Building Virtual Collections

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Beyond Limits: Building Open Access Collections

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Introduction

- This session will examine the underpinnings of building virtual collections; metadata and application profiles

- Who I am – Technical Services Librarian and ETD Project Manager at University of Victoria and member of the CARL IR Metadata Working Group

Session Outline

- CARL vision
- CARL harvester
- Metadata
- Application profiles
- CARLCore
- Institutional Repositories
- Challenges

CARL vision for virtual collections

- CARL Institutional Repository Project
- Federated searching
- Scholarly publishing
- Open Access environment

Virtual collections

- Definition
- Small or large
- Text, images, maps
- Big picture

Print to Digital

Print	Description Access Points AACR2/MARC	Local catalogue		Union catalogue
Books – stacks	author	card	ftp	
Maps – drawers	title	OPAC	⟶	WorldCat
Videos – film desk	subject			

Digital	Description Metadata DC/VRA	Local catalogue		Union catalogue
Books – PDFs	author	OPAC	OAI-PMH	CARL IR
Images - JPGs	title	DSpace	⟵	OAIster
Music – MP3s	keyword	local DB		
	Best practices	AP		AP

Repositories & Harvesters

- **What is a digital repository?**
  - ◆ Data provider
  - ◆ Contains electronic texts, maps, learning objects, etc. & metadata
- **What is a harvester?**
  - ◆ Service provider
  - ◆ Harvests the metadata
  - ◆ Single search interface

CARL harvester

- Established Mar. 2004
- Hosted at Simon Fraser University
- Uses OAI-PMH
- Currently 12 institutions – 12 more coming online this summer
- April 2007, over 30,000 records

Metadata

- MARC is a metadata schema; coded and complex

- Dublin Core is a metadata schema designed for digital resources; plain language and simple

- Consistency in values, such as Date and Type, affects resource discovery

Application profiles

- A defined element set, policies and "best practices"

- Standard vocabularies, eg. DCMI Type vocabulary

- Guidelines

- CARLCore - CARL harvester application profile

ETD Application Profile

Name of Term	dateCopyrighted
Term URI	http://purl.org/dc/terms/dateCopyrighted
Label	Date
Defined By	http://dublincore.org/documents/dcmi-terms/
Source Definition	Date of a statement of copyright
Source Comments	
[Domain] Comments	Use the year of copyright from the thesis title page.
Type of term	element-refinement
Refines	date
Refined By	—
Obligation	M
Occurrence	—

CARLCore

- CARLCore Metadata Application Profile

- Collaborative effort of members across Canada

- Based on unqualified Dublin Core

- Version 1.0 released mid May

Institutional Repositories

- Create their own metadata application profiles
- Summarize any follow up action items required of you
- CARL encourages members to implement IRs
- CARL harvester is one common point of access to Canadian IRs

CARLCore element - Description

Element: Description

Definition: An account of the content of the resource.

Obligation: Optional

Generated By: Person

Recommended Encoding: None

Element Guidelines: Repeatable.

Free text.

May include an abstract, table of contents, summary description of the contents, or a URI which points to a description.

Examples:

Illustrates the use of a Webcam. [Image]

This thesis describes the high velocity vibration of the proton ... [Text]

Saturn. Galiano. Mayne. North and South Pender. [Text]

Challenges to building virtual collections

- Canadian context means French and English

- Author generated metadata

- Collective vs. institutional level

- Diverse and decentralized

More information

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  http://carl-abrc-oai.lib.sfu.ca/
- CARL website:
  http://www.carl-abrc.ca
- CARL IR Project
  http://www.carl-abrc.ca/projects/institutional_repositories/institutional_repositories-e.html