PREMIS Editorial Committee Conference Call Notes

17 March 2008

In attendance: Rebecca Guenther, Angela Dappert, Olaf Brandt, Brian Lavoie, Zhiwu Xie, Markus Enders, Bill Leonard (notes).
Regrets: Priscilla Caplan, Steve Bordwell

1. Review of schemas

Ray Denenberg from the Library of Congress has posted a draft composite schema. Review of the proposed schema will be within PEC initially and is not expected to delay release.
ACTION: Rebecca will bring it to Jerry McDonough's attention as he is the author of the original schemas.

2. Data dictionary/report

The data dictionary/report cannot be finalized until decisions are made about extension elements. Send any other minor editorial comments to Cynthia, the editor.

3. Extensibility

Discussion dissected the proposals presented by Angela and by Zhiwu. Discussion covered whether the extensions should be nested within the container of the unit being extended, or, if they should be in parallel to the unit being extended, i.e. at the same level.

It is desirable, but probably not possible, to use the same approach for all extensions. One of the units being extended, significantPropertiesValue, is mandatory so a consistent approach might not be possible.

The group was reminded not to combine schema and data dictionary discussions, and not to limit the approach because of XML concerns or limitations.

It was also noted that perhaps not enough experience has been had using extensions so it may be better to allow for more flexibility until the community settles on a best practice.

The possibility of not including any extensions in the data dictionary was considered, but the group was reminded the the DD serves uses beyond schemas, e.g. as the model for database structures. It should be clear in the DD that implementations mayuse extensions without having to understand XML. The key question is whether there is a need to bundle the extension elements with the PREMIS elements, i.e. do they need to be associated?

There was no clear agreement on whether to keep 1.9 signatureInformation and 1.10 signatureInformationExtension, or to nest the extension within 1.9.

It was suggested that some use cases be written to help the committee understand how extensions to signatureInformation will be used.

Rebecca reminded all that a decision is required by Thursday.

ACTION: Zhiwu and Rebecca will work on use cases and options.

4. additionalTechnicalCharacteristics

Further to the discussion of last Thursday, Angela asked the group is anyone sees a problem with moving additionalTechnicalCharacteristics from 1.15 to become an extension at the same level as objectCharacteristics. The element is seen to belong in the same family of information. Rebecca pointed out that we want people to use objectCharacteristics, and not to replace it with an extension, i.e. additionalTechnicalCharacteristics should only be a supplement. Olaf pointed out that this unit should be nested within the objectCharacteristics container, as 1.5.7, instead of being at the same level as objectCharacteristics (which 1.15 is).

ACTION: More discussion may be needed, but a decision is required by Thursday.

5. Tutorial in Berlin, Sept. 2008

Rebecca asked whether any of the European members would be able to do a tutorial in Berlin in September to co-incide with the Dublin Core meeting. The tutorial would probably be held Friday Sept. 26. It was noted that considering the revisions to PREMIS a tutorial, or at least an information session, would be very useful.

Brian pointed out that there willbe significant work to revise the tutorial material.

6. Next Call

The next call will be Thursday March 20 (Friday March 21 in Australia):

10:00 EDT (US and Canada)

08:00 Mountain Daylight Time (US)

14:00 UK

15:00 Europe

01:00 Australia (21st in Australia)