



DPC Meeting on Preservation Metadata: summing-up

Michael Day
UKOLN, University of Bath
and Digital Curation Centre
<http://www.ukoln.ac.uk/>



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Morning session (1)

- Metadata has key role in all digital preservation strategies
 - Incorporates a range of metadata types
 - There is still uncertainty about what is needed so we need to err on the side of caution when deciding what metadata to collect
- Efficiency (cost) is still an issue, so need to explore means of sharing common information (e.g. registries) and automatic capture of metadata



Morning session (2)

- Collaboration and consensus remains important (sharing practical experience)
- Need means of packaging metadata (OAIS Information Package)
 - METS is one way of doing this
 - Standard does not proscribe content, METS Profiles (+ maybe specific tools) needed to support fullest interoperability
 - PREMIS Data Dictionary needs to be approved as a METS approved schema (?)
 - Other options, e.g. MPEG-21 DID



Morning session (3)

- PREMIS Data Dictionary is one of a growing suite of digital preservation 'standards'
 - METS, MIX, OAIS
 - Descriptive standards (MARC, MODS)
 - Harvesting mechanisms like OAI
- Importance of standardised processes for preservation metadata
- Schema evolution, versioning, etc. - can be problematic



Afternoon session (1)

- Relationship of preservation policies and strategies with required metadata
- Some use of metadata capture tools, e.g. JHOVE for technical information about file formats (also projects like PAWN: Producer-Archive Workflow Networks)
- A need for the *ongoing* assessment of what metadata is required



Afternoon session (2)

- Building *trust* in preservation practice
- Importance of *flexibility* - "a basket of options" (Ayrís) responding to local requirements
- International collaboration important (but sometimes difficult)
 - Replication and redundancy



Some other questions

- Evaluation (fit for purpose?)
- Understanding of the semantics of metadata over (long periods of) time
- Quality-control
- Cost is a big issue ... who will pay?
- Other views with less experience of METS, e.g. records management (RKMS, ISO/DIS 23081-1)

