Furthering Collaboration Among OAI Data Providers and Service Providers

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OAI so far...

- Quick overview of OAI...
- Very popular protocol, over 500 active data providers
- Protocol use is simple, but providing a service using these data providers is more difficult...
- ...in part due to a lack of networking among data providers (DPs) and service providers (SPs)

Lack of networking…

- How do DPs know what SPs want?
- How do SPs find DPs?
- What's the best method for SPs and DPs to talk about these issues?

What to do about it?

- Mogens Sandfær (DTV), Tom Habing (UIUC), Jeff Young (OCLC) and myself took this problem to the CERN OAI3 Workshop in Geneva in February
- Led a breakout session of around 25 people to discuss the issues...

The issues…

- Lack of standards
  - Controlled vocabulary usage
  - Other classification systems / set structures
  - Metadata format usage
- Lack of knowledge
  - Descriptive info: type of content, # of records, harvesting problems
  - Character encoding
  - Quality control

Result of breakout session...

- Interest in developing criteria
- Interest in creating a registry addressing these issues (consolidation of existing registries?)
- Interest in sharing stylesheet and schema cross-walks for metadata formats

What happens next?

- Need to move forward to:
  - ☐ Discuss further issues (e.g., what level quality notification?)
  - ☐ Build registry based on criteria
  - ☐ Determine who and how we will develop the criteria and registry
- Result: one central place for the community to collaborate and grow