What is PREMIS?

- digital PREServation Metadata
- PREMIS is an Information Model:
  - “The information a repository uses to support the digital preservation process”
  - “Things that most working preservation repositories are likely to need to know to support digital preservation”
Contents

• Basics of PREMIS
• PREMIS Conformance
• PREMIS practicalities
• Where next?
PREMIS Basics - Always had intellectual entities

- Collection
- Sub-Collection
- Record
- Sub-Record

Descriptive metadata

Structural metadata
PREMIS Basics - But now have digital files...

Records of XYZ Committee

- Fixity
- Size
- Format
  - Version
- Rendering software
- Embedded images:
  - Fixity
  - Size
  - Format
    - Version
- ...

1995 – Word Perfect

2000 – Word 97

2005 – Word 2002

2010 – Word 2010

Technical metadata

Technical metadata

Technical metadata

Technical metadata
PREMIS Basics - And need to do more things…

Records of XYZ Committee

Original Representation
- 1995 – Word Perfect
- 2000 – Word 97
- 2005 – Word 2002
- 2010 – Word 2010

Migrated Representation
- 1995 – PDF/A
- 2000 – PDF/A
- 2005 – PDF/A
- 2010 – PDF/A
PREMIS Basics - 3 types of Object

- 1995 – Word Perfect
- 2000 – Word 97
- 2005 – Word 2002
- 2010 – Word 2010
PREMIS Basics - Objects

• PREMIS Objects:
  – Representation
  – File
  – Bitstream

• Define common properties
PREMIS Basics - Object properties 1/2

- Identifier
- Category (Representation, File, Bitsteam)
- Preservation level
- Significant properties:
  - Type (e.g., page count)
  - Value (e.g., 7)
- Characteristics:
  - Fixity
  - Size (bytes)
  - Format (Designation, Registry, Note)
  - Creating application
  - ...
- Original name
- Storage
PREMIS Basics - Object properties 2

• Environment:
  – ...
  – Software
  – Hardware
  – ...

• Signature
• Relationship
• Linked events
• Linked intellectual entity
• Linked rights statement
PREMIS Basics - More than Objects

- Intellectual Entities
- Rights
- Objects
- Agents
- Events
PREMIS Basics - Events

- Identifier
- Type
- Date Time
- Detail
- Outcome Information
- Agent Identifier
- Object Identifier
PREMIS Basics - Rights

- Identifier
- Basis
- Copyright Information
- Licence Information
- Statute Information
- Rights granted
- Linking object
- Linking agent
PREMIS Basics - Agents

- Identifier
- Name
- Type
PREMIS Basics - Summary

• Objects:
  – Representation
  – File
  – Bitstream

• Events

• Rights

• Agents
PREMIS Conformance

• PREMIS is an Information Model:
  – “The information a repository uses to support the digital preservation process”

• Designed to be independent of:
  – Archiving system
  – Preservation strategy
  – Metadata management process

• There is a PREMIS XML Schema but do NOT have to use this to be CONFORMANT.
PREMIS Conformance

• To be conformant:
  – Implement the semantic units in the Data Dictionary
  – If share name, must share definition
  – If not share name, must map definition (if mandatory)
  – Can add constraints but not remove them

• Internal Conformance:
  – Conformant within repository

• External Conformance:
  • Produce conformant export from the repository
PREMIS Practicalities: e.g., SDB

• Pre-dates PREMIS (Representation = Manifestation)
• Need to respond quickly: Add extra fields to entities
• Need more entities:
  – Intellectual Entities broken down more than via cataloguing
  – Complex relationship with Representations
  – Use for automated migration and validation
• Don’t want to hold lots of repeated information:
  – Use PRONOM PUIDs so Registry implied for every Format
• Hold Storage separate from immutable metadata
• Do have option to export to PREMIS XML schema:
  – Make implicit information explicit
Where next? - Governance

- “Self-governed” by community
- PREMIS Editorial Committee
- If you get involved..
  – Likely to get invited on!
- Does react
- But it is everyone’s part-time job!

- PREMIS 3.0:
  – Adds Intellectual Entity
  – Adds Environments
  – Allows for less verbosity
  – ...
CONCLUSIONS

• PREMIS:
  – Information Model for digital preservation
  – Allows for implementation variations
  – Allows for extensions (low conformance barrier)
  – Reacts to community
  – JOIN IN!