

PREMIS Editorial Committee Call Notes
January 14, 2010

PRESENT: Yair Brama, Priscilla Caplan (recorder), Rebecca Guenther (chair), Noreen Hill, Angela Di Iorio, Rob Wolfe

1. The group welcomed Noreen Hill from the Library and Archives Canada to the EC.
2. Extensibility

Rob and Rebecca worked on revising the extensibility section of the Data Dictionary. They agreed that MDRef & MDWrap should not be semantic units in the Data Dictionary, the DD should just give information about how to use these in XML. They drafted text to revise the usage notes for 7 of the 8 semantic units that allow extensions (excluding signature), and added a paragraph to the Introduction spelling out how these XML elements work.

Wording for the Usage notes was approved with minor changes. Wording for the Introduction was approved with no changes. Rob will talk to Ray about making the actual changes to the PREMIS schema.

The Extensibility discussion raised the question of how to implement revisions to the Data Dictionary (as updates on the PREMIS website or as new versions of the DD). We need a more formal process for making changes, a list of topics to address, and target dates for addressing these topics. Our goal should be a 2.1 release this summer.

Rob suggested we also develop a review and acceptance process for schemas. METS revisions are issued frequently so long as they are backward compatible. He noted that the METS board was discussing its own schema revision process today, and he could report on it at the next EC call. Rebecca asked if we should have a more open mechanism for soliciting suggestions for changing the schema and Data Dictionary. Priscilla suggested drafting a procedure on the wiki.

3. Adding security classification properties for intelligence agencies

Rebecca related her recent discussions with some people at U.S. security agencies. A method for security classification was added to MARC a few years ago for intelligence agencies because they wanted to control access not only to objects but to metadata. A MARC field has an indicator whether another field is classified information. The security agencies want to be able to apply something like this at the root element of PREMIS. Rebecca proposed allowing a rights extension to be linked to the schema.

Priscilla objected that PREMIS doesn't describe itself -- it describes objects, events, rights, agents and intellectual entities. Security classification is meta-metadata and the agencies should have their own extension schema. Rebecca countered that they also want to indicate the security classification of object itself, which is in scope. Priscilla argued it

was business rules and out of scope. Rob thought maybe it would fit in provenance. Yair mentioned that in Rosetta access rights are not part of PREMIS, they are implemented as METS rights in a local rights schema. Rebecca asked if we had an extension, would it be at the root level, object level or elsewhere?

The group decided to try to get someone representing the intelligence agency group to forward more documentation and participate on a PREMIS call.

4. Membership.

NARA is implementing PREMIS and David Lake has a keen interest in being on the EC. This fits well with our desire to add more people from with archival backgrounds. We also talked about adding Karin Bredenberg from the Royal Archives in Sweden and/or Carsten Hoost from the German National Archives. All three additions were approved, and Rebecca will issue invitations.