

## PREMIS Editorial Committee Conference Call Notes

7 February 2008

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

Apologies: Steve Bordwell.

### Membership

Gerard noted that he will be unable to attend future calls due to reasons he explained in his email. This will be the last call he will be able to participate in, but he wishes to stay on the PEC mailing list, and to stay active in the revision process to see it through.

### 1. Articles for D-Lib magazine

Brian had discussions with the editor of D-Lib magazine and they are interested in publishing a series of four or five articles on PREMIS, which will raise the presence of PREMIS in the literature. The possible topics could be: an overview of the revision process; the use of PREMIS with METS; a discussion of the expanded rights entity; issues surrounding the exchange of PREMIS-conformant metadata; activities of the PREMIS maintenance agency and the PEC, e.g. commissioned studies (Woodyard; Coyle); tutorials; training materials; future focus.

ACTION: Brian will email the EC recounting the discussion with D-Lib and asking all to give consideration to possible topics and possible authors; the authors do not necessarily have to come from the Editorial Committee.

ALL: Give consideration to possible topics for the articles and potential authors.

Rebecca noted that it would be appropriate to do a session at the next DLF summarizing the revision.

### 2a. Inclusion of the PREMIS unit when an extension is used

Gerard: The main reason for promoting the use of PREMIS elements is interoperability and we must be careful not to degrade interoperability by using replacements.

Zhiwu expressed concerns about using an extension element as a replacement for a PREMIS element. If the PREMIS unit is present, then the extension is considered supplementary. If the PREMIS unit is not present, then the extension would require attributes.

The question was asked: Do we want to say each extension unit replaces or supplements an existing PREMIS unit? Olaf prefers "supplements and/or replaces".

Rebecca: Take environment, for example. If some of the units were PREMIS, we could possibly have some extension units which supplement the existing PREMIS units. What if one of the extension units was identical to an existing PREMIS unit?

Zhiwu: it would be overburdening the processing to expect validation of a unit embedded within the extension container.

Olaf: you have to guarantee that you can exchange and map elements.

The implementor needs to determine for themselves if there is a one-to-one correspondence and they need to reach a common understanding with their exchange partners.

These are best practice issues which can be recommend but not enforced.

ACTION: Olaf will send his document on best practices.

### 2b. repeatability

Zhiwu: If we limit the use of extensions to supplementary role only (i.e. not as replacements for PREMIS units) then they should not be repeatable.

Rebecca: If we have a second extension, it would be cleaner to have a second container and not repeat the extension within the same container.

Gerard: There could be scenarios in which supplementary information comes from two different extension schemas.

Zhiwu: An extension container should only contain units from the same schema.

Markus: Should there be a 'type' attribute as in METS.

Rebecca: That is a schema question.

Further complexities of relationships and granularity between units from multiple extensions support the reasoning to repeat the whole container.

It was decided to treat all extension containers the same and make them all repeatable.

Implementors can experiment.

Rebecca pointed out that eventOutcomeDetail is not repeatable but it has become a container so perhaps it should also be repeatable.

It was agreed that it should be repeatable and a note should be added to the DD entry.

ACTION: Rebecca will revise the DD accordingly and ALL are expected to review the changes.

### 3. Extensible containers which have no PREMIS sub-units

The example of technicalCharacteristics was mentioned because it now includes the extension semantic unit. It was suggested that the phrase "Defined by external schema" be added to the DD entries for such extension containers.

ACTION: Rebecca will revise the DD accordingly and ALL are expected to review the changes.

### 4. Relationship subtype between files and representations

Olaf and Priscilla investigated the relationship subtype question of encoding between files and representations, particularly when a single file is related to a single representation. They concluded that the situation is very complex and prefer to recommend taking a minimally-disruptive approach. They recommend using a different term for the relationship between a single file as an object and a representation as an object because the current terms 'part' and 'has part' do are not appropriate. They recommend adding 'includes' and 'is included in' to the list of subtypes.

Further discussion covered other possibilities such as 'represents', 'is represented in', 'instantiates', 'is instantiated in'.

Olaf and Priscilla also recommend making no changes to objectCharacteristics at this time to accommodate representations treated as objects. The implications of that change are complex. They recommend that implementors who need to do this can employ other solutions outside of PREMIS.

ACTION: Olaf and Priscilla will summarize their findings.

Changes to the DD include:

- adding 'includes' and 'is included in' with definitions;
- revising the 'has part' and 'is part of' definitions;
- revising the usage notes.

#### 5. Review of the revised DD and additional material

Rebecca has revised the DD in response to Steve's comments.

Gerard has submitted comments to the PEC list for review also.

ACTION: Someone else needs to review the DD to look for consistency.

There was concern about progress in revisions to the Introduction.

**Next call:** 21 February 2008

09:00 EST (US)

07:00 Mountain (US)

14:00 UK

15:00 Europe

01:00 Australia (22nd in Australia)