Open Source Collections Management Software

Seth Kaufman
What is it?

- Collections management software for museums and archives.
- Collections presentation software providing framework for web and kiosk applications; includes media clients such as a high-resolution image viewer and audio/video player, and can transcode video & audio formats.
- A collaboration between Whirl-i-Gig and partner institutions in North American & Europe.
- Freely available under the open source GNU Public License (GPL).
Features

- Entirely web-based.
- Integrated digital asset management - support for many media and document formats.
- Extensive support for authority lists.
- Extended support for controlled vocabularies.
- Configurable support for metadata standards.
- Direct web-presence with OCAccess.
- Georeferencing/GIS support.
- Can run on Linux/Unix, Mac OS X and Windows servers.
The Parrish Art Museum, Southampton, NY, Gift of Charlotte Park Brooks

recent changes view all >
- Added object representation (1443)
  8/15/2007@4:55:19pm EDT
- Added object/entity relationship (1781)
  8/15/2007@4:55:15pm EDT
- Added object number (626)
  8/15/2007@4:55:15pm EDT

description
Abstract composition of thick black and white lines and forms, with brushstrokes.

edit basic information >

id number
1992.2.3

collection category
Permanent Collection of The Parrish Art Museum

classification
WORKS ON PAPER
sub-classification
DRAWING
physical dimensions (in.)
22 x 36 inches

related entities edit >
Charlotte Park (born 1918), Maker the object
Title?
 Untitled #3, 1952

Id number?
 1992 .2 .3

Preliminary?

Status?
 New

Classification?
 DRAWING

Collection category?
 Permanent Collection of The Parrish Art...

Physical dimensions (in.)?
 22 x 36 inches

Description?
 Abstract composition of thick black and white lines and forms, with brushstrokes.

Description Sources?
Currently editing: **east hampton township > montauk > edward albee foundation, 91 fairview avenue, montauk**

**new georeference for edward albee foundation, 91 fairview avenue, montauk**

**Type ?**
- Point location

**Caption ?**

**Description ?**

**Coordinate list ?**

Save

**current georeferences for edward albee foundation, 91 fairview avenue, montauk**

**Point location: 1 point**
Edward Albee Foundation
Henderson's Building
Stillwell Avenue frontage of the Henderson Building in the 1920's, after Stillwell Avenue had been widened and the building cut in half.
Beth Allen
Incubator baby

Interviewer: Elinor Astrinsky
Interviewee: Beth Allen
Location: Residence of Beth Allen

Beth Allen was born 2 months premature in 1941. Desperate to save her and with few other options - hospitals of the day had no facilities for premature infants - her parents placed her in the care of Dr. Martin Couney, a neonatal pioneer largely responsible for the now widespread use of incubators. Couney was also a controversial figure, a physician outside the mainstream who for decades operated his neonatal care facility as a 10¢ sideshow in Coney Island. In this interview, Beth Allen recounts her origins as an "incubator baby" and her family's relationship to Dr. Couney.

Related interviews:
Roslyn Tromer (Interview with another "incubator baby.")
Terry Silverman (Terry Silverman is Beth Allen's older cousin)
Open Source?

- All software is free to download and use. There is no commercial aspect to the project.
- GNU Public License version 2 (GPLv2): do what you want with the software. Forever.
- Source code is included:
  - Gives you the freedom and ability to modify the software to suit your needs.
  - Software can never orphaned as user community has the means (source code and legal rights) to fix bugs and maintain compatibility.
- GPLv2 gives you the right to distribute your modifications so long as source code is included.
History

- Project began in 2003 by Whirl-i-Gig, with roots in web-based cataloguing systems developed in the 1990’s.
- Developed to fill a specific need for a free, flexible and modern system.
- Today: 25 institutional users (that we know about).
- Major revision due in early 2009.
Selected users

- Royal Museum for Central Africa, Brussels
- Deutsche Kinemathek, Berlin
- Center for Biodiversity Conservation, American Museum of Natural History, New York
- Hearst Museum of Anthropology, UC Berkeley
- The Parrish Art Museum, Southampton, NY
- The Frick Collection, New York
- Museum of Jewish Heritage, New York
- Hansen’s Snobliz, New Orleans, LA
Types of collections

- Fine Art
- Film
- Technology
- Architectural design archives
- Costumes and clothing
- Anthropology/ethnographic collections
- Biodiversity conservation (field photographs)
- Oral history
- Exhibition asset management
- Corporate archives
- Photography
- Historical societies
**Support**

- Whirl-i-Gig’s work on OC directly funded by users - all developed code is contractually covered by the GPL.
- Indirect funding through our related work in cultural heritage and the natural sciences.
- Indirect support from US Institute for Museum and Library Services, US National Endowment for the Humanities, US National Endowment for the Arts, the New York State Council for the Arts and New York City Department of Cultural Affairs through project partners.
Roadmap

- Version 0.5x branch:
  - Bug fixes and minor enhancements through end of 2008
- Version 0.6x branch:
  - Major overhaul of user interface and data model
  - Support for multilingual cataloguing
  - User-customizable user interfaces
  - Improved import and export facilities
  - Installable application profiles: DublinCore, DarwinCore, PBCore, CDWA, etc.
- Expected release in early 2009
Roadmap

- Early 2009
  - Expanded support for external service interfaces (vocabulary services, data lookups, etc.)
  - Improved OpenCollectionAccess.
  - Expanded tools for time-based cataloguing and media presentation.
  - Move towards 1.0 release by summer 2009.
  - ... more ...
Overarching goals

- Develop broad-based international user community.
- Establish OC as a viable platform for the widest practical range of uses in as many locales as possible.
- Develop support infrastructure: net-based community support as well as local consultants.
- Establish productive collaborations with complementary projects.
Thank you!

Questions or comments?

Contact: Seth Kaufman
(seth@opencollection.org)

For more information on OpenCollection:
http://www.opencollection.org
DC Tools Community Meeting at DC-2008

1. Welcome, introductions, “tour de room”

2. View back on activities in 2007-2008
   Jane Greenberg (UNC Chapel Hill, USA)

3. One Tool as an example:
   OpenCollection
   Seth Kaufman

4. Implementation of a publication workflow for the DCMI Tools- and Software-Collection
   Thomas Severiens (Univ. Osnabrück, Germany)

5. Open discussion and plans for 2008/09
DC Tools Community 2007/08

- **Charter:**
  - a discussion forum for individuals and organizations interested in the development and usage of tools and applications based on Dublin Core Metadata (developers and users)

- **Results 2007/08:**
  - Meeting at DC2007 in Singapore, result published on server,
  - Restructuring of Tools- and Software-Collection (to be continued)
Seth Kaufmann: OpenCollection
Taking care of the Software- and Tools-Collection

by Thomas Severiens
Osnabrück University, Germany
severiens@mathematik.uni-osnabrueck.de

- DCMI Tools and Software Collection: http://www.dublincore.org/tools/
- Structured by the DCMI Tools Metadata Application Profile: http://www.dublincore.org/groups/tools/map.shtml
- and by the DCMI Tools Glossary: http://www.dublincore.org/groups/tools/glossary.shtml
- Collection of Software, Tools, Libraries, and Algorithms etc.
Tools and Software

For a definition of the terms see the DCMI Tools Glossary.

Conversion
Crosswalks
Metadata Creation
Metadata Encoding
Metadata Extraction
Metadata Generation
Metadata Harvesting
Metadata Templates
Search Engines
Translation
Transliteration
Validation

This compilation is maintained by the DCMI Tools Community. For Updates and Corrections, please contact the moderators of the Tools-Community.

Conversion

DC-dot [http://www.ukoln.ac.uk/metadata/dcdot/](http://www.ukoln.ac.uk/metadata/dcdot/) (UKOLN, United Kingdom) free online tool
This service will retrieve a Web page and automatically generate Dublin Core metadata, either as HTML tags or as RDF/XML, suitable for embedding in the ... section of the page. The generated metadata can be edited using the form provided and converted to various other formats (USMARC, SOIF, IAFA/ROADS, TEI headers, GILS, IMS or RDF) if required. Optional, context sensitive, help is available while editing.

Editor-Converter Dublin Core metadata [http://www.library.kr.ua/dc/dcoditunie.html](http://www.library.kr.ua/dc/dcoditunie.html) (Kirovohrad Regional Universal Research Library, Ukraine) free online tool
This online program can be used for two purposes: as a Dublin Core metadata editor, and as a converter to UNIMARC. After conversion to UNIMARC format, metadata can be saved to your local hard drive as an ISO-2709 file. Viewable in Ukrainian, Russian and English.

Crosswalks
# DCMI Tools Metadata Application Profile

**Draft Proposal, April 23, 2007**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Namespace</th>
<th>Element</th>
<th>Qualifiers</th>
<th>Example DC-dot</th>
<th>Example Picard Tagger</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>dc</td>
<td>creator</td>
<td></td>
<td>Andy Powell</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dc</td>
<td>date</td>
<td>dcterms:created dcterms:dateCopyrighted dcterms:modified dcterms:issued</td>
<td>Created: 7 July 1997</td>
<td>issued: 2006-06-25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dc</td>
<td>description</td>
<td></td>
<td>Extracts and validates metadata from HTML resources and MS Office files. The generated metadata can be edited using the form provided and converted to PicardTagger allows you to automatically look up the releases/tracks in your music collection and then write clean metadata tags</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
DCMI Tools Glossary

Draft version, May 6, 2007

Algorithm
A finite set of well-defined instructions for accomplishing some task which, given an initial state, will terminate in a defined end-state. ([Wikipedia])

Application Profile
An assemblage of metadata elements selected from one or more metadata schemas and combined in a compound schema. Application profiles provide the means to express principles of modularity and extensibility. The purpose of an application profile is to adapt or combine existing schemas into a package that is tailored to the functional requirements of a particular application, while retaining interoperability with the original base schemas. Part of such an adaptation may include the elaboration of local metadata elements that have importance in a given community or organization, but which are not expected to be important in a wider context. (Duval)

Automatically Generated Metadata
Metadata generated with the aid of machine processing. See derived metadata, metadata extraction, and metadata harvesting. (Greenberg)

Conversion
Can refer to either
- conversion between schemas
- conversion of encoding (xml to html)

Crosswalk
A semantic mapping of metadata elements across metadata schema specifications. Crosswalks permit searching across multiple databases that use different schemas (Greenberg)
Proposed Workflow:

www.dublincore.org/tools/upload.shtml

Users / Developer

E-Mail with a template for DB-Addition

www.dublincore.org/tools/

Moderators

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Policy
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Tools-DB
Actions to be taken...

- Write and discuss a publication policy (until DC2009),
- Continue intellectual work on AP and Glossary-Taxonomy (continuously),
- Collect experiences with the proposed workflow,
- Implement cgi-scripts on DCMI server (upload script and DB-output).