and depth of the original descriptive metadata while making necessary adjustments for broader accessibility and standardization. It also discusses the tools and technologies that facilitate effective metadata mapping and the ongoing evaluation of metadata quality and functionality.

Conclusively, the poster overviews my ongoing research on the importance of a strategic approach to metadata mapping within Dublin Core, suggesting that the deliberate and thoughtful application of standardized metadata schemas, combined with customizable profiles, can significantly enhance the discoverability and usability of digital collections. It calls for ongoing collaboration among metadata professionals and other stakeholders to refine and enhance metadata mapping practices, ensuring they evolve in tandem with the needs of digital collections and in consideration of technological advancements.

As a result of considering the points that will be made on this poster, attendees will gain a comprehensive understanding of the challenges and opportunities that surround metadata mapping for digital collections, and they will be equipped with actionable insights and strategies to implement in their respective digital repositories. This poster will not only contribute to the ongoing dialogue on metadata best practices and linked data, but also serves as a resource for enhancing the practical impact of enhancing Dublin Core metadata in an evolving digital age.

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