

Enhancing Metadata through Standardization and Validation: Practical Application at the University of Kansas Libraries *Presentation*

Erin Wolfe
University of Kansas
Libraries, USA
edw@ku.edu

Keywords: Islandora; metadata enhancement; FAST Linked Data

Abstract

The Digital Initiatives department at the University of Kansas Libraries is in the process of migrating digital collections and assets to a locally hosted instance of Islandora to serve as our primary digital repository. As a key part of this process, we are taking the opportunity to clean up, standardize, enhance through linked data, and validate our metadata records prior to ingest in this new system.

Using a variety of open tools, we have developed a systematic and replicable method to create uniform metadata records that conform to our in-house guidelines and requirements. A final MODS record will serve as a master record for each object and is mapped to other schemas as appropriate, such as Dublin Core for display and OAI harvesting in Islandora.

Starting with metadata from a variety of sources, including MARCXML, ArchivesSpace EAD, and LUNA Imaging, XSL stylesheets transform the existing data to full MODS records. Then, a combination of Python scripts and OpenRefine's reconciliation service are used to convert LCSH terms to FAST Linked Data subject terms with URI attributes. Individual scripts are employed to create or update additional elements or values, such as Linked Data attributes for non-subject elements, multiple identifiers (e.g., institutional, Handles, ORCIDs, etc.), Creative Commons license statements, and other similar types of content.

In order to enforce compliance and consistency, we have developed a workflow that uses Schematron to (a) validate the record against the MODS schema, and (b) compare the contents of the record against different levels of required and preferred elements, as defined by the Digital Initiative's metadata guidelines, providing opportunity for continued improvements.

This presentation will highlight some of the processes that we are using and some challenges that we've faced. It will present a case study in practical application of linked data and systematized approach to metadata management in an academic library.