Metadata Dictionary Database (MDD): A Proposed Tool for Academic Library Metadata Management

Why MDD?
Efficient management of metadata is critical for developing quality and shareable metadata. A variety of metadata challenges arise from metadata management designed in a project-specific way versus taking a comprehensive approach which can be applied across multiple digital collections within an academic library. This poster addresses these challenges by introducing a tool to facilitate good metadata management: a metadata dictionary database (MDD). An MDD prototype implemented by UNLV Libraries illustrates the usefulness of this tool.

What is MDD?
It is a repository of metadata about metadata elements (meta-metadata) specified for local digital collections. Its main purpose is to serve as a tool for managing local metadata schemas in order to provide consistency and interoperability across multiple local digital collections.

Who is MDD for?
- Digital collection users accessing and discovering library collections through metadata
- Library staff - librarians or staff designing and managing metadata across collections
- Library staff - catalogers, staff, students, creating metadata for a collection
- Aggregators (service providers) harvesting metadata from repository
- Digital collections designers or implementers managing projects with metadata workflows

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