ARTICLE EXCERPTED FROM:

INFORMATION STANDARDS QUARTERLY

FALL 2011 | VOL 23 | ISSUE 4 | ISSN 1041-0031

TOPIC: STANDARDS IMPLEMENTATION BENEFITS

NISO CIRCULATION INTERCHANGE PROTOCOL (NCIP) IMPLEMENTATION COST SAVINGS

SCHOLARLY iQ AND SUSHI IMPLEMENTATION

BENEFITS FROM USING SERU: A SHARED ELECTRONIC RESOURCE UNDERSTANDING

INNOVATION AND STANDARDIZATION

NEW NISO INITIATIVES: DIGITAL ANNOTATION SHARING; OPEN DISCOVERY

NISO
How the information world CONNECTS

NW [NOTEWORTHY]

ESPReSSO Single-Sign-on Authentication Recommended Practice Published

NISO has published a new Recommended Practice, *ESPReSSO: Establishing Suggested Practices Regarding Single Sign-On* (NISO RP-11-2011), that identifies practical solutions for improving the use of single sign-on authentication technologies to ensure a seamless experience for the user.

Currently a hybrid environment of authentication practices exists, including older methods of userid/password, IP authentication, or proxy servers along with newer federated authentication protocols such as Athens and Shibboleth. This recommended practice identifies changes that can be made immediately to improve the authentication experience for the user, even in a hybrid situation, while encouraging both publishers/service providers and libraries to transition to the newer Security Assertion Markup Language (SAML)-based authentication, such as Shibboleth.

"With the growing use of mobile devices and remote access, the older authentication methods are not manageable for either the content provider or the library," explains Steve Carmody, IT Architect, Computing and Information Services, at Brown University and co-chair of the NISO ESPReSSO Working Group. "The ESPReSSO recommendations will help bridge the transition to more robust authentication methods that better match the needs of today's users and eliminate the need for multiple identities."

"The growing use of web discovery services over the older federated search method have only increased the need for single sign-on authentication and consistency of access and context for the user," states Harry Kaplanian, Director of Technology, Serials Solutions, Inc., and co-chair of the NISO ESPReSSO Working Group. "With a discovery service portal, users are often unaware that they will ultimately be accessing resources across a broad spectrum of platforms and providers, and the multiple back-end logins that occur can be both confusing and frustrating. In addition to addressing this situation, the ESPReSSO recommendations also identify methods that can be used to maintain users' privacy while still offering them advanced functionality, such as saving searches between sessions."

This recommended practice is the result of the NISO Chair's Initiative—a project of the chair of NISO's Board of Directors, focusing on a specific issue that would benefit from study and the development of a recommended practice or standard. Oliver Pesch, Chief Strategist for E-Resource Access and Management Services at EBSCO Information Services and the 2008-2009 Chair of NISO's Board of Directors, chose the issue of standardizing seamless, item-level linking through single sign-on (SSO) authentication technologies in a networked information environment. ■

The ESPReSSO Recommended Practice is available at: www.niso.org/publications/rp.

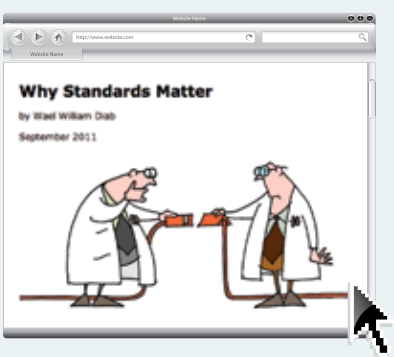
IEEE Standards Education E-zine Launches Inaugural Issue

The IEEE Standards Education Committee and its Editorial Board recently launched the inaugural issue of their new digital magazine titled, *IEEE Standards Education eZine*. This free quarterly publication explores the three fundamental dynamics of standards—technology, economics, and politics. It includes topics intended to promote standards education for engineering curriculums and also highlights the importance of continuing education on standards developments. Various educators and practitioners from around the world share their experiences, challenges, and application of the standards we interact with on a daily basis.

Information on student application projects and grants sponsored by the Standards Education Committee, will accompany standards education materials, featured articles, and notifications for standards education events. ■

View the IEEE Standards Education e-Magazine at: http://ieee-elearning.org/outreach/mod/book/view.php?id=315

This FREE quarterly publication explores the three fundamental dynamics of standards—technology, economics, and politics.



"As digital publications evolve from digitized text into enhanced eBooks and new forms of expression, EPUB 3 will dramatically expand the ability of authors and publishers to deliver richer experiences to their readers across disparate devices, in browsers and in apps." — BIll McCoy, *Executive Director, IDPF*

EPUB 3 Becomes Final IDPF Specification

EPUB 3.0, a major revision to the global standard interchange and delivery format for e-books and other digital publications, has been elevated by the membership of the International Digital Publishing Forum (IDPF) to a final IDPF Recommended Specification. The EPUB 3 Working Group was chartered in May 2010 and included over 100 contributors from across the globe.

Based on HTML5, EPUB 3.0 adds support for rich media (audio, video), interactivity (JavaScript), global language support (including vertical writing), styling and layout enhancements, SVG, embedded fonts, expanded metadata facilities, MathML, and synchronization of audio with text and other enhancements for accessibility.

"EPUB has become the industry standard format for digital publications based on Web Standards that are structured, reliable, device-independent, and accessible," said BIll McCoy, Executive Director, IDPF. "As digital publications evolve from digitized text into enhanced eBooks and new forms of expression, EPUB 3 will dramatically expand the ability of authors and publishers to deliver richer experiences to their readers across disparate devices, in browsers and in apps."

EPUB 3 features have already been delivered by a number of reading systems and content authoring tools. Now that EPUB 3.0 is a final specification, superseding EPUB 2.0.1 as the current version of EPUB, the IDPF anticipates that comprehensive EPUB 3 support will be forthcoming from a number of solution providers during the coming year. ■

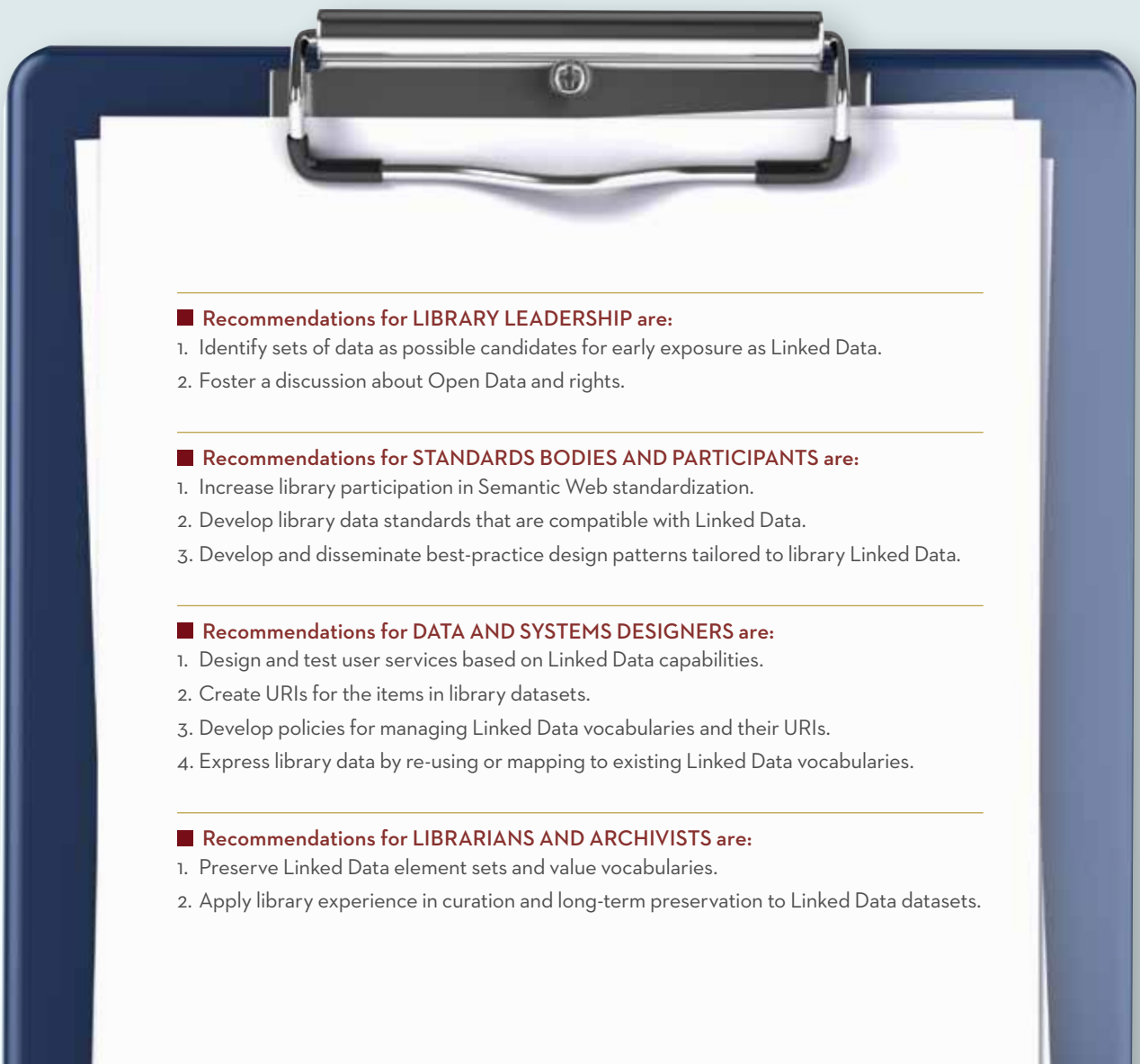
EBPUB 3.0 is available at: http://idpf.org/epub/30

W3C Library Linked Data Incubator Group Issues Final Report

The W3C Library Linked Data Incubator Group was chartered in May 2010 "to help increase global interoperability of library data on the Web, by bringing together people involved in Semantic Web activities—focusing on Linked Data—in the library community and beyond, building on existing initiatives, and identifying collaboration tracks for the future.…This final report of the Incubator Group examines how Semantic Web standards and Linked Data principles can be used to make the valuable information assets that libraries create and curate — resources such as bibliographic data, authorities, and concept schemes — more visible and re-usable outside of their original library context on the wider Web. "

The report describes the benefits of using linked data and details the current situation, followed by recommendations for the various stakeholders (see highlights below). Appendices include an inventory of existing library Linked Data resources, a listing of illustrative relevant technologies and tools, and a discussion of semantic alignment.

View the Library Linked Data Incubator Report at: www.w3.org/2005/Incubator/lld/XGR-lld-20111025/



Recommendations for LIBRARY LEADERSHIP are:

1. Identify sets of data as possible candidates for early exposure as Linked Data.
2. Foster a discussion about Open Data and rights.

Recommendations for STANDARDS BODIES AND PARTICIPANTS are:

1. Increase library participation in Semantic Web standardization.
2. Develop library data standards that are compatible with Linked Data.
3. Develop and disseminate best-practice design patterns tailored to library Linked Data.

Recommendations for DATA AND SYSTEMS DESIGNERS are:

1. Design and test user services based on Linked Data capabilities.
2. Create URIs for the items in library datasets.
3. Develop policies for managing Linked Data vocabularies and their URIs.
4. Express library data by re-using or mapping to existing Linked Data vocabularies.

Recommendations for LIBRARIANS AND ARCHIVISTS are:

1. Preserve Linked Data element sets and value vocabularies.
2. Apply library experience in curation and long-term preservation to Linked Data datasets.

New VRA Core 4.0 Implementation Registry

The *VRA Core* is a data standard for the description of works of visual culture as well as the images that document them. The *VRA Core* metadata can capture descriptive information as well as indicate relationships between works and images. The new *Implementation Registry* provides an opportunity for current and potential users to view publicly available implementations of the standard.

Records in the registry include:

- Institution Name
- Dept or Org within institution
- Collection name using Core 4.0
- Brief summary of collection and use of Core4
- URL to publically accessible portion of collection
- Documentation (links or file attachments of tools, profiles, or other documentation useful to understanding the collection's use of Core4)
- Contact(s) (name, email, phone)
- Submission Date

Currently, twelve collections from seven organizations are included. Additional users of CORE 4.0 are encouraged to add their collection to the registry by posting their information to the VRACore listserv (http://listserv.loc.gov/listarch/vracore.html) or by contacting Trish Rose-Sandler (trosesandler@gmail.com). ■

The VRA Core Implementation Registry is available at: www.vraweb.org/projects/vracore4/vracore_registry.html

The new *Implementation Registry* provides an opportunity for current and potential users to view publicly available implementations of the standard.

The Library of Congress Issues Initial Plan for its Bibliographic Framework Transition Initiative

The Library of Congress issued *A Bibliographic Framework for the Digital Age* in October 2011 to identify the requirements for the new bibliographic framework to replace the Z39.2/MARC carriers for bibliographic information that have been in use for decades.

The new bibliographic framework is intended to be more of an environment than a format. It will be focused on the Web environment, Linked Data principles and mechanisms, and the W3C Resource Description Framework (RDF) as a basic data model. One of the goals of the framework is to better enable the integration of library data and other cultural heritage data on the Web for more expansive user access to information.

While accommodation of RDA (Resource Description and Access) will be a key factor, the framework is intended to be agnostic to specific cataloging rules and data models so that it can support other formats as well, such as DACS (Describing Archives, a Content Standard), VRA (Visual Resources Association) Core, and CCO (Cataloging Cultural Objects).

The plan recognizes the need to continue supporting MARC during the transition, and, most likely, for years to come as libraries determine their timetable for making a change.

The Library of Congress will be developing a grant application to support a two-year initiative to organize consultative groups (national and international) and to support development and prototyping activities. Supported activities are expected to include: developing models and scenarios for interaction within the information community, assembling and reviewing ontologies currently used or under development, developing domain ontologies for the description of resources and related data in scope, organizing prototypes and reference implementations.

To follow the activities of the initiative, sign up for the Bibliographic Transition listserv at listserv.loc.gov/listarch/bibframe.html.

The Bibliographic Framework Initiative website: www.loc.gov/marc/transition/

The NISO SUSHI Standing Committee have developed a draft Recommended Practice and issued it for a public comment period ending on January 20, 2012.

NISO Issues COUNTER-SUSHI Implementation Profile for Public Comment

The NISO SUSHI Standing Committee has developed a draft Recommended Practice, *NISO SUSHI Protocol: COUNTER-SUSHI Implementation Profile* (NISO RP-14-201X), and issued it for a public comment period ending on January 20, 2012. This Recommended Practice provides a practical implementation structure to be used in the creation of reports and services related to harvesting of COUNTER Release 4 reports using the NISO SUSHI Protocol. *The Standardized Usage Statistics Harvesting (SUSHI) Protocol* was issued as a standard (ANSI/NISO Z39.93) in 2007 to simplify and automate the harvesting of COUNTER usage reports by libraries from the growing number of information providers they work with. COUNTER (Counting Online Usage of Networked Electronic Resources) is an international initiative that published its first Code of Practice in 2003 and issued Draft Release 4 of the *COUNTER Code of Practice for e-Resources* in October 2011. The comment period for the *COUNTER-SUSHI Implementation Profile* and COUNTER Release 4 end on the same date. XML schemas supporting the draft *Implementation Profile* and draft Release 4 of the *Counter Code of Practice* have also been published by NISO for review during the comment period.

"The creators of the SUSHI standard and the COUNTER XML schema were forward looking and created products that could handle future needs," explains Oliver Pesch, Chief Strategist for E-Resource Access and Management Services at EBSCO Information Services and co-chair of the NISO SUSHI Standing Committee that developed the Implementation Profile. "Accommodation of such future growth requires a level of abstraction and flexibility to be built in, but that can result in decisions by implementers that could cause interoperability issues or require client implementers to customize the service for every different provider. The *COUNTER-SUSHI Implementation Profile* was developed to provide guidance with Release 4 of COUNTER by setting out detailed expectations for both the server and the client of how the SUSHI protocol and COUNTER XML reports are to be implemented to ensure interoperability."

"SUSHI implementation became a COUNTER compliance requirement with Release 3 of the *COUNTER Code of Practice*," states Bob McQuillan, Senior Product Manager at Innovative Interfaces, Inc. and co-chair of the NISO SUSHI Standing Committee. "The new draft Release 4 of the *COUNTER Code of Practice* is a single, integrated Code of Practice covering journals, databases and books, as well as multimedia content. This *COUNTER-SUSHI Implementation Profile* supports the changes in Release 4 and was developed with the intention that it could be used by COUNTER auditors to verify compliance of a content provider's SUSHI server." ■

The *NISO SUSHI Protocol: COUNTER-SUSHI Implementation Profile* and online commenting form are available at: www.niso.org/publications/rp-14-201x/.

Links to the referenced schemas and additional implementation guidance for SUSHI can be found on the SUSHI webpages at: www.niso.org/workrooms/sushi/.

The draft Release 4 of the COUNTER Code of Practice is available on the COUNTER website at: www.projectcounter.org/code_practice.html.

PREMIS OWL Ontology Available

The PREMIS Editorial Committee has published an OWL ontology for the *PREMIS Data Dictionary for Preservation Metadata* version 2.1, a digital preservation standard based on the OAIS reference model. This PREMIS OWL ontology tries to stick as closely as possible to the PREMIS Data Dictionary, which was developed by experts in the domain of long-term preservation and already had clearly defined semantics for its metadata elements. Until now the PREMIS Data Dictionary was only implemented as an XML schema, which remains ideal for creating, validating, and storing the preservation metadata of a particular digital asset.

This OWL ontology allows one to express the same information in RDF. With this alternative serialization, information can be more easily interconnected, especially between different repository databases. Information in RDF can be also easily and flexibly queried, which can be an interesting option for the data management function of a repository. The PREMIS OWL ontology also reaches out to preservation-specific vocabularies already published by the Library of Congress on id.loc.gov. For all these reasons, the OWL design of PREMIS should NOT be considered as a replacement for the XML Schema: the two of them should rather be considered complementary. ■

For more information, visit: www.loc.gov/standards/premis/owlOntology-announcement.html

STAY UP-TO-DATE ON NISO NEWS & EVENTS: www.niso.org/news

JISC Collections Issues Journal Transfer Guidelines

JISC Collections, a membership organization that supports the procurement of digital content for education and research in the UK, has issued *Society Journal Publishing: Transfer Guidelines to Help Achieve a Successful Transition*. "The purpose of this publication is to draw the attention of those societies involved in journal publishing, to the problems that can occur for libraries and their users when societies move their journals to a new publisher or from in-house publishing, and to offer guidelines that societies may consider adopting, to achieve a more successful transition."

A survey that JISC Collections conducted among UK university librarians identified four major problems:

1. Loss of access by users to journal content
2. Pricing issues
3. The amount of time needed to amend library systems and records
4. Uncertainty about arrangements for librarians' perpetual access rights to past subscribed content.

Publishers are advised to follow a checklist of practices in the guidelines document that includes:

- Establish a timetable that provides for the transition to be complete well before a new journal year begins.
- Both old and new publisher should endorse and follow the *TRANSFER Code of Practice*, developed in 2008 by the UKSG.
- Arrangements should be made between old and new publisher that provide for access rights by subscribers to past content.
- Include subscription agents in early communications about the title transfer, pricing, timing, etc.
- The new publisher should supply journal title data to link resolver suppliers' knowledge bases on a timely basis to ensure access to content at the start of the new subscription year is not interrupted. Publishers are encouraged to endorse the NISO/UKSG *KBART: Knowledge Bases and Related Tools* (NISO RP-9-2010) recommended practice. ■

JISC Collections Journal Transfer Guide: www.jisc-collections.ac.uk/News/journal-transfer-guide/

UKSG TRANSFER Code of Practice: www.uksg.org/Transfer/Code

NISO/UKSG KBART Recommended Practice: www.niso.org/publications/rp/RP-2010-09.pdf

| NW | doi: 10.3789/isqv23n4.2011.08