DLF Fall Forum 2008 Workshop on MODS and Asset Actions

Workshop Description

Optimizing Your Metadata and Digital Content for Sharing with MODS and Asset Actions

Friday, November 14 9:00-10:30 AM
Providence III

The DLF Aquifer Metadata Working Group has created guidelines for using the Metadata Object Description Schema (MODS) effectively when preparing metadata for use in aggregations. The Technology Working Group has been a primary force behind the development of Asset Actions, a standardized, easy-to-implement mechanism for exposing behaviors across a class of digital objects. Both developments enhance a digital library user's ability to find, identify, use, and re-use digital objects. This 90 minute hands-on workshop will assist participants in preparing Asset Actions for items in their collections, help participants improve the shareability and conformance to the Aquifer MODS Guidelines of their MODS records, and/or effectively map metadata from other formats into MODS optimized for aggregation. Members of the DLF Aquifer working groups that developed the standards will demonstrate and be on hand to assist participants. Bring a laptop with an XML editor of your choice, the knowledge and capability to transform XML documents using XSLT, and records for items from your repository that you want to experiment with. At the end of the session, participants should better understand what a best practice-based implementation of Asset Actions or MODS for their collections should look like, and be able to plan for implementing this understanding in their repository.

Workshop Agenda

Preparing for the MODS portion of the workshop

Members of the Aquifer Metadata Working Group will be present to assist participants for implementing MODS for sharing of metadata for their collections.

Help will be available for mapping to shareable MODS from other metadata formats, improving existing MODS records to better conform to the Digital Library Federation / Aquifer Implementation Guidelines for Sharable Metadata, and assessing how existing MODS records fit into the Aquifer MODS Guidelines Levels of Adoption framework. Participants interested in record mapping help should bring a handful of sample records from their institution, and if help performing technical mapping from another XML format into MODS is desired (as opposed to a conceptual mapping), participants should arrive at the session with an XML editor and the tools and skills necessary to perform an XSLT transform, either through an XML editor or a command-line XSLT processor such as Saxon or Xalan. Participants interested in analyzing and/or improving the shareability of their MODS records should bring MODS XML records and have an XML editor installed on their laptop for use at the session.

Preparing for the Asset Actions portion of the workshop

Members of the Aquifer Technology/Architecture Working Group will be present to assist participants interested in learning how to create Asset Actions for objects in their collections. Participants will work with sample digital image objects to create Asset Action records in XML for the Default and Basic Image action groups as defined on the DLF Aquifer Wiki's Asset Actions page. Participants will need an XML editor or text editor to create Asset Action records.

Creating an account in the *MODS and Asset Actions Explorer*

The *MODS and Asset Actions Explorer* tool will be used to validate and test MODS and Asset Actions records created during the workshop. We recommend that you create an account for yourself in the Explorer prior to the workshop: http://ratri.grainger.uiuc.edu/AAX/NewUser.aspx

The Asset Action Explorer supports Zotero as well. If you want to use this feature you must also have Zotero installed as a plugin for your Firefox web browser: Zotero

Recommended XML editors

<oXygen>: http://www.oxygenxml.com/ (free 30 day trial license available)
XML Copy Editor: http://xml-copy-editor.sourceforge.net/ (free builds for Windows and Linux)
XMLMind: http://mac.softpedia.com/get/HTML-Tools/XMLmind-XML-Editor.shtml (freeware for Mac)