

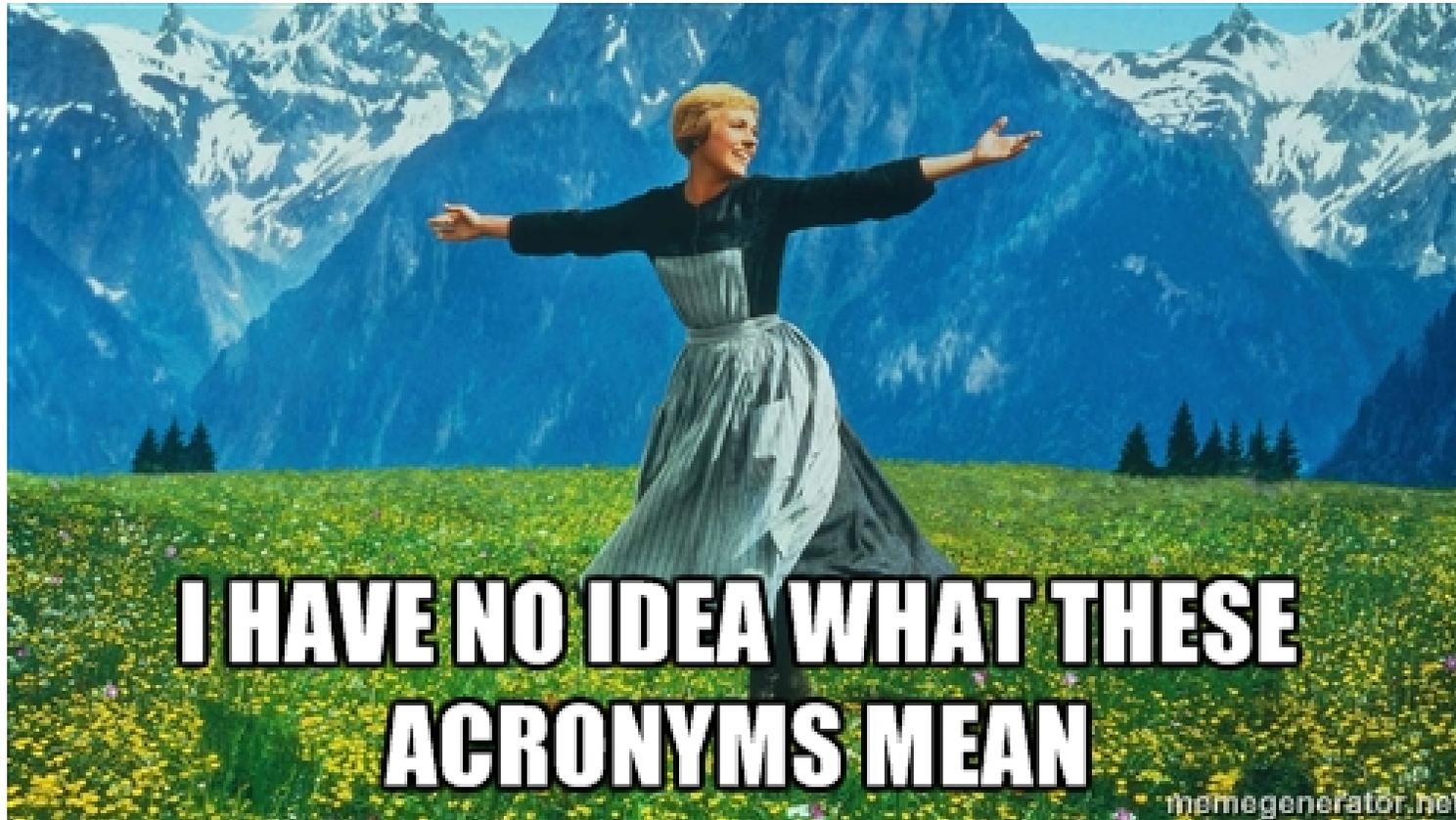
Silo-Busting: Interoperability of Content Standards and Descriptive Frameworks

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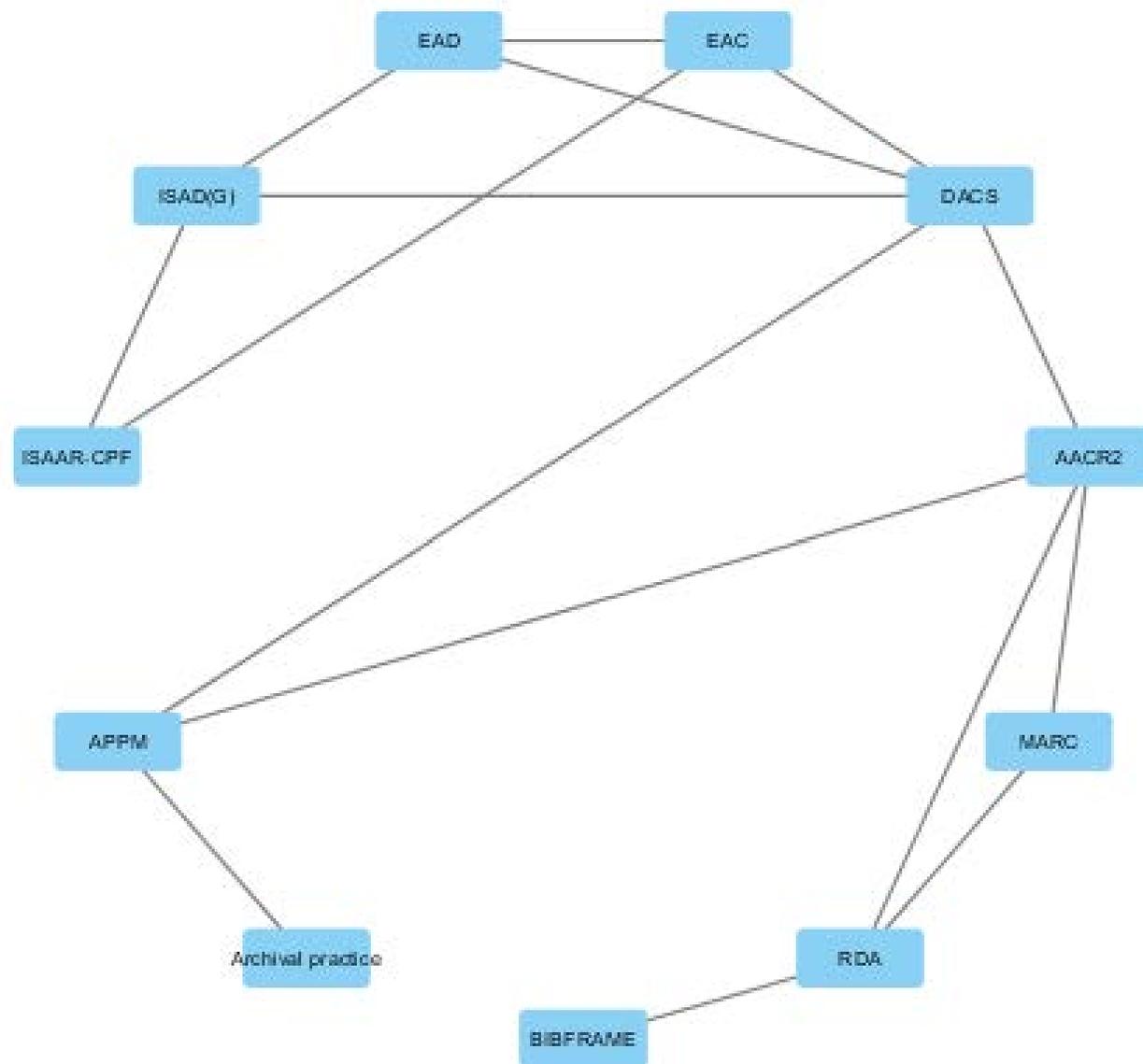
Definitions

- ▶ Archives: “the whole of the documents, regardless of form or medium, *organically* created and/or accumulated and used by a person, family, or corporate body.”
- ▶ Rare books and manuscripts: may be part of a collection, or may be acquired individually.
- ▶ Special collections: an umbrella term for archival collections, rare and antiquarian materials, and collections created by the library.

Overarching categories

- ▶ Content standards
 - ▶ RDA (supersedes AACR2r)
 - ▶ DCRM(M)
 - ▶ DACS (superseded APPM)
- ▶ Descriptive frameworks
 - ▶ MARC21
 - ▶ EAD/EAC
 - ▶ Bibframe

Interconnections



Content standards: What's the difference?

- ▶ Libraries: Generally describing one large, overarching collection, organized hierarchically
- ▶ Archives: A collection of collections organized hierarchically unto themselves, with widely varying characteristics
 - ▶ DACS addresses the need for a flexible, hierarchical descriptive structure
 - ▶ Very easy to find! Google "DACS PDF."

DACS Statement of Principles

- ▶ Principle 1: Records in archives possess unique characteristics.
- ▶ Principle 2: The principle of *respect des fonds* is the basis of archival arrangement and description.
- ▶ Principle 3: Arrangement involves the identification of groupings within the material.
- ▶ Principle 4: Description reflects arrangement.
- ▶ Principle 5: The rules of description apply to all archival materials, regardless of form or medium.
- ▶ Principle 6: The principles of archival description apply equally to records created by corporate bodies, individuals, or families.
- ▶ Principle 7: Archival descriptions may be presented at varying levels of detail to produce a variety of outputs.
 - ▶ Principle 7.1: Levels of description correspond to levels of arrangement (“description is an iterative and dynamic process”).
 - ▶ Principle 7.2: Relationships between levels of description must be clearly indicated
 - ▶ Principle 7.3: Information provided at each level of description must be appropriate to that level
- ▶ Principle 8: The creators of archival materials, as well as the materials themselves, must be described.

If you can read this, you don't need glasses.

Required, optimal, added value

- ▶ Flexibility and consistency: one size does not fit all
- ▶ “Dynamic and iterative process”
- ▶ MPLP as project management tool
 - ▶ “I am discoverable, therefore I am.”
 - ▶ Usage/demonstrable impact drives funding and new acquisitions
 - ▶ User feedback can inform processing priorities.
 - ▶ MPLP and DACS evolved independently, but complement each other remarkably well.

DACS Part I: Minimum

Familiar organization of topics by chapter number and decimal number representing subheading:

Reference Code Element [unique identifier] (2.1)

Name and Location of Repository Element (2.2)

Title Element (2.3)

Date Element (2.4)

Extent Element (2.5) - number of boxes, linear feet, etc.

Name of Creator(s) Element (2.6) (if known)

Scope and Content Element (3.1)

Interoperability and DACS Part I

- ▶ Discipline/format-specific companion standards: Appendix B
 - ▶ Music: an ongoing discussion
- ▶ Crosswalks: Appendix C
 - ▶ DACS and RDA (collection-level)
 - ▶ DACS and ISAD(G)
 - ▶ DACS to EAD, DACS to MARC (also collection-level)
- ▶ Cory Nimer on DACS and RDA

Encoded Archival Description (EAD)

- ▶ Framework counterpart to DACS Part I.
- ▶ Developed separately, but both descended from ISAD(G).
- ▶ Written in eXtensible Markup Language (XML).
- ▶ Flexible hierarchical structure
- ▶ Minimal and added-value tiers of detail
- ▶ Encoding analogues with MARC
- ▶ Interoperability: ArchiveGrid.org
- ▶ Import/export from finding aid platforms

Web-based Archival Platforms

- ▶ Finding aids, differentiated from “catalogs”
 - ▶ Built to comply with DACS and other descriptive standards
 - ▶ Archon, Archivists’ Toolkit, ArchivesSpace
 - ▶ Access to Memory (AtoM), XTF, CuadraStar
 - ▶ Aeon

Interoperability

- ▶ Interoperability through multiple avenues maximizes discoverability
 - ▶ Import of finding aids (EAD, CSV)
 - ▶ Export of EAD finding aids (schema compliant), collection-level MARC records
 - ▶ Import MARC records into OPAC
 - ▶ Export EAD finding aids to ArchiveGrid and other consortia (OAC, TARO, etc.)
 - ▶ Variable interfacing with citation platforms, email, potentially social media
 - ▶ Linking to digital assets
 - ▶ Other authority and metadata standards
 - ▶ Linked data possibilities not yet fully explored in these platforms

Describing the materials is not enough

- ▶ DACS principle 8: Context is what gives the materials meaning.
- ▶ DACS Part II
- ▶ EAC-CPF: Encoded Archival Description for Corporate Bodies, Persons, and Families.
- ▶ Example: Social Networks and Archival Context (SNAC)

Future questions

- ▶ How will Bibframe interact with EAD/EAC? How will it interact with other metadata and authority standards?
- ▶ Great potential for interoperability, discoverability, removing barriers

Sources and references

- ▶ Describing Archives: a Content Standard
 - ▶ <http://www2.archivists.org/groups/technical-subcommittee-on-describing-archives-a-content-standard-dacs/dacs>
- ▶ DCRM(M):
 - ▶ <http://rbms.info/dcrm/dcrmm/>
- ▶ Meissner & Greene, MPLP
 - ▶ <http://www2.archivists.org/node/17276>
- ▶ Encoded Archival Description
 - ▶ <https://www.loc.gov/ead/>
- ▶ Cory Nimer on DACS and RDA
 - ▶ <http://www.ala.org/alcts/confevents/webinars/052814>

Sources and references, continued

- ▶ Encoded Archival Context

- ▶ <http://eac.staatsbibliothek-berlin.de/>

- ▶ <http://www2.archivists.org/groups/technical-subcommittee-on-eac-cpf/encoded-archival-context-corporate-bodies-persons-and-families-eac-cpf>

- ▶ SNAC

- ▶ <http://socialarchive.iath.virginia.edu/>

- ▶ Selecting finding aid platforms:

- ▶ “A Place for Our Stuff: Evaluating Archival Content Management Systems”

- ▶ <http://images.library.amnh.org/hiddencollections/2014/11/a-place-for-our-stuff-evaluating-archival-content-management-systems/>

Thanks, I'm here all week!

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