Preservation Action Registries

DPC Briefing Day on

Preservation Planning and
Technology Watch

9 February 2021
Preservation Action Registries

Agenda

• What PAR is
• What it is Good For
• PAR Current State
• Desired Future State

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An interlingua between preservation systems

A common means for preservation systems to
• describe the preservation actions they can perform,
• when to perform them, and
• how they are executed.
What PAR is

An interlingua between preservation practitioners

A way for preservation practitioners to describe their business rules

• Which preservation actions they have chosen to perform
• When and why to perform them
What PAR is

PAR defines

• A Data Model: conceptual model, json schemas
• An API: common read and write interface to preservation systems
• A Protocol: practical, usable, multi-vendor approach
What PAR can be

PAR is meant to be about

- The Future: declare policies, capabilities – what we intend
- The Present: describe current good practice – what we are doing
- The Past: provide better evidence of what we have done
What’s good practice?
What should I do?
What do you do?
Why do it that way?
I’m going to do this...

1. Policies
   Plans
   Rulesets

2. Actions
   Tools
   Systems

3. Reports
   Provenance
   Audits

What’s possible?
What can this system do?
What tools can I use?
What formats?

What did my system do?
What worked?
What didn’t?
Where’s the evidence?

sharing good practice
Current State

- Data Model and API implemented in current Preservica release
- Proof of Concept add-on to Archivematica that translates to PAR API
- Example tool to inspect the Preservation Actions available in 3 different preservation systems:
  - Preservica
  - Standard Archivematica hosted by Artefactual
  - Arkivum hosted version of Archivematica

https://concept.preservica.com/par-browser
Desired Future State

• Describing the Future
  – Rulesets to connect business rules to higher level policies
  – Improve use of Objects to connect preservation actions to complex intellectual entities (not just files)
Desired Future State

• Describing the Present
  – Incorporate PAR Data Model into core Archivematica Data Model
  – Connect to other systems (wikiDP, PRONOM, tool registries)
Desired Future State

- Describing the Past
  - Connecting DP execution (outcomes) with DP plans (desires)
  - Reporting of preservation events (successful and otherwise)
  - Combining PAR with standards such as PREMIS and PROV-O
  - Working at scale
How You Can Help

Get Involved

• Find us
  – on github: https://github.com/openpreserve/par/
  – Website: www.parcore.org

Try the PAR Browser
https://concept.preservica.com/par-browser
Thanks and Questions