METS extension schemas: MODS

DLF Forum
Breakout #7
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Descriptive schemas in METS

- Dublin Core (simple)
- MARCXML
- MODS (proposed for endorsement)
Dublin Core

- Dublin Core simple schema endorsed
- Includes 15 unqualified Dublin Core elements
  - Useful as general resource discovery elements
  - Cannot include authorities, encoding schemes
  - Does not allow for element substructure
What is MODS?

 Metadata Object Description Schema
 Bibliographic element set
 Initiative of Network Development and MARC Standards Office at LC
 Uses XML Schema
 Specifically for library applications, although could be used more widely
 A subset of MARC elements
Why MODS?

- Recognition that XML is the markup for the Web
- Harness the power of the MARC element set in an XML syntax
- Need for rich descriptive metadata in XML but simpler than full MARC
- Uses language based tags
- Complex digital library objects requiring more complex descriptive metadata structure
Potential Uses of MODS

- as a Z39.50 Next Generation specified format
- as an extension schema to METS
- to represent metadata for harvesting (OAI)
- for original resource description in XML syntax
- for representing a simplified MARC record in XML
- for metadata in XML that may be packaged with an electronic resource
Features of MODS

- Elements generally inherit semantics of MARC
- Some data has been repackaged; in some cases what is in several data elements in MARC may be brought together into one
- MODS does not assume the use of any specific cataloging code
- Reuse element descriptions throughout the schema
- Does not allow for lossless conversion from MARC
Status of MODS

- Version 1.2 available and out for 6-month review
- Changes being collected; version 2.0 will be available in Nov.-Dec.
- Part of the XML MARC tool kit
- LC responsible for maintenance
Advantages of MODS as METS extension schema

MODS vs. Dublin Core simple
- Allows richer description with substructure
- Semantics that are a more natural fit in a library environment

MODS vs. MARCXML
- More lightweight than MARCXML
- Uses language based tags and more readily understandable
MODS high-level elements

- TitleInfo (mandatory)
- Name
- Type of resource
- Genre
- PublicationInfo
- Language
- Physical description
- Abstract
- Table of contents
- Target audience
- Note
- Cartographics
- Subject
- Classification
- Related item
- Identifier
- Location
- Access conditions
- Extension
- RecordInfo
AV Prototype Project

- Exploring digital preservation for audio and video
- Digitally reformatted and born digital collections
- Use of METS with focus on metadata
- Where possible records converted from LC ILS into MODS; also allows original input
- METS/MODS tool
AV prototype project
descriptive metadata

- MODS more robust than Dublin Core
- Better descriptive structure
- Retains more data in conversion from MARC
- Includes Record information
- Allows for embedding descriptive information for constituent parts (linked to structMap)
<mods:titleInfo>
</mods:titleInfo>

<mods:name type="personal">
  <mods:namePart>Gottlieb, William P</mods:namePart>
  <mods:namePart type="date">1917-</mods:namePart>
  <mods:role>photographer.</mods:role>
</mods:name>

<mods:typeOfResource>still image</mods:typeOfResource>

<mods:genre authority="marc">chart</mods:genre>

<mods:genre authority="gmgpc">Portrait photographs-1940-1950.</mods:genre>

<mods:genre authority="gmgpc">Film negatives-1940-1950.</mods:genre>
<mods:relatedItem type="host"><mods:titleInfo>
<mods:title>William P. Gottlieb Collection</mods:title>
</mods:titleInfo>
<mods:identifier type="local">(DLC) 99-401005</mods:identifier></mods:relatedItem>
<mods:identifier type="uri">http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.music/gottlieb.07301</mods:identifier>
<mods:location>Library of Congress Prints & Photographs Division</mods:location>
<mods:location>Library of Congress Music Division</mods:location>
<mods:accessCondition type="restrictionOnAccess">Original negative not served.</mods:accessCondition>
<mods:recordInfo><mods:recordContentSource>DLC</mods:recordContentSource><mods:recordCreationDate encoding="marc">990119</mods:recordCreationDate><mods:recordIdentifier source="DLC">got99000730</mods:recordIdentifier></mods:recordInfo>