



# DPC Meeting on Preservation Metadata: summing-up

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*DPC Meeting on Preservation Metadata, British Library  
Conference Centre, London, 8 September 2005*

Funded by: **JISC** 



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# Morning session (1)

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- 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)

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- 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)

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- 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)

