Dublin Core: A Metadata Standard in the "3 Marys"

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1. Introduction

With recent technological advances, archives, libraries and museums turn to digital environments in order to share, in a wider way, the information contained in their collections. Metadata fit here as resources used for the organization and delivery of content in digital spaces. According to Baptist (2007, p. 181), as a description feature, metadata "help identifying the essential and complementary elements for an effective documentary representation."

The cited discursive context can be meet in studies of Information Science (IS), which represents the first step of a survey on the use of metadata standards in digital environments among the "3 Marys" of Smit, lettering representing three areas of IS: archivology, biblioteconomy and museology. In this case, from the need for greater understanding of the Dublin Core Metadata Initiative (DCMI) used in the description and mediation of information and their fields, aimed to measure the literary production on DCMI held in "3 Marys" and, specifically, identify the documentary mass by type of material.

2. Materials and methods

Research conducted on the Google search service about DCMI, taking into account up to the third research level and up to 10 results per page. The data collection approach was quantitative between articles to e-zines, blogs, and Web environments for document sharing such as Slideshare, Scribd, Research Gate and Academia.edu, here called clouds. The data been organized in a table, showing the sampling of 30 types of materials identified in each "Marys".

3. Theoretical Foundation

The description and information mediation in digital environments happen through the metadata, which in turn facilitate the import, export and integration of data. The metadata have emerged to help in the organization and retrieval of information available on the web in a growing momentum of rapid and disorderly manner.

It is noticeable the importance of metadata at present, since they allow interaction between systems / digital environments, thus providing not only adequate description and retrieval of information as well as ensures "[...] that resources will survive and continue to be accessible in the future "(NISO, 2004. p. 1). As a metadata example the DCMI stands out, which emerged during the second International Conference on Web in Chicago in 1994. This meeting originated the metadata standard to facilitate the description of digital resources through descriptive elements. It is a simple standard with universal semantic understanding and has an extensibility that allows adjustments according to the needs of description. It uses the markup language eXtensible Markup Language (XML) and consists of 15 basic elements, namely: title, creator, subject, description, publisher, developer, date, type, format, identifier, source, language, relation,
coverage and copyright. It is noteworthy that the DCMI fields can be implemented (schemes) to the user's discretion and thus enable interoperability with other formats.

4. Results

The production in DCMI was highest in bibliotheconomy, corresponding to 50% of the total, followed by archivology (33%) and museology (17%). In this amount, nine, five and three journal articles represented the most identified material type in the "3 Marys" respectively. While results already expected, the DCMI is the most discussed model, widespread and applied in bibliotheconomy compared other "Marys". In addition, DCMI is a recurring topic in IS research, especially in current times when technological resources direct the society dynamics and influence the value of information.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>“Marys”</th>
<th>Magazine articles</th>
<th>Others</th>
<th>Cloud</th>
<th>Blogs</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bibliotheconomy</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Archivology</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>33%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Museology</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>17</strong></td>
<td><strong>7</strong></td>
<td><strong>5</strong></td>
<td><strong>1</strong></td>
<td><strong>30</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5. Final Considerations

The way a "Mary" treats the information in its digital environment can be of great help and for learning to others that have similar features in their digital environments. For this, the XML markup language is the one that has been most widely adopted in these digital environments. It were concluded that the DCMI could be considered an effective finding aid and mediation of information while improving the recovery of information in environments such as digital repositories, especially studied in the library, using the magazine articles as a literary production spaces (scientific).

References


