

## PREMIS Editorial Committee Conference Call Notes

28 June 2007

In attendance: Rebecca Guenther, Rory McLeod, Zhiwu Xie, Olaf Brandt, Gerard Clifton (notes).

Apologies: Steve Bordwell, Priscilla Caplan, Brian Lavoie, Bill Leonard, Yaniv Levi.

### 1. Editorial Committee Membership

Rory noted that Steve Bordwell will be moving from the National Archives of Scotland to the General Register Office, so he may not be in a position to continue on the PREMIS Editorial Committee. In principle, Committee membership is not linked to specific institutions (i.e. does not necessarily stay with the NAS), except for a general expectation that an institution would be a PREMIS implementer, so several options are possible:

- ask Steve Bordwell to consider remaining on the EC to September – his experience and contributions are valued. (He should also be acknowledged in the final work.)
- seek a replacement for Steve from NAS – Jane Brown has been suggested
- seek a replacement from another implementing institution – e.g. Karsten Huth, Federal Archives of Germany

**ACTION:** EC members to consider who to approach for EC membership, for discussion at July 5 call.

**ACTION:** Rory McLeod to approach Steve Bordwell regarding continued EC membership.

### 2. Data model changes

#### **Revision of data model & unique names**

Olaf has revised the data model diagram based on discussion from last call (see diagram at [http://pec.lib.uchicago.edu:8888/pec/uploads/20070613\\_Entities.pdf](http://pec.lib.uchicago.edu:8888/pec/uploads/20070613_Entities.pdf) [PDF version added 2 July]) and drafted additional changes as a consequence of this revision: where additional semantic units are required or where changes to the description of semantic units is required. (See [http://pec.lib.uchicago.edu:8888/pec/uploads/1/suggested\\_changes\\_model.1.pdf](http://pec.lib.uchicago.edu:8888/pec/uploads/1/suggested_changes_model.1.pdf) ).

The proposed changes are based on similar semantic units, which raised the issue of whether unique names are needed for semantic units (e.g. can the name `linkingEventIdentifier` be re-used within an Agent Entity, if we now allow this link direction?). There was discussion that there are essentially two types of links covered in the DD – ‘related’ linkages, relating Objects to other Objects and Events, and ‘linking’ linkages which involve actions on or relationships with only one Object. It was suggested that in order to re-use ‘linkingEventIdentifier’ in an Agent Entity, the wording in the `linkingEventIdentifier` definition in the DD needs to be made more generic:

change 'event associated with the object' to 'event associated with the entity'. It was decided, however, that this needed further exploration with regard to usage in XML.

**ACTION:** Zhiwu Xie to explore the issue of unique naming vs. re-use of semantic unit names and post to the [EC?] wiki for discussion.

### **Repeatability of Identifiers & cardinality of links**

Zhiwu raised the issue of repeatable identifiers (for Objects & Agents) and how these should be referenced by links in other Entities: would multiple relatedObjectIdentifiers be required to refer to all the equivalent identifiers by which an Object may be known?

Rebecca noted that Rights and Events identifiers are not repeatable. Agents and Objects may have multiple identifiers because these Entities may have multiple identities in a global environment or across multiple systems, but for Rights and Events, the assumption is that these are likely to be limited to a local context only, and therefore not require multiple aliases.

A suggested solution would be to:

- add another container– 'linkingObject' or 'linkingEntity' – above the identifier, within which the multiple identifiers for the same Object or Agents could be repeated. It is not expected that this would be needed for Events; it is unlikely that an Event would have more than one identifier.

Regarding the data model diagram, cardinality has been removed in order to simplify it for users new to PREMIS; however, the cardinality is described at the relationship level in the semantic units.

Zhiwu asked whether the data model diagram should be represented in UML, as this is an ISO standard form of representation. Would we put a UML version in the DD?

**ACTION:** Zhiwu Xie volunteered to draft a UML version of the data model diagram and post it on the EC wiki for consideration.

### **Inconsistencies in description of the data model in the DD**

(Refer to page 3 of the suggested changes for the data model at

[http://pec.lib.uchicago.edu:8888/pec/uploads/1/suggested\\_changes\\_model.1.pdf](http://pec.lib.uchicago.edu:8888/pec/uploads/1/suggested_changes_model.1.pdf) )

The linking changes also seem to require some reworking of the descriptions in the 'Entity properties' sections for the affected Entities. On page 3 of the suggested changes draft, some wording changes were made to indicate that, because linking could occur from either Entity which

is party to a link, several of the 'must' statements should be made more optional ('should' or 'can'), as it may not be mandatory to include the link from the Entity which previously recorded the link exclusively.

However, on further discussion, several principles emerged:

- If there is a relationship between Entities, it must be recorded; however, it can be recorded in either Entity which is party to the relationship (where a bi-directional link is allowed).
- Entity property descriptions which currently describe a relationship should essentially remain unchanged, as they state the relationship, regardless of in which related Entity the link may be recorded.
- It is not necessary to state that the relationship is bi-directional.
- It is not mandatory to record links in both directions.

With regard to the proposed changes (page 3) to Entity properties, the following amendments apply:

Rights Entity:

- 2-74 DD page reference should be 2-88.
- 'Can be related to one or more Objects' reverts to 'Must be related to one or more Objects'. A Right must at least be associated with an Object.
- 'Should be related to one or more agents' – [Notetaker's note: there is no decision recorded regarding this change. The original text states 'Must be related to one or more agents', but as Olaf notes, the 'grantingAgent' semantic unit is optional, so it is not clear what should be done here. According to the principles above, if there is a relationship, use 'Must'; however, is there always a relationship to an Agent? Revision of the Rights Entity undertaken by Priscilla (see June 28 revision <http://pec.lib.uchicago.edu:8888/pec/uploads/rightsStatement.2.doc>) already notes that if the permission basis is copyright or statute, no agent is involved and suggests this 'Must' changes to 'May'.)
- There was a question as to why the linkingObject was 'flat-linking' (i.e. does not include the Type & Value structure.) [Notetaker's note: This is also noted by Priscilla in the Rights Entity revision, with the recommendation that the structure be repeated here.]

Agent Entity:

- 'May create or act upon one or more objects' extend to include 'through an Event or Right', as there is no direct relationship between Agents and Objects, as Olaf noted previously.

#### Event Entity:

- 'Should be related to one or more objects' reverts to 'Must be related to one or more objects'. An Event must at least be related to an Object. However, in the Usage Note it should be stated that the link can be recorded from either the Object side or the Event side.

**ACTION:** Olaf Brandt to revise the proposed changes to the data model and descriptions.

### 3. Change #31: recommendations for identifier types

This issue relates to whether PREMIS should recommend the use of particular types of identifier (esp. Handles). Rory McLeod drafted a statement regarding this (see <http://listserv.loc.gov/cgi-bin/wa?A2=ind0706&L=premis-ec&T=0&P=5210>) with the outcome that recommending a specific identifier type would be implementation specific and is, therefore, out of scope of PREMIS and this review.

[Notetaker's note: The required action from this outcome was not clear (and/or not recorded), but relates to how this decision should be returned – via the PIG wiki or list?]

### 4. Other Business

#### **Tutorials:**

The two tutorials for LC and NLM employees, held before the ALA conference, both went very well, with many good evaluations and suggestions, and calls for more tutorials.

**ACTION:** Rebecca Guenther to summarise feedback from the recent LC & NLM tutorials.

Rory noted an intention to approach the newly appointed Executive Director of the UK DPC regarding a joint PREMIS tutorial in London. Several other successful tutorials on a range of topics have been hosted jointly by the DPC and the British Library.

#### **Translation of the PREMIS Data Dictionary**

Olaf reported that a German translation of the PREMIS Data Dictionary had been completed by Karsten Huth (Federal Archives of Germany) and Georg Beuchler (Swiss National Archives), and sought advice on how this should be further progressed towards release and publication.

Rebecca noted that the copyright for the DD is held by RLG and OCLC, and that this would need to be cleared first.

**ACTION:** [Rebecca Guenther?] to ask RLG / OCLC about copyright on the DD, with regard to a German translation being made available.

### **Tools page**

Rebecca noted that a tools page is to be set up on the main PREMIS Web site (LC). Several tools (e.g. a tool to translate JHOVE output to PREMIS) have been raised at a recent NDIIPP partners meeting and it would be helpful to promote these.

**ACTION:** If other tools for working with PREMIS are known, EC members should send these through to Rebecca for inclusion on the LC PREMIS Tools Page.

### **Next call 5 July 2007**

#### **Summary of Actions from this call:**

**ACTION:** EC members to consider who to approach for EC membership, for discussion at July 5 call.

**ACTION:** Rory McLeod to approach Steve Bordwell regarding continued EC membership.

**ACTION:** Zhiwu Xie to explore the issue of unique naming vs. re-use of semantic unit names and post to the [EC?] wiki for discussion.

**ACTION:** Zhiwu Xie volunteered to draft a UML version of the data model diagram and post it on the EC wiki for consideration.

**ACTION:** Olaf Brandt to revise the proposed changes to the data model and descriptions.

**ACTION:** Rebecca Guenther to summarise feedback from the recent LC & NLM tutorials.

**ACTION:** [Rebecca Guenther?] to ask RLG / OCLC about copyright on the DD, with regard to a German translation being made available.

**ACTION:** If other tools for working with PREMIS are known, EC members should send these through to Rebecca for inclusion on the LC PREMIS Tools Page.